CHINA.

FURTHER PARTICULARS OF THE ATTACK ON CHUENPEE AND TYKOKTOW FORTS.

From some loose notes with which we have been kindly favoured we have it now in our power to lay before our readers a rough account of the plan of attack on the Chuenpee and Tykoktow Forts; and we hope to be able to convey to them, by our description, a tolerably correct idea of the scenes at Chuenpee on the 7th inst.

The boats were manned and armed, and the Royal Marines of the squadron under Capt. Ellis were ready to land on the morning of the 7th.

The detachments of the 26th and 49th Regiments 37th Madras Native Infantry, and Bengal Volunteers embarked on board the steamers Enterprise and Madagascar, and were conveyed to the point of debarcation and landed in the transports' boats.

Captain Knowles commanded the artillery, having under him Lieutenant the Hon. —— Spenser. The force of this arm consisted of two 24-pounder howitzers and two 6-pounder guns. The guns were worked by the artillery-men, but to each howitzer 30 seamen of the Blenheim were attached, and to the 6-pounders 15 seamen of the ships from which they were landed, to drag them into position. The guns were placed on the ridge of the hill commanding the intrenchment.

The Queen and the Nemesis took up a position, within good shell distance, as the depth of the water allowed, and attacked the fort on the hill, which was soon deserted.

The Calliope, Hyacinth, and Larne, weighed and proceeded above the batteries to be ready to attack in that quarter, and to capture the junks. Captain Herbert commanded this portion of the force.

The Samarang, the Druid, the Columbine, and the Modeste were ordered to make a simultaneous attack on Tykoktow, the object being to dismantle the fort. Captain Scott had charge of this division.

The Madagascar and the Enterprise having landed their troops proceeded to join the Calliope's division.

All the dispositions having been made, and the troops landed at the watering-place to the southward of the island, they formed, and pushed strong covering parties in advance of the guns, and then waited the effect of their fire, as well as that of the squadron; they then marched in two bodies on the hill fort, into which the Queen and the Nemesis had previously thrown some shells; on reaching the intervening valley the stockade opened a fire on the troops, but was soon silenced by the field-pieces, placed, as noticed above, on the ridge of the hill: the troops—the Cameronians and Marines, then pushed forward up the hill and took possession of the fort, whilst the Bengal Volunteers and 57th Madras Native Infantry debouched from the valley to the northward, and then, left shoulders forward, marched round the hill. After driving the Chinese, who made a handsome defence, out of the stockade, the Cameronians and Marines deployed and rushed down the hill on the lower and largest fort, entered the embrasures, and drove all before them, the garrison escaping through the northern gate, when in a few minutes they were intercepted in their *sauve qui peut* retreat by the native troops, who had debouched from the valley, and opened a most destructive fire upon them. This spot, a short distance from the northern gate and beach, was the slaughter-house: it was here the Hiptae, a mandarine of the third class was killed, obstinately refusing quarter from a serjeant of Marines, who ran up to him as his people were carrying him off severely wounded. He cut at the serjeant, who parried the blow with his bayonet, and nearly had the worst of the encounter. The Chinese, with the Cameronians and Marines in their rear, and the native troops in front, rushed into the water to escape, but there fell beneath the united fire of the troops. It should be here remarked that the Chinese do not understand either giving or taking quarter in the European military sense of those conditions. Many of the Chinese, when in the water, fired their matchlocks, at the native troops, and then threw them away and made no submission; but this bite-and-fall-down proceeding the Spahis did not understand, but returned the fire of the Chinese, of course with fatal effect.

The left division, led in splendid style by the Druid, Captain Smith, were in their stations about half past 10 o'clock, a. m., the Druid reserving her fire, although a brisk cannonade was kept up from this extensive fort, until she dropped her anchor, when instantly she poured in a destructive broadside, her example being followed by the other ships as they came up in succession. A landing was effected to storm the fort, but the Chinese obstinately defended themselves at the north gate, being driven by the broadsides from the batteries, but not until a great many of their guns were dismounted or rendered unserviceable. Several personal encounters here took place, and to show the obstinacy of their defence, a mandarin having lost his arms, grappled with an officer of the Modeste, and bit him severely in the arm. The Columbine being on the flank, her batteries enfilading the fort, threw in upon the enemy, who were now firing and retiring, a destructive discharge of grape and canister. In an hour the British flag floated over the fort. The enemy's loss was great, but we are unable to speak accurately as to number. Here, as at Chuenpee, the clothes (padded with cotton) of the killed and wounded, as they fell, were ignited by their matches and ammunition boxes, which they carry in front, and the bodies almost consumed by fire.

Thus fell the forts, stockades, and garrisons of Chuenpee and Tykoktow to Her Britannic Majesty's arms, on the 7th of January, 1841.

