The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, DECEMBER 19, 1848.

ENGLISH MAILS.—Since our last two steamers, the *Canada*, and the *Niagara*, have arrived, with the mails of the 25th ult. and 2d inst., the former in 16, and the latter in 12 days to Halifax. The Canada brought 54 passengers and the Niagara 59.

HALIFAX, Dec. 12.—The anxiety which our citizens have felt for the last few days on account of the delay of the new R. M. Steamship *Canada* was, happily relieved by the arrival of that superb ship yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Terrible gales were the cause of her detention.

The news of General Taylor's election to the presidency of the United States has been received with general satisfaction throughout Great Britain.

There has not been any considerable change in commercial affairs. The Corn market was on the decline. The price of Cotton has advanced

The Europa arrived at Liverpool, from New York, on the 19th ult., in little more than 11 days from that port—the quickest passage on record.

The Cholera in England was declining, but we regret to learn that the number of deaths from that malady were increasing in Scotland.

No further disturbances had occurred in Ireland. The argument of the writ of error, in the case of Mr. Smith O'Brien was opened before the judges of the Queen's Bench on the 21st ult.

Upwards of 250 peasants, principally from the estates of Lord Clifden, left Athy by railway, on Wednesday, for Liverpool, *en route* to America.

Intelligence from China states that a terrible hurricane swept over the Chinese seas on the 31st of August, and caused serious damage to the shipping.

Continental affairs were of a deeply interesting character, though there is no news of any further revolutions.

France was in a state of ferment upon the subject of the approaching Presidental election and Prince Napoleon's prospects of success continued to brighten.

Central Europe continued in a state of convulsion. Though Vienna was comparatively tranquil, yet in all the Prussian provinces the cities were opposed to the rural districts. The disturbances between the Domocracy of Berlin and the Court remained unsettled.

The English brig "Three Sisters," captain J. H. Foster, was attacked about the 1st Nov. on the coast of Morocco, by a large party of armed Moors in six boats. The captain and crew took to the boat and escaped, leaving the brig in possession of the Pirates, who ran her ashore. Captain Foster and his crew were shortly afterwards picked up and taken to Gibraltar by the English brig Dawn. His Excellency Sir Robert Wilson immediately despatched H. M. Steamer Polyphemus, Captain McClevery, to recapture the vessel, which was accomplished after a smart action.

The whole of the intelligence from Vienna and Berlin represents those capitals as evidently ripe for renewed efforts to secure constitutions which shall place some restraint upon the royal will; while the Kings themselves are gathering around them all available military strength, in accordance with the Prince of Prussia's avowal, that "if the throne fall, it shall fall with honour."

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 2.

We have to report a continuance of a better feeling in reference to commercial matters generally, and, taking into consideration the season of the year, the transactions in our various markets are upon a more extended scale than could have been anticipated.

In the early part of the week a continued good demand for cotton was experienced, and the business was mostly at a further advance of 1-8d. per lb. The sales of Cotton for the week ended this evening amount to 33,900 bales. The stock in this port is now estimated at 475,000 bales, of which about 295,000 are American.

The reports from Manchester continue to be of a favourable character, but an attempt to establish some further advance on Goods and Yarns would appear to have limited in some degree the extent of business, without, however, lessening the confidence in the improvement previously realized, whilst it is pretty generally admitted that spinners and manufacturers have sufficient orders on hand to keep them tolerably well employed for the next few weeks, and therefore less anxious to accept of orders, except at the advanced prices, which are generally demanded.

The tone of the Money Market has been healthy, and on Monday, and Tuesday the value of public securities had an upward tendency, but on Wednesday,in consequence of the receipt of intelligence of the decision of the French Government to send an expedition to Civita Vecchia, in aid of the Pope, an unfavourable reaction took place.

Reports have been current of an intended further reduction in the rate of discount by the Bank of England, and in some quarters it was anticipated that a resolution would have been adopted at the board meeting of the Directors, held on Thursday last, and that the rate would have been decreased one half per cent. Events have not, however, realized the expectation, but there is a very strong probability that, at no distant period, there will be a considerable demand for money. At present, however, there can be no doubt but that there is an excess of capital in the market.

We have to notice a further decided and general decline and great dullness in the Corn markets, increased by the heavy foreign supplies the last ten days. As to Wheat and Flour, it being now only two months until the duty comes to the minimum of 1s. per. quarter and 7d. per brl., these articles go into bond as they are landed, and there being no speculative demand, the price in bond is nearly nominal. Flour is generally held at 24s. to 25s. per brl., and duty paid Flour sells only in a retail way at the reduced prices at 27s. to 28s. per brl., the duty now being 3s. 7½d. per brl. Indian Corn is also decidedly lower, and may be quoted 30s. per quarter, for inferior white, up to 32s. 6d. to 33s. for the best yellow—and Meal is dull at the reduced price of 16s. per brl.

