British News.

HOUSE OF LORDS, August 9

Lord Brougham said he had a petition to present to their lordships from an individual of the name of Taylor, a surgeon of Ayr, in Scotland, who happened to be in Birmingham at the time of the recent riots, and who was seized by mistake as one of the rioters. At the time he was arrested he was, in fact, assisting one of the police, and therefore his seizure must have been a matter of pure mistake. He, however, complained that he had been taken into custody, and not only sent to Warwick Gaol, but that he was there stripped, his hair cut off, and that he was subjected to all those indignities which he (Lord Brougham) had formerly described as having been inflicted on other prisoners. Lord Brougham added, that he would take that opportunity of calling the attention of government, and more particularly of his noble friend at the head of the government, to another case, that of a person of the name of Vincent, who had been convicted before Mr. Baron Alderson, at the Monmouth Assizes, of a misdemeanour only. The sentence pronounced on this person by the learned baron was, in consequence of the great excitement which prevailed in the neighbourhood, a very severe one. He (Lord Brougham) did not complain of that; but what he complained of was, that this individual was treated as a convicted felon, although his offence was not of a felonious nature. In the case of Mr. Horne Tooke, and in that of Mr. Gilbert Wakefield, who were found guilty of the same species of offence as this individual was convicted of, a distinction was made between their treatment and the treatment of felons. They were only punished by imprisonment—they were not placed in solitary confinement—nor were they, as this person was, debarred from the use of all books except the Bible and prayer book. Treating men convicted of political offences as if they were common felons appeared to him to be contrary to every principle of justice. A letter, remonstrating against so unjust a proceeding, was sent by Mr. Roebuck to the learned judge before whom the case was tried, and in answer he said—"God forbid that he should ever even have thought of subjecting the individual to such close confinement." The secretary of state for the home department had, in consequence, been applied to, but without effect, on the subject. This was the first time he had ever heard of a learned judge's recommendation to mercy being treated in such a disrespectful manner. Whether this was or was not a sample of the mode in which the threat recently thrown out in the other house with respect to recommendations coming from the judges was to be exercised, he, of course, could not say.

Lord Melbourne said he would call the attention of the noble lord the secretary of state to the subject. He must say, that if all the noble and learned lord had been instructed to state was true, there was some cause of complaint.

The metropolitan police courts bill was read a second time

Lord Lyndhurst observing that he had no objection to permit the bill to pass that stage, on the understanding that it would be properly considered in committee.

Lord Lyndhurst said, that the trials of the Warwick rioters having now terminated, he wished to ask the noble viscount at the head of her majesty's government when he purposed to commence the inquiry into the conduct of the Birmingham magistrates?

Viscount Melbourne replied—Almost immediately.

Lord Lyndhurst.—Can the noble Viscount specify the exact time?

Viscount Melbourne.—As early as it can be conveniently done. (a laugh.)

On the order of the day for the house resolving itself into committee on ways and means.

Mr. T. Duncombe moved a resolution, consisting of twelve separate propositions, whereby he ascribed the troubled state of the country to the misconduct of the ministry and of the parliament in taking no measures to improve the people's political and social condition, to reduce the price of corn, to render justice cheap, to extend the elective franchise, to protect it by ballot, to give relief from church-rates, to provide for national education, to arrange the affairs of Canada, or to hold out the hope of any redress for these manifold grievances at any future time. The time, he said, was coming when gentlemen would be meeting their constituents at country dinners: let them take this bill of fare to those assemblies. It would not do to puff one of their cold contemptuous negatives on this motion. If it were adopted, even now, some satisfaction would be given: many a bayonet might be spared, and many a life preserved.

Lord John Russell denied that the house had neglected all the enumerated grievances. On the corn laws the chartists themselves had protested against alteration; so likewise as to the ballot. The church-rate question was, indeed, untouched; but the subject of cheap justice had been taken up, and would probably be provided for in the next session. Nor would he admit that no hope had been held out for the future. Meanwhile, the present time required that authorities should be maintained both abroad and at home: and he would vote therefore, for going at once to the business of the ways and means.

Mr. Wakley saw nothing in the resolutions specially directed against her majesty's ministers. The resolutions related to the conduct of the house—(hear, hear)—and not to what had been the conduct of ministers. He thought the house infinitely worse than the ministers, for the house had thrown every temptation in their way; it had encouraged every bad principle, and refused to support any good principle. If the government proposed anything good, the house disagreed with them; and he did not believe that any good could be expected in this parliament. It was not in the nature of the house to do anything good. It treated the people as if they were a species of untameable beasts, except when they were wanted for battle or police, and then they were every thing that was brave and good, amiable, honourable, and noble, when it suited their purposes. But when it suited them to keep the people down, then their liberties were abridged. In this state of things, how was it possible that the people should be satisfied? He hoped they would continue discontented till their grievances were redressed, and not allow the members of both houses of parliament to loll on easy couches and beds of roses.

