GREAT BRITAIN, &c.

LONDON, Jan. 6. The interest respecting Rowland Stephenson, which was beginning to decline in the city, was revived this morning with greater intensity than ever, by a rumour that he had been apprehended, and had arrived in London. Up to the hour on which business terminates no certainty has, however, been obtained on this subject, though his final escape from justice is now considered on all hands as altogether out of the question. This opinion is so strongly entertained, that most people expect he will be in safe custody at all events, in the course of to-morrow. The Bristol account of Stephenson and his clerk having been there on the 28th, is now fully established as true; and it seems to be made equally certain by subsequent accounts, that after having been out at sea they relanded at the village of Clovelly, where they remained for three days concealed, and afterwards put to sea again, since which no certain tidings of them have yet been obtained. The whole coast was on the look out, and vessels have been despatched in every direction to apprehend the fugitives, so that, as has been before stated, no chance of escape for them appears to remain

In consequence of the late failures of many banks in London, many accounts have been transferred from the private bankers to the Bank of England.

Stephenson, the absconding and fraudulent banker is not yet arrested. He is supposed to be hovering about the coast in a pilot or sail boat, to put himself on board any vessel that may come across him bound to a foreign port. It is said Mr. Peel has engaged that the whole British navy shall be forth coming, if needed, to capture this pilot boat.

It is said that Stephenson's private account at the bank has been overdrawn for years to the amount of £30,000. This circumstance occasioned everlasting quarrels between him and his partners. It is added, that they were daily and hourly annoyed at the bank with the application of his private creditors.—There can be little doubt that most of the property which he has stolen has been long ago spent. It is said indeed, that he kept 6 women, he had 3 country houses, he had private boxes at all the theatres, that he generally spent three parts of the night at gambling houses. These accounts are probably exaggerated. It appears that he was not at all nice in his means of raising money. We are informed that he got his builder, or carpenter, to accept bills to the amount of £120,000,

LONDON, Jan. 6. The French papers of Sunday contains a great deal of political discussion, but no political news, with the exception of an improbable report that Don Miguel is dead. The Portugues emerchants in London fully expected, from the tenor of the intelligence from Lisbon, that a revolution would break out in Portugal, and that as soon as the Cortes should be assembled, that a regency in the name of the young Queen would be appointed.

LONDON JAN. 7. We understand that the Irish Revenue statement, when it appears, will show an increase of 400,000*l* for this year beyond last year. A long time since we said that the revenue of Ireland was rapidly on the increase, and that it would go on increasing.

HAMBURGH, Dec. 30. The Prussian State Gazette of yesterday, contains the following:—

Several letters from the Turkish frontiers contain the intelligence that the Turks have failed in the attempt upon Varna. The loss is said to have been considerable to both armies, and the Seraskier, who commanded the Turks is said to be severely wounded.

Letters from Odessa, of the 12th Dec. say that Omer Vrione had made a movement from Shumla upon Bazardjik, Gen. Roth having advanced against him from Varna.

Acccounts from the frontiers of Poland state, that since the return of the Grand Duke Constantine to Warsaw, the greatest activity continued to pervade every department of the administration.

The Polish army, as well as the Russian army, is to be considerably augmented, so that every thing at present bespeaks a determination to resume the war.—*Sun.*

LISBON, DEC. 20. *Extract of a private Letter.* The 55th Bulletin, published this day, is evidently false, as Don Miguel died on the morning of the 13th, after the most frightful convulsions; and ever since that moment, the Miguelite party and that of the Queen are disputing about the formation of a new Government.

A letter from Madrid, Dec. 22d, says—"A very strict search was made lately in the house of M. Goyonecho, a rich American, living at Madrid, the object of which is not known Nothing, however, was found that could at all compromise him.

Accounts from Batavia, to 3d Sept. mention that several skirmishes had recently taken place between the Dutch troops and the natives, which resulted in favor of the former. In one of them, 40 of the "rebels" were killed.

The Austrian Observer of December 18 states that the Sultan had lost his second son, who was only a year and nine months old. Sultan Mahmoud has now only one son remaining, Prince Adbul Medschid, born April, 1823, and several daughters.

IMMENSE STEAM VESSEL. The Government of the Netherlands has ordered the immediate construction of a larger steam-vessel than has hitherto swam the ocean. It is to be 250 feet in length, to have three decks, four masts, and a bowsprit, and steam-engine power equal to 300 horses, and is to cost 800,000 Dutch florins. This enormous vessel is to draw but sixteen feet water when laden, and ten feet unladen. The object of the Government is to facilitate the intercourse between Holland and the Dutch East Indies, and it is calcuted that about forty days will be sufficient for the voyage, which may be effected with the consumption of about 2,400,000 pounds of mineral coal.

