

BRITISH NEWS.

From the New York Herald.

A vest composed of the overhairs of the English power in India, is said to have been discovered at Kurnal, an independent Mohammedan principality...

The discoveries have been almost exclusively confined to the Zawan's Zeena, which proves to be a perfect annual upon a most extended sale and you will start to hear that there have been found concealed in various ways—under ground and in gold-mines...

A great many exceedingly well constructed cannons are now standing in perfect order for casting guns and shot, and the ruins of many have been found in various places...

The bore of the largest is twenty six inches, thickness of metal nine inches, and its muzzle to cascade, about seven feet. The other has a bore of twenty-two and a half inches, and the other dimensions proportionate...

His Serene Highness will in the first place have the title of Royal Highness conferred upon him. This will give to all their departments...

It is difficult, from a hasty survey, to form a correct opinion, as to the period over which this manufacture of warlike engines and stores has extended...

When we consider that this really gigantic magazine, from which the implements for the destruction of our empire were to have sprung, has been existing and increasing day by day, and in a manner so stealthily as to have been (of course until lately) scarcely suspected by the government and the people...

From whence the men were to be collected to wield the enormous engine which has been prepared, and which connection this wretched storm has had with the daily clouds and recently lowered around our horizon, remain yet as mysterious in the world of time; and while it furnishes a striking passage commentary upon the strength and extent of our power, it also affords matter for serious cogitation...

The total quantity of powder found amounted to eight hundred and thirty thousand pounds, or more than six millions of pounds, in addition to the shot and shells of pewter, a considerable number of malleable iron six and nine pound balls had been found hammered into exceedingly true forms...

The prospect of a quiet reign for Shah Sooja, after the capture of his English allies, would seem to be a very slender one, as we may judge from the bitter hatred of the said allies alleged to exist among his subjects. A fearful evidence of this hatred was given in the murder of Colonel Herring, at Hyderabad, a short distance from the British frontier...

The cholera has broken out among the troops sent against Joudpore and Kurnal, in consequence to which the camp at the former was precipitately broken up on the 31st of October.

Parliament was fixed to meet on the 16th January, and Lord John Russell has issued circulars to the ministers, members requiring their attendance, and apprising them that business of the greatest importance to the interests of the country might be expected immediately on the opening of the session.

The East India Company's steam vessels, Queen, For Bengal, and Cleopatra, for Bombay, have sailed from Spithead. They will proceed to India under canvas, having their machinery completely fitted, and their paddled funnels on board.

South America Blockades.—The merchants of Liverpool have at length resolved to make such energetic remonstrances on the ruin occasioned to our country by the wanton aggressions of the French, as even Lord Palmerston shall be compelled to hear. We trust the commercial interests throughout the country will second the appeal.

The Journal de Paris, noticing the question of protecting duties as it affects the importation of iron from England, says the French manufacturers no longer require the same degree of protection as formerly, as they are bringing the manufacture to a high degree of perfection in France.

The French Ministry have appointed Commissioners to be sent to their West India Islands to report on the best means of drawing up a law for emancipating the negroes.

The French and Dutch Governments are negotiating a treaty of commerce, one of the chief articles of which has for its object to admit French colonial sugars into Holland at a lower rate of duty than sugars of any other nation.

Tom Diddie, the singer, yet lives, is 80 years of age, and nearly a mendicant.

A woman died lately in Italy, at the advanced age of 143 years, after having had eight husbands, the last of whom survived her.

Linon, or cloth made from flax, which is now the staple manufacture of Ireland, was first made in England, in the year 1253.

Russian Observatory.—The Russian National Observatory, which has been five years erecting, is at length completed. It is in the neighbourhood of St. Petersburg, on the hill of Pultova, which is about 240 feet high, being the most elevated point of a chain of heights enclosing on the south the vast basin of the Neva.

PRINCE ALBERT.—There is a good deal of misconception on the part of the unlearned public as to the particular position of his Serene Highness as consort of the Queen in England.

These dispositions, being a revocation of old usages, shall be published in Constantinople and throughout our empire, and communicated officially to the ambassadors resident there.

MECHANIC'S INSTITUTE.—On Monday evening Dr. R. BAYARD delivered a very interesting Lecture on Respiration, to the most numerous audience that we yet saw assembled in the long room of the Hotel.

STAGE ACCIDENT.—On Monday last, as Green's Stage was returning from Regent to the City, being unfortunately off the regular winter track, and proceeding along a path, it suddenly struck the ice, and being heavily laden with passengers, it was for some time extremely doubtful whether they could be saved.

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It is most important to fix the rate of taxes. The State is obliged to have recourse to them for the defence of its territories. It is henceforth their duty to each Ottoman subject to pay a certain sum of taxes, proportionate to his fortune and family.

Although the defence of the country is an important and universal duty, and although all classes of the population must furnish soldiers for the purpose, still there ought to be laws to fix the contingent of each locality, and limit to four or five years the term of military service.

Without such laws these, which in the service is felt, there can be neither energy nor force, nor riches, nor splendour, nor tranquillity.

These imperial concessions extend to all our subjects, of every religion, without exception. Perfect equality is accorded to all the inhabitants of the empire in life, honor, and fortune, as will be the text of our law.

All venality and traffic of offices shall be abolished, as the great cause of the decadence of the empire.

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SUPREME COURT.—The Sittings of the Court of Oyer and Terminer for the City and County of Saint John commenced on Tuesday last.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE CHANCELLOR OF KING'S COLLEGE.

Report of the late Examinations of the College and Collegiate Schools.

