A LETTER

To the Clergy of the Church of England, in the Diocese of New-Brunswick.

FREDERICTON, February 15, 1853.

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN,—Having received returns from most of the Parishes in this Diocese, on the subject of Diocesan Synods, to which you called my attention in the autumn of last year, the result appears to be, on the whole, unfavorable to the enjoyment of this privilege by our lay brethren. And I am sure you will agree with me, that, if the laity do not themselves desire to meet with us in Synod, and with us to consider and propose such measures as appear likely to promote the well being of the Church, we should be the last persons in the world to attempt to force privileges upon others, which they do not wish to possess. In the United States, and in many parts of the British Dominions, men argue very differently, but this is not our case. However, as I regard the whole of this proceeding on the part of many persons as a misconception of the nature of Mr. Gladstone's Bill, and still more of my proposition to consider generally the desirableness of Synodical action, without committing ourselves to the details of that Bill, I shall set before you the information which I possess on the subject, and mention the part which I have taken in the matter, that every thing may be clearly understood, except by those who are determined to misrepresent every action which is not done by themselves.

In the autumn of the year 1851, five of the seven Bishops of British North America met at Quebec, and adopted unanimously the following resolution, which, with the others then passed, was sent by me in the spring of 1852 to every clergyman in this Province. I may observe, by the way, that some little delay in the communication to the Clergy arose from our having forwarded our resolutions to his Grace the Archbishop, who intimated no disapproval of them, and even went so far as to express a "hope that we might enjoy the same privileges" (of meeting in Convocation) "which our brethren in the United States possess." I would also observe, that our resolutions were all forwarded to our absent brethren, the Bishops of Nova Scotia and Rupert's Land, who signified to the Bishop of Quebec their warm and cordial concurrence in all the main points touched on by us, thus proving happily, that there is no substantial difference amongst us. The Resolution to which I have just alluded is as follows:

CONVOCATION.—"In consequence of the anomalous state of the Church of England in these Colonies, with reference to its general government, and the doubts entertained as to the validity of any code of Ecclesiastical law, the Bishops of these Dioceses experience great difficulty in acting in accordance with their Episcopal commission and prerogatives, and their decisions are liable to misconstruction, as if emanating from their individual will, and not from the general body of the Church. We therefore consider it desirable, in the first place, that the Bishop, Clergy, and Laity of the Church of England in each Diocese should meet together in Synod, at such times and in such places as may be agreed on. Secondly, that the Laity in such Synods should meet by representation, and that their representatives should be communicants. Thirdly, it is our opinion, that as questions will arise from time to time which will affect the welfare of the Church in these Colonies, it is desirable that the Bishops, Clergy, and Laity, should meet in Council under a Provincial Metropolitan, with power to frame such rules and regulations for the better conduct of our Ecclesiastical affairs as by the said Council may be deemed expedient. Fourthly, that the said Council should be divided into two houses, the one consisting of the bishops of these several dioceses, under their Metropolitan, and the other, of the Presbyters and Lay members of the Church assembled (as before mentioned) by representation."

In the discussion which has taken place on the question rooted in this resolution, the motives which led to it, and which are plainly avowed, have been studiously, and I think somewhat ungenerously, kept out of sight. We say that, what has led us to favor this line of action is "the anomalous state of our church in these Dioceses,"—"the doubts entertained of the validity of any code of Ecclesiastical Law,"—"and the misconstructions put upon our decisions, as if emanating from our individual will, and not from the general body of the Church." We proposed as a remedy, a wider representation of Churchmen, and regular assemblies at stated periods, to collect their judgments, and agree upon things desirable to be done. May we not be believed, when we assert what our motives and reasons really are? Would not a little thought have convinced men, that we have trouble and vexation enough without seeking to involve ourselves in more trouble except for some grave cause, and that the weariness certain to attend us in the first meetings of Synodical assemblies, could only be recompensed by the practice of unity and godly love amongst our flocks, and by the maintenance of sound order and discipline? Is it not plain, that were it possible that seven bishops of the Church of England should unite in dark and dangerous designs against the liberties of their brethren, the calling of public assemblies, in which the Clergy and Laity should meet, would be the most absurd of all possible methods to compass this end? But surely a little more charity might have taught the objectors, that to contrive, by means of Synods, (as has been publicly stated) to introduce some of the grossest errors of the Church of Rome into the Church of England, as it would be one of the silliest, so is it one of the most unlikely schemes for us to adopt, is foreign to the principles publicly by us avowed, adopted and recorded, and I trust we may say without arrogance, is contradicted by our known attachment to our formularies, and by the daily tenor of our lives.

