a republican by principle and feeling, I am not so much of a stoic as not to have had my sympathies touched, while your national anthem was sung with such spirit and feeling. It is a beautiful spectacle to witness this voluntary tribute of respect paid, at the distance of three thousand miles, to the youthful sovereign of Great Britain, by a company like this, who, though the children or descendants of Scotland, with few exceptions, (as was observed by H. M. Consul on my right,) owe her at present no political allegiance. It would be a pleasing incident if it stood alone. But it is not your solitary act. You do but add your voices to a strain which is almost literally echoing round the globe. On this day, dedicated to your patron saint, the tribute of respect which you have just paid to the maiden majesty of your father-land, is repeated by the sons of Scotland wheresoever their lot is cast, at home or abroad, from the utmost Orkneys to the Cape of Good Hope, and from Canada to Hindostan; with no difference but that of time, as the Evening-star, rising successively on each region of the world-encircling empire of England, appoints the hour of the social gathering, and summons the sons of Caledonia to their patriotic vespers. I thank you, Mr. President, for allowing me to partake your hospitality on this occasion. I was not aware, till I received your kind invitation, that there existed among us an institution like this, coeval almost with the settlement of the country. It would be doing injustice to a society of this description, though it may bear a foreign name, to regard it as an institution of foreigners. Some of you, gentlemen, trace your descent, I presume, from ancestors who came to this country with the second, perhaps with the first, generation of its settlers. Among the names of the original founders of the institution, as preserved in one of the ancient record books, kindly put into my hands by my friend Mr. Gordon, I recognize some which still subsist among us, and which stand as high in the respect of the community as they did one hundred and eighty years ago. It is a principle deeply wrought into the destinies of America, that, settled originally in times of trial and convulsion in Europe, it should at all subsequent periods, afford a refuge to those who might be driven abroad by the storms of fortune, or who, from a desire of bettering their condition in life, should go forth from the crowded populations of the elder world, and follow the guidance of an honest spirit of adventure to the new found continent. Accordingly we find that in the higher paths of state, swept as they are by the tempests of revolution, regicide judges in ancient times, and in our times fugitive kings, have found a safe retreat on our shores. In the quiet and happier walks of private life, there has at all times been an active resort from Europe to America; and I doubt not that, at this moment, in more than one foreign country, many a loving and aching heart, waiting to receive the summons to follow those who have gone before, is able to respond to the plaintive strain of your immortal Burns:

'I turn to the west when I gae to my rest,
That happy my dreams and my slumbers may be;
For far in the west is he I loe best,
The youth that is dear to my bairn and to me.'

Now, sir, among all those, who, coming from every country in Europe, have brought hither the qualities by which they are characterized at home—whether it be the firm and manly Englishman, the ardent and generous son of Erin, the mercurial and liberal Frenchman, the sedate and industrious Hollander or German, there is none who has proved a better citizen in his new home, than the punctual, intelligent, and conscientious Scot. We of New-England ought to give you this credit, for both those who, in a serious strain, are disposed to pronounce our eulogy, and those who, in a lighter mood, make merry with our foibles, ascribe to us pretty much the same merits and defects of character. I may say, therefore, though to this extent a party interested, yet so much the greater claim to be believed sincere, that there is no people in Europe or America, among whom the Scottish emigrant has reason to blush for his native land. You are not numerous here, sir. I am sorry for it; and I hardly know why it is so; for I suppose we should be unwilling on either side, to acknowledge the validity of the reason, which has sometimes been assigned for the fact, viz: that we Yankees are too canny for you.

Your society, sir, as the secretary, in his very handsome report, has informed us, was founded near two hundred years ago. Scotland was then an independent kingdom. Not merely independent; she had, more than a century before, sent her sovereign to sit upon the throne of the sister realms. Although in the particular year in which the society was established, in 1657, the monarch of his prescribed lineage was, perhaps like some of your founders, wandering in foreign lands, dependent on the stranger for protection, yet three years had scarcely elapsed, before he was triumphantly restored. At the close of the century, however, the separate sovereignty of Scotland was merged in the Union of the kingdoms; in consequence of the superior wealth and numbers of the English, the local sceptre of the ancient monarchy departed forever; and the crown of Bruce was locked up in a dusty chest in Holyrood house, never more to be drawn forth, but as an object of antiquarian curiosity, or as a melancholy show. But let not the patriotic sons of Scotland lament the change. The sceptre of the mind can never pass away; she has won for her brows a diadem, whose lustre can never be obscured. Not to speak of the worthies of ages long passed; of the Knoxes, the Buchananns, and the early minstrelsy of the border; the land of your fathers, sir, since it has ceased to be separate kingdom, has, through the intellect of her gifted sons, acquired a supremacy over the minds of men, more extensive and more enduring, than that of Alexander or Augustus. It would be impossible to enumerate them all—the Blairs of the last generation, the Chalmerses of this; the Robertsons, and Humes; the Smiths, the Reids, the Stuarts, the Browns; the Homes, the Mackenzies; the Mackintoshes, the Broughams, the Jeffreys, with their distinguished compeers, both in physical and moral science. The Marys and the Elizabeths, the Jameses and the Charleses, will be forgotten, before those names will perish from the memory of men. And when I add to them those other illustrious names, Burns, Campbell, Byron and Scott, may I not truly say, sir, that the throne and sceptre of England will crumble into dust like those of Scotland: and Windsor Castle and Westminster Abbey will lie in ruins as poor and desolate as those of Scone and Iona, before the lords of Scottish song shall cease to reign in the hearts of men? For myself, sir, I confess that I love Scotland. I have reason to do so. I have trod the soil of the

