

## THE PEARL.

HALIFAX, FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 27, 1839.

## ITEMS—FOREIGN, DOMESTIC &amp; C.

## CANADA.

**TRIAL OF JALBERT.**—We noticed last week, that the trial of Jalbert for the murder of Lieut. Weir was proceeding at Montreal, and that the Jury had, at last accounts then, been out for some hours without determining on a verdict. The mail which arrived on Monday brings additional intelligence, of painful interest on that subject.

The Jury, after being out four days, could not agree, and were discharged. The moment the Judges left the bench, a mob of persons in the court-house attacked the French portion of the Jury, in the jury box, beat them severely, and were prevented from occasioning worse results by the active interference of some of the Police. The English portion of the Jury were carried home on the shoulders of the crowd, amid many expressions of applause.

At such a distance we cannot judge of the nature of the evidence, nor of the degree of obstinacy which should be charged to the Jury,—but this all can know and deprecate,—that a most extreme example of Lynch law has been given,—that the mob has set itself, in the most sacred chamber of justice, above all law and authority, and that a body of men to whom the constitution commits the duty of determining in the most solemn cases, have been grossly outraged because they did not decide so as to please a crowd of persons. Lieut. Weir's death was one of most melancholy character, and called for the most active investigation,—but better that the supposed criminal should escape on this particular charge,—better that the system of trial by jury should be suspended until more calm times,—better almost any resort, than that a crowd should set itself as the supreme arbiter, and punish the constitutional judges because their conduct was displeasing.

If the crowd have abstract justice on its side in this case, it may be as directly wrong on the next in which it chooses to interfere,—and what prisoner could feel safe,—what judge could be respected,—what jury could be supposed uninfluenced,—what court could have public confidence, if the power were finally to be in a tumultuous assembly, deeply excited by party or other feelings?

Some of the Canada papers had threatened the Jury previous to their discharge, and had made appeals to the public calculated to excite strong feelings. A military force had been provided to preserve the public peace, but before it was brought into operation, the rioters had succeeded in inflicting several injuries on the obnoxious parties. The preventive force, it is said, stopped the riotous proceedings when more serious results might have been expected. Jalbert escaped violent treatment by lying down in the dock, and by the exertions of the assistant jailor. He continues in custody to be brought before another jury, on some other charge.

Nelson's Gazette and other Canadian papers lament the occurrence, and the fact, of the assistance of bayonets being necessary to preserve the peace in an English court of justice. The Colonist says, "Such a resort to mob law augurs badly for the permanency of British institutions in this country." No doubt it does,—for either the mob, or those whom the mob oppose, will negate British institutions, or, what would be a much better state of things, they will be suspended, and a necessary despotism—respectable and just and merciful compared with the self created judges—be made supreme.

All appeals to physical force, under British rule in the present age, is not only highly criminal, and unwise, but is almost sure to have a counteracting effect against the party who put it in practise. Such things might be winked at in days when every institution was comparatively unsettled, when despotic acts were perpetrated in all ranks, with a high hand, and when moral appeals could scarcely be heard, and had little influence; but now circumstances are vastly altered, and the only resort should be to means clearly within the constitution.

Bills of Indictment for high treason have been found against Paineau, O'Callaghan, Brown, Nelson and others, by the Grand Jury of Montreal. If the parties do not appear, after certain publications, and other forms, judgment of attainder will be pronounced against them; the penalty of attainder, as in conviction for high treason, is death and confiscation of property.

A steam vessel of war is to be immediately built at Kingston, U. C., by order of government, for service on Lake Ontario.

The ceiling of St. Paul's church, Montreal, fell, and made a heap of ruins of the furniture of the church. Had the congregation been in, it is said, almost all must have been killed on the spot! (The ceiling of the Assembly chamber, in the Province Building of Nova Scotia, has long threatened a descent to the floor of the house. Members should provide that it does not fall during the session. A slight concussion of the air is said to cause the fall of vast masses of snow in mountainous regions,—a burst of oratory might have a dangerous effect on a rotten ceiling.)

The Wesleyan Centenary produced £2217 10s. in Montreal.

**NEWFOUNDLAND.**—A Regatta took place at St. John's on

Aug. 23. The principal prizes were carried off by the Maid of the Mist and Victoria, Halifax boats.

**NEW BRUNSWICK.**—The extraordinary session of the Legislature has closed. Scarcely any business was transacted except respecting the recent fire at St. John. Bills providing better security &c. against fire, passed.

