

stances as they actually occurred, so that persons at a distance may understand the position of affairs at this place at the day referred to. The following are the facts as far as we have been able to collect them. Should it be found that we have made a mistake we shall gladly correct it, as we have no wish to give publicity to anything that is not true. If there be any important facts omitted, we shall be glad to receive them from an authentic source, and shall not fail to make them known.

On the Saturday and Sunday previous, particularly on the latter, our streets began to be filled with people from the country, among whom we noticed many strange faces. On Monday morning early we observed a considerable increase. About nine o'clock we saw some half dozen guns carried round the streets. About ten o'clock, as near as we can judge, word was brought in, it was said that the Orangemen had started for the meeting house in Jackstown. The Catholics made a rush up the hill, forming into files as they moved along, to the number of about two hundred and fifty persons, several of whom were boys. We counted fifty guns many of them appeared rather like Uncle Sam's pieces, there were twelve pistols, twelve or fifteen scythes, fifty to seventy five pitch forks and dung forks. Some had reaping hooks, others axes: there were about seventy five or a hundred armed with clubs, the majority of them axe-handles; there were other weapons, such as door hinges of large size, handles of frying-pans, large knives that looked rather formidable, besides a number of persons that appeared to have no weapons of any kind. All the magistrates that were convenient, viz., John Dibblee, John Bedell, Charles Connell, R. S. Demill, and George W. Gleary, Esqrs., the Sheriff, who had been some time previously on the spot, the troops in garrison, numbering about sixteen men, under the command of Lieutenant Wickham, with a number of persons belonging to the village followed immediately. As we passed the lodge-room of the Orangemen we ascertained that they had been gone some time. Following up the Catholic party we found them sitting on the road side nearly half a mile from the village. Immediately on their arrival, the magistrates remonstrated with them on their illegal conduct. Mr. Bedell in particular pointed out to them that they had no right to be carrying arms in that manner, that they were acting unlawfully, and that they had better disperse and go home. The reply was, that they had as much right to carry arms as the Orangemen; and that they had as much right to walk as the Orangemen had. The Sheriff made a very sensible appeal to them, pointing out that their present course could have no good effect, but that they were sowing the seeds of future discord and difficulty, and seriously advised them to separate and return to their homes. Lieutenant Wickham addressed them in a frank off-handed manner; advised them to break up at once; stated that if they persisted in their present course, the Magistrates would be compelled to read the Riot Act and he should be ordered to fire upon them. He would regret to perform such a duty, but if he were ordered he should be compelled to shoot them.

A great deal of parleying took place, the Catholics still insisted that they had as good a right to walk as the Orangemen, the magistrates that they should return home. Finally it was agreed that the Catholics should return to the Creek, and keep quiet, and the magistrates should use their influence to prevent the Orangemen from walking through the streets on their return from meeting. Mr. Bedell, who was the principal speaker of the magistrates, said that they had no authority to stop the Orangemen, but that he would use his personal interest to prevent any display of flags; and induce them to repair at once to their room. The other Magistrates were asked if they would use their influence likewise, which they promised to do. The Catholic party then promised to offer no annoyance to the other side. Notwithstanding this dictation; notwithstanding this contempt for their authority, the Magistrates used a forbearance that we think is highly creditable to them. Many of the Catholics were evidently much excited, [we do not mean through the influence of liquor,] and many of them no doubt, were ignorant to what extent they were violating the laws of the country. It was the first affray of the kind that had taken place in this part of the province. But should another such riot take place, now that people have become apprised of the danger of such conduct, we sincerely hope that the aggressors, whether they be Catholics, Protestants, or whatever else they may be, will not be so much coaxed or persuaded, but that stern and inflexible justice will be administered, and that promptly. We have always advocated peace, and the best method of obtaining that object, we think, is a prompt administration of our laws.

According to agreement, the Catholics returned to the Creek, but instead of keeping quiet, marched through our streets several times with their habiliments of war, declaring that Woodstock was theirs, and that they should keep it. Every lover of order must have regretted the riotous manner in which our streets were paraded. We have travelled a good deal, and in no country did we ever witness such a determined—such an outrageous breach of the peace. It was not Orangemen that were insulted by such conduct, for they were at a distance from the scene. It was not Protestants alone that were thus treated with indignity, but every peaceable and respectable member of the community, Catholics [many of whom condemned such proceedings] as well as others.

