

Colonial News.

Canada.

Montreal, May 23rd.

Destructive Fire at Griffin-Town.—An alarming fire broke out a little before five o'clock this morning, in the ill-fated locality of Griffin-town, which, at one time, bore every prospect of rivalling, if not exceeding, the dreadful conflagration in October last, in the same district.—The fire commenced in an outhouse or stable, in rear of the residence of C. Dorwin, Esq., in Dalhousie Street, and spread right and left, with almost instantaneous rapidity; the wooden sheds and dwelling houses in the immediate vicinity were first destroyed, the flames then communicating to Mr Dorwin's house, some of whose furniture was saved, but his family lost almost all their wearing apparel, &c., and a great quantity of valuable effects were destroyed. The dwelling houses fronting on Anne Street, occupied by Mr Hall and Mr Jakes, next caught fire, and a few minutes afterwards the flames spread to the extensive lumber-yard of Mr Hall, in which were immense piles of valuable timber. The heat now became intense, the flames from the burning timber ascending in a mass to the height of sixty or seventy feet, and it was almost impossible to stand unsheltered nearer than 250 yards. Large flakes of burning timber were carried beyond the French Cathedral, and had any thing beyond a mere breath of wind prevailed, an immense destruction of property must have been inevitable. The fire now spread into St. Gabriel St., destroying the premises occupied by Misses Smith, Milliners, &c., and into Anne Street, at a second point, where the residence of Mr Robden, senr., was burned down, and a range of brick buildings belonging to him almost gutted.—Mr Lyman's property in the same street was also much damaged, and at this point, by great exertion, the further progress of the flames was checked.

The fire was got under about half-past seven but the piles of timber are still burning vigorously.

We are not aware what amount of insurance was effected on Mr. Hall's property, but the loss must be very heavy, the yard extends the entire depth from Dalhousie Street to Anne Street, and is bounded by St. Gabriel Street, on one side, and the premises where the fire broke out on the other. More than 3,000 logs of square timber were destroyed, and some of the large square piles of flooring boards stood at least thirty feet high.—Two hundred barrels of cement in Mr Hall's yard, belonging to Mr Dorwin, were destroyed.

Quebec, May 29.—Warlike.—It was announced by Mr. Draper, in the House of Assembly, on Tuesday last, that the British Government had shipped for the Militia of Canada 35,000 percussion muskets, and that they were expected to arrive in a few days. We also learn from the Montreal papers that the *Burnhope-side*, from London, expected shortly, is said to be freighted with 250 thirty-two pounders, shot, shell, and powder, for this Colony.

Nova Scotia.

Halifax Guardian, June 5.

Deputation from the Secession Church.—Among the passengers who arrived in the *Hibernia* on Saturday last and went on to Boston, en route to Canada, we observe the names of the Rev. Robert Paterson, of Kirkwall, the Rev. James Robertson of Edinburgh, and Mr. David Anderson of Glasgow, the deputation lately appointed by the United Secession Church to visit their brethren in these provinces. We entertain no doubt that their visit will be productive of much good, and that they will every where meet with a cordial reception.

Lamentable Occurrence.—Mr. Lewis L. Smith, an inhabitant of Mabou, C. B., aged 87 years, much and deservedly esteemed in that neighbourhood, was knocked down and gored to death, by a bull belonging to the Agricultural Societies of the County of Inverness, a present to these institutions from the Hon. Wm. Young, member for the County. The bull it appears was fastened to a pole in a piece of interval belonging to the deceased, who had gone, it is supposed, to remove him to water, or for some other purpose, when the animal attacked him, and, although his sons, who were within sight and his servant boy who was not a stone's throw distant, hurried to the spot, assistance came to late. A Coroner's Inquest was held on the body, and a verdict returned in accordance with the facts of the case.

