tions; their conscience is no way concerned in the business. Ecclesiastical law requires them to inter all who are brought to them, with two exceptions; and the meaning of the terms expressing those exceptions is likewise declared. The law fixes a certain meaning on the term—"those that have laid violent hands on themselves" The clergyman may believe that the verdict—*felo de se*—of the Coroner and his Jurors, is a mistaken one, but he would not be at liberty to use the rites of the Church. He is, in the burial of the dead, a public officer, to take the law from the proper authorities, and to act accordingly. Thus, he may believe, privately, that the decision—*non compos mentis*—is wrong. But he may not thus privately interpret this part of the rubric. The law, which requires him to perform a certain service, explains the terms in which both requirement and prohibition are expressed, and whatever his private opinion may be, his conscience is not concerned in the matter which the law thus decides.

Nor did the Wesleyans, in bringing this case into court, either admit that the Ministers were laymen, or that, in their judgment, lay-baptism was either regular or valid. Wesleyan principles concerning the ministry, or baptism, had nothing to do with the question. They believed that the ecclesiastical law, which the Church of England acknowledges, gave an explanation to the term in the rubric different from that which was sought to be given by Mr Escott and *his friends*; and, as they knew that the clergy in these cases were to be governed by the public and legal, and not the private, explanation, they sought for this public and legal explanation from the proper court. And the court, in giving it, has declared what is the law of the Church of England on the subject, and it is by the law of the Church, declared by the proper officers, that the clergy of the Church are to be governed. Be the opinion of the Wesleyans right or wrong, the court had nothing to do with them. The promoters of the suit did not bring them forward.—They said that they believed that Mr Escott was in error, according to the authorities to which his own Church defers, and the judgments of both courts prove that they were not mistaken. Concerning their own opinions on the sacred ministry, and on Christian baptism, we are not called to speak, we will only say, that while the Wesleyans do not hold what they consider to be the unscriptural, the intolerant, the divisive opinions of the party now seeking for supremacy in the Church of England, they will yield to no section of the Christian Church as to their views of the importance of ministerial order, and of regularity and solemnity in the administration of the sacraments. Superstition while at first it seems to strengthen ecclesiastical order by additional strictness, is obliged to admit such relaxations and exceptions, that ultimately order becomes a practical nullity. They who are contented to walk in the light of Scripture, while they avoid that superstitious strictness, which, sooner or later, is always self-destructive, are enabled to maintain a really useful order with uniformity and firmness. They may not soar so high as their opponents, but neither do they sink so low, and they continue longer on the wing."

The Church Society for the Diocese of Toronto have lately opened their Depository, 141, *King Street*. Among the publications which they have on sale, we recognize many which rank as sacred classics in the libraries of enlightened theologians of various shades of creed. The zeal of the Lord Bishop, and of his coadjutors, exhibits an example well worthy the praise and emulation of all who are interested in the promotion of Christian Knowledge. May the seed of the majestic tree of the Anglican Church, planted in Canadian soil, receive blessing from God, and be a blessing to tens of thousands of souls—may it "grow as the lily and cast forth its roots as Lebanon"

Though the *British Conference* must have closed its session a fortnight since, we are to this moment without any official Agenda respecting its proceedings beyond a few matters of preliminary arrangement. The Conference had been in session a week when the steamer of the 4th ult. left Liverpool—the same morning on which the *Watchman*, our usual organ of Wesleyan information, is published in *London*, and with the announcement now before us of the arrival of the Columbia at Halifax, we enjoy the mortification of being obliged to go to press without any additional Methodistic news. Truly these steamers so renowned for despatch, have in this instance worked awkwardly for us. The President that honour, so worthily won by Mr Dixon the past year, has now devolved upon Dr. Hannah, Tutor of the Wesleyan Theological Institution, previously to that the rumour of the intimation to Puseyism was as destitute of truth, as to all acquainted with his mental and spiritual character, it was of verisimilitude. *Bishop Soule*, of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States was, with his travelling companion the Rev Mr Sargent introduced to the Conference, at an early stage of its proceedings, by the venerable and Rev Richard Reece, the oldest effective minister in the Connexion.

