The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, AUGUST 3, 1852.

THE FISHERIES.—We take the following able, dispassionate and candid review of this vexed question from the Washington *National Intelligencer* of Tuesday last. It treats the subject in a calm and fair manner, and is well worthy of perusal.

THE QUESTION OF THE FISHERIES.

[From the National Intelligencer.]

Judging as well from the recent speeches in Congress as from strictures of the Press, we should infer that the history of our fisheries is imperfectly understood. It is said that the British Government has manifested a determination to enforce her rights against us by arms, and that a naval force has been ordered to the fishing grounds for that purpose. But what those rights are is not stated. On the other hand there seems to be a desire that our government should send out a naval armament to protect our fishermen, and repel the apprehended aggressions of the English. But still no one tells us what our rights are which are thus in jeopardy, and which call for the strong arm of power for protection. It is easy to get up an excitement. Some of our fishing vessels, it is said, have been seized, and, without stopping to inquire whether rightfully or wrongfully, self-valiant patriots seem to assume the latter, and make a display of their patriotism by urging hostile measures.

Now, we have no apprehension but that the rights of this country will be jealously guarded and fully maintained by this administration. While it moves with caution, and sees clearly that it is right and its opponent wrong before it ventures to act, yet, this being ascertained, it acts with firmness and decision, and has never yet failed of success or been compelled to take a step backwards.

That this subject may be understood, it is necessary to give a brief history of our right in the Newfoundland fisheries. While the United States formed a part of the territory of Great Britain, they were of course all enjoyed in common as British subjects.—We fished upon the banks of Newfoundland, which were in fact a part of the ocean; and we fished in all the bays and gulfs, and along all the shores of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, the coast of Labrador, and the islands of Cape Breton, Newfoundland, and the other islands in the Gulf of St. Lawrence; and resorted to their shores for the purpose of drying and curing the fish thus caught. But we did this at that time not as American citizens, but as British subjects.

At the treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain in 1783, by which she acknowledged our independence, and in which boundaries were agreed upon between us and England, all the territory connected with these fisheries was retained by Great Britain, and, as we ceased to be British subjects, we ceased to have any right in it as such. Where a kingdom or state is bounded by the ocean, it is a rule of international law that the jurisdiction of such Government not only covers the whole land, but extends one marine league into the sea. The consequence, therefore, of this rule would have been, that Great Britain would not only have exercised exclusive jurisdiction over all the land connected with the fisheries, but over the sea for three marine miles from the shore. This, to be sure, would not have prevented our people from fishing on the Grand Bank, nor any where else in the ocean at more than one marine league from the land, whether that land was a part of the continent, or some island belonging to Great Britain. But then it excluded us from the best fisheries, which were often near the shore, and the general right of fishing in the ocean was comparatively valueless without the right to enter upon the land in the vicinity to cure and preserve the fish. This was well understood by those who negotiated that treaty of peace and independence on the part of the United States, and they therefore secured a participation in this privilege by the third article of the treaty of 1783, in the following words:—

"It is agreed that the people of the United States shall continue to enjoy, unmolested, the right to take fish of every kind on the Grand Bank and on all the other banks of Newfoundland, also in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and at all other places in the sea where the inhabitants of both countries used at any time heretofore to fish, and also that the inhabitants of the United States shall have liberty to take fish of every kind on such part of the coast of Newfoundland as British fishermen shall use, (but not to dry or cure the same on that Island,) and also on the coasts, bays, and creeks of all other of his Britannic Majesty's dominions in America; and that the American fishermen shall have liberty to dry and cure fish in the unsettled bays, harbors, and creeks of Nova Scotia, Magdalen Islands, and Labrador, so long as the same shall remain unsettled; but so soon as the same or either of them shall be settled, it shall not be lawful for the said fishermen to dry or cure fish at such settlement, without a previous agreement for that purpose with the inhabitants, proprietors, or possessors of the ground."

We continued to enjoy the right of fishing thus secured until 1812, when the war put an end to it; and it was not renewed by the treaty of peace. After the war of 1812 we attempted to exercise the right granted by the treaty of 1783, and insisted that it was one of those rights not abrogated by the war.—John Q. Adams, our Minister at the British Court at that time, made a most able and ingenious argument in favor of our claim, and was as ably answered by Lord Bathurst, Secretary for the Colonies, in a masterly production, which rumor attributed to Mr. Canning, who was then just rising into political importance. Great Britain set up pretensions that could not be sustained by the law of nations, and we insisted on rights under the treaty of 1783 that by the same law were clearly abrogated; and the controversy finally resulted in the treaty of 1818, by the first article of which it is provided:—

