Civil Intelligence.

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITANNIA. TWELVE DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

The steam-ship Britannia arrived at Boston on Thursday morning, May 7th, having left Liverpool on the 20th April. By her we have received our London files, from which we obtain the following important items of intelligence. No accounts of the President had been received in England prior to the departure of the Britannia, and the expectations of her safety, though still cherished, were nearly expiring. Several reports of her arrival at Madeira had been circulated, but these were subsequently discovered to have been unfounded.

CHINA, INDIA, AND EGYPT.

From the St. James's Chronicle. We have received by the Overland Mail intelligence from China,

India, and all parts of the East. The dates are from Chusan to the 20th of December, from Macao to the 27th of January, from Singapore to the 25th of January, from Calcutta to the 18th of February, from Madras to the 20th of February, from Bombay to the 1st of March, and from

Alexandria to the 25th of March.

The steamer Enterprise had arrived at Calcutta from Macao on the 14th of February, bringing dispatches for the home authorities, which were forwarded to Bombay by express, and thence transmitted to Suez by the Victoria steamer. It appears, that in consequence of the insincerity and tardiness displayed by the Imperial commissioner, preparations were made on the morning of the 7th of January for attacking the outposts of the Bogue forts. About 700 seapoys, 200 European soldiers, and 400 seamen and marines, were embarked under the command of Major Pratt, of Her Majesty's 26th Regiment, in the steamers Enterprise, Nemesis, and Madagascar, and landed in the vicinity of the fort of Chuenpee. At the same time Her Majesty's ships Calliope, Larne, and Hyacinth opened a cannonade on the lower battery of the fort, whilst the steamers Nemesis and Queen threw shells into the upper tower which commanded it. The latter was soon taken possession of by which commanded it. The latter was soon taken possession of by the British troops, who poured down a heavy fire of musketry on all the lower works, and quickly drove the Chinese from their guns. In two hours the fort was in possession of the English, with a loss of only 3 killed and 23 wounded; that of the Chinese is estimated at from 500 to 700. Many were killed in the attempt to escape by jumping down from their embrasures, a depth of 20 feet, to the rocks below. The ships and crews escaped unhurt, although the fort mounted 35 guns.

At the same time the fort of Tykoktow was attacked by ano-

ther squadron operating about three miles to the southward under command of Captain Herbert, of the Samarang, supported by the Druid, Modeste, and Columbine. A heavy fire was opened on the fort, and promptly returned, and a party of seamen landed to seize the fort. The Chinese made a spirited resistance, but were soon overpowered, and the fort captured. The first lieutenant of the

Samarang was wounded in the assault.

The steam-vessels then attacked the fleet of junks lying in Anson's Bay, but owing to the shallowness of the water, only the Nemesis could approach them, towing 12 armed boats from Her Majesty's ships. Her first rocket set fire to the powder magazine of one junk; 18 others were blown up by their own crews, and the rest escaped into the inner waters. Next morning Her Majesty's ship Blenheim began to throw shells into the batteries at Wantong, and was preparing to attack the chief fort of Anunghoy, when the Chinese Commander-in-chief made a communication to Captain Elliott, who thereupon desisted from further hostilities. On the 20th of January, a circular was addressed by the British Plenipotentiary to her Majesty's subjects in China, announcing that preliminary arrangements between the Imperial Commissioner and himself had been made to the following effect:—

"1. The cession of the island and harbour of Hong Kong to

the British Crown. All just charges and duties to the empire upon the commerce carried on there to be paid as if the trade were

conducted at Whampos.

"2. An indemnity to the British government of 6,000,000 dollars, 1,000,000 dollars payable at once, and the remainder in equal annual instalments, ending in 1846. 3. Direct official intercourse between the countries upon an

equal footing.

"4. The trade of the port of Canton to be opened within 10 days after the Chinese New Year, and to be carried on at Wham-poa till further arrangements are practicable at the new settle-

ment. Details remain matter of negociation."

From Scinde we learn that matters are proceeding satisfactorily, and that the hill tribes were all entering into treaties with the British. Nusseer Khan, it is now said, has delivered himself up to Colonel Stacy, of the Bengal army. The force under General Brooks was at the last advices encamped near Baugh.

In Affghanistan a disturbance took place at Ghirisk near Can-

dahar, where a body of 1200 or 1500 rebels were defeated by a danar, where a body of 1200 or 1200 related whether the cleared by a field detachment under Captain Farrington, who took their standard and guns. In the southern Mahratta country the fort of Nepaul had been captured by a force from Belgium under Major

make his escape from Lahore to Ferozepore, in consequence of a

mutiny among his troops.

The Governor-General of Bengal has issued an order breaking up and disgracing the natives of the 2d Light Cavalry, who recently deserted their European officers, while leading them against Dost Mahomed's cavalry

Major-General Sir Robert Dick has arrived at Madras from Bengal, and assumed the command of the army of the former

The Overland Mail has also brought letters from Alexandria to the 25th ultimo, where the Pacha was awaiting the decision of the Divan, but had declared his determination to concede nothing beyond the payment of a fixed yearly tribute of 5 or 600,000 dollars, and to allow no interference in the details of his government.

