THE LEGISLATURE.

THE AMENDED CHARTER OF ST. JOHN.

FRIDAY, March 7th.

This Bill was re-committed, when the following debate ensued upon the first section.

MR. GRAY said the question at present before the Committee was whether the Aldermen and Councillors should possess a property or not. In the original Charter granted the city no such qualification was imposed, but experience showed that it worked bad, and the people of St. John petitioned the Legislature that a property qualification might be inserted. Their prayer was complied with, and Aldermen were required to be possessed of real estate to the value of £250, and Assistant Aldermen £150. But at the time the people did not elect the Mayor; he was appointed by the Government who were thus in some degree responsible for the proper government of the people.—The people now ask for the privilege by electing their own Mayor, but had they altered their minds as to the qualification of Aldermen? or would that house consent to establish the precedent that men having no property should be eligible to fill an office of great responsibility? The house should take into consideration the peculiar powers entrusted to the Mayor and Common Council of St. John, and then ask themselves if a property qualification be not necessary. He did not agree with the doctrine advanced the other day by the learned Member for the city; although property did not give a man brains, the possession of it was no indication that a man did not possess brains. If a man had acquired property in the prosecution of his ordinary business, it was rather an indication that he possessed brains, and integrity too, than otherwise. The learned Member had also referred to the United States, where no property qualification was required, but it should be taken into consideration that in that country a higher state of education prevailed than in this Province. Let them look to the very great powers vested in the Common Council. An Alderman might have very large views,—he might say "let us clear away the buildings in a certain quarter of the city, and lay out and adorn a fine Square;" but upon whom would the pressure come? Why, the money must come from those who held property in the city, and they might consider themselves sufficiently burdened before. Now if the person thus empowered to tax their neighbours possessed no property of their own to share in paying the assessment, they would not care anything about the expense—they would be apt to be lavish in the expenditure of the public money, because none of it would come from their own pockets; no matter how heavy the burden upon others, they would bear no part of it. He contended therefore that the person empowered to impose a tax should be men holding the same position as the parties taxed. While he (Mr. Gray) was on his feet he might as well say a few words about the qualification of the Mayor, although that section of the Bill was not yet under their consideration. The section in question did not propose any property qualification for that officer, notwithstanding the great responsibility attached to the office. Not less than from two to three thousand pounds of the people's money passed through the Mayor's hands annually. He did not mean to assert that a poor man could not be found who would discharge the duties of the office with integrity, but if a man having no property should be elected, and should make away with any portion of the large amount passing through his hands, the people would have no remedy. This, no doubt, was the reason why a petition respectably and numerously signed had been sent up from St. John praying the House to impose a property qualification. The learned member for the city had stated on the preceding day that he represented the feelings of the majority of the inhabitants of St. John in this matter, although the other Members from the City and County were against him. If that be the case, whom did the other five represent? Less than one half divided among them would give each of the five something less than *one-tenth*, while the learned Member represents more than *one half*! Now he would ask by what authority did the learned member arrogate to himself this majority? He could have founded his opinion upon anything that passed at the last general election, as this question was not agitated at the time. The learned member seemed disposed to take the lower classes of the people of St John under his peculiar care, but he (Mr. Gray) and his other colleagues would go as far for the people's good, and were as anxious for their welfare; as the hon. member, although they might differ with him in opinion. He believed the learned member was extremely anxious this Bill should pass in its present state, and was so led away by the warmth of his imagination that he thought the people desired it. He (Mr. Gray) believed it would have a bad effect, he therefore moved, in amendment to the Bill that the sections of the existing laws imposing a property qualification (here the hon. member enumerated them) be not repealed. He was desirous the Mayor should be elected, and would support the Bill, but he was desirous to see the property qualification sustained for both Mayor and Aldermen.

The hon. SPEAKER hoped the learned mover of the Bill saw by this time the disposition of the House was to pass the amendment. He must perceive that the Bill could never pass in its present shape and he (hon. Speaker) hoped he would at once consent to strike out the clauses repealing the qualification sections of the old Charter. The present city debt was contracted before the property qualification provision was inserted in the Bill.—Hon. Members would generally find, in their experience, that those took the best care of their own concerns would take the best care of public property entrusted to their keeping. There might be some exceptions, but this was the case generally.

MR. PORTER was in favour of the amendment Living as he did close to the boundary line, he had seen enough of elections without property qualification, and universal suffrage, to feel disgusted at the practice. In the American Militia, where they elected their own officers, he had known a private to vote for a certain person to hold an office in the Company, and fight with the said officer elect before parting at night: (Laughter.)

MR. WILMOT said that if the hon Speaker in stating that the city debt was contracted when there was no property qualification, intended to draw any inference from it calculated to excuse those who had sat at the Council Board since that period, he was wrong; for some of the very same men who contracted the debt sat at the Council Board since that period, and were there still. He (Mr. Wilmot) had not yet had an opportunity to examine the Bill minutely, and was therefore unprepared to go into particulars at present.