I may, however, add on this head, that a simple, judicious, and accurate account of the reconciliation of a person to our communion from the Church of Rome, accompanied by a solemn form of renunciation of Tridentine errors, in detail, taken in great measure from a similar form prepared by Convocation, together with an account of a sermon preached by me on the same occasion, in the summer of 1851, in the Parish Church of Kingston, in which I earnestly inculcated the doctrines of our 39 articles, in opposition to the decrees of the Council of Trent, was refused insertion in the same newspaper, which has for some time past countenanced and published such charges as that just noticed. But to return to my narrative. In the spring of 1852, I went to England, and was there occupied (except during a severe illness) in the business of the Diocese.—But during the whole of my visit I never saw Mr. Gladstone, nor had I any opportunity, had I been desirous, of concerting any plan for the introduction of Synods, with him or any other person. I was wholly occupied with other matters. I learned, however, that petitions against Mr. Gladstone's Bill had been sent home from New-Brunswick, showing that the bill was known and must have been published, for surely no one would petition against a Bill which he had never seen. On my return to my Diocese, I heard that both Mr. Gladstone's first Bill and his amended Bill, had been published and circulated in the Diocese. Shortly after my return I received the following letter from Sir John Pakington, the Colonial Secretary:—

DOWNING STREET, 30th July, 1852.

MY LORD,—As your Lordship must naturally feel much interest in the debates of last Session in the House of Commons upon the Bill brought in by Mr. Gladstone for regulating the Church of England in the Colonies, I forward to your Lordship some copies of the Speech in which I stated my objections to Mr. Gladstone's measure.

I also send to your Lordship copies of the Bill, and of the altered Bill which Mr. Gladstone subsequently introduced, but which was not discussed in the House.

The subject will doubtless be renewed in the next Session of Parliament, and in the event of legislation upon it by Her Majesty's Government, it will afford me much assistance if your Lordship will favor me with your opinion upon the present state of the Church in your Diocese, and what legislation you would suggest in order to place the Church in your Diocese in a more efficient and satisfactory position.

I have the honor to be, my Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient servant,
JOHN S. PAKINGTON.

The Lord Bishop of Fredericton,
New-Brunswick.

On this letter I shall now make some remarks.

The letter mentions, in the first place, that some copies of the Colonial Secretary's speech were enclosed to me. This had already appeared in all the newspapers consequently here was no information to communicate. Secondly,—a copy of Mr. Gladstone's first Bill and altered Bill was enclosed, these had also been published and circulated in the Province previously to my receipt of the letter. Thirdly—no suggestion is offered to me of calling public attention to the subject of Synods, but "*in the event of legislation by Her Majesty's Government*," (a contingency sufficiently remote) my opinion on the present state of the Church in my Diocese, and on legislative changes desirable to be made, is requested. To this letter I have not yet replied, for the following reasons. After waiting a little while to see whether I should be favored with the views of my elder brethren on the subject, I determined to take time to consider what reply should be given on a matter of so great importance, and was soon entirely occupied with my tour of confirmation through the Eastern part of the Province. Just before I set out, the Archdeacon, (whose views on the matter had been formed without any reference to Mr. Gladstone, as far back as the first establishment of the Church Society) called on me with a request from the Fredericton Deanery, that I would call a meeting to consider the subject of Mr. Gladstone's Bill. I assented to the request, on condition that the Clergy in other Deaneries were desirous of the same movement, which as I said "did not originate with me," but with the Clergy themselves.

On further consideration, it seemed to me much more likely to secure general consent, if I limited the subject of discussion to a point in which I supposed that most persons who had yearly met in our Church Society would agree, viz:—that it was desirable that the Bishop, Clergy, and Laity, by representation, should occasionally or statedly, meet and arrange affairs in which they are all alike interested. I did not suppose it possible that any of the Clergy or any considerable body of the laity, who have been acting on this self same principle for the last sixteen years, would now come forward to repudiate it. And though Synodical assemblies might find it necessary to deal with some subjects which it does not fall within our province to discuss at our yearly meetings, yet I thought it would not be difficult to limit the range of subjects, nor to settle the broad and comprehensive principles on which we should proceed. I was desirous also, that no one should be committed, I did not wish to commit myself, to a hasty approval or condemnation of Mr. Gladstone's Bill, until we had heard more on the subject, and understood it more thoroughly, and had also become acquainted with the thoughts and wishes of our brethren in other parts of the British dominions. Had my advice been taken instead of repudiating our own acknowledged principles, we should simply have reaffirmed them, and pronounced them capable of being carried into action on a somewhat wider scale. We should not have been in any wise committed to the approval of the clauses of Mr. Gladstone's Bill, indeed, if necessary, we could all have guarded ourselves against the approval. It was supposed, however, by some persons, (most erroneously,) that the Bishop was anxious to force Synods upon the Laity, whether they would have them or no; and that if they admitted the principle of a Bill, *which, after all, is simply permissive, and which, if it were now law, would not compel us to act, unless we were so minded*, they would be deemed to have conceded everything. These unreasonable suspicions were, with a diligence worthy of a better cause, impressed on the public mind, and hence the parishioners, in divers places, met, read Mr. Gladstone Bill, (thereby confuting the objection that no one knew anything of it) and condemned it as a whole, and so (without knowing it) condemned themselves. They will learn in due time, no doubt, to set this down to the account of the persons who fostered these unjust suspicions in their minds. I had suggested the appointment of Lay delegates to explain the wishes of the Laity, but the suggestion was not favorably received. A very few parishes appointed Lay delegates, but in the more important districts of St. John and Fredericton, none (except from Carleton and Portland) were accredited. What possible benefit could arise from calling together a few gentlemen from one or two sections of the Province, when the majority had declined to send representatives? They might, it is true, have spoken for themselves, and for those who sent them, but they could not have represented those who had declined to act. *Those who were not Lay delegates might also have spoken*, but a Diocesan meeting was not called for this purpose. In short, when the Laity as a body refused to act, a Diocesan meeting became an absurdity. Before, however, this meeting could be called, the Government, to which Sir John Pakington belonged, had resigned, and with that resignation all my opportunities of communication with the Colonial Secretary ended. I was only called on to give my opinion "*in the event of legislation*" by the then existing government, and did not feel inclined to offer my opinion to a new Government, when I did not know that it would be acceptable or was wanted.

