HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1851.

We yesterday published an Extra, the contents of which are inserted in this day's paper. It consists of copies of two highly important documents—the address of the people of King's County to the Lieut. Governor, on the subject of Tenant grievances and Escheat—and his Excellency's reply thereto. We shall now offer neither note nor comment on the former of these documents; and as respects the latter, it is, we think, sufficient for the present to say, that it carries, on the face of it, ample proof that where Sir Alexander Bannerman acts on his own responsibility, the most perfect reliance may be placed on his integrity, uprightness and impartiality,—that fully instructed how the important trusts connected with his office are to be carried out, he is determined to act with that straightforward honesty of purpose which admits of no misconstruction, and is at once the best and safest policy.

To His Excellency Sir Alexander Bannerman, Knight, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, &c. &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY;

We the Inhabitants of King's County, have thought it necessary to take into our consideration, a Despatch from the Right Hon. Earl Grey, Her Majesty's Secretary for the Colonies; dated Downing Street, 12th February, 1851; directing your attention to the Land settlement question, that some satisfactory arrangement of it should now take place, when the people are to have a larger share of control over their public affairs.

We are thankful, that we are allowed a larger share of control over our public affairs, than we have hitherto enjoyed; and it shall be our study to exercise such control; to show, that an assimilation of our Colonial Government, to British institutions, will not tend to weaken the Loyalty and attachment we have to Her Majesty's person and Government.

On approaching the Land settlement question. it is necessary to premise that labor is the foundation of property and the support of all Governments; and while labor supports government; it looks to the government for protection; especially against the designs of insidious men who assume a specious authority to posses themselves of the fruits of other men's labor. When government and labor uphold each other, property is accumulated, and becomes the bond of civilized society; and the fruit of such mutual support and protection is the political and social well-being of the community. But the failure of either party to perform their alloted part—deranges the whole system, as every infraction of the compact, between government and labor, has a withering influence on the industry of the country, and a demoralizing effect on its population.

This Island was granted apparently, to try ex, eriments in colonization, which did not succeed—the conditions of the grants were not performed, and after some years had elapsed, the conditions of the grants were said to have been impracticable. In cases of the like nature, which had taken place in other colonies, the grantees resigned their grants to the crown or the government reinvested the lands in the crown by Escheat. But this Island was neglected, and the most of the grantees resigned their grants for small considerations, to speculators, who tried another experiment. British subjects with more or less means, were induced to emigrate to this colony, to become tenants, to bring the wild lands into cultivation—consequently the reclamation of the wild land by the tenants' labor and means, went to create a capital for the Landlord; and the rent which the tenant was to pay, is the interest upon such capital.

Thus, Lands which had been bought for less than one farthing per acre, were let at an annual Rent of one shilling and upwards per acre! A proprietorship so usuriously acquired, for the disturbance of families and the unsettlement of their homes, cannot be held in respect by an enlightened people. And when higher prices have been given for the grantees' titles, it was not for any improvements which the former proprietors had made; it is the improvements made by the occupants and tenants, and the arreas of rent, whereby the prices of the Townships are estimated. In cases where the crops had failed, tenants and occupants were supplied with seed by the colonial authorities from the Revenue; and the land Assessment for the improvement of the colony, was paid by the occupants and tenants in addition to their rents, therefore it is not the proprietors but workmen, and the agricultural population, who have given to this colony its present value.

Had the government enforced the forfeiture of the grants, as has been the practice in other colonies, and in two cases in this Island; a landlord's claim to a tenant's labor and property could not have existed, nor any inducement for a land speculator to deprive his more useful fellow-subject of the fruits of his labor and industry.

The relationship subsisting between Landlord and Tenant in Great Britain, has led many who are unacquainted with the nature of our case, to suppose a like relationship to subsist here; whereas it is altogether different in Great Britain, the Landlord has an indefensible title to his Land, with all the improvements and fixtures, the moveables only, is the property of the tenant, and the rent required, is barely common interest on the landlord's capital.