MR. TILLEY said he was opposed to the sections in the Bill that would allow the Mayor and Aldermen to be elected without a property qualification, and he was opposed to the principle of allowing Freemen to vote who had not paid their taxes. It might be said that by insisting upon a property qualification they would be depriving the people of the privilege of choosing whom they liked. This of course was the case, but it was a principle the house had sustained upon a recent occasion, when they passed a Bill to exclude public officers from this House.—They had in fact said to the people "you shall not elect those men." He was somewhat surprised at the arguments of his learned colleague yesterday, who contended so strenuously against depriving the people of the power to choose whom they liked for Mayor and Aldermen, when it would be fresh in hon. Members recollection that he supported as strenuously the Bill which deprived the people of the power to send whomsoever they chose to the House of Assembly. He was satsified with the present qualification for Aldermen, but when he took into consideration the vast amount of responsibility resting upon every member of the Common Council, he concluded that the qualification of £150 for a Councillor was to low. As the picture of injustice done the freemen, drawn by the hon. mover of the Bill, he could not look at it in the same light. Every freeman, on his admittance, took an oath to pay the taxes, and if he violated his oath, and was in consequence deprived of the power of voting, where was the injustice done him? He (Mr. T.) would oppose this part of the Bill.

MR. GILBERT said the first settlers and their families had cleared away the wilderness and built up the city of St. John, and he did not see why every man who chose to go there and settle should be entitled to vote, or be eligible to every office, whether he owned any property or not, or even if he did not pay his taxes.—He was opposed to universal suffrage; he hoped never to see it introduced into this country. Not long since, at an election in New York State, one hundred men were taken out of Sing Sing prison, dressed up, and carried to the polls and voted, thereby carrying the election. If universal suffrage, was adapted he had no doubt but similar tricks would be played here.

MR. RITCHIE said he was not in the House yesterday to hear the speech of the learned member who moved the Bill, nor had he heard much about it in St. John; in fact there was no excitement about it. He was indisposed to the imposition of any property qualification for Mayor, Alderman or Councillor which should prevent any honest and intelligent man from coming forward to fill these offices. In London, and other large cities of England, the civic offices were generally filled by mechanics and tradesmen, who had risen by their own industry. That was right. While these offices were in the reach of persons of that class, it would be a stimulant to their ambition, and he (Mr. R.) was glad to see it, and would willingly do anything to prevent it; but he did not think the present property qualification in St. John would prevent it—it was, in his opinion, sufficiently low. The offices of Mayor and Aldermen were of great responsibility, especially the former, and he considered it a monstrous proposition that, while the Provincial, Clerks and Cashiers in Banks, and almost every officer entrusted with money, were obliged to give security, the Mayor of a City, handling from two or three thousand pounds a year of the public money, should neither be required to possess a property qualification or to give security for the money. What had been done might be done again; and although they might have honest Mayors without any checks, they might some time or other have a dishonest one, and some fine morning he might jump on board a steamer and go off to the United States, taking the public money with him. How would the people like to be left deficient of a whole year's interest of the city debt of £115,000? It might be said that the property qualification of £250 would be no guarantee; but he (Mr. R.) held that it would be a guarantee to a very considerable extent; a man by doing real estate to that amount would feel bound down to his place of residence, and would feel loth to go away and leave it. It was his opinion that the Mayor was not the proper person to collect money; the Chamberlain should collect it, and he should be required to give bonds. Supposing the Bill should pass in its present shape, and the Mayor should abscond a defaulter to a heavy amount; who would suffer most? It would be felt hardest upon the working classes. A heavy tax would be called for to make up the deficiency; this the rich man could meet, but the poor man would be called upon unexpectedly for his five or six pounds, when he would be unable to pay it.—The hon. Speaker if called upon unexpectedly for £1,000, could meet the demand without any difficulty, while he (Mr. R.), and others in like circumstances, would, perhaps, find it difficult to meet an unexpected demand for £100. In reference to what had been said about disfranchising freemen who had not paid their taxes, he considered it right and would support it. He had for some time since turned his attention to the subject, and he had come to the conclusion, that the proper basis on which to ground the elective franchise was the payment of taxes; let every man who paid up his taxes have a vote; (Hear, hear.) He did not like the principle upon which members were elected to the House of Assembly; the franchise was based upon land, and in land alone, which he considered improper and unjust. If a man did but hold any interest in landed property, his vote was never questioned. How much taxes he paid was never taken into consideration. A man who might hold thousands of pounds worth of other property had no vote; lessees in the cities, who put up solid and costly brick buildings on the lots, had no votes! He knew it might be said, "why, if you extend the franchise to these, why not extend it to the holders of moveable property? where is the difference between the shell of a house and the inside?" He admitted the justice of the reasoning, and believed that the payment of taxes was the only true basis for the elective franchise: (Hear, hear.)

Hon. Mr. PARTELOW,—"What would you do where no taxes are levied?"