'Land of brown heath and shaggy wood,
Land of the mountain and the flood.'

I have looked up to the cloud-capt summit of Ben Lomond, have glided among the fairy islets of Loch Katrine; and from the battlements of Stirling Castle, have beheld the links of Forth sparkling in the morning sun. I have done more, sir; I have tasted that generous hospitality of Scotland, which her Majesty's Consul has so justly commemorated; I have held converse with her most eminent sons; I have made my pilgrimage to Melrose Abbey, in company with that modern magician, who, mightier than the magician of old that sleeps beneath the marble floor of its chancel, has hung the garlands of immortal poesy upon its shattered arches, and made its mossclad ruins a shrine, to be visited by the votary of the muse from the remotest corners of the earth, to the end of time. Yes, sir, musing as I did, in my youth, over the sepulchre of the wizard, once pointed out by the bloody stain of the cross and the image of the archangel; standing within that consecrated enclosure, under the friendly guidance of him whose genius has made it holy ground; while every nerve within me thrilled with excitement, my fancy kindled with the inspiration of the spot. I seemed to behold, not the vision so magnificently described by the minstrel—the light, which, as the tomb was opened,

'broke forth as gloriously,
Streamed upward to the chancel roof,
And through the galleries far aloof:'

but I could fancy that I beheld, with sensible perception, the brighter light which had broken forth from the master mind; which had streamed from his illumined page all-gloriously upward, above the pinnacles of worldly grandeur, till it mingled its equal beams with that of the brightest constellations, in the intellectual firmament of England. In taking my seat, sir, said Governor Everitt, I beg leave to renew my thanks for the honor done me, and to propose as a toast:

"The Scots' Charitable Society, the prosperity of the institution, and the welfare of each of its members."

The Scotch Patriot, is the title of a newspaper to be established in this city, devoted to dissemination of news particularly interesting to the emigrants from the "land o' cakes." Dr. Cummings, of 75 White-street, the projector, will find "a' the blue bonnets" coming to his standard. If he does not, we are mistaken in the people—and if the paper is not a good one, we are mistaken in the man. Price $3 50.—*New-York Dispatch.*

COLONIAL.

From the Quebec Gazette, Dec. 23.

The following is the division in the Upper Canada Legislative Council on the Resolutions submitted by the Hon. Mr. Sullivan, for the re-union of the Provinces.

"VOTE UPON THE UNION.

"Yeas—Honbles. Messrs. Sullivan, Executive Councillor and Commissioner of Crown Lands; McAulay, Inspector General; Baldwin, Executive Councillor; Dunn, Receiver General; Wells, Adamson, Crooks, Morris, Ferguson, La Blaquiere, M'Donald, Radcliffe, Fraser, McGillivray.—(14.)

"Nays—Bishop of Toronto, Honbles. Crookshanks, Allan, M'Donell, Elmsley, VanKoughnet, M'Aulay, (Capt.)—Wilson.—(8.)

"The three first yeas voted against the Union last Session and would have done so again this, but they dare not. Lord John Russell's despatch settled that point."

The House having waited upon the Governor General with the Resolutions, His Excellency returned the following answer:—

"HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN—The diligence and attention which you have devoted to the consideration of the important subject referred to you in my Message, demand my warmest acknowledgements, and your decision affords me the utmost gratification.

"I shall have great satisfaction in transmiting to Her Majesty's Government the resolutions which you have adopted: and you may rest assured that the confidence which you have no less wisely than generously reposed in the wisdom and justice of our gracious Sovereign, and of the Imperial Parliment for the settlement of the details of the plan of Reunion, will be felt as an additional motive for anxious attention being devoted to the establishment of prosperity and good Government of Upper Canada.

"In the advice and recommendations which it will be my duty to offer, founded on the information I shall have acquired in both Provinces, I shall be guided by the most anxious desire to secure these important results for the attainment of which the Legislative Council of Upper Canada has declared its assent to the Re-union."