The Army.—The Colonelcy of the 40th Regiment of Foot, and the Governorship of Cork, have become vacant, by the death of General Sir B. Spencer, G. C. B.

A grand Installation of the Knight Companions of the Order of the Bath is, it is said, to take place in May next, in Westminster Abbey.

The Dryad was expected to sail on the 16th December, from Poros with Mr. Stratford Canning for Naples.

The Minister who arrived in England some time since as the accredited Ambassador from Don Miguel, as King of Portugal, has lately had several interviews with the Earl of Aberdeen and the Duke of Wellington.

Militia.—A Bill will be introduced into Parliament next Session for the disbanding the whole of the Corporals on the Militia Staff, the Paymasters, Quartermasters, and Surgeons, and in some instances the drummers.

The Lords of the Admiralty have directed, by a Circular Order, that the affidavits to be made by Naval and Marine Officers, for half-pay shall contain a declaration, in addition to the present form, that they do not hold any civil appointments, or that such appointment was given to them prior to the 1st January, 1829, as Government intends to withold half-pay from officers appointed to civil situations after that period

Plymouth, Jan. 3.—Yesterday the Portuguese troops, consisting of about 600 men, embarked in the transports Lyra, Minerva, Delphin, and Susan, General Saldanha, with the officers of the Brigade, will go on board this day; it is generally believed that they will proceed to the western islands, and will either land at Terceira or continue their voyage to Rio Janeiro, as circumstances may render necessary.

We have to announce the death—which occurred on Tuesday—of the Right Hon. Priscilla Barbara Baroness Willoughby and Eresby, jointly with her sister the Marchioness Cholmondely, hereditary great Chamberlain of England. She is succeeded in her titles and estates by Lord Gwydir, her Ladyship's son. Her Ladyship was born on the 16th of February, 1761, and married in 1779, Sir Peter Burrell, who was elevated to the Peerage as Baron Gwydir on the 16rh of June, 1766. Besides Lord Gwydir, her Ladyship has left two sons and a daughter.

Mr. Clement, proprietor of the London Morning Chronicle, paid Government for Stamps, the last year, ending, the 31st of December, the enormous sum of £53,218—more than one-tenth of all the stamps in England!

Major-General Bourke, C. B. (late Lieutenant-Governor of the Eastern District of the Cape of Good Hope,) has arrived in town, and had an interview on Saturday with Sir George Murray, at the Colonial Office, Downing-street.

The numerous friends of Sir John Malcolm will be happy to hear, that he was in perfect health at Ahmednuggar on the 3d August last, which is the very day that it was reported he was taken dangerously ill in church at Poonah, which latter place is upwards of 100 miles from the former.

Brussels papers to the 3d instant, say, that the projected marriage between the Princess Marianne, daughter to the King of the Netherlands, and Prince Gustavus of Sweden, was entirely broken off, in consequence of which that Prince had resigned the Major-Generalship which he held in the Belgian service. The young Princess, it is now said, is to marry Prince Albert, a son of the King of Prussia.

That inimitable actor, Johnston, died last week, at the age of 83; he was one of the most humourous and efficient performers in comedy or opera, the stage ever boasted of. His fortune, a large one, devolves upon his daughter, the wife of Mr. Wallack, of Drury-lane Theatre, who is now in America.—*John Bull.*

Captain George Mundy, C. B. is appointed to the vacant command of the Royal Yacht.

The Duke of York steamer brings accounts from Gibraltar to the 21st December. At that date there were five sick officers, and the number of the military sick was one hundred and eighteen. From the beginning of the month there have been one hundred and fifty new cases and thirty-seven deaths.

CATHOLIC QUESTION.

[DR. CURTIS, Roman Catholic Primate of Ireland, has published the following answer to the Letter of the Duke of WELLINGTON, inserted in our Paper of the 21st ultimo.]

Drogheda, December 19, 1828.