Mr. Attwood attributed the distress of the people to the state of the currency.

Mr. Villiers said the course which that house had pursued had had the effect of lowering it in the eyes of the country; and there were but two ways in which it could restore the lost confidence and respect of the people. They must either legislate for the people, or the people would legislate for themselves, or they must place themselves in such a condition, by enlarging the constituencies of the country, as to be enabled to cast the blame upon those constituencies, if their legislation was bad. The present limited extent of the franchise gave a preponderating influence to the aristocracy over the general interests of the nation. He believed that all sinister, and sectional, and partial interests were represented in that house, which at once looked and shrunk from attending to what might be termed the more general and national interests of the country. It was that circumstance that had caused the discontent which now prevailed; and to it might also be traced the recent disturbances. It was necessary, therefore, that the middle classes of the community should be satisfied. If they were satisfied, the legislature might treat with utter disregard all those criminal intentions which were expressed at public meetings. It was the lowest and most ignorant who talked of endangering property.

Mr. Warburton said he should support the resolutions on the same grounds as those he had stated when the proposition had been made to augment the standing army. If the noble lord thought that discontent was confined to those classes of persons whom he had specified, he was much mistaken.—There was a large class of persons—a body of moderate reformers—who, ever since the whigs had come into office, were dissatisfied with the course of legislation of the House of Commons. The noble lord had referred to the interruption of the chartists, and to the question of the corn laws. But the chartists felt that their interruption in respect to the corn laws would be ineffectual. All sectional interests were attended to, but the people generally were not represented as they ought to be in that house. He hoped the present government would do something to advance the cause of reform.

Mr. D. Israeli imputed the disaffection of the people to the attacks of the government upon so many time-honoured and cherished institutions—the church—the parochial administration—the trial by jury—the ancient distribution of justice. The malcontents had no avowed leader, but they followed suggestions which the whig leaders had originally furnished. Indeed, the absence of any avowed leader was a circumstance of especial danger, for it showed that their movements was not from the impulse of one daring spirit, but from a general dissatisfaction. Lord John had, on a former night, ascribed the disturbances to Mr. Oastler and the poor law agitation. Without presuming to know so much as Lord John about the pedigree of sedition, he would venture to trace it a little higher, to earlier days than Mr. Oastler's—days when we used to hear of 200,000 men ready for a march from Birmingham to aid the deliberations of the lords on the reform Bill. Nothing would now restore the country but this reconciliation of the people to their natural leaders. The nation wanted a government in nature as well as in name. The fault was not in individual ministers: it was in the very principle of the whig party. And now the parliament was about to prorogue just when the circumstances of the time most needed that it should assemble.

INDIA.

We have received through the agency of Mr. Waghorn, Bombay journals and correspondence to the 4th July inclusive.

The accounts from the expeditionary army at Candahar, which had reached Bombay, came down to the end of May, at which date all was well in that quarter. The harvest was just about to commence, and it was calculated that sufficient stores would be collected to admit of the march of Sir John Keane to Cabul about the 15th or 16th June. No opposition from Dost Mohammed was anticipated. The alternatives presented to him appeared to be to make terms with Sir John Keane, or abandon the country. One report stated that he had already fled to Bokkara.

It appears that the Affghans, reported the bravest and most warlike people of Central Asia, had shown neither courage nor military enterprise in presence of our troops. The only losses suffered by our army in its passage through their country arose from the fatigue and privations to which it was exposed. No fewer than 400 horses perished on the march from Shikarpore to Kandahar, and the whole army had been reduced before their arrival at the latter-mentioned place to half, and even quarter, rations.

The capture of Kandahar, and the restoration of the Schah under such extraordinary circumstances, had produced on the whole country a moral effect difficult to describe. The natives are represented as a fine, frank, manly race, unsparing in their structures upon all our acts, but on the whole well disposed towards us, although they could not be brought to regard us as simple "allies." At Herat, where Lieutenant Pottinger had become all powerful, the success of the expedition had produced a great sensation. A party was about to proceed for that city from Kandahar, under the command of Major Todd, who would convey a number of guns, and be accompanied by engineers to put the place in a complete state of defence. No credit was given to the rumours that the Persians were again marching against Herat.