The following additional proceeding in respect to the Re-union of the Provinces is copied from a paper printed by order of the Legislative Council of Upper Canada, with which we have been favoured:

"RESOLVED:

"That an humble Address be presented to her Majesty, praying that her Majesty, in the event of the Union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada being carried into effect, would be graciously pleased to direct that the Seat of the United Legislature, and Civil Government, be placed in such situation, within the present limits of Upper Canada, as will be convenient to the inhabitants of both Provinces, and so remote from the frontier as to insure the safety of the Public Records of the Colony; and to direct Her Majesty's Ministers, in any Bill, which they may submit for the consideration of the Imperial Parliament, to carry out the principle of an Union of the said Provinces, the following provisions:—

"That the provisions of the Act 31st of King George the III. Chapter 31st, be continued, in so far as they do not interfere with the proposed Union.

"That the permanency of the seats of the Members of the Legislative Council, to be appointed under the authority of the proposed Act for uniting the said Provinces, and the power given to the Sovereign to make those seats hereditary, remain as they now are, under the said Act; and that it be declared that the Speaker of that Body be not eligible unless he be a Member thereof.

"That a qualification of Members to seats in the House of Assembly be provided for—neither so high as greatly to limit the choice of the Electors, nor so low as to introduce into that Body persons having but little pecuniary interest in the Colony, nor properly qualified in other respects; and that provision be also made for the enregistration of Voters, and holding the Elections in the same manner as is now the practice in England, in so far as the same can be made applicable to this Colony; also, that the oaths required to be now taken by Candidates, by the laws now in force in Upper Canada, be continued.

"That all written proceedings, of what nature soever, of the Legislative Council and Assembly, or either of them, shall be in the English language, and none other; and at the end of the space of ——years, all debates in the said Legislative Council, or in the said Assembly, shall be carried on in the English language, and none other.

"That the Courts of Judicature, and all inferior Courts, be maintained as they now are, under different enactments of the Legislature of this Province until amended or repealed by the joint Legislature, as well as all local and other Courts now in force therein.

"That a new division of the Counties of Lower Canada be made by the Imperial Government, so as to secure a due proportion of the representation in the United Legislature to the British Inhabitants of Lower Canada."

We are informed that the Union Resolutions submitted to the Upper Canada House of Assembly by Mr. Draper, Solicitor General, have passed that body by a majority of *seven*. An address similar to that of the Council, will probably also be adopted.

Thus the Re-union measure has received the sanction of the Special Council of Lower Canada, and of the two Branches of the Legislature of Upper Canada, by the help of Lord John Russell's Despatch of the 16th Oct. It has yet to pass the ordeal of the House of Commons, and the House of Lords. If it is finally carried, "THE REPEAL OF THE UNION!" will not be so troublesome as the same cry in Ireland, *for it will not last so long.*—Ib.

TORONTO, Dec. 16.—On Wednesday the debate on Mr. Boulton's Bill to compel voters suspected of belonging to treasonable societies to swear a certain loyal oath, was resumed, but was eventually negatived by a majority of 4.

NOVA-SCOTIA LEGISLATURE.

At two o'clock on Tuesday, 31st December, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor went to the Council Chamber in State, and opened the Legislative Session with the following Speech:

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have been principally induced to call you together at this early period from its having come to my knowledge that the requisitions of the Act for the regulations of Juries, which passed in the Session of 1838, have not been duly attended to, whereby important criminal proceedings have been already delayed for want of legal Grand Juries, and great public inconvenience must necessarily follow unless a speedy remedy shall be afforded by the Legislature. I, therefore, most earnestly request your immediate attention to this subject, so important to the administration of justice.

I shall take an early opportunity of laying before you the Dispatches which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reply to the Addresses and resolutions adopted by you in the last Session, and to the various other communications on the state of the Province, which were recently brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government by the Delegates selected from both Houses, to proceed to England for that purpose. But I cannot forego the pleasure of immediately quoting the following expression of the Right Honourable Secretary:

"In discussing the subjects adverted to, it has been my anxious endeavour to arrive at the conclusion most calculated to meet the wishes, and promote the interest, of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in Nova Scotia. The attachment which they have invariably displayed to the Mother Country,—the liberality and gallantry with which, on a recent occasion, at a crisis of peculiar difficulty, they came forward to tender to Her Majesty their personal and pecuniary assistance in the maintenance of her authority on the North American Continent, entitle them to every consideration which it is in the power of the Crown to bestow."

At the commencement of the last Session I informed you that it was contemplated to substitute Steam Packets for the sailing vessels now employed in the conveyance of the Mails between England and Halifax; and I have now the gratification to acquaint you that an engagement has been concluded (at the annual charge of £60,000 Sterling to the Mother Country) for the running of Steam Packets twice in every month between Liverpool and Halifax; and also between Halifax and Boston, and between Pictou and Quebec, as long as the St. Lawrence in navigable; and I have peculiar satisfaction in adding, that this arrangement which must be attended with such important benefits to all these Colonies, was brought about by the enterprising spirit of a Nova Scotian Merchant, at a time when difficulties had unexpectedly occurred which might have otherwise prevented its early accomplishment.