The importation of Bread Stuffs into this port within the past ten days have been to an extent greater, probably, than was ever before known in the same space of time. From the 24th to the 30th the quantities reported are—21,244 quarters of Wheat, 45,287 quarters of Indian Corn, 123,074 barrels of Flour, and 4039 barrels of Indian Meal, besides Beans, Peas, and other articles. These have been imported into this port, and are independent of large supplies which have been received at other places. The great bulk has gone into bond, where it will, in all probability, remain until March next, when doubtless it will be thrown upon the market and a considerable decline in prices may be looked for before that time. This large influx of property has led to the supposition, in some quarters, that an immediate export of specie will be made to the United States, and that too to a considerable extent. We believe, however, that such is not likely to be the case; these importations are understood to be chiefly on American account, and payment will not be looked for until the expiration of the present Corn Law; and there is every reason to believe that there will be large orders from the United States for English manufactures.

The Cholera is stated to have almost entirely disappeared in England and Scotland.

From Ireland the news is not of much importance. The Judgments on the writs of error are postponed until next term. Skibbereen once again figures in the annals of deep distress—eaten up by pauperism, and perishing of starvation—whilst, as if in mockery of such calamities, Government has thrown away no less than £11,700 on the professors of colleges, under Peel's act, not yet built.—The gentry are beginning to succomb to the pressure. The splendor of equipages, it is said, and the glory of gilded carriages, and prancing horses, is passing away from many a proud family and historic name, to be speedily followed by the more willing sacrifice of comforts, and even the commonest necessaries. This is appalling enough—but in these depths of distress the germs of social regeneration will probably quicken.

During the six months ending the 8th instant, 347 foreign vessels entered the port of Bristol, being an increase of fifty-nine on the corresponding period of last year.

Important intelligence has been received from Rome, where a horrible assassination of a prime minister, and an insurrection against the Pope, has taken place. Full particulars of the details will be found under the proper head. At one time it was reported that the Pope had been compelled to fly, and that he was on his way to London; but subsequent accounts contradict this. The French Government has sent a force to Civita Vecchia, to support the Pope against his subjects, and there appears no reason to doubt but that the authorities will be successful in suppressing the revolt.

The French news shews, that as the day of election of the first President of the Republic approaches, party feeling becomes more and more excited. Every species of stratagem, fair or foul, are made available by the friends of the contending parties to injure the cause of their opponents. The great struggle will be between General Cavaignac and Prince Louis Napoleon. The prospects of the former have, however, much improved, within these few days, and if the report be true that Lamartine has withdrawn from the contest, and promised the General his support, with the understanding that, if elected, he will be Vice-President, there seems good reason to believe that Prince Louis will be defeated. The attempt made to damage the cause of General Cavaignac by charging him with neglect of orders, previous to the outbreak on the 23rd of June, has signally failed. The mystery which hung over his conduct on the eventful 23rd of June, has been fully and satisfactorily cleared up.—Stung to the quick by the wide spread calumnies which served his enemies for political capital, he demanded that their charges should be brought before the National Assembly. The members were summoned from all parts of the country, and last Saturday was appointed for a consideration of the question. For the space of three hours the blunt soldier enchained his hearers by his dignified and manly eloquence. His vindication was convincing and decisive; and the Assembly, by an overwhelming majority, gave him a vote of unabated confidence. Out of doors his triumph has been equally favourable, both to his reputation for political honesty, and his candidateship for the Presidency.

With reference to the general tenor of continental news, a London correspondent says—The fear of a general outbreak on the continent, and, therefore of a general European war, is by no means abated. Nothing but great firmness, conjoined with great prudence, can carry France, Germany, and Italy through the momentous crisis. Although parties circulating the rumour cannot have any actual authority, it is boldly affirmed that the king and royal family of Prussia are making provision for the chances of an exile in England. This may be as baseless as the rumoured large investments of Louis Philippe in the English funds; and the whole thing may be a stock jobbing contrivance.—But it shows that there are grounds for uneasiness—not at all abated by the sanguinary assassination of M. Rossi, at Rome, and the revolutionary intimidation which has been exercised towards the Pope.

Austria has accepted the offer made by the mediating powers to hold the conferences for the pacification of Italy at Brussels. This acceptance was the last act of the Wessenberg cabinet, and Prince Schwartzenberg on accepting the government, immediately ratified it, and expressed at the same time to the representatives of the mediating powers the strongest desire to enter immediately on the negotiations. M. Bastide, however, objected that it would be more advisable to wait until the President of the Republic is named. Lord Palmerston has acquiesced in this. The mediating powers have also agreed that the armistice should be prolonged throughout the winter, and in consequence Austria has engaged not to attack Venice by land or by sea.

A report that Prince Windischgratz had been assassinated was current at the Paris Bourse, but was not credited.

The Paris papers of Wednesday have arrived. Paris was tranquil, but the papers say it is the calm which follows the agitation of last week, and precedes the more formidable excitement of the ensuing fortnight. The government entertains the most painful apprehensions of the week of the scrutiny, which will commence after the 10th December.