No intelligence had lately been received of the Sheik force that was to have co-operated with that under Sir John Keane in the attack on Cabul.—Runjeet Singh was still alive, but nothing more.—The British force in the neighbourhood of Lahore had been strengthened—an indispensible precautionary measure to ensure tranquility on the demise of that personage.

The state of our affairs with Persia remained unchanged. Karak remained in the possession of our troops, but Bushire was unoccupied. Kourschid Pasha still remained inactive on the banks of the Gulf, and would, it was expected, retrace his footsteps without attempting hostilities against Bassora or Bagdad.

No news had reached Bombay from China later than to the 8th of April. It was believed that the admiral, who had concentrated his whole force at Trincomalee, only waited fresh orders to proceed to Canton.

Connected with this subject, the *Bombay Courier* of the 29th of June, contains the following paragraph, which we need hardly recommend to the attention of those whose duty it is to see that no jealousies be permitted to interfere with the public service.

It is rumoured that a despatch has been received from Simla, urging the immediate departure of her majesty's ship Conway for China; but in consequence of the *imperium in imperio* relations existing between the admiral and the governor-general, the request cannot be complied with until a reference has been made to Sir F. Maitland, at Ceylon. Nothing can more strongly prove the absurdity and inconvenience of two separate authorities at a distance of half the globe from the imperial government, than this want of a discretionary control over her majesty's ships of war, which may be as much required to carry out some policy essential to the stability of our paramount rule in the Eastern hemisphere, as the power to order half-a-dozen queen's regiments to collect at Ferozapore.

The singapore papers of the 23d of May mention that the Siamese authorities, in imitation, no doubt, of the Chinese government, had made a seizure of opium.

The *Bombay Courier* publishes a general order of Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane, dated head-quarters, Candahar, May 4, 1839, expressive of his satisfaction at the admirable and soldierlike conduct of the officers and soldiers in their difficult but triumphant march to that city from distant and distinct parts of India.

The praise bestowed on the officers and soldiers composing the expedition to Candahar does not seem to have been merited universally. In a general order dated Head-quarters, Candahar, the 14th of May last, published in the *Bombay Courier* of the 2d of July, Sir John Keane states that Major Griffiths, of the 37th Native Infantry, had quitted Dafur with three companies of that regiment, without the sanction of the commander-in-chief, although aware of the reasons which induced his excellency to order him and the detachment to occupy that post, and also contrary to the express desire of Lieutenant-colonel Dennie distinctly communicated to him by that officer."

The *Delhi Gazette* of the 19th of June, mentions that Major-general Sir Willoughby Cotton was not suffering from illness. He had, however, been indisposed.

The Governor-General was still at Simla. Mr. Robertson had succeeded Colonel Morrison as deputy-governor of Bengal.

The cholera was said to be raging with some violence at Dhoolia and Bangalore. The *Bombay Courier* of the 2d of July mentions the death in that city of a Mr. George Roussean, of spasmodic cholera, after an illness of only five hours.

Mr. P. Thompson, the new Governor General of the Canadas, has taken the oaths, and was to sail about the 7th in the Pique frigate. This appointment appears not to be very satisfactory, particularly with the mercantile interests connected with Canada. This unpopularity arises in part from his having been heretofore opposed to the protection on American timber.

The withdrawal of Lord Howick from the Cabinet is attributed to the evidences of a radical tendency of the administration, in its late appointments. A correspondent of the New York Times remarks upon this movement, which appears to have been sudden and unexpected,

"Certain places were offered to the two most influential of the moderate radicals, Messrs. Charles Buller and Ward. Upon this Lord Howick discovers an inclination on the part of Lord Melbourne to move onwards instead of backwards; at which he, being always the most backward of the cabinet, takes fright and resigns. Now mark the bad management of all this! Lord Howick is frightened away, but Messrs. Buller and Ward cannot be induced to come in. In fact, I should think they must have felt rather insulted than honoured by the offers made to them. Although the places in question were such as they might possibly have accepted, had Lords Durham and Clarendon seats in the cabinet; yet, without such guarantees of the recognition of their principles, the only consequence of their acceptance would have been their loss of independence, and no acquisition of influence of any description.

"The mere facts of such offers having been made, unquestionably argues, as Lord Howick suspected, an onward tendency on the part of the predominant party in the government.

"It is a matter of serious regret that they have mismanaged the matter so dreadfully. I have no doubt that many Whigs will follow the example of Lord Howick, and that no radicals will be conciliated."

The same correspondent of the Times, who appears to be a great admirer of Lord Durham, thus remarks upon the prospects of the ministry.

