

The Hampshire Telegraph wishes to be informed, what is the shortest passage that has been made between Halifax and any port in the British Channel. The Telegraph says, that the shortest they know of, is that of the Tenodes Frigate, in eleven days and twelve nights to Portsmouth. The Nyce made Portsmouth, from St. John Newfoundland, in seven days and six nights.

Particulars respecting the progress of the English in India are given. Unexpected success had attended late movements.

It appears that the English Government have despatched a vessel of war to Alexandria to make a formal demand for the restoration of the Turkish fleet. France, it is said, will support Mehemet Ali's pretensions, if he confines them to the hereditary possessions of Egypt, Syria and Arabia. His Highness seems in no haste to make up his mind on any of the questions submitted to him. The overflow of the Nile this year, has been abundant. This is said to be much in favour of Mehemet's projects for 1840.

The Chinese authorities at last accounts, were destroying the contraband opium, daily, in large quantities. Does not his Majesty of the "celestial Empire" appear to set a brilliant example, as regards his care of the morals and general well being of his subjects,—to other Monarchs who profess to be guided by superior principles.

Great distress is said to exist in Paris. Other corn riots had occurred in the West. The French army in Africa had suffered severely from sickness.

Some ministerial changes, and defensive preparations by Cabrera, are the chief features of Spanish news.

A resolution of the Emperor of Russia to separate his Catholic subjects from the jurisdiction of Rome, had caused some difficulties. A number of non-consenting clergymen had been arrested and banished to Siberia. The Russians had suffered severely in some late engagements with the Circasians. The former succeeded in carrying the fortress of Akula, with the loss, it is said, of about 12,000 men.

Emigration of the nobility and gentry from Hanover, is said to be going on, in consequence of the proceedings of King Ernest.

The Houston (Texas) Telegraph gives a melancholy account of the destruction of a body of settlers, in the month of October, by the Indians. A party of thirteen men, one woman and two children started from a settlement below St. Austin, for the purpose of making a "location" on the San Gabriel river. While travelling on a Prairie they were attacked by Indians, the men were killed on the spot; but the fate of the woman and children was not known.

The Canal tolls of Pennsylvania for 1839, it is asserted, will exceed by about \$200,000 the receipts of 1838.

The Peoria Register states that 2000 Russian families, flying from persecution, at home, are about to settle in Wisconsin. Although melancholy to hear of such cases of extensive exile, it is well that the oppressed have the new world to retreat to, and can look forward to the prospect of peaceful homes in a strange land, instead of dragging out a hopeless existence in the place of their birth. It is no wonder that the United States fill up rapidly, when they form the great refuge for those, in every part of the world, who are weary of the circumstances that they find about them.

In Canada the question of the Union of the Upper and Lower Provinces was causing much excitement. People's minds differ very much on the subject,—some considering it the panacea for political evils, others seeing no less than separation from Great-Britain, in the scheme. The party who take the latter view from their objections on the continuance of power to the French, and fear that the junction of that party with the dissatisfied in U. Canada, will cause what they anticipate.

Fifteen persons were badly burnt in Quebec, while en-

deavouring to save property from a House which was on fire. Four of the inhabitants of the building perished in the flames.

The anniversary of "the Battle of Ouel town," U. Canada, was celebrated on the evenings of the 7th and 8th of November, by Divine Services, and public dinners. Rev. Mr. Cooney was the orator on the occasion,—his name was the subject of one of the toasts.

A statement has been published, of the distribution in U. Canada, of the funds voted by Nova-Scotia and New Brunswick for the relief of the sufferers by the late rebellion. It appears that a sum of £1146 has been expended in relieving 40 persons, most of them having families.

At a recent Temperance Meeting in Montreal, a Rev. Gentleman named E. N. Knill, delivered an impressive address. He "made," says the Reporter, "a most eloquent, and we trust successful appeal to the consciences of those engaged in the traffic." This is an important point on which to make an impression.

Mr. Boyde of St. Andrews, N. B. has been returned a member of Assembly for Charlotte County. His opponent, Mr. Clinch retired from the contest, being upwards of 300 behind.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—P. Lynch junr. Esq. delivered a very interesting lecture last Wednesday evening, on Ancient Art.

Doctor Teulon will lecture next Wednesday evening, on Domestic Economy.

The Halifax Literary and Scientific Society, had a discussion last Monday evening, on the comparative influence of Philosophy and Poetry. Votes were in favour of Philosophy. Next Monday evening is set apart for recitation.

The Pictou Literary and Scientific Society, commenced its sixth session on Dec. 4, with a lecture from James Fogo, Esq.

LATEST.—We have to thank M. B. Almon, Esq. for a slip of the Boston Daily Advertiser, brought by the Mailboat which arrived this morning. It contains English dates up to Nov. 16, furnished by the arrival of the Steam Ship, Liverpool, at New York. We give the substance of its contents.

Notwithstanding the intelligence of the American suspension of specie payments, the London Money market had improved, as had also the Liverpool cotton market. M. Jaudon continued to pay all bills drawn on him by the Bank of the United States although the Holland loan had not been concluded. The Morning Chronicle of Nov. 13, contradicts on authority, the rumour, that M. Jaudon had declined payment of any bills of Exchange drawn upon the London Agency by the Bank of the United States. The same paper of Nov. 14, announces, that consols had not varied, that Exchequer bills continued to improve, but that no business of importance had been transacted in the British funds. The Liverpool journal Nov. 16, said that there were symptoms of the crisis being past for the present. The Exchanges had improved, and the export of gold to the continent had nearly ceased.

The new postage law was to have gone into effect throughout the United Kingdom on the 5th of November.

MARRIAGES.

On the 2nd inst. by the Rev. F. Unmack, Mr. Wm. Freeman, to Miss Jane Tanner, both of Rawdon.

DEATHS.

At Dartmouth, on Tuesday evening last, after a lingering illness, in the 44th year of his age, Mr. James McNabb, leaving a widow and 7 children, and an extensive circle of friends and connexions to mourn their loss.

At sea, after an illness of 23 days, on the passage from Kingston, on 25 ult. Capt. Joseph Hore, master of brig Fanny, of this port, in the 33 year of his age, a native of Teignmouth, England.

At Newport, on the 6th inst. in the 34th year of her age, Mary Ann, wife of Mr. Anthony Shaw, and fourth daughter of John Smith, Esq.