DEATH OF LORD MELBOURNE.—Lord Melbourne expired at ten minutes after six o'clock on Friday evening, 24th ult., at Brocket hall, Herts, and was conscious up to the last moment. Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, with other relatives, being present at the time of his dissolution. He was in the 70th year of his age, having been born in March, 1779. William Lamb, Viscount Melbourne, was descended from an old Hertfordshire family, which was raised to the order of nobility in the person of his father, Sir Peniston Lamb. In 1805 he married Lady Caroline Ponsonby, daughter of the third Lord Besborough; but in the course of a few years they were separated. Lady Caroline Lamb, remembered for her accomplishments, her fascinations, and her admiration of Lord Byron, died in 1828, and was soon followed by her only son. After the separation Lord Melbourne led a bachelor kind of life. For more then seven years he held the office of first lord of the treasury—a tenure, longer then the average duration of ministries in the 19th century. The late viscount is succeeded by his brother, Lord Beauvale, the late ambassador at the Court of Vienna. Viscountess Palmerston was the only sister of the deceased.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES BULLER, M. P., *the New Poor Law Commissioner*.—The sudden death of Mr. Charles Buller, in the very prime of life, is an event which will have affected with very deep pain public men of all parties, and have produced a general feeling of regret. The deceased gentleman was the son of Mr. Charles Buller, a younger son of Mr. Buller, of Morval. He was 42 years of age, having been born in Calcutta, in August, 1806. Altogether, he was a very clever, very amiable, and very valuable man, and his loss at this particular period will be felt far beyond the circle of his party or his friends. He died on Wednesday at his residence in Chester place, Chester-square. He was celebrated for his acquaintance with Colonial affairs.

SUDDEN DEATH OF SIR JOHN BARROW, BART.—We regret to announce the sudden death of Sir John Barrow, Bart., late one of the Secretaries to the Admiralty. The melancholy event took place on Thursday, at the Hon. Baronet's residence, in New-street, Spring-gardens. He accompanied the Embassy of Lord Macartney to China, as Comptroller of the Household, in 1792; and he was the author of several valuable literary productions. He was 84 years old.

The Bishop of London and the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel.—On Wednesday night, at the usual Wednesday evening's service at St. John's Chapel, Bedford-row, where Mr. Noel has officiated for the last 26 years, the Rev. gentleman said: "My dear Christian brethren, many of you have heard that, as the result of opinions deliberately formed, which I know not how to alter, and the force of conviction, which I am not permitted to resist, I have been obliged to announce my intention of leaving this congregation, where I have ministered for so long a period with comfort and satisfaction to myself if not with profit to others. Since I addressed you last, I have seen my diocesan, and he considers it to be his duty—an opinion from which I do not dissent—to determine that I shall not remain with you beyond next Sabbath. This, therefore, is the last Wednesday evening on which I shall have the privilege of addressing you."—His Reasons for seceding from the Church of England were yesterday put into the hands of the printer, and it is expected the work, which will form a thick octavo volume, will be ready for publication in about three weeks.

Developement of Indian Commerce by means of Railways.—On Tuesday a meeting of merchants and manufacturers, and others favourable to the prosperity of India, took place in the Town-hall, Manchester; the mayor in the chair. Several resolutions were passed in favour of the growth of cotton in India, and especially of proper means being provided for its conveyance to the ports. The chairman having said a few words in support of the objects of the meeting, Mr. Thos. Bazley, president of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, moved the first resolution. He said India was much behind the intelligence of the age in having no railway or other efficient means of internal communication. He might take a rapid survey of the trade between this country and India. Having a population of 143,000,000, though our export had increased within the last few years, they only amounted to 15d. per head per annum; turning to Brazil, however, they amounted to 6s. per head.—India was, therefore, far below the standard it should occupy in the scale of consuming powers, an evil increasing by want of efficient means of brining cotton from the interior to the coast. The remedy to be proposed was a railway to communicate with Bombay and other ports, from the interior, and especially from the cotton districts. He believed there were no fewer than five hundred individuals in Lancashire who were ready to take twenty shares each; £5,000 being thus raised in support of the undertaking, it would certainly lead to its successful accomplishment. Mr. Bright, M. P., then came forward, and, in a speech of great length, supported the observations of the preceding speaker, and adverted to the shameful delay manifested by the East India Company in furtherance of the project.

