PROVINCIAL.

[*From the Miramichi Gleaner, March 30.*]

PUBLIC MEETINGS—FIRST MEETING.

At a Public Meeting of the Magistrates, Merchants and other inhabitants of the County of Northumberland, called by the High Sheriff of the County, upon a requisition signed by a number of respectable inhabitants, and held at the Court House, Newcastle, on Saturday the 27th March, 1841.

J. M. Johnson, High Sheriff of the County, in the Chair—

[Some Resolutions were passed approving of the Administration of Sir John Harvey; and an Address was prepared and agreed on, to the same effect, to be presented to His Excellency.]

The following is a copy of the Requisition to the Sheriff, and his notice calling the meeting.

Miramichi, 24th March, 1841.

Sir,—We request you to call a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants of the County, to the Court House, Newcastle, on Saturday the 27th inst. at three o'clock, p. m. to adopt such measures as may be deemed most advisable to convey to His Excellency Sir John Harvey, the deep regret felt by the Inhabitants of this County at his retirement from the administration of the Government of this Province.

We are, Sir, your obedient Servants,
[*Signed by eleven Persons.*]

To John M. Johnston, Esquire, High Sheriff of the County of Northumberland.

In pursuance of the above Requisition, I hereby give Notice that a meeting of the Inhabitants of this County will be held at the Court House, Newcastle, on Saturday, the 27th inst., at Three o'clock, P. M., for the purpose above mentioned.

JOHN M. JOHNSTON, Sheriff.
Sheriff's Office, 22d March, 1841.

SECOND MEETING.

At a Meeting of upwards of Forty of the inhabitants of this County, held at the Court House, Newcastle, on Saturday the 27th inst. at 4 o'clock, and assembled in consequence of a notice from the High Sheriff, calling a Public Meeting at 3, and at which they were prevented from attending in consequence of the hasty manner in which the former meeting was dismissed, and of expressing their opinion on the subject-matter of said meeting. Mr. Michael Samuel, was called to the Chair.

Moved by P. Williston, Esq. and seconded by Mr S. J. Frost—

Whereas, the Meeting called for this day, at three o'clock, commenced at 7 minutes past three, and was adjourned without allowing the inhabitants of the County an opportunity of giving a voice in the Resolutions there passed; and whereas a number of respectable and influential individuals, who were on their way to the meeting, were delayed in consequence of the state of the travelling until twenty-five minutes past three, previous to which time it was adjourned—

Therefore *Resolved unanimously*, That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the conduct of the High Sheriff of this County, in so abruptly dismissing the previous meeting, at which not more than *twenty* individuals were present, was highly improper, and unjustifiable, and such as merit our indignation, and was thus hastily dismissed to prevent the free expression of public opinion.

Moved by W. Carman, Junr. Esq., and seconded by W. Letson, Esq.:

Resolved, *unanimously*, That this meeting are of opinion that Sir John Harvey, has done no act to entitle him to an Address from this section of the Province; and that it does in the most unqualified terms condemn the recent grant of the House of Assembly, of £1500 Sterling, out of the Revenues of the Province, and are of opinion it cannot be justified on any constitutional grounds.

Moved by Wm. Murray, and seconded by Mr. John Petrie:

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Meeting be published in the Gleaner.

RICHARD SAMUEL, Chairman.

The Chairman having left the Chair, and John T. Williston, Esq. being called thereto, it was moved by W. Salter, Esq., and seconded by Mr. Wm. Ledden:

That the thanks of the Meeting be given to Mr. Samuel, for his able and impartial conduct in the Chair.

P. Williston, Esq. in proposing the first Resolution, said:—

Mr. Chairman,—I beg to offer for the adoption of this meeting a Resolution. I came here to attend a Public Meeting, called by the high Sheriff, for the purpose of getting up an Address to his Excellency Sir John Harvey, on his recal from the administration of this Province; but strange to say, that that meeting was adjourned before persons from a distance could have an opportunity of attending. The Sheriff well knew that persons from Chatham would be present, and he had every reason to suppose I would be here, and it was impossible for him to know whether I was favourable o an address or not, but Sir, the manner in which he has acted in this tran-action, is most shameful and most disgraceful. When we consider the immense power vested in the Sheriff, is there not reason to apprehend, if he would in this instance so far forget himself as to act as he has done, that our lives, our property or our liberties wou'd be safe; for a man who would lend himself, as the Sheriff has done this day, would, to please a favourite, pack a Jury or perpetrate any crime to gratify his party feelings.