From the Bombay Times.

The future course of the opium trade does not seem to have formed a subject of discussion between Superintendent Elliott and the Chinese Commissioner; but we understand opium may be imported into the new settlement, although still contraband in

From the Canton Press. We consider that for an independent British settlement no situation can possibly be more favourably chosen than that of Hong Kong. The island itself is of little extent, we are told about circumference, but it forms with the neighbouring land one of the finest ports existing, where any number of ships, and of fely anchor in the worst of weathers, and the settlement of Hong Kong would, we doubt not, in a very short time become a place of very considerable trade, were its possession by the British not clogged with the condition that the same duties as at Whampoa are to be paid there, which in our estimation destroys at once all benefit that might be expected to trade there, and will, in fact, reduce the British settlement of Hong Kong to nothing more than a military station, and make it possibly the resort of the families of foreign merchants transacting business at Canton, although even this is doubtful, as they may continue to The same charges and duties being paid at Hong Kong as at Whampoa, it follows as a matter of necessity that the trade will remain where for centuries it has been established, and not seek a new location, where it is under the same disadvantages, without its being afforded the same facilities it now finds in a populous commercial city, long the centre of the commerce of the empire, and under the same charge, infinitely better situated than a port on an out of-the-way island can ever be. Had Hong Kong me unconditionally into the possession of the English, we should have thought it a valuable possession, acquired at whatever price; now, according to the reading we give to the Plenipotentiary's circular, its value is little or none. * * * *

Even without reference to the inadequacy of the indemnity to

be provided by the Chinese, we may ask, how will they raise it? Will it not be levied in the shape of a new duty upon foreign cor merce? and will it not, therefore, be the British chiefly who will be at the expense of this payment? A tael or two on tea will soon raise the required sum, and consumers in England will drink dearer tea; or if the duty for payment of the indemnity be raised on rts, their increased price will curtail the consumption of British manufactures.

From the Times.

The important news from China, which we publish to-day, holds out some prospect of a speedy, if not an advantageous, settlement of our differences with that vast empire. A vigorous "demonstration," which ended in the capture of the forts at the entrance of the Canton River, seems to have satisfied the Imperial Plenipotentiary that it was necessary to negociate in earness; and on the 29th of January the preliminaries of a treaty of peace are stated to have been arranged.

rejecting the articles agreed upon at Canton will ultimately rest, not with the commissioner on the spot, but with the Emperor at Pekin. The communication by post between Canton and the capital, occupies not less than 20 days, and it is impossible to foresee how frequently real or supposed occasions for reference to head-quarters may arise during the progress of the discussions. We entertain no doubt that all these circumstances were present to the minds of the shrewd statesmen who manage the Celestial Councils, when they determined upon decoying poor Admiral Elliot from the immediate neighbourhood of the court to the southern extremity of the empire. And it is far from improbable that the consciousness of being able to fall back upon these diplomatic resources may have induced Keshen to make more liberal promises than he ever meant to fulfil.

For these reasons, and remembering the premature exul-

tation with which former delusive reports of the settlement of this embarrassing quarrel were received by the satellites of Downing-street, we thing it impossible to place any reli-ance upon the finality of the arrangement which seems to been made between Captain Elliot and Keshen. upon the hypothesis that such an arrangement has been made, and that it may become the basis of a treaty between Great Britain and China—an assumption which we shall consider extremely precarious till the ratifications of the treaty have been actually exchanged—it may be expedient to consider what the terms of these preliminary articles

It will be observed, that they are absolutely silent upon the question of the opium trade, the real cause of the war. "The trade of the port of Canton" is to be re-opened within 10 days after the Chinese new year; but whether the government of China will thenceforward legalize the importation of opium, or whether the British government will undertake to co-operate with the Chinese for the suppression of the to co-operate with the clinics for the suppression of the illicit traffic in that drug, this most important question is completely passed over in the preliminary articles, and we suppose is included in those "details" which are to "remain matter of negociation." It may be safely predicted, that unless some definite understanding is come to on this head, there can be no security for even a short continuance of uninterrupted commerce, or pacific relations between the uninterrupted commerce, or pacific relations between the two countries. That Great Britain should insist upon the legalization of opium in China, or that China should concede such a point, except under the pressure of overwhelming necessity, cannot be expected. On the contrary, the Chinese government may, and probably will, insist upon a guarantee from Great Britain against the future prosecution of that traffic either at Hong Kong or elsewhere within the Chinese seas by British subjects. Such a demand would be very embarrassing to our Plenipotentiary; for the cession of embarrassing to our Plenipotentiary; for the cession of Hong Kong, and the proposed removal of the foreign trade from Whampoa to that island, will make it impossible for him to decline giving the required guarantee on the plea of want of power; while, by acceding to the stipulation, he would damage the Indian revenue to the amount of a million sterling per annum; and, on the other hand, by refusing it, would give Ke-shen a fair opportunity of breaking off the negociation, and getting rid of his original concessions.