EMIGRATION AS A MEASURE OF RELIEF.—One of the most solid and careful statisticians of the present day computes the amount of persons living by theft and in idleness and want at upwards of 150,000 in the United Kingdom. Now we hold this is not an exaggerated statement of the social condition of Great Britain and Ireland. Rather, indeed, is it the reverse, and yet the government is silent and inactive, although at the same time the State has at its command upwards of 88,000,000 of acres of land within a few days' sail of London. The vacant Crown lands in Nova Scotia are estimated at 5,787,772 acres; 12,300,851 in New Brunswick; 1,000,000 in Prince Edward's Island and Cape Breton; and in Canada, 70,000,000. Again, turn to British America, with its wild wastes, uncleared forests, and almost untrodden tracts of land. Why, within that continent alone we have unoccupied Crown lands amounting to upwards of 200,000,000 of acres. And we find ministers, meanwhile, *affect* perplexity as to how best to relieve the misery, destitution, and poverty of the masses of Great Britain. We say *affect* perplexity, because, with the numerous evidences of the advantages to be derived from colonization, lying neglected in the Colonial Office, and to be derived from our own knowledge and experience, it would be paying their skill and sagacity a poor compliment did we hint at their being ignorant on the subject.—*The Emigrant.*

EXTRAORDINARY ARRIVAL OF VESSELS.—The number of vessels which arrived at this port from foreign parts from the 20th to the 27th ult. was greater than was ever before known in the same space of time, and may be stated at 187. These vessels, chiefly from the United States, South America, the West India Islands, the East Indies, the Brazils, China, &c., average, (taking about 25 of them at random) about 580 tons, and they appear to have been fully laden with produce. These are irrespective of smaller vessels from the Mediterranean and European ports, as well as of all coasters, sailing or steam, of which we have a constant accession day and night. The arrivals from foreign ports have been in fact from, it may be said, all parts of the world, and some of the cargoes of great value. The chief weight of the imports have been, 1st, flour, Indian corn, corn meal, and a large quantity of wheat; 2nd, cotton; 3rd, sugar; 4th, tallow; 5th, American cheese and hams, and a large quantity of American apples. The "Andrew Foster" brought 3628 boxes of American cheese; and the "Constitution" 2926 boxes. The total amount of breadstuffs imported into Liverpool on Friday and Saturday comprises,—wheat, 12,233 qrs.; barley, 42 qrs.; oats, 2,214 qrs.; beans, 5 qrs.; pease, 745 qrs.; Indian Corn, 21,740 qrs.; Indian corn meal, 2,325 brls.; oatmeal, 1,570 loads; flour, 1,184 sacks, 55,721 brls. The steam-ship Europa alone brought, 1,318 barrels and 30 hallf barrels of American apples.—*Liverpool paper.*

Liverpool Timber Report.—The feeling gains ground that prices have seen their lowest, and that henceforth a steadier, if not more active trade, will result from the improving state of the manufacturing districts. The effect has been already felt in Spruce Deals in a moderate degree, and many cargoes are taken off the market and held at rates much beyond anything obtainable at present.

Pine Timber.—Of St. John, one parcel of 19½ inches average sold at 17½d., another at 17 inches at 15½d., and another of 17 1-4 inches at 14½d.,—(the latter without stowage)—and a parcel of 7000 feet from the yard at 17½d. to 18½d. per ft. One cargo of 19 inches at 17d.; one of the same size at 17 1-4d.; one of 18½ inches at 17½d. and one (the last sale) of 19 inches at 17½d. per foot.

New Brunswick, &c. For Planks and Boards.—Of St. John, five cargoes were sold at £6 to £6 12s. 6d. Of Richibucto Yellow, one cargo was sold at £7, and one Bathurst at £8 10s. per standard. Several parcels of Spruce Deals, in lots of 500, at £7 to £7 10s. and some Yellow Pine, in same way, at £8 15s. per standard.

Lathwood.—St John has been sold at 30s. per fathom. Spruce Laths, with cargo, were sold at 10s. per M. and Paling at 20s. per M.

Railway Sleepers.—St. John Hackmatack with cargo, have been sold at 3s. each for 9 x 10 x 5.

SPECIE FROM SOUTH AMERICA.—The Sampson, steam-frigate, arrived at Spithead from South America, has brought 2,000,000 dollars in specie.

SENTENCE OF THE EDINBURGH CHARTISTS.—On Saturday, Henry Ranken and Robert Hamilton, recently found guilty of using language "calculated" to excite popular disaffection, were (the objections taken by their counsel having been overruled) respectively sentenced to be imprisoned for four calendar months.

THE VACANT GARTER.—We are able to announce—which we do with more than usual satisfaction—that her Majesty has graciously intimated her intention to bestow the vacant garter upon the Earl of Clarendon.

Great Britain produces annually 31,500,000 tons of coal; Belgium, 4,960,077; France, 4,141,617; United States, 4,400,000; Prussia, 3,500,000; and Austria, 700,000.

IRISH LANDLORD CRISIS.—The *Northern Standard* announces that Lord Blayney has disposed of his splendid mansion, demesne, and extensive estates around Castleblayney to an English capitalist. In order partially to redeem the property from the heavy charges upon it, his lordship is about to avail himself of the provisions of the Encumbered Estates Act, and to dispose of a considerable portion of his estates in the north of Ireland for the benefit of his creditors. A petition in the matter was presented before the Master of the Rolls on Saturday, but his honour was doubtful whether the subject could be entertained before the commencement of next term.