The Sheriff well knew that the inhabitants of this county were opposed to the proposed address, and that unless he could, by some manœuvre get it carried it would not pass at all.

Mr. Samuel, before he put the second resolution, said—

I do not dabble much in politics, but from all I have seen and heard, I was of opinion that Sir John Harvey was not entitled to an Address from this county, but as there was a public meeting of his friends called, I made up my mind to attend, hoping something might be elicited there, to make me alter my opinion, as I was not biased in any manner; I am sorry that what has happened prevented me from attending; and what I have heard, tends only to strengthen my previous opinion.

W. Carman, Esq., on the moving the second Resolution, spoke in substance, nearly as follows:—

Mr. Chairman,—I came here, Sir, for the purpose of attending a meeting of the inhabitants of this County, called by the High Sheriff. On my arrival here a few minutes past three, I found the meeting was closed. This Sir, is the first time within my recollection of a public meeting despatching the business, and closing doors in twenty minutes. As there are now present nearly three times the number that were at the former meeting, and I consider this as much a public meeting as that, we must not allow the proceedings of that meeting to go to the world as the sentiments of the inhabitants of this county.

A trick of this kind must not be allowed to succeed—(cheers.) I will call your attention to the extraordinary requisition on which their meeting was called: In the first place it bears date the 24th instant, and requesting the Sheriff to call a public meeting of the inhabitants this day at three o'clock: to adopt such measures as may be deemed most advisable to convey to his Excellency Sir John Harvey the deep regret felt by the inhabitants of this county at his retirement from the administration of the Government of this Province; this, after having been handed about for two days, is signed by only eleven persons; and I am credibly informed that not more than fifteen attended the meeting, nothwithstanding the language of the Resolution of the Assembly was adopted in the Requisition, and the word "retirement" inserted instead of recall. More might have attended this or the former meeting had they not supposed that those only who felt 'deep regret" were expected to attend. When I read this, Sir, and when I view the proceedings of this day, I feel myself justified in saying it has been a trick, and I regret the Sheriff should so far forget the high and responsible situation he holds, as to have allowed himself to be a party to it. (Cheers.)

When I was called upon on Wednesday by the High Sheriff and others upon the subject of an address to Sir John Harvey, I frankly stated that I should not join in an address, and advised that a meeting should not be called as the address could not be unanimous, and that feeling would be excited. I was in hopes, Sir, that my suggestion would have been followed, and that those who wished for an address would have prepared one, and circulated it for signature. Had this been done, political contention might have slumbered, and we been permitted to enjoy our opinions in silence, until a fitting time should have arrived for expressing them; but, Sir, this has been denied us. There are some who delight in dabbling in troubled water, and will not allow us a little repose. (Applause.)