"How such a team as has been patched up will do the work of the next session I cannot conceive. Spring Rice was the only member of the old government, with the exception of Lord John Russell, who had the faculty of speaking extempore.—The new officials, who will then be bro't into active play, have not the slightest notion of stringing a dozen sentences together; and the financial departments, which will probably next session require the ablest advocacy, will be represented by no single man to whom the house will listen for ten minutes.

"The tories are every day getting stronger and more insolent, and it is perfectly obvious that the present ministry constituted, or reconstructed rather, as it is, cannot hold together for above a month, It then remains with our little Queen, whether we shall have the tories again, or be vouchsafed a Durhamite administration."

We learn from private intelligence that Mr. Urquhart, a gentleman of gigantic intellect, at the request of the Chamber of Commerce, of Sheffield, has published at his own expense, and at present only for private circulation, a masterly exposition of the causes of the non-settlement of the North eastern Boundary Question. He charges Lord Palmerston with a criminal abandonment of his duty, in the postponement of this truly national question, and he sustains his positions with singular ability and force. In consequence of this publication, the North American Association on the twenty-first of August adopted a petition to the two Houses of Parliament, of which the following is a copy:

"The humble petition of the undersigned Merchants and Shipowners and others of the City of London—Showeth:

"That the Minister for Foreign affairs, to whose intelligence and integrity are entrusted the honour and interests of this country, has been publicly charged with criminality of the gravest character, in an 'Exposition of the causes and consequences of the differences between Great Britain and the United States on the Boundary Question,' addressed to the Chamber of Commerce of Sheffield, by David Urquhart, Esq. Your Petitioners therefore pray your Honorable House to institute an enquiry into these allegations, demanded alike by the honor of the Minister, and the interests of the nation.

[Signed] RUSSELL ELLICE, Chairman, and by the members of the Committee, and many others.

Claims of the United States upon Belgium.—The following article is extracted from the Independant, the official paper published at Brussels. It relates to the question of indemnities claimed by this and other Governments for the destruction of property in depot at Antwerp during the seige by the French:

Among the indemnities which must be considered, is one of a Special character, which should invite the serious attention of the Government. We allude to the question of property at Antwerp in 1830.

This is a question of international law, It must first be determined which is responsible, Belgium or Holland. We must decide who it was that first commenced hostilities, which resulted in the burning of the depot. Was it the commandant of the castle, or the Belgians who first began hostilities? The question should be settled by the two Governments. The third party interested should not be allowed to suffer from delay of justice.

The credit and the consideration enjoyed by Belgium abroad, has suffered from two events—the suspension of payments by the banks of Belgium and Brussels. Private credit has suffered almost as much as the public. The evil could not be prevented; but prejudices will cease when our municipal and financial institutions are understood, which imply no obligations on the part of the Government.

These two events should not be aggravated by other circumstances. The merchants of America, England, France, Prussia, Austria, etc. have had their property destroyed by fire in the entrepot of Antwerp. They demand indemnity for their losses, and their respective governments have presented their claims, and these will become more pressing.

The intentions of the Government interested are known. The Government of the United States, by an express resolution of Congress, has sent a diplomatic agent to Brussels, with a special mission to demand indemnity for losses sustained by American citizens.

The British Minister had promised to support the merchants of England.

The Chamber of Deputies in France has warmly expressed its views in favor of indemnity for French citizens.

Our Government will certainly understand that the property of these foreigners is placed under the protection of international law. This is one of the necessities which must be acknowledged. The moment having arrived to dispose of these claims, it is surely for the interest of Belgium to meet them, without, however, abandoning negotiations on this subject with Holland.—[Washington Globe.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, OCT. 4, 1839.

No later European dates than those furnished by the steamer British Queen. Several additional items of political information, collected from our files of English papers, will be found in this day's paper.

The greater portion of the English papers announce that the harvest will be plentiful, and excellent in quality.

The affairs of Turkey and Egypt are yet undecided.

The English Money Market appears to be in a bad state, with little prospect of immediate improvement.

The sickness in the Southern part of the United States continues to rage with unabated violence.

A serious Fire broke out at New-York on Monday the 23d ult. which destroyed three places of Worship, and the National Theatre, besides damaging a number of private buildings.

In the House of Commons, on the 8th August, Captain Boldero gave notice, that he should, next session, move for leave to bring in a Bill to establish a system of Military Colonization in Canada, which should form a body to act against internal and external enemies.