MR. RITCHIE continued, saying they were so *skinned* by taxation in St. John, that he did not suppose there was any part of the Province that was not taxed, nor did he know now that such was the case; he would like the hon. Secretary to inform him in what part of the Province they were so happy. (Hon Secretary,—"Westmorland and Kent."—Well, he wished the hon. Secretary would bring down a measure to the House by which they could apply the same principle to St. John; he would like much to know how the people of Westmorland managed to get along without taxation. (Mr. Chapman,—"It's not the case; they are taxed.) He (Mr. R.) would give every fireman a right to vote who had paid his taxes for the previous year. He should support the amendment moved by his hon. colleague, to the effect that the Aldermen should possess a property qualification. He would also go for the Chamberlain collecting the money now collected by the Mayor, or compel the Mayor to give bonds.

MR. WILMOT agreed with his hon. colleague who had just spoken, so far as his remarks applied to the Bill before the Committee, but he differed with him as to the basis of the franchise generally; he believed it was safest where it was, based upon the possession of landed property. Persons who owned land were not like others; they were tied down, permanent settlers, and had a stake in the country. Personal property wou'd easily change hands, and was no safe basis. He did like making the payment of taxes the basis of taxation.—Were that the case, a rich man would have it in his power to exercise an undue influence over his tenants: his Honour the Speaker, for instance, might bring a great influence to bear in electing members for the county of St. John.

Dr. THOMSON was in favour of the present franchise in electing members to the Assembly; it should be based on land. With regard to the bill, he should not only oppose the doing away with the property qualification, but he considered the present qualification too low. He thought the Mayor should possess a property qualification of £1,000 in the city, or £2,000 out of it. The Aldermen should possess one half of these amounts.

Mr. ENGLISH had listened with much attention to this debate, especially to the opening speech delivered by the honurable mover of the bill yesterday. He gave that hon. member credit for fluency of speech, for the ability to make the most of his position, and for ardent and sincere manner; in fact he gave him credit for everything but sound judgment and common sense; (laughter.) The hon. member was in favour of low democracy—of universal suffrage—and had referred to the neighbouring Republic for examples; but he (Mr. English) had travelled a good deal in the United States, and had resided there, and he could inform the hon. member that he was a great deal too fast,—he was a long way before the age; his democracy was much lower than the democracy of American citizens. He had conversed with many intelligent American gentlemen, and almost invariably found that they regretted universal suffrage was ever established there; they regarded it as their greatest curse,—as the grand error in their constitution—and would get rid of it if possible. The hon. mover of the bill was essentially qualified for a stump orator, and would make an excellent lecturer for a certain portion of the United States, where he would advise him to go: (laughter.)

Mr. NEEDHAM wished to disabuse the minds of hon. members upon one point; most of those who had spoken had combatted what they assumed to be his opinions on the question of universal suffrage. Now he defied any one of them to point out one single instance where he, in his speech yesterday, had made use of the words "universal suffrage." The hon. member from Carleton who had just sat down had founded his attack upon words he (Mr. N.) had never used, he was, therefore, like the asses of old when they snuffed up the east wind; (laughter.) The hon. and learned member from St. John (Mr. Gray) had also mistaken him, or misconstrued what he said; he did not argue that every man should have a right to vote, whether he had paid his taxes or not, but that a man who had acquired the right to vote by becoming a freeman of St. John, should not lose his franchise because he was unable to pay his taxes. It was the rich man who had ruined the city,—they, and not the poor freeman, had contracted the enormous debt, and the latter had come forward to save the city. The hon. and learned member (Mr. Gray) had adverted to what he (Mr. N.) said yesterday about property giving a man brains, and had asserted that the possession of property was rather an indication that a man had brains. Now supposing a man in business had accumulated property to the amount of £100,000,—that he shouldd be worth that sum one year, and lose it all the next; when had he brains?—According to the hon member's theory, he lost his brains with his property. The hon. member had also supposed a case where a man having no property of his own, if elected, might lay out a public square, regardless of the burden upon his neighbours' property; but would the people elect a dangerous man who would act in that way?—He thought not. Who elected the Aldermen? It was the freeholders and freemen; and was there not sufficient intelligence among them to elect persons whom they could trust? Those who had attempted to reply to his arguments had failed; they did not understand him; the hon. member from Carleton was right in one assertion,—he (Mr. N.) was fifty years in advance of his opponents. The hon. and learned member had drawn a terrible picture of the Mayor running away and leaving the people minus a year's revenue; but he had supposed an impossible case; the Mayor was compelled under oath to take money in his hands to the Chamberlain, and if he failed to do so, the Chamberlain would inform the Common Council, and they would soon bring him to book; so that in the event of the Mayor going off the amount he could carry with him would be one quarter's salary. As to the Aldermen being in the same position with those he was empowered to tax, what was that to any one else if rich men chose to trust poor men in preference? There had voted for him at the election for Aldermen, those who could buy and sell every member of this House. (Cries of "No no!") Yes, Mr. Wiggins possessed more property than the whole of them. (Renewed cries of "No!") If a man like that had confidence in empowering a poor man to tax him, why should he not exercise his own judgment in the matter? The hon member (Mr. Gray) was wrong in the calculation he had drawn as to their being five to one; he denied it; the country returned four members; they were not his colleagues; they were not entrusted with the affairs of the city; so that the city members were divided one to one; and he (Mr. N.) claimed to represent a little more than half upon this question: (laughter); he would not allow the country members to usurp his privileges as a city member. As to his being in advance of the age, he cared not; and as to his being a democrat, he was proud to own it. This House was the democratical branch, and a man who was not a democrat had no business there. However, he cared not what they chose to call him, so long as his conscience approved of his conduct.

