

from the decayed trunks of trees, from the clefts of rocks, and from the ground undermined by lizards, millepedes, and *cecilias*. These are so many voices proclaiming to us their life breathes; and that, under a thousand different forms, life is diffused throughout the cracked and dusty soil, as well as in the bosom of the waters, and in the air around us.—*Humboldt's Personal Narrative.*

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, JUNE 27, 1853

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—15s. in advance: 20s. at the end of the year.

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CANADIAN LEGISLATURE.

THE Legislature of Canada was prorogued by His Excellency the Governor General, on the afternoon of the 14th inst. The Gazette says that 264 Bills have been passed during the session, and all but one, Captain Beresford's Divorce Bill sanctioned. Captain Beresford's Bill, is reserved until Her Majesty's pleasure respecting it, is ascertained.

The following is the speech on the occasion:—

Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council, and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly.

I am enabled, at length, after a Session of unusual duration, to relieve you from further attendance in Parliament.

I thank you for the care and attention which you have bestowed on the various subjects that have been brought under your consideration. I trust that the Province will be benefited, and that its moral and material interests will be promoted, by the many important measures which you have passed.

I have had much satisfaction in giving the Royal Assent to the Act for enlarging the Representation of the people in Parliament. There is, I think, reason to hope that this measure, which has been sanctioned by large Parliamentary majorities, will have the effect of imparting greater weight to the deliberations of the Legislature, and increased stability to the institutions of the Province.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly, I thank you in Her Majesty's name for the supplies which you have granted for the service of the year.

Honorable Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

The tranquility which has for some time past prevailed in the Province, and which has proved in so remarkable degree conducive to its progress, and to the establishment of its credit, has been, I regret to say momentarily interrupted at Quebec and Montreal, by disturbances originating in religious controversy, and attended in one instance by very lamentable consequences. I have reason to believe that these occurrences, which are a scandal to the religion that we profess, are deeply deplored by the great majority of the inhabitants of the Province of all denominations, and that the authorities will be fully supported in adopting such measures as may be necessary to prevent their recurrence.

On former occasions in addressing you from here, I have sometimes felt that it was incumbent upon me to dilate upon the resources and capabilities of the Province, in order to give encouragement to persons who might be disposed at seasons of temporary depression, to take a desponding view of its prospects. I am sensible, however, that such representations are at present called for. The progress which the Province is now making is so marked and decisive, that few will be found to question it. I have only to express the hope that the spirit of enterprise which prevails so generally may be tempered by discretion and prudence, and that a gracious Providence will continue to extend to Canada, that protection which is not less indispensable in prosperity than in adversity.

CANADA.

We perceive by our exchange papers, that considerable excitement has prevailed in Quebec and Montreal, since the riot. We have endeavoured to give below a condensed report of the affair, and the measures that have grown out of it.

It appears by late Montreal papers, that fifty persons were shot in the Haymarket in that city by the troops. The Transcript, thus alludes to the melancholy circumstance:

We shall endeavour to bring down to the latest hour, the sad details of Thursday's butchery. It was not, in the least, exaggerated. Almost every hour records some victim whose corpse, or whose mangled body was hurried from the fatal ground by friends. We believe that our account of the matter was not a passionate, or an exaggerated one; and all our contemporaries flinging like ourselves, that there was no occasion to add fuel to the flame, have treated it with equal sincerity and composure. So far as we can learn, after careful enquiry, the number of persons shot is about fifty, and of those killed outright, or mortally wounded, from ten to twelve. This is a rough estimate; but it is the best we can form, and we fear, not an exaggerated one. The dark tragedy of Thursday evening grows yet more mysterious as it proceeds.—The May-

or, Mr Wilson, positively denies that he gave the order to fire. The officer in command also denies that he gave the order to fire. Under what orders then, we should like to know, were it that the gallant regiment of Camerons signalled their first landing in this colony, by their uncalculated butchery, of which no man in office dares to take the responsibility?

Whether the Mayor gave the order to fire, or did not, is perfectly immaterial, excepting thus far, that, if any crime was committed, he was a principal, or an accessory, both being of the same degree of guilt, if any, when the civil magistrate acknowledges the insufficiency of the civil force, and leaves it to Her Majesty's military servants to preserve the peace, and to protect her peaceable subjects; the sole responsibility from that moment rests with the commanding officer. It is within his discretion how to keep the peace, or to clear the ground by simply passing over it in line. If he meets with any violent obstruction, it may then be lawful to him to use the extreme remedies, even of musketry, or grape shots. But any officer who uses any more fatal weapon than the service requires, is, in every way responsible both to the military and civil law, no matter who advises him to sacrifice the lives of his fellow citizens without the stern plea of necessity.—Such has always been the law of England.

