

THE LOYALIST.

"GOD AND MY COUNTRY."

Vol. I.

SAINT JOHN, NEW-BRUNSWICK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1843.

No. 39.

FROM PAPERS BY THE CALEDONIAN.

CALAMITOUS OCCURRENCE IN GALWAY ON CHRISTMAS MORNING.

At six o'clock the galleries and aisle of the Parish Chapel of St. Nicholas were thronged almost to suffocation by the thousands who attended—and, although no danger whatever should have been apprehended, even were the numbers greater, a cry was raised, either through panic or malicious intent, that the galleries were falling. The instant it was heard, the entire mass of the human beings present rushed from their places in the wildest disorder,—some raised up the windows and precipitated themselves into the street when their brains were dashed to pieces—others pressed up to the railings before the altar—leaped into the sanctuary, and almost killed one another in efforts to escape through the sacristy—but the greater number rushed down the stairs leading to the galleries, and through the door which communicated with them from the aisle—and at the junction of these three passages most of the deaths took place. Nothing could exceed the terror, the crush on the occasion. From the highest lobby on either side, down to the principal entrance, the entire were wedged together—men of the most athletic frames strangled and suffocated—women dead in the arms of their husbands and relatives—boys, whose bones were broken in every part, and men, women, and children trampled on, until their bodies could in no other way be identified than by the clothes they wore. Previous to the alarm being communicated to the police, watch or military, several of our fellow-citizens exerted themselves to rescue those in the most danger at the peril of their own lives—every assistance was afforded, but except in some few cases their efforts could extend no farther than to make a passage for the living by the removal of the dead. When the police, watch, and others, came to the scene of slaughter, the wildest amazement was in every countenance—those who happened to remain at home, but who knew of some one of their relatives having gone there, husbands looking after their wives—wives after their husbands—parents in search of their children—and children, on the other hand, in quest of their fathers, mothers, brothers, and sisters—all endeavouring, by the lurid glare of the gas-lamps, to see in the features of the dead, as they were carrying to the Watch-house, the Police-barrack, the Mechanics' Institute contiguous to the Chapel, lying in every corner of the streets, whether those for whom the sought, happened to be amongst them. Every thing was uproar and confusion, nor could the minds of those inside be calmed relative to their safety, though the Reverend Mr. Roche, and others, made every exertion for the purpose, until none were left behind but the mangled victims to unnecessary fear. Numbers besides have been greatly injured, who, it is probable, ere our list meet the public eye, will have to be added to the melancholy catalogue; and we do not know, such was the precipitancy with which the dead were carried off, but that the loss is far more extensive than can at present be ascertained. The physicians of the town, and the officers of the 30th depot, contributed much to lessen the dreadful calamity—a calamity, that has left almost every house a house of mourning, and which has cast a gloom over all, that nothing but the hope—and we trust a well-founded one—can, in some measure, cheer, that those who fell, rest in "the bosom of their Father and their God."

As to the origin of this terrible occurrence, we can, at present, give no decided information. Various rumours are afloat, which require the most cautious investigation, and which, if proved to have any foundation in truth, must greatly tend to damage the good understanding that has hitherto subsisted in Galway between all classes of religionists. The inquest, however, will bring to light a great deal that now lies obscure. We furnish a list of the dead, and those most seriously injured on the occasion, as given by the police:—

KILLED.—John Walsh, John Phillips, Thomas Connors, Mary Gaffey, Honor Flaherty, Thomas Hardiman, Catherine Mannion, Patrick Kemple, Bridget Riordan, Mary Ann Whealon, Frank Laffy, Honor Kelly, Mary Lynner, Peggy Connolly, Denis Mannion, John Summerly, Flan Burke, John Murray, John Rooney, Bridget Glohory, Celia Cokely, Patrick

Connolly, Patrick Forde, Luke Costello, Patrick Dooley, Denis Connelly, Mary Corley, Thomas Bulger, Winny Fahy, Wm. Kenny, Mary Burke, Patrick Powley, and Mary McDonald.