"Whereas differences have arisen respecting the liberty claimed by the United States for the inhabitants thereof, to take, dry, and cure fish on certain coasts, bays, harbors and creeks of his Britannic Majesty's dominions in America, it is agreed between the high contracting parties that the inhabitants of the said United States shall have, forever, in common with the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, the liberty to take fish of every kind on that part of the southern coast of Newfoundland which extends from Cape Ray to the Rameau Islands, on the western and northern coast of Newfoundland, from the said Cape Ray to the Quirpon Islands, on the shores of the Magdalen Islands, and also on the coasts, bays, harbors, and creeks, from Mount Joly, on the southern coast of Labrador, to and through the Straits of Belle Isle, and thence northwardly indefinitely along the coast, without prejudice however, to any of the exclusive rights of the Hudson Bay Company, and that the American fishermen shall also have liberty, forever, to dry and cure fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbors and creeks of the southern part of the coast of Newfoundland hereabove described, and of the coast of Labrador; but so soon as the same or any portion thereof shall be settled, it shall not be lawful for the said fishermen to dry or cure fish at such portion so settled, without previous agreement for such purpose with the inhabitants, proprietors, or possessors of the ground. And the United States hereby renounce forever any liberty heretofore enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants thereof to take, dry, or cure fish on or within three marine miles of any of the coasts, bays, creeks, or harbors of his Britannic Majesty's dominions in America, not included within the above mentioned limits: Provided, however, that the American fishermen shall be admitted to enter such bays or harbors for the purpose of shelter and of repairing damages therein, of purchasing wood, and obtaining water, and for no other purpose whatever. But they shall be under such restrictions as may be necessary to prevent their taking, drying, or curing fish therein, or in any other manner whatever abusing the privileges hereby reserved to them."

It is under this article—which gives us all the right we have, and which was intended to define clearly the privileges granted—that the present controversy arises. It will be seen by comparison that this article is not the same as that in the treaty of 1783.—This grants to us certain privileges about which there is no serious difference of opinion. And then, on our part, we "*renounce forever* any liberty theretofore enjoyed or claimed by the inhabitants of the United States, to *take*, dry, or cure fish on or within three marine miles of any of the coasts, *bays, creeks, or harbors* of the British dominions in America," &c., with a *proviso* that we may enter such *bays or harbors* for shelter or repairs, &c. Now, the British Government has for many years claimed and insisted, certainly with great plausibility, if not with entire correctness, that, by the true construction of this article, we renounced all right to fish within three miles of *any bay or harbor*, as well as within that distance to any coast except those specified; and that this is most manifest from the *proviso*, which permits us to enter those bays and harbors for another and specified object, thereby precluding the inference that we could enter them for fishing.

Our Government has by argument resisted this construction of the treaty by Great Britain, and the controversy has been going on for many years. Our fishing vessels have from time to time been seized for fishing within the prohibited *bays* and *harbors*, and condemned to forfeiture. We have remonstrated and made reclamation, and yet nothing is settled. Great Britain adheres to her construction, and has invariably done so from the beginning. But, as matter of *grace*, in 1845, she permitted our vessels to fish in the Bay of Fundy, provided they did not approach within three miles of the shores or smaller harbors or bays on either side. No one doubts that when our vessels presume to fish within three miles of the *shore*, they violate the treaty and laws of Great Britain, and are liable to seizure and forfeiture; and this must be equally the case for entering any *bay or harbor*, if the construction put upon the treaty by Great Britain be right. But, if it be not right, it is strange that our Government has acquiesced in it so long, without proposing an arbitration to settle it.

The truth is, we suspect, that our Government has contented itself with remonstrating and protesting for the last twenty or thirty years, simply because it has not confidence in the construction which it puts upon the treaty; and hence all these protracted difficulties. We think the time has now come when this Government should abandon this pretension, and inform its citizens that the construction for which the English contend is the true one, and that they must govern themselves accordingly, or abide the consequences; or else it should insist upon its own construction, and maintain our rights under it by an adequate force, or propose an arbitration to settle the true construction of the treaty.

The matter should no longer be left in doubt. We have made the treaty, and we must abide by it. Our motto is, "Ask for nothing but what is right, and submit to nothing that is wrong;" and we have full confidence that the Administration will act up to it.

The Circuit Court for the City and County of St. John, was opened in this City this morning. His Honor Judge Street presides.

The American fishing schooner *Coral*, of 59 tons, lately condemned by the Court of Vice Admiralty of this Province, for illegally fishing within half a mile of Grand Manan, and contrary to the stipulations of the treaty, was yesterday sold by the Controller of Customs and Navigation Laws, with all her tackle and apparel, and fishing gear of all sorts,—the vessel for $155, and the fishing materials for some $20 more. Both vessel and materials were bid in by the American Consul.

NEW-BRUNSWICK AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.—The editor of the (Augusta) *Maine Farmer*, of 29th July, speaks in the following gratifying manner on the subject of the Industrial Exhibition of New-Brunswick, which is to be opened at Fredericton on Tuesday the 5th October next:

"We have certainly an interest in the prosperity of our neighbors, the farmers and artisans of the Province, and we hope to see them successful in all their laudable undertakings. The proposed exhibition at Fredericton will, in all probability, present many features worthy the attention of our farmers; and we hope those who desire to see the beautiful scenery on the St. John River, notice the improvements of that region, and become better acquainted with our New Brunswick neighbours, will avail themselves of that opportunity to visit Fredericton. We think we may safely promise them that the visit will be one of interest and pleasure."