The amendment was then put, and carried.—*Nays*, Messrs. Needham, Steves, and McPhelim. The Committee then arose and reported progress.

[By Telegraph to the News Room.]

FREDERICTON, March 7.

The Railway Facility Bill has been read a first time. It gives to the European and North American Rail Road 250,000*l.* sterling. When 100,000*l.* shall be paid in by shareholders, Province Debentures for the same amount to issue, payable in London, New York, or Saint John, bearing interest at 6 per cent.—not more than 100,000*l.* to be issued in any one year—debentures payable in thirty years and stock to be then sold for the payment thereof. Province stock to be represented by two Directors out of the nine, to be chosen by a ballot of both houses of the Legislature united, so that no Government interest may interfere.

To the Saint Andrews Rail Road it gives 50,000*l.* sterling on the same terms—20,000*l.* debentures to issue when 20,000*l.* stock is paid in.

On the Attorney General's motion for employing a Commission to examine and report upon shortening the form of the Laws, the Government met with an unpleasant surprize. On the question being put, it was found that they had a bear majority of *One* the numbers being 18 to 19. Messrs. Gray, Botsford, and Porter being at the time absent, hence it is thought that the Bill is lost, and that the Government *leader* will not risk another trial.

For Sale at the CITY BOOT and SHOE STORE, King-street.

A LARGE assortment of *BOOTS, SHOES,* and *RUBBERS*, suitable for the present season, Ladies Patent Metallic and Lined RUBBER SHOES, the Jenny Lind RUBBER BOOT and Laced Boot, (for those who wish comfort for the coming season); Misses RUBBERS in great variety; Gents. Rubbers of six different kinds: Ladies and Misses *Boots and Shoes*, in Cloth, Prunella, and Leather; Men's, Boys, & Youths' BOOTS, SHOES, and BROGANS, of American and domestic Manufacture, all of which will be sold at a *Reduced Price* before removing to another establishment.

N. ADAMS.

February 6.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, MARCH 14, 1851.

GLORIOUS NEWS FOR THE COLONIES.

The news by the *Pacific*, which arrived at New-York a few days since, is of the most cheering kind for the Colonies. It furnishes the information that the Whig Radical, Russel, or Free Trade Ministry, have at length "died out," after holding office and hoping against hope, with a tenacity which no other body of men could have possessed. From the first moment of their taking office up to the time of their *happy* demise, their whole conduct has been marked with dismay and disaster both to the Colonies and to THE ISLES themselves. In our East Indian possessions owing to Whig shuffling and parsimony in meeting a formidable foe, our brave fellows were slaughtered by thousands, and it was not until compelled by the general voice of the people, who blushed for the fading laurels torn from a thousand bloody fields, that a sufficient number of troops were sent to punish the aggressors, that the glory striped from the brow of the Great General of the age at Waterloo, was again restored to the Invincible conquerors of the World,—while in the Parent State, such was the position of these imbeciles, that the pressure from without drove them to the maddest and most impolitic schemes—all of which have ended fatally to the country. The Free Trade or Cotton spinning policy, while it enriched a few princely manufacturers, and left the operative with *cheap* bread and *cheap* wages to correspond, brought on the great bulk of the inhabitants, (the producers of food,) a state of depression and wretchedness, that has well nigh "scared the isle from its propriety." Landed properties have become all but valueless, and squalid misery the inheritance of a once happy yoomanry, while foreigners have got rich and laughed in their sleeve at the credulity of British statesmen, in imagining they would follow their example. Another pressure from without has proved equally formidable and fatal to the Russel cabinet, and which has eventuated in their overthrow—we allude to *papal concessions*. The Whigs on taking office, in order to retain their position, were fain to enlist at any price, and from any quarter, every possible support; hence the Roman Catholic members were looked to as an ally not to be despised, and every *fair* promise and many *foul* concessions were made to that body, detrimental to the Protestant interest of the realm. The Catholics finding the ground they had attained, were determined to make the very best possible use of their influence. Hence the Maynooth College Grant—hence the acknowledgment of Papal titles—and hence the insolent aggression of a fugitive Pope, which has aroused the honest indignation of the people, and produced that consummation so devoutly wished—the downfall of the Whig Ministry.—It appears that when the Catholic members found that a bill was about to be brought in for curbing the growing ambition of Popery in Britain, and that no further concessions could be obtained from the Whigs, they took the earliest opportunity of deserting a party they could no longer make available to their purposes, on a question of extension of franchise, the Russel Cabinet met so signal a defeat, that hungry as they have always proved themselves for office, they found it impossible to hold together any longer, and resigned in a body. On the Colonies, languishing from that insane policy "free trade," and driven by Downing street dictation, to the very verge of rebellion, the effect will be instantaneous and cheering in the last degree. The new Cabinet, composed as it must be of the opposition, with noble STANLEY at its head, will no doubt not sat about remedying the evils of the late administration—foremost among which stands the Free Trade policy, which we may at last hope is exploded and forever—and the next thing we have to hope for is that a better understanding and a more liberal policy will be extended to the whole of the Appendages of the British Crown. Our Assembly we think now relieved of that incubus Earl Grey, may with safety make such enactments, fearless of having them disallowed, as will, by encouraging HOME LABOUR, go far to reinstate this Province in its former prosperity, and restore vital warmth to a drooping but loyal people.