But in this Island; the landlord's title to the land is forfeited to the crown, and all the improvements upon the land, together with moveables and fixtures, is the property of the tenant. But while the landlords have sufficient influence at the Colonial office to prevent the enforcement of the forfeiture, they are left in possession of the tenants' property and consequently, by the non-performance of the conditions of the grants, the Landlord gains an estate; improved by the labor and means of British subjects who have been left unprotected, and as the rent required is more than the tenant can pay, the Landlord is enabled to exercise an influence over the mind and actions of his tenant, to deprive him of free-will, and of power to seek redress, so that there is no medium left for the tenant between abject submission to the Landlord, or to stand in open defiance.

The repeated applications which have been made to Her Majesty's Government, especially since the year 1832; to revest the forfeited lands in the crown, appeared to be the only constitutional way to do justice to all the parties interested. Freehold settlers might have been secured in their possessions; the Tenantry would have been willing to pay for the fee-simple interest of their leasehold, according to the value of wilderness land, which payment would have constituted a fund, to have satisfied any claims which might have appeared to be due in equity, and also a provision for any widows and orphans, whose support arose from the rents. But purchasers of the original grants, who were well informed of the forfeiture of the grantees' title to the land, and depended upon their own superior skill and contrivance—to enroll tenants—to dispesses occupants—to recover arrears of rent, and to misrepresent the tenants and their claims at the Colonial Office, so as to gain an estate in the tenants' improvements, are considered to be unworthy of such indulgence here.

It appears that Her Majesty's Colonial Secretary is anxious and desirous that a satisfactory arrangement should now take place, by an equitable adjustment between Landlord and Tenant. If this can be effected, it will no doubt satisfy the Agricultural population. But it is lamentable that Her Majesty's Minister, while holding out Justice and Equity to the people of this Colony for the first time; should suppose a case would occur, that would make it necessary to bring troops from another province, amongst a peaceably disposed rural population.

In Great Britain, cases might occur, where it would be necessary for the tenants to apply to their landlords for a mitigation of their rents; a failure of the crops, or an overflow of the markets with foreign Produce, would make it the interest of landlord and tenant, to come to an amicable arrangement with each other, as the ruin and loss of such a tenantry, could not be supplied by immigration.

But in this country, the landlords are quite a different class of men, who in order to secure an estate for themselves, must get rid of the tenantry and their claims, and find it is most for their interest to dispossess them and sell their improvements to immigrants.

It is a well known fact, that Agriculture, carried on with capital and hired labour, has never been successful here; therefore, Farming is not a profitable investment for capital, except where it is connected with some other establishment, or office; consequently, the tenantry, and their families are performing the labor, and duties of husbandry, for a less recompence than labourer's wages! But to induce an influx of immigrants with capital, to give a temporary rise to the value of property, and buy the tenant's improvements would be a profitable speculation for the Proprietors, however great the loss and disappointment would be, to many well-disposed industrious families! Yet such are the consequences when Government is misinformed and allows a class of men to assume a specious authority, to possess themselves of the fruits of other men's labour.

While the Proprietors have such lucrative prospects before them, countenanced by the Colonial Minister, the tenantry are smarting under a grievous wrong; and where their interests are so much at variance with each other, it will be necessary, and we pray, that any arrangement to be made between them, come through your Excellency, and if it is just and equitable, it will be amicably and thankfully received.

These are respectfully submitted to your Excellency, that the settlement of rights of such vital importance, should not be delayed; and as the law to investigate the Proprietor's Titles is suspended, we are of opinion, that the Laws for the ejectment of occupants from their own improvements ought to be suspended in like manner, until an equitable arrangement, between the proprietors and the tenantry be effected.

(Signed) JOHN MCINTOSH,
MARTIN MCINNIS,
WILLIAM COOPER,
On behalf of the Inhabitants of King's County.

REPLY.

To the Inhabitants of King's County.