My Lord Duke,—I have never been more agreeably surprised in my life than by the unexpected honour of receiving your Grace's very kind and even friendly letter of the 11th inst. which, coming from so high a quarter, I should naturally wish to reserve, if possible: but it was franked by yourself, the news of its arrival was known all over this town (as might be expected from a Provincial post-office) before the letter reached my hands; so that I was obliged, in yonr Grace's defence and my own, to communicate its contents to a few chosen friends, for the satisfaction of the multitude, who might otherwise fabricate in its stead some foolish, or perhaps, mischievious nonsense of their own. But, fortunately, your Grace's letter contained only such liberal and benevolent sentiments as all parties must eulogize, and none could possibly malign. Besides, it very seasonably strengthens the testimony, that I, as a faithful witness have on all occasions given of your generous, upright, and impartial disposition.

"It would be somewhat worse than ridiculous in me, to offer any thing in the shape of political advice to a consummate statesman, at the head of the first Cabinet in or out of Europe; but as your Grace has so humanely condescended to mention some of the difficulties tending to paralyse your efforts to settle the Roman Catholic question, I beg leave to submit to your superior judgment a few reflections, made to me by some well-informed and unbiassed friends, as well Protestants as Catholics, who certainly understand the subject much better than I can pretend to do. They have read with great pleasure and gratitude, the noble declaration in which your Grace so strongly expresses your sincere anxiety to witness the settlement of the Roman Catholic question; which, you are convinced, would, by benefiting the state, confer a benefit on every individual of society; and you regret that you see no prospect of such a settlement, because violent party feelings are mixed up with that question, and pervade every discussion of it to such a degree, as to preclude the possibility of prevailing upon men to consider it dispassionately. But that if it could be buried in oblivion for a short time, and if that time were diligently employed in the consideration of the question, you would not despair of seeing a satisfactory remedy.

"These humane and statesman-like sentiments (as far as they go) do honour to your Grace's head and heart: and might appear sufficient if you were a private nobleman, but not in your exalted station, with power to wield, when necessary, all the resources of Government; for it would be a slur on the unrivalled and far-famed British constitution to assert, that even when well administered it does not possess or supply means for establishing any thing known to be essential for the peace, welfare, and tranquility of the empire at large, or for pulling down or removing any intrigue or party spirit that might wantonly attempt to oppose so great a blessing.

"My friends allow that such momentuous exertions may be sometimes successful when Government is conducted by weak or unsupported heads or hands, and that they require such a Prime Minister as the nation has now, and I hope will long have, the happines to enjoy; who, after an uninterrupted series of the greatest victories, and a successful arrangement of the most important interests that perhaps ever yet occurred, has been placed at the head of Government by the entire and well-earned confidence of our most gracious Sovereign, and with the universal applause of the whole empire, and indeed, of all other nations. Under such a chief, exerting his legitimate prerogative, they say that no party would dare to oppose the general good, and that if your Grace would intimate your serious resolution to settle the Roman Catholic question, its opponents would instantly fly and appear no more; and if the settlement were once carried, it would in a few days be no more spoken or thought of than the concesssions now are that were lately made to the Dissenters; for the enemies of such arrangement are not half so angry in reality as they now appear to be, in order by that bugbear to carry their point. But my friends have no hesitation in declaring that the project mentioned by your Grace, of burying the Catholic Question in oblivion, for the purpose of considering it more at leisure, is totally inadmissable, and would exasperate in the highest degree those who are already too much excited, and would consider that measure as a repetition of the same old pretext so often employed to elude and disappoint their hopes of redress; but that if it even were adopted, it could only serve to augment the difficulties by allowing the contending parties and particularly the enemies of all concession the opportunities they seek for preparing their means of resistance and violence, which they have latterly carried to the most alarming lengths; which they have vowed and publicly announced in atrocious and sanguinary terms, to which, however, I should not here allude, for I never wish to be an accuser, but that I am certain your Grace must have read those horrible threats, often repeated in Brunswick and Orange public Prints; and to this latter subject; at least, I must beg leave to call your Grace's attention, and to implore your powerful protection, humbly praying that you will not suffer public peace and concord to be violated or disturbed under any pretext whatever. An effectual remedy would cost your Grace but one word. I do not, however, hereby mean to meddle in temporal affairs: but I consider it my bounden duty to labour incessantly, in concurrence with all my venerable conferers, to impress upon the minds and hearts of all those committed to our spiritual care, sentiments of true Christian charity, moderation, and kind forbearance towards all men without exception.

"I beg your grace will excuse the length of this letter, and vouchsafe to consider it as a proof of my unfeigned regard, and of the sincere respect with which I have the honour to remain, my Lord Duke, your Grace's most ob't and most humble servant, "R. CURTIS."

