BRITISH NEWS.

Cholera at London.—The returns from all the different parts of London give the following results of the cholera on the 6th April—

There were remaining from the last reports, 195—New cases that day, 31—Died, 17—Recovered, 30—Remaining, 179—Total number of Cases in London, 2158—Total Deaths, 1168.

Cholera at Goole.—We are informed, from several sources, that the Cholera has broken out at the port of Goole, and that several deaths, particularly that of a man from Selby, occurred there on Monday, under such circumstances as to leave no doubt of the pestilence having gained a footing in Yorkshire.—*Leeds Intelligencer.*

Cholera at Ely.—(From a correspondent.)—There were six new cases yesterday, (Sunday.) A man named Armstrong, about 40 years of age, who had been at his work carving coals on Saturday, died within eight hours. A boy, named Macro, aged 16, who had been at his work on Saturday, was taken about two o'clock in the morning, and died before ten. An aged woman, named Roberts, was taken late on Saturday night, and died on Sunday—all undoubted cases of cholera.—*Bury Herald.*

Cholera in Dublin.—It is still doubtful whether any cases of cholera have occurred in Dublin. The Board of Health have met, and after the examination of the cases reported as cholera, are merely enabled to state "that the symptoms of these cases very much resembled those described as attending the epidemic cholera in England." No *decided* case of cholera, however, appears yet to have exhibited itself.

GLASGOW, April 4.—New cases 13, deaths 5, remaining 44. Total 678 cases, 340 deaths.

PAISLEY, April 3.—New cases 3, deaths 2, remaining 13.

GREENOCK, April 3.—New cases 10, deaths none. Total, 82 cases, 36 deaths.

CHOLERA IN PARIS.—Advices from Havre, of the 5th ult. state that from 4 p. m. of the 2d, to 4 p. m. of the 3d, there were 317 new cases of cholera in the capital, and 127 deaths. Total, since the commencement of the disease, 1052; deaths, 385. The alarm increased in consequence; and cataphor had risen from two and three francs, to ten, eleven, and twelve.

The London Morning Chronicle of April 6th says,—"We this day publish the Quarterly Account of the Revenue. It will be seen that, compared with the quarter ending 5th April, 1831, there is an increase of £233,881. Comparing the year ending 5th April, 1832, with the year ending 5th April, 1831, there is a decrease of £763,473. The causes of this diminution are sufficiently familiar to the public, viz. the reduction of taxes. In all the branches of the revenue there is an increase this year, with the exception of the Customs, on which there is a decrease of £252,558. Considering the interruption to which our foreign commerce has been subject, we expected that the falling off would be greater. On the Excise there has been an increase of £271,613; on the Stamps, £66,785; on the Taxes, £124,070. There must have been some spurring before such an addition to the taxes was obtained."

In the Commons House of Parliament, the Irish Tithe Bill was read a second time on the 6th, and carried by 119 to 21! this decisive majority proves how clearly the necessity is perceived of affording some relief to the population of Ireland.

The London Times of the 5th, holds this language;—"There is little chance, we understand, that the second reading of the Reform Bill will be carried in the House of Lords by more than the scantiest possible majority. Of the Bill passing the committee without an entire change of its most essential clauses, there is no prospect whatever—not the most remote—with a body of Peers composed like the present.

"Although, however, a defeat upon the first question which is likely to arise in the committee may be repaired by an immediate creation of Peers, who would aid the government in rescinding the obnoxious vote upon bringing up the report, it is abundantly certain that a defeat on the second reading itself must be altogether irretrievable. Yet how tremendously daring is the game now played by men in power! The Ministerial lists for the House of Peers are not represented as offering more than six for the ensuing stage of the Bill.—A majority of six in an assembly of 450 members!"

The sale of the London Times newspaper, for the past year, has amounted, according to the returns of the Stamp Office, to 4,328,025, equalling on an average, 13,827 per diem.

The receipts of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society, during the past year, amount to two hundred and fourteen thousand three hundred and sixteen dollars.

IRISH POOR.—Mr. Sadler has given notice that on the 10th of May he will apply for leave to bring in a bill "for establishing a permanent provision for the suffering and destitute poor of Ireland, by levy upon all the real property of that part of the United Kingdom, and more particularly upon that of the absentees.

Two poor creatures died last week of starvation in the streets of Dublin.