Union of Congregational Churches.—We have been requested to intimate that a meeting is intended to be held in Liverpool, on the 8th July next, for the purpose of forming a union between the Congregational Churches of Nova Scotia and those of St. John, N. B., under the designation of the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and St. John.

Halifax Times, June 9.

Schooner on Fire.—The Schooner *Trial*, lying at the end of M. Black's Wharf, which arrived from Boston on Sunday evening, was discovered to be on fire, yesterday afternoon. The alarm was instantly given, the engines speedily arrived—and by the assistance of a large concourse of the townsmen, aided by the military, the flames were soon subdued. The vessel had just begun to discharge her cargo, and the fire is supposed to have been occasioned by spontaneous combustion, the fore part of the hold where it broke out, being stowed with bales of oakum.—A large quantity of water was poured into the vessel, but from the appearance of the cargo, so far as we were enabled to judge, the damage will not be great.

Eight of June.—A Pic Nic took place yesterday at the Rockingham, under the auspices of the Nova Scotia Philanthropic Society, to celebrate the Anniversary of the landing of Governor Cornwallis, at Halifax. The day was beautifully fine, a number of persons took advantage of the occasion to enjoy themselves, and we understand were delighted with the entertainment and amusement that the trip afforded. A band of music engaged by the Society, gave an additional interest to the scene.

New Brunswick.

From the St. John Newbrunswick.

Melancholy Accident.—On Tuesday night last, Lieutenant Winterbottom, of the Royal Artillery, who has for some time been stationed in this Garrison, disappeared from the deck of the ship *Sir Robert Peel*, lying at Partridge Island, and it is feared that he has met a watery grave. Lieut. W. took passage in this vessel for England, and it appears that in the evening he went on board the steamer *Herald*, for Eastport, at anchor near by on account of the thick fog which prevailed at the time, and returned to the ship about twelve o'clock that night. After changing some portions of his dress, he went on deck for the purpose of smoking, and was not missed until next morning, when search was made for him in vain. We learn that his cap was found in the main top, and it is presumed that he may have ventured aloft and thus slipped into the sea. Lieut. W. was only about nineteen years of age, and was a young man of much promise.

St. John Observer, June 9.

Prosecution under the Passengers' Act.—The New-Brunswick of this morning, says; "The Captain of the *Margaret Thompson*, a passenger vessel from Donegal, was yesterday fined Twenty Pounds sterling and Costs, by E. L. Peters and Henry Porter, Esquires, upon the Prosecution of the Government Emigration Agent for not supplying the passengers by that vessel with the quantity or quality of provisions required by the Act."

WEST INDIES.

Halifax Morning Post, June 9.

Late from the West Indies.—The *Brig Lady Huntley* arrived yesterday morning from Savannah-la-Mar, in 23 days. This vessel has been gone hence about ten weeks, having had a fine run out to Jamaica, and made a good voyage. The system of labour by Coolies, inhabitants of the East Indies, was progressing with great success. Five hundred of them had recently arrived from Madras, and were distributed about the plantations. They are a quiet and hardy people, and in time make excellent labourers. They are beginning to eat fish, which they dislike at first—and (in the expressive language of our informant,) get for wages "two bits a day and their grub."

It was reported in the Jamaica papers that the *Earl of Elgin* was to become the *Governor General of Canada*, and Sir Charles Fitzroy, (now Governor of the Leeward Islands) was to succeed as Governor of Jamaica.

Melancholy Intelligence from the Cape de Verde Islands.—*Ravages of the Yellow Fever, Small Pox, and Famine.*—By the arrival of the *Pauline*, at Boston, distressing intelligence from Bona Vista has been received. The yellow fever was introduced by a British war steam-ship, and

upwards of one-eighth of the entire population of the ill-fated island has been swept off. It is said that many of the wretched beings who escaped the contagion, have succumbed to the not less horrid, though more protracted fate from hunger. Capt. Yarrington, of the *Pauline*, generously conveyed gratuitously a donation of corn, made by the citizens of Gambia, for the relief of the sufferers. From accounts from shore, there has been nearly five hundred deaths, and all the principal merchants, or people that could, have left the island. Three vessels had been sent from Gambia with supplies for the poor. The *P. left Gosca* on the 25th of April. The small pox was then making dreadful havoc among the negroes. About two hundred had died, in twenty days and the hospital was nearly full. The island is about one mile long and contains nearly 7000 inhabitants.