In fine, I have been censured for withholding information of which every body, who cared to read the newspapers, was possessed already. I have been suspected of concocting a plan, when I had never harbored the thought of it. I have been accused of replying to Sir John Pakington in a strain similar to that of my good brother of Quebec, when I never sent *any* answer. I have been blamed for not following the Colonial Secretary's advice to obtain an expression of public opinion, when the advice was never given. Even falsehood has been insinuated, because I asserted that I was not in communication with the Government, when, as I again assert, I was not at the time the question was put to me, in communication with it, and am not now, the only opportunity of putting myself in communication having unexpectedly gone by. I have been accused of entertaining a treasonable design against the Church of England, when I abhor the treachery, and am shocked at the imputation. I have been suspected of being a vehement advocate of Synodical action, when I only expressed an opinion favourable to it, without taking any active measures to promote it. Still I shall be ready to serve the members of the Church, and hope to serve them all, in a matter in which I feel assured the best interests of the Church are concerned, though I think they may find a much warmer advocate of Synodical assemblies of Clergy and Laity at the present moment, than

Rev. and dear brethren,
Your faithful friend and brother,
JOHN FREDERICTON.

P. S.—I have just received the following information from Montreal. At a general meeting of Clergy and Lay delegates, holden on January 19, 1853, after a full discussion, it was resolved without a division, that Mr. Gladstone's Bill with its amendments be adopted, and that the Bishop be requested to forward the same to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with such remarks as to his Lordship seem appropriate.

The amendments proposed are as follows:—

1. With reference to the first clause: That the Imperial Stat., 25 Henry VIII., c. 19, so far as the same may affect churches in the colonies, now included or hereafter to be included in the Schedule A, should be repealed.

2. With reference to the same clause: and in order more clearly to define what shall constitute Lay Membership; that all persons having received Christian Baptism, and made a written declaration that they are bona fide members of the Church of England to the Clergyman of their Parish or District, or are communicants of said Church, shall be so considered for the purposes of the said act.

3. With reference to the same clause: That in order to produce as far as possible, uniformity of action in the Dioceses in the North American Colonies, it is desirable the senior Bishop for the time being, should be appointed *Provincial* Metropolitan, and that there should be a General Convention of all the Dioceses convened under his presidency; *that no Canon, Rule, or Regulation should be in force as the act of such General Convention, until it shall be allowed by the Archbishop of Canterbury as Metropolitan*,—and that the Diocesan Conventions, meeting under each particular Bishop, should be restricted from passing any Canons contrary to the Laws and Canons of the General Conventions; also, that in framing any new Canons, or adopting those of 1603 to the present state of the Church in these Colonies, it should not be lawful for any Synod or Convention so assembled, *to make any alterations in the authorised version of the Holy Scriptures*, in the Book of Common Prayer, or in the Thirty-nine Articles now in use, or to do any thing which shall affect any matters of Doctrine, or interfere with the supremacy of the Crown, or the authority of the Archbishop of Canterbury, as Metropolitan.

4. *With reference to the same clause: That the concluding words from "subject always" to the end be altogether omitted.*

5. With regard to the 6th clause: The committee do not understand on what principle the oath of supremacy is not included together with the oath of allegiance, particularly as it forms part of the service for the ordination of Bishops, Priests and Deacons, as now in use: *And they further recommend that it should be everywhere retained, where it is now by law required.*

And further, the committee recommend:—

6. That in order to avoid the great expense and delay which would necessarily attend an appeal to the Archbishop of Canterbury, as Metropolitan, by any one conceiving himself aggrieved by any judgment or decision of a Diocesan Convention, Bishop, or other Court, or authority in the Colonies, authority be granted to the said Metropolitan to name and constitute a Court of Appeals, within the Colony, to execute his authority in the same, in hearing and determining of such appeal; *the right of direct appeal to the Metropolitan in England, being nevertheless still retained.*

7. That in any legislation for the church in these Colonies, it is most desirable that any hindrances to a full and free communion, between ourselves and other Reformed Episcopal Churches should be removed, recommended in "the Minutes of a conference of the Bishops of Quebec, Toronto, Newfoundland, Fredericton, and Montreal, holden at Quebec, in 1851."