Subjoined are the principal extracts:—

Liverpool, Feb. 22.

On Monday the Chancellor of the Exchequer brought his Budget before the House of Commons, from which it appeared that the surplus revenue for the year was two millions five hundred thousand pounds, nearly half of which he proposes to apply to the liquidation of the national debt.

With the remaining portion of the surplus he deals as follows:—New houses above the value of £20 are hereafter to be charged at the rate of 5 per cent., excepting shops and farm houses, which, in certain cases will only pay 9d on the pound. By this arangement he contends one hundred and sixty thousand houses will be exempted from taxation altogether. He proposes to abolish the window duty altogether, which produced one million eight hundred thousand pounds; and he imposes a house duty which is estimated to yield one million one hundred thousand pounds. All houses under £20 a year are to be exempt from the duty. Those above £20 a year are to pay two-thirds of the amount now paid for window duty.

The duty on coffee of all kinds is to be reduced from six pence to three pence per lb.

The loss of the Exchequer is calculated at one hundred and seventy thousand pounds. This is considered to be the most judicious feature in the budget. To encourage ship building, the Chancellor proposes to remit half the duty on foreign timber. The loss on which will be £20,000.

Sir George Gray refused to present the loyal address of Lord Enniskillen and the Orangemen of Ireland to her Majesty;

The proceedings in Germany are causing some alarm among the Cabinets of Europe.

The extensive hop warehouse of Messrs. Wigan & Co., near London Bridge, was destroyed by fire on the morning of February 19th. Loss estimated at £60,000. The building was owned by Alderman Humphrey.

An agent of the Prussian government has been in London for some days, trying to raise a loan of 15,000,000 thalers, or £2,000,000 among capitalists here, but hitherto without success.

It appears that Lord John Russell has been driven from power by the operation of many causes, though the final blow was given by the opposition in the House of Commons on the 20th ult., when the minister was beaten by a majority of 48, on a question relating to the right of suffrage. Previous to this catastrophe, he had been losing ground on sundry other points, the most material of which was that of Papal aggression.

On what principle a new ministry is expected to be constructed, does not appear. There seems to be no man in England who has the reputation of being equal to the political exigencies of the day.

The parliamentary transaction which overthrew the ministry is thus described:—

In the House of Commons, on the 20th ult., Mr. Locke King moved for leave to bring in a bill to make the franchise in counties of England and Wales the same as that in boroughs, by giving a right of voting to all occupiers of tenements of the annual value of £10. Lord John Russell considered that the measure would not be beneficial, as farmers were generally influenced by the landlords, and he should therefore oppose the bill. He considered the reform bill had fulfilled all the expectations respecting it.

Mr. Hume supported the motion, as did also Mr. Cobden, who contended that it was unfair, while the great mass of the people were in favor of the maintenance of free trade, to have their interests over-ridden by a batch of county members, who came to that house as representing those counties, while they only represented a small fraction of the inhabitants. Let the suffrage be extended, and then the voice of the nation would be made known on the subject by the character of the men they sent to that House. The House divided, when there appeared—For Mr. Locke King's motion, 100; against it, 52. Majority against the Government, 48.

Mrs. Shelley, the authoress of the remarkable story of Frankenstein, and widow of Percy Bysshe Shelley, has recently died in England.

A newspaper published at Colombo, in Ceylon, contains the following story about Sir John Franklin. It was communicated in a letter from Singapore of the date of January 6:—

Her Majesty's surveying ship Herald arrived here from the Arctic regions, via the Sandwich Islands and Hong Kong, during the last week, and she has the latest advices from the far North. Near the extreme station of the Russian Fur Company, they learned from the natives that a party of white men had been encamped 300 or 400 miles inland, that the Russians had made an attempt to supply them with provisions and necessaries, but that the natives, who are at enmity with the Russians, had frustrated all attempts. No communication could be opened with the spot where they were said to be, as a hostile tribe intervened. From the Esquimaux they had this vague story very satisfactorily confirmed, with the addition that the whites and natives having quarrelled, the former had been murdered. As to the possibility of these unfortunates being Sir John Franklin's party, I leave you and your readers who have paid attention to the case in all its bearings, to judge. Whether these men spoken of were or were not Sir John's company, little hopes can now be entertained of finding them alive, as their provisions must have been expended one year, and their fuel, which is as necessary, must have all been burned out nearly two years since.

