

THE ROYAL GAZETTE

FREDERICTON, JANUARY 20, 1829.

ALMS HOUSE AND WORK HOUSE.

COMMISSIONER FOR THE WEEK, F. P. ROBINSON, ESQ.

SAVINGS BANK.

TRUSTEES NEXT WEEK.

HENRY G. CLOPPER, ESQ.

JAMES TAYLOR, ESQ.

GEORGE MINCHIN, ESQ.

Neither the November Mail, long since due, nor the December Mail now about due, having yet arrived, we are consequently without a single article of foreign news. The detention of the November Mail is truly unaccountable.

New-Brunswick Agricultural and Emigrant Society.

The Annual Meeting of this Society took place at the Province Hall on Saturday last. After the Report had been read, His Excellency Sir Howard Douglas, the Founder, Patron, and powerful supporter of our Agricultural Institutions, addressed the Meeting in a Speech which we understand will be published, and which we are sure will go home to the heart and understanding of every reader who feels even a portion of that interest which His Excellency has ever shown, in advancing our Agricultural improvement, and in bringing forward and supporting so many measures eminently calculated to promote the prosperity of the Province.

His Honor the Chief Justice, President of the Society, afterwards addressed the Meeting, in a Speech of considerable length. We were highly gratified with His Honor's appropriate remarks upon the intimate connexion which exists between our Commerce, Agriculture, and Fisheries, as well as with the extent of the information which the Society had collected on these interesting subjects.

The Reports from the County Societies, as well as that of the Central Society, afford very satisfactory evidence of the benefits which the Province has derived from these Institutions: and we sincerely hope they will continue to receive that support without which much of the benefit of what has been done will be lessened, and our Agriculture will receive a check, from which it may not recover for years to come.

During the last fortnight the weather here has been extremely variable, and at times so severe that we understand no previous winter for the space of 30 years can be remembered as having been altogether more remarkable for severity than the present. The thermometer on the 12th inst. was 30 below zero; and within the time we have mentioned above, the snow had fallen to such a degree, as to effectually impede the travelling in many places. Perhaps the snow could not at one time have been less than from one to two feet in depth on the level ground, while in various places in the woods, it might, we understand, have measured a depth of from five to seven feet! The wind shifted, and the weather suddenly became so mild, that we believe many a stout constitution felt the effects of the unexpected transition. The violence of the wind and rain in one night entirely dislodged the deep snow from the roofs of the houses, to the no small disturbance of the refreshing slumbers of many a worthy individual. The storm, however, purified the atmosphere of those noxious vapours which but a few hours before threatened very serious inconvenience. The wind again shifted last evening, and during the night blew violently from the N. W. The atmosphere to-day is delightfully pure and vivifying—the roads thinly crusted by the gentle frost—the sun pouring his refulgent and invigorating beams upon the snow-clad earth—the white clouds “sailing upon the bosom of the air,” in a chaste blue firmament—and the day altogether such as the most fastidious cannot but be fully gratified with.

THE LATE BALL.

AT THE NEW GOVERNMENT-HOUSE.

Circumstances having hitherto prevented our noticing the Ball which took place on the 31st ult., at the new Government-House; a “Spectator” has just drawn our attention to that subject, by the following description of the entertainment.

SPECTATOR, after mentioning that “the Ball alluded to, was given to commemorate the taking possession of the new Government-House, in the name of the Country, by the three branches of the Legislature;”—observes:—

“This commemorative Ball was got up under many disadvantages, but notwithstanding this, the indefatigable attention