The stockades were well and strongly built, but their situation was not well selected, being commanded by the neighbouring hills. They afford a proof of the advance the Chinese have made in the means of defence. From the freshness of the materials employed in their construction, it would appear that they have been erected within these few weeks, while the British plenipotentiary had been negotiating, and had they been held by determined men, or rather skilful soldiers, it would have cost our troops some trouble to take them. As it was, the Marines had a good many men wounded in the attack; and, although exposed to a heavy and galling fire from the field pieces and musketry, the Chinese resolutely defended them for twenty minutes, and it was only a forward movement of the gallant and ever-distinguished Cameronians—not invalids, as they have been elsewhere most egregiously misnamed—and Marines, that induced them to evacuate the works. The deep dry ditch and breastwork of these defences offered no small obstacles to our attacking force. Some amusing scenes occurred whilst our men were struggling who should be the first up the steep and hard clay sides of the dry ditch, proving how totally reckless are British soldiers and sailors "in the day and hour of danger."

During the attack, Major Pratt, of the Cameronians, was seen a long way in advance, under the very defences of the enemy, with admirable coolness quietly making a reconnoitre of their position. The gallant major, on looking through one of the embrasures, saw there was a body of Chinese close to it, when he coolly turned to the only soldier with him, a Marine, and said, "Just shoot me one of these fellows, will you?" The action followed the word, and the rest of the Chinese forthwith retired to a more respectful distance.

We do not expect to find in the construction of Chinese forts any exhibition of engineering skill; they have not had a Vauban. It appears, however, that the materials they employ for the upper part of their works, such as parapets, embrasures, &c., are particularly well chosen for the purpose. It appears to be a composition like chunam, upon which our shot made but little impression. Most of the Chinese guns were of small calibre, the metal wretched iron, and as wretchedly manufactured, a single blow of a hammer to knock off the trunnions; they were all spiked or otherwise destroyed, and most of them were thrown into the sea; the carriages were all burnt. The breastwork and ditches of the stockades escaped with only partial dismantling, but everything within them has been totally destroyed by fire, and the guns removed, with the exception of a long Spanish piece of larger calibre than usual which is lying dismounted as a flanking breastwork commanding the approach from the valley at the base of the hill; had this formidable gun been well served, its shot would have mowed down many of the gallant Cameronians and Marines.

The sites of houses and huts are now only to be distinguished by smoking ruins. The ground over the whole extent of the fortifications is thickly strewn with tattered remnants of clothes, &c.; the Chinese suffered horribly from falling, when wounded, on their burning matches, which set fire to their padded cotton garments and powder flasks, which they wear round their waist, and literally blew them up, and burnt them slowly to death. The burial of these black, mangled corpses, was a fearful spectacle.

The beach, running from Chuenpee Fort down into Anson's Bay, is strewn with the charred timbers of the junks so effectually destroyed by the Nemesis and the boats of the squadron, among which many Chinese corpses are yet lying, January 12, 13, 14. Many of the bodies were large and athletic, much beyond the generality of the natives of this province.

Just over the brow of the rising ground at the landing place of the Chuenpee fort great numbers of the dead lie buried in one large common grave, over whom some careless, thoughtless, "jolly jack tar," has raised a board bearing the following inspiriting inscription:—"This is the road to glory."

The poorer natives do not show any fear at our having taken Chuenpee; numbers of boats are about the fleet, and in many instances the Chinese have returned to seek the bodies of their slain relations, which they have exhumed, and although in a state of decomposition, they are carrying the bodies away in great numbers. But among these exhibitions of filial and fraternal feeling there have been some impostors, seeking their "young brothers," evidently trying to excite the compassion of the officers. Provisions are easily procurable. One old man and woman are the only natives left in the island; they were on the point were death was rifest, but would not abandon the hearth of their fathers; the old man was slightly wounded, but is under the care, as are many of the wounded Chinese, of our surgeons. Great praise is due to these gentlemen for the humane attention they bestowed, as far as was in their power, on the wounded sons of Han.

The following anecdote exhibits the base, cunning, and callous heartlessness of the Chinese character. A charge was brought by them against some of our men of murdering a man; the charge, however, upon investigation was proved to be unfounded, and that, instead of a man, it was a bullock that had been murdered! The Chinese said they could produce the body of the murdered man in proof of their charge; they were required to do so, when they brought a corpse in a state of decomposition, which had evidently been procured for the occasion from the graves in the fort. We have heard of similar charges having been made, and similar proofs having been exhibited, more than once at Whampoa many years ago.

ISLAND OF HONG KONG.—The Island of Hong Kong, of which a description is subjoined, is but a poor affair. That Captain Elliott accepted this island, and about a million and a quarter sterling, payable six years after date, in exchange for the fine island of Chusan, and in liquidation of our heavy claims upon the Chinese Government, would not surprise us, inasmuch as no blunder he could commit would excite our wonder; but we should be indeed astonished were such an arrangement to meet with the approbation of Lord Palmerston and the rest of her Majesty's Ministers.