General Narvaez has arrived in Paris from Bayonne, where he has been residing since his sudden flight from Madrid.

GERMANY.—There appears to be ground for a strong suspicion that the late announcement of a general and permanent settlement of the affairs of Germany was premature, and that this country is once more on the verge of hostilities. In point of fact, nothing has been done amicably at Dresden; Austria threatens Piedmont and Switzerland, in order that, under the cover of a false move, she may concentrate her forces against Prussia. Meanwhile Russia is collecting her armed hordes in Poland. The ambition of the Czar is vast; he hopes, through Austria, to get possession of Germany; and Austria, to oblige him, negotiates for the admission of all her territories, into the new Germanic confederation.

At Paris, however, it is believed that at the Dresden Conference Austria and Prussia made an arrangement for the settlement of their differences, by which Prussia agreed, in return for some concessions made in her favor, to admit Hungary and the Italian provinces of Austria into the German Confederation. It is affirmed, also, that the Emperor of Russia has intimated that he will not oppose it. England and France, according to the same story, have used all their influence to prevent the arrangement, and finding their efforts ineffectual, have protested against it, as contrary to the treaty of Vienna.

It is said that the French Government has determined to add considerably to the garrisons maintained on the frontiers of the Alps, and that, if necessary, a distinct army will be formed on that frontier.

MUNICH, Feb. 11.—According to diplomatic dispatches received here, there is a project to set on foot against Switzerland a federal army of 100,000 men, and which force will be called into action unless the Helvetic Confederation submit to the demands made on it relative to the Canton of Neufchatel. Prussia and Austria will each supply 35,000 men, Bavaria and Wurtemburg 20,000, and the other states 10,000 men.

Rumors that the combined powers of Russia, Austria and Prussia, would undertake a war against Piedmont and Switzerland in the spring, has had a depressive influence upon commercial transactions.

INFANTRY.

22nd FOOT.—Sir Charles Napier has recently presented new colours to the 22nd or Cheshire Regiment of Foot stationed at Dreghai. The following was his address on the occasion:—

"It is a great pleasure to me, Soldiers, to close my command of the Indian Armies by having the honour to present to the 22nd Regiment their new Colours. It is now eight years since this brave Regiment, then only 500 strong, under that noble Soldier Pennifather, and joined by our dusky and brave companions in arms the glorious 25th and 12th Regiments of Bombay Native Infantry, won the battle of Meeanee, won the battle of Hyderabad, won Scinde for England, and won for themselves these proud Colours, decorated with the records of your fame!

"Soldiers! well may I be proud of being your Colonel—well may I be proud of being Colonel of that Regiment which stood by the King of England at Dettingen—stood by the celebrated Lord Peterborough at Barcelona, and into the arms of whose Grenadiers the immortal Wolfe fell on the Heights of Abraham. Well may I exult in the command of such a Regiment! But I will pass over bygone glories, and speak of what has happened in our own times. Never can I forget the banks of the Euphrates, and the bloody bed of that river, where 2,000 of our men fought 35,000 enemies! where, for three hours, the musket and bayonet encountered the sword and shield in mortal combat; for, on that dreadful day, no Man spared a foe—we were too weak for mercy. Shall I ever forget the strong and lofty entrenchment of Dubbi, where the 22nd advanced in Line, unshaken—a living wall; and, under a murderous fire, stormed the works! There those honoured old Colours, of which we have just taken leave, bravely borne forward by their Ensigns, Bowden and Blake,—one of whom, Lieutenant Bowden, I see before me, bearing them this day, but in a higher rank—were in a few minutes seen waving triumphantly aloft amidst the combatants on the summit.

"Men of Meeanee, you must remember with exultation and with pride what a view burst upon your sight when, under a heavy fire, you reached the bank of the river, and a hurl of shields and Scindian capped and turbaned heads and flashing scimitars, high brandished in the air, spread as a sea before you, and 35,000 valiant warriors of Beeloochistan threatening you with destruction! Then the hostile Armies closed and clashed together, and desperate combats thickning along the Line! The superb 9th Cavalry of Bengal and the renowned Scinde Horse—the dark chivalry of India, burst as a thunder-storm cloud charging into the dry bed of the torrent, driving the foe before them! At that moment a terrible cry arose on the right. It was the dreadful British shout of battle. It began with the 22nd, and was re-echoed from right to left, from Regiment to Regiment, along the Line. Lines of levelled bayonets now advanced, charging through the smoke, and the well-fought field of Meeanee was your own.