GENTLEMEN;

Messrs. William Cooper, John M'Intosh & Martin M'Innis, have presented an Address to me, on behalf of the Inhabitants of King's County.

I promised them a written Reply. I now proceed to fulfil that promise. Your Address in the first place states "on approaching the Land settlement question, it is necessary to premise that labor is the foundation of Property and the support of all Governments, and while labor supports Government, it looks to the Government for protection, especially against the designs of insidious men who assume a specious authority to possess themselves of the fruits of other men's labor."

Labor is well entitled to the protection of Government, especially against the designs of insidious men, and it is the duty of the Government, also, to guard the laborious population from the machinations of those who if they do not assume a specious authority, to possess themselves of the fruits of other men's labor, often exercise the influence which they possess, to mislead their less educated and informed fellow men, by holding out promises and hopes to them, which they well know cannot be realized, in order to obtain political ascendancy amongst them, thereby creating discontent, and by continuing agitation, diverting the attention of the Legislature from many useful objects, and from remedying the real grievances which would better the condition of the laborious population, and consequently benefit the whole community.

Your Address in the second place, is an often-told tale, furnishing me with a Summary of the way in which the Land Tenures were originally granted in this Colony, and how they had been bought for less than one farthing per acre, and were afterwards let at an annual rent of one shilling, &c., &c. This is all very true, and however much I may regret and condemn the policy which prompted the Government, nearly a century ago, to alienate the Lands of this Island to grantees, who are long ago at rest in their graves, I hope none of you will dispute the right of the Sovereign in the year 1767, to bestow these grants which have often changed hands, nor will you, I am sure, believe if any of your forefathers had bought lands as you state for a farthing an acre, and afterwards let the same for a shilling, that Her present Most Gracious Majesty would countenance their descendants being deprived of their rents. Your Address states that the conditions on which the grants were bestowed, were not performed, and they ought to have been forfeited to the Crown; such may be your opinion, but it has not been the opinion of successive sovereigns, and their responsible advisers, nor is it the opinion of your present Gracious sovereign, and I can assure you, that these grants never will be forfeited, and if they were to be escheated to the crown to-morrow, not one of you would derive the smallest benefit from the escheat. Mr. William Cooper, who filled the important situation of Speaker of the Assembly, and was one of the deputation who waited upon me, must be well informed on this subject, as he was the individual who was sent to England at the public expense, for the express purpose of discussing this question at the Colonial Office, a good many years ago; he has perhaps forgotten the Despatches of the Colonial Ministers. I will therefore remind him, and tell you what Lord Goderich said in 1832. "If any land were escheated in P. E. Island it is probable that such portions of them as are actually occupied, would be continued to the occupying Tenants at their present rents, there would however, be no remission of the conditions on which the lands are now held of the proprietors, and assuredly there would be no free grants. This mode of dealing with the public property has been abandoned in almost every British Colony. You will shortly receive instructions for abandoning it also in P. E. Island, and substituting in its stead, a system of alienating by public sales, such lands as there may be occasion to dispose of. I have taken this notice of the subject, in order that should a misconception be probable, you may be able to prevent the Tenants of lands in P. E. Island, from forming the erroneous notion that they would gain any personal advantage by the forfeiture of the Townships on which they are settled."