Fatal Accident.—Mr. Hugh Clarke, Editor of the Galway Free Press, met with a sudden and melancholy death on Sunday night, within three miles of Gort, on his return from Ennis. Mr. Clarke was travelling in a gig of Mr. Blake Foster's, at whose house he spent a few days previously, when the horse became restive descending a steep hill, by which the gig was capsized, and Mr. Clarke plunged into a deep pool of water with the horse and vehicle over him, by which accident he lost his life by suffocation before he could be extricated.—*Belfast Chronicle.*

MURDER.—Wednesday night last, five armed villains entered the house of a man named Tate, who resided at Dundrum, and stabbed him to death with a bayonet. They then turned on his servant, fired at, and so severely wounded him, that there is no hopes of his recovery.

In the country parts of Ireland, the most appalling scenes of disorder continue.

The Belgian question again looks warlike, notwithstanding all the *benevolent* interposition of the "five powers."

It is now said that Spain will remain neutral in the "coming fight" between the Dons of Portugal.

The latest accounts from Don Pedro state that he took possession of St. Michael's on the 22d, amid the congratulations of the inhabitants; and an expedition under Admiral Sartorios, was to sail against Madeira on the 26th, which it was confidently expected, would also succeed in restoring that important island to the lawful Sovereign of Portugal.

BRUSSELS, April 2.

This country continues dreadfully agitated—troops are marching towards the frontiers from all directions. The fortresses are victualled—the hospitals preparing—and, from the preparations and orders issued by the War Ministers, a rupture with Holland may be daily expected. It is in contemplation to call out the second levy of militia for 1832, amounting to about 12,000 men. At Ghent the troops are already in motion, and two regiments, one of infantry, the other of light horse, and several batteries of artillery, have received orders to march toward the frontiers, two batteries of artillery and lancers have been ordered for Brussels, from Namur; two vessels, laden with ball and ammunition, left Tournay, on the 27th ult. for Antwerp; and on Sunday last several campaign materials left the same fortress, taking different routes. The fortresses of Liege, Huy, Namur, and Ghent, have been provisioned for 3 months, and the head quarters of the army have been removed from Brussels to Louvain.—At Antwerp the troops are nightly put under arms, and the horses harnessed to the guns.

The Dutch and Belgians themselves think that an appeal to arms is highly probable, because they are both making the most anxious and expensive preparations for that contingency.

NOTE AND DECLARATION OF RUSSIA.

From the Messager des Chambres of 31st of March.

Count Orloff, after having recounted in minute detail, the circumstances showing that through the whole course of the Belgian negociations, he has not failed to give the unequivocal proof to the King of the Netherlands of respect and friendship, which were conformable to the declarations of the Emperor his master; after having said that the Cabinet of the Hague cannot refuse to him the justice to believe that he has acquitted himself of his task with zeal and perseverance—proceeds as follows:

"A voluntary adhesion to arrangements (which the treaty of the 15th of November sanctions) as to admissible amendments in a transaction that is to be the first between two states, alone can terminate this long and painful negociation.

"The Cabinet of the King of the Netherlands has thought differently.

"His Excellency will not pronounce upon the motives which have induced his Majesty in this decisive circumstance, as his Majesty has formerly explained to them. He claims to be sole judge in a determination which so nearly affects the rights of his crown.

"But his Majesty cannot conceal, and we announce it with a proper feeling of regret, that the Cabinet of the Netherlands has lost, beyond recall, a last opportunity of terminating the Belgian affair in a manner conformable to its true interests; and its allies, more especially in Russia, must vainly hereafter seek the means of being useful to it.

"The Emperor has faithfully fulfilled towards the King of the Netherlands, the duties of a sincere and generous friendship; but he cannot forget his duties to the European alliance, and, least of all, his duties to the people whom Providence has confided to his care. These are the obligations which it is his Imperial Majesty's duty to consult in the determinations which he shall hereafter make with respect to the affairs of Belgium.

"In consequence, his Majesty has charged the undersigned to make the following declaration:—

"After having used all the means of persuasion, and every mode of conciliation, to aid his Majesty King William to establish upon amicable terms, and in a manner consistent with the honour of his crown, and the interests of the faithful portion of his subjects, a separation between the two great divisions of his kingdom; his Imperial Majesty does not see any opportunities of hereafter sending to the King of the Netherlands either support or succour.