Letter of the Marquis of Anglesea, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to the Roman Catholic Primate.

"*Phœnix Park, Dec.* 23, 1829.

"Most Reverend Sir,—I hasten to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22d, covering that which you received from the Duke of Wellington, on the 11th instant, together with a copy of your answer to it.

"I thank you for the confidence you have reposed in me.

"Your letter gives me information upon a subject of the highest interest. I did not know the precise sentiments of the Duke of Wellington upon the present state of the Catholic question.

"Knowing it, I shall venture to offer my opinion upon the course which it behoves the Catholics to pursue.

"Perfectly convinced that the final and cordial settlement of this great question can alone give peace, harmony, and prosperity to *all* classes of His Majesty's subjects in this kingdom, I must acknowledge my disappointment on learning that there is no prospect of its being effected during the ensuing session of Parliament. I, however, derive some consolation from observing that his Grace is not wholly adverse to the measure; for, if *he* can be induced to promote it, *he*, of all men, will have the greatest facility in carrying it into effect.

"If I am correct in this opinion, it is obviously most important that the Duke of Wellington should be propitiated; that no obstacle that can by possibility be avoided should be thrown in his way; that all personal and offensive insinuations should be suppressed: and that ample allowance should be made for the difficulties of his situation.

"Difficult it certainly is, for he has to overcome the very strong prejudices and the interested motives of many persons of the highest influence, as well as to allay the real alarms of many of the most ignorant Protestants.

"I differ from the opinion of the Duke, that an attempt should be made 'to bury in oblivion' the question for a short time; first because the thing is utterly impossible; and next, because, if the thing were possible, I fear that advantage might be taken of the pause, by representing it as a panic achieved by the late violent reaction, and by proclaiming that if the Government at once and peremptorily decided against concession, the Catholics would cease to agitate, and then all the miseries of the last years of Ireland will be to be reacted.

"What I do recommend is, that the measure should not be for a moment lost sight of, that anxiety should continue to be manifested, and that all *constitutional* (in contradistinction to *merely legal*) means should be resorted to forward the cause; but that, at the same time, the most patient forbearance, the most submissive obedience to the laws should be inculcated—that no personal or offensive language should be held towards those who oppose the claims.

Personality offers no advantage—it effects no good; on the contrary, it offends, and confirms predisposed aversion. Let the Catholics trust to the justice of his cause—to the growing liberality of mankind. Unfortunately he has lost some friends and fortified his enemies, within the last six months, by unmeasured and unnecessary violence. He will soonest recover from the present stagnation of his fortune by showing more temper, and by trusting to the legislature for redress.

"Brute force, he should be assured, can effect nothing. It is the Legislature that must decide this great question; and my greatest anxiety is, that it should be met by the Parliament under the most favourable circumstances, and that the opposers of Catholic emancipation shall be disarmed by the patient forbearance as well as by the unwearied perseverance of its advocates.

"My warm anxiety to promote the general interests of this country is the motive that has induced me to give an opinion and to offer advice.

I have the honor, &c.

(Signed) "ANGLESEA."

"To the Most Reverend Dr. CURTIS, &. &c.

DREADFUL MURDERS IN SCOTLAND.

High Court of Justiciary, 23d Dec. 1828.

Trial of Wm. Burke and Helen M'Dougal, for murder in the West Port, Edinburgh.

The pannels were charged in the indictment or libel, 1st Burke with the murder of Mary Patterson or Mitchell, in Gibb's, close in Cannongate, Edinburgh, between 7th and 16th April, 1828.—2d Burke with the murder, between 5th and 26th Oct. in Tanner's, close in Portsburgh, of James Wilson, commonly called Daft Jamie.—3d, Burke and Helen M'Dougall, for the murder of Madgy, or Margery, or Mary M'Gonegal, or Duffie, or Campbell, or Docherty, on 31st Oct. in Burke's house, in Wester Portsburgh. There were 55 witnesses.

The prisoners were also charged with intent to sell the bodies to Physicians or Surgeons as subjects for dissection.

The jury after having been inclosed for fifty minutes, returned a verdict, finding Burke guilty of the charge: and in regard o Helen M'Dougall, found the libel not proven. Burke was then sentenced to be executed upon the 28th January, and his body to be publiely dissected.

Shortly after his conviction, Burke made a confession, which we give in full as reported in the Caledonian Mercury Jan. 5.

CONFESSION OF BURKE.

