

over the faces of the prisoners, and the nooses attached to the hooks on the cord. Marshal Tallmadge then gave the signal, by drawing a white handkerchief from his pocket, when Deputy Marshal Rakielwez cut the rope with one blow of the axe, and the bodies of Douglass and Benson were suspended in the air. The prisoners had been standing under the gallows precisely ten minutes. At five minutes after eleven the rope was cut. Benson struggled hard, and at the eighth minute after the weight fell, he gave a last convulsive movement, and his soul was in eternity. Douglass remained perfectly motionless for several seconds. He then drew up his arms, gave two or three slight convulsive twitches of the body, and all was over. The bodies were left hanging till twenty minutes to 12 o'clock, when Drs. Geer and J. W. Metcalf examined them, and pronounced life extinct. They were then cut down, and placed in coffins preparatory to their interment.

After the bodies of the sufferers were placed in their coffins, the mother of Douglass was admitted by Mr Edmonds, the humane and efficient Warden of the prison. The afflicted mother approached the coffin, and the instant the lid was removed, she fell on the body of her boy, and exclaimed in extreme and painful grief: "Ah! my son, my poor boy, your trials are now all over on this earth: your last trial has proved a fatal one in this world." She knelt over the body, and kissed him again and again, at the same time cutting off portions of his hair as keepsakes of the untimely end of her unfortunate child. She has now a daughter, the only child left, having lost one daughter by death since the pending of the trial. The bodies were removed from the prison by their friends, during the afternoon; and we understand that Douglass is to be interred at Greenwood Cemetery, and Benson in the burying ground.

During Thursday afternoon, Mr Daniel E. Gavit, daguerreotypist, corner of Broadway and Murray streets, conveyed a daguerreotype apparatus to the prison yard, and Douglass sat for his likeness, and four impressions were taken. Benson was also taken by the same artist; and a copy of each was presented to the mothers of the unfortunate young men. Mrs Douglass expressed herself much gratified at the kind present.

**DREADFUL TRAGEDY.**—We are called upon this morning, to record another most painful tragedy, occurring between gentlemen who may almost be considered citizens of this place. The circumstances which caused it, however, being of the most delicate nature, we shall only allude to them in so far as will be necessary to make intelligible the sad termination of the affair. On Sunday evening last about dark, Dr. Lorenzo D. Williams, son of John M. Williams, residing just across the river on the Amherst side, eloped with the eldest daughter, aged about nineteen years, of captain Richard G. Morris, who also lives immediately over the river, with the purpose of marrying her.

The couple, accompanied by one of W's brothers, and a Mr Edmund Hill, took the Charlottesville route for Washington city. The family of the young lady getting wind of the elopement a short time after it occurred, Captain Morris and his son, Richard G., prepared immediately for a pursuit. They overtook the runaways in Charlottesville, they having been disappointed in meeting a ready conveyance from that place. The daughter was concealed in the hotel, but the father and brother got possession of her, and then had Williams and his party bound over in the sum of a thousand dollars each. Both parties left for home, and on Tuesday evening they accidentally put up at the same hotel in Lovington, Nelson County. When Williams's party and young Richard Morris were seated at the supper table, opposite each other, some indignity was offered young Morris by the other party, when he threw his plate in the face of Williams.

Morris, Williams and Hill then commenced a general shooting, which resulted, after some eight or ten rounds, in the immediate death of young Morris, and the mortally wounding of Hill, and it is said of young Williams also. Young Morris was shot in the head and in a vital part of the body by young Williams it is supposed. Hill was shot by Morris in the centre of the breast, and Williams was shot by him in the side or back. When this occurrence took place the father and daughter were in their room, up stair. A message was forthwith despatched to the families of the parties, and arrived here at an early hour yesterday morning. The news of so dreadful a tragedy of course created the greatest excitement and regret in this community. As to the feelings of the unhappy families involved, whose cup of grief has been perhaps forever embittered, we shall not attempt a description. Language would be inadequate to the task.

As we have gathered these altogether from rumor, there may be, and doubtless are, many inaccuracies in them. But there is no doubt of the sad termination of the affair. When we received the detailed particulars we shall give them.