Sir John Colborne.—The Canada papers inform us that the arrival of the new Governor General, is hourly expected, and that preparations were making for the departure of the gallant veteran Sir John Colborne from British North America.—We hope that the inhabitants of New-Brunswick, and of our sister province of Nova-Scotia, will not allow the gallant chief, the friend of the Colonies, and particularly of British North America, to quit our shores without an expression of public respect and regret. No time should be lost in calling public meetings to prepare proper addresses.

The ship *Amy*, owned by Messrs. Mackay, Brothers & Co. with a full cargo on board, was towed through the Falls into the harbour in perfect safety, where she now lays ready to proceed on her outward voyage.

City Market House.—The Legislature having passed an Act to authorise the Corporation to make use of certain portions of the said building for other purposes than a Market House, we have no doubt but a large annual revenue will be obtained by means of fair competion amongst the respective citizens, who are desirous of occupying apartments for Dry Goods Stores, Lawyers Offices, &c. &c. The building being Public property, the citizens anticipate that every portion of the said house, not actually occupied as a Market room, will be advertised for public competition for annual rents.

City Militia.—Almost the whole of the past week has been occupied with Military exercises; Artillery, Sea Fencibles, and Infantry, have been more or less engaged. Yesterday, the Uniform Companies of the First Battalion, paraded through the streets, with bands of music, their appearance was good, and particularly the new volunteer Company under command of Capt. Drury, drew forth great applause. The First Battalion City Militia, under command of Lieut. Colonel Perrins, will be inspected on the Sands, to-morrow, by Colonel Maxwell, 36th Regiment, who has arrived in town from Fredericton for that purpose.

The attention of a discerning and liberal public, is called to an Exhibition of Oil Paintings as large as life, got up by Mr. Arthur Slader, a gentleman whose diversified talents demands our admiration, and whose non-assumption of superiority, our esteem. If modesty be any mark of literary or scientific merit, he has enough for a whole regiment of pretenders, and if a harmlessness of disposition be any proof of Christian charity he has enough for a whole congregation of Enthusiasts.

Ye therefore whose time hangs heavily upon your hands, and whose superfluity of wealth springs involuntarily from the pocket at every whim of fancy, forget not in your daily promenades for the ensuing week, to call at the Friary, where you will meet with something worthy of notice and encouragement: something to improve the taste, and to afford a subject of conversation when the usual idle gossip of the day shall cease to amuse.

Every effort of this kind, deserves patronage and encouragement, let Mr. Slader therefore be encouraged.

Launched, from the building yard of Mr. Benjamin Appleby, on the 17th ult. a superior iron fastened brig named the *Wardlaw*. The W. has been pronounced by judges to be one of the finest vessels of her class ever built by Mr. Appleby: she is owned by Mr. James Malcolm, of this city.

Launched from the ship yard of Messrs W. H. & R. Hall, of Granville, N. S. on Wednesday last, and towed into this harbour by the steamer Novascotia, a new ship of about 700 tons, called the "*Pursuit*," built for Messrs. Eaton, Burnham & Co. of this city.—This is the largest ship that has yet been brought out of the Annapolis River, and reflects much credit upon her enterprising builders, and adds one more to the many fine ships owned at this Port.—*Observer*.

HEAD QUARTERS, Fredericton, 30*th September*, 1839.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

The Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief has been pleased to make the following promotions, &c.

James Robertson, Gent. to be second Lieutenant in the 1st Battalion Saint John City Militia.

2d Battalion Charlotte.

Lieutenant Philip Justison, to be Captain, vice Hyslop who retires with his rank.

Ensign C. Hawkins, to be Lieutenant, vice Justison.

Hugh McKay to be Ensign, vice Hawkins.

By Command,

GEO. SHORE,

Adjutant General Militia.

KING'S COLLEGE,

September 26th, 1839.

At a Convocation held this day the Reverend James William Disbrow, A. B., was admitted to the degree of Master of Arts.

We understand that some of the capitalists of Yarmouth contemplate building a whale-ship next season.—*Commercialer.*

Prince Edward Island, sept. 17.—On Friday last we experienced a very severe gale from the N. E. Towards the afternoon it blew with tremendous violence, accompanied with torrents of rain. The principal damage done in town was the unroofing a part of Mr. D. Reddin's house in Queen street, and almost every board fence was prostrated or injured, and some buildings were altogether demolished. From the country the accounts are most distressing. Trees in the woods are uprooted in every direction, and it was with great difficulty travellers could pass along the roads on Saturday.

Pictou, Sept. 24.