We anticipate that many of the citizens of the neighbouring States will pay New-Brunswick a visit on the above occasion, and we think they will be much pleased with the excursion.

ORDWAY'S ÆOLIAN VOCALISTS.—It will be seen by an advertisement in another column, that this celebrated band of Vocalists have arrived in this City, and will give their first Concert this evening, at the Mechanics' Institute. They will continue to give entertainments every evening this week, and from their high character, as Vocalists, much amusement may be expected.

THE HERON FAMILY—These delightful performers gave their farewell entertainment last evening, to a house crowded to such excess, that numbers were unable to obtain admittance. The performance of last night was even richer and racier than any that had preceded it, bringing out the varied talents of the family in strong relief, and keeping the audience in continual expression of delight. We understand that they will give one or two more entertainments after their return from Fredericton.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.—We have received the August number of this valuable and interesting Monthly Magazine. It is illustrated with several fine and very handsome engravings, and its ample pages are occupied with choice reading matter in poetry and prose, of a highly intellectual description. It is an excellent family periodical, richly deserving the extensive patronage it enjoys.—Sold by J. & A. McMillan, in this city.

We learn from the Fredericton *Head Quarters*, that Wm. Watts, Jr. Esq., has undertaken the editorial management of that paper. Mr. Watts, from his acquirements, is well qualified for the situation, and we wish him every success.

LIBERAL.—James Lenox, David S. Kennedy, William B. Astor, and Brown Brothers & Co., of New-York, each subscribed $500 to the fund in aid of the sufferers by the late fire in Montreal.

The Steamship Asia sailed from New York for Liverpool on Wednesday, with 111 passengers, and $324,000 in specie.

At a Public Commencement of Pennsylvania College, held in March last, the Degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred upon JOHN WADDELL, Esq., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, and Medical Superintendent of our Provincial Lunatic Asylum.

French Fishermen it is stated have recently been encroaching on the fishing grounds of the Newfoundland and Labrador coasts, contrary to treaty, and Commissioners are to meet at St. John's, N. F., for the purpose of investigating the complaints.

ALBERT COUNTY.—We alluded last week to the Albert Coal Mining Company, in which Messrs. Allison, Cairns and others are concerned, and the benefit to be derived by the Province from the exportation of such large quantities of its mineral treasures. The parties in whose possession the mines are at present, are carrying on the work with great energy, having already expended a heavy amount of capital on the undertaking, and the result of this new trade springing up will not be long in producing a great alteration in the appearance of Hillsborough and the surrounding country. We have also to notice another undertaking of great importance to the Province, situated in the same County, viz: the Albert Building Stone Company near Harvey. This concern is now carried on under the superintendence of Messrs. Lang and Stirling, two Scotch gentlemen who have an interest in it, with C. D. Archibald Esq. There are now seventy-five men busily employed raising stone from this quarry, for which a ready market is found in New-York and Philadelphia, the quality being very superior. During the present year it is expected 4000 tons will be exported, and next year probably 30,000 tons.—*Courier.*

In addition to the above, Slate and Gypsum quarries are being opened in Albert County; and its maritime advantages and agricultural resources are also becoming appreciated. This fine County will soon form one of the most important sections of the Province.

BOAT RACE.—We learn that the New Yorkers have accepted a challenge from the Indian Town oarsmen, to row a four-oared race for the sum of $2,000. The race will come off on the 7th Oct., in New York harbour.—*N. Bkr.*

The Lord Bishop of Fredericton is to arrive in Halifax by the second August packet. We understand that he has succeeded in raising nearly enough of funds for finishing the Cathedral: and also that his health has suffered during his present stay in England.—*Fred. Reporter.*

The Rev. Jacob Ellegood, Pastor of St. Anne's Church, Griffinstown, Canada, has received from his Congregation, an address expressive of the high esteem in which they hold him as their Minister. The address was accompanied by a purse containing forty guineas, presented on an elegant silver Salver. The Rev. Gentleman is the son of the late Jacob Ellegood, Esq., of Dumfries, and matriculated in King's College, Fredericton.—*Ib.*

A number of French Emigrants who departed from Madawaska for the State of Illinois, during the last year, are returning as fast as their means will allow, dissatisfied with their journey and its result, and anxious to re-settle in N. Brunswick.—*Ib.*

We are sorry to learn that the weevel is taking the wheat in this County—in some places very severely. One field in Woodstock is so much injured that the owner has serious thoughts of mowing it down for fodder. We have not heard any mention of the potato-rot as yet, although new potatoes have been in market for some time.—*Woodstock Sentinel.*

St. Andrews and Quebec Railway.—The portion of the operative force which came out from England only commenced working on the 12th, and on the 23d the Locomotive made its *debut* on the line. All along the line, buildings of all sorts—boarding houses, workshops, stores, &c., &c.—have made their appearance as if by magic.—*Charlotte Gaz.*

The Baptists of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have resolved to raise £10,000 for the endowment of Acadia College. A late Report on Education states that £2,000 have been already subscribed in the townships of Horton and Cornwallis towards it, and upwards of £1,000 will be raised in the City of St. John, N. B.—*Halifax Wesleyan.*

Hundreds of American travellers are pouring into Quebec by the Montreal steamers.