The poor houses in Ireland are crowded to overflowing, and the poor in the mountainous and boggy districts are suffering all the horrors of famine. Starvation rages in the counties of Mayo, Cork, Sligo, Kerry, Clare, and Galway, to a fearful extent, and more or less in several other Counties nearer to the metropolis.

The Roman Catholic clergy of the diocese of Meath have published an appeal to their flocks to abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks, not only because temperance is calculated at all times to promote health, peace, prosperity, and virtue, but because it is especially needful at this time, when cholera threatens to visit a wasted population.

The loss to Ireland arising from the failure of the potato, and its consequential results, is estimated at £43,000,000.

Father Matthew has commenced a second campaign against intemperance.

FRANCE.—The debate on the conduct of Gen. Cavaignac during the insurrection of June, terminated on Saturday night, in the Chamber, by an overwhelming majority, expressing their approval of the conduct of the General. The debate opened with an attack by M. Barthelemy Saint Hilaire, the Secretary of the late Executive Government. The principal charges were—that General Cavaignac had disobeyed the orders of the government by neglecting to bring troops into Paris to prevent an insurrection; that when the insurrection had commenced, he caused by delay an useless sacrifice of life, and that he was actuated by the ambition of raising himself to supreme power at the expense of the character of the Executive Government, and without regard to the just interests of society, and the respect due to humanity. Gen. Cavaignac defended himself with great skill, against these attacks. He denied having disobeyed orders, and accounted for the delay in bringing troops into Paris, before the insurrection, by stating that there were no barracks to receive them. As to the nature of his plans for putting down the insurrection, he observed that as a soldier he must have been a better judge of what was proper than the members of the government, and that he was actuated by no desire to prevent the troops from being assailed in isolated positions. His plans, he added, had been adopted with the approbation and concurrence of Generals de Lamoriciere and Bedeau. Gen. Bedeau declared that the statement of Gen. Cavaignac was perfectly correct; and as Gen. Bedeau is not in office, and is a leading member of the moderate party in the National Assembly, his declaration produced immense effect in favor of Gen. Cavaignac. The result of the division was:—In favour of General Cavaignac, 503; against him 34.

On Wednesday the principal topic of interest was the course to be adopted by France in consequence of the events which have taken place at Rome. A profound impression has been produced by the announcement made in the Assembly, that the government had resolved to send an expedition to secure the personal freedom of the Pope. This measure will prove highly favourable to the candidateship of Gen. Cavaignac. The Catholic party, which has not yet pronounced any opinion as to the candidates, will probably support him. A telegraphic despatch has been sent to Marseilles, announcing that France will continue to adopt the same policy in reference to the interests of the church that she has always hitherto followed. This measure has been communicated to Count Montalembert, and has elicited from him an expression of satisfaction. The military expedition to Italy will be commanded by General Bedeau.

The following is a note of what passed in the National Assembly:—A question having been asked relative to the affairs of Italy, General Cavaignac replied that the government had received accounts of the movement which had taken place at Rome on the 16th inst., and had sent by telegraph ordering a brigade of 3,500 men to embark immediately at Toulouse and Marseilles for Civita Vecchia. He added that M. Corcelles had been ordered on an extraordinary mission to Rome, with the view of assuring the personal liberty of the Pope, and offering him an asylum in France. The French government did not intend to interfere in the political affairs of Rome, or of employing troops otherwise than in securing his holiness from personal control. Gen. Cavaignac then proceeded to read to the Assembly the instructions given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs to M. Corcelles.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* says—"A report prevails that M. de Lamartine is about to transfer his support to General Cavaignac, and in return receives the promise of the vice-presidency of the republic."

ITALY.—*Insurrection in Rome.*—The accounts received this week from Rome are of the most unsatisfactory and melancholy character. The Prime Minister Rossi has been publicly assassinated at the entrance of the Chamber of Deputies, on the 14th. The correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing on the 15th, says:—"The unfortunate Rossi had used the previous night language of a most insulting nature with reference to the democratics and the opposition generally. On the morning of the 15th, he had lined the streets with carabineers and cavalry, and with an air of defiance was proceeding to open the chambers more like a dictator that a responsible functionary. Those who crowded round the gateway of the Cancellaria (where the deputies meet) came rather to hiss and hoot than with any sanguinary project, when, in evil hour, the haughty spirit of the count suggested to him the fancy of braving by gesture and expression the hatred and hostility of the bystanders: he confronted them with an expression of scorn and contempt; an universal yell was the result—a sudden onslaught—a dagger was forthcoming at once, and deeply buried in the right clavicle of the neck. The dying man was taken up to the rooms occupied by Cardinal Gazzoli, and in five minutes expired."