And Lord Glenelg in 1836 says "I have thought it necessary thus explicitly to make known to you the views of His Majesty's Government, because I feel that nothing can so powerfully militate against the best interests of the Colony, as the protracted agitation and excitement respecting it. It would appear that an erroneous impression has got abroad among the poorer class of settlers, that on forfeiture by the present Proprietors of their titles to the land, it would be regranted by His Majesty in freehold to the actual occupant. This impression indeed would seem to have originated as far back as the year 1767, and it may have derived some confirmation from the course pursued with regard to the forfeited Lots No. 15 & 55. Nothing, however, can be more unfounded, you will take the most effectual means in your power for making it generally known, that even should His Majesty be advised in any case to proceed against lands liable to forfeiture, the Crown would in the event of its success, step exactly into the place of the former proprietor, and would enforce the observance of any Contract, which might have been made by the Tenant, and that under no circumstances, which it is possible to anticipate, would gratuitous grants of land be conceded to any person whatever." While in the very Despatch of Earl Grey, to which you direct my attention, dated 12th February 1851, His Lordship says "it is only my purpose now to state that Her Majesty's Government feel themselves bound to adhere to the decision so repeatedly adopted by my predecessors in this matter, and to state that both on the grounds of justice to the landed proprietors, and of the permanent interests of Prince Edward Island, they regard such a measure as impracticable." Yet in the face of these often repeated declarations on the part of the crown, your Address boldly asserts "that in this Island, the landlord's title is forfeited to the crown, and all the improvements upon the land together with moveables and fixtures, are the property of the Tenant." It is by such extraordinary and unfounded statements that the Tenantry are deceived and misled, and they are further misled by the comparison which is made between the connexion which subsists between Landlord and Tenant in Great Britain and P. E. Island. I can assure you, that in the country of which I am a native, the Tenants moveables when he fails to fulfil his contracts, are as much liable to seizure as they are in this Island. You further state "that as *all* the rent required is more than the Tenant can pay, the Landlord is enabled to exercise an influence over the mind and actions of his Tenant to deprive him of free will and of power to seek redress, so that there is no medium left for the Tenant between abject submission to the Landlord, or to stand in open defiance."

Now, as your address states, rents are too high? that is a matter for amicable arrangement; and I do not believe that the Landlords in this Colony (there may be exceptions) are unwilling to listen to and redress any just grievance which their Tenantry may be subject to. I was not aware until now that the Tenantry of King's County were in such an abject state of submission to their Landlords, as enabled them to exercise an influence over their minds, so as to deprive them of free will. If they will, therefore, suggest to me any other mode than what the whole tenor of their address aims at, the confiscation of property, I will do all in my power to place them in a less degrading position than the one in which, to my astonishment, they confess themselves to be—and as Lord Grey suggests, "I will use all the influence which I may possess, and give my best assistance, with a view of preparing any Legislative measure which may be required to complete any amicable arrangement between Landlord and Tenant.

I deeply commiserate with those poor people who, I understand, have often been induced to go into the wilderness without capital, agreeing to pay on short terms more than their labour would produce; and as is sure to follow, getting into debt, subjecting themselves to ejectment, and thus losing the fruits of the only property they ever possessed, the fruits of their labour. I am of opinion that it will be the interest of Landlords, as I hope it is their inclination, to grant leases of very long duration, with an option for the Tenant to purchase; all such questions as these are fit subjects for amicable and equitable adjustment. But should the tenantry adopt the other alternative stated in your address, namely, to stand in open defiance, then I frankly tell you that they must abide the consequences.

If you think laws are oppressive and unjust, it is your duty to point out to me where the oppression and injustice lies, and I will, with the aid of the Legislature, do every thing in my power to remedy their defects; but while these laws exist it becomes my duty to announce to you my determination to maintain and uphold them.

In conclusion your address informs me that the land assessment was paid by the occupant and tenant in addition to their rents; therefore, it is not the proprietors but workmen and the agricultural population who have given to this Colony its present value.

This is another most exaggerated statement, tending to mislead the workmen and agricultural population. Your address ought to have told them that if tenants and occupants *agree* to pay taxes and public burthens over and above their rents, they are bound in this, as in all other countries to fulfil their covenants; your address ought to have told them also, that the civil expence of the Government of this Colony cost the tax-payers of Great Britain up to last year two hundred and ninety two thousand pounds sterling, and that a large amount of the revenue belonging to Her Majesty have been appropriated to the improvement of the Colony, and consequently enhanced its present value; and your address omits to inform the agricultural population that the wilderness lands of proprietors are taxed to double the amount of all other lands.

There are other statements in the address of the Inhabitants of King's County, which I might have noticed, but as they are all more or less founded on the assumption that the lands in Prince Edward are forfeited to the Crown, they require no further comment from me.