The next point to be noticed is the amount of indemnity to Great Britain which Keshen has agreed to pay, and Cap-

to Great Britain which Keshen has agreed to pay, and Captain Elliot to accept. The £3,000,000 which were talked of so confidently upon the return of Admiral Elliot from the gulf of Pechelee, have now shrunk into 6,000,000 dollars, being considerably less than one-half of the former sum; and for the payment of even this sum the Chinese are to have a six years' credit. Of the vaunted £3,000,000, one million, it was said, was destined to defray the expenses of the expedition, which certainly will not fall short of that nount; so that the unfortunate Parsees and other merchants, who have been so long tantalized with the hope of seeing a full compensation for their confiscated opium extracted from the Chinese treasury, will have to be contented with less than one-fifth of the principal which they embarked in that luckless adventure. What will our friends in the City say to this? We suspect they will not think that such a settlement of their claims adds much to the diplomatic

a settlement of their claims and mach to the diplomate laurels of the Whig ministry.

We now come to those concessions on the part of the Chinese, which at first sight seem more important and satisfactory, but the value of which (even supposing them to be ratified by the Emperor) may be much affected by those "details" which are reserved for further negociation. In the first place (we follow the order of comparative impor-tance rather than that in which the preliminary articles are arranged), there is to be "direct official intercourse between the countries upon an equal footing." If this means that a British Ambassador is to reside at Pekin, as the recognised field detachment under Captain Farrington, who took their stan-dard and guns. In the southern Mahratta country the fort of Nepaul had been captured by a force from Belgium under Major Vivian. The news from Persia is very slight. In Nepaul and Burmah all was tranguil. The Punjaub is in a very unsettled state. Shere Singh had deposed the Ranee after an attack on the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days, but the citadel of Lahore, which lasted three days are citad lasted three days, but the authority of this new Rajah is far from being generally recognised. General Court had been obliged to provincial viceroys, and may write letters to them without superscribing the character "Pin," we think the stipulation st as valuable as the privilege of a certain Irish earl to stand with his hat upon his head in the presence of Queen

The other substantial point gained is "the cession of the island and harbour of Hong Kong to the British Crown," and the stipulation for making this the future mart of the foreign trade. This arrangement, if bonâ fide carried into effect, will certainly be most beneficial to our mercantile The situation of Hong Kong is infinitely more interests. convenient for the purposes of trade than that of Macao; a settlement formed there will be capable of maintaining itself independently of the Chinese, and the recognition of a terri-torial right in the British Crown, as well as the terror of the British name, will give our countrymen advantages which were never possessed by the Portuguese in China. We do not, however, understand what is meant by the stipulation, that "all just charges and duties to the empire upon the commerce carried on there (at Hong Kong) shall be paid as if the trade were conducted at Whampoa." If Chinese as if the trade were conducted at Whampoa." If Chinese customs are to be levied, and Chinese revenue officers are to exercise a jurisdiction within the ceded territory, so extraordinary a reservation cannot fail hereafter to give rise to disputes as to the extent and character of the On the other hand, it is not to be supposed that the Chinese will intrust the collection of their duties to the local British authorities. The article only becomes intelligible when we assume that the Emperor wishes to retain some right of sovereignty in Hong Kong. Why cannot the "just charges and duties to the empire" which are here referred to be levied upon all exports and imports within the limits of the empire

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir William Macbean George Colebrooke, our newly appointed Lieutenant Governor, came passenger in the Columbia, and arrived in town on Thursday morning in the steamer North America, from Windsor. He landed without ceremony, mmediately on the steamer's arrival, and proceeded to the St John Hotel, where he was waited upon during the day by the Heads of Departments, Executive Councillors and other Public Functionaries. About five o'clock, Sir William, with his Secretary, A. Reade, Esq. who accompanied him from England, proceeded en route to Head Quarters, by the Nerepis Road, intending to remain at Mather's Douglas Arms Inn, during the night.

The Hon. William Black, the Hon. Charles Simonds, and the Hon. Hugh Johnston, Executive Councillors, left town for Fredercton yesterday morning, to be present at the swearing in of His

Sir William is a man of family, between fifty and sixty years of age, has seen much service, both civil and military, and is represented as being well qualified by his business habits and manners, for the duties of the office to which he has been appointed. He has our best wishes for his success. Lady Colebrooke and family did not

water accompany His Excellency.—St John's Courier, Sat. April 24.
We are authorised to say that it is the present intention of His Excellency Sir John Harvey to leave Fredericton for Saint John on Wednesday next the 28th instant, and hold a Levee at Government House on Tuesday the 27th, at 12 o'clock. His Excellency further proposed to hold a Levee on his arrival at Saint John, either on Thursday the 29th, or Friday the 30th, prior to his embarkation for Windsor, on his route to Halifax and England .-Royal Gazette.