In my former address to you on this subject, I intimated the expectation that was entertained that this colony would, as far as depended upon it, further the general objects by improving the several mail routes to Quebec; and I have reason to believe that, had there been any certainty that the scheme would be carried into effect in the ensuing season, ample provision would have been made by the Assembly in aid of the liberal views of Her Majesty's Government.

The same expectation is repeated in the Despatch announcing the completion of the arrangements, which reached me sometime after the close of the last session. It thereupon became my duty to lose no time in endeavouring to prevent the disappointment of that just expectation; and the question arose whether I should convene the Legislature for the purpose of laying the Despatch before them, or, anticipating their appropriation of money, at once proceed with the necessary improvements, and thus save a year without putting the province to the expense and inconvenience of an extra session.

On consulting with my Council I was induced to adopt the latter course; and though to draw money from the Tressury, without the sanction of a law, is rarely justifiable, still I feel persuaded, that, under the circumstances I have mentioned, you will readily concur in providing for the small expenditure I have authorised on this service. And I have also the fullest conviction that the requisite funds will be placed at my disposal for conveying on along the whole extent of the several lines of communication with Quebec and New Brunswick, the improvements which on my own responsibility I have commenced.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I have directed the public accounts to be laid before you with as little delay as possible, and I trust that you will find the supplies granted to her Majesty have been faithfully applied. I have also directed the usual estimates for the support of her Majesty's Government to be prepared, with every regard to economy; and I confidently rely, that, with an increasing Revenue under your control, you will grant the necessary supplies with your usual liberality.

I rejoice to state that I have not had occasion to avail myself, except to a very small amount, of the means which, at a period, as it was supposed, of impending hostilities, you loyally and munificently placed at my disposal for the equipment and organization of the Militia. I feel convinced, that should circumstances require the services of this constitutional force, that you will again display the same noble spirit which you evinced on that occasion.

Mr. Speaker and Honoroble Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I rely on your proceeding with unanimity and despatch to the consideration of the various subjects requiring your attention. Among those that chiefly merit it at the present period are, the re-enactment of the law relating to Common and Grammar Schools, with such modifications and amendments, as your experience of its operation in the several counties may have suggested,—the more extensive diffusion of religious education among the people,—the encouragement of agriculture and the fisheries—and the adoption of more effectual measures than have hitherto been resorted to, for preventing the encroachment of foreigners on our fishing grounds,—the improvement of our system of expenditure on the Mail roads, with a view to their being immediately placed and then maintained, in a thorough state of repair,—and the establishment in the Town or vincinity of Halifax, of a Provincial Penitentiary, an Orphan House, and a House of Industry. In the promotion of these, and all other measures, which may tend still further to improve the resources, and to confirm the prosperity, which, under Divine Providence, this Colony now enjoys, you may depend on my hearty concurrence.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1840.

The English intelligence received by the ship Robert Bruce, contained in our last paper, is of course still the latest.

FIRE.—Yesterday morning, about 10 o'clock, the upper part of the house occupied by the Rev. Mr. Andrew and Mr. Dougan, in Princess street, and owned by Mr. Gallagher, was discovered to be on fire. It was at first of a very alarming nature, the house being surrounded on all sides by large, valuable and respectable dwelling houses, whose destruction would have been almost certain had the fire obtained head-way. By its early discovery, however, and the well directed efforts of the firemen, and others, it was soon extinguished. The roof and some of the upper parts of the building are considerably damaged. It originated, we learn, from a spark having lodged on the roof and igniting the shingles. The Military were promptly in attendance, as usual.

Mr. Ansley very fortunately having a pipe from the *Waterworks* leading into his Tannery in the rear of the building on fire, and his vats being full, the Engines were plentifully supplied from that source, by which doubtlessly the Fire was so early got under after the arrival of the Engines.—This is another instance of the great benefit of the Water Company to the city.

FIRE AT MIRAMICHI.—An extensive Brewery, Distillery, Oat and Flour Mill, propelled by a steam engine, Drying Kiln, &c. at Chatham, Miramichi, owned by Mr. G. Rainnie, and two small buildings owned by T. H. Peters, Esq. were destroyed by fire at an early hour on Christmas morning.—The Foundry of Messrs. Fraser, Masson & Co. was several times on fire, but was fortunately preserved, with some damage to the roof and sides of the building.