This island is one of the group of islands at the mouth of the Canton River. It is of granitic formation, and the land rises to some considerable height in the centre of the island. There are several good watering-places on the southern shores, and potatoes and vegetables are cultivated by the inhabitants to a great extent. The anchorage is the best between the Lamma Island and Hong Kong, as there is from ten to twelve fathoms of water. There is also good anchorage in the Ty-tam Bay for small vessels, but the entrance is not good, and there are some dangerous rocks in the course. The entrance into the Northern Channel is through the Ly-ee-mun Channel into Hong Kong Bay, and although several of our Merchantmen have wintered here, the approach through the Lamma Channel is very uncertain, as the depth is continually changing from the great deposit of mud. Ships from Macao pass through the Lantao Channel during the Northern Monsoon, but the navigation of these straits is exceedingly difficult and dangerous. Tyfongs, or gales of wind, prevail along the coast at the equinox, and are very destructive to the native and foreign shipping. This island is badly chosen as a position; it is surrounded by small clusters of islands, and our ships of war will be unable to act amidst these island groups. Small steamers will alone be serviceable, but these must be of very small draught. The cession of this island by the Chinese Government is according to their usual cautious policy, as they will be enabled by their river junks to block up the entrances, and cut of communication from the outer waters. The island is ten miles long, and about five miles broad. The Chinese have two forts on the coast opposite Hong Kong Bay; and the small harbour of Cow-too is much frequented by the coasting junks.

CHINA AND INDIA.

(From the Second Edition of the Times.)

By a second extraordinary express forwarded from Nevers the post-town at which our courier was arrested by the French Post-office authorities, we have this instant received the remainder of our despatches which were there detained, and files of China and India papers down to the last dates. A letter from our correspondent at Bombay, which we subjoin, fully confirms the intelligence published in our first edition, and the papers from which we have made copious extracts, supply many interesting particulars.

BOMBAY, March 1.—The most important intelligence which this mail takes to Europe is that of the arrangement of the preliminaries of peace between Capt. Elliot and the Chinese Chief Commissioner Ke-shen. Those preliminaries are most severely commented on. They were brought about by the bravery of the British expedition. Two forts, Chuenpee and Tykok-tow were attacked on the 7th of Jan. by land and sea, and, after a great slaughter of the Chinese soldiers, taken. On the 8th the squadron moved towards the Bogue forts, and threw some shells into them. Ke-shen, finding that evasions or manœuvring would not suit his purposes any longer, sent then a communication (chop) to Capt. Elliot, offering to negociate in earnest. Interviews with the Chinese agents took place, and on the 20th of Jan. Capt. Elliot addressed two circulars to the British subjects.

The terms accepted by the British Plenipotentiary are looked upon as unworthy of England. Hong Kong may become a good military and naval station; but 1,000,000 of dollars every year for six years are considered insufficient even for the expenses The opium compensation appears to have been thrown overboard altogether. 6,000,000 of dollars every year for six years ought to have been obtained to do justice to all men. The preliminaries do not speak of any redress for injury, or of any security for the future except, indeed, the liberty of official intercourse be considered. There are no commercial arrangements, no tariff, and Hong Kong is to be open to all nations. The preliminaries may not have been sufficiently explained, but, as far as they are known, they excite general dissatisfaction.

Capt. Elliot has appended the following remarks to the published circular, containing an account of the arrangements with the Imperial Commissioner:

"The Plenipotentiary seizes the earliest occasion to declare that her Majesty's government has sought for no privilege in China exclusively for the advantage of British ships and merchants, and he is only performing his duty in offering the protection of the British flag to the subjects, citizens, and ships of foreign powers that may resort to her Majesty's possessions.

"Pending her Majesty's further pleasure, there will be no port or other charge to the British government.

"The Plenipotentiary now permits himself to make a few general observations.

"The oblivion of past and redressed injuries will follow naturally from the right feeling of the Queens subjects; indeed it should be remembered that no extent of modification resulting only from political intervention can be efficacious in the steady improvement of our condition, unless it be systematically seconded by conciliatory treatment of the people and becoming deference for the institutions and government of the country, upon the threshold of which we are about to be established.

"The Plenipotentiary can only presume to advert very briefly to the zeal and wisdom of the commander of the expedition to China, and to that rare union of ardour, patience, and forbearance, which has distinguished the officers and forces of all arms at all points of occupation and operation.

"He is well assured that the British community will sympathise cordially with him in their sentiments of lasting respect for his Excellency and the whole force, which he is ashamed to express in such inadequate language.

"He cannot conclude without declaring that next to these causes the peaceful adjustment of difficulties must be ascribed to the scrupulous good faith of the very eminent person with whom negociations are still pending.

"CHARLES ELLIOT,
"Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary."

CIRCULAR.

"TO HER MAJESTY'S SUBJECTS.