CANADA.

with one party, is constantly treated or represented as matter of detail by the other; and the Chinese diplomatists will and valuable establishment, together with two adjoining dwelling doubtless strain every nerve to evade or counteract the effect of their own concessions, by making stipulations inconsistent was occupied by Jacob Carrigal, Esq. whose furniture was saved. with them in the further stages of the negociation; or, at all events, do their best to protract those further stages to an or no doubt the loss of property would have been much greater, as events, do their best to protract those further stages to an indefinite period. And, after all, the power of ratifying or near two hundred feet distant, was on fire. The Fire Company with their engine were on the spot in an incredibly short space of time, considering they had to be sent for a distance of nearly two miles, and it is due to them further to say that their exertions were beyond all praise upon the occasion, and under Providence the first visible means of arresting the progress of the flames. We regret to understand Mr. Heard's property was not insured. The other two houses were insured. The fire was first observed in the roof, and is supposed to have originated from a stove pipe.— Cobourg Star, Wednesday May 5th.

From the Colonist.

In giving publicity to the subjoined officicial report of the public meeting at the City Hall on Monday, we regret that our space does not admit of our doing more than simply to direct public attention to it. Notwithstanding the very unfavourable tate of the weather,-for during the whole of Monday the rain fell in torrents here, -the attendance at the meeting was larger than we have before witnessed at public meetings in the same place. The greatest unanimity prevailed, and the names which appear to the different resolutions, and on the committee, shew very satisfactorily that it was no party meeting. All that the inhabitants of Toronto desire is substantial justice at the hands of the government, and that they have appealed for in the most respectful manner:-

PUBLIC MEETING.

A meeting of the inhabitants of the City of Toronto was held in the City Hall, on Monday, 10th May, 1841, at 3 o'clock, P.M., pursuant to public notice. His Worship the Mayor having been called to the chair, read the following requisition:—

To His Worship the Mayor of Toronto.

The undersigned request that you will convene a public meeting of the inhabitants of this city, at as early a day as possible, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of addressing His Excellency the Governor General, upon the subject of the val of the Seat of Government.

W. B. JARVIS, ISAAC BUCHANAN G. Duggan, Jr. Hugh Scobie, GEORGE RIDGUT, ALEXANDER DIXON, JOHN H. HAGARTY, F. HINCKS. JAMES CULL,

Being a Committee appointed at a Preliminary Meeting of the citizens, of which notice was given in the public journals. Toronto, 8th May, 1841. It was moved by Mr. Sheiff Jarvis, seconded by J. F. Hagarty,

Esq., and carried unaninously,—That F. Hincks, Esq., be requested to act as Secretar of the meeting.

It was moved by George Ridout, Esq., seconded by Mr. Alderman Dixon, and resolved unanimously.—That the present position of affairs in the city of Toronto renders it essentially necessary to future welfare of the place that a Memorial be adopted, for nission to His Excelency the Governor General, on the

transmission to His Excelency the Governor General, on the subject of the removal of the Scat of Government.

Moved by John S. Baldvin, Esq., seconded by Mr. Alderman Dennison, and carried unanimously—That a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Sheriff Jarús, Isaac Buchanan, M.P.P., George Ridout, George Duggan, J., M.P.P., Alderman Dixon, Scobie, Hagarty, Hincks, M.P.P. and Cull, be appointed to draft such message and report the sume to this meeting. emorial, and report the same to this meeting.

Mr. Ridout, on behalf of the Committee appointed by the above

dution, stated that he was prepared with a memorial, which he then read to the meeting.

It was then moved by Mr. Sheriff Jarvis, seconded by Wm. Ross, Esq., and resolved manimously—That the memorial just

appointed by the preliminary Committee.

Moved by Henry Rowsell, Esq., seconded by John Eastwood,
Esq., and unanimously resolved—That all the details respecting
the engrossing, signing, transmitting, and presenting the memorial, devolve on the preliminary Commit

GEO. MONRO, Mayor, Chairman. FRANCIS HINCKS, Sccretary.

His Worship the Mayor having been requested to leave the chair, and Mr. Sheriff Jarvis having been called thereto, It was moved by George P. Ridout, Esq., seconded by Isaac Buchanan, Esq., M. P. P.,—That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Mayor, for his very proper conduct in the chair. W. B. JARVIS, Chairman.

To His Excellency the Right Honourible CHARLES, BARON Sydenham, one of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Governor General of British North America, &c. &c.

F. HINCKS, Secretary.

The memorial of the undersigned, inhabitants of the city

Most respectfully sheweth:

That your Memorialists have watched with feelings of intense nxiety the progress of the measure for Reuniting the Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, which has been adopted by the Imperial Parliament during your Excellency's administration. While your Memorialists tervently pray that this measure may

produce all the benefits and advantages which its most sanguine upporters have ventured to anticipate, they cannot but feel that their most vital interests have already been, and may be much more, seriously affected by its operation.