JAMAICA.—The market for dry and pickled fish, at last dates, in Jamaica, was overstocked and depressed. The sugar market is unsteady and in a depressed state. Coffee and pimento are scarce and difficult to be procured.

The Kingston Journal publishes a letter from Clarendon, the writer of which asserts that gold exists in the mountains of Jamaica, and that the discovery was made by a negro, who purchased some coffee on the Pearce river coffee plantation. This negro, and many others, the letter says, were at the last dates collecting the stuff, satisfied that they had turned up a California in Jamaica.

TERRIBLE CATASTROPHE.

Burning of the Henry Clay steamer, on the Hudson River.—The New York papers of Thursday contain full accounts of the sad disaster that befel the steamer Henry Clay, on her passage from Albany to New York on the previous day. The details, although awful and heartrending in their nature, cannot fail to be read with deep interest.

The Henry Clay left Albany at seven o'clock on Wednesday morning, in company with the Armenia, and had upwards of three hundred passengers on board. It appears by one account that the two boats commenced racing soon after their departure. We have seen no opinion expressed by any of the passengers as to the cause of the fire. The first account says that the passengers of the Henry Clay were much alarmed on account of the race which was going on between the boats, and that her officers endeavoured to dispel anxiety by assuring all that there was no danger. No accident transpired till the boat was a little below Yonkers, when fire was discovered in the woodwork near the boilers and flues. This was about three o'clock. The flames increased very rapidly, and the greatest consternation instantly prevailed among the passengers. The boat was immediately headed for the eastern shore, and was run aground, the bow driving up some distance upon land, so as to be impelled with considerable force against the railroad embankment, which is there about eight feet high.

The violent shock occasioned by running the boat ashore, and the rapid increase of the fire had, by this time, caused the highest degree of excitement and alarm. The passengers all rushed upon deck, and endeavoured to do what they could in such a fearful moment to save themselves and friends. Many families and friends were separated from each other, some being in the bow, others being in the stern of the boat, and the fire raging amidships. Unfortunately the majority of all on board were in the saloons in the stern of the boat, which was in deep water, so that, as nearly all jumped overboard, very many were drowned; while those who were in the forward part of the boat, in jumping from the boat, got upon dry land, and were all saved.

The scene which ensued of men, women, and children leaping overboard, or remaining on the boat, doubtful which death to prefer, of a husband or father searching for, or trying to save his wife and children, and of children crying for their parents, baffles all description. Many incidents of a most thrilling character were noticed. A little girl, about two years, old was seen lying on a rough plank, smiling even in death.

A gentleman of Newark, who was an expert swimmer, managed to save his wife and nine children. He saved them singly, but became so exhausted by his task, that he was carried away senseless.

S. W. D. Cook, of Cincinnati, with his wife, daughter, and grandson were on board. He saved the latter alone. He jumped overboard and endeavored to save his wife, but failed. His daughter also sunk.

A lady found a child on deck deserted, which she said was unknown to her, which she seized and endeavoured to save. She hung over the railings holding the child by her teeth, till she was forced to drop it into the water. The child was finally lost.

Mr. Elmore Thompson, as soon as he perceived the fire, rushed into the ladies' cabin for his wife and child. He lashed one of the settees and endeavored to lower his wife and child upon it, but some who were struggling for their lives in the water caught hold of the settee, and caused Mrs. T. so much alarm that she lost her child in getting off from the wreck. She herself fell into the water and sank twice, but was saved by her husband, who was aided by some boards thrown out by persons on shore. The shore, on both sides of the wreck, was littered with hats, shawls, parts of dresses, &c., with here and there a dead body.

It would seem that nothing was needed to heighten the horror of such a scene. But, as is too often the case on such occasions, there were creatures present so depraved and heartless as to search for plunder on the bodies of the victims of the calamity. Two men rowed to the wreck from a sloop in the river, who instead of trying to save lives, commenced plundering and stealing articles of value from the passengers who were struggling for life. The gardener and coachman of Mr. Russell Smith saw this outrage, and having got on board the boat, threw these villains into the water, and succeeded in rescuing a number of persons. A man was seen to steal a pocket book from the luggage of one of the deceased.

The number of persons supposed to be lost is fifty or sixty. It is said, that up to eleven o'clock yesterday, forty bodies had been recovered, the most of whom are females. A portion only of the bodies have as yet been recognized.