On the morning of the 16th, a large assemblage took place on the Piazza del Popolo of the civic guard, the troops of the line, the carabineers, and the populace. At twelve, more than 30,000 people marched from this place to the Chamber of Deputies, to require the latter to demand of the Pope a democratic ministry, and the following concessions, printed on a large placard:—1. Recognition of Italian nationality. 2. Convocation of the constituent assembly, and discussion of the federative pact. 3. Termination of the deliberations of the council of deputies on the war of independence. 4. Entire adoption of the programme of Mamiani of the 5th June. Ministers desired by the people; Mamiani, Sterbini, Campello, Saliceti, Fusconi, Lunati, Serini, Galetti. The deputies joined the *cortege*, and went to the palace of the Pope, who informed them, through Cardinal Sozlia, that he would reflect on it. The people not being satisfied, again sent the deputies to the Pope, who replied that he would accord nothing demanded with violence. The Swiss Guards then began to drive back the people, who rushed on them and disarmed some of them. The Swiss then retired into the castle, threatening to fire on the assemblage.

Their indignation then knew no bounds, and proposals were made to set fire to one of the large gates, when the Swiss fired on the people, which was immediately followed by cries of "To arms! to arms!" by the crowd. At three o'clock the *generale* was beaten. All the troops and civic guards assembled; the first platoons occupying the advanced posts about the Quirinal as well as the tower of San Carlino sustained until five o'clock a fusillade with the Swiss, who fired from the windows. At six o'clock the Quirinal was completely invested; six thousand civic guards and troops of the line were ranged in order of battle before the palace with their cannon levelled against the principal entrance; they had brought with them carts to form barricades, ladders, cords, &c. A deputation was again sent to the Pope with the *ultimatum*, and an hour accorded for his reply, with a notification that if he refused, the palace would be taken by assault, and all who should be taken therein be shot, the Pope alone excepted. The Pope then sent for Galetti, and signified his consent to take the following ministry: Mamiani, foreign affairs; Galetti, interior; Lunati, finances; Herbini, commerce; Campello, war; Rosmini, public instruction; Serini, grace and justice. As to the other demands, the Pope referred them to the decision of the Council of Deputies.

By the news which arrived in Paris on Wednesday by telegraph from Marseilles, it would appear that General Cavaignac had been somewhat premature in sending an armament of four frigates and 3500 troops to Civita Vecchia. The Pope is still at Rome, or was there on the 23rd, the date of the despatch. Rome was moreover tranquil. The new ministry had been duly installed, and had assumed the direction of affairs.

PRUSSIA.—The Berlin journals, which declared that the Earl of Westmoreland, the British minister at this court, approved of the proceedings of the ministers with regard to the transferring of the National Assembly to Brandenburgh, now assert that the English cabinet, after consulting the legal authorities of their country, have come to the conclusion that the King is in the right, and consequently that the above Assembly is in the wrong. The last rumour respecting the intentions of the court party is, that, if a sufficient number of members do not meet in Brandenburg, the King will convoke the United Diet, the one that voted the law of elections, and call upon it to decide between him and the majority of the National Assembly. That majority have all but officially declared that the dispute will be at an end so soon as the Brandenburg ministry is dissolved, and the Assembly is convened again in Berlin. To no other terms will they agree. The number of addresses to the National Assembly is variously stated, ranging from seven hundred to six thousand. Certain it is that, several days ago, the former number was officially registered in the archives.

The Prussian Assembly again met at Brandenburg on the 28th, but the Members not being in sufficient numbers the Assembly was again adjourned. It was rumoured that on the 29th, the 25th anniversary of the King's marriage, the proclamation of a new Constitution would take place.

Numerous arrests continue to be made in Berlin, and business is all but at a stand still.

Accounts from Bavaria, Darmstadt, and Baden, represent affairs as being in a very uneasy state. Apprehensions of an immediate insurrection throughout Central Germany are entertained.

SPAIN.—The Queen has granted an amnesty to all persons condemned to less than one year's imprisonment for civil offences, or to less than two years for political offences.

In our paper of the 5th instant we noticed the suggestion that a Deputation should be sent to England having for its object several important propositions relative to Colonial interests, and we are informed that the suggestion is favorably entertained by many, who are willing to contribute pecuniarily according to their respective abilities, for the accomplishment of it. The prevailing depression in the American Colonies calls imperatively upon the united intelligence and energies of the people to place the condition of the Provinces *as they are*, and as they *might be* under an improved system, unreservedly before the Government and Public of Great Britain, for it is a lamentable fact that our Colonies are little known in the official, and still less in the private departments of society in England. It is true that Dispatches are forwarded from the Provincial to the Home Government, and it is equally true that these Dispatches and their contents frequently find a sepulchral resting place in some undisturbed depository of "*Filed Papers*." If the North American Colonies would co operate, and each send a Deputation to London to represent their interests and wishes at the Colonial Office, and to place their condition, and their importance as a part of the British Empire, before the People of Great Britain, through the medium of the English Press by *continual* and *correct* statements, there is reason to believe that the result would be satisfactory, as we have entire confidence in the justice and fostering care of the Mother Country if she was once fully informed of the real state of things in our Province, and the bearing of them, if they are not relieved, for it must be confessed that a feeling of despondency, amounting with many to discontent, is inducing the Colonist to look *Westward* for employment and subsistence. All must acknowledge that the people of England have very incorrect notions respecting the geography, commerce, government, settlements, resources and importance of her American Colonies; and hence the wonder ceases, that gentlemen in official capacities when they come among us, meet more intelligence and determination than they anticipated. We are informed that a Member of the Imperial Parliament recently visited this Province to obtain information respecting it, and from the tenor of his observations it appeared that he required it. We subjoin an amusing extract from the "*Liverpool Mail*" of the 18th of November last, which will shew some of the sources and extent of English information respecting us:—