"Soldiers, these are not clouds that pass away like summer clouds, and are forgotten. They remain fixed on the minds of men—they are recorded in the pages of history. Young Soldiers of the 22nd, when future battles arise and the sword grows heavy and strong, remember the deeds that were done by these old Soldiers of Meeanee. It was they who covered these Colours with laurels—it was they who won the legends which these standards bear emblazoned in golden letters on the silk. Remember these things, and move shoulder to shoulder with the day. And now, young Soldiers, a few words about drill. It is tiresome and often disheartening, and annoys Men; but remember that it is drill that makes Companies, and Regiments and Brigades, and Divisions act together, and to strike, as it were, with great and mighty blows; it is drill which gives you the battle and the glory of victory!

"Ensigns, take these new Colours from my hands. I know you will carry them gloriously on the day of battle; and if you fall still the Colours of the 22nd will advance—for brave Men will never be wanting in the field to bear them forward to victory with fire and steel; and now, 22nd, take your Colours, and let the ancient city of Chester, begirt by its proud old walls, exult in the glories of its own brave Regiment."

EXCELLENT PROSPECTS FOR SOLDIERS.

The Secretary of War has issued a circular, which we gave in our last number, with the sanction of the Commander-in-Chief and the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, recommending the adoption of a measure which we have advocated for many years,—that well educated and steadily conducted Soldiers should be employed as clerks in Government Departments, or Military offices. The measure is to be tried at first on Foreign stations, and we have no doubt it will be found to work so advantageously for the public service, as to ensure its ultimate introduction at no distant period at home stations.

We have long considered it would be but an act of justice to the Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Royal Artillery, and Royal Sappers and Miners, to make selections from these Corps, to serve as clerks at the Royal Arsenal, and in all the Ordnance offices in the United Kingdom, because none would be so capable, owing to their intimate knowledge of the details of the Service. Let the authorities only hold out rewards of that kind to the well conducted Soldier, and a highly eligible and well educated class of men would be induced to enlist, and become a credit to the country; and those who enlisted, when uneducated, would devote their spare time to the acquirement of knowledge, with the view of some day obtaining one of these rewards of good conduct and ability. Similar facilities should be given of acquiring clerkships and responsible situations for the Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the Line Regiments, and we hope the day is not far distant when we shall have to announce the introduction of a measure, which cannot fail to prove beneficial to the Soldier and to the country generally.

John Frazer the Sioux Warrior, of whom Capt. Marryatt makes mention in his travels, was in Minnesota lately. Jack wears thirty two eagle plumes, each plume representing a scalp taken.

In an examination recently had in the Common Pleas of Cincinnati, a woman examined as witness testified that she was married to the defendant in New York, by performing the ceremony himself, according to the rite of the Mormon Church, which the witness described to be a kind of geese cackling.

A gentleman of Sacramento made his usual New Year's calls, wearing a specimen gold chain which weighed within an ounce and a half of four pounds!

A new mode of evading the penalties of an offended law in horse-racing has lately been discovered in Butler county, Ohio. It is to get justices for judges, and constables for riders.

The individual is now in the city who attended the Theatre in Chicago during the performance of the "Forty Thieves," and got up a row in the Theatre and wanted his money back because he counted but 39.—*Det. Free Press.*

The Chinese word for eyelid signifies 'cradle of tears.'

Mr. Gilfillan calls the Apostle Peter "the Oliver Goldsmith of the New Testament!" Mr. Gilfillans profound mastery of the bathos is one of the most remarkable things of the age. On the same principle we suppose King David was the Beranger of Judea.

Watts Sherman of Albany, and Alexander Duncan, the Rhode Island millionaire, are about to establish a banking house in New York city, with a capital of four millions of dollars.

The monthly statement from the U. S. Treasury shows the net amount of money in the Treasury subject to draft to be $14,222,261,25, of which $2,615,000 are in the Treasury at New York, and $6,700,000 in the Philadelphia mint.

Miss Davenport appears at the Chestnut street Theatre, Phiadelphia, her father having leased it for a short season. She has resolved to raise a fund to aid Kossuth, and gave a performance for that purpose at Washington on Monday night. The money is to be deposited with the Secretary of the Treasury.

The consumption of cotton, during the last year, at Manchester, it is stated, was upwards of 770,000,000 lbs., or about 1,000 tons per day.

While the population of England has been doubled in the last half century, the imports have increased more than three-fold, exports more than eightfold, and productions above tenfold.

The Lord Chamberlain has ordered certain representations of the brewers' attack on General Haynau, to be erased from pantomines now performed in London.

The sum of £2,700 has been subscribed in the small town of Bury for the erection of an architectural design in memory of the late Sir Robert Peel

A sum of £1,500 has been subscribed by London merchants interested in colonial coffee, for the prosecution of grocers and others adulterating coffee with other substances than chicory. Much need of a similar subscription here.

Writing desks and tables have long been made of the parrot coal of Fife, Scotland. Mr. Thomas Williamson is now at West Wemyss, making a sofa of coal for the Great Exhibition.

M. Lourdoueix, chief editor of the *Gazette de France*, has been indicted for the share he took in a Legitimist banquet at Nismes.