By a coincidence which must have been mutually gratifying to the parties, Dr Hannah, to whom, as President, the Bishop was presented, was present at the American General Conference, in 1824, when the Bishop was ordained to the high office, the functions of which he has discharged with distinguished ability and fidelity.

Civil Intelligence

(From the Colonist Extra.)

ARRIVAL OF THE CALEDONIA

The British and North American Royal Mail Steamship *Caledonia*, has arrived at Boston. The *Caledonia* left Liverpool in the evening of the 19th August, arrived at Halifax on the morning of the 31st August, and at Boston on the morning of the 2nd September—making the passage from Liverpool to Boston in thirteen days and a half.

The letter from our London Correspondent contains a summary of the latest news. Besides the Acts mentioned by him, one of the greatest importance to this country—"The Canada Loan Bill"—has been assented to by the Queen, before proroguing Parliament.—The pledge made by Lord Sydenham, in his opening speech to the Legislature of Canada, has thus been redeemed by the Imperial Parliament. The Province has been pecuniarily benefited by this measure, the guarantee of the Home Government has been secured for a loan of £1,500,000, Sterling, to relieve the Colony from her pecuniary difficulties. The British Government and Parliament have thus afforded very gratifying proof of the interest that is felt in the prosperity of Canada, and of their anxiety to assist as far as practicable, to enable the internal improvements that have been considered necessary, to be carried on in a manner in some measure commensurate with the present and prospective greatness of the country. The new "Colonial Duties Act" is another measure of the Session, which will produce a very important change in the trade of the Province. It comes into operation on the 5th July, 1843.

In the Commons, the Newfoundland Bill was read a third time and passed on the 8th ult. Mr O'Connell made an effort to get the clause "abolishing the Legislature of Newfoundland as a distinct Assembly" stricken out, but his motion was negatived by a large vote. The bill passed the Peers on the 11th, and received the royal assent.

On the same day Lord Palmerston asked Sir R Peel whether the news which had lately arrived from India was true. There were conflicting accounts; but one of them stated that the Governor General of India had issued orders for the withdrawal of British troops from the west bank of the Indus.

Sir Robert Peel said he had no objections to make communications upon the subject; but he had every reason to believe that the British troops still occupied Candahar and Jellalabad, and that they were in such a condition as to prevent their being speedily removed.

In the Peers, on the 9th, the East India Slavery Bill was read a third time and passed.

In the Commons, the proposal to erect monuments to the memory of Lord Exmouth, Lord De Saumarez, and Sir Sydney Smith, was agreed to.

On Wednesday, August 10, the Bankruptcy Bill was read a third time and passed.

On the 11th Parliament was prorogued by our Majesty in person. The speech from the throne attributes more importance to the commercial labours of the government than many will be disposed to allow them. They are described as "calculated to maintain the public credit, to improve the national resources, and, by extending trade and stimulating the demand for labour, to promote the general and permanent welfare of all classes of my subjects."

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.—The following is the speech read from the throne in a clear and distinct tone of voice, on the 12th of August, in the House of Lords, on the occasion of proroguing the Parliament of the United Kingdom —

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The state of public business enables me to release you from further attendance in parliament.

I do not take leave of you without expressing my grateful sense of the assiduity and zeal with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties during the whole course of a long and most laborious session.

You have had under your consideration measures of the greatest importance connected with the financial and commercial interests of the country, calculated to maintain the public credit, to improve the national resources, and, by extending trade and stimulating the demand for labour, to promote the general and permanent welfare of all classes of my subjects.

Although measures of this description have necessarily occupied much of your attention, you have at the same time effected great improvements in several branches of jurisprudence, and in laws connected with administration of domestic affairs.

I return you my especial acknowledgments for the renewed proof which you afforded me of your loyalty and affectionate attachment, by your ready unanimous concurrence in an act for the increased security and protection of my person.

