

food was thrust, without any communication being held with the leper, and in this state he lingered two years! The document to which we refer also states, that when his death took place, and the hut was entered for the purpose of taking out the body for interment, they found that he had torn up the floor and burrowed in the earth with his finger nails, which were torn off in the most miserable manner by the operation! and there were other evidences that he died a *maniac*! The heart sickens at the recital: an orphan boy—or a foundling—destitute of friends, shut up in a close dark hut for two years, suffering under one of the most frightful diseases with which humanity was ever afflicted!—no one to sympathize—no one to console with him, until reason at length gave way, and he died raving mad!!!—Ed.]

## PRESENT CASES.

No. 1, Mary Anne Bruno, aged 29; 2, Charlotte Bisout, aged 14; 3, Tuno Guthro, aged 28; 4, Margaret Robichaud, aged 30; 5, Almon Savoy, aged 20; 6, Joseph Savoy, aged 15; 7, Thomas Commaux, aged 35; 8, Oliver Robichaud, aged 25; 9, Israel Robichaud, aged 2; 10, Tranquel Robichaud, aged 18; 11, Francis Robichaud, son of victim No. 4, aged 11; 12, Constance Legere, sister to No. 1, aged 26. There are some additional cases over the County line in the County of Northumberland.

There are, it appears, 13 cases in Gloucester and 5 in Northumberland, besides some doubtful cases in either place of Tabular Leprosy. These cases were all traced to one source. It is the opinion of the medical men that the disease is contagious, and is much aggravated from want of proper food and clothing.

[It is somewhat strange that, although the medical men who were sent to investigate this affair, and report thereon to Government, recommended some individuals resident in the County as Commissioners for providing a hospital, and taking means to prevent the spread of the distemper, not one of them (with the exception of the Catholic Priest,) was appointed, although the Sheriff, Mr. Baldwin, took pains to investigate the subject and prepare an elaborate report, which he forwarded to the Legislature, and was, we believe, the principal means of bringing the subject before them. Why this gentleman should have been omitted, and individuals residing in Chatham—fifty or sixty miles distant from the locality of the disease—be appointed, unless through the pernicious influence of one of the Executive Members, we cannot conceive.]—Ed.

(From the *Yarmouth Herald*.)

## VERY LATE FROM HAYTI!—PROGRESS OF THE NEGRO INSURRECTION.

The fine Barque *Lady Falkland*, Captain Baker, arrived here last evening, 23 days from Aux Cayes, bound to London. We are greatly obliged to Captain B. for the following communication, narrating from personal observation the progress of the negro insurrection, and the state of affairs at the parts of the Island which he visited:

SIR,—I arrived at Aux Cayes, St. Domingo, on the 11th April, 1844, and on going ashore was much surprised to find the streets thronged with armed negroes, mostly with wooden pikes about ten feet long, and sharp pointed. On going to the store of Messrs Bellard & Co. I was informed that the town was in possession of the negroes from the mountains, by whom it had been taken three days previous. The inhabitants were not expecting them and of course were unprepared. However, there was a battle fought, and as far as I could learn about 250 killed and wounded. Nearly all the inhabitants of the town got on board the shipping in the harbour, which got under weigh and moved about three miles outside, and there lay three days as full of people as they could hold. Several boats were fired into whilst taking them off, and a number of lives lost. About eight or nine hundred left for Jamaica. This so exasperated the General then in command of the town that he gave orders to his troops (as he called them,) to shoot any one seen going on board of the shipping, or leaving the town in any way; and when one of the Schooners returned from Jamaica, he had the Captain taken and shot in the presence of his wife and children. It appears that the negroes expected when they took the town, that they were to pillage and burn it. This the General put a stop to, saying if any one was found to plunder the least thing from the inhabitants, that he would be shot; and he was as good as his word, for there were ten shot about two hours after I landed, for stealing.

I left the next morning for Aquin, (a distance of about thirty miles from Aux Cayes,) where I was to receive my cargo. I arrived there the same day, and on going on shore found the inhabitants of the town all under arms, expecting the negroes upon them every minute. They were about 3000 strong here and well armed. As all communication was cut off between this place and Aux Cayes, the General sent for me; he wanted to know if the (insurgent) army had left Aux Cayes before I left. I told him I did not know. He treated me very politely, and said as I was an Englishman, he would do all in his power to assist me, for he considered the English were his friends. I got my ship's ballast out, and went on with my loading as fast as I could, in hopes of getting away before any engagement should take place. Four or five days after this, there came in five of what they call their men-of-war, and landed about two thousand troops from a place called Jaquemel. Nothing of consequence took place till Sunday morning the 21st, just at the dawn of day, I heard the battle commence. I jumped on deck and called all hands. I could then, as the day began to break, see the boats coming off from the shore, as full of women and children as they could hold. To see the confusion was horrible—these poor creatures frightened almost out of their senses, running for their lives, some of them with their children and clothes in their arms; they would rush into the water like dogs to get to the boats. I sent my boat to their assistance, and in about 20 minutes our decks and every other part of the ship was thronged as full as they could stow, and all the other vessels in port the same way. The battle did