The House refused to interfere with the Legal proceedings that were in progress against the speculators in Crown Lands, but addressed his Excellency that actual settlers, who are debtors on purchases of 200 acres or under, should not be prosecuted. This class, it appears, the Executive had previously determined not to coerce.

The Hon. Charles Simonds and James T. Hanford, John Ward jun. John Walker, and William Wright, Esquires, have been appointed, it appears, Commissioners under the Act for widening and opening streets in the Burnt District of the City of St. John.

A Bill has passed the Assembly authorising a loan of £20,000 for the purpose of aiding sufferers by the late fire. No one applicant is to be entitled to a greater sum on loan, than £1000, nor any loan to be effected for a larger portion than two thirds of the estimated value of the property; which is to be secured by bond and mortgage. The loan is to be raised by debentures, bearing an interest of six per cent; the whole sum to be repaid into the treasury within seven years.

The new paper, advertised by Mr. Fenerty, called the "Commercial Advertiser," has appeared, and makes a creditable exhibition of industry and talent.

The ship Amy was towed over the St. John Falls, with a load of coals for Whitney's steamers, on the 14th. She is to bring deals in returning.

## BRITISH.

It is asserted that Mr. P. Thompson was to be Chancellor of the Exchequer, in place of Mr. S. Rice, whose resignation is accepted. Other reports state that Mr. Thompson is to be Governor General of Canada.

The wreck of the old 'Royal George' foundered at Portsmouth 57 years ago, is to be blown up. The apparatus consists of two large cylinders, each contains 2600lbs of powder, which, when fired, will be a volcanic battery.

A steamer of large tonnage, was nearly ready for launching at Chatham. She has been built in 8 weeks, as an experiment to ascertain how soon such a vessel could be completed. The number of hands were unlimited.

The expected marriage of the Queen, to a son of the Duke of Saxe Coburg was reported.

The lenity of Government to the convicted Chartists was said to have a very good effect,—and the extreme excitement was expected to be annihilated by a good harvest.

The Great Western beat the British Queen, in the recent race across the Atlantic, by 12 hours.

Parliament was to be prorogued on the 27th August.

## LATEST.

**LATEST NEWS.**—The arrival of the British Queen at New York, has put us in possession of London dates to the 31st of August. The news furnished is of much interest.

The London Gazette announces important ministerial changes. Lord John Russel takes the Colonial Secretaryship, Lord Normanby succeeds him at the Home office. The Rt. Hon. Sir C. P. Thompson is appointed Governor of Lower Canada, and Capt. General of the North American Provinces. Mr. Labouchere succeeds Sir C. P. Thompson as President of the Board of Trade &c. and in Mr. Labouchere's absence Mr. R. L. Shiel is to fill the office. Sir C. Hobhouse retires with a peerage, and is succeeded by Mr. Macanley as head of the India board. Lord Howick has resigned. Spring Rice has been created Baron Montcagle, of Brandon in the county of Kerry. Mr. Baring becomes Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Parliament was prorogued on the 26th.

A great entertainment was given to the Duke of Wellington at Dover on the 20th.

The Eglintoun Tournament received a lamentable damper in a torrent of rain on the first day. It was calculated that 60,000 persons would be present.

Five bills of indictment had been found by the Grand Jury at Liverpool against Fergus O'Connor and other Chartists.

The King and Queen of Belgium were expected at Ramsgate.

The late reigning Duke of Nassau departed this life recently, at the Baths of Kissengen,—his successor is the Duke Adolphus, aged 22.

**EGYPT.**—The propositions made to the Egyptian by the five Great Powers are

1. That the question between Egypt and the Porte so nearly affected the tranquility of Europe, that any private arrangement between Mehemet and the Porte would be considered null and invalid, unless the Five Powers had consented to it. 2. Mehemet Ali is summoned to send back the fleet immediately, and content himself with the hereditary rule of Egypt; until the Powers had definitively decided in Congress what were to be the respective situations of Turkey and Egypt.

To this Mehemet has replied by insisting on the hereditary Sovereignty of Syria, expressing his determination to keep the fleet till it was granted.

It is asserted that late successes of the English in India promise to destroy Russian influence.

Several Greek provinces still under Turkey are anxious to throw off the yoke and join the kingdom of Greece.

## UNITED STATES.

**Boston internal communication, rail roads, &c.**—We condense below, an article showing the lines of rail roads, completed or in progress, from Boston, and other means of travel.

