

kill ed, and on being pursued were discovered on the margin of Hog Town prairie, barbecuing their ill gotten plunder.

They were approached by the scouting party sufficiently near to see their fires, and but for the imprudent rashness of the commander of the scout who discharged his gun before getting within shooting distance, they might all have been surprised and taken. But upon the discharge of the gun, the fires were immediately extinguished, and the Indians no where to be found. It is supposed there were eight or nine Indians.

(From the Devonport Telegraph.)

We gather from the tone of Lord Palmerston's observations in Parliament, and the accounts received from various quarters, that a decided step has at length been taken on the eastern question.—France, which concurred with the five powers in the original basis on which the differences between Turkey and Egypt were to be discussed—namely, the preservation of the integrity of the Sultan's dominions having been more than suspected of encouraging Mehemet Ali in his demand for the annexation of Syria to Egypt has been virtually set aside, and a new treaty formed between England, Russia, Austria, and Prussia to compel the submission of the Pacha to the terms agreed on by these four powers, who have consented to his being declared the independent Sovereign of Egypt and Acre, but not of Syria, which is a part of the dominions of the Porte. It is also confidently asserted that should the Pacha continue obstinate, force will be used to compel his submission, for it is, at all hazards, determined that Syria shall be restored to Turkey.

The policy of this movement has been much canvassed. The French journals are loud in their complaints against England, which is charged with deserting the French alliance for that of Russia whose designs are far more dangerous to the integrity of the Porte. But a moment's reflection will place this point in a different light. The four powers will take care to bind Russia to stipulations that shall give her but a temporary occupation of Constantinople in the event of any hostile movement by Ibrahim from Syria, and the question is whether the peace of Europe is not more likely to be secured by such a temporary occupation, under solemn guarantees, than any pledge that could be offered by the Egyptian whose fierce ambition and grinding tyranny have been so much commented on. France may complain that she is excluded from the counsels of Europe, but it is her own fault, for she has either not abided by her original pledge to uphold the integrity of Turkey, or has treacherously intrigued to thwart the fulfilment of that essential object.

We do not, however, apprehend that matters will come to extremities. France may object but will not join Mehemet Ali in his resistance. M. Thiers is not so devoid of wisdom and prudence as to embroil Europe for such a man as the Pacha of Egypt, whose interests are in no way particularly identified with those of France.

Spanish affairs are again in trouble.—The expulsion of the Carlists has not led to the tranquilization of that kingdom.—The disputes between Espartero and the Queen have led to riots at Barcelona, and though the last accounts were more favourable, we anxiously await further intelligence from that quarter.

The *London*, 92 which has been on the stocks in *Chatham* dock yard for 12 years, will be launched the middle of August. She has now a very handsome stern and quarter galleries, which very closely assimilate in appearance to the square stern. She is 205 feet 6 inches long upon the gun deck, and is 54 ft. 3 inches broad to the outside of the walls, with a tonnage of 2,602 tons, o. m. She was designed by the late Sir R. Seppings, and approaches very nearly in form to the Swedish models of the celebrated *Chapman*. The *Rodney*, a sister ship, has proved the great excellence of this build by her performance at sea.

An engagement with three slavers took place off the coast of *Cuba* in Feb. last. In a letter from the Island of *Grand Caymana*, it was

stated that three or four slavers, bound to *Cuba*, were expected in March to pass through a particular strait, known only to the pilots of *Cuba*. This information was immediately communicated to the Commodore, who within a few hours, promptly despatched two ships of war to cruise under a *Caymanian* pilot, in the strait referred to. One of these vessels, after cruising the mouth of March, returned to *Port Bengal* in the early part of April; the other, about a fortnight after, fell in with three of the slavers, and from a letter dated *Grand Caymana*, the 30th of May, it appeared that the commander of the British cruiser attempted to board them. The slavers fired into and shattered the man of war boats. It is not stated whether any lives were lost; but the bold attack of the slavers proved successful to them, for they all escaped, and no doubt with flying colours, at having over-matched British interference, carrying their cargo of living merchandise into the strong hold of West Indian slavery. *Cuba*.