The Observer.

St. John, Tuesday, February 22, 1853.

LATEST FROM ENGLAND.

The Mail Steamer *America* arrived at Halifax on Thursday, in 11¾ days from Liverpool, with dates to the 5th instant.

The Cotton Market has been active and buoyant during the week; the sales amount to 65,120 bales, at an advance of ¼d. on most descriptions. The Corn Market has been much depressed, and breadstuffs are all lower, say 1s. per brl. on flour, 3d. per 70 lbs. on wheat, and 6d to 1s. per qr. on Indian Corn. Iron very quiet, makers more disposed to effect sales at £8 15s. for bars, and £9 5s. for rails free on board.

Money—all stocks heavier. Consols closed on Friday at 99¾ for money and account. It is expected the Bank of England will raise the rate of discount to four per cent. before April. Trade in Manchester was active. Freights to the United States was well supported.

A Reform Banquet was held at Manchester, on the 3d, George Wilson in the chair. Messrs. Brotherston, Milner, Gibson, Heywood, Bright, and other M. P.'s were present. Mr. Cobden having in a speech declared that he would bet £10,000 against a shilling a week subscription to the Manchester Infirmary, that the French would never attempt to invade Britain, General Brotherston has taken the bet, and bound Mr. Cobden over in legal bonds to the amount of £10,000.

Lord Melbourne died, on 29th ult., aged seventy years.

The loan guaranteed by Government for the West Indies, viz., £3,000 for St. Lucia, £50,000 for Jamaica, £80,000 for Guiana, and £60,000 for Trinidad, has been taken by the Atlas Insurance Company, London, at an average of £99 13s. 2d. sterling.

Pric, the forger, is sentenced to transportation for life.

The sentence on Newman, for libel on Achilli, is £100 fine to the Queen, which has been paid.

A young gentleman of Glasgow, who has shipped goods for Australia these last four years, now finds that he has made £40,000 by successful consignments of rough goods to that quarter.

In reference to our defences in the West of England, the United Service Gazette states that there is not a single soldier between Exeter and Plymouth, and that there is only a 32-pounder gun at Exmouth for the use of the Coast Guard, a distance of 130 miles.

The Earl of Tyrconnell died suddenly from an attack of apoplexy—title extinct.

Father Gavazzi is about to visit the United States.

A Railway over the Alps, a line of steamers between Naples and America, and steam vessels to keep open the communication at Point Barrow, in the Arctic Regions, are new enterprises talked of.

The distress in Madeira, in consequence of the failure of last year's crop, still continues.

Semi-monthly mails are now to be dispatched regularly for Australia.

Land in the vicinity of Sydenham, where the Crystal Palace is being rebuilt, has gone up from £40 to £500 an acre.

FRANCE.—The state ceremony of the marriage of Napoleon and Eugenia took place on Saturday evening, the 30th, at the Tuilleries. About eight o'clock, the grand master of the ceremonies proceeded with two carriages to the Elysee, where the bride stood, to conduct her to meet her future lord. She was accompanied by the Grand Master, the Spanish Minister, two ladies of honour, and the Countess her mother. Mdlle. Montijo was received by the Princess Mathilde and her ladies, who ushered her into the *saloon de famille*, where the Cardinals, Marshals and officers were assembled. The Minister of State then, as Officer of the L'Etat Civil, declared Napoleon III., by the Grace of God and will of the people Emperor of the French, united in holy marriage to M. Eugenia de Montijo, Countess of Teba.

All parties then signed the requisite documents, and a salute of artillery announced the fact. The Empress was soon afterwards re-conducted to the Elysee with the same formalities. On her way Her Majesty was received with respect and with occasional *vivats*, but in half an hour Paris had resumed its wonted Saturday night aspect.

The Religious Ceremonial took place at Notre Dame on Sunday—and, being a holiday, the streets were crowded by almost the entire population. Napoleon seemed to be in first-rate spirits, and it was admitted that the bride looked very beautiful. Her Majesty was conducted from the Elysee to the Tuileries, where she was met by the Emperor, and having taken their places in the carriage, the procession moved forward to the Cathedral, and their Majesties having ascended to the throne erected for their use, the Archbishop of Paris proceeded to celebrate the marriage ceremonial, in strict accordance with the ritual of the Roman Church. A canopy of Silver Brocade was held over the heads of the pair by two Bishops, the Choir repeated the *Domine Salvum*, the Archbishop presented the holy water, and chaunted the *Te Deum*, at the conclusion of which Napoleon the Third stepped from his throne a married man. This interesting fact was promulgated by salvos of artillery, the roll of drums, flourish of trumpets, the shouts of the people and army, and above all—by the boom of the Bordon, or great Bell of Notre Dame. In the evening Paris was illuminated. Napoleon wore the uniform of a Lieut. General, and Eugenia's bridal dress was of white velvet, termed Essingle, richly ornamented, and on her head a diadem of brilliants and a long veil of *Point d'Alencon* lace.