P. S.—A report has since reached here that Hill had died of his wound.

**More Authentic.**—Mr Morris was shot but once, and that through the body. He was not killed in the melee, but was shot by Williams's brother Robert, after he (Morris) had shot down both of his antagonists, Hill and Dr. W., and was retiring from the dining room. Dr W's first cap exploded. Morris lived but five minutes, dying in his father's arms, who mist him at the head of the steps. Robert Williams has been arrested.—*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.*

**Terrible Tragedy.**—The Palmyra (Mobile) Whig publishes the following extract from a letter giving an account of a horrid murder perpetrated at Hannibal, Mobile:

We have a German in prison, guilty of the murder of a young lady whom he loved.— Briefly the circumstances are these: The prisoner was a servant in the family of Mr Scholten, and became enamoured of his daughter. He declared before, as the testimony shows that he intended to make a declaration of his love, and if not received he would shoot the lady. He made his declaration of love—the lady indignantly repulsed him. He went and got a double barrel gun, came into the house where the lady and mother were, told her he had a present for her pointing to the gun. Said she you are not going to shoot surely. He replied I am, firing the one barrel, and afterwards the other, the loads taking effect in the head, scattering her brains all over the room. The young lady was beautiful and accomplished. The prisoner made a sham attempt to kill himself. He is quite young and a very innocent looking fellow.

**Railroad Celebration at Boston.**—The proposed celebration in this city, of the completion of the Boston and Montreal Railroad, will not only be an exceedingly interesting, but a very important event; interesting because it will bring together some of the most distinguished men of our own country, as well as of the Canadas—and important from the fact that Boston, its citizens, its enterprise, and its future prospects and glory it is the most significant sign of the times. The great line of railways commencing in this city at the very ocean, and extending through a country teeming with the young and active pulsations of life, clear to the important and growing city of Montreal; and connecting as so many tributaries to the ocean, with the great lakes the business of which is immense; celebrating, as this event will, the marriage of these magnificent realities, and all tending to enlarge, enrich, and make reputable our city—it is one we look to and regard with no common interest. It opens a page in the history of Boston on which we may read the magnificent destiny before us.

It is extremely gratifying to note the activity, unanimity, heart and purpose of the city government in assisting to carry into effect this grand affair. Inasmuch as the great railway will bring millions upon millions of dollars into the pockets of our merchants, capitalists and others, and likewise by the germ of new sources of wealth not yet dreamed of by the most enthusiastic, it is highly becoming and proper that no means be wanted to give the event that eclat so desirable.

It is also equally pleasing to record that the merchants of our city are enthusiastically in favor of the great celebration. There is a determination to make it the most extensive, magnificent, and liberal of anything, which has yet taken place, not only in New England but in the whole country.

We might go into columns of statistics going to show the immense advantages this new railway will give to Boston. It will inevitably make it the greatest exporting city in the country, and the storehouse and stopping place of the Canadas; in a few years to be a largely populated country. It will also divert an incomparable amount of business of the great lake country from channels now leading elsewhere. In a word, it will be a young California to Boston.—*Boston Bee.*

**To the Citizens of Boston:**—

The City Government of Boston propose to celebrate, in appropriate manner, the final completion of the great lines of Railway uniting the tide waters of Boston with the Canadas and the Great West, and also the establishment of American lines of steamers between Boston and Liverpool. The importance of these events to the great social and commercial interests of our city can hardly be exaggerated. We are now about to realize it is believed, the full benefit of those great enterprises, in the perfecting of which we have expended so much capital. There are now completed and in operation, in Massachusetts alone, about 1200 miles of railway; and in New England, about 2,400 miles. Massachusetts alone has expended, in the completions of these roads, the enormous amount of \$54,000,000; and it appears from the reports of the several railroad corporations in this State, made to the Legislature, that there were transported over the Massachusetts roads alone, during the year 1850, 9,500,000 passengers, and 2,500,000 tons of freight. This statement, however, but imperfectly presents the advantages which we are to derive from these works. The Railways of Massachusetts are but a small link in the great lines which connect us with the remotest sections of our country. The several lines connecting us with the Canadas, northern New York, the great lakes, and the west, are now completed, uniting us by railroad and steam navigation with 13 States of the Union, comprising an area of 428,795 square miles; the two Canadas, the lakes with their 5000 miles of coast; and bringing within our commercial sphere a population of ten millions of inhabitants. And if we look for a moment at the business of the lakes and the Canadas, and observe its rapid yearly increase we shall be still more astonished. It is estimated that the imports and exports of the Lake Harbors, exclusive of the Canadas during the present year will be 200 millions of dollars. The annual increase of this business is found to be 17½ per cent, thus doubling itself in six years. In addition to this, the imports and exports of the Canadas will amount

during the present year to 50 millions of dollars.