From facts within my own knowledge, I feel satisfied that the meeting was called at the suggestion, and by the wish of the Members of the House of Assembly, to countenance them in their unjustifiable expenditure of the Public Money; and having been recently placed in a proud situation by a large and respectable portion of the constituency of this County, I felt myself imperatively called upon to attend this meeting, and express my sentiments, openly, manly and candidly.—(Applause.) It was my intention to have moved a Resolution to the effect, that it was matter of regret that a meeting should have been called for the purpose of passing an Address to Sir John Harvey, as those opposed to his administration were desirous that he might be allowed to retire from the Province, on his recall, without being compelled to do any act that might in the least degree wound his feelings. That having been recalled, any act approving of his administration, they conceive, would be a censure on her Majesty's Government, and sanctioning the recent vote of the House of Assembly. This, Sir, would have been carried, and I should have been spared the unpleasantness I now feel in supporting the Resolution before the meeting. Look, Sir, at the Resolution of the House of Assembly, (moved by the hon. member for Fredericton, Mr. Wilmot,) in that the representatives of the people say, that 'His Excellency's administration of this Government has been characterized by a sound and liberal policy, and has given universal satisfaction to the constituency of this Province.' That his policy has been liberal, *too liberal*, indeed, I do not mean to deny; but that it has been sound, and given universal satisfaction, I do most positively. After eulogizing his conduct in 1838—9, relatively to the Boundary Question, which they would have us believe is the main cause of voting him the Address, they resolve that such a sum as will purchase a Bill of Exchange for £1500 sterling, be voted for the purpose of purchasing a Service of Plate, to be presented by the Legislature 'in token of the high estimation in which his administration is held by all classes of her Majesty's subjects in this Province.' This vote, Sir, I conceive cannot, in the language of the resolution, be justified on any constitutional grounds. I was in hopes, Sir, that Sir John, knowing the Province was in debt—knowing that it came out of the hard earnings of the people, would have had magnanimity enough to refuse it, but alas, vain hope—he has received it. Is it for such purposes that taxes are laid on the common necessaries of life? Is it for such purposes that the raw material and staple article of the country is heavily taxed? Is it for such purposes that the poor emigrant is compelled to deny himself of all that is not only comfortable but necessary, to fill the coffers of the casual revenue, before he can obtain a piece of wilderness land? But, Sir, it comports well with the former acts and grants of the House.

Let us go back to 1833, at which time a meeting was held in this building, to Petition for the redress of what, at that time, were considered grievances; two of the most prominent were the high duty on timber, and the price of wilderness land. Two gentlemen, of high standing and influence, Mr. Street and Mr. Gilmour, were sent as a deputation to the House of Assembly, and were examined before the Committee of Grievances, appointed in consequence of our and similar petitions. That Committee made their report, from which it appeared that the most conspicuous grievance complained of was the mismanagement of the Crown Land Office, and the enormous sum expended in the collection of the Casual Revenue. A deputation was sent to England, at a very heavy expense, and this revenue was subsequently yielded upon the understanding that 14,000£ sterling would be permanently granted to defray the Civil List.

Let us pause for a moment to enquire how the matter now stands. Is not the duty on Timber the same now as it was then? Are we better off as to the disposal or price of land? Is the revenue better managed now than at that time? For three years before the arrival of Sir John Harvey, the casual revenue amounted to £126,000; for the last three years it amounts to no more than £60,000 making a decrease in three years of £57,000 notwithstanding the mismanagement and expense of the Crown Land Office, then under the management of the much abused Mr. Baillie. He, notwithstanding, had been enabled to amass a surplus revenue of £120,000. The whole of this sum was yielded to the disposal of the House of Assembly on Sir John Harvey's assuming the government, and the whole of which is expended, and the province at this moment in debt. A very natural question will arise—how is this? The only answer I can give is—that it has been squandered: and when we turn to the Journals of the Assembly and compare the expenditure of 1836 with that of 1840, we are justified in making the assertion. In 1836 the expense of the Legislature was £5,574, in 1840, £12,371.