**BRITISH STEAM PACKETS.**—Each of these Vessels will accommodate 130 passengers with state rooms; and carry 200 tons of freight. As the distance is less between Boston and Liverpool than New York and Liverpool, Mr. Cunard proposes to make a proportionate reduction of charges. He is also at present considering the expediency of a further reduction in the rate of passage, making spirits and wines an extra charge.

When the Western Railway shall be opened, next year, this will become the most cheap and expeditious route from all New England, New York, Canada, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Michigan etc. to England. The detention of six hours at Halifax, will be more than counterbalanced by the extra speed by rail-road between New York and Boston. A line drawn upon the map from Baltimore to England, passes nearly through Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Nova Scotia.

**BOSTON RAILROADS AND STEAMERS.**—There are now four Rail Roads running into Boston, from the south, west, north and eastward; and each of these roads connect with other roads diverging to different points.

First, the Providence Rail Road, running from Boston to Providence, a distance of about forty miles, which is passed over, including all stoppages, in less than two hours. Connected with this Road in the Stonington Rail Road, running from Providence to Stonington, Conn. a distance of nearly 50 miles—also another leading to Dedham.

Second—The Worcester Railroad leading to Worcester, a distance of 42 miles.—Connected with this Road, is the Great Western Rail Road, running through the centre of the whole state of Massachusetts, uniting at Albany, N. Y. with the several routes leading to Oswego, Utica, Rochester, Buffalo, and other cities. The Norwich and Worcester Road unites with this road at Worcester.

Third—The Lowell Rail Road, running from Boston to Lowell, about 30 miles. In continuance of this road is the Nashua road, intended to be continued to Concord and thence to the Connecticut river. Connected with this road is the Boston and Portland Road, uniting with the main branch at Wilmington. In continuance of the Boston and Portland road is the Boston and Maine road, running from Haverhill to Dover, N. H. to be continued to Kennebec and Portland.

Fourth—The Eastern Rail road, completed already as far as Salem, 13 miles. This road is to be continued through Ipswich to Newburyport and Portsmouth.

In the addition to these sources of communication, Boston has already several lines of Steam Packets in successful operation. Beside the boats that ply about the harbour, there is a thrice weekly line of boats running to Portsmouth, N. H. and a thrice weekly line of boats also running to Portland—and which is continued, to Thomaston, Belfast Bucksport and Bangor, making the distance from Bangor to Boston in less than 24 hour, also a boat twice a week to Bath, Gardiner, Hallowell and Augusta on the Kennebeck.

Besides these lines there is a line of English Steamers to be commenced early next spring to run from St. John, N.B. touching at Easport, to this city, in addition to the hon. Mr. Cunard's Atlantic steam ships, bringing Liverpool, the commercial emporium of the British Empire, within 12 or 14 days of the Metropolis of New England.

**THE ARMISTAD.**—Much excitement exists in the U. States respecting the crew of this vessel. The facts connected with her are as follows. In June last, Don Jose Ruiz, a Spaniard, proceeded from Principe to Havana to buy slaves. He purchased 49 from a cargo which had arrived, six weeks from the coast of Africa. He chartered the schooner Armistad, shipped the slaves, and a quantity of goods. The vessel sailed on June 28th. On the night of the fourth day after leaving Havana, the slaves rose, and killed the captain and cook,—two others escaped in the boat, and the owner of the cargo and another white man were spared. The Africans steered for their native place,—by the sun, during the day,—the white men pursued an opposite course during the night. Having spent some time in this way, she was boarded and brought into a port in the state of New York. The leader of the Africans is the son of a chief in his native land, he is described as a man of extraordinary energy of body and mind, he obtained complete influence over his crew, and displayed much heroism.—The arrival of this vessel has caused much party spirit. One side declare that the Africans should be treated as Pirates and should be punished accordingly, or be handed over to Spanish authorities. Another assert, that they should be liberated, that the whites were the aggressors, and that the blacks acted justifiably in their endeavour to regain their liberty. There seems but little difficulty in this question,—if nature and law decide that a man may protect his property from robbers, or regain it, by force,—and that he may protect his life at all hazards,—may he not also protect or endeavour to regain, that greatest property, personal liberty,—and save himself from that living death, slavery, in a foreign land? Subtleties, founded on National customs, will be attempted, and the Africans may be treated as Pirates, by Americans who would laud themselves as heroes and patriots for similar actions in similar extremity,—but to those who look on right as right, and wrong as wrong, no man