INJURED.—Mrs. Flaherty, Margaret Silk, Patrick Connor, Rodger Lynskey, Eleanor Dowd, William Hynes, Michael Riordan, Mrs. Loftus, Anne Barrett, Eliza Langdon, John McDonough, Mary Malley, Mrs. Terris, Moylan, Edward McDonald, Mrs. Dowd, Peggy Gannon, Mary McDonald, John Noob, and Mark Ward.—*Galway Vindicator.*

THE LEADERSHIP OF THE LORDS.—A paragraph, which we believe originated in the imagination of the London correspondent of a Scotch paper, has been so generally circulated, and so confidently reproduced in various forms, that it may be as well to give it the flat contradiction it deserves. The report stated that the increasing infirmities of the Duke of Wellington, in addition to the cares of his well-situation as Commander-in-Chief, had induced that venerable statesman to declare his intention of not resuming the leadership of the House of Lords, and that it was proposed to supply the place of the noble duke by immediately calling Lord Stanley to the Upper House. It was insinuated that this course was objected to by some members of the cabinet, and that Lord Aberdeen, especially, would dispute with Lord Stanley the honour of being the mouth-piece of the government among the peers. We are enabled to state that the Duke of Wellington will, in the approaching parliament, as in the last, act as the leader of the Upper House, and that no intention exists, or has ever existed, of anticipating Lord Stanley's elevation to the peerage by the ordinary process of succession.—*Times.*

THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHUTTING OF THE GATES OF DERRY.

"This is the place whose martial sons alone Supported Freedom and the British Throne; A dour the Parents Stem from whence a brave Bled to support their rights—and conquered too."

Upon no previous Anniversary of this glorious event, do we recollect to have witnessed such spirit and enthusiasm as on the commemoration which has just been celebrated. Amid all the discouragements of past years, and the attempts made to suppress that ardent spirit of attachment to the Throne, the Church, and the Constitution, which ought ever to reign in the breasts of the descendants of Derry's gallant defenders, right principles still continue to occupy their legitimate sway, and with pristine vigour to animate the young, the loyal, and the brave in their continued attachment to the glorious cause of civil and religious liberty.

On Saturday night at half-past eleven o'clock, a salvo of artillery from the Royal Bastion announced the near approach of the 15th, a day dear to the recollection of every true Derry man, as that upon which the loyal Apprentice Boys in 1688 closed their stubborn gates.

The anniversary occurring upon the Sabbath, nothing was suffered to interfere with its solemn sanctity and nothing could be more decorous than its strict observance as such. At sunrise the Virgin Flag was hoisted over the chancel window of our venerable Cathedral. The City Flag, with its magic motto, '1688,' waved proudly on the summit of the Testimonial, above the head of the pious and devoted George Walker. The Royal Standard floated from the Royal Bastion, and the standard of the Hon. the Irish Society occupied its proper and accustomed place in the midst of the trophies in the West Bastion, close by the station of that bold terror to the foes of our city, Roaring Meg. In consequence of an ordination being held in the Cathedral by the Lord Bishop of Derry, the usual religious observance of the anniversary was dispensed with; but that sacred temple was not without its interest, as was manifested by the crowds who thronged its spacious portals to view the beautiful Tablet erected by the ladies of Derry to commemorate the renewal of the French colours by their fair hands. The Tablet is a handsome brass one, in a massive oak frame, and placed in front of the gallery, under the organ loft. The letters are clear and distinct, and their engraving very creditably executed by Mr. Carson, of this city. The oak frame is the workmanship of the Apprentice Boys,

and is made to contain a parchment roll, with the names of all the ladies by whose subscription and co-operation the Banners were renewed. The following is the inscription on the Tablet:—

To commemorate the 151st Anniversary of the Shutting of the Gates of Derry, A. D. 1688, Celebrated on the 18th December, 1839, on which occasion

THE LADIES OF DERRY Renewed the Banners in this Cathedral which had been restored at the Centenary Commemoration in 1788, and originally captured from the French army by the gallant Defenders of this City during its ever-memorable Siege,

were lodged within this Church by Women of the Garrison. The Banners, being renewed upon the original Staves, were delivered by the Ladies of Derry to the Mayor, Sir Robert Bateson, Bart., the Corporation, and

The Apprentice Boys of Derry, when Divine Service was held in this Cathedral, and a Sermon preached by

The Rev. Archibald Boyd, A. M., after which the Banners were suspended in the Chancel.

The Ladies of Derry erected this Tablet in commemoration of the above.

The joy-bells continued to peal forth their melodious notes throughout the day, except during the intervals of Divine Service.

On Monday the usual celebration was observed with more than customary eclat. At six o'clock in the morning, the effigy of the traitor Lundy was suspended from his high eminence at the top of the Testimonial, at the feet of the gallant and faithful Walker. At eight o'clock the several Apprentice Boys' Clubs met as usual at the Linen-hall, and proceeded with their well-appointed field-pieces, to perform the ceremony of Shutting the Gates. The Mall-Wall displayed a very pleasing appearance; the guns being fired with much precision and steadiness, and the flags being hoisted in the Ratons and on the Testimonial at this time. Every Gate was surmounted with the customary motto and device, "No Surrender, 1688," and the whole morning's proceedings passed off in a most agreeable and becoming manner.