of His Excellency, who spared neither pains nor expense, rendered it extremely gratifying to the assembled Guests, and worthy of this highly interesting and joyful event. The Company was received in the beautiful and spacious Drawing-Room until its becoming too crowded; the folding-doors of the Ball-Room were thrown open, when His Excellency Sir Howard Douglas, conducted Mrs. Saunders to her seat, who declining to dance, His Excellency opened the Ball with Mrs. Shore. The dancing now commenced with much spirit by the impatient fair, who continued it with great hilarity till after twelve o'clock, whose graceful and sprightly movements in the mazy evolutions of the dance, were only surpassed by their beauty and elegance. The new year having been thus ushered in, the Company, consisting of at least one hundred and fifty, proceeded to seat themselves at the Supper-Tables, which were covered with a profusion of viands of the greatest variety and delicacy, which, aided by the sparkling and exhilarating juice of the grape, diffusively inspired much mirth and good humour, and those warm and social feelings of the heart, resulting from the happiness felt upon this gratifying event.—After His Majesty's health had been drunk with loyal enthusiasm, and also, an appropriate Toast given by His Excellency, the health of Lady Douglas was given and drank with the most cordial expressions of respect and of good wishes for her health and happiness, and that of her amiable daughters. The Company soon after this returned to the Ball-Room, when the dancing recommenced, and continued with great spirit and gleefor some time, when the party retired highly gratified with the evening's entertainment. The ladies were well and appropriately dressed, many of them with much elegance and taste. His Excellency paid the most unceasing and flattering attention to his guests in his usual cordial and polite manner, and its amenity appeared to have the most pleasing effects. The three grand rooms are elegantly finished and were most splendidly lighted. The conservatory had a most pleasing effect and was profusely furnished with rare exotics and surrounded with paintings of rural establishments and rustic scenery. In the midst of this enchanting spot was a most fair tree richly furnished with apples of a golden and most alluring appearance, about which the beautiful daughters of Eve were observed to flit, but remembering the ancient disastrous consequence, in mercy abstained from tasting of this fair fruit.

Rather than this interesting occurrence should longer continue unnoticed, I send you the above short hurried and very inadequate description of that I may truly call most gratifying and grand festival.”

It reflects infinite credit on the worthy inhabitants of St. JOHN, and of the surrounding country, that they have so generously come forward at this inclement season, in behalf of the suffering and deserving poor. In an infant colony like this, such sympathetic feelings augur most favorably, and must elicit general approbation. We have only room for one extract, which, however, is sufficiently comprehensive to impart a correct view of the interesting subject it treats of.

We cannot withhold our meed of approbation from those who have come forward so generously in the cause of the poor, at this very inclement season of the year, either in the way of allowing Fire Wood to be taken from their lands for the benefit of the indigent, or affording their own time, vehicles, labour, &c. for the purpose of bringing it to the appointed depository. We are happy to learn that in the course of next week this labour of love will be accomplished. The general subject of Pauperism has often occurred to our minds as a topic of great interest and importance. It has proved so to the political economists of Great-Britain. But in this Country the system is far from being so complex, and, happily, notwithstanding the vast influx of poor by Emigration, the burden of supporting them is not felt to be so grievous a load as might have been expected. The assessment, no doubt, falls heavily on some individuals, but when we take into account the fewness and lightness of other taxes, there seems little reason for repining. We are disposed, however, by all means to encourage voluntary efforts for the relief of indigence, and hence we cannot too highly commend the institutions of such Societies as those of St. GEORGE, ST. ANDREW, and ST. PATRICK; the making of Collections in the places of Public Worship; and the formation of such female benevolent Societies as are now in operation in connexion with almost every Church and Chapel in this City, having for their object not only pecuniary donations, but also eleemosynary gifts in the shape of clothing, &c. made up by the benevolent ladies themselves.—OBSERVER, JAN. 13.

SAINT JOHN, January 10.

SHOCKING OCCURRENCE.—On the Evening of the 8th instant, Ann Paschall, a child about 8 years of age, daughter of Mr. H. Paschall, of the Parish of Portland, was run down, and killed, by a horse and sled passing over her.—An Inquest was immediately held upon the body, by L. Donaldson, Esq., and Alderman Ansley, in consequence of the absence of the Coroner.—Verdict of the Jury:—Killed in consequence of a horse and sled having passed over her body.

From the evidence which came out on the Inquest, suspicions fell upon George M'Kee (one of the licensed cartmen) as being the driver of the sled; and a Warrant for his apprehension was directly issued by the above mentioned Magistrates.