On the evening of the 5th inst., H. M. ship Andromache, struck on an unknown rock, off Entry Island, one of the Magdalans (not the Pearl rock); and it being at the top of high water at the time, she remained ten hours on shore, but got off without any material damage, after throwing a few shot overboard, and starting a quantity of water. She remained perfectly tight, the water being, fortunately, very smooth at the time.

The rock lies a quarter of a mile due E. by N. from the high rock or islet off the N. E. Point of Entry Island. It has 11 feet water on it, with 4, 5 and 6 fathoms between the Islet—close outside of it there is a depth of 7 fathoms. The rock is not laid down in the recent or any previous survey, and was unknown to the pilot.

We quote the above paragraph from the P. E. Island Herald of Saturday. The *Andromache* has since arrived here, and her pilot, Mr. John Prowse, has just called to inform us, that a large vessel was recently wrecked near Entry Island, loaded with iron, bound to Quebec. He supposes that it was upon this wreck the Andromache struck, and in corroboration of this opinion, he brought to our office, two shipmasters, who make the following statements:

Eusebius Forest, master of the schr. *Happy Return*, states that he is well acquainted with the shoals and rocks about the Magdalen Islands, and that he has been fishing round the shores for 3 years, but knows nothing, whatever of the rock or shoal in the above mentioned extract, and that he is confident no such exists.

Allan McDonald of Picton, pilot, states that he was formerly a shipmaster, and has been in the habit of trading about the Magdalen Islands and is intimately acquainted with the surrounding coast, but knows nothing whatever of the shoal or wreck at the said Entry Island, on which the Andromache struck.—*Observer.*

We are sorry to state that the Labrador fishery, so far as this port is concerned, is a complete failure. The schr. Willing Lass, arrived here from Labrador, spoke schr. Success of P. E. Island, on Sunday se'nnight off Port au Port, short of water, and loss of captain—supplied her.—*Ib.*

St. Andrews, Sept. 28.—Launched from the ship yard of Messrs. Eastman & Hutchings, on Monday last, the barque *Amazon*, 383 tons old measurement, built for the Hon James Allanshaw & Co., copper fastened, and pronounced by judges to be a good model: she was towed down to our harbour by the steamer Novascotia on Tuesday morning.

Launched at the ship yard of Messrs. Grant & Walker, a new brig called the *Peggy*, 171 tons, old measurement, for James Rait, Esq.

New-York, Sept. 25.

Tremendous Conflagration.—We copy from the New York Express the particulars of an awful fire which took place on Monday afternoon, and which involves loss and distress to many who will find it hard to struggle with the difficulties incident thereto. We allude to actors and persons employed in the Theatre, most of whom have not only lost all their little property, but likewise their very means of livelihood.

Yesterday afternoon at a little past four, a fire broke out in the National Theatre, at the corner of Church and Leonard streets, which entirely consumed the interior of the house, and communicated to the three churches in the immediate neighbourhood—The French Church, adjoing the theatre, and on the corner of Church and Franklin streets; the Dutch Church on Franklin streets, a few doors below Church street; and the African Church, at the corner of Church and Leonard streets, opposite the theatre,—the interiors of all three of which were entirely consumed. A dwelling house next below the theatre on Church street, and one on Franklin, between the Dutch Church and the block of buildings not adjoining the French Church were also burned. Other buildings on Leonard street and Franklin were considerably injured.

The fire originated in the theatre. Lights are kept burning under the stage all day; and a workman, who was employed in repairing the gas pipes when he left work turned off the gas, as he supposed, but it appears that instead of doing so, he turned it on, and in a short time the whole space under the stage become filled with gas, which, as soon as it touched the light, exploded with great violence, blowing up the whole of the stage. The scenery and light frame work around were almost instantaneously a blaze, and when the alarm was given the flames were bursting from every part of the house. So rapid was the progress of the fire, that the person had barely time to escape by jumping from a window.

Of course very little was saved from the house. Mr. Keen, who happened to be in the theatre, we are informed, succeeded in saving a part of his wardrobe, but the other actors lost everything.—The books and most of the contents of the box-office were saved.

Mr. Wallack's loss must be very heavy. The house had been newly painted and decorated in the most costly manner, and the scenery and properties were of the most expensive kind. We could not learn that Mr. Wallack saved any thing. The amount of his loss is variously estimated, but it is probably about $15,000, beside the breaking up of all his extensive arrangements for the season. The losses of the actors and actresses it would be difficult to estimate, but they have all suffered severely.

The theatre was built in 1833 for an Italian Opera House, and was opened as such in the course of that year. The Italian Opera was tolerably maintained the first and second season, but subsequently failed entirely, and the house was closed. It was then converted into a theatre, but it was not very prosperous till it came under the management of Mr. Wallack about two years ago, who had successfully conducted it up to this time.

