

nighbouring thicket, and halted at a place containing some loose and decayed brushwood. On removing this, he thrust down the ramrod of his musket into the earth, smelt at it, and desired the spectators to dig there. Instantly spades were brought from the cottage, and the body of the settler was found, with his skull fractured, and presenting every indication of having been some time immersed in water. The Overseer, who was in possession of the property of the deceased, and who had invented the story of his departure for England, was committed to gaol, and tried for murder. The foregoing circumstantial evidence formed the main proofs: he was found guilty, sentenced to death, and proceeded to the scaffold protesting his innocence. Here, however, his hardihood forsook him. He acknowledged the murder of his master: that he came behind him when he was crossing the identical rail on which the farmer fancied he saw the deceased, and with one blow on the head, killed him; dragged the body to the pond, and threw it in; but, after some days, took it out, and buried it where it was found. The sagacity of the native Black was remarkable; but the unaccountable manner in which the murder was discovered, is one of the inscrutable dispensations of Providence.—*R. M. Martin's Colonial Library, vol. ii., pp. 156-158.*

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER COLUMBIA.

THE steamer *Columbia*, after a passage during which she suffered severely from a series of dreadful storms, arrived at Halifax on the 25th. She left, as intended, on the 4th ult. On the 18th, the Engineer reported that the intermediate shaft was broken, and the engines were necessarily stopped. Her sails were immediately hoisted, and she continued under them until the 25th, when her engines were put in motion, to bring her into the port of Halifax, which she reached in safety. She was kept there to repair, while the *Unicorn* took the mail and passengers to Boston. Among the latter was the Hon. S. Cunard.

In England the prospects of business were dull, the only thriving employment being the manufacture of warlike implements, which were rendered necessary by the news from India.

Trade generally is very dull. Money had been very scarce, but the Bank of England having reduced the rate of discount to four per cent., it became somewhat easier. A slight improvement in business was the consequence. In many of the manufacturing towns, however, a very dismal state of affairs existed.

A so called "Riband Conspiracy," in Ireland, had induced some activity in the military stations. The change in the Government is the cause attributed.

Meetings and petitions respecting the Corn Laws were of every day occurrence in England.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert still remained at Brighton.

The *Great Western* was to sail for New York on the 21 April. Her trips will be alternately made from Bristol and Liverpool.

The *Britannia* which had been overhauled, was found to be still in perfect order. The *Calcutta*, with the exception of the damage suffered on her late attempted voyage, was as stout as on the day she was launched.—*Mss.*

The passengers in the steamship *Caledonia*, have presented the commander, Capt. E. G. Lott, with a Chronometer Watch and a Silver Speaking Trumpet, "as a testimonial of their obligation to him, for having, by his self-possession and well directed efforts, secured their safety during the violent weather that caused her return to Liverpool, in a disabled state."

On the 21st, Lord Aberdeen laid before the House of Lords the Treaty for the suppression of the Slave Trade, ratified by all the great Powers, with the exception of France.

In answer to a question in the House of Commons, Sir Robert Peel stated that no official despatches of later date than those already before the public, had reached the Government from Afghanistan. No intelligence of any surrender by the British troops had been received.

In England the prospects of business are dismal at present, but the necessity of increasing the forces in

China is promoting employment for the army and navy departments.

Troops for China to the amount of 10,000 men were getting ready for embarkation. Seventeen large ships were to convey them to the scene of hostilities.

The 78th Highlanders, now in Dublin, have received orders to be in readiness to embark for India. The Regiment is 1140 men strong.

A great sensation was created in Paris, when the announcement was made that the Treaty had been completed without the ratification of France. Funds immediately fell, and a universal depression was felt among the people, who evinced more than usual soreness when the question was at all touched upon. M. Guizot, in reply to a question asked in the Chamber of Deputies, said that "the Crown had made known to its Ambassador in London that it could not ratify the Treaty, and that she could take no engagement for the future. The French Ambassador had been authorized to negotiate for modifications of the Treaty, and the powers had declared that it would remain open for the future signature of France without any fixed term. This was the plain and simple state of the affair."—*Commercial Messenger.*

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

A tedious debate on the corn laws occupied the House of Commons during five successive nights, during which no new arguments were brought forward of particular interest. Mr. Villiers moved "that all duties payable upon the importation of corn, meal, or flour, do now cease and determine;" when the committee divided, the numbers were for the motion 90, against it 390. On the 26th ult. Mr. Christopher proposed a higher scale of duties. His proposition was that the maximum duty should be 5s. higher than the maximum duty proposed by the Government. The division was taken on the question, and the original proposition was carried by 306 to 104.

CORN IMPORTATION.

Last night all Sir Robert Peel's resolutions, for the regulation of his new scale of duties on the importation of wheat, oats and barley, were adopted, and a bill was ordered to be prepared in accordance with such resolutions; Sir R. Peel, Sir J. Graham, and Mr. Gladstone were ordered to bring in the same. It is expected that they will be able to present it today. It will then be read the first time, and the day fixed for the second reading, when the debate will be taken on the first principles of the bill.—*Herald, March 3.*

INDIA AND CHINA.