The information from which the following article is drawn up we have received from a most respectable quarter, and its perfect correctness in all respects may be confidently relied on. In truth, it is as nearly as possible a correct report, rather than the substance, of what passed at an interview with Burke; in the course of which the unhappy man appears to have opened his mind without reserve, and to have given a distinct and explicit answer to every question which was put to him relative to his connexion with the late murders.

After some conversation of a religious nature, in the course of which Burke stated that, while in Ireland, his mind was under the influence of religious impressions, and that he was accustomed to read his Catechism and his Prayer Book, and to attend to his duties, he was asked, "How came it, then, that you who, by your own account, were once under the influence of religious impressions, ever formed the idea of such dreadful atrocities, of such cold-blooded, systematic murders, as you admit you have been engaged in—how came such a conception to enter your mind?" To this Burke replied, that he did not exactly know; but that becoming addicted to drink, living in open adultery, and associating continually with the most abandoned characters, he gradually became hardened and desperate; gave up attending chapel or any place of religious worship, shunned the face of a priest, and being constantly familiar with every species of wickedness, he at length grew indifferent as to what he did, and was ready to commit any crime.

He was asked how long he had been engaged in this murderous traffic. To which he answered, "from Christmas 1827, till the murder of the woman Docherty in October last." "How many persons have you murdered, or been concerned in murdering, during that time? Were they thirty in all?" "Not so many; not so many, I assure you." "How many?" He answered the question; but the answer was, for a reason perfectly satisfactory, not communicated to us, and reserved for a different quarter.

"Had you any accomplices?" "None but Hare. We always took care, when we were going to commit a murder that no one else should be present—that no one could swear he saw the deed done. The women might suspect what we were about, but we always put them out of the way when we were going to do it. They never saw us commit any of the murders. One of the murders was done in Broggan's house, while he was out, but before he returned the thing was finished and the body put into a box. Broggan evidently suspected something, for he appeared much agitated, and entreated us 'to take away the box' which we accordingly did. But he was not in any way concerned in it."

"You have already told me that you were engaged in these atrocities from Christmas, 1827, till the end of October, 1828. "Were you associated with Hare during all that time?" "Yes. We began with selling to Dr. ——— the body of a woman who had died a natural death in Hare's house. We got ten pounds for it. After this we began the murders, and all the rest of the bodies we sold to him were murdered."

"In what place were these murders generally committed?" "They were mostly committed in Hare's house, which was very convenient for the purpose, as it consisted of a room and a kitchen. Daft Jamie was murdered there. The story told of this murder is incorrect. Hare began the struggle with him, and they fell and rolled together on the floor; then I went to Hare's assistance, and we at length finished him, though with much difficulty. I committed one murder in the country by myself. It was in last harvest. All the rest was done in conjunction with Hare."

"By what means were these fearful atrocities perpetrated?" "By suffocation. We made the persons drunk, and then suffocated them by holding the nostrils and mouth and getting on the body. Sometimes I held the mouth and nose while Hare went upon the body; and sometimes Hare held the mouth and nose while I placed myself on the body. Hare has perjured himself by what he said at the trial about the murder of Docherty. He did not sit by while I done it, as he says. He was on the body assisting me with all his might while I held the nostrils and mouth with one hand, choaked her under the throat with the other. We sometimes used a pillow but did not in this case."

"Now, Burke, answer me this question—Were you tutored and instructed, or did you receive hints from any one as to the mode of committing the murder?" "No except from Hare. We often spoke about it, and we agreed that suffocation was the best way. Hare said so, and I agreed with him. We generally did it by suffocation. [Our informant omitted to interrogate him about the snrgical instruments stated to have been found in his house; but this omission will be supplied.]

"Did you receive any encouragement to commit or persevere in committing these atrocities?" "Yes we were frequently told by Patterson that he would take as many bodies as we could get for him. When we got one he always told us to get more. There was commonly another person with him of the name of Falconer. They generally pressed us to get more bodies for them."

"To whom were the bodies so murdered sold?" "To Dr. ———. We took the bodies to his rooms in ———, and then went to his house to receive the money for them. Sometimes he paid us himself; sometimes we were paid by his assistants. No questions were ever asked us as to the mode in which we had come by the bodies. We had nothing to do but to leave a body at the rooms, and go get the money."

"Did you ever, upon any occasion, sell a body or bodies to any other Lecturer in this place?" "Never. We knew no other."