Drought and Famine in Northern Brazil.—A letter received by a gentleman in Baltimore city, dated Aracaty, Feb. 20, gives a heart-rending description of the sufferings of the inhabitants of portions of Northern Brazil. At Aracaty, in consequence of the protracted draught, the trees were withering, and the people were famishing for want of food. The writer says—"Should the draught continue until May or June, we shall have few persons left here. They have already begun to flock to Pernambuco, the capital; and if opportunity offers, all that remain will immediately follow." The writer was at Ico on the 9th of February, and he there saw families who, a short time since enjoyed abundance, begging from door to door. "They appeared," he remarks, "more like skeletons than any thing else. Many were dying in the streets of want daily; and the deaths were so numerous that the amount of mortality could not be estimated." Articles of first necessity had risen to an exorbitant price. A quarter of flour (half a bushel) could not be obtained for less than 24 millreas, or \$12; and biscuits, weighing half an ounce, sold for 30 reas, or one cent and a half each. Salt which a short time previous was selling at 8 millreas, was held at 16 millreas. In the districts of Inhemum, Crato, the province of Parahyba, and the neighbouring country, excepting the sea-coast, the distress was great beyond description, and the inhabitants were perishing of hunger in all directions."

United States News.

War with the Cherokees.—We learn from Gen. Morse of Natchioches, that an express had arrived at San Augustine and Sabine Town, with orders from the local authorities of Texas, to raise a force to repel the incursion of the Cherokees upon the frontier of Texas, and that companies were being raised for that purpose as well as under the requisition of Gen. Taylor.

Serious apprehensions were entertained that Mexican emissaries had been among them, and that the whole tribe were in arms against the United States. Some years since the Cherokees purchased land in Texas for which they had paid \$30,000 to the agent of a New York company, and the authorities of Texas refused to allow them to take possession of it. Since that period they have always been in a hostile attitude, and the presumption was they would take advantage of the first opportunity that presented to avenge themselves of their supposed wrongs. Bowls, a chief of the nation, together with some others, were killed in an affair growing out of the same cause, and Maj. Kaufman, now a member of Congress, from Texas, was wounded in the same battle.—*New Orleans Jeffersonian.*

Ex-President Tyler was examined before Mr. Vinton's select Committee, again on Friday last.—His testimony is a complete vindication of Mr. Webster from all the aspersions of Mr. C. J. Ingersoll, in relation to the secret service fund.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Post-office Returns.—The Post-office returns recently presented to parliament possess considerable interest. The payments into the Exchequer from the revenue of the Post-office in the year amounted to £753,000, and the net profit to the Exchequer, after deducting the expenses £47,581 17s. The gross receipt of the Post-office for the year ending the 5th of January was £1,927,906, from which was deducted £52,469 9s 7-2 for returning refused, mis-sent, and re-directed letters, overcharges, and returns, making the net receipt of revenue £1,875,436 14s 9-2d. The charges of management, as detailed,

were £1,875,437 14s 9-2d. The charges of management, as detailed, were £1,875,436 14s 9-2d. The charges of management as detailed, were £1,114,849 2s 6d, and payments made, of which £10,307 10s was for pensions, making the total payments out of the revenue of the Post-office in its progress to the Exchequer £1,125,594 5s, which with £3,157 10s 2-2d, the differences in the amount of balances and bills outstanding at the commencement and at the close of the year, reduced the payments into the Exchequer to the amount stated (£753,000). Of payments out of the Exchequer, £705,418 3s was paid for expenses connected with the packet service, of which £655,418 3s was on account of the packet service defrayed from grants of Parliament for naval service, and £50,000 to the East India Company towards the expense of steam communication with India by the way of the Red Sea and Bombay, according to the agreement made with the Company in 1837, voted in the estimates for miscellaneous services. The several accounts in the returns are given in detail.