I remain,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) A. BANNERMAN, Lt. Governor.

Latest from Europe.

The Royal Mail Steamship Canada, Capt. James Stone, commander, arrived Tuesday morning at Halifax, at about 8 o'clock, after a fine passage of 8¼ days from Liverpool.

The news is not important.

Parliament was prorogued by Her Majesty on the 8th instant.

The political news from the continent is barren of interest. France has put her party spirit aside, in order to entertain her distinguished visitors, the civic dignitaries of London.

MONDAY was one of the warmest and finest days we have had in the metropolis during the present season, and accordingly there was a very numerous concourse of visitors at the Crystal Palace. Between nine and eleven o'clock the Kensington and Knightsbridge road had a most animated appearance, owing to the two confluent streams of vehicles—one caused by the usual Monday-morning excursions to Hampton Court, &c., and the other by an enormous influx of visitors towards the Crystal Palace. During the first two hours about 40,000 persons entered the building; and up to one, there was more than 50,000 visitors. As may be imagined, the heat was excessive. The entire number of visitors during the day was 69,021. The receipts were—

Season Tickets,	£924	0	0
At the doors,	3,096	18	0
Total,	£3,028	18	0

The Crystal Palace is, by a vote of the House of Commons, ordered to be preserved until the 1st May, 1852. This is tantamount to its permanent retention; for in May, 1852, a man might as well attempt to remove the park itself as the building. The government did not appear to advantage in the debate; they displayed not merely an indifference to the public wishes, but a wayward disposition to oppose them. The Chancellor of the Exchequer declared that the building was erected only for a temporary purpose, and that purpose being effected, it must come down. The most solemn pledges, he added, had been given that it should come down, and these pledges must be redeemed. The Chancellor of the Exchequer may be a wise man and we are unfortunate in not having been able at any time to discover his wisdom, but it really does seem to us that his remarks in the present case were more than ordinarily absurd. To whom were the pledges given? If there are pledges to be redeemed, let them be redeemed, but let us first ascertain that they really exist, and that their fulfilment is required before we go about to destroy a very beautiful piece of art, the merits of which will be admitted even by Sir Charles Wood.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

Parliament was prorogued on the 8th instant. The application for admission to the House of Lords was greater than on any previous occasion. The weather was beautiful, and for many years there has not been so large a concourse of persons to view the procession. Near to the entrance to the house, the crush was extreme. Her Majesty entered the building at two o'clock, and the usual ceremonies having been gone through, delivered the following

SPEECH:

My Lords and Gentlemen;

I am glad to be able to release you from your attendance in Parliament and I thank you for the diligence with which you have performed your laborious duties. I continue to maintain the most friendly relations with foreign powers. I am happy to be able to congratulate you on the very considerable diminution which has taken place in the African and Brazilian slave trade. The exertions of my squadrons on the Coast of Africa and Brazil, assisted by the vigilance of the cruisers of France and the United States, and aided by the co-operation of the Brazilian Government have mainly contributed to this result.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons;

I thank you for the readiness with which you have granted the supplies necessary for the year.

My Lords and Gentlemen;

It is satisfactory to observe, that notwithstanding the very large reduction of taxes, the revenue for the past year considerably exceeds the public expenditure for the same period. I am rejoiced to find, that you have thereby been enabled to relieve my people from an impost which restricted the enjoyment of light and air in dwellings. I trust, that this enactment, with others, to which your attention has been and will be directed, will contribute to the health and comfort of my subjects. I thank you for the assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the consideration of a measure, framed for the purpose of checking the undue assumption of Ecclesiastical Titles conferred by a foreign power. It gives me the highest satisfaction to find, that while repelling unfounded claims, you have maintained inviolate the great principles of religious liberty, so happily established amongst us. The attention you have bestowed on the administration of justice in the Courts of Law and Equity, will, I trust, prove beneficial, and lead to improvements. I have willingly given my consent to a Bill, relating to the Administration of the Land Revenues of the Crown, which will, I hope, conduce to the better management of that department and at the same time, tend to the promotion of works of public utility. It has been gratifying to me, on an occasion which has brought many foreigners to this country, to observe the spirit of kindness and good will, which so generally prevailed. It is my anxious desire to promote among nations, the cultivation of all those arts, which are fostered by peace, and which, in their turn contributed to maintain the peace of the world.