"You have been a resurrectionist (as it is called) I understand?" "No. Neither Hare nor myself ever got a body from a Church-yard. All we sold were murdered save the first one, which was that of the woman who died a natural death in Hare's house. We began with that: our crimes then commenced. The victims we selected were generally elderly persons. They could be more easily disposed of than persons in the vigour of health.

Such are the disclosures which this wretched man has made under circumstances which can scarcely fail to give them weight with the public.

We may mention as a single instance of the obliquity of the human understanding, or at least of the effect produced upon some by the Dean of Faculty's powerful speech for Burke, that two of the jury by whom he was tried were of opinion that the prosecutor had not made out his case against that unhappy man, and consequently were for returning a verdict of Not Proven in his case as well as that of M'Dougall. No one who attended to the evidence as it was led, or who has examined it since, has been able to discover upon what grounds such a verdict was returned even in the case of the female pannel; but had the opinion of these two gentleman prevailed, and the charges against Burke been found not proven, justice might have thrown away her balance and broken her sword, and the prosecutor might well have despaired of ever again obtaining a verdict upon a charge of murder. Happily nothing so utterly monstrous as this occurred. Justice has received one victim, but she will not be satisfied with this solitary sacrifice. Others yet remain to be claimed, whose hands are died in blood, and whose criminality is not either in law or in morality, inferior to that of the unhappy man whose days are numbered, and who is doomed to expiate his manifold crimes on the scaffold.

Matters are now coming to the bearing for which we have so anxiously, and, we may add, ardently contended. The teachers of Anatomy, in this City are to meet the Lord Advocate to day, at 3 o'clock, at his chambers, with a view to an investigation being set on foot respecting the sources whence the subjects have been recently supplied to our different Anatomical Schools; and the Royal College of Physicians, to their immortal honour, have called an Extraordinary Meeting for to-morrow, "for the purpose of taking into consideration any measures which it may be expedient for the college to adopt, with a view to tranquilize the public mind on the subject of the late atrocities committed by Burke and his associate—to prevent their repetition, and to relieve the Medical Profession generally from the odium just excited by them."

COLONIAL.

INSULT TO THE GOVERNOR.

(*From the Gore Gazette.*)

We never took up our pen under the influence of stronger feelings of indignation and disgust than we now do, for the purpose of recording one of the most flagrant enormities that ever disgraced a civilized community.

During the night of Thursday last, some monsters—the very dregs of society, they must have been—suspended an effigy from a tree, we believe, in the Town of Hamilton, to which effigy a label was attached, having upon it, in well written characters, the following words:

RETRIBUTION.

FRANCIS COLLINS AVENGED!

Executed at Hamilton, on Thursday the 29th January, 1829

Sir John Colborne, K. C. B.

His body is left for dissection, by the negroes of the place.

SO PERISH ALL UPHOLDERS OF "BRITISH FEELING."

N. B.—Sir Peregrine Maitland having absconded, poor Sir John had to suffer.

Now independant of the treasonable spirit which must have dictated such an act as this—there is a coarse savageness of expression in the language employed, which could have emanated from no mind, but one of the most diabolical cast. In every country—in every individual of every country—whatever political feuds may exist therein—which has the least pretentions to civilization, there is a respect for the person of the sovereign, or of the supreme executive authority, which protects him from insults of this kind. But to the violation of this principle in the present instance, a breach of the common rights of hospitality, which generous minds extend to strangers of every degree, is superadded. Sir John Colborne is comparatively a stranger in the Province. He has taken no part in the political bickerings which agitate the country—and so far as he has yet gone, his every act evinces a sincere desire to act impartially and correctly.

It is gratifying to perceive, however. that the flagrant outrage has excited universal horror and indignation; an offer of *one hundred pounds* reward for the detection of the offenders, is already made—and we doubt not, that as soon as the circumstance shall be generally known, a much stronger and more universal expression of the public voice will be evinced.

One thing is abundantly obvious—there is a daring and traitorous spirit abroad; it is confined to a few we know; but these few are unprincipled and desperate. Let those who doubt our assertion after what we have already described, listen to the following facts, every word of which we are prepared to prove.

A gang is now organising for the purpose of liberating Francis Collins from York jail by force; if the Governor does not liberate him, upon the *expected* second application of the House for that purpose. The head of the gang is to take down "fifty resolute fellows" from this district who are to meet a similar number from other districts. The plot has been discovered by a highly respectable person, who is ready to testify to the facts—and we repeat that we are prepared to prove them, and to communicate the names of the parties; and we believe that information has already been given in the proper quarter.—In the interim, however, we may inform the public that the leader of the gang was an active agent for certain "independent" members during the recent election. We have not time now, but in our next we will demonstrate to what circomstances this daring spirit is attributable, and by whom it has been fostered.

