

FREIGHTS.

To Liverpool, " "	Stg. 2 3 @ 0 0
To Liverpool, Pot Ashes, per ton	Stg. 22 6 @ 27 6
To Clyde, " "	Stg. 22 6 @ 27 6

Arrivals and Tonnage at Quebec from sea, from 1856 to 1857, inclusive, up to the 4th Sept. in each year :—

1856	695 Vessels.	353,036 Tons
1857	845 " "	407,686 " "

More this year..... 150 54,650 "

Return of the number of Emigrants arrived at the Port of Quebec to the 4th Sept., 1856 and 1857 :—

Whence.	1856.	1857.	Increase.
From England	7,618	11,961	4,343
Ireland.....	1,597	1,831	234
Scotland	2,428	2,813	385
Germany	4,524	4,926	402
Norway.....	2,821	6,415	3,594
Lower Ports.....	143	16	
	19,131	27,962	8,958

A. C. BUCHANAN,
Chief Agent.

Government Emigration-Office,
September 4, 1857.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Origin of the East India Company.

Two hundred and fifty-three years ago, some traders in London united together to raise a capital of £30,000, wherewith to trade to the East Indies. They obtained a charter, under which the management of their affairs was entrusted to a committee of twenty-four of their members, chosen by themselves. In 1624, authority was given to the company by the King to punish its servants abroad, either by civil or military law. In 1661, a new charter was granted, by which the company was allowed to make peace or war with or against people or princes, not Christians, and to seize all unlicensed persons, and send them to England. Other parties attempted to get into the trade by bribing the various Governments of the day ; and at one time when the old company offered to loan to the Government £700,000 at four per cent, their rivals offered £2,000,000 at eight per cent. In 1708 the rival companies united, and by a loan of £1,200,000 to the Government, without interest, purchased further privileges, which have been the basis of their subsequent charters. In 1784, a new feature was introduced into the system—that of the Board of Control, by which, in effect, the political power (though under the name of the Government) was vested in the directors. In 1813 the trade to India was thrown open, and in 1833 the trade to China was not only made free, but the Company was precluded from commercial operations; and thus we find that the functions for which it was originally organized ceased altogether, and by a combination of circumstances it had gradually assumed others of a most anomalous description ; when, in 1853, a committee of twenty-four private gentlemen were absolute sovereigns of 100,000,000 of people.