"However perilous may be the situation in which the King has just placed himself, and whatever may be the consequences of his isolated position, his Imperial Majesty, suppressing though with inexpressible regret, the affections of his heart, thinks it his duty to leave to Holland alone the responsibility of the events which may arise from this state of things.

"Faithful to his promises, his Imperial Majesty will not proceed to the employment of coercive measures for compelling the King of the Netherlands, by force of arms, to subscribe to the 24 articles; but considering that the articles comprise the only basis upon which a separation between Belgium and Holland can be effected, and they being open to amendments—admissible in a final treaty between the two countries—his Imperial Majesty considers it just and reasonable that Belgium should remain in the enjoyment of all those advantages resulting from the article in question, and more particularly of that neutrality already in principle recognized by the King of the Netherlands.

"As a necessary consequence of this principle, his Imperial Majesty will offer no opposition to any repressive measures [*mesures repressives*], which the Congress adopt, for the purpose of guaranteeing and defending this neutrality, should it be violated by a renewal of hostilities on the side of Holland.

"In this case, should it unhappily arise, his Imperial Majesty reserves to himself the right to concert with his allies, as to the means most proper for promptly re-establishing the neutrality of Belgium, in order that the general peace of Europe may be protected from even the least danger of violation.

"His Excellency thinks that here he ought to pause—as he is not aware of any thing further which, in the present juncture, he can usefully submit to his Majesty.

"He resigns it to the wisdom of the Cabinet of the Hague to consider the consequences of a state of things which the most sincere and disinterested friendship could have wished to obviate."

After having presented to the King of the Netherlands the foregoing declaration, Count Orloff demanded of his Majesty a categorical answer; this answer being in the negative, the Count demanded his passports, and on the next following day embarked for London.

From the Messager des Chambres, of April 5th.

It is impossible any longer to doubt that there is an organised band in Paris, who poison the wine, the milk and the water, throughout the city and the environs. The people are greatly exasperated, the citizens are in perfect dread, and cry loudly against so infernal a conspiracy.

We will give a few facts as we hear them, and which unfortunately appear to be too true.

At Gros-Caillou three men in succession have been arrested on suspicion of poisoning.

One of these delinquents entered the shop of a wine merchant when he was quite alone, and asked for a bottle *de vin à vingt sous*, and whilst the latter had gone to the cellar for it, he drew a packet from his pocket, and threw the contents into a large jug which stood there. The merchant's wife, however, who was sitting concealed by a curtain, and had watched the man's movement, ran out, seized him by the collar, and held him until her cries brought her husband and others to her assistance.

The villain was immediately taken to a neighboring *corps de grade*, where two others were brought immediately after, charged with the same offence. The people were so enraged, that they would have killed them had it been in their power; the whole neighborhood was in a great uproar. The Commissaire de Police had the greatest difficulty in conveying them safely to the Prefecture.

In another instance of the kind, a man entered the shop of a milk-woman living in the Rue de Bac, and asked for some warm milk, which she gave him in a measure; and he poured it into a cup he took from under a part of his dress. He then put his fingers into it for the pretended purpose of feeling whether it was warm, and saying it was cold, attempted to throw it again into the tin milk pail; but feeling some suspicion from the reports in circulation, and not altogether liking the appearance of her customer, the woman closed the lid of the pail, snatched the cup from his hand, and threw the milk into the gutter.

The same night, at Villejuif, two hawkers entered the house of a milk woman, and attempted to throw a poisonous drug into some pails of milk which were about to be taken to Paris.

In the Rue de Colombier, an attempt was made to poison the well of a baker. In consequence of which the wells are every where covered, and fastened with a lock and key, so apprehensive are people of these nefarious transactions. Many ladies have themselves gone to the wells of their bakers, for the purpose of seeing that precautionary measures had been taken.

The water carriers padlock their pales, and have the lids to fasten down hermetically.

Thus one calamity was not enough, but another must be added. To the physical evils, epidemic and cholera, are added these torments of the mind which aggravate the others, and throw the whole city into a state of consternation.

The day drags on, people run to and fro, and in the midst of so many troubles seek distractions of which there is no great need; but every where something dismal presents itself. Several families in the same house join for personal safety. The city towards ten or eleven is quite deserted, except in the very centre, where the agitated crowds continually assemble in great numbers.