"A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE BRITISH DEPENDENCIES OPEN TO COLONIZATION,—*condensed from the latest publication of the Society for the promotion of Colonization.*—The chief cities in these settlements, (viz: Canada, New-Brunswick, Nova-Scotia, and Newfoundland) are Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, Kingston, Halifax, Fredericton, St. John in New-Brunswick, and another town of the same name in Newfoundland. Beyond the *immediate* neighbourhood of the cities, the *whole* country is covered with forests, only broken occasionally by *small villages of log houses*. In the interior there are a few roads, in our English sense of the word; such as there are, more resemble the lanes leading to farm houses in this country, only that the ruts are generally deeper—there is fine water communication by the lakes and rivers—the country is brought into cultivation, first by cutting down the trees, leaving stumps of two or three feet high in the ground—the trees are cut into lengths and pulled together, branches and all, with oxen, and then burnt to ashes—the grain is then thrown in after a rough sort of ploughing among the stumps, and in many parts of North America the land is so rich with decayed vegetation, that it will yield from 25 to 30 bushels of grain an acre for 8 or 9 years in succession. The settlers build their houses with square logs, and roof them with bark, or bits of split wood called shingles."—This historian observes "The chief ailment in these, as in all *wooded* countries, is Fever and Ague, to which however the temperate seldom fall victims," and he adds "*Idlers and Drunkards can earn nothing.*"

Verily this writer must have been some mesmerised contemporary of "Rip Van Winkle in Sleepy Hollow," who has given his dreamy notion of things some sixty years gone by, and just awaking from his long and stupid nap, is confounding his confused ideas of the first settlement of the country with the improvements in 1848. His description of the process of clearing lands shews that the writer knows nothing about it; and we have medical authority to state, that fever and ague is not a disease of New-Brunswick and Nova-Scotia,—and our historian will no doubt open his eyes with wonder when we tell him that the shores of the Saint John and Miramichi rivers—the scenery of St. Andrews—the country at Woodstock—along the shores of Bay Chaleur—at Sussex Vale and the Bend—in Dorchester, and various other parts of this Province, are unpalatled contradictions to his assertion that the prevailing forest is "only broken occasionally with small villages of log houses"—and he would be astonished at his own ignorance, if he were to travel along the valley of the Annapolis river, and over the extensive and cultivated fields of Horton, Cornwallis and Windsor. The statements of this writer are not calculated to induce immigration, and it is time that such libels were refuted.

There is a general expression of opinion that some effort should be made to improve the condition of the Province; and we think that a judiciously conducted Deputation would effect it. The Union of the Provinces—Colonization—Railroads and Commerce, might be advocated—and when we bear in mind that Canada and New-Brunswick have been made the depots of pauperism and disease by Emigrants from Ireland, we have a strong claim upon England for assistance, which might be managed so as to be mutually beneficial to each country. If the experiment of a Deputation should be considered worthy of trial, a public meeting should be convened and organised, and a committee appointed to address the Legislature upon the subject, and solicit its co-operation, and a correspondence should be immediately opened with the other Colonies to ascertain the prevailing feeling in them upon the subject. The Deputation, consisting of a Member of the House of Assembly and one or two private gentlemen qualified to represent the commercial and general interests of the Province, should persevere with the *officials* and the press of London until matters were definitively settled; and perhaps it would not be presuming to hope that the objects of the embassy would be supported by our esteemed and talented ex-Governors of the Provinces, Sir James Kempt and Sir Howard Douglas, who are now in England. The general interests of the country should be considered paramount, and all parties should unite, regardless of prejudice and particular feelings, which have too often militated against Colonial improvement. We therefore hope that the proposition may be duly considered and supported.

CITY CHARTER.—The proposed amendments to the City Charter were under discussion by the Common Council on Friday last. The Council Chamber was crowded with citizens. The Council adjourned at 4 o'clock.—Another Council has been ordered for Thursday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., when the debate on the Charter is to be resumed, and an interesting discussion is anticipated.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—The wires of the Electric Telegraph are in rapid course of erection, they were yesterday placed along the upper parts of the houses through the streets of this City leading from Portland to the Telegraph office, and are quite a novelty. The whole line from this City to Boston, we learn is expected to be completed and in working order by the first of January. Communication by *lightning* to and from the Westward, will therefore soon be available to our citizens.