At one o'clock the Apprentice Boys again proceeded to the Walls with their field-pieces. The first firing position was taken up at Mall Wall, where a royal salute was fired, and three cheers given for the Queen and the Illustrious House of Brunswick. The guns were then taken to the Artillery Bastion, and the same ceremonial observed; when they were again brought to the Mall Wall, and formed in a continued line. An incessant and regular cannonading was kept up at this point for a lengthened period, firing from right to left along the line; the guns being manned and appointed with peculiar ability. The scene at this moment was particularly interesting, the broad and spacious rampart being densely crowded even to inconvenience, and the Bishop's garden and lawn filled with the ladies of the city and neighbourhood, anxious to survey the ceremonial; in short, no place from which a view could be had by the fair was left unoccupied. There could not have been less than 8,000 persons present, among all of whom the greatest harmony and good feeling prevailed. When the firing at this place had ceased, three loyal cheers were given for the Queen, and three more "in honour of the day;" after which the guns were taken through the principal streets to their usual depository. At half-past 2 o'clock, the interesting spectacle of committing the effigy of the traitor Lundy to the flames commenced; the effigy was skillfully and perfectly made, and afforded great amusement to the crowd beneath. The effect of the burning was considerably increased by the continual explosion of crackers, which were most judiciously contrived, and added much to the mirth of the proceeding; which was also considerably heightened by the tact and skill displayed in making the effigy dance when in flames, and the grotesque and ridiculous appearance called forth the loud laughter of the congregated multitude. Nothing occurred to disturb the hilarity and enjoyment of the day, and within half an hour after Lundy was consumed, the Walls appeared as unfrequented as upon any other day.

The several Apprentice Boys' Clubs met in the evening at their club-rooms, in the old and agreeable custom of "bottle and glass." The largest company was that which assembled at the rooms of the Apprentice Boys of Derry Club, which was as usual tastefully decorated and illuminated, and the enjoyment of the evening considerably increased by the performance of an excellent band.—We subjoin a list of some of the toasts:—

'The Queen' (Nine times nine.)

'Air—God save the Queen.

'The Prince of Wales.' (Cheers.)

Rule Britannia.

'The Queen Dowager.' (Cheers.)

Here's a health to all good lasses.

'The Prince Albert, the Princess Royal, the King of Hanover, and the rest of the Royal Family.' Orange Boreen.

'The Army and Navy.' British Grenadiers, and Hearts of Oak.

'The Glorious, Pious and Immortal Memory.' Boyne Water.

'The Lord Primate and the Church of Ireland.' Protestant Boys.

'Dr. Cooke and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.' Lass of Gowrie.

'This ever-memorable day, the Shutting of the Gates of Derry on the 7th December, O. S. 1688.' No Surrender.

'The Relief of Derry.' Glorious First of August.

'The Ladies of Derry.' (Nine times nine.) Orange and Blue.

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Many other toasts were drank, and several excellent speeches delivered in the course of the evening; and never was there a celebration so gratifying and animating, as that which we had in this City on Monday last.—*Londonderry Sentinel.*

SINGULAR PHENOMENON.—On Friday morning, last week, between the hours of four and five, a most remarkable phenomenon was observed by all the carriers approaching Perth by the north and west roads. The phenomenon was that of the whole surrounding country in the district of Dunkeld, Crieff, Blairgowrie, &c., being suddenly illuminated by a blaze of light, which rendered objects for several miles around more distinctly visible than on the clearest noon-day. Sheep, cattle, trees, and bushes, were beheld with an accuracy, at six and seven miles distance, equal to what would be produced by the finest telescope, so vivid and intensely brilliant was the light. This curious phenomenon lasted nearly a minute, and as described by those who witnessed it, had a kind of unsteady motion, resembling in the impression it created on their minds, the roll of the waves of the sea after the subsidence of a storm. The light was dazzling white, and, from what we learn, appeared like the 'white light,' displayed by pyrotechnists, but of course, on a much grander and more extensive scale. McDonald, the Dunkeld carrier, alleges that he felt distinctly a heat produced by it, similar to what would be experienced in passing the door of premises in which there was a powerful furnace blast working. He was in the neighbourhood of Birnam at the time, and distinctly saw the colour of the plumage of several chaffinches perched upon a tree on the road side. From this account compared with the accounts of the other carriers, he appears to have been in the very focus of the meteoric phenomenon, as, while they felt no heat, they concur in stating that the centre of its brilliancy seemed to be a little below Dunkeld. The morning was otherwise very dark, with a thick, raw, rhymy atmosphere.—*Perth Courier.*