We must not, however, lose our confidence. There is no want of precautionary measures. Each is looking to the safety of the other. The authorities are very prompt in their duties, and do every thing that can be done, and per medicines and attendance are every where to be had for the cholera patients. As to the *poisoners*, it is to be hoped that the first arrests, and the punishments awarded to those villains, will prevent others from following so abominable an example of vice, and that that security will be restored to the capital of which it has so much need.

YOUNG NAPOLEON.—A report was in circulation in Paris at the last dates, that young Napoleon meditated an escape from Vienna, in order to throw himself on the affections of the French people, and that this report coincides remarkably with a paragraph in a letter from Vienna, received by the Paris correspondent of the London Morning Chronicle, which paragraph is as follows: "He [young Napoleon] is suspected of having an intention of one day or other throwing himself into the arms of the French nation."

THE GREAT WEST INDIA MEETING.

LONDON, APRIL 6.

In consequence of a requisition, most respectably signed, a very numerous meeting took place yesterday, at the City of London Tavern, of the planters, ship-owners, and others interested in the welfare of our West India possessions.

At twelve o'clock they began to assemble, and before the Chair was taken the large room of the above tavern was completely filled with persons of the highest respectability.

At one o'clock the committee entered the room, among whom were observed the Marquess of Sligo, Mr. Keith Douglas, Lord Saltoun, Lord Rosslyn, Lord Stormont, Mr. Watson Taylor, and the Earl of Harewood.—The Marquis of Chandos (who was to have presided) being prevented from attending, the Earl of Harewood was unanimously called to the chair.

The following Resolutions were adopted:

It was, on the motion of the Earl of Selkirk, seconded by George Watson Taylor, Esq. M. P. unanimously resolved:

1. That, considering the awful crisis to which the British West India Colonies have been brought by the pressure of pecuniary distress, as well as by alarming excitement amongst the negro population, this meeting is desirous of expressing its opinion on the value of those Colonies to the Mother Country, on the policy which she has lately pursued with regard to them, and on the measures best calculated to avert the impending calamity of their total loss as useful possessions of the British Crown.

On the motion of the Right Hon. Lord Viscount St. Vincent, seconded by George Palmer, Esq. it was resolved:

2. That the value of the West India Colonies to the revenue, manufacturing industry, and mercantile marine of Great Britain, may be at once ascertained by reference to Parliamentary documents, whereby it will appear that the duties annually collected from W. India produce, amount to seven millions sterling; that the annual official value of British manufactures exported to the Colonies is about £5,200,000; and the amount of shipping employed in the direct trade about 250,000 tons; altogether exhibiting a branch of commerce almost unequalled in point of extent, and peculiarly important on account of its national character; the whole emanating from British capital, being conducted by British subjects in British vessels, and finally returning the whole value of cultivation in the colonies into the general resources of the mother country, while the cultivator is suffering the extremity of distress.

On the motion of G. R. Robinson, Esq. M. P. and seconded by Nathaniel Gould, Esq. it was resolved:

3. That, in addition to the direct intercourse of Great Britain with her West India Colonies, an extensive cross trade is maintained between those Colonies and the British possessions in North America, which affords employment to upwards of 100,000 tons of British shipping; and by furnishing a market for the fish, corn, salted provisions, and lumber of British America, contributes essentially to the prosperity of that other vast branch of Colonial dominion, on which, jointly with the West India trade, Great Britain depends for the employment of at least one-third of her whole mercantile marine, and, consequently, for her station amongst the nations of the world.

On the motion of Jeremiah Harman, Esq. seconded by George Frederick Young, Esq. it was resolved:

4. That the loss of the Colonies, or the abandonment of interests, thus powerfully contributing to the resources of the mother country, would inflict upon numerous branches of manufacturing industry, as well as upon the Revenue, an injury of incalculable magnitude, which would never be compensated by foreign trade. So great a destruction of commerce, essentially domestic in all its relations, must not only entail ruin upon numberless private families, but would withdraw from the manufactures of copper, iron, mill-work, hardware, woollen and cotton goods, the fisheries, the collieries, the salt provision trade of Ireland, and all the various trades connected with shipping, a source of employment on which those industrious classes have been accustomed to rely in war, as well as in peace. A great commercial convulsion must follow this loss of employment, while at the same time, the revenue would be seriously affected by a great diminution of consumption arising out of the diminished ability of the people to purchase taxable commodities, and the enormous advance of price of all colonial articles which must attend the abstraction of the produce of the British West Indies from the general market of Europe.