The following advertisement is inserted in the same paper.

ONE HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD.—Whereas a most fagrant and treasonable outrage was perpetrated at Hamilton, on the night of Thursday last apparently with the intention of insulting and bringing into contempt, the King's Representative. In order, if possible, that the authors of so vile and detestable an outrage may be brought to condign punishment. we the undersignod hereby offer the sums respectfully set against our names to any person—except the actual perpetrators—who shall give such information as may lead to the conviction of the offenders.

The amount subscribed already much exceeds the above sum. One gentleman has subscribed 25*l.*

UPPER CANADA LEGISLATURE.—FEB 5.

The Effigy of the Gov. Sir John Colborne.

The House in Committee of the whole on the Hamilton Outrage.

MR. HAMILTON, seconded by Mr. John Wilson, moves, that this House has learnt with equal astonishment and indignation that some evil disposed persons did on the night of the 29th of last month, at the Town of Hamilton in the Gore District, wantonly and maliciously exhibit a libellous representation of our present Lieutenant-Governor, thereby endeavouring to bring into disrepute his exalted character, and to throw odium on the measures of his administration.

This motion occasioned a debate, and it was agreed by some of its opponents that there was not sufficient information before the Committee to warrant the course proposed by the mover of the resolution, and by others that such matters as these were below the dignity of the Parliament to interfere with. The previous question that the resolve be not put.—Carried 21 to 17.

Mr. ROLPH, then, seconded by Mr. Perry, moved that it be resolved that George Gurnitt be summoned to the Bar of this House forthwith, to prove the statement made in his paper, called the Gore Gazette, respecting the Hamilton outrage, and the threatened release of Francis Collins by force: as well as Mr. Mann and Mr. Strowbridge, for the same purpose: and that the Speaker do issue summonses to summon them.

On this motion also there was a diversity of opinion, many of the members being for inquiry; others, among whom were Messrs Wilson & Hamilton, and the rest of the Attorney-General's friends, being opposed to the turn given to the question by Mr. Rolph—some opposed the question as considering it a useless waste of time, among whom were Messrs Mackinzie, &c.

On a division, there were in favour of Mr. Rolph's resolution, 26.—Against it 12.

FEBRUARY 6.

Mr. Rolph, seconded by Capt. Matthew's moved, that it be resolved that the Speaker issue his summons to summons W. M. Jarvis, Sheriff of Gore District, to appear at the Bar of this House to give evidence upon the Hamilton outrage, and to produce the effigy connected therewith, or such parts thereof as are in his possession.

Mr. Speaker stated to the House that he had received a letter from Mr. Gurnitt informing the House that he stood in readiness to appear at the bar.

FEBRUARY 7.

Mr. SAMSON moved that Mr. Rolph's Resolution of the previous day for bringing down to the bar of the House Sheriff Jarvis and the effigy be expunged from the Journals. To which Mr. Rolph moved in amendment, that the Hamilton outrage and alledged conspiracy to rescue Francis Collins be referred to a select Committee, composed of Messrs Blacklock, Baldwin, Perry and Brouse. The House divided, and the amendment was carried.

It is proposed in Upper Canada to reclaim, 50,000 acres of land by lowering lake Simcoe 7 or 8 feet, and also lowering the river Matchedosh.

A motion has been made in the Parliament of Upper Canada, to borrow $200,000, for a further indemnity to the Canadian sufferers in the late war.

The Courier.

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1829.

Bank of New-Brunswick.

Director next week, - - - - C. SIMONDS, Esq.

DISCOUNT DAY,.....THURSDAY.

Hours of business, from 10 to 3.

☞ *Bills for Discount, must be lodged with the Cashier before 3 o'clock on TUESDAY.*

Savings' Bank.

Managers for the ensuing week—

THOMAS MILLIDGE,

ALEXANDER WEDDERBURN,

Bank Hours—Every TUESDAY, from 10 to 12.

Marine Insurance Office.

Committee of Directors for the ensuing week:

CRAVEN CALVERLEY.

R. W. CROOKSHANK, Sen.

THOMAS MERRITT.

Office Hours.—From Twelve to Three.

STATE OF THE THERMOMETER IN THE SHADE.

From Feb. 28 to March 6.