As soon as their majesties placed themselves on their thrones, the Archbishop officiating saluted them, and then the ceremony of marriage commenced. After the blessing of the pieces of gold and the nuptial ring, their Majesties advanced to the foot of the altar, remained standing, and gave each other the right hand. The Archbishop, addressing himself first to the Emperor and then to the Empress, received their declarations to take each other for husband and wife, and successively presented to the Emperor the pieces of gold and the ring. The Emperor presented the pieces of gold to the Empress, and placed the ring on her finger. After the prayers, they returned to their thrones. They successively presented themselves at the offering. After the *Pater* their Majesties went to the foot of the altar and knelt: the first chaplain of the Emperor and another Bishop extended above their heads a canopy of silver brocade, and kept it so extended during the *oraison*. During the episcopal benediction and the reading of the Gospel, the choir chanted several times the *Domine salvum*. The Archbishop then presented holy water to their Majesties, and commenced the *Te Deum*, which was taken up by the orchestra and the singers. After the *Te Deum*, the great officers of the Crown, the Princes, the Ministers, and other persons who arrived in the *cortege* resumed their places, and their Majesties descended from their thrones, and, the procession having been re-formed, the Emperor gave his hand to the Empress, and, after bowing on all sides, left the church. It was remarked as they walked down the nave, that the newly-married pair are almost exactly of the same height.

The demeanour both of the Emperor and Empress was considered exceedingly becoming. The lady did not shed tears, as is sometimes seen on such occasions; but her mother did abundantly.

At three o'clock their Majesties appeared at the balcony of the Pavilon de l'Horloge looking into the Carrousel, and here it was understood that the promised presentation by the Emperor of his bride to the troops took place. After receiving their acclamations for a few minutes their Majesties retired, and appeared at the well-known balcony which commands a view of the gardens. It was crowded to excess, but the applause was by no means energetic.

The Emperor and Empress appeared a second time on the balcony of the Thuileries, when they were extremely well received by the people. His Majesty on this occasion wore a citizen's dress, with his decorations, and the Empress was attired in crimson velvet, with a white bonnet.

The Emperor and Empress, it is announced, will remain at St. Cloud till Feb. 5. A select party form the intimate circle of their majesties during the St. Cloud honeymoon.

"From this day forward," says a Madrid journal, "the delicious Granada may add to its titles of glory, that the enchanting Empress of the French had seen the light for the first time in its eastern precincts. Maria Eugenia de Guzman and Portocarrero, who has lived among us from her most tender years, whom we have seen grow up and shine with pride among the fairest of our Court, gives her hand to Napoleon III. The news of this singular event awakens in the heart of Spaniards a sentiment of joy difficult to explain. It is a Spaniard who is about to give to the Imperial Throne of a great and powerful nation the splendour of her grace and of her beauty. It is in Paris, the capital of Europe, where the Castilian type achieves the palm of beauty. It is that Countess of Teba who treated us with such affable goodness, and made agreeable our assemblies with so much wit and talent, who is about to present herself to her age and to posterity, clothed with the purple of the Cæsars, to share the high destinies of him who is at the same time the heir to the man of the age, and the tamer of anarchy."

The Emperor and his wife remain at Saint Cloud, but take opportunities of showing themselves abroad. Meantime the Ministers are giving, each in his turn, a *fête* in honour of the nuptials. Nothing can exceed the magnificent style in which the young couple commenced housekeeping.

The Queen of Spain proposes to present the Empress with an imperial crown, and the Duchess of Alba, her sister, sends her an offering of eight beautiful Andalusian horses.

The coronation of the Emperor and Empress will take place in May next, if not sooner.

A letter, purporting to be from Changarnier expressing his opinion that an European war is inevitable, has been circulated in legitimist circles, but the authenticity is questionable.

The *London Morning Advertiser* says that a package of eighty letters has been stolen from the Emperor's private apartments. Suspicion rested on Mrs. Howard, and the letters, which implicated some of the first men in France, are thought to be in possession of the Orleans Princes. 200,000 francs are offered for their recovery.

At Vienna, Napoleon's manifesto, announcing his marriage, has caused a sensation. Great offence is taken at the use of the word *bruguer* with reference to Austria's share in the marriage of Napoleon I.

TURKEY.—Although accounts are contradictory, enough transpires, through the Dalmatian papers, to show that fighting is going on, and with the atrocity of Turkish warfare. Prince Daniel pays two ducats for every Turk's head brought in. In a night attack on Omar Pasha, the Mountaineers took eighty horses, and three hundred heads.

The Turkish troops had entered Montenegro by the defile Astrogn.

Large bodies of Russian troops are moving towards the Turkish frontier.