On the motion of John Irving, Esq. M. P. seconded by Colonel Perceval, M. P. it was resolved:

5. That the loss or abandonment of the British W. India Colonies would be no less injurious to the real interests of humanity than to the commerce of this country. The negroes, if unsupported by the presence, the intelligence, and capital of Europeans, would speedily sink into a state of anarchy and moral degradation; and, while a deplorable cessation of industry, in raising articles for European consumption, would thus ensue in the British Colonies, an irresistible inducement would be given to foreign Colonies to increase their cultivation, and for that purpose to extend the African Slave Trade, which this country, by great exertions and expenditure of money, has long and effectually endeavoured to suppress.

On the motion of George Hibbert, Esq. seconded by George Carrington, Esq. it was resolved:

6. That the conduct of Great Britain towards her West India Colonies has neither been consistent with the principles laid down in the Parliamentary resolutions of 1823, nor with that spirit of justice and conciliation which is so necessary to the attainment of any national object. It should never be forgotten that the system of cultivation by slave labour was established by Great Britain for her own benefit; that the colonists are Englishmen, lawfully possessing property under the direct sanction and encouragement of the mother country, and are entitled to the protection which the law and the constitution provide for the security and integrity of that property; they are naturally jealous of their character and rights; on them must depend the execution of all Colonial laws wherever originating; and not only are they most confident to frame regulations for the real comfort of the slave, but they have a direct interest in his welfare: so that to discredit and endanger their property by perpetual interference, and to stigmatize them as a class of persons destitute of the common feelings of humanity, can neither tend to forward purposes of justice, of sound policy, or of real improvement in the condition of the slave.

On the motion of the Right Hon. the Lord Saltoun, seconded by the Right Hon. Sir Edward Hyde East, Bart. it was resolved:

7. That popular clamour, arising from mistaken impressions as to the real condition of the Negroes, and extended to the colonies, has already produced the most disastrous effects, by alienating the affection of the slave from his master, of the master from the Mother Country, destroying the credit of colonial property, causing constant agitation, and thus seriously retarding those measures of gradual improvement in the condition of the Negro population, which it was the object of the British Legislature to accomplish.

On the motion of the Hon. W. S. Lascelles, M. P., seconded by Russell Ellice, Esq., it was resolved:

8. That this meeting has observed with great regret that at a moment, when relief is avowedly necessary, even to the preservation of the West India Colonies, His Majesty's Ministers have declared their intention to make that relief contingent on the unqualified adoption of an order of the King in Council, dated Nov. 2, 1831; a line of policy, which being virtually designed to coerce the Legislative Colonies, by means of fiscal or penal regulations on their produce, is most objectionable, and calculated to widen the misunderstanding between the Mother Country and the colonists, to increase the excitement among the Negro population, and thus to precipitate the ruin of the colonies.

On the motion of Robert A. Dundas, Esq., M. P. seconded by Mr. Alderman Thompson, M.P., it was resolved:

9. That this meeting is anxious for the adoption of such further measures of amelioration as may, on due inquiry, be found necessary to the real welfare of the negro, and consistent with the Parliamentary Resolutions of 1823, a feeling in which it is convinced that all the resident planters fully participate; but this meeting must protest against the harsh and uncertain policy which would profer relief to the acknowledged distress of the Colonist only on condition of abandoning his constitutional rights.

On the motion of the Right Hon. the Lord Rosslyn, seconded by Andrew Colville, Esq., it was resolved:

10. That, in order to avert, if possible, the dreadful calamity of the British West India Colonies, this meeting is of opinion that immediate relief should be given to the Colonists, divested of the conditions imposed by His Majesty's Ministers, and sufficient at least to maintain the Colonies in cultivation.

