

denounced the utmost vengeance of Captain Rock against them, unless they immediately surrendered the land in question. The banditti appear to have been well armed, and fired upward of thirty shots on their departure from the unfortunate victims of their atrocious attack.—*Roscommon Gazette.*

We regret that we should have to notice the appearance of outrage in this Barony, heretofore so commendable for that peace and propriety which formed so striking a contrast to other parts of this unfortunate country. We regret it the more as these outrages seem as if they constituted a branch of that system of terror and spoliation so generally acted upon by the misguided peasantry in the disturbed districts. As well as we have been able to ascertain the particulars, they are as follow:—Some time ago Mr. Brennan purchased the interest of a man named Sinnott in a farm near Hill Castle. He let it to a widow who became considerably in arrear. On threatening her with distraining, she requested time to thrash her corn and send it to market. The request was acceded to, part of the corn was sold, but the money which, according to agreement, was to be paid into Mr. Brennan's hands, was withheld. Mr. Brennan was about putting his previous threats into execution, when last Sunday evening, a party of fellows came to the house, carried away the doors and windows, broke the others to pieces, and threw the fragments about the road. They destroyed the remainder of the corn by scattering it over the fields in every direction. About the same time a tenant of Mrs. Nunn, of Rockfield, also considerably in arrear, was, we understand, on the eve of being ejected when precisely the same course was pursued, both with respect to the house and other property, as in the above daring instance of lawless transgression.—*Wexford Herald.*

The state of the country about Roscrea is really terrible. The mode of warfare there is to throw a stone at the victim, and strike him with one fixed to the palm of the right hand immediately after. We conversed yesterday with a gentleman who left Thurles on Thursday evening to join the Limerick Mail at Roscrea, by the car which conveys the Mail there from Thurles. The car was stopped by several fellows, armed as above, but it appeared they were mistaken in the driver; they wanted to punish the other driver for misbehaviour one night (as they considered) to one of their clan—but as he did not drive that night, they allowed the car to proceed.—These fellows keep the neighbourhood in constant terror.—*Warder.*

During the night of Thursday last, four horses were killed in a grazing field behind Cormac Lodge, adjoining Belfast. The unfeeling perpetrators had cut their throats across with some sharp instrument. Two of the horses belonged to a carman named Jas. Duncan, one to James M'Aravy, who had hired the grazing field, and the other was the only property of an industrious man named Patrick M'Garry, who made a scanty living by selling water about the streets. The outrage is not connected in any way connected with the Rocke associations, but appears to have been solely prompted by personal malice against Duncan; for on the head of one of the horses was found a rude couplet to the following effect:—

“James Duncan, you bought the apples out of my hand;
For the same your horses lie dead in the land.”

Belfast Paper.

COLONIAL.

From the New Montreal Gazette.

We copy the following from a slip received from the Office of the Quebec Official Gazette:—

QUEBEC, Nov. 22, 1827.

OPENING OF THE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

On Tuesday last, the 20th instant, pursuant to Royal Proclamation, His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, with customary State, proceeded to the Legislative Council Chamber, and was there received with the honours usual on this occasion, in order to open the first session of the third Provincial Parliament of Lower Canada. Several circumstances having lately occurred to add considerable to the interest generally felt on this occasion, we shall endeavour to give our readers as succinct an account of the proceedings as we could readily obtain. In another place will be found the address of the Hon. Speaker of the Legislative Council to the House of Assembly, on Tuesday, 14th inst., in order to choose their Speaker. We understand, on the return of the House of Assembly to their own Chamber, Mr. Papineau, the late Speaker, was nominated by Mr. Bourdages; and Mr. Vallieres, who had also previously been Speaker, was put in nomination by Mr. Solicitor General. It would appear that the friends of Mr. Papineau intended that the election should be carried unanimously, and by acclamation, in his favour; and, notwithstanding the nomination of Mr. Vallieres, seemed to look down any division in the body. A division, however, was called for, and the two persons named having previously retired, 39 were for Mr. Papineau, and 5 for Mr. Vallieres. Those for the latter were as follows: Messrs. Ogden, Stuart, Young, Boissanault and Christie.

We understand on this occasion there was no debate; and neither Mr. Vallieres nor his friends had the least expectation that he would be chosen. That gentleman, we are informed, was himself decidedly averse from being put in nomination; but having, heretofore filled the Chair, he was thought by those Members who voted for him, a fair candidate for the honour again.

Yesterday, Wednesday, November 21st, His Excellency having again proceeded to the Legislative Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, the Assembly was sent for, by means of the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, and having taken their place below the bar, the Speaker elect addressed His Excellency in the usual words, acquainting the Governor in Chief that the choice of the Assembly had fallen on him, and pleading his own unworthiness, in the terms which prescription has established.