ST. JOHN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—We were much delighted last evening in hearing the Lecture on the nature and properties of Hydrogen Gas delivered by Dr. GESNER, before the Institute. The science of Chemistry when illustrated experimentally, is of much use to the Merchant, the Mechanic, and the Man of leisure. To the former and to the latter it will always at least be interesting, and to the Artizan it is of much importance—as nearly if not all of the useful things of life have a close relation to it.—The learned Lecturer's manner of illustrating scientific facts is very happy and very instructive. Instead of attempting to soar above his audience, he, if any thing rather labours to keep within the understanding and acquirements of all his listeners; and in such a way too that all who go—*learn*. The experimental illustrations of his subject last evening were exceedingly successful and very beautiful. At the close of the Lecture, by desire of many of the friends of the Institute, he digressed from the subject of hydrogen, and repeated one of the experiments of the preceding Lecture,—that of introducing a column of pure oxygen through an aperture in a common lamp,—the result presenting one of the most brilliant and intense spectacles of LIGHT ever shown to an audience. It would be well for our City if the attention of all its inhabitants during our long winter evenings could be devoted to such really intellectual and rational pursuits as those presented by the Mechanics' Institute of St. John.—*Com.*

Mr. Foulis delivered his *Introductory* to a course of Lectures on Chemistry, on Friday evening, at the *School of Arts*, to a respectable audience. Several experiments were successfully performed. The subject of Mr. F's next lecture is *Atmospheric Air.*—[A communication on the subject of Mr. F's introductory lecture was received too late for insertion to-day.]

The snow appears to have all gone *South* this winter. The New-York *New World* says that that city was visited by a regular old fashioned snow storm on Sunday the 22d Dec. In many places it drifted to the depth of three or four feet; the rail road tracks were blocked up, and the mails delayed. As far south as Baltimore and Washington, on the same day, large quantities of snow fell, as also in the interior of the country.

In St. John our streets are yet almost as bare of snow as in summer; *all* that has fallen here at several times this season would not more than cover the ground—consequently there has been no sleighing. At Quebec, Montreal, Halifax, &c. there had been but little snow at the latest dates.

TIMBER.—Cargoes of St. John pine timber, large averages and good qualities, were sold in Liverpool, early in December, at 21¾ to 22d. per foot; moderate size 21d., and inferior 19½d. to 20d. per foot. Quebec cargoes sold from 18½d. to 19½d. foot. St. Andrews 20d., and Miramichi 19d. per foot. St. John red pine worth 19 to 20d. per foot. St. John birch 16 to 17d. foot; good parcels worth 21d. per foot. St. John ash hogshead staves are worth £8 10s. per thousand. Puncheon staves bring £15 to £18 per M.; and standard Staves, all Pipe lengths, worth £65 to £70 per M.

GALES.—The American coast, from Maine to Delaware, was again visited by a dreadful storm on the 27th and 28th December, which caused much destruction to shipping and other property at Boston, Salem, Newburyport, Gloucester, Portland, &c. The tide rose very high at New York, covering the wharves and lower streets, doing considerable damage.—The same gale was experienced in this city on the 28th and 29th Dec.

On the 22d Dec., Charleston, S. C., was visited by a heavy gale, which did much damage to shipping in the harbor.

The collection in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday last, for the benefit of the poor, amounted to £13 13s. 6½d.

The Rev. Mr. Archibald, and Lady, of Chatham, Miramichi, arrived in town on Saturday morning, and sailed to-day in the barque *Ritchie*, for Scotland, on a visit to their friends. Mr. Archibald preached an excellent sermon in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday afternoon.

We have great pleasure in stating that the sum of Ten Pounds, (including Capt. O'Halloran's donation,) has been contributed by the Officers of the gallant 69th Regt. stationed in this garrison, to the funds of the Bible Society.

THE NOVA SCOTIAN.—Saturday's Mail brought us the first number of the New Series of this paper, clothed in a new dress, and which is now the same size as the New-York Albion, and very like that paper in appearance—we should say the resemblance is almost too close. Mr. Howe, the editor, is a very clever and talented writer, and has taken a very wise step in enlarging his paper at this time, in order to be ready to disseminate the earliest intelligence from Europe on the arrival of the Atlantic Steamers next spring. After that period we shall look to Halifax and not to New-York for the latest news, and such a paper as the "Nova Scotian" has now become, will be absolutely required in these Colonies.

While we admire Mr. Howe's talents as a writer, and the energy and ability with which he has always conducted his paper, we would crave leave to offer him one word of advice. We trust he will not sully the new and brilliant pages of the "Nova Scotian" with personalities similar to those which have from time to time appeared in the columns of the old paper. Those blots upon his escutcheon have hitherto prevented his journal being more extensively circulated in this Province—now that it is so much improved and enlarged, we trust Mr. Howe will not fall into the former error, because he may rest assured that by maintaining a manly and dignified course, he will add much to his own fame, the character of his paper, and its circulation in New-Brunswick.