A public Meeting of the citizens was held in the St. George's Hall, on the afternoon of the day following the riot, when William Edmonstone, Esq., was called to the chair, and F. W. Torrance, Esq., requested to act as Secretary.

The following are the resolutions passed:

Moved by D. Torrance, Esq., seconded by T. M. Taylor, Esq.:

Resolved,—That this meeting most deeply deplore the loss of life which took place near Zion Church on Thursday evening the 9th inst., and thereby express its sympathy with the parties who received injuries on that occasion, and with the friends and relatives of those whose lives were sacrificed.

Moved by John Leeming, Esq., seconded by J. M. Ferres, Esq.:

Resolved,—That, as British subjects, this meeting takes the opportunity of reiterating, in the most emphatic manner, the right of all men on British soil, to assemble for the purpose of free discussion; that this is a privilege which has never been denied, except in times of temporal and spiritual despotism, and we now express our utmost abhorrence and indignation at the attempt to interfere with this privilege on Thursday evening last, in this city, as an outrage not to be tolerated.

Moved by Wm. Workman, Esq., seconded by W. McKee, Esq.:

Resolved,—That whereas a number of peaceable citizens were shot down whilst engaged in attending a public lecture, in Zion Church on Thursday evening, and whereas it is right that the strictest and most searching enquiry should be made into the cause of this disastrous event, and it being the duty of all good citizens to assist to the utmost of their power, the proper authorities in the investigation of this affair, and to take such steps as they may think best in the furtherance of public justice, a committee be named by this meeting for that purpose.

Moved by Robert Esdaile, Esq., seconded by Wm. Fleet, Esq.:

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen compose this committee, viz:—W. Workman, H. L. Routh, Col. Maitland, D. Torrance, T. M. Taylor, D. Davidson, J. J. Day, J. M. Ferres, Philip Holland, James Mathewson, J. Leeming, B. Lyman, H. Lyman, Wm. Edmonstone, A. Howard, A. Cross, Wm. Murray, Hon. P. McGill, the mover and seconder, with power to add to their number.

Moved by James Hutchins, Esq., seconded by M. Morrison, Esq.:

Resolved,—That this meeting is of the opinion that Father Gavazzi should lecture this evening, and not leave this city without completing his profound course of lectures, and that he be requested not to leave this city without completing this course.

Moved by A. Howard, Esq., seconded by R. Esdaile, Esq.:

Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the Mayor ought, on all occasions, to take efficient measures for the protection of life and property in this city, or to resign his office into other hands; that, having failed in this duty, and pending the proceedings about to be instituted, Charles Wilson, Esq. is not a fit person to hold the office he now occupies. Carried unanimously.

Moved by J. Ferres, Esq., seconded by Col. Maitland, Esq.:

Resolved,—That this meeting cannot separate without expressing its high gratification on the promptitude with which Father Gavazzi has consented to deliver his second lecture, in compliance with the wish of the meeting; but that as the condition on which he thus consented is the guarantee of this meeting that there shall be no breach of the peace, and that the safety of the lives of our fellow-citizens shall be secured, having no confidence in the constituted authorities of the city, and having no time to make necessary preparation themselves, the meeting is of opinion the considerate previous resolve of Father Gavazzi, to postpone for the present his intention of lecturing should be yielded to. Carried unanimously.

Moved by the Rev. Digby Campbell, seconded by James Mathewson, Esq.:

Resolved,—That this meeting consider that thanks are due, and hereby tender them to Captain Edmonstone, and his men of the police force for their unflinching performance of their duty on the late lamentable occasion—as likewise to Colonel Edmonstone, Police Magistrate, whose exertions on that occasion were also worthy of all praise. Carried unanimously.

Mr Edmonstone was then requested to leave, and Alderman Leeming to take the Chair, when a vote of thanks to the former gentleman for his able conduct while presiding, was moved by Mr. Kinneer, seconded by the Rev. Mr. Jenkins, and unanimously adopted.

During the meeting the following letter was handed to, and read by the Chairman to the members of the Deputation that waited upon the Corporation this day:

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed to inform you in reply to the question submitted by you to the Council that it was

Resolved,—That in the event of the lecture being proceeded with, the Corporation will do

everything in their power to preserve the peace; but are unable to give any guarantee that their efforts to that end will be successful.