"MACAO, JAN. 20, 1841.

"Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary considers it incumbent upon himself to lose no time in assuring the commercial community that he will use his best efforts with her Majesty's government to secure an early and entire advance of their claims for the indemnity.

"And, mindful of the interests of parties in India, he will not fail respectfully to move the Right Hon. the Governor General of India to second these purposes as far as may seem just to his lordship.

"CHARLES ELLIOT,
"Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary."

As a rider to the circular of Captain Elliot, announcing the conclusion of preliminary arrangements, Ke-shen, the Imperial Commissioner, has put forth the following document:—

"Ke-shen, a great Minister of State, and Imperial High Commissioner of the second order of hereditary nobility, and acting Governor of the two Kwang Provinces, writes this dispatch for the full information of the Tungche, or Keunmingfoo of Macao.

"The English barbarians are now obedient to orders, and, by an official document, have restored Tinghae and Shahee: invoking me with the most earnest importunity that I should for them report, and beg (the imperial) favour.

"At present all affairs are perfectly well settled. The former order for stopping their trade and cutting off the supplies of provisions, it is necessary to enforce; it is for this purpose that I issue these orders to the said Tungche, that he may obey accordingly, without opposition. A special despatch."

On Tuesday, the 26th ult., as we have been informed, the British flag was to be hoisted at Hong Kong, and a portion of the force to be disembarked, to take formal possession of the island in the name of her Majesty. The troops were then to re-embark and to remain on board ship until proper quarters were provided for them on shore. Captain Elliot was to proceed in a few days in a steamer up the river to Second Bar, where he was to have an interview with the Imperial Commissioner Ke-shen.—*Canton Press.*

A SAFETY KITE AT SEA.—SANDGATE.—(From a Correspondent)—The wind being south, with strong breezes, a trial was made last week, at Sandgate, of the Mariners' Safety Kite, by W. Walker (late sergeant of the royal horse guards (blue) at present in the mounted revenue guards), before Lieut. Batt, R. N., and several experienced nautical men, and found to answer in every respect the purpose for which it is designed. It may be as well to add, that a wreck having taken place on the 13th of November last, at Dungeness, when two lives were lost, in consequence of the high sea preventing any communication from or to the shore, the idea of a kite on board the wreck, so as to be lowered at will when over the land, first struck Mr. Walker as the most feasible and certain method of rescue. This has been accomplished in such a simple manner that a child might manage it with precision, rising and falling within three feet of the earth, again rising without assistance, carrying out 100 fathoms of line, if necessary. Communication in the instance of shipwreck at Dungeness would have been the means of saving the crew, had a "kite" been on board. Even uninhabited shores might be reached by an ordinary swimmer attaching the line under his arms. A light has been discovered to attach to the tail, which neither wind nor rain will extinguish, to be used at night, so that persons on shore may see its position.

LETTER FROM PRINCE METTERNICH TO ADMIRAL R. STOPFORD, G. C. B.

The following complimentary letter from Prince Metternich was sent to Admiral Stopford, on the close of the war in Syria:—

"Mons. l'Admiral—The brilliant campaign which the united maritime forces of Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and His Majesty the Emperor of Austria have just achieved on the coast of Syria, under the command and wise direction of your Excellency, has terminated the conflict which for so long a period had disturbed the Turkish empire.

"The object of our alliance having been accomplished, the union of the two fleets is no longer necessary; and Admiral Count Bandeira has received orders to resume his pacific flag in the Levant as formerly.

"On the instant of his quitting the English fleet I received the orders of the Emperor, my master, to communicate to your Excellency that his Majesty has experienced the highest satisfaction at the use you made of the squadron which he had placed under your command. His Majesty warmly thanks you, M. l'Admiral, for the glory which he has thereby acquired, and for the friendly relations which you have throughout entertained with his Majesty's commandant.

"I feel happy in communicating to your Excellency the orders of the Emperor, and I take this occasion of having the honour to beg you to receive the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) "METTERNICH.

"Vienna, March 10, 1841.

"To His Excellency M. l'Admiral Stopford."

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 24.—Letters from Damascus state that Count Szechenyi has died of the plague in that city.

The Constantinople correspondence of the Augsburg Gazette, under the date of 24th ult., gives the following as the principal points of the representation made to the Ottoman Porte by Austria and Russia, in favour of the Christians of Syria and Palestine.

"1. The two Powers desire that the Sultan should appoint a special Governor for Palestine and the Holy Cities, having his seat of Government at Jerusalem, and the port of Jaffa as his means of communication with the Mediterranean. 2. They demand a suppression of all the vexations to which the Christians have been subjected. 3. An impartial administration of justice. 4. Protection for the pilgrims visiting the Holy Land. 5. A settlement of all the differences between the Greek and Armenian churches. 6. The appointment of a commission to effect this end. 7. The re-establishment of such churches and convents as have been destroyed or damaged."