His examination took place in the Court House, yesterday, before His Worship the Mayor, when from the evidence then adduced, the circumstances connected with this truly lamentable event, appeared to be as follows:—

Mr. M'Kee (the cartman) had been employed to bring a quantity of flour in barrels from Mr. Rankin's Store, in Portland.—That about the dusk of the evening he was bringing a load on his sled, and was driving furiously.—That Margaret Lloyd, a child of ten years of age, and the deceased, were playing together on the street nearly opposite Mr. Payne's House, when they observed the sled approaching them:—The former was fortunate enough to make her escape in time;—but, immediately missing her play-mate, she called to the sled-driver to stop, as he had run a child down. It was too true;—the body of Ann Paschall was then under the sled, and dragged in that situation a considerable distance. When it was found, it was in such a mangled condition, as may be more correctly imagined by our readers, than described by ourselves. Mr. M'Kee stated that he did not hear the call of the girl, to stop:—in fact, that he knew nothing at all of the accident until the Constable took him in custody.—He was, however, committed for trial at the next Court.

Viewing this accident in all its bearings, it must be considered as one of a most distressing nature. Mr. M'Kee is a man well known to be a person of good character and steady habits;—the girl was considered to be an extraordinary promising child,—the feelings of the parents cannot fail to be sympathised with, by every one to whom the case is made known.—Courier.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.—About 10 o'clock on Monday Mr. JAMES WRIGHT, in company with Mr. George Brown, was going to his work at the Ship yard, in Portland. In passing near the margin of the land, in front of Mr. Nevess' house, the path being narrow and slippery, his feet slipped, and he slid down the slope about ten feet, and then pitched over and fell head foremost down the precipice, about twenty feet to the bottom. He fell upon rocks and timber, and painful to relate, his skull was dreadfully fractured, and he was taken up in a state of insensibility. He continued in that state, until near 1 o'clock the next morning, when he expired. Mr. Wright was in the 25th year of his age, and had been married two months and two days.—City Gazette, Jan. 14.

Yesterday the courts of Oyer and Terminer, and of Nisi Prius, commenced their sittings, in the City Hall. His Honor Judge Borsford, presided.

In charging the Grand Jury, His Honor regretted, that in proportion to the population, the Sheriff's Calendar were heavy. He however, congratulated the country, as a subject of proud feeling, that those persons charged at the bar, with crimes of a grave and serious character, were generally not natives nor persons brought up in the country; but in most cases were Persons thrown upon our shores from various quarters, some of whom in all probability, had to leave the land of their birth, in consequence of their offences; and who, notwithstanding their advantages in this happy land, had not yet ceased from crime.

The offences charged upon the Calendar, were;—forgery,—an attempt to commit a rape, upon a child not nine years of age—a case of larceny, an accidental homicide,—and a case of bigamy; upon each of which His Honor made suitable observations.

His Honor, then, in a very able and clear manner, traced the various kinds of crime committed, to habits of intemperance, as their general origin. Intemperance, he observed, produces idleness, and destroys those principles by which society is held together, and upon which its existence depends. The intemperate man he observed could hear without being moved, the cries of his helpless children for bread, and he utterly insensible to the distresses of the wife of his bosom; the woman he had sacredly vowed to nourish and to cherish. He indirectly, but forcibly urged upon Magistrates, the great importance of withholding licences for selling liquor, except in cases where public accommodation absolutely require them; and while he respected and made due allowance for those feelings, which sometimes induce Magistrates, in this respect, to exceed the proper limits; he felt a complacency in the consideration, that if Inferior Courts should on any occasion exceed, or be remiss; that the Superior Courts possess the prerogative of punishing those who keep disorderly houses, as public nuisances. His Honor also, with proud feeling, adverted to the interest taken by the Legislature, in the cause of education. He stated that one sixth part of the Revenue of the Province, was appropriated to the support of institutions of education, in the lower as well as in the higher schools; and that to diffuse knowledge, and to instil correct principles in the minds of the rising generation, would be to raise a barrier against the inroads of vice and immorality.

We cannot conceal the gratification we derive, from hearing our Judges recommend such subjects to the careful consideration of the Grand Jurors, and of the public; and we are greatly encouraged to expect, that, urged as they are by the weight of talent, and by the influence of high Judicial authority; they will carry conviction of their importance to every bosom, and that such recommendations will produce corresponding fruits.

CORONER'S INQUESTS.

On the 8th instant, a Coroner's Inquest was held at the Black Settlement, Loch Lomond, on view of the body of