The Committee who waited upon Gavazzi reported "that the 'Padre' put himself entirely in the hands of the meeting, and if they would assure him that the peace of the city would not be disturbed he would lecture as requested."

The same paper contains the following paragraphs:

"At three o'clock yesterday, thirty eight gentlemen were summoned to act as Jurors out of which 22 attended, and were duly sworn in. The only business done, was the examination of the bodies of the different persons who had been killed."

The following are a list of the killed which the Jury visited yesterday:—Mr. Pollock, Mr. Clark, Mr. Gillespie, Mr. Hutchison, and Mr. James Walsh.

The Jury will meet this morning at 10 o'clock to proceed with the investigation."

The Quebec Chronicle of June 15th says: "The peace of Montreal was not disturbed yesterday. In allusion to the Coroner's Inquest, the Pilot says:—During the day several medical gentlemen gave their evidence in relation to the causes which had occasioned the death of some of the persons killed. Lieut. Col. Hogarth was also examined. The inquest is likely to occupy much time."

The same paper reports that the Corporation of Montreal resolved to increase the police force of that city to the number of one hundred men, four sergeants, two sub-chiefs and one captain; the force to be accoutred with muskets and bayonets whenever necessary to preserve the public peace.

The Quebec Gazette of the 13th instant furnishes the following particulars:

We give from the Montreal papers of Saturday, a full list of the killed and wounded, in the melancholy affray which happened in that City, and observe that a special meeting of the Corporation as well as a public meeting of the Citizens had been held on the same day with ours:—the meeting of the Corporation was to consider what steps should be taken to preserve the peace of the City, and to prevent the recurrence of such another melancholy and disgraceful scene as took place on Thursday evening; that of the citizens, had a similar object with the Quebec meeting. At the Corporation meeting, the Mayor stated that he could not, in present circumstances, continue to act as chief magistrate of the City: in this he was opposed by some of the members. He then gave the following explanation. He said that his conduct had been grossly misrepresented, and he availed himself of the present occasion to state what he had done. He had ordered Colonel Edmonstone to have the troops placed in a convenient spot, in the vicinity of the Engine House in the Haymarket. He saw that disturbance was inevitable, and had gone round and endeavoured to use what influence he possessed to keep down the excitement. He had heard a great deal of noise, when a number of persons came to him saying—"Mr Mayor, look at the people, they are murdering each other." The troops arrived. It was Alderman Atwater who accompanied the troops; they took their position on some time after their arrival; he read the Riot Act, but "never gave the order to the military to fire." He had heard some one at a distance say "fire." When he heard the discharge, he ran towards the soldiers—and cried out—"my God, what have you done?"

He could assure those present, that he was willing to go before any unprejudiced tribunal and stand his trial. He could call God to witness that what he had stated was truth. What desire had he for the blood of any man or woman? He had no personal vengeance to appease, and his best friends might be in any crowd. He admitted that he read the Riot Act to intimidate those disposed to be riotous, but he solemnly denied that any order to fire was given by him. Alderman Atwater said he had just heard the officer in command of the troops state in presence that he never gave orders to fire. So far from that, he had run in before the men, and at the risk of his life knocked up some of their muskets, to prevent their firing. The officer further stated that he had heard no order to fire proceed from the Mayor. This was the Herald's version; but the Pilot gives a different statement about this particular. It makes Alderman Atwater to have stated that the officer in command had declared, that the fire from the door of the church had been made without any order from the Mayor—the officer adding that he himself had not given any such order either. Between these two statements there is a wide discrepancy. If the Herald's be the correct one we conceive the Mayor is exonerated; but if the latter, then it just goes for nothing at all in his favor—because it was not from the church door where the military fired, but from the front of the engine house, at some distance from that spot; and if any orders were given to fire, it must have been from that place. The public meeting of the citizens considered the steps to be taken to secure a proper investigation of the melancholy affair, and appointed a committee of vigilance to watch over the proceedings of the coroner's inquest to be held on the victims.

In Quebec much excitement prevailed. A large meeting of the most respectable, Protestant citizens was held, when a series of Resolutions, similar to those passed in Montreal, was unanimously adopted.

An influential Deputation of PROTESTANTS, consisting of all the Protestant Clergy and about 20 leading citizens, waited upon His Excellency the Governor General for the purpose of presenting the Petition adopted at the above named meeting, which contained 100 signatures procured in a few hours—the necessity for expedition not admitting of further delay for the procuring of more.