The Examination of the College took place on Monday the 16th December, and was conducted in the usual manner.

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From the Quebec Gazette.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND SIR JOHN HARVEY.—In so far, at least, as the Canadas are concerned, Lord John's researches into the records of the Colonial office, must have been very superficial, to enable him to say in the Despatch of the 16th October...

We think the case of the Attorney General and Solicitor General of Upper Canada in 1832 or 1833, for opposing the policy of Lord Goderich's despatch of that year, is in point; and we believe that the case of the Solicitor General of Lower Canada, in 1809, or ten, makes for the existence of the general practice.

Lord John's new notification of the practice of an established theory, will, therefore, not produce the results which it is supposed are intended. It will only further degrade official stations in the eyes of the people, or cause such a use to be made of the elective franchise and the privileges of the representative assemblies, as will force public officers on the Governors, independently of them and the Imperial Government, and finally establish a Republican Government of the worst sort in the Colonies...

Lord John Russell ought to have made himself better acquainted with Colonial affairs, before he intimated his despatch, and ordered it to be published. Sir John Harvey's circular can only be accounted for by the habits of that honorable profession to which he belongs, and in which, during the last war, he first turned the tide of American invasion, for which none feel more grateful than the inhabitants of Canadas.

The Seal of Government.—We are persuaded, that in so far as the inhabitants of Quebec, generally, are concerned, the seat of Government being amongst them is rather detrimental than otherwise. It is a seaport and a commercial town, that Quebec must prosper, and the habits of some of the Government people, who usually give the tone to society in the colonies, are inconsistent with those of men of business. One shipbuilder at Quebec, who attends diligently to his business, circulating more money than all the Government officers who would remove with the seat of Government. Whatever may happen, Quebec has nothing to fear for its future importance. It is the Gibraltar of the Mediterranean of North America; and the healthy shipping port of the most extensively navigable river in the world. These are advantages which no one can take away, and if we can rear up a moral, industrious, intelligent & peaceable population, their prosperity is certain, and there is no one that they need envy. As our southern brethren, of "the Saxon race," have heretofore chosen a time for quarrelling with England when the Canadas were badly prepared, we think it would be prudent, at all times, to keep a clear passage down the St. Lawrence, as all future Governors may not be so fortunate as Sir Guy Carleton in escaping to Quebec in 1775.—Here, at least, they will always find a safe place of refuge within the reach of England, unless, indeed, her sons "do off the lion's hide and haul a calf skin on their receding limbs."—Quebec Gazette.

Canadian Commerce.—It is gratifying to learn, notwithstanding the political troubles which have affected the Canadas, the commercial prospects of the country are bright. The value of the exports of 1839 were nearly double those of 1838, and as a matter of course, the provincial revenue has been very materially augmented. In 1838, the value of the exports was about £750,000, and the revenue arising from all the imports was £300,000; so that we may calculate on the revenue for 1839 being about £1,000,000. It is true that the Custom House order respecting the trans-shipment of goods at Quebec for Montreal without being previously entered, has added much to the revenue of this port, and deducted from that of Quebec, but notwithstanding all that, there cannot be a doubt that more business, of a healthy description, was transacted in the Canadas during the past year than in any former year. The number of imports, at this port, of overland goods, has increased from the number of merchants who have left this country for England, it is probable that the imports during the approaching business season will greatly exceed those of the past year. When we receive the official statement of imports from the Custom House, we believe it will fully justify our remarks.—Montreal Herald.

The weather has been cold enough for a Polar bear, or walrus, for some time back; and the use of Buffalo coats by bucks, gives quite a Lapland appearance to our streets. Quite, however, of driving rein-deer, they drive domestic dears.—Montreal Courier.

Fire in Jamaica.—An arrival at an American port from Jamaica, brings intelligence of a great fire at Savannah, Mar, by which thirteen buildings were destroyed, and property valued at £150,000—and no insurance.—It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

The London Atlas, of Nov. 30, says: The Queen, as she rode to the parade, in the absence of her betrothed, keeps within the castle.

The Queen is to be married in April, and thousands of pretty women are to follow her example.—N.Y. Herald.

It is said that Lord Brougham is preparing for the last life of the late Right Honorable George Canning.

A New Year's Gift.—A man, muffled up in a black cloak, rang the bell at a clergyman's in this city, on New Year's eve, and handed a basket "covered, to the servant, stating that it was a present from Mr. —, one of his parishioners. On opening the basket it was found to contain a noble child, apparently about two months old nearly stifled. Pinned to the child's dress, was a note, containing two lines of verse, after which the Commercial Bank, and these words: "Take care of it, for the sake of its sinful mother, and God will bless and reward you." As the clergyman is childless, he has concluded to adopt the little stranger.—New York News.

PASSENGERS.—In the ship British Queen, Capt. Dudgeon, sailed on Wednesday evening for London: Lieutenants, Coates and Walker, 69th Regiment; W. Roberts, Esq. of Bathurst, and Mr. Samuel Gardner, of the City.

In the St. George at Halifax, from Liverpool.—Mr. Edward F. Boyle, of this City.

WESLEYAN MISSIONS.—Sermons will be preached in the Wesleyan Chapel in this City and Portland, on Sunday the 26th inst., at the usual hours, both Morning and Evening. The Annual Meetings will be held in the German Street Chapel on Monday the 27th, at seven o'clock in the evening, and at Portland on Tuesday evening at the same hour.

LOST, this day, a Lady's Striped Cloak or CAPPE, trimmed with Black Velvet.—The finder will be suitably rewarded, by leaving it at the Observer Office.

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