The Hamburg Correspondent says that letters from Paris, received at Berlin, represent the most perfect good understanding as prevailing between the Cabinet of the Tuileries and the other European Powers on the Eastern question, after conferences between M. Guizot and the ambassadors resident at Paris, in which Count d'Arnim, the Prussian Minister, took an influential part. Official notice of the approaching christening of the Count de Paris has been sent to the Court of Berlin.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MEHEMET ALI AND THE MERCHANTS OF LIVERPOOL.

The following correspondence has recently taken place between the Pacha of Egypt and the merchants of Liverpool, originated by the latter in recognition of the protection afforded by Mehemet Ali to British residents and travellers in Egypt, and particularly at the time when a suspension of amicable intercourse between the Pacha and this country had virtually taken place:—

"TO HIS HIGHNESS THE PACHA OF EGYPT.

"We, the undersigned merchants, bankers, and other inhabitants of the town of Liverpool, beg to convey to your Highness our admiration and grateful thanks for the uniform protection and kindness manifested by your Highness towards our countrymen for many years past, when travelling through or sojourning in the extensive countries under your rule, and which protection has not been less efficacious than universal.

"These sentiments have been still further enhanced by your Highness's conduct on a recent occasion, when, with that consideration for the welfare of the mercantile interest and the benefit of travellers, and with a magnanimity worthy of the most enlightened policy, your Highness was pleased to allow the free transit of Mails and Passengers through your Country, under circumstances which generally dissever the ties binding mankind together in friendly intercourse, affording thereby a rare exception in such cases to the general rule, a brilliant example to other potentates, and justly deserving, in our estimation, the thanks of the whole civilized world.

"That you may long continue to govern the fertile dominion committed to your charge, in prosperity and peace, devoting to its improvement all the energies of your enlightened mind; and that you may enjoy advanced age in health, honour, and happiness, is our sincere wish.

"Liverpool, February 26, 1841."

"Gentlemen,—His Highness the Viceroy has ordered the undersigned to communicate to the mayor, bankers, merchants, and other inhabitants of the town of Liverpool, that their address has reached him.

"The sentiments expressed in that address are highly gratifying to his Highness, who accepts the good wishes thus conveyed to him, and will always exert himself for their realization.

"Mercantile interests and travellers in the countries under the rule of his Highness will always enjoy that effectual protection which is the type of civilization in all nations—and in strictly adhering to his system of civilization even in periods of the greatest difficulty, when his intentions were unknown, his Highness has been faithful to his principles, and has given to his officers and to the people under his government a lesson that will bind them always in more friendly ties to the enlightened people of other nations, for their mutual warfare.

"Amidst the regrets which his Highness sometimes experiences at being unable to realize all the good he meditates, Providence grants him occasionally some consolation, which comes as a soothing balm, and of this nature is the address of the mayor, bankers, merchants, and other inhabitants of the town of Liverpool. The undersigned is charged to express the great satisfaction that it has given to his Highness, and to convey to them his thanks.

"The undersigned has the honor to subscribe himself, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant.

(Signed) "BOGHOS YOUSSOUFF."

SIR GEORGE ARTHUR.—It has been decided by the General Commanding in Chief, with the concurrence of her Majesty's government, that Major Gen. Sir George Arthur, whose recall from Toronto had been decided on, in consequence of the recent union of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, shall be continued upon the staff of British North America until further orders.—*United Service Gazette.*

Sir George Arthur has arrived in town from Upper Canada. Sir George transacted business on Saturday at the Colonial office.

BANKING SYSTEM IN AMERICA.—The report on the banks, exhibits a wholesale system of fraud and rascality of the most disgusting nature.

Arrangements are now in progress for raising and organizing an additional number of veteran companies, for exclusive and permanent service in Canada, where they are to be employed upon garrison duty. Their principal strength in rank and file will consist of volunteers from the regiments at present stationed in America, more especially from such of them as are under orders to return home.

CHINA.—It is understood that Lord Palmerston has appointed Wednesday next, at five o'clock, to receive a deputation from the merchants of London on the subject of Capt. Elliott's negociations with the Chinese.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,
Prince Edward Island, April 14.

Mr. Rae, from the Committee to whom was referred the draught Address relative to Peter M'Callum, Esq., and the mode of appointing Sheriffs, reported, that they had made amendments thereto; and the Address, as amended, was again read at the Clerk's Table, and is as followeth:

To His Excellency Sir CHARLES AUGUSTUS FITZROY, *K. H., Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c.*

May it please your Excellency;

The House of Assembly most respectfully beg your Excellency not to re-appoint Peter McCallum, Esq., to the office of Sheriff, as from his overbearing conduct, and still more for sundry illegal acts done by him in that capacity, manifestly proved before this House, the re-appointing the said Peter M'Callum, would in their opinion not only be inexpedient but dangerous to the peace of the Colony. In offering this suggestion to your Excellency, the House have not the slightest intention to interfere with your Excellency's power as to the appointment of Public officers, they are solely actuated by a desire to conciliate all classes of her Majesty's subjects in this Island to the proper administration of justice under your Excellency's authority.