After the Petition, which was read by the Rev. Dr. Cook, had been presented, His Excellency stated in substance as follows:

"That he had heard with regret and shame of the scandalous transactions which had taken place; that he could scarcely be expected to give a decided answer to the prayer of the petition which appeared to him to be, that additional powers should be vested in the Executive to supply the deficiencies of Municipal authority, and to render the city liable for damages done during breaches of the peace. All therefore that he could at present say was again to express his regret and shame;—indeed, it had occurred to him that if Jacques Cartier or Champlain could have witnessed the late occurrence, they would be doubtful whether the country had been advantaged by the change of the inhabitants from the Hurons and the Iroquois. He could give his best attention to the petition, and do all in his power to give the necessary protection."

The Quebec papers speak in unmeasured terms of the pusillanimous conduct of the Police during the attack on Zion's Church, and call on the authorities to have this force remodelled.

We copy some further particulars from the Quebec Gazette of the 15th inst.

The Montreal papers of yesterday state that on Monday morning about three o'clock, the Methodist chapel in Griffintown, the Episcopal church (St. Stephen's) and the Protestant school house, in the St. Anne's ward, were attacked. It appears that about the hour named, Mr. Allan, the gentleman in charge of the school, heard the report of a pistol, and the breaking of one of his windows. On looking out he saw a person running away, and three others outside, apparently looking on, and counting down the act. There were one hundred and sixty paces, with some sashes, in St. Stephen's church. It is further stated that the clergyman officiating in the absence of the incumbent, Mr. Ellwood at St. Stephen's formerly St. Anne's, was on Sunday most grossly insulted by a rabble, on retiring from evening service, in the presence of the congregation. And the Transcript mentions, on good authority, that two attempts at assassination by fire arms, were made in open day, on Monday last. The inquest on the bodies of the murdered people, which is likely to occupy some time, was going on, and it is said that Mr. Coroner Jones is conducting the enquiry in the most careful, elaborate and impartial manner. The following council have been retained, and have appeared for the parties who are particularly interested in the investigation, viz: Messrs J. Rose and F. G. Johnson for the Committee of Vigilance; Mr. C. Dunkin for the Mayor; M. Lorranger for the relations of the deceased Pollock; Mr. G. Macrae for those of the deceased Gillespie; Mr. Devlin for those of the late Welch; Messrs George Robertson and J. J. Day, for the Trustees of Zion Church; Mr. H. Stuart for other parties.

A special meeting of the City Council was held on Monday evening, when it was resolved that the Police force should be increased to the number of one hundred men, four sergeants, two sub-chiefs, one captain; the force to be accoutred with muskets and bayonets, whenever necessary to preserve the public peace. The pay of the men was augmented to \$3. 91. per day, and that of the sergeants to \$75. per annum. On motion of Councillor Marchand, seconded by Councillor Papi, a reward of \$50 was likewise offered by the Council for the apprehension and conviction of those engaged in the destruction of the windows and sashes of the Protestant Churches in St. Anne's Ward on Monday morning. The Council sustained the motion unanimously, and the outrage was denounced in the severest language, as a disgrace to the city.

THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

It has been currently reported here for some days past, but upon what authority we are not prepared to say, that the Lieutenant Governor intends at a very early day, to dissolve the present Assembly, as he is not at all satisfied with the result of their last session, and more particularly with his Councillors, who, notwithstanding their boast of being a "strong Government," could not carry successfully one measure through the house.

We do not know if there be any truth in this rumour, but it would be as well for the constituency to be prepared for such an emergency, and have their Candidates selected.

COUNTY GLOUCESTER.

A Correspondent informs us that a man of the name of LANDRY, belonging to Carraquet, was brought up at Pugmouche, under a warrant, before Justices Blackhall, Sewell, and others, for Coining Shillings, Sixpences, Spanish Dollars, and French Five Franc pieces. About 40s. worth of the money was delivered up to the Magistrates while sitting. He was committed to jail to await his trial in September. There is reason to suppose that a considerable amount of this money was put in circulation in Chatham last winter, by some of the gentry about Pugmouche, but suspicion is confined to one or two individuals. It is a pity that some clue can not be obtained to bring them up. Those who have seen the money say it is not badly executed. There is little doubt but a good business was done in the Pugmouche Mint while it was in being.

LAUNCH.

From the building yard of Messrs Johnson & Mackie, in Chatham, on Saturday, a beautifully built Ship, of the burthen of 984 tons, new measurement. She is named the Sir Edward Cardwell.