We should have abstained from these remarks at this time, did we not notice something of the old leaven in this first number of the "Nova Scotian," under the head of "New-Brunswick affairs." That article appears to have been written for the sole purpose of abusing Mr. H. Gilbert, a highly respectable member of this community, now President of the Commercial Bank. Without a single fact, reasoning, or argument, it pours on Mr. Gilbert's head the most violent personal abuse. We do not intend entering into a discussion on this tirade of slander, but we beg distinctly to say that we hold the style and manner of the attack highly objectionable and wholly unjustifiable. Articles of such character can only injure Mr. Howe's fair fame, and the reputation of his journal, and we sincerely hope he will abstain from publishing them, because we really desire to see his paper receive every encouragement and support. These it will richly deserve and assuredly obtain by pursuing a proper course; and we conclude by wishing Mr. Howe and his improved "Nova Scotian" a long career of prosperity, earned and maintained by high talent, combined with honorable feeling, and a determination to maintain the liberty, and not the abuse, of the British Press.—*Communicated.*

ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, at noon, the Officers of the 36th Regt. with Colonel Maxwell at their head, waited in a body upon his Excellency SIR JOHN HARVEY. They went from the Barrack square to Government House, in sleighs in gallant style; after having paid their respects to His Excellency, they returned, making a circuit round the town. At two o'clock, the gallant Colonel, with other Gentlemen, and many Ladies, attended the Regimental School, where an excellent dinner had been prepared for the children, by the munificence of Colonel Maxwell. Previous to partaking of the dinner, says the Fredericton Sentinel, "a remarkably fine Boy, named Moran, only eleven years of age, rose and repeated the following address in a clear and audible voice:

"We cannot allow this Festival to pass, without returning, on the part of the Schools of the 36th Regiment, our most grateful thanks to our kind, and most esteemed and beloved Colonel MAXWELL, for this and all his other marks of kindness—not only in contributing to our gratification at the commencement of a New Year, but also for his constant and fatherly superintendance of our schools, both in the week and on the Sabbath; and we bless God, who has, by his kind Providence, placed over us so kind and vigilant a Benefactor, and pray, that he may long be spared to watch over us; and to enjoy with his beloved family, many, many happy New Years."

On his sitting down an intelligent and pretty little girl, named Creighton, only 10 years of age, stood up, and with great ease and self-possession spoke as follows:

"We beg most thankfully to add our very grateful thanks to our kind benefactress, Mrs. CARMICHAEL, who has at all times given her devoted attention to the Schools of the Regiment, not sparing herself either under the burning influence of the climate of the West Indies, or the chilling cold of the Northern blast—and we most heartily wish her, and all those dear to her, the enjoyment of many happy years."

Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell, not willing to detain them from their dinner, spoke but a few words, which however were full of feeling and greatly to the purpose. He, as well as Major Cairnes, and the Ladies seemed *deeply affected.* The latter wept, and we thought we could discover a tear trickling down a veteran cheek. The Venerable Archdeacon Coster, who as Garrison Chaplain was present, read an impressive grace, and the signal being given, the eager expectants fell to in right earnest."

The Canadian Union Bill has passed both branches of the Upper Canada Legislature.

LARGE DIVIDEND.—The New-Brunswick Marine Assurance Company declared a semi-annual dividend on the 2d instant, of FORTY PER CENT., which we believe is an almost unprecedented return for capital so invested. This institution has not yet been in operation three years, and has paid losses to the amount of upwards of £36,000. The present dividend, therefore, is highly creditable to its managers, and is an evidence of the extent of our Shipping, which are almost the only vessels insured in the office, while the company is restricted from taking a risk in any one instance exceeding £3000.—*Courier.*

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, William Jack, Esq. delivered a very interesting Lecture before the Institute, on the uses and properties of Water, which was well attended. The Lecturer brought forward many interesting and important facts relative to water, and the manifold benefits mankind are ever deriving from it, through the goodness and wisdom of the Creator, whose works are perfect. The Lecture was prepared in good style, and as this was Mr. Jack's first Lecture, we may be allowed to say that his manner and delivery were very good, and bidding fair to excel with practice.

It was announced that on Friday evening next, Mr. Addison would deliver a Lecture on Phrenology and advocate its claims to be considered as a science, and that on Monday week Dr. Bayard would deliver a Lecture on the Anatomy and Physiology of Respiration, in which the anatomical elucidations would be conducted in such a manner as not to offend the most delicate.—*Ib.*

The Pictou *Mechanic and Farmer* states that the shipping registered at that port, from the 21st May to 21st October, 1839, amounted to thirty-eight vessels, measuring in all 9631 tons.

In the Upper Canada House of Assembly, notices of the following motions have been given by Mr. Manahan:—

An Address to the Queen, praying for the extension to the British Colonies in North America, of the full benefit of the penny postage law, now in force in the United Kingdom; and with reference to a former address of the House, on the subject of newspaper postage, praying, that reasonable recompense, by increase of salary, may be made to the Deputy Post Master General, provided the newspaper postage be abolished, or reduced.

Resolutions have been introduced into the Senate of the United States, by Mr. Linn, for taking possession of the Oregon Territory, (Columbia River,) and the coast of the Pacific ocean in that vicinity. There is an unsettled boundary in this quarter between the United States and Great Britain.