Previous to the official announcement that your Excellency had selected Kingston as the place for holding the first meeting of the United Legislature, your Memorialists had ventured to hope that their flourishing city would continue to enjoy the advantages, on the faith of which a large portion of its inhabitants have made it their place of residence, and vested their means in the purchase of fixed property within its limits. Your Memorialists are well of fixed property within its limits. Your Memorialists are well aware that the inhabitants of the city of Quebec have claims of a pature similar to their own, and like their well meriting the connature similar to their own, and like theirs well meriting the consideration of your Excellency and of Her Majesty's Government. Both cities are provided with buildings spitable for the accommodation of the Legislature and of the Officers of Government, which have been erected at very great expense to the public, and will become utterly valueless should the Seat of Government be permanently removed. The city of Quebec, however, from its great commercial advantages, and from the large garrison maintained in its impregnable fortress, can be in no danger of suffering materially from ceasing to be the Seat of Government, and ways and means might, with the less difficulty, be found to compensate it for the injury it would sustain in case of such an event. Its situation is such, that though its advancement may not be so rapid as heretofore, it cannot retrograde. The city of Toronto, on the other hand, will be most materially injured even by the temporary removal of the government. Here large sums of money have been invested in the purchase of real estate, and in the erection of would have been entirely unwarranted by the mere commercial importance of the place; high prices have been given for property in anticipation of what would necessarily be the ogressive increase of the metropolis of a rapidly rising co like Upper Canada, and a large public debt has been incurred for unicipal improvements, which, in the event of a reduced population, would prove a serious burden to the remaining inhabitants. When these investments were made, the possibility of a Legislative Union of the two Provinces was never contemplated. measure had indeed been suggested at different times by individuals in Lower Canada, but it had been entirely discounter anced by our late revered Sovereign King William IV. as well as by his constitutional advisers and the Imperial Parliament. It must then be evident to your Excellency that the removal of the Seat of Government from this city is an event which could never have been anticipated in the calculations of even the most prudent.

Your Memorialists have thus ventured to draw your Excellency's attention to the incalculable injuries which will be sustained the inhabitants of Toronto should the government be fixed elsewhere. Earnestly disclaiming the wish, much less the intention, of questioning your Excellency's right to exercise your discretion in the choice of the locality of the Scat of Government, they feel that further silence on their part might be miscor into an acquiescence in the permanent abandonment of this city as the residence of the Executive,—a measure fraught with such ruinous consequence to its inhabitants and those of the surrounding country. Your Memorialists would be unwilling to urge claims at variance with the interests of their fellow-su other parts of the Province. They cannot, however, help again alluding to the advantages enjoyed by this city in the possession of suitable public buildings for the accommodation of the United Legislature, thereby rendering unnecessary an otherwise unavoidhe Imperial Plenipotentiary that it was necessary to negoiate in earness; and on the 29th of January the preliminaries
if a treaty of peace are stated to have been arranged.

In considering the value of these preliminaries, it must be
owne in mind that they were extorted from the Chinese at the cannon's mouth, and that, in all probability, when the panie of the moment was over, there would be a very strong disposition to recede from them. Neither can it escape our readers that the express which communicates this intelligence, contains also the ominous words, "Details still rereaders that the express which communicates this intelligence, contains also the ominous words, "Details still remain matter of negociation." Every day's experience teaches

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us, that, in affairs of this sort, what is matter of principle tavern keeper, near the Court House, which in a short time, in spite them should the Scat of Government be permanently fixed else- admitted Dissenters and Roman Catholics to office, and some said where. They entertain a firm reliance that their claims will beloved Sovereign, whose Representative you are, and that through the wisdom and justice of the Government, so serious a calamity very di as that which forms the subject of the present Memorial will be

And your Memorialists, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

DISASTROUS FIRE. The most destructive fire ever known in Toronto broke out on Friday night, May 7th, about two o'clock, in the Steam Engine Foundry on Yonge Street belonging to Mr. Andruss. The Foundry was rapidly destroyed. The Engine and Hook and Ladder Companies were promptly on the spot and exerted themselves with their usual daring and perseverance. The flames spread most rapidly, and we regret to say that nearly the whole block between King Street and Newgate Street was destroyed. Had the wind been high, the fire must certainly have swept into King Street and destroyed Messrs. Ridout's buildings and others. The loss of property we regret to say, has been very great. The Foundry cially must have been worth as it stood several thousands of The following, which we take from the Commercial

Herald, is a list of the buildings destroyed:—

1. Dr. Lang, Surgeon and Chemist, house the property of A. Murray, Esq., and insured for £150, much injured. Dr. Lang's Chemical apparatus nearly destroyed—Household Furniture saved.

2. The office of J. H. Price, Esq., Solicitor, entirely consumed,

books, papers, &c. saved. 3. Premises recently occupied by Mr. Williams, upholsterer.