The Austrian Minister of Commerce is at present occupied with a plan for promoting and extending commercial communications between Austria and the African coast, as far as from Algiers to Egypt, and into the interior of Africa. For this purpose, special pains are being taken to revive and extend trade with Tunis.

We learn from Halifax papers that the Railway Bills which were sent to a Committee of the whole House, by a majority of two, have been returned to the House with a recommendation to refer the Bills to a special committee to report on, which was adopted. The committee consists of Messrs. Howe, Samuel Chipman, T. Coffin, McLeod, Jas. Campbell, Johnston, B. Smith, Killman, and Holmes, or five supporters of the Government, and four Conservatives.

The Halifax *Sun* says—

The special Railroad Committee is proceeding with its labours—and, as we have reason to believe, most hopefully for a "report" favourable to the "Sykes" proposition.

We can hardly bring ourselves to fancy it possible for any one, having been present and heard the evidence of Mr. Morse, to entertain even the shade of a doubt as to the practicability of building the road at the cost per mile tendered by the Messrs. Sykes.

TUESDAY, 22d Feb.—*(By Telegraph to the News Room.)*—The Select Committee on Railways in Nova Scotia, reported on Saturday in favor of the Government scheme, by a majority of *one*, which was the casting vote of the Chairman, Mr. Howe.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, D. B. Stevens, Esq., entertained a large and respectable audience with a lecture on the "*Electric Telegraph.*" Having stated truly that the laws of electrical action ought to be known in order to comprehend the construction of the electro-telegraphic apparatus, as well as its operation in conveying intelligence, he mentioned succinctly some of those laws, which led him to introduce in order many of the names which occur in the history of electrical Science, as Franklin, Dufay, Galvani, Volta, Davy, Oersted, Wheatstone, &c. He described the different systems of electro-telegraphic communication, and particularly those of Bain and Morse. That of the latter prevails in America, and has been introduced into the Provinces. With the help of a distinct pictorial representation, he also endeavoured to make intelligible the printing telegraph, which is used in some parts of the United States. The lecture and the practical illustration he gave of electro-telegraphic communication between two stations in the Hall, were well received by the audience. In Mr. Stevens we have another example of a gentleman whose education has been entirely Provincial, and who, by this lecture, which is the first he ever delivered, gives us to know, that young men of talent and energy require not to go beyond the precints of the city, to be fitted to act their part in life with credit to themselves and benefit to the community.

Next Monday evening, Samuel R. Thompson, Esq., will lecture on the "*British Peerage.*"

The Legislature will meet, for the dispatch of business, on Thursday next, 24th inst.

The *Fredericton Reporter* is advocating the claims of that city to a distinct representation in the House of Assembly, in addition to the members from York County. It says that Fredericton now numbers over 5000 inhabitants, and increasing.

☞ We have been requested to inform our readers that the Dry Goods Stores, commencing on 1st of March, will be closed at Seven o'clock in the evening.

☞ We have received from Mr. B. O'Brien, HARPER'S MAGAZINE for February. It is, as usual, a highly interesting number, and contains several valuable articles. The engravings are numerous and handsome. Sold by Mr. O'Brien at 10½d. per copy.

MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—At the annual meeting of the members of this Company, held on the 7th inst., the following gentlemen were elected Office-bearers for the ensuing year:—Joseph Fairweather, Esq., *President*; S. L. Tilley, S. K. Foster, J. W. Lawrence, and J. D. Purdy, *Directors*; I. Woodward, Esq., *Secretary*; and J. M. Robinson, Esq., *Solicitor.*

The following remarks are from the London *Times*. They are (says the *Quebec Chronicle*,) rather amusing and instructive, and something more:—

"What is it that has preserved Canada to us thus far? Not anything it has derived from this country. Not political affinities. Not similarity of race. Not community of institutions. Not force of arms. To the French origin of Canada we owe that it is ours. Social habits prevailed over national antipathies; and a primitive *regime* of seigniors, priests, and *habitans* stood by us, their recent conquerors, when our own flesh and blood abhorred us, and were driving us from the soil. Raise Canada to the level of England, and she is safe to our rule; else,—but it is needless to repeat what every one foresees; which, however, the legislature will not practically recognize.—What man of rank, of wealth, of connexions, of generous ambition, of superior attainments and capacity, will go to the country which is not England, which he feels to be a banishment and a final exclusion from all that we prize in this country? Ask any one pining for opportunities, and willing to run any risks for honorable advancement, why he does not see life and try his fortune in the colonies. He will answer that it is banishment; colonial life is altogether low; the utmost that a colonist can hope for is to get money and to fight his way back to the land of his birth. *To fraternise with colonies and have the entree of mess rooms, to make up the functionaries and be one of the clique, is the height of colonial ambition.* Thence there is no return. The soldier brings home his glory and promotion, but the founder of a town and the reclaimer of a forest, should he wish to return, brings back nothing but his money. There is the sure sign of a stigma. A colonist can never be ought but a colonist—a better sort of backwoodsman. In England, the chairman of the sessions, the county member, the *millionaire*, the keeper of a pack of hounds, the clever-pleader or debator may rise to the peerage, while baronetcies have been showered on the humbler class of supporters and useful public men. A man who should give the Queen a province on the shores of Lake Huron, might sigh in vain for a place in the British roll of honor."