In closing the present Session, it is with feelings of gratitude to Almighty God, that I acknowledge the general spirit of loyalty and willing obedience to the law, which animate my people. Such a spirit is the best security, at once, for the progress and stability of our free and happy institutions.

CHATHAM, August 6.

On Tuesday afternoon detachments from the Royal Artillery, 2d Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, the Royal Canadian Rifles, and the 20th Regiment, arrived at Chatham Garrison under the command of Lieut. G. Massy, having disembarked from the Java, troop.ship, at Gravesend, from the Canadas; Assistant Surgeon Longmore, of the 19th, also accompanied them. A strong escort conducted a party of convicts brought from Canada.

TEETOTAL DEMONSTRATION.—The friends of Teetotalism have taken advantage of the present enormous influx of visitors from all parts of the kingdom, to commence "a series of grand demonstration *fetes* and meetings," the first public one of which took place on Monday evening at Exeter-hall. Mr. L. Heyworth, M. P., presided, and the platform was crowded with a numerous assemblage of persons from different parts of the country.

THE LORD MAYOR IN PARIS.—The unreformed Corporation of London has been desporting itself upon the banks of the Seine, and the gullible citizens of Paris have been feting and complimenting a clique under the impression that they were paying a compliment to the bankers, merchants, and citizens of that mighty metropolis, in which has been erected the Crystal Palace. This is a gross delusion. The Parisians have not seen the merchant princes of London; they have only wasted their good nature upon a few men who are the representatives of nothing but a bad system of municipal monopoly; a pretentious set of talkers, who have never shown talent for any one thing beyond a taste for gaudy dresses, obsolete toggery, and gross feeding.

SUBMISSION TO THE LAW.—A letter from Dublin says:—"Dr. M'Hale, the Roman Catholic Archbishop, has caused his title to be changed in the books of the National Bank of Tuam, from that of Archbishop of that see to the Most Rev. Dr. M'Hale, in consequence of the provision of the Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Act."

The *Bilancia*, a journal of Turin, states, that several persons of rank have just been arrested at Verona and Venice, on political grounds.

A letter from Moscow states that, on the 20th ult., as the monks of the convent of Waldimir, a town about 120 miles to the north-east of that city, were setting out in procession, to visit the image of the virgin at a neighbouring village, a wooden bridge thrown over the moat of the convent (formerly a fortress) gave way, and out of 200 of the monks, 158 were drowned. This immense loss of life was caused by the water being 45 feet deep, and the sides of the moat being perpendicular.

CRETINISM.—A modified form of Goitre or Cretinism has been discovered in Lancashire, Yorkshire and Somersetshire, and is stated to be spreading. Cretinism, with its hideous neck swellings, its attendant imbecility, or its idiotcy, is but the result of combined poverty, uncleanliness, intemperance—particularly in regard to spirituous liquors—and repeated intermarriages among a population already predisposed to take and to propagate the disease, and the members of which are located in low and close neighbourhoods.

FROM THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The barque Ocean Wave, Capt. Lewis, arrived at Boston on Thursday morning, with dates from the Cape of Good Hope to June 21.

Papers to June 17th, received by her, states that the war continued, with no prospect of its being brought to a close. A rebellion had broken out among the Hottentots at Theopolis, which was one of the most serious nature. The rebel Hottentots were joined by some deserts from the Cape Rifles, and also by some Kaffirs, and at daylight in the morning murdered in cold blood the Fingoes resident at the Institution there. The Fingoes were shot as, as they lay in their beds.