Days of Observation.	Hours of Observat. 8 a.m.	Noon.	4 p.m.	The Weather during last week has been generally cold. Yesterday we were visited by another snow storm, which has again rendered the passage in the streets of the city difficult, and must have impeded very much the travelling in the Country.
28 Saturday,	11	24	20	
1 Sunday,	24	27	20	
2 Monday	12	27	31	
3 Tuesday,	17	33	31	
4 Wednesday	33	38	38	
5 Thursday,	34	40	38	
6 Friday,	18	20	20	

FIRE!—Last evening, (Monday) about eight o'clock, the Poor-House of this City, a new and substantial brick edifice, was discovered to be on fire, and in a very short time the alarum bells accompanied by the astounding cry of Fire! set the whole City in a commotion, and the scene of the conflagration speedily became the scene of much active exertion, but alas! the devouring element had made such rapid progress that the most strenuous efforts were unsuccessful in arresting its course, and the spacious building soon exhibited the sad spectacle of a heap of burning ruins. The dreadful calamity was occasioned by the flame of a candle coming in contact with the Bed Curtains in the sleeping apartment of MR. BETTS, the Keeper, whither the girl had gone for the child's night clothes. MR. and MRS. BETTS were both from home at the time, and their sensations on being summoned to witness the threatened desolation of their dwelling and all it contained, may be more easily conceived than described. They may be said to have lost their all; the very papers and books, secured in an iron chest, were totally consumed. There were in the house in all about fifty inmates, (paupers,) full one third of which number were children, and though fortunately there was not much sickness among them, yet it was truly affecting to see the feeble, the aged, and helpless, driven from their comfortable asylum in the coldness of the night, and looking around for a place of secure retreat. Some found shelter in a private house in the immediate neighbourhood, but most of them have for the present been lodged in the Gaol, which is close at hand. The principal part of the Furniture and Bedding of the Poor department has been saved, with part of the Provisions, and the whole of the Fire Wood. Providentially the wind was moderate, and blowing from the North-West, the sparks and fire-brands were carried away from the more dense parts of the town; and the Poor-House itself being an isolated Building, there was little danger of the fire going beyond its precincts. Great praise is due to Major SCOONES and the Officers, &c. of the 81st Regiment, as also to the fire-men and citizens generally, for their very prompt, judicious, and indefatigable endeavours to subdue the conflagration, and to protoet the property which was rescued from the flames.—From the statement we have given, it is clear that no blame can be attached to Mr. BETTS, who is a most careful and exemplary man, and who has our sympathy with that of the public at large, on the present melancholy occasion.—No lives were lost.—*Observer.*

With reference to the above mentioned calamitous event, we understand that His Worship the Mayor convened the Common Council at an early hour next day, for the purpose of making arrangements to provide for the accommodation of the unfortunate inmates of the POOR HOUSE, until the building should be again made tenantable.

At the meeting, it was moved and seconded, that a Committee from the Common Council should be appointed, to *confer* with the Overseers of the Poor on the subject. This motion occasioned a lengthy discussion, as to whether the Corporation should interfere in the matter at all, either from *right* or *expediency.*—The motion, however, was carried; and it only now remains for our citizens to determine, whether the passing of the resolution was proper or not.

In order to bring this matter to view in its proper light, we shall first insert that clause of the Charter which refers to it, and then state the substance of the Laws, or enactments, made by our Provincial Legislature on the subject.—The Charter says—

And also that they the said Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, and their successors forever, may and shall have power to erect and build such and so many Alms Houses for the relief of the Poor, as they shall think fit, together also with as full and ample power to them and their successors, to order, direct, and act, in and about such Bridewells, Houses of Correction, Work Houses, and common Stocks, and *Alms Houses*, and the persons put in and ordered therein as to any City or Corporation in any place of that part of our Realm of Great-Britain called England, and the officers and ministers thereof doth or may belong.

From this it is evident that the management of all matters relating to the support of the "City-Poor," was, by the Charter, vested in the Corporation.—The question then is, *Who are the City-Poor?*—Surely not all those who may happen to be "cast on our shores" and landing at St. John. If they be British subjects they are entitled to our protection by all means; but the burden of supporting them should not be laid exclusively on the City of St. John, nor on the City and County of St. John.

In England and Scotland we know, that the term *City-poor* is confined to the Children and Widows of *Burgesses*, who are not in circumstances to maintain their families, or to give them a proper education. Now, make enquiry as to who the inmates of the Poor House were, or with respect to those who are almoners, maintained by