DEPRECIATION OF GOLD.—The following remarks are made by Mr. Thomas Hankey, Jr., Governor of the Bank of England, in a short preface which he has written to the English translation of M. Leon Faucher's work on the "Production of the Precious metals:"

"I can hardly agree that there is no ground for alarm as to a depreciation of the world in consequence of the late discoveries. The effects cannot yet be fully felt at present, considering that the export of English gold coin has been, up to this date, I think equal to the amount of gold we have received thence; but when the sovereigns lately shipped are found to be in excess of the wants of the community in Australia, and are re-shipped to this country together with the produce of the gold workings, between this and next summer, I cannot but believe that the supply in the market of the world will be found in excess of the demand, and that ultimately a considerable and general alteration in prices will ensue."

CARLETON CHANCERY SUIT.—We are rejoiced to learn that this vexatious controversy is about being brought to an end, the respective Committees on each side having agreed upon terms of settlement, which have been sanctioned by the Common Council. The principal points of the arrangement are the following:—

Carleton assumes £20,000 of the debt, for which with interest, their common lands are chargeable.

The residue of the debt, with interest, is chargeable on the East side, and all the other property and revenues of the Corporation.

The surplus rents of the West side, after payment of the expenses of Collection, and the interest half yea ly, are to be applied for the sole improvement of Carleton, by the Common Council; a majority of the Western members assenting to each appropriation, and the unleased lands to be laid out and disposed of subject to the same concurrence. The surplus revenues, if any, of the East side, after paying salaries and expenses of Government, and the half-yearly interest, are to form a sinking fund.

The general revenue to be chargeable with the costs of the prosecutors, to the extent of £250, and with the whole costs of the Corporation and Trustees.

The Common Lands of the West side are to be bounded by low water mark, to be defined by actual survey.

Each side to be assessed only for its own deficiency of interest.

The hon. R. L. Hazen and W. J. Ritchie, Esq., for Carleton; and the hon. W. B. Kinnear and G. Wheeler, Esq., for the Corporation; and William Wright, Esq., for the Trustees, are engaged in preparing the necessary bills to be passed through the Legislature, to give effect to the settlement; and we feel assured that we may now regard the matter as happily concluded, and congratulate the public on the result.

Much credit is due to the gentlemen managing the negociations on both sides, for the assiduity they have applied to working out the compromise, and their liberality in yielding minor points to accomplish a great public benefit.—*Courier.*

SHIPPING.—The number of vessels belonging to this Port on the 31st December last was 500, measuring 82,589 tons. The number of new vessels registered at this Port during 1852 was 78, measuring 39,033 tons; in addition to which there were nine new vessels, measuring 6090 tons, built here for owners in the United Kingdom, but not registered here. The Port of St. John includes St. Martin's, the Bend, Dorchester and Sackville.

The total number of vessels belonging to Miramichi, including the harbours on the North Shore, on the 31st December, was 97, measuring 6316 tons. The number of new vessels registered at that Port during 1852 was 18, measuring 5208 tons; in addition to which there were eight new vessels, measuring 6388 tons, built there for owners in the United Kingdom, but not registered there.

The total number of new vessels built at the Port of St. John and its outbays, including those for owners in the United Kingnom, during 1852, was 113, measuring 56,719 tons; and as nearly all this amount of tonnage was built for exportation to the United Kingdom, it would appear as a principal article of export, if it was included in the returns. Supposing the average value of these vessels to be £8 currency per ton, exclusive of their freights to Britain, this item would amount to £453,752 currency, a sum quite equal to the difference between the value of our Imports and Exports.

St. Andrews and its outbays are not included in the above.—*Ib.*

The number of Emigrants arrived at this Port during last year was 2035.

We learn that intelligence was received by the mail, which arrived in the City on Saturday morning, that active preparations were being made in England for the commencement of our railways on a large scale so soon as the season will permit. We understand that the contractors intend to complete the line from Shediac to the Bend with all possible speed, so as to connect the St. Lawrence with the Bay of Fundy.—*Cour.*

We understand that a deep water wharf is to be commenced immediately at Shediac, by the Railway company, for the convenience of the Railway vessels to be out in the Spring with men and materials. According to arrangement the branch line from the Bend to Shediac, will be completed next summer.—*News.*

Messrs. Jackson, Peto, Betts, and Brassey have addressed a letter to the Commercial Bank in this City, with reference to financial arrangements on a large scale, to prevent any derangement of the exchanges, or obstruction to the ordinary business of the Province, which might possibly flow from the large monetary operations that must necessarily take place, during the extensive railway works of every description they propose carrying on in New-Brunswick in the year 1853, and probably during many succeeding years.—*New-Bruns.*

The steamer *Admiral* arrived on Wednesday morning from Boston, being her first trip for the season. She has undergone a thorough examination at New York, and was found to be in perfect order. She has the same officers as last year, and she is as well managed as ever.