INQUEST.—An Inquest was held on Monday last on board the brig *Helen & Elizabeth*, on view of the body of Robert Lindsay, a seaman belonging to that vessel, who was taken suddenly ill, and expired before medical aid could be obtained. Verdict—"Died by the visitation of God."

From the Fredericton Royal Gazette Jan. 1.

CIRCULAR MEMORANDUM,

Addressed by the Lieutenant Governor to the Heads of the Civil Departments, and Members of the Executive Council in New-Brunswick.

GENTLEMEN,

In communicating to you the copy of a Despatch which I have recently received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, I avail myself of the occasion to state to you the views which I take of the very important change which, by this Dispatch, is made in the tenure of your respective offices; which, instead of being held as heretofore, either "for life" or during "good behaviour," are henceforward made entirely dependent upon the will of the Sovereign, or that of Her Majesty's Representative. The principal objects of the regulations now introduced appear to me to be: 1st. while enlarging the powers of the Administrator of the Government, by leaving him free to choose his Counsellors and Office-Bearers, to at the same time, impose upon him a corresponding degree of increased responsibility, as well towards the Queen's Government as towards the inhabitants of the Province over which He is appointed to preside, for the satisfactory administration of its affairs; and 2nd, and above *all*, it has for its object to ensure for the Governor, as far as may be possible, the most cordial and sincere support, assistance, and co-operation, in carrying out His views and policy and those of Her Majesty's Government, on the part of every individual Member of the Provincial Government, whose tenure of office is now made dependent upon Him, by identifying their interests (as far at least as that tenure is concerned,) with that line of conduct.

Entertaining these views of the subject, I hail this Despatch as conferring a new, and in my judgment, an improved Constitution upon these Colonies.

Gentlemen, I have no intention or desire to require from you any thing in the shape of a renewed pledge or engagement other than those to which you are already bound by your respective oaths of office,—but having frankly explained to you my construction of this Despatch, I trust that it may only be necessary for me to signify to those who may do me the honor to retain their appointments and seats, that I must regard their doing so as a tacit intimation of their desire and intention to afford me their zealous aid and co-operation in conducting the affairs of the Provincial Government, and that if they should at any time hereafter feel themselves called upon to avow sentiments adverse to the policy which that Government may pursue, or otherwise to oppose or obstruct the course of the proceeding which it may adopt, they will at the same time fully recognise the condition which such a *dissent* from the views of the Colonial Government, so carried out, must necessarily involve.

With regard to such of the present salarized officers possessing sufficient claims from length of service, and who may now or hereafter, upon sufficient grounds, be desirous of retiring from office during my administration, I can only assure them that I shall be found at all times ready and willing to bring under the favorable notice of Her Majesty's Government, and to give all due support to their applications for pension or retired allowance, in fair and reasonable remuneration for past services, upon the principle, however, that such pension or allowance, (if obtained,) shall cease upon any future restoration to office, and *vice versa* again revive on the discontinuance of official salary.

These, Gentlemen, are the only observations which I have deemed it necessary to make, in communicating to you a Despatch, of which a Copy, as well as of this Memorandum, will be furnished to each of you by the Provincial Secretary.

(Signed) J. HARVEY, *Lieut. Governor.*

Government House, Fredericton, Dec. 21, 1839.

N. B. The office of "Clerk of the Executive Council" is to be added to the List given in the Despatch.

At a Public Meeting, held at Robinson's Inn, in HARVEY, in the County of Westmorland, on Saturday the fourteenth day of December, 1839, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1st.—Resolved, that a Petition be presented to the Governor, Council, and Assembly, praying that a grant may be made for the purpose of making a survey of that part of the Bay of Fundy and Shepody River which lies between Grindstone Island and M'Clennan's Landing.

2d.—Resolved, that a Petition be presented to the Governor, Council, and Assembly, praying that a grant may pass to explore and lay out the best line of Road from Point Wolfe River, in Harvey, to Quaco, and that Captain David Vaughan, Andrew Newcomb, and Reuben Stiles, be recommended for Commissioners for that purpose.

4th.—Resolved, that a Petition be presented to the Governor, Council, and Assembly, praying that a Bill may pass to erect a part of the Parish of Harvey into a separate and distinct Parish.

Whereas repeated applications have been made, and hitherto without any effect, to erect that part of the County of Westmorland, lying to the west of the Petitcodiac, into a separate and distinct County,—the hardships we have to encounter in passing a dangerous and expensive Ferry, and having population, extent of territory, and other resources sufficient to require a separate County, it becomes our imperative duty as loyal British subjects, to persevere in asking for the same, therefore

5th.—Resolved, that a humble Petition be presented to the Governor, Council, and Assembly, praying that a Bill may pass to erect that part of the present County of Westmoreland lying west of the Petitcodiac, comprising the Parishes of Harvey, Hopewell, Hillsborough, Coverdale, and part of the Parish of Salisbury, into a separate and distinct County.