Three of the Magistrates (as we understand) went out to Jackstown, according to promise, to persuade the Orangemen to carry no colours, and to form no procession on their return. This, after some argument, was agreed to by that party, and acted upon.

About twelve o'clock the Catholics made a rush through the village, when it was afterwards ascertained that a raft was seen coming down the river, having a yellow handkerchief raised for a flag.—The raft was boarded, and the handkerchief, we are told; was carried to the front street where it was torn into ribbons.

About 1 o'clock a general move was made up the hill to meet the Orangemen on their return. The Magistrates were promptly on the spot; the Military were called out; and the Proclamation authorised by the Riot Act was read by John Dibblee, Esq., the senior Magistrate. No attention, however, was paid to it. The Party moved on to the upper part of the village, opposite the residence of Dr. Rice, where they called a halt. The Authorities and troops passed them and took up their position about two hundred yards in advance, where they intended waiting the hour required by the Law, before they attempted to disperse the rioters, which they would have attempted, at least, had not matters taken a different turn. Five minutes before the hour had elapsed, the Orangemen were seen coming down the hill, in accordance with their agreement. No flags were displayed, no procession was formed, no arms were carried, but were returning quietly to their Lodge Room, without any regard to regularity. On arriving at the position of the Magistrates they were ordered to halt, and after the Proclamation was read they were ordered to disperse.

The Orangemen on beholding the formidable appearance of their opponents manifested a wish to get their arms which they had deposited in a waggon in compliance with their promise. This the Magistrates overruled, stating that the other party had pledged themselves to offer no opposition, if the Orangemen passed along quietly. The latter, still submitting to the direction of the authorities, moved forward and when about turning into the street that leads to their room, the Catholics in a most cowardly and dastardly manner, and in open violation of their agreement, fired upon them. A general rush was made to the waggon containing their arms, and while they crowded around, each hastening to arm himself, it is said that several shots were fired in amongst them. Having secured about 50 loaded muskets and rifles with fixed bayonets, all they had in possession at the time, the firing became general all over the ground.—Not having been present at the engagement, in consequence of its occurring much sooner than we anticipated, we are necessarily indebted to the information of others (persons of veracity) for what little information we have been able to collect.—After the first fire of the Orangemen several of the opposite party fled. Some got into the adjoining houses and behind the fences, from whence it was feared it would be somewhat difficult to dislodge them. A few volleys however decided the affair, as in the lapse of three or four minutes every man of that party that could get away, with the exception of those that concealed themselves in the houses were in full retreat. Several were made prisoners on the spot. Mr. Bedell and the Sheriff had a narrow escape, having ridden between the parties to prevent a collision, and after it had commenced, beseeching the rioters to stop their firing, being thus placed between two fires. The military got much credit for their coolness on the occasion, having been for some time between the fire of both parties without being able to take any part in it, not having received any orders to that effect. The Sheriff in attempting to arrest one of the principal rioters, was fired at by another of the party; we are happy to say he received no injury. The miscreant did not escape however.—The affair was witnessed by Mr. B. English, who, mounted on horseback, dashed in among the rioters, and succeeded in capturing him while attempting to escape.

We have conversed with several persons who took part in the affray, who confidently affirm that there were several of the rioters killed; that they saw themselves. We do not vouch for the correctness of this statement however, although there is every reason to believe our informants to be persons of veracity. It is estimated that about 200 shots were fired, and it is hardly supposable, from the nearness of the parties but that some must have lost their lives. It is pretty well understood that about fourteen persons have been wounded, three of the Orangemen, a Mr. Fitzherbert, a coloured man by the name of Nelson, who were spectators, and nine of the rioters, two of whom had their wounds dressed in Houlton, and the remaining seven in Woodstock. The Magistrates have behaved throughout this trying affair in a manner highly creditable to the authorities of this County. A strong Civil Police was immediately organised, which in addition to a number of special Constables, previously sworn in, proceeded to arrest such persons as were known to have taken any part in the riot. At the time of our going to press upwards of eighty persons had been taken and are now under examination. A Despatch was forwarded to Head Quarters on Monday evening last, apprising the Executive of the state of affairs here. A reply has been received complimenting our authorities on the course that had been adopted; and recommending that no pains nor expense be spared to bring every rioter to justice. Another Despatch was received here from Fredericton on Thursday night. We have not as yet heard its purport.