4. The Foundry, entirely consumed, with all the workshops, sheds and out-house

5. Printing office of Mr. Carey, editor of "The Globe," - press and type saved.
6. John Cuthbert, Shoemaker.

7. Hair dresser's Shop.

8. Mr. Mitchell's Tavern and back premises, entirely consumed.

9. John Barwick, junr., Confectioner.

10. Mr. H. Piper, Tin Smith—premises and workshop conumed—stock and furniture saved.

11. Premises occupied by a person named Lailey.

12. Do. by Simpson.

13. Corner house, Mr. Lyndsay, Storekeeper.

On Newgate Street, from ten to twelve small houses, some occupied by one and others by two families, also a blacksmith's

In the rear of the block Mr. Samuel Shaw's axe factory was consumed, but the machinery, tools and stock were saved. A small cottage, occupied by one of Mr. Shaw's workmen, was also

Altogether, there are from twenty to twenty-five dwellings destroyed, and upwards of thirty families forced from their homes.

—Toronto Patriot.

SPEECH OF W. GLADSTONE, ESQ., ON THE THIRD READING OF THE JEWS' DECLARATION BILL. Mr. W. GLADSTONE rose, pursuant to the notice he had given, to move as an amendment that it be read a third time that day six months. If it was possible to draw a broad line of principle between a bill to admit Jews to municipal offices and one to permit them to hold other offices, including seats in Parliament, the subject would be different from that which they had now to discuss; but he was satisfied that such a line could not be drawn; and the advocates of this measure must, to be consistent, follow it up with another, throwing open to Jews seats in Parliament, and all other offices which might be held by Christians. On that point there would be but little difference, so that it would be of no use to argue it. He would, however, state his reasons for objecting to the bill, and, without leading the house into theological question such as had been urged on a former discussion, he would state the grounds of his objection in that way which appeared most plain to himself, and most likely to be intelligible to the house. His reason for opposing the bill was this-that the profession of the Jews was An additional clause was suggested by G. P. Ridout, Esq., econded by Mr. Alderman Boulton, and after some conversation agreed to by the meeting.

Moved by Isase Buchsnan, Esq., M.P.P., seconded by Mr.

Alderman Dennison, and resolved unanimously,—That the memorial just adopted be engrossed, and carried round for the individual signatures of the citizens, by Ward Committees, to be was not necessary that he should define it. It would be said ficient for his purpose to state, that in our general practice our laws were modelled on the principles of Christianity, and they had a solemn recognition of those principles in a practice—which he trusted would never be discontinued—of commencing the daily proceedings in both houses of Parliament by the solemn invocation and worship of the Almighty. He would not travel into a religious question, seldom entered upon in that house with advantage, but he would say that the practice of this daily worship implied what he had already stated—that they were to set before them as the object of all their measures, in the words of the service, "the promotion of true religion and the glory of God." Such being the case they were not at liberty, according to the sense of the constitution, to include every religion as the true one. The question then really before the house as it appeared to him was this, whether they would consent to destroy the distinctive Christianity of the constitution? He had heard much sneering on a former occasion at an expression used by his hon, friend the member for the University of Oxford—namely that they were about to unchristianize cussion in the 16th and 17th centuries; but that competency versity of Oxford—namely that they were about to unchristianize England by this bill. When he used this expression he knew that an attempt would be made to put a misconstruction on his meaning; but he did not conceive that he could use a more appropriate term, or one more approximating even to the nature of a truism with regard to this subject. The test for office was at present a church. The more of her opponents, however, they introduced with regard to his student. The test in once and to annul. Was into Parliament, it was manifest that the more did they increase into Parliament, it was manifest that the more did they increase not this to unchristianize? The profession of Christianity was made distinctly and clearly the qualification for the discharge of of creeds amongst them would be so strange and particoloured that made distinctly and clearly the qualification for the discharge of the functions with which the bill proposed to deal. He did not it would be an insult to public opinion to think of discharging know whether, by speaking thus, he might not be rendering himself liable to the imputation of "sheer intolerance" from the noble lord and from hon. gentlemen opposite. But the ground which he occupied was precisely the same ground which he would occupy if he were discussing a purely civil question, and speaking as to any other class which he did not consider sufficiently qualified to tion, to overturn the very principles upon which the national re-ligion was based. The further these charges were extended, the discharge the duties imposed on them by the constitution. Let him guard himself in speaking of the Jews as a body. He hoped more difficult would it be to do that which in ancient times the House of Commons and the state had combined to accomplish; that it was not imagined that he intended to speak of them as a and in all such measures as this he contended that there was class with disrespect. If it were true, as who could doubt, that there largely mixed up the danger of subverting the whole superstructure of the established religion. The hon, gentleman concluded by moving that the bill be read that day six months. were very many honest, upright, and zealous-minded men amonest the Jews of England, the more entirely true such an allegati was, the stronger was the objection to investing them with these Christian objects. But further, in speaking of the Jews as a class, he did not pretend to say that every particular Jew was necessarily unfit for every municipal office in the country. It was very possible that they would find individual Jews who would of charge particular duties better than many of themselves. What he said was this—that, in every case of this description, they must judge by the general character of the class, and the business of the state was to choose those most competent for the particular duties, and appoint them to office according to the standard and measure of their competence. He would therefore argue this question just as he would argue aquestion of lowering the franchise. If it were proposed to establish a £6 or an £8 instead of the £10 franchise, it would be a very proper argument to say, that on the whole those who held the £10 qualification were competent in a superior degree to the exercise of the Parliamentary franchise, and that if they would descend to a lower class they would find them not superiorly qualified. Such an argument would be an entirely legitimate one. Now, as guardians of the constitution and of the principles on which it is based, he did not see how they could hold that the Jews, generally speaking, could be in the position of having the necessary qualification. But if, from general principles, he were to come to this particular question, he would ask the house to consider what it was upon which the whole course of our history and our national progress chiefly turned. Even within the years had they not had a sufficient number of question before them essentially connected with the highest Christian con-What were the questions which had chiefly interested the people of this country since the Reform Bill, and exercised country? What had been the most difficult and perplexing questions with relation to every one of the three kingdoms, except those relating to the Christian religion? (Hear, hear.) If there were any questions which involved the greatest possible amount of difficulties-questions upon which a peculiar degree of animosity prevailed-questions on which they found it utterly impossible to gree, it was undoubtedly those questions which, though not directly religious in themselves, were in some way blended with religious associations. If they looked to the questions which had