Some of the rebels wished also to burn the women and children; but others prevented this. The missionary buildings at the Theopolis Station, the oldest in the Colony, were all burnt down, save one small building. After the massacre, the rebels commenced their retreat to the mountains. They were followed by forces gathering in their rear, and at one place an engagement took place between the English forces and the enemy, in which the former lost several killed and wounded, and were obliged to retreat, as the rebels were continually receiving reinforcements. Amon the killed, was Field Cornet Gray.

It is feared that in many Hottentot localities, rebellion may break out as at Theopolis. It is not yet known how far the infection has spread.

Evidence has been found among the papers captured, of an extensive conspiracy among the frontier Hottentots, to destroy the white inhabitants. The wildest and most insane ideas have found place in their minds, and believing that the white settlers had been abandoned by their government, they concluded that the time had come when they too might set up for themselves, and recover their ancient possessions.—Sandilli, the Kaffir chief, it is said, was to have had Graham's Town for his future capital, while the future metropolis of the Hottentot nation is to be fixed at Uitenhage, with Port Elizabeth as its commercial mart. Papers relative to the division of spoil were also found.

The Frontier Times contains deplorable accounts of the state of affairs there. Rebel fires were burning in every direction. Farm houses are destroyed and the cattle stolen.

A Zoola Chief, located in the Vaal district, had put to death in the most cruel manner sixty unfortunate natives, who had crossed the river for protection. The motive of the butchery was the possession of their cattle.

Among the Hottentot rebels, those of European extraction are the most active and dangerous.

Detachments of English and native forces continue to be sent into the Kaffir strongholds, but somehow they always fail to come up with the enemy sufficiently to inflict any effective chastisement.

THE GREAT BRITAIN STEAM-SHIP.—This splendid vessel after undergoing a thorough repair, is expected to be fit for sea in about two months. She is now in the graving dock, where she has received a new keel, having been formerly flat, and a spacious and splendid saloon has been fitted up on her deck, extending the entire length, 275 feet. She will proceed on her trans-atlantic voyage some time during the month of October, under the command of Capt. Matthews, formerly of the Great Western, and afterwards of the City of Glasgow—a seaman whose long and successfully tried experience and judgment are justly appreciated alike by owners, shippers, and passengers.

THE PRETENDED DISCOVERY OF PART OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S CREW.—A paragraph has been going the round of the Scotch papers, and has already found its way to the metropolitan journals, to the effect, that four bodies of sailors had been discovered buried in the high lands near Lancaster Sound, owing to information received from a party of Esquimaux.

The letter containing this information was said to have been addressed to one John Douglas, of King street, Aberdeen, but after all due enquiry in that part of the town, no such person could be found, and this, like many other reports of a similar nature, is, doubtless, a cruel hoax.

DISTRESS IN THE WESTERN HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS.—The report of Sir John M'Neill, who was appointed early in February last to visit the Western Highlands and Islands, has just been presented to Parliament. Sir John M'Neill undertook his labors on the 3d of February, and returned to Edinburgh on the 27th of the following April, having investigated the condition of twenty-seven parishes. The report enters at great length into the past, present, and probable future resources of the population of these districts, and expresses an opinion, that the people will be able to meet the exigencies of the present season, not certainly without painful suffering, but without the loss of any life, in consequence of the cessation of eleemosynary aid. But if henceforth the population is to depend on local resources, it is apprehended that some terrible calamity will occur before many years, unless a portion of the inhabitants of the more destitute parishes remove to where they can find the means of subsistence in greater abundance and with greater certainty than they can find them where they now are.

VISIT OF THE COURT TO SCOTLAND.—Her Majesty and Royal Family are not expected at Balmoral Castle until the end of August. It is not yet determined whether the Royal party will proceed first to Dunrobin Castle or not; but the visit has been so long promised, and the preparations so extensive and long-continued, that it is fully expected Her Majesty will this season reach this almost "Ultima Thule" of her dominions. There has not been much building at Balmoral since last visit, but some additions to the out-offices have been made, the grounds are kept in the best possible order, and the public are excluded, except in rare cases.—*Perth Courier.*

WEST INDIES.