I continue to receive from all foreign powers assurance of their friendly disposition towards this country.

Although I have deeply to lament the reverses which have befallen a division of the army to the westward of the Indus, yet I have the satisfaction of reflecting that the gallant defence of the city of Jella abad crowned by a decisive victory in the field, has eminently proved the courage and discipline of the European and native troops, and the skill and fortitude of their distinguished commander.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons.

The liberality with which you have granted the supplies, to meet the exigencies of the public service, demands my warm acknowledgments.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

You will concur with me in the expression of humble gratitude to Almighty God for the favourable season which He has been pleased to grant us, and for the prospect of a harvest more abundant than in many recent years.

There are, I trust, indications of gradual recovery from that depression which has affected many branches of industry, and is exposed large classes of my people to great privations and sufferings which have caused me the deepest concern.

You will, I am confident, be actuated on your return to your several counties by the same enlightened zeal for the public interests which you have manifested during the discharge of your parliamentary duties, and will use your utmost to encourage by your example and active exertions, that spirit of order and submission to the law, which is essential to the public happiness, and without which the best efforts of the Legislature will be unavailing for the establishment of embodied industry, and an effectual check to the career of social improvement.

After the speech was delivered, her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, entered her carriage amid the acclamations of the surrounding multitude, and returned to Buckingham palace.

EXCHEQUER BILL PEERS.—The report of the commissioners appointed to investigate the late frauds has been presented to Parliament, and ought to satisfy all reasonable people that justice has been impartially administered by the commissioners. They distinguish the holders under the [illegible] those of "*innocent holders*," "*negligent holders*," and "*fraudulent holders*," [illegible] ter they consider have no claim [illegible] sation, but they recommend the [illegible] and the negligent holders to Parliament as having a fair claim for reimbursement of their advances. A recent Gazette announces that the Queen having appointed Lord [illegible] teagle to the office of Comptroller [illegible] of the Exchequer, and three of the [illegible] Commissioners of the Treasury having been appointed Arthur Elton, Esquire, to the office of Assistant Comptroller, each of them have full authority to sign Exchequer Bills in their own names respectively.

The select committee appointed [illegible] India affairs have issued their report. They attribute in a great measure the [illegible] state of affairs in the colonies to the [illegible] want of labour consequent upon [illegible] tion, the indisposition of the natives to labour for any continuous period, the [illegible] cheapness and abundance of land [illegible] commend an extensive immigration, [illegible] wholesome regulations, and the [illegible] the laws relating to master and [illegible] the several colonies.

The unfortunate and fatal Niger [illegible] tion is to be persevered in by the African Civilization Society, without [illegible] further help or countenance from Government.

The remains of the late Duke of [illegible] were interred on Thursday last, at the [illegible] Royal, at Dreux: the funeral ceremony having been previously conducted with great pomp at the Church of Notre Dame, at Paris.

The *Dublin Morning Register* states, that the Pope has sent a splendid gold chain and medal to Mr. O'Connell.

The subject of the late Duke of [illegible] debts again came before the Rolls Court on Saturday.

A subscription has been opened in that field limited to one guinea each, for a [illegible] his bust of the poet Montgomery [illegible] placed in the Cutler's Hall.

The civilians of India are about [illegible] ing Sir Robert Sale with a sword, [illegible] 500 guineas, with the word "Jellalabad" engraved on it.

An awful fire took place again last [illegible] in the ill-fated town of Cruden, [illegible] thirty-five houses were completely [illegible] and the amount of damage was [illegible] erable. The principal portion of [illegible] was insured.

The members of the Anti-Corn Law Conference had their last "talk" [illegible] day and after agreeing to an address [illegible] be circulated throughout the United King[illegible] dom the Conference was declared dissolved.

DIED.

In Kingston, on the 20th ult., John Wal[illegible] ex-Editor of the New John Bull, Weekly Register, and Church, aged 57 years.

ADDRESS TO A CURRENT [illegible]

[illegible]