FIRES.—A fire, which broke out about 4 o'clock on Wednesday morning last, in a house on the South side of the lower part of Duke-street, occupied by Mrs. Harrison, as a Sailor's boarding house, destroyed six wooden houses before it was extinguished, three on Duke and three on Prince William streets. They were chiefly old buildings, belonging to Benjamin Smith, Esq., and the estate of the late Joseph McPherson. They were occupied by 15 or 16 families.

About 2 o'clock yesterday morning, there was an alarm of fire, which was found to proceed from an old unfinished building in St. James' street, belonging to Capt. Lawrence Halcrow. In consequence of the fortunate early discovery of the fire it was extinguished without much difficulty or damage. Had it obtained headway the danger to the adjoining buildings would have been very great.—It was evidently the work of an incendiary, and should act as a caution to our citizens to be on the alert.

The weather continues singularly mild for the season—without either frost or snow of consequence. The streets and roads in town and country are in a very muddy condition.

Passengers in the steamship *Niagara*, from Liverpool to Halifax—Captain Troubridge, Rev. Edward Stong, Mr. Leeds, Master A. Beard; and Messrs. G. Morrisey and James Malcolm, of this city; and 53 for Boston.

The steamship *Britannia* arrived at Halifax on Friday afternoon, in 50 hours from Boston, with 10 passengers for Liverpool.

The steamship *Hibernia* arrived at Liverpool on the 27th Nov. in 11 days and 20 hours from Boston.

The steamer Niagara saw the steamer America for Liverpool—would arrive on the 3d inst.—8 days from Halifax.

The steamship *Canada* arrived at New York on Thursday last, in 18¾ days from Liverpool.

A great meeting in favour of a repeal of the Navigation Laws took place at Montreal on the 27th ult. A number of Resolutions were unanimously passed.

DOINGS OF THE SESSIONS!—Some of our public bodies appear to have little regard for straightforwardness or candour in their proceedings, and sometimes resort to unworthy trickery to accomplish particular objects. Our readers will remember the voluminous Reports we published some time since, of two discussions at the Board of Sessions, in June and September last, on the subject of Mr. W. G. Lawton's claim against that body, which resulted in the passing of an Order, by the vote of a large majority, in favour of the claim. Both these discussions took place upon SPECIAL appointment, after due *notice* had been given to all the Magistrates of the City and County; in order that so important a subject might have a full and impartial consideration, and that every Magistrate might have an opportunity of expressing his opinion and recording his vote on the matter. But the Sessions have tho't proper, this month, to rescind their former Order, and to throw Mr. Lawton's claim overboard, in the most unfair and underhand manner imaginable. We are informed, that on the Saturday in the first week of the December Sessions, it was stated at the Board, that no further business of importance remained to be transacted, and that therefore the adjournment to the following Tuesday would be merely *pro forma*. Accordingly, at the Tuesday meeting of the Board, only about a dozen Magistrates appeared, including only *four* of those known to be favourable to Mr. Lawton's claim; as no business of moment was expected to be brought forward; yet this was the opportunity chosen by the adversaries to upset the former decision! Seeing that they were quite sure of a victory, (the friends of Mr. Lawton having been deceived, and not only no notice having been given that the subject would again be discussed, but even an assurance that no *business of importance* would come up,) a motion was made that the former Order should be rescinded; which of course was carried in a very few minutes, the Board being then and almost wholly composed of the opponents of the claim; although one of those very opponents, Mr. Ansley, had the candour to protest against so disgraceful and unfair a mode of proceeding. However by this contemptible trick, the minority have stolen a march on the majority, and stultified their former proceedings. But how far such pitiful deception and chicanery is worthy of a deliberative body, of men sworn to do justice to their fellow-men, needs no comment or exposition!

At a Meeting of the Board of Health, called by summons of His Worship the Mayor, held at his Office the 14th day of December, 1848.

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor; His Honor the Recorder;

W. H. Needham, Esquire,		Geo. Bond, Esquire,	
Geo. A. Lockhart,	"	M. H. Perley,	"
Thos. Harding,	"	James Gallagher,	"
Gregory Vanhorne,	"	Jacob Allan,	"
Josiah Wetmore,	"	Isaac Woodward,	"

Read the Commission.

The Members of this Board were duly sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty, by James William Boyd, Esq., Clerk of the Peace, and duly enrolled their names.

Mr. Thomas McAvity was appointed Clerk.
Mr. Patrick Colton was appointed Messenger.

Read, a communication from Hon. J. R. Partelow, Provincial Secretary, recommending, by order of His Excellency, the re-publication of the sanatory notices relating to the Cholera.

On motion of W. H. Needham, Esq, seconded by His Honor the Recorder,

A Committee was appointed, consisting of His Honor the Recorder, M. H. Perley and I. Woodward, Esquires, to prepare Rules and Regulations for the guidance of the Board, to be submitted at the next meeting.

Ordered, That the proceedings of this Mee