The House of Assembly would further, with all deference, beg to state, that the continuing the same individuals in the office of High Sheriff for more than one year at a time, has not been the practice of this Colony, though resorted to for the last year, seems neither in unison with the custom of this Colony since it received a constitution, nor with the law and practice of England (and is in direct contradiction to the evident meaning of a Statute of this Island, 26 Geo. III. Cap. 15,) and therefore the House of Assembly would, with all deference, submit to your Excellency as their opinion, that it would be conducive to the impartial administration of justice, that the same individual should not be continued in the office of High Sheriff for more than one year at one time.

Mr. Thomson then moved to amend the said Report, by leaving out the words "and still more from sundry "illegal acts done by him in that capacity, "manifestly proved before this House."

The House divided on motion of amendment.

Yeas—10. Nays 10.—The numbers being equal the Speaker gave his casting vote in favour of the amendment.

FRIDAY, April 16.

Mr. Secretary Haviland delivered the following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

C. A. FITZ ROY, Lieut. Governor.

In answer to the Address of the House of Assembly, praying that Peter McCallum, Esq., may not be "re-appointed to the office of Sheriff"—and that "the same individuals may not be continued in the office of High Sheriff more than one year, at one time."

The Lieut. Governor regrets that the House of Assembly should have thought it necessary to remonstrate against the re-appointment of Mr. M'Callum, upon so vague and indefinite an accusation as that of "overbearing conduct."

With regard to the continuance in office of the High Sheriffs from year to year—while the Lieut. Governor cannot concur with the House of Assembly in their construction of the Statute of the 26th Geo. 3 cap. 15—he deems it inexpedient to explain to the House of Assembly his reasons for adopting the course pursued in the neighbouring Colonies of Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick, in the appointment of Sheriffs; and he must continue to exercise his own discretion in a matter which concerns the Prerogative of the Crown, and for which he alone is responsible.

Government House, 16th April. 1841.

Fresh Garden and Flower SEEDS.

THE subscriber has just received a supply of superior SEEDS, of the growth of 1840, from the United States, which are now opened for sale at the Circulating Library, Germain street.

16th April. A. R. TRURO.

☞ A selection of choice Seeds also hourly expected from London.

N. B.—Splendid DOUBLE DAHLIAS, GLADIOLUS, and other BULBOUS ROOTS, Choice FLOWER SEEDS &c. &c.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, MAY 14, 1841.

☞ The Chronicle Office is removed, in consequence of the late Fire, to the store of N. Merritt, Esquire, in Water street, over the store of Messrs. Milby & Thomas.

WE have no later European intelligence during the past week.

LEGISLATURE OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.—We beg to call the attention of the Public, to the spirit now arousing throughout the Province generally, against the proceedings of the House of Assembly, and to the Resolutions and Petitions drawn up in the Counties of King's and Charlotte, which will be found in this day's paper. For some weeks past many of our respectable citizens have been contemplating about petitioning His Excellency the Governor for the dismissal of the Legislative body; an example is now set before them by the two Counties above named, and there need only be a petition drawn up for the same laudable purpose, when the hundreds of respectable residents will cheerfully sign their names.

"The New Brunswick Agriculturist."—This is a new Publication, to be edited by Doctor Bayard, and printed in the first week of every month at the low rate of five shillings per annum. It contains 24 pages, octavo—is neatly printed by Mr. R. Shives, and promises to be a useful work to those engaged in the science of Agriculture.

PUBLIC MEETING.

At a public Meeting held at the Exchange on Wednesday, 12th May, inst., at noon, pursuant to notice given by James White, Esq. High Sheriff of this City and County, in consequence of a requisition made to him by a number of Magistrates, Freeholders and others, for the purpose of taking into consideration the reported contemplated alterations by Her Majesty's Government in the duties on timber and deals, when imported into the United Kingdom; he stated the aforesaid object, called the meeting to order, and moved that the Hon. Charles Simonds do take the chair.

The Honorable Charles Simonds in the chair.

Moved by Wm. Walker, Esq. and seconded, that I. Woodward, Esq. be appointed Secretary to the meeting.

Several gentlemen addressed the meeting on the subject, when the following Resolutions were moved by J. R. Partelow, Esq. and seconded by F. A. Wiggins, Esq.

Resolved, That this meeting have learnt with deep concern, from the reply of His Excellency the Governor General to a deputation of Canadian merchants, that the subject of withdrawing the sound protection enjoyed by the North American Colonies in their staple export trade to the mother country, is likely again to be agitated in the Imperial Parliament.