A number of passengers are missing, among them Stephen Allan, 85 years of age, and one of the ex-Mayors of New York. He was last seen by some of the passengers in the cabin, he was on his return home from Lebanon Springs.

Between 30 and 40 bodies have been recovered. An inquest was held upon some of the bodies, but the jury has not agreed on any verdict. The inquest will be continued.

Boats are engaged in grappling for the bodies.

Several of the bodies taken on shore were so burnt and disfigured that it is almost impossible to identify them.

A meeting of the male passengers who survived was held at the Astor House yesterday morning, and a committee of investigation was appointed. Resolutions were passed, recommending that counsel be employed to consult with the District Attorney as to the propriety of commencing a suit against the officers and owners of the boat.

The scene at Yonkers was most heart-rending; parents searching for their children, husbands for their wives, and wives for their husbands. Every body, as soon as brought ashore, was immediately surrounded by the crowds, all seeming anxious if possible, to identify them.

The Henry Clay was comparatively a new boat, and considered a very fine steamer of her class. She was launched on the 7th of August, 1851. She was 504 tons burthen, 206ft. long.

NEW YORK, July 29.—*More of the Henry Clay.* Mr. A. J. Downing, the well known horticulturist of Newberg, his mother in law, Mrs. Bewint, of Peekskill, her son and daughter and a Mrs. Wadsworth of New Orleans were on board on their way to Newport, and are all supposed to be lost. Three sisters from Michigan were also on board, and two perished. The sister of Hawthorne, the author, was also lost. She was an invalid, and had been to Saratoga for her health. It is thought by passengers on board at the time of the disaster, that there could not have been less than 100 lives lost. One of the passengers tells us, there were nearly 100 people sitting at the dining table, in the lower cabin when the alarm was given, and from the rapidity with which the flames spread and the fact that all the doors opened inwardly, he thinks that half of those in cabin could not of escaped. 52 bodies have been recovered up to noon to day.

Massacre of U. S. Troops.—A Government express arrived at Fort Smith, on the 17th inst., bringing news of the destruction of the expedition to the head of the Red River, and the murder of Capt. Marcy and 80 men by the Camanches and Kioway Indians. The Indians were about 1000 strong, and fought the troops all day. It is reported that they intend attacking Fort Arbuckle and other posts. Capt. Marcy, Dr. Shumard, Capt. Strain, and J. R. Suydam, of New York, are supposed to have been killed. The Camanches were on their way to attack posts on the Ranches, when they met Capt. Marcy and his troops. They went into his camp, received presents and left. At night they ran off with some horses and mules, and the next morning attacked the camp. Great excitement prevails on the frontiers.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—The Intelligencer has a semi-official editorial, stating that the British Government, notified the American Government, on the 7th of July, of its intention to protect the border fisheries, and of having sent vessels of war to the Bay of Fundy for that purpose.

The British Minister at the same time informed President Fillmore that the British Commanders of vessels of war were strictly enjoined to avoid an interference with vessels of friendly powers, except when violating existing treaties, and upon all occasions to avoid giving cause of complaint.

The Intelligencer further says that the U. S. Government has given orders to send one of our best vessels into the disturbed regions to protect Americans and inquire into abuse, and warn all parties from invading their special rights.

At Boston, a memorial, addressed to President Fillmore, is being unanimously and influentially signed here. It represents that 2,100 vessels and 30,000 seamen are now engaged in the fisheries, representing property valued at $12,000,000; that the people of New England and their fathers have enjoyed free right to fish in the now proscribed waters; and that the enforcement of the new construction put upon the treaty of 1818, will ruin many families in New England:—therefore the memorialists pray the President to send a naval force to the British North American waters, sufficient to protect the Fishermen in their lawful occupation.

The sloop of war Albany, now at Boston, is said to be under orders to proceed to the Nova Scotia fishing grounds to protect the fishermen.

NAVAL.—The Frigate Constitution has been ordered to get ready for sea, in place of the Independence, which was to have been the flag Ship of the Home Squadron. The sloop of war Warren, brig Dolphin and other vessels are also ordered to prepare for sea.—*New York paper.*

PORTLAND LINE OF OCEAN STEAMERS.—We learn from Portland, that an arrangement has been concluded, for the establishment of a line of ocean steamers between that port and Liverpool, in connection with the Portland and Montreal Railway, to go into operation in the autumn of 1853, in season for the fall and winter business of that year. The contract is made with an eminent house at Liverpool, for propellers of a superior class, and of a large size and power, with accommodations for 1st, 2d and 3d class passengers, and a capacity of 1000 tons measurement for freight.

THE JAPAN EXPEDITION.—This expedition has been much detained beyond the time designed by the failure of the government contracter to complete the new machinery of one of the steam vessels, far beyond the day prescribed. All told there will be but six vessels, and these will carry only 80 guns.—*Boston Bee.*

Crops in Texas.—The Galveston News publishes glowing accounts of the crops throughout the Western part of the State. The Wheat and Sugar crops will probably be double what they have ever before been. Corn, it is said also, would probably be as low as 25 or 37½c per bushel, all over the State.

