

was driving his plough among the columns of his palace, knew not the name of the haughty Herod. Even at this distance of time I look back with feelings of uncommon interest upon my ramble among those ruins, talking with the Arab ploughman, of the king who built it, leaning against a column which, perhaps, had often supported the haughty Herod, and looking out from this scene of desolation and ruin, upon the most beautiful country in the Holy Land.—*Id.*

**PYRAMID OF CHEOPS.**—This monument of pride, science, or superstition—who knows which?—was building while Abraham was in Egypt; Joseph and his brethren must have seen the sun set behind it every day they sojourned in Egypt; it must have been the last object Moses and the departing Israelites lost sight of, as they quitted the land of bondage; Pythagoras, Herodotus, Alexander, the Caiphs—it had been the goal of nations! Lost nations have pilgrimaged to its foot, and looked up, as their common ancestors did before them, in awe and humility; and now, two strangers from the “ultima thule” of the ancients, Britain, severed from the whole world by a watery line which they considered it impious to transgress, stand here, on the summit, and looking round, see a desert where once stood the “cloud-capt towers, the gorgeous palaces.” The temples and tombs of Memphis arose in their calm beauty, and wisdom dwelt among the groves of palm and acacia—solitary now and deserted, except by the wandering Arab and his camel.—*Lord Lindsay's Travels.*

## MONTHLY REGISTER OF POLITICAL EVENTS.

**CANADA.**—The inhabitants on the frontier of the Lower Province are still kept in a state of excitement and alarm, by lawless vagabonds sheltered among their neighbours. Sentinels and private individuals are occasionally fired at, and every species of annoyance is diligently practised. The country otherwise is perfectly tranquil. Messrs. Stuart and Sullivan, appointed by Lord Durham Chief Justices of Quebec and Montreal respectively, have recently been confirmed in these offices by Her Majesty. The special council met on the 14th ult., and seems to be actively engaged in the business of legislation. . . In Upper Canada the Legislature assembled on the 27th ult. His Excellency's speech is not of a very cheering character. It informs us with too much truth that the tide of emigration has been turned from our shores; that the overflowings of British capital have been transferred into other channels; that the public credit has been impaired, and the value of every description of property depreciated. All this is ascribed in the speech to the propagation and prevalence “of a mischievous notion that England would desert her Transatlantic possessions in the hour of difficulty and dan-

ger.” Might not some other causes be assigned far more extensive and potent in their operation than this? Let the Legislature set themselves resolutely to enquire; and while they seek to trace the progress and influence of this “*notion*,” it will not be found unprofitable to investigate thoroughly the intellectual, moral, and religious condition of our population, and the practical working of our Executive system of government. “The strongly excited feelings,” says the speech, “to which the long agitated question of the Clergy Reserves has given rise in this province, have sensibly impaired that social harmony which may be classed among the first of national blessings.” The institution of the Rectories has had so much to do with these unhappy feelings, and has introduced so many new and important elements into the ecclesiastical question, that it seems scarcely right to leave them unmentioned. Whatever hope may be entertained of an equitable adjustment of this question by the Provincial Legislature, the alternative proposed by His Excellency of reinvesting the reserves in the Crown, and referring the appropriation of them to the Imperial Parliament, is not very likely to lead to a satisfactory result. The Imperial Parliament may be “free from those local influences and excitements which may operate too powerfully here;” but are they possessed of an intimate knowledge of the peculiarities of our social and religious state, which is indispensable in dealing successfully with a question of this sort? Here again it is observable that his Excellency seems to regard the appropriation of the Reserves as the only matter requiring adjustment. The speech recommends “a careful revision of the enactments relating to common schools, and the early adoption of some plan calculated to secure the assistance of properly qualified teachers.” It might be well for the Legislature to decide at the outset in regard to this recommendation, whether such a subject as general education can be thoroughly investigated, and a system thereof maturely arranged during the hurry and distraction of a brief session; and also whether some men of greater wisdom than Dr. Duncombe might not be found in the country, to whom the preparation of the subject might be committed during the recess? Hasty, crude, and improper legislation, especially on our ecclesiastical and educational interests, will prove far worse than none. Considerable activity seems to prevail in the House of Assembly, but no measure yet passed requires particular mention. The Clergy Reserves committee consists of the following members:—Messrs. Draper, Bockus, Manahan, Thompson, Aikman, Cameron, Detlor, McKay, and Sherwood. The custom house revenue in Lower Canada appears to have exceeded that of last year by £46,000. The following statement respecting the Welland canal appears in some of the newspapers:—tolls collected in 1837, £5516-4 4; in 1838, £6740 13 10. Tonnage passed through the canal in 1837, 80,697; in 1838, 95,397. . . The case of the Canadian prisoners has not yet been finally