Resolved, That such an announcement of the probable intention of Her Majesty's Government, cannot but be received by the important interests connected with that trade in these Provinces with deep solicitude and great alarm, inasmuch as no advices have reached the Colony from the United Kingdom of such a measure being at all in contemplation, and consequently, serious doubts arise whether any remonstrance or representation against a project, which must inevitably lead to the most disastrous results to the prosperity of her Majesty's Loyal North American subjects and to the Commercial Marine of the British Empire, can reach the Imperial Parliament before the same may be adopted and become a Law of the Land.

Resolved, That after the withdrawal of the measure in 1835, these Provinces had no reason to apprehend that any alteration would be made in those protective duties, without, at least, giving the numerous interests connected with the trade, an opportunity of being heard.

Resolved, That a Petition be prepared to the Imperial Parliament, on the subject of embodying the grounds taken up in the former representations on this vital subject, both by the Legislature and Mercantile associations.

The foregoing Resolutions were adopted, and thereupon moved by Wm. Hammond, Esq. that a committee be appointed to prepare Petitions to the Home Government, based on the said Resolutions; and that Messrs. J. R. Partelow, John Pollock, I. Woodward, John Duncan, and F. A. Wiggins, be a committee for that purpose.

Moved by F. A. Wiggins, Esq. and seconded—Resolved, that this meeting confidently expect that the different Counties in this Province, and the other North American Provinces, will not fail to urge on Her Majesty's Government the ruinous consequences that will inevitably ensue if any alteration should take place in the present protection given to these colonies in the wood trade.

Mr. Partelow moved that Mr. Simonds leave the chair, and Mr. Pollock take the same.

Moved, that the thanks of the meeting be given to the Hon. Mr. Simonds for his able and impartial conduct in the chair.

PICTORIAL ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE BIBLE.—It is indeed pleasing for us to notice the very great popularity this valuable work has attained, since it was first issued from the press, in New York, a few months ago; and particularly so because the author of it is a native of St. John, and born and brought up among us. Never has there been a work published on this side of the Atlantic, that has so many highly respectable and talented recommendatory notices from the first men of the Union, and we believe no work ever reached the same circulation in so short a time—*Twenty thousand copies* having passed out of the hands of the publisher, through six several editions; and the seventh is now about to be issued. All the literary papers in New York speak of it in the strongest terms of approval; and the publisher of the *New World* has offered it as a present to subscribers, who shall take the paper under certain terms. The editor says "our readers are requested to read the handsome proposition made by the Publisher, in his department of the paper—it is liberal, and cannot fail to afford general satisfaction, since it places within the reach of every subscriber to the New World, a most valuable and pleasing work. Sears' Pictorial Bible should be found in every family circle, for its pages impart delight to the old and the young. It is a fountain of pure and wholesome recreation." The second volume of this valuable compilation will soon be issued from the press; which the author has spared no expence to make cheap, valuable, and entertaining to the capacities of all classes. Both in this Province and in Nova Scotia, the circulation and demand are daily increasing; which goes strongly to prove that native talent shall not go unrewarded, and we have no doubt that the day is not far distant when every family in the Province will provide themselves with a copy of this concise description of scenes in the Holy Land.—*Com.*

PUBLIC MEETING AT ST. STEPHEN.

A Public Meeting, called by requisition of 40 inhabitants of the Parish of St. Stephen was held on the 24th ult., "to express their views and opinions upon the expenditure of the Public Money, by the House of Assembly at their late sessions, and the matters connected therewith." The following proceedings were taken at the meeting:

James Frink, Esq. having been called to the chair and Mr. D. Sullivan nominated secretary,

J. N. Clarke, Esq. moved the first resolution, seconded by A. Campbell, Esq. and *Resolved* As the opinion of this meeting that the appropriations of the Provincial Revenue should not exceed its annual receipts, except upon some extraordinary emergency.

Moved by G. J. Thompson, Esq. seconded by M. Pingree,

Resolved, That this meeting cannot in the existing state of the Provincial revenue, justify the House of Assembly in granting £500 a year in addition to the sum agreed upon after mature deliberation for the salary of the Lieutenant Governor; neither can they pass unnoticed the extraordinary grant made at the last Sessions of about £1800 currency for the purpose of purchasing a Service of Plate to be tendered to His Excellency Sir John Harvey, as in their opinion, no circumstance has arisen to warrant so extravagant an expenditure of the Public Money.

Moved by A. Campbell, Esq. seconded by G. J. Thompson.

Resolved, That this Meeting highly disapprove of the principle of appointing Members of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, to offices of pecuniary emolument involving the collection of Revenue, on the expenditure of Sums of Money first voted and afterwards audited by the House of Assembly. That they consider such appointments unconstitutional and as striking at the independence of Members and subjecting them to an influence wholly inconsistent with a firm unflinching discharge of their important duties to their constituents.

Moved by Mr. D. Upton, seconded by Mr. W. Campbell.

