

## REVIEW OF THE PAST MONTH.

The harvest month of October has passed like its predecessors, with but few important events in Colonial or general affairs.

At the elections for the City of Halifax, which took place on the 1st inst., the Hon. A. Keith was elected Mayor for the ensuing year.

A violent gale occurred on the Eastern coast of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island on the night of the 15th, which caused a vast amount of damage to fishing craft and others near the coast. These disasters were in one or more cases attended with loss of life and resulted in the total shipwreck of more than twenty vessels.

The principal event of public importance to the Provinces is the meeting of the New Brunswick Legislature on the 21st October, which was opened at Fredericton by the Lieutenant Governor, with an appropriate speech. Answers to the speech were adopted without opposition, and Bills for the construction of the European and North American Railway in New Brunswick subsequently passed both houses by large majorities.

The Canadian Legislature is still in session, and has been engaged in the discussion of similar important Bills.

A Provincial Exhibition of the natural and industrial resources of New Brunswick, was held at Fredericton, commencing on the 5th inst., formally inaugurated by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and continuing open until the 9th. It was conducted on an extensive scale and displayed to advantage the many productions of agricultural growth and mechanical skill of the Province. A large number of persons assembled from the several Provinces, and the affair was successfully and profitably concluded.

From the United States we have the intelligence of the death of Daniel Webster, the eminent lawyer and senator. He died at Marshfield, New Hampshire, full of years and honours, on the 24th October, aged seventy. 'America is indebted to him for many of the greatest of her legislative enactments and reforms, as well as the able administration of her foreign affairs, and his country has never shown herself insensible to his great merits.'

The ceremony of erecting the first column of the Crystal Palace in New York, took place on the 21st. The mason work is now nearly completed.

Great excitement appears to have been produced in New York, in reference to alleged outrages declared to have been committed in regard to American vessels at Havana.

We observe that an important alteration has been made by the United States Congress in the postage charges on newspapers and other publications. We understand that periodicals and all printed matter, not exceeding three ounces in weight, may be sent by post to any part of the States for one cent; each additional ounce, one cent. When paid quarterly or regularly in advance, one half this rate only to be charged, and the same in the case of newspapers not exceeding one and a half ounces in weight, when circulated within the State in which they are published. Books, bound or unbound, not weighing more than four pounds, to be charged one cent per ounce, under three thousand miles; for greater distances, double that sum, and only when pre-paid. Permission is given to publishers of newspapers and periodicals to exchange free of postage one copy of their respective journals, and also to enclose free to actual subscribers bills and receipts for the same. This arrangement is noticeable and important in a literary point of view, and calculated to afford every facility for the diffusion of information.