There was expended on Public Buildings in 1836 £3,931; and in 1840 £8610; the law expenses in the former year were £525, and in the latter £2,225. In 1836 they gave £1,308 for charitable purposes, and in 1840 £3,422; and now, Sir, I come to the most monstrous expenditure of the whole—it is the sum expended every year on that old extravagant jade *Mis*-cellany. (Laughter.) She appears to be an especial favourite with the House, which expends large sums on her paraphernalia; but like most old maids the older she grows the more extravagant she becomes. In 1836 they voted her £4,316, and last year the enormous sum of £16,426; one sixth of the whole of the casual, territorial, and ordinary revenue of the Province. The total expenditure of 1840 exceeded that of 1836 by £86,000, and the whole revenue of the Province by £44,000. This will explain why we are in debt. (Applause.) But where this money has gone to, none but those versed in the *science* of *Legislation* can tell. The House at their last session voted Sir John Harvey £500 per annum, from the time of his assuming the reigns of government, in addition to the £3000 sterling, fixed by themselves in their bargain with Lord Glenelg. With this grant I should not have complained, had they voted it to the Governor of the Province and his successors, as I was always of opinion that the Governor's salary was too small. He should have sufficient to make him independent of the monied influence. (Applause.) At this session, several days were occupied in debating whether additional taxes should be levied on the necessaries of life, or create a debt—the latter I presume they have determined upon, as I do not find they have made any provisions for the decrease of revenue that must arise this year on Spirits. Notwithstanding this, and disregarding the depressed state of the Timber Trade in the Mother Country, and the prospect of an equalization of the Timber Duties, they have given away £1,500 of the people's money, (one fifth of this is raised in this County) without their sanction or knowledge, and which they would have opposed if an opportunity had been afforded them. Is there one at this meeting that will say he approves of it? I pause for a reply.—(Cries of no, no, not one.) This, Sir, is Responsible Government—this is the "*new and improved Constitution*"—this is the fruits of the harmonious working, of which we have heard so much. I have yet to learn what Sir John has done to entitle him to an Address from this side of the Province. There is one act of his of which I will speak before I sit down, that appears to be dwelt upon by his admirers, and that is the Geological Survey of the Province—I do not allude to it for the purpose of depriving him of any credit that he may be entitled to, but merely to show how little he regards our interests. In 1837, during Sir Archibald Campbell's administration, the Inhabitants of this County petitioned the Legislature for a grant to enable His Excellency to cause that survey. The prayer of that petition was not complied with, and such a survey was deemed unnecessary. In the Session of 1838, Sir John recommended it to the House by Message, and they immediately granted a sum for that purpose. For this I give him credit—but as the idea first originated here, surely we were entitled to some consideration; but although a Geologist has been employed and paid by the Province for the last three years, he has not been sent to this side of the Province, although extensive mines have been opened and worked in the adjoining County, by a company of capitalists in the mother country, and the prevailing opinion is, that this country abounds in mineral wealth. There are other reasons I could mention, why I think Sir John is not entitled to an Address but I will not descend to local matters. My own opinion is, that as he has been recalled, any expression approving of his administration, might be construed as a censure on Her Majesty's Government, and would be sanctioning the grant of the House of Assembly.

The learned Gentleman, then sat down amidst great applause.

J. T. Williston, Esq. spoke in favour of the 2nd Resolution, as far as we were able to collect his remarks, as follows:—

Mr. Chairman.—I would not have said one word on the present occasion were it not to record my disapprobation of the recent vote of the Assembly of £1,500 sterling to purchase a Service of Plate for His Excellency Sir John Harvey, to be presented to him as a mark of esteem and regard. There is no doubt on my mind, that the chief object of the friends of Sir John in the Assembly in wishing an address is to ascertain in this way, how this grant of the people's money for such a purpose may be received by the inhabitants generally. I therefore think it is the duty of every man, who disproves of this measure, to testify his disapprobation of it in this public manner, by going with the resolution now before the meeting. I am sorry indeed, that the friends of Sir John, should have drawn him before the public in this manner, with the great majority of the people against him. For my own part I would much rather that he should have been allowed to retire quietly, as I disapprove of any mark of public disapprobation to the Representative of our gracious Queen; but there are cases when silence and forbearance ceases to be virtues. When I know that His Excellency assumed the government of this Province with an overflowing treasury of One Hundred and Twenty Thousand pounds and upwards, about three and a half years since, and that it appears on the 1st January last that the Province was in debt 48,000£. I cannot join in any mark of approbation to his Excellency. This subject has been so fully explained by my friend Mr. Carman, that I consider it unnecessary to go into particulars; suffice to say, that the expenses of the Legislature amounted to 12,000£ and upwards, and that the Contingent Bill was unusually high.

His Excellency is the Chief Magistrate, and was bound to have enjoined strict economy, but instead of that it is well known that large sums have been expended upon himself. This is the result of a too harmonious combining of the various branches of the Legislature.