SPLENDID PORK.—Mr. D. Hayward, of Sussex Vale, brought to market, on Wednesday last, a litter of pigs, exceeding anything of the kind ever before seen in this City, and which, we think, it would be difficult to equal anywhere. The sow was 2¼ years old, and weighed 686 lbs.; and her progeny of nine, weighed, respectively, 466 lbs., 429 lbs., 420 lbs., 411 lbs., 408 lbs., 397 lbs., 391 lbs., 375 lbs., and 372 lbs. The whole was purchased, we understand, by Mr. Lynam, butcher, for 45s. per 100 lbs., amounting to £97 17s. 11½d.—*Courier.*

NOVA SCOTIA INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—The inhabitants of this Province, following the example of *Canada* and *New Brunswick*, have decided on holding an Industrial Exhibition in this City during the present year. We are pleased to find that the arrangements necessary for such an undertaking are rapidly and satisfactorily progressing. The several Committees appointed are at work, like Trojans, and the result of their labours is daily becoming more perceptible. A new spirit of emulation and enterprise is being diffused throughout every portion of our community, and articles *are already* in progress of construction, for exhibition. It is just now the leading topic of conversation among those more immediately interested in its succes, and on whose exertions its success mainly depends.

That the Exhibition will be creditably sustained and a fair representation had of the productions of our soil and the handiwork of our countrymen, is a hope we cheerfully entertain.

Having then decided that the Exhibition is to take place this year, let it be of such a character as will reflect us credit and elevate the position of our country that we may lay no longer under the imputation of being *behind the age*. Long enough have we been exhibiting to the world our insignificance, and inability to compete with others. Let us extend our efforts, rise a step higher, and should it even be our expiring effort it will afford us consolation in knowing that we tried. *Halifax B. American.*

Viscount Melbourne died recently, aged 70 years. His title is extinct for want of heirs.

THE COTTON TRADE.—The Baltimore American announces the formation of a powerful mercantile organization in Europe, in conjunction with the cotton growers of this country, for the purpose of "throwing off the Liverpool monopoly in cotton." The journal above named states that

"The proposition is nothing more nor less than for this mammoth society, in conjunction with the planters of the cotton districts, to create a *continental depot for cotton*. The disposition of a few private houses to aid the direct shipment of a few thousand bales of cotton, could not be regarded as a matter of much immediate consequence, but the importance which attaches to the movement when headed bp the Company alluded to, cannot fail to arrest public attention and to produce decided results.—*Boston Daily Advertiser.*

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The Ericsson sailed at twelve minutes past three this afternoon, for Norfolk. At a quarter past four she reached the narrows; at a quarter before six she had not reached the spit. Her average speed was seven knots.

Certain propositions have been very favorably received by the President and the Secretary of the Navy, and it is for the purpose of giving them an opportunity for personal inspection, that the ship has been summoned to Norfolk.

The *Journal of Commerce* says:—

We learn that more than four hundred applications have been made, from differents parts of the country, for engines, to be built on the Ericsson principle. It being quite impossible, at present, for the inventor to prepare the drawings for this large number, from which to build them, it is his intention to have stereotype plates prepared, from which any number of copies can be taken. Five engines are now in process of construction on this plan, varying from ten to fifteen horse power. By April next, the business is expected to proceed with great rapidity. No particular privileges have been granted in any quarter, as it is not the design of Mr. Ericsson to establish a monopoly, but to throw open to the world the benefits which his invention is supposed to confer.

The storms at sea this year have been uncommonly severe. The packet ships Roscius from Liverpool, Dec. 17th, and Lady Franklin, Dec. 3, arrived at N. York recently, encountered extremely rough weather. On the 1st of January the Roscius was headed by a heavy sea which stove in the upper deck, and filled the between decks with four feet of water, which destroyed a large portion of baggage of the emigrant passengers. Four of the crew were washed overboard, and the mate had his arm broken. The Franklin also lost three of her crew, and met several vessels in distress.

The following Changes are talked about in Washington: An increase of the President's salary to $50,000; 2. The construction of permanent residences for the Vice President and Heads of Departments; 3. An increase of the Secretaries' salaries: 4. An increase of the salaries of Ambassadors and Charges abroad.

There is a house in Hudson Avenue, Brooklyn, near the ferry, which is occupied by *over seven hundred human beings!*

An ordinary brick store, corner of Broadway and Cedar street, size of lot fifteen front on Broadway by 100 feet on Cedar street, sold at auction a week or two ago, for $79,000.—*N. Y. paper.*

A sister of Robert Burns, a lady 98 years old will contribute a pair of stockings, knit by her own hands, to the New York World's Fair.

FOR JAPAN.—A despatch from Norfolk says that the U. S. steamship Powhatan sailed on Sunday for Japan.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.—The aggregate of a table showing the number of Friends in the several States of the American