agitated them most in England, was it not church-rates, and not

a state question; national education, and not a state question;

church extension, and not a state question? If they looked to

Scotland, what was the great question which was at this moment

connected with the social condition of Scotland, but the question

which related to the appointment of the ministers of her established

church? And what question could there possibly be which it was

more absolutely necessary to approach in a truly Christian spirit?

how widely separated was the community there by religious dif-

their legislation in that house in consequence. If Christianity

He need not allude to the case of Ireland. It was too notor

that it was not worth while to exclude the Jews. Others said, " we have where. They entertain a first remance that their classifier of the consideration from your Excellency and their beloved Sovereign, whose Representative you are, and that through the wisdom and justice of the Government, so serious a calamity as that which forms the subject of the present Memorial will be catholics and Dissenters were before Parliament. Parliament was then told, and to a great extent reasonably, that a bond of common Christianity united them all together. He well remembered a most interesting passage, which had been received with much applause in that house—a passage in a speech delivered by Sir George Murray, who spoke of the sympathy which had existed in the campaigns in which he had taken a part between his Roman Catholic fellow-subjects and himself, and alladed to the common bond of a belief in the same redemption. (Hear.) But these were sentiments which were totally inapplicable to the considerawere sentiments which were totally inapplicable to the consideration of the present question. There were other considerations, too, which broadly distinguished the case of the Roman Catholics and the Dissenters from the case of the Jews. In the first place, it could not be said of the united kingdom, or of the whole of one part of it, when, in point of fact, three-fourths or four-fifths of its population were Roman Catholics, that it was a Protestant country. The Roman Catholics formed a large proportion of the population there; and it was not to be expected that the great bulk of the nopulation was to be excluded from the advantages and bulk of the population was to be excluded from the advantages and honours of citizenship. But, besides that they formed the bulk of the Irish community, and had therefore a right to expect to be represented in the Legislature of the country, they were persons whose minds were naturally embittered by the recollection of former grievances, for the Roman Catholics smarted under the remembrance of centuries of oppression. (Ironical cheers from the Ministerial benches.) He did not shrink from that expression, and the only remark he would add was, that they were oppressed partly as Roman Catholics, partly as Irishmen, partly on the score of their religion, and partly as belonging to a country which had been unjustly and monstrously used. They could urge an indisputable claim; they were constantly brought into sharp collision with the other classes of their fellow-subjects; they had suffered with the other classes of their fellow-subjects; they had suffered in former times, and might suffer again from the same parties. Even if it had been true that they were not to suffer again, that was not enough, unless they gave secarity against the recurrence of the suffering. Let them compare this case with the case of the Jews. First, the one adhered as strongly as themselves to the test of Christianity, the others did not. Secondly, the one constituted a large body, which formed the great majority in one portion of the united kingdom; the others were hardly perceptible out the fees of English sixty forming an extremely small—a free. the face of English society, forming an extremely small—a fractional, an infinitesimal section of the community. (Hear, hear.)