Bishop Soule going to California.—The venerable Bishop Soule, of the M. E. Church, South, has, notwithstanding his advanced age, and the sickness of his estimable lady, consented to pay an official visit to the churches in California.

Successful Authorship.—Mrs. H. B. Stowe received last week from her publishers, Messrs. Jewett & Co., the sum of Ten Thousand Three Hundred Dollars, as her copy right premium on three months' sale of Uncle Tom's Cabin.

General Cass says the man is born who will see a population of 150,000,000 in the United States.

A man convicted of murdering a Constable in St. Louis, has been sentenced to the penitentiary for ninety nine years!

A melancholy suicide was committed at Niagara Falls on Friday. A young girl named Mary Skinner, who became depressed in spirits by the loss of her father, threw herself into the rapids, and was carried over the falls.

FIRE AT SONORA, CALIFORNIA,—The city of Sonora has been burnt to ashes. The San Francisco Whig says:—The calamity that has so long been feared has at length come upon us. Sonora, the chief city in the Southern mines, which has for so long a time enjoyed immunity, while conflagration was raging all over the country, is at length laid in ruins. There is no need to particularize—to give details in regard to who are burnt out and who are not—all, all is gone.

Honolulu dates to the 31st May give particulars of a very distructive fire, by which Capt. B. Snow, an extensive commission merchant, lost property, principally belonging to his consignees, to the amount of $50,000.

NEWS BY THE EUROPA.

ENGLAND.—The elections in Great Britain are nearly over, but the result does not hold out much encouragement to the present Derby Government of carrying Parliament. Of the 481 members of Parliament already elected, only 177 are thorough supporters of the Ministry, 237 are professedly Liberals, and 57 are moderate Conservatives. The latest despatch from London says there is a majority of 92 against Ministers.

Parliament meets the middle of October, when the opposition will try their strength, by moving an amendment to the Address. They also threaten a resolution pledging the Commons to free trade.

Serious election riots have broken out at Cork, Limerick, Belfast, and elsewhere in Ireland. The military were called out, and some persons were shot.

Macauley, the historian, has been returned for Edinburgh.

The challenge of the American Club to the ship builders of England, attracts much notice, but we do not hear it is likely to be taken up.

A service of plate is to be presented to Captain Wylie, of the steam ship City of Glasgow, as an appreciation of his merits as a commander.

Several Police Agents from France and Austria are in London, in conference with the Government; their movements are said to refer to a number of exiles who meet at the L'Europe Livre.

FRANCE.—The celebrated Arab chief, Abou Mirza, has escaped from the fortress of Ham, in which he was confined. The strictest orders have been sent to all the railway stations and ports to prevent his leaving the country. Abou gave the French great trouble in Algeria, and his escape at the present moment, when that Colony is so distracted, is regarded with alarm by the French authorities.

We have just learned by telegraph that the Arab chief, Abou Mirza, who escaped from the fortress of Ham, has been retaken.

Severe thunder storms have raged in different parts of France the past week.

Said Pasha, son of Mehemit Ali, has arrived at Paris from London, on his way back to Egypt.

SPAIN.—The city Santander, Spain, has presented to Gen. Concha a magnificent sword for his conduct during Lopez's attack upon Cuba in 1851.

BELGIUM.—The resignation of the Belgium ministry is accepted, and a new cabinet is about to be nominated.

ITALY.—Letters from Kossuth have been seized in various parts of Italy and sent to the Austrian Government of Lombardy, who immediately caused a number of arrests to be made at Pavara, Milan, Brescia, Mantua, Venice, &c.

Mr Hastings, Chaplain to the Am. legation at Rome, has just returned from the Vadois Valley to make preparations for his return home, in consequence of a sudden call. He will be succeeded by Mr. Baird. Edward Murray is yet in confinement at Ancona; the Pope's pleasure respecting him not being known.

SWITZERLAND.—Swiss papers announce the satisfactory completion of the treaty of commerce between Switzerland and the United States.

Mr Dudley Mann is reported to have left for home.

The Federal Council of Switzerland has determined that railway routes within the territory of the Republic are cantonal, not federal property, and may be leased to private companies.

The Gazette of Genoa says that the liberals in that city have been notified that Garibaldi no longer occupies himself in European politics. Mr. Brett, patentee of the English printing telegraph, has undertaken to lay down a sub-marine telegraph from Spezzia to the Islands of Corsica and Sardinia.

INDIA AND CHINA.—The Indian mail has arrived, with dates fron Calcutta to June 2d, and Bombay to June 5th; Rangoon 26th May, and China to 24th May.

The British had attacked the town of Kessin and carried it by assault in 50 minutes, with a trifling loss, the Burmese losing 800, mostly slain by the bayonet.