COMPARATIVE NATIONAL STATURE.—In consequence of arguments respecting the height for soldiers we have taken some pains at various times to ascertain the relative height of English, Irish, and Scotch recruits. As far as the line regiments are concerned the Irish have a decided advantage in height. It must be, however, taken into account that the guards, the marines, and the majority of the cavalry and artillery are English, and the recruits for these are all of superior standard. It may then be doubted if an equal number of tall men were deducted out of the total recruits raised in Ireland whether any difference would exist. In weight the English recruit has the advantage, the heights being equal. A regiment of the line that consists wholly of Englishmen will generally be found to average shorter than either the Irish, Scotch or the mixed corps.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

On Saturday morning a violent explosion took place at Mr. Holgrave's resin-works, Hill street Liverpool. The shock was so violent as to break every pane of glass on the premises, while most of the windows in the neighbourhood were more or less damaged, several of them having their frames broken. Nought was heard for some seconds but the jingling of broken glass. Happily, no lives were lost, the workmen having left that part of the premises some minutes before. It was quickly found, however, that the flash had set the premises on fire. The building was quickly closed in so as to prevent, as much as possible, the access of air. Messengers were despatched to the fire police station, an engine was procured, and immediately got into play. By these energetic and judicious measures, the fire was extinguished before the arrival of the fire police. It is said that the accident occurred in consequence of the bursting of the pipe above-mentioned, was ignited, and exploded.—*Leeds Mercury.*

On the night of the 22d instant a most daring attempt was made to murder Mr. George Wood, farmer, of the village of Brandon, Suffolk. He had gone during the day to Soham, a small town not far distant, to transact some business, and started homewards at about ten o'clock. Upon reaching his residence within a mile, and when near the house of Mr. Kenyon, which stands amidst some trees and shrubs, a gun or large pistol was levelled at him and discharged. It fortunately happened that he escaped uninjured, and the ruffian, as soon as he found that his object had failed, ran off as fast as he could. Mr. Wood is not better known than respected in the village, and with what object his life can have been sought, except for the purpose of plunder, cannot be conceived. A reward of £50, for such information as would lead to the apprehension of the parties, has been offered.—*Id.*

On Saturday morning the inhabitants of Ilkley and neighbourhood were horrified by the finding of the murdered body of a man, aged about fifty years, in a field in the township of Nesfield. The body was identified as that of William Hustwick, of Beamsley, a labourer, and on being undressed, presented a most frightful spectacle. Although the face was not much disfigured, the head was literally smashed to pieces, and almost the entire body and limbs were covered with bruises. A coroner's inquest was held on Monday, when a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown was returned.—*Id.*

Interference of Roman Catholics with Military Schools.—We understand that the mode in which the officers at present commanding the troops in Newry conduct the regimental school, has given great offence to a certain dignitary in the Roman Catholic Church, who, if rumour speaks true, refuses to be satisfied with anything short of a court of inquiry. It is said that the cause of the offence is, that the children of Roman Catholic soldiers are required to read the Scriptures in the school.—*Ulster Times.*

VENGEANCE AND DISCIPLINE.—A letter from Vienna of the 12th inst. states, that at Wels, near Linz, and during some recent military manoeuvres, two soldiers of a regiment of Hussars having fallen in a charge, were obliged to remain behind. One of them, however, who was less injured than his companion, joined his corps shortly afterwards; but, being unable from pain to perform his duty, the chief of the squadron, the Chevalier de L., condemned him to receive twenty five lashes. When the hussar had undergone the penalty, he went up to that officer, as it were to thank him, according to military usage, and struck him in the face. The officer drew his sword and killed him on the spot; but at the same moment four soldiers left their ranks, and literally cut the chief of squadron to pieces.

THE CHINA TRADE.—As one of many instances of the improvement of business in Glasgow, a gentleman informs us that when there on Tuesday he saw one house where little business had been done for months, close a single transaction of £10,000 in powerloom goods for the China market; and these having still to go through the printing process at home, will yet afford some work to Glasgow hands.—*Ayr Advertiser.*