On the motion of William Ward, Esq., seconded by Mr. Alderman Copeland, M.P., it was resolved:

11. That, as an act of justice to the Colonists, and with a view of preventing the fatal effects of that continual excitement which has already brought the Colonies to the brink of destruction, and of removing from the public mind erroneous impressions in regard to the state of slavery in the British Colonies this meeting is of opinion that a full and impartial Parliamentary inquiry, on oath, should be immediately instituted for the purpose of ascertaining the laws and usages of the Colonies, the actual condition and treatment of the slaves, their habits and dispositions, and the degree of their progressive improvement and civilization. The information obtained from such authority would not only remove erroneous impressions, but lead to the consideration of such further measures of amelioration as, in the words of the Parliamentary resolution of 1823, "shall be compatible with the well-being of the slaves themselves, with the safety of the Colonies, and with a fair and equitable consideration of the interests of private property."

On the motion of George Sinclair, Esq., M.P., it was resolved:

12. That petitions founded upon these resolutions be presented to his Majesty, and to both houses of Parliament, and that the Right Hon. the Earl of Harewood, that to the House of Lords, and the Most Noble the Marquess of Chandos, that to the House of Commons.

The Earl of Harewood having left the Chair, which was thereupon taken by the Right Hon. the Lord Viscount St. Vincent.

It was, on the motion of William Burge, Esq., M. P., seconded by Henry Bright, Esq., unanimously resolved:

That this meeting are anxious to offer to the Right Hon. the Earl of Harewood their most cordial thanks for his Lordship's condescension in taking the Chair, and for the eminent ability, urbanity, and zeal, with which he has discharged the duties of the day.

(Signed) HAREWOOD, Chairman.

The Meeting was addressed by the Earl of Harewood, Earl St. Vincent, Lord Saltoun, Lord Rosslyn, Colonel Beresford, Mr. Alderman Thompson, Mr. Watson Taylor, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Gould, Mr. Young, Mr. Irving, Mr. G. Hibbert, Mr. R. Dundas, Mr. Ward, Mr. Nicholson, &c.

BRITISH WEST INDIES.—The distress felt throughout all these islands, more or less, at the present time, is very great, and has been so for a long time past. In a slip from the office of the Charleston Courier, we have received accounts from St. Vincents of the 7th ult. giving very gloomy accounts from the neighboring islands, and from Trinidad in particular; where in one instance, real property which had been judiciously estimated at £4,000 currency, had been sacrificed at a forced sale for £230. In colonies also were at work in that island; and one plantation, named Concord, owned by Madame Louis Philip, had been totally destroyed. Another which adjoined, was saved by the exertions of the military; but providential heavy rain is supposed to have preserved the entire district from devastation.—*N. York paper.*

WEST INDIES.—We learn, by our late West India papers, that the recent Order in Council, regulating slave labour, &c. has created the greatest excitement there. Meetings have been held, at which Resolutions were passed, protesting, in the strongest manner, against the measure; and Committees had been appointed for the purpose of drawing up Petitions to his Majesty and Parliament, on the present general distressed state of those Colonies. At St. Lucie it had been resolved to suspend the cultivation of the Plantations for the present.—*Halifax Journal.*

From Colombia.—The long expected hostilities between the South and New Grenada have at length broken out, and the Colombian soil is again the theatre of civil war. General Flores has issued his proclamation and marched with his troops. The possession of the department of Cauca, which both parties claim, is the bone of contention. Gen. Flores arrived at Pasto on the 14th Feb. with 400 men.—*N. Y. Albion*

UNITED STATES.

From the New-York Observer, May 12.

AWFUL CATASTROPHE.—About a quarter before 6 o'clock, on Friday evening of last week, a section of the new brick store of Messrs. Phelps & Peck, (corner of Fulton and Cliff streets,) containing about two-thirds of the entire building, which was 60 feet by 90, six stories high, and overloaded with goods, in the upper lofts with cotton and below with iron, tin, &c. fell down with a tremendous crash, burying under its ruins thirteen individuals, eight of whom it has since been ascertained were killed, and two dangerously wounded. The names of the killed are as follows: Thomas H. Goddard, the celebrated accountant; Josiah Stokes, confidential clerk, son of Mr. Thomas Stokes of this city; Alfred Seymour, clerk, of Westmoreland, in Oneida county; Mr. Brower, of the firm of W. & S. Brower, tin plate workers, of Hensentown, near Wappinger's creek, Dutchess county, who was in the counting-room on business; Nicholas Russell, or Pearsall white laborer, and three colored labourers. The two dangerously wounded were colored laborers, and two others of the same class were slightly wounded.