The above is a correct statement of facts as we could collect. Perhaps, in fact we have no doubt, that many of the details in reference to the fight will be found defective. Any further information that may be furnished, with several other items necessarily omitted this week will be inserted in our next.

We have always questioned the propriety of introducing party business of any kind (unless such as was purely religious,) into a new country, such as New Brunswick. We did think that Irishmen, leaving the land of their nativity, should have scattered their party feuds and animosities to the winds, and have endeavoured to live in peace and harmony with each other. We still think so. But we must confess that the proceedings of Monday last have changed our opinion very materially in reference to the propriety of organising societies for special purposes. When a body of men, by whatever name they may be called; cannot march in peace, to and from a place of public worship, without being intimidated—without being fired upon, we do say, when matters come to such a crisis, that opposition to the organisation of constitutional societies, for the protection of our dearest rights, is banished from our minds.

Perhaps there is no body of people who have more Holy Days than the Catholics—days on which they repair to their several places of worship. But we ask them, if they have ever, in this County—ever, in this Province, been molested or opposed when repairing to, or returning from their various places of devotion? They cannot, to our knowledge point out a single instance. But Catholics may say that Orangeism is not a religious institution, and that therefore it should not be tolerated. The defence of that institution we leave to those who are members of it; we are not. We tell them, (the Catholics,) however, that in a country governed by such wholesome—such salutary laws as those under which we live, an opposition by force—an opposition that sets all law—all restraint at defiance, cannot be permitted—cannot be tolerated. Every loyal subject—every man who wishes well to the prosperity of his country will raise his voice; all his physical powers will be used to prevent a recurrence of such proceedings as were practised here on Monday last.

We would seriously ask the Catholics of this place to reflect upon the unpleasant situation in which their conduct has placed them. Heretofore they have been treated with the utmost attention and respect. Every indulgence has been shown them. They have been protected in all their religious privileges. They are prospering in their business. How many throughout the Province have made themselves comfortable and respectable?—is not this a proof that they have been denied no privilege to which they were entitled? The laboring part of their population have always had employment, and have received the highest wages.—But can they expect that those privileges will be continued when they wantonly throw them away—when they deliberately deride the authorities, and set the laws of the land at defiance? They cannot surely expect it. In all sincerity, and with affection and kindness we ask them to retrace their steps. If they suffer any injury, if they labour under any grievance, let them apply for legal redress, but never again let them think of usurping that power which belongs alone to the constitutional authorities of the country. Our columns have always been open to advocate the rights of every man, without reference to his party, or his creed. They shall continue to be so. All parties may rest assured that any infringement of our laws—any species of intimidation that may be used by any party or body of men to the prejudice of another, shall, whenever it comes to our knowledge, be unhesitatingly exposed, and submitted to the bar of public opinion.

The St. John Courier puts us in possession of the following information respecting the riots in that place, as well as in Fredericton:—

"We regret to state that party feeling is now carried to such a pitch in this province, that the return of the 12th of July is annually made the display of lawless disorder truly disgraceful to those who take a part in it. Last Monday the Orange Societies met in a building in Portland, and some of the members of the mechanics' Band who had been in attendance, in returning to the city in the evening were attacked at York Point, and several of them severely beaten, and had their instruments broken. This led to farther disturbance during the night, and the use of firearms. Some of the houses at York Point bear marks of frequent discharges of these deadly weapons, in the streets in that densely populated part of the city. One or two persons who were engaged in the affray, received pistol shot wounds, but we are not aware that any of them have proved fatal.

His Worship the Mayor being sent for, about one o'clock on Tuesday morning, called out a detachment of the 33rd regiment, but they did not succeed in apprehending any of the rioters, who all fled on the approach of the military.