In this connection, it may be well to say that the books of the Custom House show, that the merchandise transported to Canada, from the district of Boston and Charlestown, for the six months ending June 30, 1851, was more than quadruple that of the six months last preceding.

Merchandise can be landed at Ogdensburg, on Lake Ontario, put on board the cars at that place, brought to Boston without transshipment, and from here exported to England by means of our steamships, in a much less time than it can be done by any other route. Cargoes from Liverpool in steamships, via Boston, may be delivered in Montreal in 12 days.

For the Committee of Arrangements.

JOHN P. BIGELOW, Mayor.

CALIFORNIA.

**Two Weeks Later.**—About five hundred buildings were destroyed. Estimated loss \$3,000,000.

A great deal of lumber was destroyed.

Persons burnt out are generally of the poorer class. The fire was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary.

Several arrests have been made, but not proved that the parties were actually guilty.

Most of the burnt district was occupied by dwellings: few heavy stocks of goods were burnt.

The excitement which has been created since the fire, against the desperadoes living among us, has resulted in a determination on the part of our citizens, to prevent the landing of any more persons from the Penal Colonies unless they can produce testimonials of good character.

Capt. Snow, a very worthy citizen, was murdered in the City of Sonora, and two days afterwards two of the assassins were taken and hung by the populace.

A row occurred near Carson's diggings in which two Americans and three or four Mexicans were killed.

A great many Mormons from the Salt Lake Valley had arrived in the Los Angeles Valley.

Two men, Watkins and Brier, were found guilty of burglary, and sentenced, one to ten and the other to five years imprisonment.

A party of nine men under Capt. Fitzpatrick, have been cut off by the Indians at Rogue River, and it is feared all murdered.

On the night of the great fire, Lewis Pollock was called from his bed and shot dead by Samuel Gallagher.

The citizens of Maysville have formed a Vigilance Committee for the protection of life and property.

Accounts from the mines and places are very encouraging.

The prospect from the crops throughout the country is encouraging.

Our city is going up again very fast; 200 building have been erected during the past week.

A horrible murder has been perpetrated at Sonora. Some persons who took offence at an article in the Sonora Herald, went to the room of the Editor, Dr. Green, dragged him from his bed, and shot him through the head. They also killed two other persons connected with his office, and killed or wounded three or four other persons who went to their assistance.

SOUTH AMERICA.

**From Valparaiso.**—About one o'clock on the morning of the 26th of May, a very heavy and serious Earthquake was experienced at Copiapo and Huasco. The Neighbor says:

In the city of Copiapo many dwellings were brought to the ground. At the mines of Chanareillo and Tres Puntas houses and walls were ruined. In Copiapo the earth opened for a distance of fifty yards of fifty varas, a fissure a quarter of a vara in width. At Huasco Bajo also the injury was similar in extent, the church and many dwellings being destroyed; it is reported that the earth there also opened. The sea retired at the Port of Huasco a distance of a cuadra with rapidity, and then returned at a height of ten feet above the highest tides, filling the enclosure of the Custom House; however little property was damaged by water. For several days continual shocks were felt, although none were heavy enough to do harm. The first shock lasted about two minutes. The noise preceding it was very loud. The railroad track, we learn, has not suffered.

## Colonial News.

NOVASCOTIA.

**The Monster Meeting.**—We publish this morning the Sun's condensed but capital report on the mass meeting at the parade, on Thursday evening last. The country will look anxiously for Mr Howe's speech on that interesting occasion. Mr O. Weeks, Junr. has reported it, together with the brief remarks of the candidates and the several gentlemen who nominated them. They were all enthusiastically received, and it is now the determination of the Liberal party to make the Obstructives feel their weakness. The compromise offered by Mr Howe to the Tories may or may not have been judicious; but now that the offer has been rejected, they must be shown by the result of the contest, whether or not he was "magnanimous." The professions of any Conservative gentleman, on the Rail Road question, must for all time to come, be viewed with unqualified distrust. The County and Township of Halifax are,

however, too wide awake to their truest and best interests to listen to the voice of the Tories—charm they never so wisely; and should the latter risk the issue of a contest, we predict they will be "nowhere" at its termination.

