shall paint his horror and stupefaction at the sight of Garvais! His features grew contracted, his hair rose up, and a sudden faintness overpowered him, so that the turnkeys were obliged to lead him to a seat. When he recovered a little, his involuntary and convulsive movement seemed to show the poignant remorse of a guilty and tortured soul, or perhaps the horrible regret of not having committed a second crime, and finished his work.

The presidents and judges anxiously waited the result. At the first words that Martel uttered, in reply to the president's questions, the blind man who, ignorant of his presence, had hitherto remained quiet and immoveable, suddenly bent forward, listening intentively; then shrinking back with horror and fear, cried out, 'It is he—! it is the voice that I heard on the heights of Argenteuil.'

The jailor led away Martel more dead than alive, obeying in this the president's order, who in a loud tone had desired him to bring out another prisoner. But this command was accompanied by a sign which the jailor understood, and some minutes after, he again introduced Martel, who was interrogated under a false name. Fresh questions elicited fresh replies; but the blind man shaking his head with an air of incredulity, immediately cried, 'No, no; it is all a faint: that is the voice which conversed with me on the heights of Argenteuil.'

At last the horrible mystery was cleared up.—The wretched criminal, trembling, despairing, stammered out a confession, which was now almost needless, since the magistrates were fully convinced of the truth which had been wonderfully elicited by the sole witness who could not declare the crime.

But a few hours passed, and Martel lay in a gloomy dungeon of the conciergerie, whilst in a public place not far from the prison, were made the preparations for execution; for at this period the scaffold followed the sentence so rapidly, that a condemned man never beheld the morrow's sun.—Ere nightfall all was over. The wretched man died penitent confessing his crime, and denouncing the cupidity and thirst of gold which had led him on to murder.

In fifty years from this period, Laurence Bigot had been long dead. Emeric his son had succeeded him in his office. Etienne Pasquet had become a learned and reverend old man, with silver hair. He was then composing his curious and interesting "Recherches la France," and there related the almost miraculous discovery of a murder long since committed—of which discovery he had in his youth been an eye witness. It is from his statement that this history is taken.

British News.

From latest British Papers.

ALARMING FIRE AND SACRIFICE OF PROPERTY AT BRISTOL.—A fire of the most alarming kind, and which has led to the destruction of property to the value of between £35,000 and 40,000, occured at Bristol, on Thursday. It originated in some extensive premises at Counterslip, which run back to the wall of the floating harbour, and are occupied by Messrs. Finzell and Son, as a sugar refinery.—The entire premises, with a valuable machinery, and immense stock of sugars, were destroyed.—The books of the firm were fortunately secured. The property was only partially insured.

In Norway, the first temperance society was established so lately as the end of 1844; and there are already ninety two, counting 11,000 members.

Six non-commissioned officers were promoted during the past month to commissions, receiving the usual bounty of £100 to assist them in their outfits.

The sailor, Reid, who was found secreted in the gardens of Buckingham Palace about three weeks ago, and was sent back to his ship, seems determined to imitate the boy Jones. He was again found concealed behind a tree in the gardens on Saturday, and this time more serious cognizance is taken of the procedure.

The model lodging houses erected in London by the Society for improving the condition of the labouring classes have during the past nine months yielded more than 5 per cent on the capital expended, beside furnishing the poor with ample accomodation at two-thirds the usual rate.

M. Arago declares that it is utterly impossible, in the present state of our knowledge, to foretell with certainty what the weather will be a year, a month, a week—nay, a single day, in advance, and repudiates the weather predictions which annually make the circuit of Europe falsely stamped with his authority.

The guns at the top of the keep at Dover castle are to be dismounted, and others of a larger calibre mounted in their place; and the fortifications round the line of coasts are to be placed in the best possible state of defence. The Royal Artillery are to be greatly augmented. The detachments round the coast are to be reinforced, and companies to be sent to Sheerness, Pembroke, &c.

A most effectual mode of catching slugs or white snails, in gardens, is to put a little bran under an inverted flower pot, slightly raised above the surface of the soil, in order to admit the entrance of these destructive vermin.

The sum of £301 has been received by Sir James Campbell and handed to the collector of the property and income tax in Glasgow, on behalf of an individual who enclosed the money in a letter signed "Conscientious," and stating that his assessment had, from peculiar circumstances, been undercharged to that amount.

The Emperor of Russia has just published a ukase, ordering all the Jews in Russia, to place themselves before JAN. 1st, 1850, in one of the four following classes:—1. Amongst the burgesses of a town by the purchase of a piece of land or a house. 2. In one of the three corporations of traders. 3. In ability required by law; and, 4. In the grain tillers of the earth, whether on their own property or under another owner. Such Jews as have not placed themselves by the appointed time in one of the four classes are to be subjected by such restrictive measures as the government may think fit to employ.