Sir, this extraordinary grant of £1,500 is made at a time when the Province is labouring under embarrassments, so much so that the poor old soldiers, their widows, and schoolmasters are without their allowances for the last year, and in many cases their families are in the greatest distress; and at a time too, when the house was considering the propriety of either incurring a Provincial Debt, or to levy additional taxes on the necessaries of life. During this debate, his honor Mr. Simonds said, that if the House continued in the same way, that in three years the Province would be £100,000 in debt, and this from the lavish expenditure of the people's money by the Legislature; and, Sir, when this unexampled grant was about to be proposed, the house was endeavouring to levy a tax on the staff of life, which was lost by a majority of one. Can it be believed—is it possible, that the Legislature would put their hands into the public treasury, to give his excellency such a present when they had said it was necessary to tax bread and tea, to carry on the ordinary affairs of the province (Cheers.)

When the House addressed His Excellency, informing him of the grant, was his answer such a one as was given by His Excellency Sir James Kempt, to the Legislature of Novascotia, when they informed him they had voted him a sword, in token of their esteem and regard; no Sir, the latter declined receiving it, and said—If the purchase comes out of your own private pockets, I shall feel proud to receive it, but if it is to be purchased with the money of the people I cannot consent to take it. (Applause.)

Now Sir, as regards the recal: of His Excellency by the Home Government, it is a matter with which we have nothing to do, and any expressions on our part would be interfering with the parent government, which it becomes us, as loyal subjects not to interfere with. (Applause.) I wish His Excellency well; I have no doubt that he would make a very good citizen, but I must say, he has not made a good or economical governor. I speak on public and general grounds, alluding in no way to individual injustice that he has done

With regard to the meeting which was held here a few minutes ago, it certainly was a very extraordinary one. It has been usual on such occasions to give some little time for persons to come from a distance, and particularly at a time like this, when the traveling is bad. That the chair should be taken at 7 minutes after the time appointed to meet, that the whole business should be done in the short space of 15 minutes, and the meeting closed with only 15 or 20 persons present, certainly requires some explanation. Could there have any previous arrangement? Is this way to pay a compliment to a Governor? I shall say no more on this subject but leave every person to form his own conclusion.

BRITISH NEWS.

Important to Sea Captains.—A case of considerable importance to sea captains was brought before the notice of the lord mayor of London, on Saturday. A druggist had been employed to supply medicines for a ship on her voyage to the coast of Africa; but the drugs were so much adulterated as to be utterly worthless. The captain of the ship said, all his crew died on the voyage; they were so obstinate they would take no other medicine but salts; but if they had been so inclined, there were no medicines in the chest fit for them. The druggist had been summoned to attend, but he did not appear to answer the charge. His name was not mentioned.

The South Australian journals, received to the 28th September, contain startling accounts of the outrages the native *wreckers* of the country, and the summary vengeance taken upon them by the Government. The Maria, a brigantine, sailed from Adelaide for Hobart Town in the 16th June last.

A few days after the sailing of the Maria, intelligence reached Adelaide that a vessel had been wrecked a few miles to the southward of the southernmost point of South Australia; and it was feared that the survivors of the wreck, having reached the shore, had been barbarously murdered by the natives. Governor Gawler immediately despatched Mr. Pullen, the Marine-Surveyor, to investigate the facts. Mr. Pullen's party consisted of Dr. Denny, surgeon to the whaling establishment in Encounter Bay, five sailors, and three natives, named Rob, Charley, and Peter. They proceeded in a whale-boat to that part of the coast where the party was supposed to have been murdered, near the wreck of another vessel the Fanny, and landed on the 30th July; leaving three men with the boat. Mr. Pullen divided his shore-party into three divisions, and walked along the coast. We quote his report to the Governor—

"We had not proceeded far when the middle party hailed; and on reaching where they were, the sight I witnessed was truly horrible. There were legs, arms, and parts of bodies partially covered with sand, strewed in all directions; and in one place was a body with the flesh completely off the bones, with the exception of the feet and ankles.—The feelings of the party looking on were apparently the same; horror sat on every countenance. Sad and sorrowful as was the task, we determined on burying them in something like decency. The boat was stopped, a spade procured, when, after digging a large and deep grave, we disinterred the whole. Out of one hole we took four bodies,—two males, one a large and powerful-limbed man with gray hair, one woman, apparently young, and a female child of about ten years old. The skeleton was a female; two male children, one about fifteen the other ten, one with red hair the other dark-brown, in separate holes; and at a little distance, completely alone, a female infant, very light hair, and, I should think, not more than two years old. Both the women were married; one of the men handed me their wedding-rings. All tracks were completely obliterated, with the exception of a few native foot-prints, and those very faint, and no signs whatever for tracing whence they came.'