The cost of the theatre was about $80,000. The building was insured, as we understand, about $30,000.

Last night Mr. Kean was to make his first appearance since his illness, and nearly all the places in the theatre had been taken before the fire broke out. Many of the ticket holders came in time only to see the house in ruins.

The walls of the theatre on Church and Leonard streets are standing, but nearly the whole of the rear walls fell as soon as the roof was consumed.

The fire was communicated to the roof of the African Church on the opposite corner, and in a short time the whole interior was in flames. The walls are left standing, and are apparently uninjured. We could not learn that there was any insurance on the building.

While the African Church was burning, the fire extended in the opposite direction, and about the same time communicated to the French and Dutch Churches.

The French Catholic Church was one of the most chaste and beautiful buildings in the city. It has been finished but a short time. The walls and pillars were of highly finished granite, and it was supposed till yesterday that it was fire proof. The interior was fitted up in a very costly manner. The fine organ in this Church, we are happy to learn was saved. The walls and pillars in front are standing, and appear to be but little injured. The loss, however, must be great, and we are informed there is no insurance.

The Dutch Reformed Church has been recently repaired, and had been occupied but a few weeks previous to the fire. The walls of this church also are standing, and in good condition.

The three-story brick houses between the two churches, in Franklin street, very fortunately escaped with scarcely any damage. The intense heat, while the churches were burning on each side and the theatre in the rear, placed them in so much danger, that it seemed impossible to save them, but the well directed efforts of the firemen, aided by a good supply of water, prevented the fire from extending any further.

The whole loss is probably $300,000.

A new Theatre for Mr. Wallack.—Already speculation, and anticipation are preparing a new theatre for Mr. Wallack. It is not probable that this Theatre will be rebuilt, as it was not located in a good position. A theatre will be erected in Broadway, we presume. It has been suggested that the Carlton House should be converted into a theatre. A beautiful and fashionable theatre might be put up in Chambers street, in a retired, but yet most accessable part of the whole city.—*Old Countryman.*

Corn Trade.—There are to be no shipments of breadstuff to Europe from this country—it is now a settled question. The little that England will want she can easily get from the continent. This fact has knocked down prices here and sales of Genesee have been made to-day at $6, 12½ and $6,50. The stock here is now small but so soon as the farmers are convinced that there is no demand in Europe they will send forward their supplies, and thus prices will fall rapidly. The glut will produce it. City dealers will see the utter folly in any attempt to maintain present prices in the face of such large crops as this country has been blessed with, and no demand. They are aware that caution is necessary, and they are consequently advancing to millers very sparingly.—*Herald.*

Quebec, Sept. 27.

Extract of a letter from Montreal, received by yesterday's steamer:—

"It is now currently rumoured here that J. Boston and Ed. Barron, Esqrs. are to be joint Sheriff of this district; the latter being appointed solely on the principle now adopted it would appear, that any office of emolument must be shared by an Englishman and a Frenchman."—*Transcript.*

Another letter from Montreal states that Sir John Colborne was to review the troops in that city yesterday, and would leave on Saturday (to-morrow) for Quebec, where, it is added, His Excellency will reside until the arrival of the new Governor, immediately after which Sir John will embark on board the Pique on his return to England. This gallant officer will carry with him the most cordial wishes of the loyal inhabitants of British North America, for the future health and happiness of himself and family. One of the greatest compliments that could be paid him is conveyed by the fact that the rebellious and disaffected portion of the community are glad of his approaching departure.—*Ib.*

It is rumoured in town that His Excellency the Governor General has received dispatches from the Colonial Office, directing the reinstatement of Messrs. Panet, Vallier & Bedard, to their seats on the Bench, on the ground that their decision was founded in error, but not from any disloyal motive. It is also said that His Excellency refuses to reinstate them, and leaves the matter to his successor in the government.—*Montreal Herald.*

TRIAL OF THE COBURG CONSPIRATORS.

Six of the Coburg conspirators have, we are happy to find, been sentenced, after due conviction, to various periods, ranging from seven years to six months, of incarceration in the penitentiary, where, it is to be hoped that, converting old rope into oakum, they will bear in mind the fact that a repetition of their offence would likely cause their neck to be encircled with a new rope. The Montreal Gazette gives the following synopsis of the trial:

We learn, by private accounts, that at the Assizes lately sitting at Coburg, the trial of the brigands who landed at that place, in the latter end of July last, with the intention of murdering some of the inhabitants and plundering the town, had been closed; and that the prisoners were convicted and sentenced as follows:—

Samuel P. Hart, to be confined in the Penitentiary for seven years.