The Earl of Aberdeen has replied to the letter addressed to him by Mr. Powles, the chairman of the South American and Mexican Committee, in which his lordship assures Mr. Powles that "Her Majesty's government will watch with the utmost vigilance the progress of events, and will omit no favourable opportunity of employing their best efforts with both the belligerents in order to calm their animosities, and restore peace between the two countries."

STRAY DOGS IN MANCHESTER.—In Manchester the orders of the magistrates respecting the destruction of stray dogs are rigidly enforced. Formerly, when the name of the proclamation, a man went about with a hatchet, with which he chopped to death such unfortunate animals as happened to be at large. The cruelty of this practice caused its discontinuance, and subsequently a man went about with a gun, and shot all dogs found straying. This turned out to be not only alarming but dangerous, and a more humane system was adopted. The dogs are picked up and taken to certain stations; their owners are summoned and fined. If the fine be not paid, the dog is killed. His mouth is forced open, about half a small teaspoonful of prussic acid is placed upon his tongue, and in a few seconds he is dead. From 600 to 700 dogs are thus destroyed each year.

Disease is so rife among the French troops in Africa, that one battalion alone has been reduced, after a few months' marching, to 105 men, its number at first being 500.

The Edinburgh Water Company charges only *four shillings* per annum for water supplied to cottages let for less than £4 per annum and in some instances only *three shillings*.

Smuggling is carried on in Gibraltar on the most extensive scale, and the deposits of prohibited goods destined to be smuggled into Spain, amount to the value of 600,000 pesetas.

The warm weather has ripened the grass, and created such a demand for labourers in the neighbourhood of the metropolis, that it can scarcely be met.

The naval forces of Spain consist of 125 armed vessels, and 10 unarmed, carrying together 962 guns. There are besides 19 others in progress of construction, four of which are steamers.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart., has consented to become a candidate for the representation of Hertfordshire, on the next vacancy.

It is intended, in the event of a dissolution of parliament, to propose Lord George Bentinck for Ayrshire, in opposition to Mr. Oswald.

The custom-house accounts show a diminution of the general exports of British manufactures in the present year, compared with 1845.

The great clock at the London General Post Office, which regulates post office time throughout the country, has just been cleaned and renovated. It has not varied one minute in eleven years.

The preservation of ancient footpaths for the enjoyment of the public, is awaking general attention in the cities of the south and west of England.

On Whitsunday, in the French Protestant church St. Martin's le grand, London, two (formerly) Roman Catholic ladies, firmly convinced of the truth of the Protestant faith, and converted under the instruction of the ministers of the church, presented themselves for the purpose of publicly renouncing the errors and superstitions of the church of Rome.

MEXICAN BONDS.—The meeting of Mexican bondholders, held in London, has resulted in the acceptance of the new terms, which were strongly recommended by the committee. The Active bondholders are to receive 90 per cent. of New Five per Cent. stock for the whole of the claim represented by their bonds and over due coupons, with the exception of one of the coupons, which is to be paid in cash; and the holders of Deferred Bonds and Debentures are to have 60 per cent.

RELIGION AT JERUSALEM.—A disgraceful quarrel occurred at Jerusalem on Good Friday, between the Roman Catholics and the Greeks. When the Latin procession, which was coming through the church of the Holy Sepulchre, reached the hole in the rock said to have contained the cross, they proceeded to remove a cloth covering placed on the spot; the Greeks attempted to prevent it, and the quarrel from words came to blows, and on the very spot believed by them both to have been the scene of our Saviour's sufferings, priests and laymen struck one another and blasphemed in a most disgusting manner. The governor of the town had to be sent for, and he cleared the place with a regiment of Turkish soldiers.

INDIA.—The Bombay mails of the 1st of May have arrived. The Governor General and Commander in Chief had reached Simla, where they intended to remain during the hot and rainy seasons. The troops had taken up their stations for the same period in the newly acquited districts along the Beas, and also in Lahore. The Sikh soldiers were tranquil but not satisfied. The governments of Lahore and Jamoo, were engaged in tracing out the frontiers between them. Goolab Singh is not popular with the Sikhs, who accuse him of having sacrificed their country to gratify his personal ambition. Dhoot Mahommed, who was delighted on hearing the invasion of the British dominions by the Sikhs, has since resumed a pacific policy, for the rapidity of the British conquests had not allowed him time for any offensive operations against Peshawur, although some preparations for that purpose appear to have been made at Jellalabad by his son and Wuzeer, the notorious Akbar Khan. It is evident from the position of the different Rajahs and their adherents, as well at Lahore as in the neighbouring states, that the present cessation of hostilities is kept up rather as a temporary armistice, than a lasting peace. The division of the spoils of Runjeet Singh's kingdom is not satisfactory to them, and it is highly probable that before 1846 expires, there will be other conflicts.

In the meantime, the British are not idle in either consolidating their new provinces, or in weakening their enemies. Among the *material* of war surrendered by the Sikhs, were specially enumerated the guns which had been pointed against the British Indian army. Those guns, to the number of 256, have reached Delhi, and they are to be taken, with all the pomp of a military procession, from that city even as far as Calcutta. This procession of nearly 1000 miles, will not fail to produce a powerful impression in India, where men judge from what they see. The mighty power of the British Government will therefrom be recognised by even the Mahomedan fatalists. It will resemble one of the triumphs of ancient Rome.