The English arms in the East, so long and brilliantly victorious, have now met with a repulse in Cabul, so severe as that it may be the signal for a union of her enemies to overwhelm the troops interspersed at various points in the vast territory. There is needed another Wellesley, or a Hastings, great as well in the field as in the Council Chamber, to curb the warlike spirit of the mountaineers of Cabul; and perhaps defeat and ill success may conspire to raise up some such heroes to retrieve the fortunes of England. At present, however, there seems nothing but disaster in store in that quarter.—*Transcript.*

The following news was published in a second edition of the *London Times* of Feb. 28 and March 1:—"Intelligence, brought by the India steamer from Calcutta, Jan. 11, arrived at Suez Feb. 11. The intelligence from Afghanistan comes down to the 15th December. The position of General Sale amidst the insurrection was still extremely critical. Col. M'Laren, who was sent to relieve him, had failed. A fresh attack of the insurgents against our troops in Afghanistan had failed. All was quiet at Candanar on the 4th Dec. The Bellocha tribes were also quiet. Major General Pollock had received orders to proceed to Ferozpoor, and thence to Petchwar, to assume the command of a force assembling at that place, to consist of 10,000 men, and the object to relieve the troops in Afghanistan."

The *Bengal Herald* states, that the fate of our troops at Cabul is almost certainly decided. The state of affairs there are represented to be much worse than they were before; provisions were becoming scarce, and the enemy more daring every day. The *Morning Post* states, that Government had just received a sealed box of despatches from the Supreme Government, of vast importance, relating to the intended capitulation of the party at Cabul, said to have been reduced to eating their native ponies.

CHINA.

The dates from China are to the 30th November. The intelligence is merely confirmatory of the reports that had been in circulation regarding the operations to the northward.—Sir Henry Pottinger would winter at Amoy, where symptoms of hostility were beginning to

manifest themselves. At Canton, also, hostile preparations were in progress; the heights of Canton were fortifying, and forts rebuilding and being built. A force consisting of 10,000 men has been taken from the Madras Presidency, Bengal Infantry, with Land-cars, sappers and miners, for service in China, and ordered to march on Peking as soon as the south-west monsoon sets in.

The Emperor of China had ordered Keshen to be beheaded.

Letters from Mueao to the New York papers, state that there is every prospect of war between the British Indian Government and the King of Burmah. The darkest colouring as respects the British is, however, given in these letters, so that some allowance must be made for exaggerated statements. All the available forces of the Government are however preparing with remarkable celerity to meet the threatened dangers, the consequence of which may be to prevent a settlement of the Chinese difficulties as early as might otherwise have been the case. The season chosen by Tharawaddie, as the King of Burmah is called, is the very best for the British troops, who will not have the rains to contend with. The *Canton Press* has the following remarks:—

From the great activity of the Indian government to show an imposing front to the King of Ava, we suppose that it must have received decisive intelligence of hostile intentions. From Calcutta, Madras and Bombay (from the latter we hear three Queen's regiments) troops are being assembled for immediate shipment to Maulmein, and a large force of steamers now in the Indian waters will predigiously quicken these movements, so that a very few days after any hostile movements have been made by Tharawaddie, a sufficient number of troops will arrive at Maulmein to oppose him. Besides, the great disadvantages under which the English carried on the first Burmese war, do no longer exist. The establishment at Maulmein offers the greatest facilities for the reception and concentration of the forces; the country which then was but little known, has now been explored; and more than all, the many steamers now at command of the Government enable them to send their troops into the country without the Burmese being able to molest their advance; and the steamers, after a course of upwards of five hundred miles upon the Irrawadie, may cast anchor before Ava and Amarapura, the ancient and the modern capitals of the Empire.

These threats and difficulties will give additional nerve to the British, who will now see the necessity of proceeding with the strongest measures, so as to force the Chinese at once to come to advantageous terms.

MEXICO AND TEXAS.—WAR COMMENCED.

New Orleans papers of the 16th instant bring stirring intelligence from Texas. A Mexican army said to be 14000 strong, under General Arista, had crossed the Rio Grande, and detachments from it had taken San Antonio, Goliad and Victoria, without opposition. Gen. Burleson had collected a body of 12000 men for the defence of Austin, and the whole population of Texas was rapidly gathering in arms to resist the invaders. The first battle was expected on the Colorado.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

TUESDAY, April 5, 1842.

| | s. | d. | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------|----|-------|----|------|
| Oats, per minot, | 1 | 3 | a | 1 8 |
| Barley, " | 2 | 6 | - | 2 9 |
| Pease, " | 3 | 3 | - | 3 6 |
| Buckwheat, " | 2 | 9 | - | 3 0 |
| Turkeys, per couple, | 5 | 0 | - | 10 0 |
| Geese, " | 4 | 0 | - | 6 0 |
| Ducks, " | 2 | 6 | - | 3 4 |
| Chickens, " | 1 | 3 | - | 2 6 |
| Partridges, " | 1 | 8 | - | 2 9 |
| Eggs, fresh, per doz. | 0 | 7 1/2 | - | 0 9 |
| Butter—dairy, per lb. | 0 | 10 | - | 1 1 |
| Do. salt, | 0 | 7 | - | 0 8 |
| Pork, per hundred, | 20 | 0 | - | 25 0 |
| Beef, " | 25 | 0 | - | 35 0 |
| Flour, per cwt. | 12 | 6 | - | 15 0 |
| Beef, per lb. | 0 | 8 | - | 0 6 |
| Pork, " | 0 | 2 1/2 | - | 0 5 |
| Veal, per quarter, | 1 | 4 | - | 10 0 |
| Mutton, " | 1 | 6 | - | 10 0 |
| Lard, per lb. | 0 | 0 | - | 0 6 |
| Potatoes, per bushel, | 1 | 0 | - | 1 6 |

We are under the necessity of again earnestly soliciting those subscribers who are still in arrears for the *Mirror*, to transmit to us, at their earliest convenience, through the Agents or Postmasters, the amount of their respective subscriptions. A prompt attention to the above will greatly oblige.