The *French* Mediterranean fleet numbers 17 ships of the line, 2 frigates, 4 corvettes, 25 brigs, and smaller vessels, 10 armed transports and 21 steam vessels; in all, 79 ships.

Cabrera will, it is said, be imprisoned in the Fortress of *Ham*.

The indemnity to be paid by *Naples* to *England* is said to be fixed at 800,000 ducats, or about £136,000.

Cabrera arrived at *Paris* on Monday evening, at the Hotel d'Orleans, rue Petits Augustins. His appearance excite! great curiosity on the road from *Marseilles*, and at all the relays crowds assembled to receive him. Several other emigrants have arrived since *Cabrera* crossed the frontier in *France*; among others *Polo*, the brother-in-law of that chieftain. *Ross d'Erotes* holds in *Catalonia*, but he is said to be so cooped up, that he cannot possibly escape. *Tristinay* has gone to the mountains, and threatens to break up his band into Guerilla parties.

St. Petersburg, July 9.—The *St. Petersburg Gazette* has an article on the corn trade in *Moscow*, which affirms that the stock in hand is pretty sufficient for the consumption of the country, and that the prices are more likely to fall than to rise. The Ukase mentioned by the *Hamburgh Journals*, by which the importation of corn is allowed free of duty in the Russian Baltic ports, has not yet been published.

Consumption of Ardent Spirits.—The quantity of ardent spirits consumed in Great Britain last year, was twenty-nine millions of gallons, which is more than a gallon per head, including man, woman, and child, of both sexes, the population, it is thought, not being 27 millions.

The hearse which is to transport the ashes of the heroes of July to the column of July is just finished. It is twenty feet high, sixty feet broad, on six wheels, weighing 60,000lbs., and to be drawn by twenty horses.

Postage Reduced to Three Farthings.—The postage covers are now to be had for 9d. per dozen.

This had been effected by the novel plan adopted by some of our enterprising publishing booksellers, of using the post office penny covers as a medium for issuing general advertisements, as well as notices of publications connected with the trade. The profit on the advertisements, together with the advantage of an increased publicity to the books issued by the publisher, afford adequate compensation to the vender. In this way, the public are gainers to the extent of 25 per cent. on the government price of the stamps. The plan has been as yet only partially tried, but in the event of its more general adoption, a result which seems all but certain, a gratuitous circulation of the penny postage covers may reasonable be anticipated as the effect of increased competition. The penny postage scheme of Rowland Hill will thus be turned into a universal free postage!—*Caledonian Mercury*.

The *Queen's Nurse*.—Mrs. Mason, the monthly nurse, has been appointed to attend the Queen during the period of her confinement. She is to have £300 and one pound a day as long as her services are required after the month, to be head nurse, and to have two assistant nurses under her direction. We understand that Mrs. Mason has got this appointment through the recommendation of the Duchess of Bedford, who was staying with Lady John Russell, when Mrs. Mason was in attendance upon that lamented lady.—*Doncaster Gazette*.

Government, in pursuance of its plan of granting pensions to literary men, has conferred on Dr. James Browne, L.L.D., member of the Faculty of Advocates at Edinburgh an annuity of £100, "in consideration," it is expressly said, "of his literary attainments."—*Glasgow paper*.

The Star.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1840.

We have much pleasure in announcing that a "*Natives' Reading Society*" is about to be established in our public spirited Town, and that a large assortment of useful and instructive works has been actually ordered from England by the first conveyance.

There can be no doubt that such an institution will be productive of the greatest good.