The Governor General had issued a general order that all soldiers engaged in protecting the camp, &c. during the late battles, shall receive the decoration as if engaged in them.

Scinde is tranquil. Sir Charles Napier arrived at Kurrachee on the 15th of April in good health, notwithstanding the extreme fatigues of his late rapid march to Lahore. The invalids and wounded men from the battle of Moodkee had passed down the Indus, and arrived at Bombay; 12 had died on the way, amongst whom was Colonel Ryan, of her Majesty's 50th Regiment. Preparations were making at Bombay at the time of the departure of the steamer for sending those invalids on to Europe in the best transport that could be procured.

The King of Lucknow was crowned with Asiatic ceremony in his capital on the 17th April.

As all the foreign officers have been obliged to quit the service of Lahore, Colonel Minton, a Frenchman, and Captain Huron de Alcantara, a Spaniard, (by whose skill in engineering the powerful fortifications at Ferozeshah and Sabraon were constructed,) had come down to Bombay at the same time as the wounded Europeans. Prince Waldemar, of Prussia, with his attendants, had arrived there on the 18th April, and had come on to Europe by the steamer with the mails. This Prince has gained no small experience from the late campaign on the Sutlej, as he was continually in the company of the Governor General, and witnessed the battles.

The Nizam's dominions are in a disturbed state, in consequence of the bad management of the finances of the government.

Several changes had taken place in the Secretaries of the Bombay Government and in the Council. Mr. J. H. Crawford had retired from the Council, and had been succeeded by Mr. J. P. Willoughby, who was succeeded as chief Secretary by Mr. R. K. Pringle.

The health of the Governor, Sir George Arthur, was in such a dilapidated state, as to give a colouring to a rumour current of his intention to resign his important post within a few days, and to come to Europe. His complaint is described as of an apoplectic tendency. At Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta, there had been considerable pressure on the money market, which has been severely felt by commercial men.

Great complaints prevailed of the scarcity of water in many districts where the cholera was raging. Hopes were, however, entertained of an early monsoon. In the Cuddessa District the indigo crop had altogether failed.

The dates from China are the same as were received by the last mail.

VALUE OF LAND.—On Monday Mr. Robins put up to auction at the Auction Mart, the valuable freehold property, known as the Willenhall Estate, in the county of Buckingham, comprising the whole township with the manor of Willenhall, within five miles of the city of Coventry. It includes five farms and about 750 acres of meadow, pasture, and arable land; was tithe free, and inclosed with a ring fence and the value of it was estimated at above £1,550 per annum. The first offer was 40,000 guineas.—After a strong competition, it was knocked down to the Earl of Craven, who was represented by his agent, for 48,100 guineas. There were several capitalists of eminence bidding for the property, among whom was Mr. Lloyd Jones.

MEXICAN PRIVATEERING.—In consequence of the breaking out of the hostilities between the United States and Mexico, and the expectation that the mercantile marine of the former will be seriously injured by the privateers of the latter country, we subjoin the following extract from the "Instructions to Privateers," issued in 1803, to show the difficulty the Mexicans will have in the condemnation of their prizes, from the almost utter impossibility of taking them into a Mexican port, and also an extract from our navigation laws, to show what these construe into a Mexican vessel.—By the second article of the "Instructions to Privateers," issued under an Order in Council, at the commencement of the last war with France, 16th May, 1803, it was required that all captures should be brought into a port in England, (the country under whose flag the privateers were licensed) of some other part of the British dominions, in order to have the same legally adjudged there by the Admiralty Court; and by the fourth article, bulk was not even allowed to be broken, nor the captured vessel on her lading to be spoiled diminished, &c., before the Admiralty Court had given judgment. By our navigation laws it is ordained that the ship of any foreign country must be the build of, or prize to, such country, (or British built,) owned by the subjects of the country, and the master and three-fourths of the crew must, also, be the subjects of such country.

We extract the following remarks from the New York *Courier & Enquirer*:—

CANADIAN TRADE.—The probable effect of the new commercial policy of Great Britain, upon the commerce of Canada, is made the subject of general speculation by the Provincial press. Its influence, it is universally conceded, must be great and important; and by most writers upon the subject it is taken for granted that an *immense increase* in the exportation of grain from the United States to Great Britain must take place. Our own views upon this subject have been repeatedly set forth, and they certainly remain unchanged. Of the coarser kinds of grain and especially those which are not produced in England, or to any great extent on the continent, we doubt not the exports will be largely augmented. As the unreasonable prejudices of the English labourers against the use of Indian corn as food, are removed, (as they certainly must be in proportion to their consumption of the article,) the quantity exported must increase; and we think it not at all unlikely that in regard to this article, which is the grand agricultural staple of this country, the new Corn Law of England will prove beneficial to the United States.