The two partners of the firm were providentially absent when the building fell; Mr. Peck being out of the city, and Mr. Phelps having left his counting-room about ten minutes previous, to attend a meeting of the Public School society. A son of Mr. Phelps and Mr. B. Stokes, a younger clerk, were in the store, but sprang into the street and escaped with but slight injury.

It is worthy of remark that a meeting of a number of our most valuable citizens, which was to have been held at Mr. Phelps' counting-room, commencing about half an hour previous to the disaster, failed of being held, in consequence of the non-attendance of several of the gentlemen invited. Had it been held as appointed, it would probably have continued until the fall of the building.

Immediately after the fall of the building an immense concourse of people amounting to several thousands collected around the ruins, on whose countenances were depicted the mingled emotions which the occasion was fitted to awaken. At some periods all was noise and bustle; and again, in the expectation of the immediate rescue of some of the sufferers, a sudden and impressive silence succeeded. At dark the whole neighborhood was illuminated to furnish light to the persons employed in removing the rubbish, who continued their labors until nearly two o'clock the next morning, at which time they were enabled to rescue one of the colored men, who had remained for about eight hours under the ruins in great distress, and whose groans could be distinctly heard by those without. The other bodies were chiefly rescued in a lifeless state on the succeeding day.

Mr. Goddard was found with his head bent over on his breast, he was at the desk at the time, and was probably killed almost instaneously. Mr. Goddard was an excellent accountant and is represented as a very worthy man and exemplary citizen, poor but industrious. He has left a large and destitute family. Mr. Stokes was found on Saturday, crushed to death, his hand grasping the silver pen with which he had been writing. He is said to have been a young gentleman of great worth. The body of Mr. Seymour was dreadfully mangled. The body of Pearsall, the white laborer was found in a sitting position, near the front, lifeless. From the appearance of the corpse it was supposed that he lived some time after the building fell.

The cause of this terrible catastrophe, it is generally believed, was the immense quantity and weight of the goods stored in the building, connected with the fact that the building was new, and having been chiefly put up during the past winter, imperfectly cemented. The different parts of the building too were certainly not properly bound together. We have not heard that any examination has yet been made of the foundations to ascertain how far any defect there may have had its influence.

Mr. O'Neal of Utica, escaped almost by a miracle. He states that he had been transacting some business with Mr. Stokes in the second story. He had left the counting room, and was standing near the head of the stairs, pausing, to consider whether he had not forgotten part of his business. While thus standing, he felt a sensation as though the floor was moving beneath him; in the next instant, he observed the posts, or pillars of the first floor, sustaining the second, to be suddenly giving way, and in the next, he was whelmed beneath the ruins. He thought he fell 15 or 20 feet, and supposed himself in the cellar. After all was still, not finding himself injured, he began to reflect on his situation. One of his arms was confined amidst the bricks, and something rested upon one of his legs.—Here he supposed he should be compelled to remain, until relieved from without; but on looking upwards he saw a small aperture. Taking his knife from his pocket and opening it with his mouth, he with one hand cut through those parts of the broken board lying on his leg which still held together, and succeeded in liberating that and his other arm; he then raised himself by degrees through the mass that was lying above him, the bricks and rubbish falling in the spot from which he drew up his feet, continually giving him a foot hold to raise himself higher. In this manner he reached the top of the rubbish; from thence he got into the back of that part of the building that remained standing, proceeded to the front of it on Fulton street, and lowered himself to the ground by the chain placed there for hoisting goods. He supposes that from 15 to 20 minutes elapsed between the time of the fall of the building and his escape from the ruins.

Five other persons in the store, one a brother of Mr. Stokes, who was also a clerk, the others labourers, escaped unhurt. They were in that part of the building which is still standing.

The whole number of persons supposed to have been within the premises at the time of the accident, are thus accounted for.

We understand that upwards of 3000 bales of cotton were in the store, weighing about 1,200,000 pounds, besides a vast quantity of tin plates, iron, copper, &c.

The store had been occupied only about four weeks. It had no partition walls.