Resolved, As the opinion of this Meeting, that a majority of the present House of Assembly has justly forfeited the confidence of the County by a course of conduct equally at variance with the Legislature of local official responsibility and with the feelings and interest of the Public.

PUBLIC MEETING AT HAMPTON.

At a Public Meeting held at Hampton Ferry on Saturday the 8th inst., to consider the propriety of petitioning his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to dissolve the House of Assembly, JOHN BARBARIE, Esq. was called to the Chair and WILLIAM EARLE appointed Secretary, when the following resolutions were introduced and *unanimously* agreed too:—

Whereas several Members of the present House of Assembly have received lucrative appointments through the influence of the Executive Council, thereby tending to give the Executive at all times a majority in the House of Assembly upon any measure however repugnant to public interest, and in violation of a resolution of a former House of Assembly of which they were Members, Therefore

Resolved, That we view the aforessid innovation as tending to subvert public justice, by introducing a system of bribery and corruption in the Legislature, without a parallel in the annals of this Province.

Resolved, That the present system of appointing Members of the Legislature as Supervisors of roads and other offices, whereby a large amount of the public money is placed in their hands for expenditure, thus exhibiting the anomaly of Members voting the people's money to themselves, and subsequently sitting as Members of the Legislature auditing their own accounts, is at variance with every principle of justice and tending to introduce a profuse and lavish expenditure of the public money.

Resolved, That in consequence of the aforesaid system being pursued by the present House of Assembly, the Province has from a state of prosperity and a surplus revenue, been plunged in a debt, which will require the most strict economy in a future House of Assembly to liquidate.

Resolved, That the late grant of £1500 to purchase a service of Plate for his Excellency Sir John Harvey at the present time, when the Province is burthened with a heavy debt, and the Legislature necessitated to resort to new articles of Taxation, is without a precedent, and calls for the most unqualified disapprobation of the public.

Resolved, That if the present improvident system of expenditure adopted by the Legislature is continued until the expiration of seven years, (the time allowed by law for the duration of said House of Assembly,) the Province must inevitably become bankrupt and public credit destroyed.

Resolved, That in consequence of the many improvident grants of the public money with the selfish and interested motives which appears to have actuated the Members of the House of Assembly since their election to that situation, shows they are divested of every patriotic principle, and have therefore, forfeited the confidence of their constituents.

Resolved. That a Petition be forthwith prepared, based upon the foregoing Resolutions, to be presented to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of this Province, praying his Excellency to dissolve the present House of Assembly.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a Petition agreeable to the above Resolutions.

Resolved, That the said Petition be handed through the County for signatures.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Meeting be signed bp the Chairman and Secretary and published in the *Chronicle* and *Herald*.

Resolved, That John Barbarie Esq. leave the Chair and that Wm. Frost take the same.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Chairman for his able conduct in the Chair.

JOHN BARBARIE, *Chairman.*
W. EARLE, *Secretary.*

The Committee appointed to prepare the Petition submitted the following, which was unanimously agreed to and signed by upwards of Fifty individuals then present, consisting of the most influential persons of this Parish.

PETITION.

To His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Sir WILLIAM MACBEAN GEORGE COLEBROOKE, K. H., Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of New Brunswick:—

WE Her Majesty's loyal subjects of King's County, in the Province of New Brunswick, most cordially congratulate your Excellency on your safe arrival and assumption of the administration of the Government of this Province, and we can assure your Excellency of our unabated attachment to Her Majesty's person and Government, and our zealous support to Her Representative in every measure which may have a tendency to cement that loyalty which Her Majesty's subjects in New Brunswick are proud to acknowledge, and which may also have for its object the prosperity and happiness of their native Province. But at the same time they cannot disguise from your Excellency the dissatisfaction prevalent throughout the country, and the disappointment they have experienced in the Representatives of the people, who notwithstanding their professions of Patriotism and Reform in retrenching the expenditure of the public money, and alledged desire to relieve the public from any unnecessary burthen, have increased those burthens, and augmented the expenditure of the Provincial funds beyond any former period. They have by their improvident grants squandered large sums of money without any apparent advantage to the public and have by their incapacity in managing the finances of the Country incurred a heavy debt upon the Province, notwithstanding they had a large surplus Revenue at their disposal at the time of their election to the responsible situation they now hold. And that several Members of the Legislature have also through the influence they had with the Executive Council been appointed to the important situation of Supervisors of Roads, &c., where large sums of money are placed in their hands, and they eventually sit in judgment upon their own accounts, which is considered as an anomaly not to be tolerated in an enlightened and impartial Government: and we have no hesitation in stating to your Excellency, that if the present House is continued until the expiration of the term assigned by Law, the Province must inevitably become Bankrupt and public credit at an end. We can also assure your Excellency that in consequence of the interested views or incapacity of the present Representatives they have forfeited the confidence of their constituents; we therefore, as the only alternative in the above case, earnestly pray that your Excellency will be pleased to dissolve the present