But we have no expectation that the amount of wheat or flour exported will be sensibly increased:—indeed we think it more probable that it will be diminished.

The Canadian papers, however, anticipate a large increase in the Commerce of Great Britain with the Western grain-growing regions of the United States; and they are accordingly seeking to show that Canada may compete successfully with the United States, in the carrying trade that will thence arise. This trade must be mainly through two channels:—1. from the interior by way of the St. Lawrence and Quebec and thence to England; and 2nd. by way of the Erie Canal, the Hudson river and New York. Quebec, in preference to Montreal, it is urged must be the chief port for the shipment of produce descending the St. Lawrence, mainly because it will be shipped in vessels of too large a size to come up to Montreal. New York and Quebec are therefore regarded as the grand ports of shipment for the carrying trade between Great Britain and the United States; and in estimating the comparative advantages of these two ports an able writer in the Montreal Gazette contends for the following positions:—

That under any circumstances, Montreal must lose a very large portion of the trade it at present enjoys.

That the bread-stuffs coming down the St. Lawrence will go to Quebec for shipment.

That the Canals of Canada can successfully compete with those of the state of New York, as long as they are open.

That during the summer months the route to Britain, via the St. Lawrence, may compete with that via. New York.

That to do so a large class of vessels must be employed, and the charges of pilotage, light dues, and harbours be reduced.

That in the fall of the year, say after 10th of October the route via. New York will have the preference.

We need scarcely add that we do not believe the St. Lawrence route can under any circumstances compete with that of the Erie Canal and the Hudson river. This city is and will continue to be, beyond all doubt, the great commercial port of the nothern section of the continent; and the improvements in the means of communication with the interior and the West, which are now in progress and which must be carried forward, will put it out of the power of any other route successfully to compete with this.

We have referred to this matter, and copied the remarks of our Canadian contemporaries, mainly to call the attention of the authorities of this State to the constant and vigorous efforts made by our neighbours to withdraw business from our great channels of trade, and to the consequent necessity of enabling them to meet and to keep up with, the exigencies of the times.

IMPORTANT JUDICIAL DECISION.—Judge McLean, at the recent session of the United Circuit Court in Illinois, made an important decision in relation to dower, which fixes permanently (the Sangamon Journal says) the right of widows to dower in the real estate of their deceased husbands. The decision and that of the Supreme Court of the State, establishing the right of widows to dower in the lands of their husbands which have been sold under execution, when issued only against the husband—put these very important points at rest. By the decision of the Illinois State Court the widow is entitled to cower in lands which have been sold under execution issued against the husband, and nothing but the widow joining in a deed will deprive her of her right. Judge McLean decides that the true construction of the 29th section of the Illinois law in relation to wills is, that to bar dower there must be a devise of lands, or some estate therein, and that to bar her portion of personalty there must be at bequest of personal property.—*Missouri Republican.*

Volunteers for the Hussars
of the Queen's N.B. Rangers!

HIS Excellency the Commander in Chief, having authorized Lieut. Col. JARVIS to raise two Troops of HUSSARS, as a Division of the Corps under his command, now denominated the "Queen's *New Brunswick Rangers*."—Young Men desirous of joining the Cavalry division of this Corps, are requested to give in their names to either of the undersigned Officers.

By order of the Lieut. Colonel commanding.

J. H. Gray, Capt. Hussars, Queen's N.B. Rangers.
G. Murray Jarvis, Lieut. " " "
Robert Parker, Lieut. " " "
W. Chipman Drury, 2d. Lieut. " " "

☞ Blanks, Handbills, and Job Printing of all kinds, executed at the Chronicle Office at lowest prices.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, JULY 17, 1846.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, with Lady Colebrooke and family, arrived in this city from Fredericton on Friday evening last, and immediately embarked in Her Majesty's steamer *Columbia*, for St. Andrews, where, we understand her ladyship will remain a short time for the benefit of her health, which of late has been much impaired. The Columbia arrived at St. Andrews on Saturday. The Charlotte Gazette says it is His Excellency's intention to proceed from that place to Halifax and Canso, on matters connected with the proposed line of Railroad to Quebec.

NEW BRUNSWICK ICE COMPANY.—It may be in the recollection of most of our readers, that an Act of Assembly was passed at the last session of the Provincial Legislature, incorporating a Company under the above title. The prominent object of the Company, is to procure and ship Ice to Great Britain, the West Indies and to other parts of the world. The facilities which this city presents for the pursuit of a large and profitable business, on the part of this newly organized association, are equal, if not superior, to any which are presented at any other port in North America. The intense cold of a New Brunswick winter, furnishes ice of the most dense and of the purest description, and its great thickness, is another favourable feature, which a milder climate cannot afford. By a careful analysis it has been ascertained that the water of Lilly Lake, situated within a mile and a half of the wharves of Saint John, is pure and wholesome, merely containing in the summer season only, a very slight trace of vegetable matter, which, of course cannot be found in the winter, as vegetables do not then exude. From this source then so conveniently situated, and in other respects so very desirable, in all probability the "Arctic Crystal," will be procured by the company, and during the whole year, our excellent Harbour never being closed by ice, the commodity can be shipped to every quarter of the globe, where a demand may present itself.