At Fredericton, the Orange Society met in the long room in Mr. Marsh's building, opposite the barrack gate, and a fight, as usual took place in the neighborhood. Captain Walker of the 33d Regiment, courageously interfered and saved a man's life, but received some severe bruises in the face from the mob. Another man had his leg broken, and at night a third was fired at and wounded with slugs, and is since dead. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and his honor Judge Street and several of the Magistrates, went among

the rioters, and used their endeavours to persuade them to disperse.

We learn from the Fredericton Reporter, that the whole of Thursday was occupied by the Coroner, Henry Fisher jr, Esq., and a jury, in holding an inquest on the body of the deceased.—At one o'clock on Friday, the jury returned the following verdict:—

"The Jury are of opinion that the deceased Thomas Welch, came to his death by means of a shot fired from some description of fire arms, by some person or persons unknown. That there is reason to suspect that the fatal shot was fired from the house of William Armstrong, situate in Carleton street."

While the inquest was sitting in one end of the Court, the Magistrates were employed in the other taking depositions and issuing Warrants in cases connected with the late riots. In fact, the whole town seems to be converted into one great Court of enquiry; and among the respectable part of all denominations, there is only one desire manifest—namely, to uphold the power of the law, and guard the quiet of the city. A large number of special Constables walk the streets by night and the place seems as peaceful as ever.

QUARANTINE NEWS.—The schooner Victoria, from Quebec, with 20 passengers, anchored at the Quarantine ground on Tuesday last. She had three cases of Typhus fever on board. The passengers and crew were landed on Middle Island this morning, the Captain securing the maintenance of the healthy passengers and crew until discharged.

Dr. Thomson reports as follows:—There have been three deaths during the week; forty-four placed on quarantine of observation; seventy-two discharged; one new case of fever. Every thing is going on satisfactorily.

Capt. Thain was discharged on Friday last.

THE CROPS.—Our farmers are now busily occupied making hay, and the crop is reported to be a very heavy one. In fact, from personal observation, and from report from all directions, we have much satisfaction in being able to state, that the crops of every description promise a more than usual return to the farmer, a blessing for which we cannot be too thankful to an all-wise and benevolent Creator.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—The Deputation from the Established Church of Scotland, consisting of the Rev. Mr. Macintosh, of Aberdeen, and the Rev. Mr. Fowler, of Ratho, arrived here late on Saturday night from P. E. Island. The former gentleman preached twice in Saint Andrew's Church, Chatham, on Sunday, and the latter gentleman in Saint James's Church, Newcastle, the same day. They proceed to the northward by the Stage to-morrow morning, to visit the settlements in that quarter. The Rev. Mr. Stephenson, another of the Deputation, it is expected, will be in this neighbourhood on Sunday next.

FIRE IN CHATHAM.—The house occupied by Mr. Bowes, in the lower part of Chatham, was discovered to be on fire on the morning of Sunday last. The alarm was given and the flames were extinguished before any material damage was done to the dwelling. The fire was communicated by the pipe of a cooking stove, which was placed in a shed attached to the house.

ARRIVALS AT MEA'S HOTEL.

July 21st—John Jardine, Esq., Richibucto; Z. Phinney, do. 22nd—W. Stephens, Esq., Fredericton. 23rd—James Fraser, Kouchibouguac; Samuel Hetherington, Richibucto; James Smith, Fort Lawrence. 24th—W. Stevens, Jun., Fredericton; H. Tibbets, do. 26th—Mrs Baldwin, & two children, Saint John; George Kinread, Fredericton; T. Kinread, do.; H. Getchell, Bay du Vin.

Information Wanted

OF OWEN MIHIAN, who left Charlottetown for Chatham, about two years ago, in which latter place he was employed by Mr. Gavin Rainnie, as a fireman in his mill. He left Chatham about 12 months ago, and his friends have not since heard from him. He is fair complexioned, of low size, with light hair, and is about 26 years of age. He left a wife and one child, who are now residing in Nelson, in this county. Any information respecting him will be thankfully received by the Revd. Michael Egan. Miramichi, July 26, 1847.