6th.—Resolved, that the aforegoing Resolutions be published in the Saint John Courier and Observer and the Fredericton Sentinel. (Signed) JOHN OWENS, *Secretary.*

Harvey, 14th December, 1839.

THE MARRIAGE OF QUEEN VICTORIA—MEETING OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.—Since the year 1761, when on the 8th of July, King George the Third announced, at a meeting of his Privy Council, his intended marriage with the Princess Charlotte of Mecklenburg Strelitz, no meeting of that distinguished and important body has excited so much of public interest as that which was held yesterday at Buckingham Palace, and at which Her Majesty signified her intention to contract a marriage with His Royal Highness Prince Albert, of Saxe Cobourg and Gotha.

About 90 of the members of the Council were in attendance, among whom were his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Viscount Melbourne, Duke of Wellington, Sir Robert Peel, Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord John Russell, Marquis of Normanby, &c. Immense crowds of people were drawn to the neighbourhood of Buckingham Palace.—Her Majesty, who appeared in remarkably good health and spirits, was loudly cheered by the populace, which was kindly acknowledged by her Majesty.

Her Majesty being present in Council, was pleased to make the following Declaration:—

"I have caused you to be summoned at the present time, in order that I may acquaint you with my resolution in a matter which deeply concerns the welfare of my people, and the happiness of my future life.

"It is my intention to ally myself in marriage with the Prince Albert, of Saxe Coburg and Gotha.

"Deeply impressed with the solemnity of the engagement which I am about to contract, I have not come to this decision without mature consideration, nor without feeling a strong assurance, that with the blessing of Almighty God, it will at once secure my domestic felicity and serve the interests of my country.

"I have thought fit to make this resolution known to you at the earliest possible period, in order that you may be fully apprised of a matter so highly important to me and my kingdom, and which I persuade myself will be most acceptable to all my loving subjects."

Whereupon all the privy councillors present made it their humble request to her Majesty, that her Majesty's most gracious declaration to them might be made public; which her Majesty was pleased to order accordingly.

April is understood to be the month fixed on for Her Majesty's nuptials.

The religious census of Upper Canada, so far as returns are made, is as follows:—Episcopalians, 79,754—Presbyterians, 78,383—Methodists, 61,088—Roman Catholics, 42,029—Baptists, 12,968—23 other denominations, 22,806—No professed religion, 34,706—No returns for, 67,558. Total—400,346.

The Pictou *Mechanic and Farmer*, of the 1st instant, made its appearance on a large *double* sheet. A remark in it however gives us to understand that it is not to be continued on that size sheet—it was probably merely a *New-Year present.*

LATER FROM CHINA.—The ship Morrison, Capt. Benson, arrived yesterday from China. She sailed from Canton July 24. The port of Canton is to be blockaded by the English, and the British fleet under Admiral Maitland, was daily expected there when the Morrison sailed.

No vessels, save American, had entered the port of Canton for three months anterior to the 27th July.—*New York Herald.*

Her Majesty's Packet Swift arrived at London on the 26th November, with 700,000 Dollars in specie from Mexico.

☞ Three hundred thousand dollars will shortly be paid to Maine by the General Government, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Aroostook war. [Doubted.]—*New-Yorker.*

MARRIED,

On Thursday, by the Rev. William Andrew, Mr. John M'Cauver, to Miss Fanny Martin, both of the Parish of Portland.—Same day, by the same, Mr. Henry A. Allen, to Miss Mary Jones, both of City.—On Friday, by the same, Mr. Robert Eaton, to Miss Elizabeth Robinson, both of King's County.

On Thursday the 15th December, by the Rev. William Walker, Mr. William Baird, to Miss Sarah Ann Leakee, both of Upham, King's County.

At Sheffield on the 25th ult. by the Rev. F. W. Miles, Mr. John T. Smith, of Fredericton, to Miss Letitia Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. H. Bridges.

At Fredericton, on the 21st ult. by the Rev. F. W. Miles, Mr. George W. Turner, Merchant, to Mary Jane, eldest daughter of Mr. W. S. Estey, all of Fredericton.

At Dalhousie, on the 2d Dec. by the Rev. James Steven, Mr. John Gilbreath, of Belle Doune, Bay Chaleur, to Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr. Daniel Vaughan, of St. John, N. B.

On 31st December, in the Parish Church of Shediac, by the Rev. the Rector, Mr. Edward Coates, of Wellington, to Miss Janet Tate, of Shediac.

In Boston, on Thursday morning, 26th ultimo, by the Rev. Dr. Channing, Robert James Macintosh, Esquire, of Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, to Mary, daughter of the Hon. Nathan Appleton.

DIED,

On Thursday morning, after a most distressing illness, in the 43d year of her age, Margaret Allice, relict of the late Capt. Charles Hanford