A correspondence has already been opened with highly intelligent and influential parties in Great Britain, and the result of enquiries from these sources, are peculiarly gratifying. Deals and Timber have been this season extensively shipped from St. John, to the Mother country, and we hope for the sake of our enterprising Merchants, that the trade has been profitable, yet, we doubt not, that as many tons of ice would have realized, particularly in London, and Liverpool, a much more gratifying margin.

The Ice trade has been a very profitable one in Boston for years past, and more than one princely fortune, has been realized in the pursuit of it. In one brief year alone, the gross amount of sales of Ice exported from Boston, exceeded three millions five hundred thousand dollars! That city has been supplying John Bull latterly to an enormous extent, and the consumption in England has been rapidly increasing. Saw dust—immense quantities of which are required in packing and securing Ice in Boston costs twenty shillings per cord, here we have it for nothing. Owing to the mildness of some winters, Ice cannot be procured of sufficient thickness in Boston, for shipment. Last winter it was 23 inches thick on Lilly Lake, and in the winter before 19 inches.

The Yarmouth N. S. Courier, of the 6th instant, gives us the particulars of the loss of the "Wm. Abrams," near the Western Seal Islands, with 522 tons of Ice on board. She was an English vessel, bound from Boston to Calcutta, and fitted out for a three years' voyage. This fact speaks volumes, but alas! not one syllable in favour of New-Brunswick enterprize.

We are happy to learn, that offers from England and Boston have been made to take, if required, the whole stock of the Company, £20,000 currency, but of course, this arrangement, will not be made, although our transatlantic and Boston friends, can come into the market on the same terms as the good citizens of St. John, where a reasonable share of the controul of the company's operations, must be retained.

As Ice has now become an article of absolute necessity, in all the principal towns of England, and much is required for the use of noblemen and gentlemen on their own estates, and as the demand for it is daily increasing, and again, as large stocks must be required in the British West Indies, to say nothing of more distant countries, we cannot have the shadow of a doubt, that the business of the New Brunswick Ice Company, will be large and profitable. Enquiries for Ice Houses, to be constructed in New-Brunswick, after the American plan, and to be shipped from this to England, are now being made, and the construction and freight of these buildings may form, no inconsiderable share of the Company's operations. In short, when we take into consideration, the amount of labour to be expended here, the quantity of tonnage to which employment is to be given, and last but not least in importance, are the facts, that the most valuable resources of the Province are not impaired, by pursuing the business, and that the *certainty* every winter, of procuring abundance of the raw material without a serious outlay of capital, we cannot but rejoice at the prospect now before us, of a new freight for our ships, additional employment for artizans and labourers, and solid gain for all connected with it, thus presenting themselves, under such favourable auspices, and for all which we cheerfully acknowledge our indebtedness, to the enterprising promoters of the New Brunswick Ice Company.

A Public Meeting was held at Charlotte Town, (P. E. Island,) on the 6th inst. for the purpose of procuring subscription in aid of the sufferers by the Newfoundland fire. Committees were appointed to solicit donations, and the sum of £207 10s. was subscribed at the meeting.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—We have much pleasure in stating that the Chinese curiosities presented to the Mechanics' Institute of this City, by our highly respected and esteemed friend, O. Goldsmith Esq. formerly of the Commissariat here, have arrived, and will be exhibited in the Museum in a few days. We would recommend them to the attention of the curious in such matters.

PROTESTANT BOYS.—Old No. 6, under their Officers, Captain H. N. H. Legrin, and Lieut. Chas. Gardner, fired for a Medal yesterday, in Carleton. Their numbers were few, but still the target shew that the "boys" had lost none of their "fire." The prize was awarded to private Moore.

NEW VESSELS.—On Friday last, a new brig, of a beautiful model, was towed through the Falls by the steamer Production; she was built at Oromocto and is owned by Wm. Hogan, Esq.—On Monday the steamer Saint Croix brought a new Barque from Quaco, owned by John Wishart, Esq.—Yesterday, a new barque a brig, and a brigantine were brought into the harbour. Several other vessels, of large tonnage, are now building at Quaco, we understand.—*Herald.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On Saturday night last, John Kehoe, second engineer on board the steamer Maid of Erin, accidently fell over the end of the North Market Wharf, while carrying a basket of coal on board that boat, and was unfortunately drowned. He was a worthy industrious man, and has left a wife and family.—*Newbrunswicker.*

HALIFAX AND QUEBEC RAIL ROAD.—We are truly glad to have it in our power to announce to our readers the arrival of several gentlemen sent out by the British government to undertake the survey of this gigantic enterprise. So much interest do the British Government take in it that, notwithstanding the assistance guaranteed by our local Legislature, an order has been sent to the Commissariat Department, from the Government to make advances, to the gentleman who are to be employed in the survey, which is to be commenced forthwith.—*Halifax Recorder.*

Arrival of the English Mail.