Peter Wilkins, Henry Wilson, and Wm. Baker, do. five years.

Joseph Ash, senior, and Joseph Ash, Junior; the one to be confined in the Penitentiary for six months, and the other for twelve months, and to pay a fine, one of fifty pounds, and the other of one hundred pounds.

It is said, that, from the nature of the evidence adduced on the trial of the prisoners, nothing could exceed the atrocity of their designs. It was proved by Moon, who gave the information which led to the secret of the prisoners, and who admitted himself to be a confederate Patriot, that their object was not only to murder and plunder some of the inhabitants of Coburg; but to render a systematic plan of this kind subservient to the overthrowing of the Government of Upper Canada. To the latter, he had no objections; but he hesitated as to the assassination of the inhabitants proscribed by the brigands. These principally consisted of Maurice Jaynes, a wealthy farmer, who lives on the back road, about four miles from Coburg, and who was supposed to have a quantity of specie in his house; the two Messrs. Boulton, and Mr. R. Henry, Cashier of the Commercial Bank at Coburg. After perpetrating their diabolical purposes, it was the intention of the brigands to have made their escape to the United States, by means of a schooner lying at the wharf at Coburg. Moon further stated that the brigands fully expected to have been joined by about eighty confederates on the Canadian side, for the purpose of effecting a general rising, and they brought a supply of arms in that expectation. It is to be hoped, however, that the punishment which has overtaken the miscreant will be a warning to others of a like character, and whom we greatly fear, there are still a number in Upper Canada, as well as in the United States.

We learn that numbers of the political prisoners will be liberated, as many as 23—with every disposition to be lenient that usually actuates the human breast, we, nevertheless, must express our great objections to this course. If a few of the political prisoners of 1837, had been punished, some executed, and some transported, we should, in all likelihood, have escaped the calamities of last winter. An immense expenditure would have been spared, and many valuable lives saved. Those who fell last winter, may be called the victims of the Authorities. Experience is a good monitor, but some people will not hearken to it, or be guided by it. We have no improper feeling towards the unfortunate political prisoners, but we cannot find a justification for lenity towards men twice guilty. It is, no doubt, very pleasant to the Attorney-General, to cause pardon to be extended to unfortunate beings, but Justice, and not Mercy, should sit in judgment. Mercy to the British inhabitants has been too much lost sight of, in commiseration for their foes. This has been repeated a thousand times, however;—there is no use in preaching when common sense is scorned. It is expected that about 60 will visit Asia, and of no men will it ever be said, with greater truth, they left their country, for their country's good. Next week, the *Buffalo* will sail.—*Montreal Courier.*

UPPER CANADA.

Yesterday's and Sunday's mails have furnished us with Upper Canada papers from all parts of the sister province; the subjoined is the most interesting intelligence afforded by them:

At a meeting of the Grand Lodge of Orangemen for the County of York, held at Montgomery's tavern, Etobicoke, on Friday, the 13th instant, called by R. Ogle Gowan, Esq., Provincial Grand Master, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

On motion of O. R. Gowan, Esq., seconded by Major Elliot,

Resolved—That we entirely eschew, condemn and repudiate every doctrine, opinion and sentiment, uttered, expressed, or written, by the Right Hon. the Earl of Durham, in his Lordship's Report on the state of these provinces.

That we equally repudiate the government of any faction in the colony, and are determined to resist the sway of radicals, which seek in any manner to impair our institutions, or withdraw from the essence and principles of the British Constitution.

Kingston Sept. 14.—*Another instance of the vigilance of the American Authorities.*—Bill Johnston, who was brought with so much parade from New York to Watertown, and from whom so large a bail bond was required, has taken possession of Grindstone Island again. We suppose we shall soon see another war manifesto from Fort Wallace. We have been told from what we consider good authority, that on Sunday last there were landed on the island three cases of muskets, several kegs of gunpowder, and other munitions of war, under the personal superintendence of Johnston. What a farce the American authorities are daily enacting with the frontier sympathizers; let but a blank cartridge be fired from a British cruizer, to ascertain the character of an American steamer, and we have Col. Worth, on the very first echo of it reaching him, sending for an explanation; but if pirates and mail robbers are liberated from confinement by their keepers, it is announced in the papers, that they are allowed to go at large, without any attempt made to arrest them, because they had only murdered and robbed Canadians, which we apprehend is almost considered a praiseworthy action by the frontier inhabitants generally.—*Chronicle.*