They might say that it was scarcely worth while to exclude so small a portion; but when he was asked to surrender a great principle of the constitution—for to that it amounted—he had a right to consider who were those who asked him, what was their weight in the social scale—their weight, not physical, but moral. So much as to relative numbers; now as to grievances. He was not aware that the Jews had any special grievance from which they suffered, that they were persons against whom the feelings of the people were violently excited, that they had been smarting under grindng laws, and were likely so to smart. There was no case of pracprobability of such a case arising. No allegation of this kind had been made by any body of petitioners; whereas in the case of Dissenters, still more of the Roman Catholics, there were well founded allegations of practical grievances. He would explain what he meant by a practical grievance—something which went beyond mere abstract political right. An invasion of personal liberty was one; a withholding of political privilege was also one, he admitted, but in a weaker sense. The privilege was, however, a question open to discussion, and to be decided by the balance of political considerations on one side and on the other. It was to be borne in mind, that there were still some offices in this country to which the religious test was strictly applied; to the holder of the crown, to the Lord Chancellor, to certain great offices in Ireland. He had never heard it stated that in these particular eases there was involved a practical grievance, because these were subjects which did not admit of a rigorous application of abstract principles. this were held to be a practical grievance that the unenfranchised man was not enfranchised. (Hear.) If such were their definition of a practical grievance, it was better that they should come to an understanding at once. He need not trouble the house much further. In his mind the constitution would be much better served

and preserved by this limitation in the power of holding offices to Christians than by admitting Jews. There had been days, and they might recur, when the Parliament of England was called on to exercise functions still more directly ecclesiastical than of late had fallen to their lot. It might be said that the questions lately before them had reference merely to the temporalities of religion. But there had been days, like the days of Elizabeth, Charles I., Charles II., and William III., when the British Parliament was called on to apply itself directly to the consideration of almost every possible question; most important in a religious point of view—the frame and form of the state religion, the regulation of the whole nation; all these most important subjects passed under the revision of both houses of Parliament, and the adoption of one or other form depended on the decision of both houses. He admitted that the present house was, to a certain extent, disqualified by diversity of religious professions from discussing such questions as these. He did not complain of this change in the constitution of the house. He admitted that it had lost a portion of its compemust necessarily be regulated by circumstances; and the circum stance of their having incorporated with them very many persons differing with them in religious opinions would make it unreasonecclesiastical functions. In introducing these men, therefore, to Parliament, and to other high offices, there existed an absolute tendency to disqualify Parliament from the performance of any luties connected with religion, and therefore, by an easy trans

DUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, that the General Annual Meeting of the Stockholder's of the Bank of Upper Canada, will be held at the Bank, in the City of Toronto, on Monday, the 7th day of June next, at 10 o'clock, in the forenoon, for the purpose of electing fifteen Directors, to serve for the ensuing year, as the Act directs.

By order of the Board,

THO'S G. RIDOUT,

Bank of Upper Canada, Toronto,
21st April, 1841.

By Editors of the several Newspapers in Canada, will be pleased to
the the above one insertion, and send their accounts to the nearest Office

GOVERNESS OR COMPANION. A YOUNG LADY is desirous of an engagement as Governess in a Family where the Children are young, or as Companion to a Lady. Would have no objection to travel.

Letters addressed A. Y. (post paid) to this office, will be attended to.

WANTED

In the family of a Clergyman, a gentleman as Tutor, capable of giving instruction in English, Writing, and Arithmetic. There are six pupils. He would reside in the family, and must be a member of the Church of England. Apply by letter post paid to A. B., at the Office of The Church.

STEAM BOAT NOTICE.

MHE Steamer GORF will until further notice, leave Toront . Rochester every Sunday and Wednesday evening, at 9 o'clock chester for Toronto every Tuesday and Friday morning, callin bourg both ways; commencing on Sunday evening the 4th inst.

BIRTH.

On Saturday, May 1, at the Parsonage, Cornwall, the lady of the Rev. Alexander Williams, of a daughter. On Thursday, the 7th instant, the wife of the Rev. G. C. Street, resident Missionary in Emily, of a daughter, still-born.

MARRIED.

On the 29th ultimo, in St. Peter's Church, Thorold, by the Rev. T. B. Fuller, Mr. James Boyd, to Miss Sarah Page, both of DIED.

On Wednesday the 28th ult. at his residence near Port Robinson, James Holditch, Esq. aged 64 years, late of Stone House, Plymouth, England. Mr. Holditch was a passenger in the Sir Robert Peel when that ill-fated steamer was attacked and burnt by the brigands, who robbed him of a large sum of money.

him his aged partner has lost a kind husband, his children an affectionate and indulgent parent, and the church, to which he was warmly attached, and in whose communion he died, a zealous On the 2d inst. Thomas Walter, aged twenty months, son of

the Rev. John Grier, Rector of Belleville

LETTERS received during the week ending Friday, May 14th: Rev. G. Graham, add. sub.; Rev. W. Dawes, add. sub. and rem.; C. A. Richardson, Esq.; Rev. A. N. Bethune; Rev. G. C. Street, (nothing received yet); Rev. T. B. Fuller; Rev. F. Mack, add. sub.; Rev. J. G. Geddes; A. Menzics, Esq., rem.; Rev. J

The following have been received by the Editor: Lord Bishop of Toronto; J. G. D. McKenzie, Esq.; H.