By the attention of Captain W. G. Brown, of the steamer *Herald*, which arrived this morning from Windsor, we are put in possession of Liverpool papers to the 4th instant. We are also furnished with London papers dated 5th instant. These contain the following important intelligence:—

PASSAGE OF THE CORN BILL AND THE CUSTOMS DUTY BILL.—DEFEAT OF THE IRISH COERCION BILL AND THE RESIGNATION OF the PEEL MINISTRY.—THE WHIGS IN OFFICE.

Two highly important events have occurred since the last intelligence—the passing of the Corn Bill and the dissolution of the Ministry. On the evening of Thursday, June 25, the House of Lords passed the third reading of the Corn Bill without a division, and at two o'clock the succeeding morning the House of Commons left Sir Robert Peel's government in a minority of 73 on the Irish Coercion Bill.

On Saturday Sir Robert Peel proceeded to the Isle of Wight, for the purpose of tendering his own and his colleagues' resignation to the Queen, and on the Monday night following he made a lengthened exposition of his motives for resigning in the House of Commons.

This speech completely uproots the old landmarks of party. It shows that the ablest man in England—the most successful Minister that ever swayed the destinies of this country, has risen superior to the narrow prejudices of party, and that his future course of action will not be less liberal and enlightened than the glorious example which he has so lately given to the world.

It was only announced yesterday. Most of the members belonged to the old Melbourn Cabinet.—The admission of Cobden was discussed: his finances had enabled him to become a professional politician, he might, it seems, have risen to the dignity of a Cabinet minister—a splendid compliment to his talent and great personal popularity. His colleague Mr. Bright, there is every reason to believe, will join the Government in a responsible capacity, and Mr Wilson, the chairman of the League has also been offered in appointment.

Appointments under the new Government were offered to three rising young statesmen, members of Sir Robert Peel's Cabinet, and declined—Mr. Sydney Herbert, Lord Dalhousie, and the Earl of Lincoln. Sir Robert Peel was unwilling to urge office upon them in his rival's Government, but personally had no objection to their acceptance of it.

The Duke of Wellington is to remain at the head of the army, without a seat in Cabinet.

Public feeling has not yet had time to exhibit itself respecting the personnel of the new ministry.—One remarkable feature, however, is, that the *Times*, the most influential paper in the British empire, is disposed to regard it favourably, and to give it a candid trial.

The general impression is, that the new Premier will hastily wind up the business of the session, and dissolve Parliament in the course of the autumn.

The only question that presses for an immediate settlement is the sugar duties, a question upon which the incoming Premier is said to feel strongly. A short bill has been introduced for extending the existing duties over another month. Peel would have settled the question before his retirement, if the multitude of his embarrassments had enabled him.

Lord John Russell is, of course, to be the new Prime Minister. The following is the list of

THE CABINET.

Lord Chancellor, Lord Cottenham; President of the Council, Marquis of Lansdowne; Lord Privy Seal, Earl of Minto; Secretary for the Home Department, Sir George Grey; Secretary for the Foreign Department, Viscount Palmerston; Secretary for the Colonies, Earl Grey; First Lord of the Treasury, Lord John Russel; Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Charles Wood; Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Lord Campbell; Paymaster-General, Mr. Macaulay; Woods and Forests, Viscount Morpeth; Postmaster-General, Marquis of Clanricarde; Board of Trade, Earl of Clarendon; Board of Control, Sir John Hobhouse; Chief Secretary for Ireland, Mr. Labouchere; Admiralty, Earl of Auckland.

NOT OF THE CABINET.

Master of the Mint, Right Hon. R. S. Shell; Secretary at War, Hon. Fox Maule; Attorney General, Sir Thomas Wilde; Lord Advocate, Mr. A. Rutherford; Solicitor General for Scotland, Mr. T. Maitland; Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Earle of Besborough; Commander-in-Chief, Duke of Wellington; Master General of the Ordnance, Marquis of Anglesey.

Settlement of the Oregon Question.

No event within our memory has produced a feeling of more general satisfaction and joy in this country than the intelligence which came to hand by the "Hibernia," that the Oregon question had been amicably settled between the American and the British Governments. The news arrived at a critical moment—literally on the eve of the dissolution of the Peel Ministry—and the excellent purpose to which this message of peace was turned by the outgoing Representatives of the Crown, will be best appreciated by those who read his last official speech.

The election of a new Popa is a circumstance which has attracted much of the attention of the continental Journals. His holiness takes the title of Pius IX. His age is 54.

COMMERCIAL.—The passing of the Corn Bill and of the Tariff has caused the Custom house authorities in London and Liverpool to be more than usually busy.

In Liverpool, during four days of the present week, nearly a quarter of a million sterling was received for duties.