There is severe fighting in the northwest of India, where Sir Collin Campbell, with 4000 men and 10 guns, has his hands full with the revolted hill tribes.

A battle, attended with immense loss of life has occured between a native Prince, son of Yar Mahomet, and the Sirdars of Candahar, each ten thousand strong, and supported, one by Persia, the other by Dost Mahomet, the celebrated Affghan chief.

The battle lasted eight hours, and resulted in the defeat of the Sidars, with a loss of 2000 men.

A violent hurricane occurred at Calcutta on the 14th and 15th, doing immense damage. The monsoon had set in at Bombay, and trade was closed for the season.

The following are the names of the members returned at the late Irish Elections:—

Sergeant Murphy, Wm. Fagan, for Cork City; C. G. Duffy, for New Ross; J. F. Maguire, for Dungarvan; J. Macann, for Dungheda; G. Bowyer, for Dundalk; C. Towneley, for Sligo; J. D. Fitzgerald, for Ennis; W. Keogh, for Athlone; T. Meagher, R. Keating, for Waterford; M. Sullivan, for Kilkenny.

BEET SUGAR.—A Berlin paper says the increase of the manufacture of beet root sugar is enormous. Within the last two years it has almost doubled. The quantity of roots pressed since last autumn is said to exceed a million tons—the quantity of raw sugar gained therefrom being 70,000 tons.

At the commencement of the Ohio Female College, at College Hill, near Cincinnatti on Thursday 22d, the degree of *Mistress of Arts* was conferred on the senior class, consisting of seven young ladies. The whole number of students during the last term was 102.

The Mayor of N. Y. has issued a notice authorizing the killing of all mad dogs, and a large numerical list between the 20th inst., and the 1st day of October next. Fifty cents each will be paid for all such dogs that are taken to the pound, and fifty cents more is to be allowed to the Pound Master for killing the said dog.

The American Fishing schr. *Union*, has been captured in the Gulf of St. Lawrence by H. M. steamer Devastation, for fishing within the treaty limits, and sent into Charlotte Town, P. E. I.

LITERATURE.

THE WAVERLEY NOVELS: Illustrated Library Edition.—Vol. I., containing "WAVERLY, *or 'Tis sixty yeders since.*"—From the last revised edition, containing the Author's final corrections, Notes, &c.—[BOSTON:—S. H. Parker, *and* B. B. Mussey & Co.—1852.—12 mo. p.p. 255]

We have received a copy of the above, being the first volume of a new and cheap edition of the ever popular and fascinating Waverly Novels; the issue of which has just been commenced by the above named enterprising publishers. At this time of day, the enchanting productions of Walter Scott need no eulogium; and we need therefore only mention, that the series under review is got up in very beautiful style of typography and binding, and at a very low price, so as to place it within the reach of all; and includes all the last revises, literary illustrations, and Notes of the gifted Author. The first Volume contains "*Waverley*", complete, and is embellished with two spirited engravings; while the covers of the volume are ornamented with an embossed Medallion Portrait of Sir Walter Scott, and view of his celebrated residence, Abbotsford; and it will be rapidly succeeded by the other Novels in due course, till the whole series is completed.—The work is on sale by Messrs. McMillan, in this City. B.

MARRIED.

On the 27th inst., by the Rev. I. E. Bill, Mr. Geo. C. Gardner, and Miss Mary C. Wilson, both of this city.

On Tuesday morning, by the Rev. S. Robinson, Mr. John A. Kennedy, to Miss Margaret C. Hayward, eldest daughter of Mr. William Hayward, all of this city.

On the 29th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. W. Ferrie, A. M., Mr. James Crawford, to Miss Anne Jane McPherson, daughter of Mr. Hugh McPherson, all of this city.

On Thursday evening, at the residence of Mr. E. T. Knowles, by the Rev. R. Knight, Mr. John H. Foster, to Miss E. P. Hall, both of this city.

By the same, on the 24th inst., Mr. John Vail, to Miss E. Robinson, all of this city.

On Friday evening last, by the Rev. I. W. D. Gray, D. D., Mr. John Alexander, Cabinet Maker, late of Ayr, Scotland, to Miss Ann Hamilton, of this city.

On Sunday evening, Aug. 1st, by the Rev. E. N. Harris, Mr. John Mailman, of Carleton, to Miss Mary P. Eaton, of this city. Mr. Mailman and his bride are on the eve of departure for Australia.

At Salisbury, County of Westmorland, on the 23d ultimo, by the Rev. Joshua Bunting, Mr. John Jonah, of Elgin, to Miss Letitia Horseman, of Salisbury.

At Prince Edward Island, on Thursday the 22d of July, by the Rev. Ephraim Evans, Chairman of the Nova Scotia Eastern District, at Bingham Cottage, the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Lemuel Hooper, of Bedeque, to Louisa, youngest daughter of the Rev. J. B. Strong, Wesleyan Minister.

DIED.

On Monday morning, 26th inst., Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. James Allan, aged 6 years and seven months.