On further search, recent foot-marks were perceptible on the beach; where they found a blue-cloth cap, and, at intervals, several spars and planks "stuck on end, apparently intended as marks"; and at last a whale-boat was found with a mast stepped, and near her four oars. In this boat, most probably the survivors of the wreck reached the land.

Major O'Halloran, the Commissioner of Police, was afterwards sent by the Governor with an armed party to discover the murderers, and with power to execute as many as three if the evidence of their guilt was conclusive. The Major and his party succeeded in capturing many prisoners, of whose guilt little doubt could be entertained, as articles of clothing belonging to the deceased and stained with blood were found in their huts. Two of the most ferocious of these natives were taken to the spot where the murder was committed, and there hanged in the presence of the other prisoners. This summary proceeding had caused great excitement at Adelaide, and some of the inhabitants were sending a petition to England for the recall of the Governor. Governor Gawler had laid a minute before the Council, justifying his conduct in directing the summary punishment of the murderers.

Trade of Paris with America.—A statement is given in the Commerce to show—we suppose, the comparative importance of the trade of Paris with the United States of America over that with Great Britain, from which it appears that the export of goods to the former during the month of January had been of the value of £101,500 sterling, and with the latter the value of £16,500 only.

The Courier has the following notification as to a recent appointment at the Palace:

"It was at one time expected that the appointment Superintendant of the Royal Nursery would have been conferred upon the Baroness Lehzen, who at present holds no recognized situation in the Household of the Sovereign; but whatever the intentions of her Majesty in this respect might have been, they have, it is said, been abandoned at the instigation of the King of the Belgians. Her Majesty, in deference to the judgment of others, consequently gave up all idea of conferring the appointment upon the Baroness. The lady who has since been selected to fill the office is a highly respectable widow named Southey, the sister-in-law of the celebrated Dr. Southey, residing at Canterbury. Her husband was the late Captain Southey, in the Royal Navy. Prince Albert's treasurer and private secretary, Mr. G. E. Anson, proceeded to Canterbury a few days since, for the purpose of making the necessary arrangements with Mrs. Southey; and it is believed that the whole have been satisfactorily completed, and that the duties of Mrs. Southey will commence forthwith. The amount of salary is stated to be £300 per annum."

It will be remembered that the font used at the christening of the Princess Royal was made expressly for the occasion, by the especial command of her Majesty. It is believed to have cost nearly £1,000. The font which was used at the several christenings of the sons and daughters of George the Third and Queen Charlottee is still preserved amongst the plate belonging to the Crown; but her Majesty, desiring to have a font to be used exclusively for the christening of her own children, declined (upon the existence, of this beautiful piece of plate being notified to the Queen by the Duke of Sussex) to use it upon the occasion.—*Herald.*

POPULATION AND MILITARY FORCE OF THE DIFFERENT POWERS IN 1841.

The following statistical return made by Chevalier Cesar Moreau, from official documents, was read at the Royal Statistical Society of Paris, at their meeting of the 2d January, showing the population and military force of the different powers in 1841:—

Germany.—The German Confederation was established at the peace of 1814, with the consent of France, England, and the Holy Alliance. It is composed of the empire of Austria, the kingdoms of Prussia, Bavaria, Bohemia, Hungary, Hanover and Wurtemberg; of the grand duchies of Saxony, Baden, electorate of Hesse, and other principalities; the republics of Lubeck, Frankfort, Bremen, and Hamburg. This may be considered the grand military confederation of the north of Europe, which extends its power over the Lombardo-Venetian states, and the whole of Italy under the yoke of Austria. It is the alliance of these states which is the great check to the ambitious views and despotism of Russia.

