

determined in the English courts; but there is no apparent likelihood of the procedure here in regard to them being set aside.

THE UNITED KINGDOM.—The Imperial Parliament was opened by Her Majesty on the 5th ult. The royal speech contains nothing very remarkable. It recommends "the present state of these provinces to the serious consideration" of parliament, and expresses Her Majesty's reliance upon it, "to support her firm determination to maintain the authority of her crown, and her trust that their wisdom will adopt such measures as will secure to those parts of her empire the benefits of internal tranquillity, and the full advantages of their own great natural resources." Lord Durham is said to be closely engaged in preparing for the defence of his administration in Canada, and for the exhibition of his plans for the future government of that colony. Some of the British newspapers give what professes to be a sketch of that plan; but its genuineness is very doubtful. Its principal features are the division of Canada into four provinces, Quebec, Montreal, Kingston, and Toronto—a local legislature, and a small representation in the Imperial House of Commons for each of these—a federal government and legislature for all the North American provinces—and the establishment of a separate department in the Imperial Executive exclusively for the administration of North American affairs. Sir Francis Head seems extremely desirous to make the world acquainted with the profundities of his policy in Canadian affairs, by the publication of his despatches. Lord Melbourne demurs to this as an unusual and objectionable proceeding; but Sir F. is resolved to accomplish his object, and he doubtless will accomplish it through his friends and foes in parliament. The agitation and violence of the Chartists and ultra radicals are considerably abated. Stephens, their principal orator has been arrested; but a little parliament of delegates of this stamp from various parts of Great Britain is assembled in London. Their principles and proceedings have called forth universal reprobation. The corn law discussion goes on, and some modification of the existing system seems more than probable during the present session of parliament. Lord John Russell, in a letter to his constituents, prefers a moderate fixed duty on corn to the present fluctuating rates. Although the Queen's speech bears a very peaceful aspect, extensive preparations of a warlike character are going on in Great Britain. The state of the Navy is the subject of a very hot controversy, which has called forth very conflicting statements. Great activity, however, prevails in our naval arsenals, and recruiting for the army and navy is prosecuted with vigour. Extensive fortifications at the mouth of the Thames, and on several other parts of the coast, seem to have been resolved on. The manufacturing and commercial interests of the country appear to be in a prosperous state. Very large shipments of goods to the United States have recently been made. The melancholy results of the

tempest on the 6th of January have been fully detailed in the newspapers. The superior efficiency of steam vessels was strikingly manifested on that occasion; and the improvement and extension of that department of naval architecture is rapidly advancing. An iron steamer has been launched at Dumbarton, for the navigation of the Atlantic, one hundred and forty-five feet in length, and twenty-five in breadth, and drawing only three feet of water, when machinery and cargo are on board. . . Ireland presents nothing new in its political or social aspect. The murderer of Lord Norbury has not been discovered, but it would appear that this atrocity formed a part of an extensive conspiracy against landed proprietors in that unhappy country. The Regium Donum for the support of the Irish Presbyterian clergy, amounting to £33,000, is henceforth to be apportioned equally among them, £75 being the allowance to each.

BRITISH INDIA.—The military operations on the northwestern frontier of India are vigorously continued, with a view to such final political arrangements in that quarter, as may effectually secure our eastern empire against the designs of Russia and Persia. The Queen's speech expresses "the hope of learning that a satisfactory adjustment of these differences will allow of the re-establishment of our relations with Persia upon their former footing of friendship." The newspapers contain various rumors unfavorable to the fulfilment of this hope. Of the Burmese troubles no farther accounts have been received.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The voyage from Britain to Adelaide is accomplished in fourteen weeks. Port Adelaide, according to Mr. James' account, is a poor place, "After sailing up a narrow and muddy creek, with shoals on either side, leading out from St. Vincent's gulf, the ship anchors off the port, whose shores resemble the worst parts of the coast of Essex below the Nore, and in fact constitutes an uninhabitable swamp, where there is only one spot of land free from inundations, which is called the Sand Hill, where one or two grog shops, made of branches of trees, are seen, a few native blacks stark naked, and a large iron store painted white, belonging to the commissioners." This says Mr. James, is Port Adelaide. The town or city which boasts the same regal patronymic, does not seem to be much better. It is about seven miles distant, inland of course from the port, "and is altogether on too large a scale. There are a few substantial buildings sprinkled up and down the place; but the rest of the dwellings are made of very light materials, and the number of canvass tents and marquees, give some part of the settlement the appearance of a camp. The town, including the park lands, is already eight miles round, and contains only three thousand inhabitants." The soil, however, in the neighborhood is admitted to be fertile, and not ill-watered, and the climate genial and salubrious."