The compositors are threatened with substitution by a French genius, who proposes to send to the London Exhibition a machine for composing and distributing type at the rate of ten thousand per hour.

The Cape of Good Hope *Mail* states that upwards of sixty Kaffre families have left a village near Cape Town, declaring that they had been called to their own land "to witness some wonderful prophet who can spread a mat upon the sea and stand on it,—plant a grain of Kaffre corn which in a few hours will grow up and yield abundance of grain,—and raise their ancestors from their graves."

Sixty-six Hungarian refuges will be embarked at Constantinople for England in the steam vessel which will leave that port for Southampton about the 19th inst. The Porte is stated to have supplied them with money to defray the expenses of their passage, and to provide for their personal wants on their first arrival in England.

A foreign paper states that the remains of O'Connel are held in pledge for the payment of the burial ground where they lie, the expense of their removal from Rome, he died. We scarcely credit this.

Efforts are being made in Liverpool to form a new company to run screw steamers from that port to Calcutta. The proposal is to build boats for the service, of 2,500 tons, with 500 horse-power engines.

The King of Prussia has presented Frau Krull, proprietress of the great place of amusement in Berlin that bears her name, with 1,000 thalers towards its re-erection.

The Sultan has just conceded to the Turkish guard, of special corps, and the Turkish elite, the right of allowing the hair to grow in all their length! Formerly none but the privilege of wearing moustaches, and since the destruction of the janizaries the whole body no military corps has enjoyed the privilege. "Long live the people," says *Galignani*, "look for extraordinary honor. Certain forces are sent in the service of Turkey, under certain conditions, and as a special favor allowed the distinction."

The *Morning Post* says that some persons positively live on shrubs and drinks, and that milk contains everything but nutriment, and we know not what, our water full of most ferocious aspect, our whiting—Nelly of ground rice, and our bloaters and the sweepings of the custom house, the component parts of our coffee, burnt beans, and rusted whole molasses."

An Irishman is successful in Ireland. £14,000 were received last year, money sent by emigrants whose kinsfolk might seek a better country, the investment of their energies.

WHAT NEW-BRUNSWICK is—A correspondent, speaking of the skepticism of many who take the Chronicle, says of our farmers as are wedded to their idleness, and who are stubborn in the belief that this country is not adopted for purposes, may, we think, be fairly cited the following statement. A Mr. Jerusalem Settlement, started to a few days since, that he located a farm, 17 years since, in the Jerusalem, that he was at that time a poor man, but his industry and a good constitution to place reliance for a subsistence to work with a full determination of the possibility of a man's making a competence of husbandry, and that the above stated he has the satisfaction to give the following result: he says, in time he is seized of a good estate, that he has a large clearing, with House, 2 frame Barns, and all other out buildings, and implements in abundance, and of the most approved kind. That his stock consists of 9 Milch Oxen and some young cattle, and 35 Sheep. That he cut and saved last season 70 tons of hay, 500 bushels do. of prime potatoes, 300 do. of wheat, and threshed and ground Buckwheat. That he has brought and sold this winter, 15 loads of produce, and will, after wintering his stock, have hay to the amount of 17 tons. We imagine with what a gusto such a man as this would respond to the Resolution of Wilmot, when he says, let us go with a Tariff of cent. for cent., and far. With such a tariff, we need fear from a duty of $2 dollars a

CITY MATTERS.—We observe by the City prints, that already have the men come out as Candidates for honors, at the coming election. FAIRWEATHER, Esq., for Alderman, Mr. T. G. Hatheway, for Common for King's. These gentlemen are in the field in order we presume, the constituency a fair opportunity of canvassing their respective merits, and fill the offices to which they aspire. The first gentleman we can only speak for his integrity and honesty. The public have had a specimen of his for the last fifteen years. The time he has filled a Chair at the Board, and we believe with the people and credit to himself. Our best wish for his success in the latter, he may be a good man. We have reason to believe other candidates will be found to contest the Hustings in fair competition the day of trial, when it will be for citizens to make a judicious choice.

For Duke's Ward, we hear John McCoskerry, urged by his friends, has consented to stand for the present Councillor, Mr. Lee. There appears in this instance a great desire of a change, no doubt, that Mr. McCoskerry will make a useful and efficient member, being a staunch advocate of economy in public expenditure.

On the Carleton side, a participated—Mr. Joseph Coram, a rising, faithful, and independent man, has announced his intention for the Councillorship, which contests the Aldermanship of Coagle.

ELECTION OF PARISH OFFICERS.—To-day last the Election for Parish Officers under the new Act took place, at the places at which notifications had been previously made. Up to the time of our going to press information obtained on the subject, we learn the public were well pleased with the village, and that the franchise was becoming dignity, if we except Portland, where owing to some informality in the proceedings, the election is likely to be void. We understand that a petition will be presented to the Sessions is in course of signing.

CONNECTING THE OCEANS.—The great work of connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans has at length fairly begun. The first of last month the first