not last long—not over an hour and a half before the fighting ceased. I then jumped into my boat and went on shore, and found the enemy (the insurgents) had retreated. There was great confusion in the town; the people were busy taking the wounded to a place provided for them. I saw a number laying dead, and some dying. Such a sight I hope never to witness again. Amongst those I saw dead, was the Colonel of the enemy. By the papers that were found on him, it appeared he was to pillage the town and set fire to it if they got possession. So far as I could learn, there were about 50 killed and 150 wounded, and 200 taken prisoners, with two pieces of brass cannon.

We lay three days after this without doing anything, our decks crowded with women and children night and day, and it was with the greatest difficulty that I got them to leave the ship, to enable me to get on with my loading. However, I managed at last to get them on shore in the day time, but at night they were all on board again, and continued so until I was loaded. The night I was to leave, whilst on shore settling my business, there were crowds running after me, begging to be allowed to come on board and stop the night. I told them I would sail in the middle of the night, and would be obliged to take them away if they went on board; their reply was, they wished I would take them away that they were sure they would be murdered if they stopped there. I managed to get away the best way I could, and left next morning at day-break, and if ever I was pleased it was when I found myself outside the harbour. About 2 p. m. same day I arrived at Aux Cayes, where I was obliged to stop for orders and water. As soon as I had come to anchor, the Captain of Her Majesty's Brig Griffin sent for me to go on board before proceeding on shore, which I did. He advised me to leave my papers and letters with him, and he would put me ashore in his own boat, and send an Officer with me. As soon as I landed, the General sent for me. He wanted to find out how strong they were at Aquin. He said he expected the town was then in possession of his army, that he had sent 3000 troops to reinforce those that attacked it before—making his force about 8000 men. It must have been a bloody battle, for they were about five hundred strong at Aquin, and much better armed than the negroes, with brave officers at their head. I heard General Jeffery say that he never would give up the town as long as he was alive, and if it was taken he would blow his own brains out.

How these people are carrying on the war I cannot imagine. Both parties are as poor as they can be. The General made a demand on the three English merchants at Aux Cayes for money. They told me they gave him 700 dollars—he wanted more, and they said they would have been compelled to give had there not been an English man-of-war in port. They applied to the Commander, who told the General that he was there to protect the English merchants, and if he did not relinquish the demand would batter down the town—and he moored his vessel abreast of it, head and stern, with her broadside to the town, ready for action. The merchants said they heard nothing further from the General.

Two American vessels were laying there with provisions, which were very scarce, but no one would buy. The General tried to force them to land their cargoes, and would doubtless have effected it, had there not been an American man-of-war in port, which interfered.

The negroes had in possession when I left, fifteen towns and villages. An army of 30,000 was, however, expected from Port au Prince to retake those places. This the residents were much alarmed at, for they well knew that if the negroes found they could not hold them, they would murder the coloured people, and pillage and burn the towns. Every coloured person that could get away was leaving the Island—about 50 women left Aquin whilst I lay there, for Curacao; those that were married would have been accompanied by their husbands, but they were too closely watched. They were sending their furniture and effects off the Island as fast as they could find opportunities, to other Islands. Mr. Rospeed, the gentleman to whom I was consigned, sent all his family in the Curacao schooner, and he would have gone himself if he could have got away.

It is truly distressing to see the state of things in the Island.

I am, Sir, yours truly,  
Yarmouth, May, 29, 1844. JAMES BAKER.

## SIR CHARLES METCALFE DEFENDED AGAINST THE ATTACKS OF HIS LATE COUNSELLORS.

The Reverend Egerton Ryerson takes this method of informing the public, that he proposes to offer some remarks in defence of Sir Charles Metcalfe, against the attacks of his late Advisers, and to prove by their own testimony, given on different occasions, that his Excellency is entitled to the verdict of the country, on every count in the indictment brought against him. Sir Charles Metcalfe may say to the people of Canada, as Themistocles said to the Athenians, who were incensed against him, "Strike, but hear me." And if the public have heard six or seven hundred pages of accusations against Sir Charles, in the form of speeches, addresses, editorials and communications, it is believed they will do His Excellency the justice of hearing one hundred and fifty pages of calm reasoning in his defence.

Mr. Ryerson (unsolicited by any human being) has been prompted to this course by the recent "Address of the Toronto Reform Association to the People of Canada." If that address (sound in general principles) be true in fact and in insinuation, then is Sir Charles Metcalfe all that is tyrannical and base, and the British Government is a compound of despotism and treachery; Sir Charles should be dethroned and the Imperial Government should be hated and despised; and no general declarations of respect for the one or the other, can prevent such feelings from possessing the mind of every reader who imbibes the spirit of that most insidious and calumnious address. The legal and constitutional connexion between the people of Canada and their

Government may remain; but the moral connection—the connection of confidence and affection, the only connection of strength and happiness—must cease to exist.