RAILROADS IN NEW-YORK.—At the late session of the New-York Legislature, twenty-four charters for railroad companies were granted, with an aggregate capital of $4,775,000. The New-York and Erie Company (railroad from the city of New-York to Lake Erie) was incorporated with a capital of ten millions. Two others, 3,000,000 each; two, 1,000,000 each; and the rest (nineteen) have capitals of from 75,000 to 900,000, in proportion to their importance, and the magnitude of the work.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1832.

Our English advices are but a *single day* later than those with which we furnished our readers last week. We have therefore but little additional matter to lay before them from that part of the world.—Vessels arrive slowly.

THE FRESHET.—The River is said to be at present swollen to a greater height than for several years past, and the low lands on its margin, with its numerous Islands and Intervals, are much inundated; at the Indian House the water is unusually high. In consequence of this sudden freshet, any attempt to descend the Falls with loaded boats is attended with great danger, and to ascend them in their present state is nearly impossible. Our markets already begin to feel the effect of this *River Embargo*, and the price of fuel and country produce has experienced a rapid rise.—Yesterday, we had a severe gale from the N. E. with rain, the effect of which will no doubt be to swell the river still more. The weather continues cold, and winter habilaments no less indispensable than they were six months ago.—We hope, for the sake of the country, that we may soon be blessed with a change of weather.

We have copied in another part of our paper the Resolutions passed at a very numerous and highly respectable meeting in London, on the 5th of April, on the subject of West India affairs, which will no doubt be read with interest by every one who has the welfare of the British Colonies at heart.

DANGER.—At the end of the most western building on the South Market Wharf, there is a hole in the platform, large enough to admit the body of a man, and from its exposed situation, we are surprised no serious accident has as yet called public attention to it. It has been thus open for some months past. The labour of a few minutes, a piece of plank about 2 feet by 4, and a few spikes are all that is required to remedy this disgraceful nuisance. Need we ask whose duty it is to look to this?

William Smith, the murderer, was executed at Fredericton on Saturday the 12th instant, in pursuance of his sentence. It is stated that the unfortunate man, after his condemnation, received unremitting attention from the Rev. Archdeacon COSTER and the Rev. Mr. BUSBY, and that he expressed sincere penitence for his crime.

From the following paragraph, it appears that the authorities at Quebec are determined on enforcing, to the letter, the Quarantine Laws lately enacted by the Legislature of Lower Canada:—

QUEBEC, May 7.—*First arrivals—Health Law.*—On Friday last, about 10 at night, two guns were fired in the harbour, and in the morning, the Canada, from Greenock, and the Intrepid from Hull, were seen at anchor off the Saint Charles. They were the first arrivals from sea this season. They were boarded in the morning by the Harbour Master and Health Officer, and a yellow flag hoisted at the foremast. No communication was allowed with the port, as they had no certificates of the Health Officer at the Quarantine station. In the afternoon the Board of Health ordered them back to Grosse Isle, and they set sail without landing a passenger or even the letter bags, (a step with regard to the bags not altogether necessary, it strikes us,) about 3 o'clock. They arrived at the station yesterday. The Canada had a foul bill of health—the Cholera existing at Greenock; the Intrepid had a clean bill of health.—It is understood that prosecutions for violation of the Health Law, have been ordered against the captains and pilots. The penalty is a sum not more than £100. The pilot of the Intrepid had, however, wintered in England, and was ignorant of the quarantine laws.

A fire occurred at Quebec on the 4th instant, by which from 80 to 100 poor persons were rendered houseless. The property destroyed was estimated at about £4000: and the number of buildings consumed was from 12 to 15.

Seventeen square rigged vessels arrived at Miramichi in the week previous to the 15th instant.

The Rev. ROBERT ALDER, Representative of the Wesleyan Missionary Committee in London, and Mrs. ALDER, came passengers in the ship *Janet*, at Halifax, from Liverpool, on Friday se'nnight.—The Rev. Gentleman arrived in this City on Tuesday last, in the steamer *Henrietta*, from Annapolis, and left town on Thursday morning, by land, for St. Andrews, on his way to Canada, via the United States.—*Courier.*

Mr. Timothy Sullivan missing his passage from St. John to Petitcodiac, proceeded to Red Head, and hired a boat and two lads to convey him on board a schooner, and bound to some part adjacent to the place of his destination. By some unlucky manœuvre one of the boys lost his oar, when Mr. Sullivan making a sudden effort to recover it, fell overboard, and melancholy to