Shortly after the return of the members to the usual places of sitting, the doors were thrown open to the public to witness the discussion. This was said to be unusual but after some observations on either side, it was said that there could be no impropriety in admitting the public, and the doors were accordingly, by universal consent, thrown open. Mr. Blanchet maintained that “the House were now competent to proceed to the despatch of business...that it had its Speaker...that the concurrence of the person administering the Government was unnecessary. They were competent to all intents and purposes...common sense said so...They were so, until the contrary could be proved...What was to prevent it? it was good sense...good sense said it.” Mr. Bourdages expressed his opinion that the House was competent to proceed to the despatch of public business, as it had elected its Speaker, and that the disallowance of

the Executive was of no consequence. Mr. Papineau, in the mean time, placed himself in the chair. Mr. Neilson and Mr. Bourdages said the Mace ought to be laid on the table. The Solicitor General and Mr. Stuart said, that to do this until another Speaker was elected, would be highly improper. Mr. Cuvillier rose to offer certain resolutions to the Speaker, the main purport of which was, that the Assembly might and of right could, and “ought to elect their own Speaker, independently of, and without reference to the person administering the Government of the Province.” To this it was objected that Mr. Papineau, not being Speaker could not receive any such motion, and that the sole matter that could, at the present stage, be mooted, was the election of a Speaker, and that this motion could only be received by the Clerk of the Assembly. Mr. Quesnel was of opinion, that Mr. Papineau being Speaker elect of yesterday, was not less so to-day, and that therefore the Mace ought to be upon the Table. To this, it was observed, that the Mace yesterday, after the election, lay upon the Table under the presumption that the choice of the Assembly would be confirmed; but this presumption being now removed, it could not lie there until a new choice had taken place. Mr. Cuvillier said that he knew of “no instance in the Colonies of the refusal of a Speaker on the part of the person administering the Government, that there were no instance of it in England, but long ago, in the time of Charles the Second, and before but none since the revolution. That history reprobated this Act of the King, and that it was held in detestation by all Englishmen, and only recorded in history as a thing hateful to them.” Mr. Stuart called upon Mr. Cuvillier to have the goodness to put his finger upon that portion of history which spoke of it...Mr. Cuvillier said it was so... Mr. Stuart was of a different conviction. After desultory debate, and conversation of this kind, Mr. Papineau observed from the Speakers Chair, that he had for the present only assumed it, to report to the Assembly, his Address to His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief, when he, (Mr. P.) had, with the Assembly, gone up to the Legislative Council as the Speaker elect, and His Excellency's answer. This he now accordingly did. After this, Mr. P. sat for some time in the Chair, listening to the debates relative to the proposed resolutions of Mr. Cuvillier, and the proposition that the mace should be placed on the table. He then rose to say that having made his report of the occurrences of to-day from the seat in which he had been placed yesterday by a majority of the Assembly, he thought it his duty now to leave it, and fall into the ranks with the other members, there to resume his right of expressing his opinion on the matter as he might be advised...that he did not think proper that the Mace should for the present be placed on the table. Mr. Papineau upon this left the Speaker's chair, and retired, we believe, from the room in which the Assembly sits, as we did not afterwards observe him there. The resolutions of Mr. Cuvillier were then offered to the Clerk of the Assembly, and the debates continued. The Solicitor General, observed, from the journals of the Assembly of Nova Scotia, that, in 1806, a case in point had occurred there, and that a Speaker had been refused by the Lieutenant Governor of that Province, and that another was elected instead. Mr. Vallieres declared that it was important to ascertain the King's prerogative in the matter, and that he would rather forfeit his life than interfere with it. That it was also equally important to ascertain their own privileges, and that he would also then, as soon lose his

life as forego them...that he believed the Assembly had the sole and exclusive right of naming its own Speaker, and that the person administering the Government could not annul their choice...that if he could do it for once, that he could do it in rotation for the whole fifty members of which the House was composed...An administration desirous of preventing the Province from dispatching the necessary public business might do it this way...that the ceremony of asking the Governor's confirmation of the choice of the Speaker elect was mere form, and no more, and that as a proof that it was so, he would merely remind the House that etiquette required that the Speaker should crave freedom of debate...could any one however, imagine for a moment, that if the King were to refuse this rational request that the Commons were, on this account, the less entitled to that freedom. Mr. Viger “was of opinion that the person administering the Government, could not by his disallowance of their choice of a Speaker annul that choice. That it was mere form... that he thought the House competent to proceed to the despatch of business without the concurrence by the Administrator of the Government in the choice which the House had made.” He appeared to us to speak with great vehemence, and shook his finger as if threatening some one. Mr. Neilson said, the “House was competent, and business must now go on until a prorogation should take place.”

After much debate of this kind, the members, without coming to a close on the proposed resolutions, on motion of Mr. Labrie, adjourned until to-day at ten in the forenoon.

The above sketch of a debate, which will hereafter be considered of no little importance and novelty, is from recollection; and, therefore, may not be exactly correct as to the order of the successive speakers. For the substance we may safely pledge ourselves.

Thursday at ten o'clock, A. M., the House met, and the debate on Mr. Cuvilliers' Resolutions was continued.

On the question being called for, the members were, for Mr. Papineau, 40, against him 4.

Messrs A. Stuart, Young, Christie and Ogden, formed the minority.

The House having thus persisted in its former choice the presence of the Speaker was required; and he was conducted to the Chair.

Mr. Ogden objected, and the Speaker said, that since the House had persisted in its choice, he should not hesitate to take the chair.

The four members above named then left the House.

Mr. Vallieres read the draft of an Address, to inform His Excellency that the House persists in its former choice. This address is to be presented to-morrow at one o'clock.

Mr. Vallieres, we understand, went up with the messengers to the Chateau this day, to ask at what time it would please his Excellency to receive the Address of the Throne. The answer may be anticipated...that no message or address could be received or communicated to the Members until a Speaker had been appointed with the approbation of the Crown. The Assembly are adjourned until to-morrow.

The following is a copy of Mr. Cuvillier's Resolutions, who has the merit of this violation of the Prerogative and the Constitution:—

Resolved 1. That it is necessary for the discharge of the duties imposed upon this House, viz: to give its advice to His Majesty, in the enactment of Laws for the