On Wednesday evening, at his residence, in Brussels St., after a short illness, Mr. John Hennigar, senr., aged 81 years. Mr. Hennigar was born in New York, and came to this city, at the close of the Revolutionary war, and was highly esteemed by his relatives and friends.

On Saturday evening, Mr. Samuel Steven, Professor of Music, aged 35 years.

On Saturday night last, aged 41 years, Elizabeth, wife of Mr. John Mercer.

On Saturday, Mrs. Hannah Baldwin, wife of Mr. Thos. Baldwin, in the 68th year of her age. Her end, it may be truly said, was peace.—Funeral on Wednesday afternoon, at 3 o'clock, from her late residence, East end Queen-street.

On Sunday morning, the 1st Aug., Mr. John Caleb Ward, aged 39 years.

On Monday morning, Anastasia, relict of the late John Gilhooley, of this city, aged 44. Funeral on Wednesday, at 4 o'clock, from her late residence, Dock-street.

At Windsor, on Monday, the 26th July, James DeWolf Fraser, Esq., Barrister at Law and Representative of the Township of Windsor, in the General Assembly, in the 48th year of his age.

At Cockermouth, (England,) in June last, after an illness of eight years, (during which time she was not out of her room,) Mrs. Jane Hewetson, aged 92 years.—Mrs. H. was one of the surviving sisters of the late Thos. Sancton, Esq., of this city.

PORT OF SAINT JOHN.

ARRIVED.

Tuesday—Barque J. S. DeWolfe, Bradshaw, Boston, 3—J. Bradshaw, ballast.
Brigt. Emily, Smith, New York, 7—J. Fairweather, gen. cargo.
Wednesday—Ship Georgia, Brodie, New York, 4—R. Rankin & Co., ballast.
Houghton, Doane, New York, 4—J. L. Woodworth, do.
Barque Hyperion, Davies, New York, 7—W. Thompson, do.
Schr. Martha Greenow, Robbins, Boston, 4—master, gen. cargo.
Thursday—Barque Canmore, Harvey, N. York, 4—J. W. Cudlip.
Peruvian, Mahoney, Charleston, 15—J. W. Cudlip.
Schr. Mary, O'Mahoney, Salem—G. Eaton.
Brig Washington, Fillesch, New York—5.
Steamer Eastern City, Blanchard, Boston—L. H. Waterhouse, passengers and merchandise.
Friday—Ship Astracan, Smith, Boston, 3—Joseph Fairweather, ballast.
Wanderer, Sellers, Leith, 30—R. Rankin & Co., coals.
Brig Fanny, Kennedy, St. Thomas, 17—Charles McLauchlan, ballast.
Schr. Lynnfield, Bogart, Philadelphia, 9—G. Bent, coals.
Steamer Maid of Erin, Belyea, Portland—Thomas Parks, passengers and merchandise.
Saturday—Ship Eudocia, Robertson, New-York, 5—J. & R. Reed, flour, &c.
Am. Barque Gen. Taylor, Mitchell, New-York, 7—J. L. Woodworth, ballast.
Brigt. Rose, Norman, Boston, 2—Berton Brothers, ballast.
Monday—Brigt. Orion, Furnas, Providence, 6—master, ballast.

CLEARED.

July 28th—Ship Chas. Humbertson, Williams, Liverpool, deals; barque Joanna, Morris, Leith, timber and deals; Olive, Olive, Liverpool, do.; brig Levitzow Leikendurf, Gunther, Grimsby, do.
29th—Ship New-Brunswick, McPherson, Liverpool—R. Rankin & Co.; barque Courant, Bradstreet, London—Lunt & Pickup; brigt. Hiram, Fitzgerald, Boston—J. C. Littlehale.
30th—Ship Holyoke, Perkins, Dublin, deals—Wm. & Geo. Carvill; brigt. Alcedo, McCarthy, Youghal, deals—John Robertson; schr. Mary Jane, Elkin, Boston, clapboards and shingles—G. Eaton.
31st—Ship Pomona, Cronk, Liverpool, timber, deals and palings—George Thomas; barque Cecilia, Cann, Cork, deals—R. Rankin & Co.
Aug. 2d.—Ship Speed, Grundell, Liverpool, S. Wiggins & Son; barque Charlotte of Derby, Marshall, Hull, John Robertson; William Carson, Vaughan, Dublin, R. Rankin & Co.; brig Huron, O'Hara, New Haven, E. D. Jewett & Co.; Urda, Holstendahl, Hull, S. Wiggins & Son; schr. Louisa, Bisset, Boston, J. Noble.

Cleared at New York, 29th ult., barque Emmyant, Olson, and brig Seventeenth of May, for this port; ship Conway, Marshall, Quebec. At Newport, 15th, British Queen, Woodcock, for this port.

The wreck of an English vessel of about 200 tons, with only part of her name visible, viz., "Newton, of ———, N. B." was pass