The quantity of Wheat and Flour taken out of Bond has been immense.

The immense quantity of produce thrown on the Market, must in the nature of things bring down prices. The harvest too, which promises to be prolific and early, may, we fear, produce something approaching to an agricultural panic.

The Cotton Market is in a healthy, but not a very active state.

The contemplated change in the Sugar Duties has had an injurious effect upon sales. The Coffee trade has also been in a lethargic condition.

The Money Market is firm, and the stoppage of many of the railway projects of the session by the change of Ministry, will give increased confidence to capitalists, and quiet the fears of the timid.

THE FISHERY NEWFOUNDLAND.—On the 1st instant a meeting of the Liverpool merchants engaged in the Newfoundland trade was held in this town, for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken to alleviate the sufferings of the many destitute and houseless families in St. John's, occasioned by the recent destructive fire. It was unanimously resolved to open a subscription immediately in aid of the sufferers, instant relief being necessary to save many from starvation. We sincerely hope that the good work which has been commenced will be carried on with spirit, and that the committee appointed to manage the business will be enabled to send out timely and effectual aid to their suffering fellow creatures in St. John's. Other cities and towns will, we trust, take example by Liverpool, and go and do likewise.

Sir Robert Peel last night announced the terms of the Oregon treaty to be as follows:—

"The boundary to be the 49th parallel; Great Britain to have the free navigation of the Columbia river during the charter of the Hudson's Bay Company, which expires in 1863, and its re-charter, if one should be granted: the whole of Vancouver's Island; the right through the Straits of Fuca to be common to both parties. Any British settlement south of 49 degrees are to be purchased at a fair valuation by the United States Government at any time when they think it desirable to possess them, while the British Government stipulates to do the same by American property north of 49 degrees, if there be any."

CANADA COMPANY.—A half yearly general court of the proprietors of this influential company was held on Thursday the 25th ult., at the offices, in St. Helen's Place, Bishopsgate Street, London, for the purpose of declaring a dividend, and on other affairs. Charles Franks, Esq., (the governor,) was in the chair. The minutes of the last court having been read by Mr. Perry, (the secretary,) the governor proceeded to make some observations relative to the general business of the company, which may best be understood from the subjoined statement:—Sales 3,767 acres crown reserves; 3,621 acres Huron tract—7,388; leases, 12,066 acres—making a total of 19,454 acres. Receipts to the 27th May, £20,415 4s. 10d. A dividend was declared at the rate of six per cent. per annum for the half year to July next and after. Sir J. Easthope made a few remarks upon matters before the meeting, and described the very satisfactory position in which the company stood. The court then adjourned.

The *Gazette* of Tuesday night announces certain honorary creations, for which we have been accustomed on the retirement of an Administration.

Lord Francis Egerton is raised to the Peerage by the titles of Earl of Ellesmere, in the county of Salop, and Viscount Brackley, of Brackley in the county of Northampton; and the title of Baronet is conferred on the following seven gentlemen:

The Right Hon. Thomas Frankland Lewis, of Harpton Court in the county of Radnor;

John Somerset Pakington, of Westwood Park, in the county of Worcester, Esq.;

John Gladstone, of Fasque and Ballour, in the county of Kincardine, Esq.;

James Weir Hogg, of Upper Grosvernor-street, in the county of Middlesex, Esq.;

William Fenden, of Finlscowies, in the county Palatine of Lancaster, Esq.;

William Verner, of Verner's bridge, in the county of Armagh, and of Inismah, in the county of Tyrone, Esq.;

Sir Moses Montefiore, of East Cliff Lodge, in the Isle of Thanet, and county of Kent, Knight.

DISSOLUTION OF THE ANTI CORN LAW LEAGUE.—At a great meeting of the League, on Thursday, at Manchester, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Cobden, that the League should be dissolved. A grant of £10,000 to Mr. Wilson, the chairman, was also resolved upon.

THE CROPS IN KENT.—The exhilirating rains of this week have done wonders in restoring the crops that were fast going off. Both barley and wheat were suffering; the peas and beans particularly so, by being parched up and turning black; and the chance of a turnip crop was beginning to fail. Already can be seen the beneficial influences of the change. The drooping plants raise their heads, the withered grass begins to resume its verdure, and the trees appear revivified. The clouds of dust which smothered us in their sirocco blasts are laid to rest, and the innumerable blighting insects which filled the air have perished. All vegetation, before parched and languishing, is refreshed and re invigorated, and the serious fears entertained have given place to thankfulness and hope.

AMERICAN ICE.—A vessel called the London Hannah Sprague, has arrived in the St. Katharine's dock from Boston, United States, having a cargo consisting entirely of ice, and comprising the large quantity of 600 tons of the article. A further arrival of 654 tons from the same port has also reached London per the Dizinde. The article is in large blocks, and in an excellent state of preservation.—Since the arrivals of ice which recently took place from Norway and other parts of the north of Europe which have ceased from the time they were last noticed,—this is the first importation of the article which has taken place from any foreign country, and it will no doubt, if he presents sultry weather should continue, be in very general request.