Mr. Ryerson's reply to the accusers of His Excellency, will be contained in ten or twelve numbers—to be first published in the *British Colonist*, afterwards in pamphlet form, occupying from 100 to 150 pages. The first number will appear in the *Colonist* of Friday next, the 31st instant, preceded by a prefatory address to the inhabitants of Canada West, on the present crisis, and stating the circumstances and considerations under which the author comes before the public on this momentous occasion.

Mr. Ryerson avails himself of this occasion to say, that the distinguished title which was conferred upon him some time since, has never been adopted by him, nor used in his household—that he thinks the old name is more appropriate and better known than the new one—that he likes new names no better than he likes novel doctrines.

Mr. Ryerson has not thought proper, under present circumstances, to accept the office of Superintendent of Education; nor has any political office ever been offered to him. And he is ready to relinquish any situation which he now fills rather than not accomplish this imperative undertaking. For if a *Leonidas* and three hundred Spartans could throw themselves into the Thermopylae of death for the salvation of their country, it would ill become one humble Canadian to hesitate at any sacrifice, or shrink from any responsibility, or even danger, in order to prevent his own countrymen from rushing into a vortex, which he is most certainly persuaded, will involve many of them in calamities more serious than those which followed the events of 1837.

Those editors of Canada West, who wish both sides of the differences between Sir Charles Metcalfe and his late advisers to be fully understood by the Canadian public, are respectfully requested to insert this notice.

Should any editors honour Mr. Ryerson or his productions with notices, he requests as a favour, that they will have the goodness to forward, at his expense, to his address at Cobourg, the papers in which those notices may be inserted, as he may have occasion to refer to them. Cobourg, May 27, 1844.

ACCIDENT.—We are informed that, on the afternoon of Tuesday last, while the engine at the water-works was in operation for the purpose of forcing water into the city, two men entered the building, one having a loaded gun in his hand, and while in the act of raising it to place it under his arm it was accidentally discharged, the ball passing through the end of the building and entering the end of a small house that has been recently built on the adjoining lot, the owner of which, a woman, was engaged at the time in delivering needles to a girl of about twelve years of age, striking the woman on the ear, and continuing its course entered under the skin on the upper part of the girl's right cheek, where it lodged within a small distance of her ear. This accident will teach persons to be cautious how they enter a building with loaded fire arms, as, in the present instance, it very nearly proved fatal to one or both individuals. We are happy to state that the child is doing well, the ball having been extracted by Dr. Pidler, who fortunately was riding by at the time.—*St. John Herald*.

It is generally known that during the late riots in Philadelphia, the Church of St. Augustine was destroyed by fire, and that a few minutes before the steeple fell, the bell struck. It is rather singular that the same bell was the first in that town to sound a merry peal of joy on the signing the declaration of Independence; this is rather a curious coincidence and worthy of note, the congregation of that Church rejoiced in the success of rebellion, and the descendants of the victors repaid the debt of gratitude by destruction; while we pity our unfortunate countrymen thus sacrificed to the anti-Irish spirit that pervades the States, there appears something like retribution in the calamity; these unfortunate creatures forsake their native land and forswear their true allegiance to become "hewers of wood and drawers of water" to a people who hate and dread them.—*Cobourg Star*.

The Official Gazette contains the Act for the better securing the independence of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, which was reserved by Sir Charles Metcalfe last session, and has now received her Majesty's sanction. It will be remembered that it excludes nearly all public officers, except a few of the highest, from the Assembly. It also prohibits all Judges, all Clergymen or Ministers, all Commissioners of Bankrupts, the official Principal of the Court of Probate, and all Surrogates, all Receivers, and all Officers of the Customs or Excise, from voting for members of Parliament, under a penalty of £500.—*M. Her.*

The *Canadien*, of Wednesday, the 5th inst., says that a report had reached Quebec that a schooner, having several pilots on board, was lost on the north side of the St. Lawrence, a little below the Saguenay, and that only one person escaped.—*Id.*

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—James Brown, John Gregory, and Sylvester Z. Earle, Esquires, have been appointed Inspectors of Parish and other Schools receiving pecuniary aid from the Public Treasury.

SPORTING.—A match between Mr. Gilbert's *La Belle* and Mr. Nowlin's *Lady Sussex*, for fifty sovereigns aside, comes off on the Sands near this city on Friday next, when a tight race is anticipated by the knowing ones.—*St. John Courier*.

A new paper has appeared at Quebec under the title of the *Freeman's Journal*. It says that "we shall endeavour to steer such a course as will enable us to conciliate parties politically opposed to each other." If it succeed in its endeavours, its conductors will deserve to be handsomely pensioned by the Imperial Government while alive, and have statues erected to their memory when dead.—*Montreal Herald*.