Since the above was in type we have learned that the Conservatives held a meeting last evening, at the Masonic Hall, and nominated T. R. Grassie, Esq., for the County, and David Allison Esq., for the Township. The meeting would have been a sorry concern had it not been that many of the liberal party were present. We had prepared a rather extended notice of this meeting; but the whole affair having been by common consent pronounced a humbug, we forego for the present, any further notice of the abortion.

**Well Said Cape Breton.**—Whatever differences of opinion may exist in Cape Breton, relative to the construction of Railroads in the British North American Colonies, we have the satisfaction of knowing that the only press in the Island has several times spoken out manfully in favor of the enterprise. We have much pleasure in transferring into our columns, the leading article of the Cape Breton News of the 2nd instant. The enlarged views of the writer, will, we trust, be echoed by every constituency throughout the length and breadth of the beautiful Island, whose best interest are simply synonymous with the advancement of these provinces:

We this day give place as far as our limits permit, to the letter of Mr Howe; which report of his delegation, is—as might be expected by those who know anything of the individual—a bold, graphic, and encouraging paper. Canada and New Brunswick, through their representatives at Toronto, have accepted the offer of the Imperial Government as conveyed in Mr Hawes's letter to Mr Howe, and the negotiation only requires the concurrence of Nova Scotia, to make this noble project a great fact. If everything proceed satisfactorily and Mr Howe's policy receive the sanction of the Legislature, a new era will dawn on Nova Scotia, which will transcend in its effects the most sanguine expectations of the most enthusiastic believers in the future greatness of these Colonies. The laying down of the first rail on the Halifax and Quebec line will be the commencement of the building of the Railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific, to pass through British territory, and having its Atlantic terminus on the shores of Nova Scotia. But in the contemplation of this feature of the project, the imagination becomes bewildered. We need not, however, go beyond the limits of the contemplated schemes to discern the vast and countless advantages it promises, and the rapid increase in our Revenue and population—and the advance of our country in education, science, agriculture, and the arts, which it forebodes, as well as the settling of an extensive and fertile country with the wealth, enterprise and energy of the Anglo Saxon Race; nor can we fail to penetrate into, and catch a glimpse of, the social, political, commercial and national advantages which will evidently follow the construction of a great Inter-Colonial Railway. Away then with all narrow and contracted opinions as to the whereabouts of the terminus, or the good it may do A. B. or C. in particular, but looking steadily to the advance of this great Colonial Empire, and the general prosperity of its people, push forward to the end, and we doubt not, but that by union and determination of purpose, under the blessing of Heaven, these provinces will assume their due importance, and prosperity come in amongst us. Let union and perseverance, then, be henceforth our motto.

**Military.**—We are sorry to learn that the rumour alluded to in our last number relative to the moving of the 72nd Highlanders from this Garrison is too true. It is presumed that the exchanges with the 97th, now in New Brunswick, will commence early in the ensuing month. The 72nd is a splendid body of men: and the officers being a dashingly set of fellows, it was in contemplation to revive the sports of the turf during the present season.

**Cape Breton.**—The Sydney News says that the Hon. Attorney General will be returned for Richmond by a large majority. Also that accounts from the crops from every section of the Island are most gratifying, and the weather continued to be most favorable.—*Halifax Nova Scotian, Aug. 13.*

**New Brunswick:**

**Quebec and Halifax Telegraph Line.**—This Line is fast approaching completion, and will be in full operation in a very few days. Mr Torney, the superintendent of the line between Quebec and Woodstock, left here last week for the purpose of throwing the wire across the St. Lawrence, and fitting up the different offices along the line. The stockholders of this company as well as the public at large, are greatly indebted to Mr Torney for his exertions in getting this line through and also for the neatness and strength of the work. We have travelled many miles along side of Telegraph Lines, but we have never seen any that would compare with the one in question. The poles are of good wood, stout, straight, and well set in the ground, many places they are peeled, and for some distance above the office here are neatly painted—a few feet from the ground with black, and the remainder with white paint—presenting a strong contrast with the line below. The wires also are placed in a different manner from any that we have seen.—An iron pin is driven into the top of the pole, and on this a glass cap is set, to which the iron is fastened, allowing it to run along the tops of the poles instead of the sides. In