GRADUAL RISE OF NEWSOURSEAS ABOVE THE SEA.—It is a fact worthy of notice that the whole of the land in and about the neighbourhood of Conception Bay, very probably the whole Island is rising out of the ocean at a rate which promises, at no very distant day, materially to effect, if not render useless, many of the best harbours we have now on the coast. At Port de Grave a series of observations have been made, which prove the rapid displacement of the sea level in the vicinity.—Several large flat rocks, over which schoomers might pass some thirty or forty years ago with the greatest facility, are now approaching the surface, the water being scarcely navigable for a skiff. At a place called the Coan at the head of Bay Roberts, upwards of a mile from the sea shore, and at several feet above its level, covered with five or six feet of vegetable mould, there is a perfect beach, the stones being rounded, of a moderate size, and in all respects similar to those now found in the adjacent land washes.—*Newfoundland Times.*

(From the Newfoundlander, June 26.)

A Bill for raising by loan from the British Government on the credit of the colony, the sum of £250,000 for the re-building and improvement of the town, received his Excellency's assent on Tuesday last.

THE WEATHER.—From all parts of the country, we have accounts of extreme heat. At Baltimore, on Friday, the thermometer was up to 96 in the shade, and at Philadelphia about the same. In this city the thermometer had not, yesterday afternoon, been below 80 since Friday afternoon, night or day. We have had several fine showers, however, without which the heat would have been intolerable, and the effect of which upon vegetation has been almost magical.—*Boston Mail.*

POTATO BLIGHT.—The first account we have of the potato cholera in this country, this season, is from the neighbourhood of Wilmington, Del. Up to the 4th inst. the potatoes there were apparently sound and in good health; since that time the rot has attacked and destroyed a great portion of them. Potatoes never looked more promising in the vicinity than they do now, and we fervently hope they may escape the ravages of the plague.—*B.*

CUBA.—Letters from Havana announce that Gen. Oraa, Governor of the Philippine Islands has been appointed Governor General of Cuba, in the room of Gen. O'Donnell. Gen. Rarcell, formerly stated to be O'Donnell's successor, has been made Governor of Granada, Old Spain.

SUPPOSED CASE OF POISONING.—We find in the Alexandria (La.) papers the following account of the trial and conviction of an old negress named Hannah, a black girl named Judy, and a boy, for poisoning Mr. Sheffield, an overseer on the plantation of Capt. Wilkinson, on the Red River, his wife and child, and Dr Shields:

From some cause the negress Judy formed a dislike for Mr. Sheffield the overseer, and communicated her feelings to an old woman named Hannah who wielded considerable influence in the quarter. It would seem that this woman was the main spirit of the diabolical proceedings that ensued. She suggested poison as the surest means of getting rid of the overseer, and named the seed of the Jamestown weed as "certain death."

The seed were procured by the boy Bill Johnson, and this appears to be the head and front

his offending. They were given in coffee, which was given to the family, consisting of the husband, wife and child, Dr. Shields, and a visitor, Mr. Greenwood. The effect was immediately followed, which, however, would probably have resulted in death had it not been for the timely assistance of a medical man, who happened to be in the neighbourhood. The patients were in a state of preservation, as a more extended account would be painful to the reader, and need not be named.

When arrested the girl and boy made a full confession, but the old woman maintained her innocence. After a clear and patient investigation, the jury found guilty and sentenced to be hanged on the 12th inst. The boy was sentenced to have a five pound iron collar fastened round his neck and the girl to wear a similar collar for twenty five lashes per month for one year.

THE IRON DUKE.—Although the Duke of Wellington is capable of enjoying the refinements of life, yet his mind or manners. His dress, his habits—all partake of the same character. Constant horse exercise, early rising and remaining out of the twenty four,—attending at the Chapel Royal St. James, he on Sundays,—and the habituated use of baths at all seasons of the year—bring him to the ordinary habits of man, even at the ripe age of three score years and ten. To illustrate his Grace's well known character for purpose, and his utter carelessness of the luxuries of life. Well indeed the Duke of Wellington been named "The Iron Duke" and Military Sketch Book.

The following is a copy of a note from the clergyman through the Post Office, "I forbide the bands of marriage between Blewitt and Mary Ann Howell, she being under age, and she have got a husband living, and she is went away from him; he is a married man, and she is with her Husband, so you see, sir, not Darsent."

BRITISH SQUADRON FOR THE WEST INDIES.—Capt. C. Huffington, of the barque Mary Hodges, via St. Thomas, arrived here on Sunday. The N. G. Times, June 25th. "Off Barbadoes on the 25th ultimo, we met the 11th instant. Capt. H stated that he left, it was reported, before he left, it was reported that the British West Indian squadron was on the Gulf; and when at St. Thomas, it, consisting of ten or fifteen sail, touched there the day previous to his sailing thither. The object of this cruising to the Gulf may be protection of property—noth