(From the Ledger of yesterday)

The first Quarterly meeting of the NEWFOUNDLAND NATIVES' SOCIETY was held in one of the stores of JOHN RYAN, Esq., on the evening of Saturday last, when about 250 Members assembled.—EDWARD KIELLY, Esq., Surgeon, (the President of the Society) conducted the proceedings of the meeting, which he opened with an address of which the following is a copy:

GENTLEMEN,—It has unexpectedly fallen to my lot to have the honor this night of addressing you as the First President of the NEWFOUNDLAND NATIVES' SOCIETY—an honor which I did not anticipate, and which I am fully convinced would be highly flattering and gratifying to any individual, however exalted his station in life may be; and although I consider myself almost incompetent to discharge the duties of so important an office, be assured my anxious and zealous endeavours shall be unceasingly employed in the promotion of the general interest and prosperity of this our infant institution.

Gentlemen, you must be fully aware of

the many difficulties we have to encounter upon the commencement of so great and responsible an undertaking,—the objects of the Society being to unite and congregate our fellow-countrymen together in one common bond of union, for the purpose not only of affording protection and relief to each other in the hour of need, but of advancing and promoting our general interests by co-operating with the peaceable, orderly, respectable and well-disposed inhabitants of the Island, in measures of general usefulness,—to be respectful and obedient to the laws of the land,—and to manifest on all occasions our loyalty and attachment to our most gracious Sovereign and the Constitution under which we live; and to these principles I am confident you will concur with me in believing that it will be our bounden duty and our advantage strictly to adhere. I will now call your particular attention to the exertions of your committee.

Resolved.—That the increasing number of the members, and the utter impossibility of accommodating them in any building at present in the town, press upon this meeting of the Society the necessity of erecting a suitable edifice of their own.

Resolved.—That in accordance with, and to carry out the spirit of the foregoing Resolve, Subscription Lists be immediately set on foot in St. John's and throughout the outports of the colony, for the purpose of raising a sum sufficient to complete the erection of a *Natives Hall*, as also to afford an opportunity for contribution to all those who feel disposed to aid the efforts of this Society.

Resolved.—That the thanks of the Society be given to a Native Lady, for her very great kindness in devoting her time and attention to the preparation of a device for our flag; And it was further resolved that this vote of thanks be communicated to her by the Secretary.

Resolved.—That the thanks of the Society be given to the Ladies of the Factory and to those gentlemen of the Irish Society, who so warmly advocated our claims in the discussion which took place relative to our application to these Bodies for the use of their rooms.

Resolved.—That the thanks of the Society be given to *Dennis Hannigan*, Esq., for his kindness in tendering us, though at much inconvenience to himself, the use of a Room at his residence, for the purpose of holding our meetings.

Resolved.—That the thanks of the Society be given to *John Ryan*, Esq., for the use of his store on the present occasion.

A subscription list was then opened agreeably to the second resolution, when nearly the sum of £250 was immediately and cheerfully subscribed towards the execution of the contemplated building. The meeting broke up between eleven and twelve o'clock, and having respectfully conducted their President to his residence in Duckworth-street, gave him three hearty cheers, and then departed for their several homes.

ORDINATION.—Mr. WILLIAM JEVNES, the Superintendent of the Schools established in this Island by the British and North America School Society and Master of the Central School in this Town, is to be admitted to the Holy Order of Deacon by the Lord Bishop of Newfoundland on Sunday morning next, at St. Thomas's Church.—*Patriot of yesterday*.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE STAR.]

"Who have ears to hear let them hear."

SIR,—Some considerable discussion has recently taken place among the religious portion of the community, upon the propriety of giving to Sunday Scholars what is termed an annual *Treat* that is, a holiday wherein they may assemble together for the purpose of such mental and bodily recreation, as children professedly brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, may be permitted to enjoy without any relaxation of those rules of conduct which it is the business of their Teachers to enforce and inculcate.

The party who have undertaken to support the negative of the proposition have raised their objections to the measure on the following grounds:—*First* they assume it to be utterly impossible to preserve any thing like order and decorum among so many Children, excited, as they must necessarily be when brought together for the express purpose of frolic and fun.—*Secondly*; they assert that upon such an occasion and under such