British Cotton Manufactures.—A return has been made to Parliament giving an account of the total quantities and the declared value of cotton manufactures entered by the yard, exported from the United Kingdom in each year, from 1814 to 1845; as also the declared value of hosiery, lace, and small wares, in each year from the period mentioned. In 1814 the number of yards of British cotton manufactures exported from the United Kingdom, was 192,340,825; the declared value of which was £16,480,750. The declared value of hosiery, &c., exported in the same year was £798,825, making the value £17,279,576.

FOR SALE.

20 Hhds bright Porto Rico SUGAR,
7 Hhds } choice Trinidad Molasses.
5 Tierces }
7 Hhds Martell's Brandy,
1 Hhd Whiskey.

JOHNSON & MACKIE.
Chatham, 10th June, 1846.

New and Fashionable Goods.

H. C. D. CARMAN

Has received by the ship *Pollok*, from Liverpool, his usual supply ofBritish and Scotch Goods:
Also—HARDWARE, CUTLERY, an
IRONMONGERY,

GLASS AND EARTHENWARE.

Which, together with his former Stock on hand, will be sold at unprecedented low prices.

—By the *Mayflower*, from Halifax—Hhds Molasses, chests Tea,
Kegs Tobacco,On hand—a very general assortment of Groceries, black and white paint, Flour, Oat Meal, Seed Oats, No. 1 Canso Herrings, Cod fish, &c. &c. &c.
Chatham, June 5, 1846.

THE CARGO

Of the Schooner "*JOSEPH HOWE*,"
from BOSTON, for Sale by
JOHNSON & MACKIE.

150 Barrels FLOUR,

125 Barrels Corn Meal:

75 bls and bags Pilot and Navy BREAD,
50 bls and kegs Crackers, various kinds,
10 Hogheads, } choice retailing Molasses.
10 Tierces, }
95 boxes Tea, 5 bags Coffee,
10 boxes Confectionary, 120 boxes Raisins,
10 boxes Oranges, 5 boxes Lemons,
7 bags Nuts, 20 drums Figs,
9 jars Prunes, 2 casks Currants,
20 bags Indian Corn, 2 casks Rice,
125 boxes Window Glass, all sizes,
2 barrels and 2 kegs Glass Ware,
20 barrels Pitch, 20 barrels Tar,
14 barrels Solar Oil, 2 cases Sweet Oil,
50 doz bottles Castor Oil,
2 bales Cotton Wool,
10 dozen wooden Pails, 6 nests Tubs,

40 Packages Agricultural Implements:
Amongst which are—Scythes and Cradles,
Manure Forks, Hay Forks, Scythe Sheaths,
Hay Rakes, &c. &c.

46 boxes and kegs TOBACCO, various kinds,
5 bls strong Rum, 5 boxes Stoughton's
5 cases Copal Varnish, [Elixir,
12 boxes Tobacco Pipes, 4 cases Pickles,
2 casks Salaratus, 4 boxes palm leaf Hats,
14 boxes cotton and wool Cards,
20 boxes Boots and Shoes, assorted;

Clocks, Pictures and Frames, Leather, Furniture, Brooms, Combs, Spices and Drugs, Burning Fluid, Honey, Turpentine, Starch, Scented Soaps, Mats, Matches, Sauff, Corks, Patent Scales, and a variety of other articles.
—Received, per recent arrivals—
100 barrels HERRINGS,
70 do PORK,
BARLEY, WHEAT, OATS, &c. &c.
The rest of their Spring Stock, daily expected,
Chatham, 15th May, 1846.