THE TOBAGO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.—REJECTION OF THE SUPPLY BILL.—We regret to perceive by our Tobago files that the House of Assembly of that Island are at issue with his Excellency the Governor General, on the subject of the Supply Bill of 1850. His Excellency has deemed it proper to withhold his assent to that enactment, and in a despatch, addressed to his honor the President, lately administering the Government, and dated Barbadoes, 4th March, 1851, gives his reasons for so doing.

UNITED STATES.

By the Royal Mail Steamer Europa, we received Boston dates yesterday morning, of Wednesday.

The Collins steamship Baltic arrived at New York on Saturday, last, in 9 days, 13 hours, and 50 minutes, from Liverpool, with 148 passengers. The Pacific left New York, same day for Liverpool, with 68 passengers. The papers say, the Baltic's passage is the shortest on record.

The friends of the New York and Galway Steamship enterprise, held a meeting on Tuesday, at the office of H. B. Tebbatt, N. York, and appointed a committee, with power to proceed in the organization of the Company. The Committee will meet every Thursday. Dudley Pearse is chairman of the Committee, and treasurer of the fund to meet contingent expenses. Horace Greeley, Simeon Draper and Freeman Hunt, are of the Committee.

There is another movement on foot in New York, to get up a line of steamships to run between Limerick and New York.

HYDROPHOBIA.—Two children died of this last disease last week, in New York. One was a boy, about three years of age. He was bitten by a dog about a month previous to his death. The other was a boy named John Slater, who died on the 8th instant, after a very brief but frightful illness.

C. H. Gherkin, Professor of Music at Norfolk, Va., ordered his coffin of an undertaker on Saturday, stating that he should die that evening. He was then apparently quite well, but subsequently went to bed and died early in the evening, as predicted.

There was a severe thunder storm and hail storm in Chester Co., Penn., on Sunday last. In Kennet Township the hail was five or six inches in circumference.

Oliver Brown, a soldier of the revolution died at Templeton on the 17th inst. Mr. Brown was the last survivor of those who were engaged in the fight at Concord, April 19th, 1771.

EXTENSIVE FARMING.—A crop of potatoes grown on the rancho of Mr. Horner, containing 1000 acres, in the San Jose valley, California yielding in gross receipts $225,000.

On Saturday evening there was an extraordinary rain in Washington city, flooding the city to a degree almost unparalleled. Much damage was caused by the inundation of cellars, the undermining of walls and culverts, and the overflowing of sewers, &c.

CANADA.

FRIGHTFUL TRAGEDY.—A woful catastrophe to a pleasure excursion occurred at Kingston, Canada West, on Thursday, 14th instant. Out of a party of 35 persons, who had passed the day on a Pic Nic, nineteen were suddenly lost by the oversetting of a boat, in which they were returning home.

VOTE OF THE CANADIAN LEGISLATURE IN FAVOR OF THE GREAT RAILWAY.—In the Canadian Assembly, on the 14th inst., the Resolutions introduced by the Government for appropriating sixteen millions of dollars towards the construction of the Grand Trunk Railway through Canada and New Brunswick to Halifax, were adopted by that body. This vote proves that the people of Canada are in earnest in this important matter, and that their statesmen (we rejoice that they have some deserving the name), are fully alive to this stupendous project. All doubt as to the course which will be adopted in all these Colonies must now vanish.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

DESERTERS CAUGHT.—On Saturday morning last, Lieutenant Briggs and Sergeant Smith, of the detachment of the 97th Regiment, now in garrison in St. Andrews, returned to town with their party of five men, after having succeeded in capturing, in the neighbourhood of Mr. George Wilson's Inn, on the Fredericton road, a band of ten deserters from the Regiment at Head Quarters. The poor creatures were without food for three days.—*Charlotte Gazette.*

It is said that Colonel Reid is to be Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, in place of Sir John Harvey.