The empire of Austria may be considered the most important. It is composed of thirteen states, viz., the archduchy of Austria, Styria, Illyria, Tyrol, Bohemia, Moravia and Silensia, Gallicia, Hungary, Croatia, Sclavonia, Transylvania, and Lombardo-Veneian. It comprises 900 towns, 2,137 burges, and 75,596 villages. Its population is 23 millions and a half of inhabitants; army, 280,500 men; and a well constructed navy. Its climate is temperate, and produces grain, fruit, and cattle in abundance.

Bavaria.—Population, 4,500,000 inhabitants: army, 35,800.

Denmark.—Population, 2,000,000 inhabitants; army, 40,000 men; and a large commercial navy.

Belgium.—Population, 3,600,000 inhabitants; army, 47,000 men; no navy; country fertile in grain.

Holland.—Population, 2,600,000 inhabitants; army, 26,000 men; a large commercial navy; soil fertile.

Norway.—Population, 1,080,000 inhabitants; army, 12,000 men; several excellent ships of war.

Sweden.—Population, 3,866,000 inhabitants; army, 45,500 men; several excellent ships of war.

Saxony.—Population, 1,500,000 inhabitants; army, 15,000 men; country fertile.

Switzerland.—Population, 1,900,000 inhabitants; army, 85,000 men; country fertile.

Wurtemburg.—Population, 1,580,000 inhabitants; army, 14,000 men.

The kingdom of Prussia is the second military power included in the Germanic confederation, and keeps the equilibrium between Austria and Russia. Population 12,500,000 inhabitants; army, 209,000 men; a large commercial navy; soil fertile.

Russia.—This great military empire, situated in Europe and Asia, comprises the ninth part of the terrestrial globe, and the 28th part of the whole globe. Its military colonies on the banks of the Liemen Dnieper, Boy, Borys, Ingoul, Novomirgorod, and the South, (which she gained by pillage and murder), alone amount to upwards of 100,000 men, on a similar plan to the military colonies of Austria. This description of military agricultural force is annually increasing, and threatens sooner or later to invade Circassia, and Turkey, which will eventually form a province of this ever-growing empire, should not the determination and wisdom of the British cabinet, united with that of France, put a stop to the ambition of the autocrat. Although so extensive, Russia is far from being so populated in comparison with France, England, and other parts of Europe, where liberty and industry are joined together for the benefit of mankind. Its fettered peasantry or lordes are scattered in small towns of desert villages. Its army and savage bands of Cossacks, Calmuks, baskirs or irregular cavalry, are disseminated all over the empire from north to south, each forming a sort of military *autocracy* of themselves, or an independent force of nobles and slaves, over which the Czar himself has alone the power of life and death, but notwithstanding he is entirely under their will or influence. This numerical strength in case of a sudden war, could not be concentrated in any particular point but with the greatest difficulty, as the strongest antipathies exist between these barbarous hordes, and those of an opposite part of the empire differ in language and religion. In Austria, Prussia, and other powers forming the Germanic Confederation, the law of *conscription*, similar to that of France (excepting nobles), is adopted for the recruiting of the army: but in Russia every peasant or serf is considered the property of the nobles, and can be called upon to serve as a soldier whenever the emperor may think proper to command him. This despotic power is too often abused by the generals-in-chief, who show more partiality towards one province or government than another; from whence arises the state of hatred and revolt, which exist among many of the corps, and this is only kept down by the *knout* or violent flogging, and other severe corporal punishments, at the mercy of their officers, all of whom are nobles. Population, 56,800,000 inhabitants; army 800,000 men (regular troops): large navy. Parts of the country fertile in grain, wood, tar, resin, hemp, &c.

France, next to Russia, may be considered the strongest military power on the continent of Europe, its army well organised, as well as its national guards. Since the glorious revolution of 1830, many great improvements have taken place in its composition, and the conquest of Algiers and Constantine has again raised that military spirit of glory which distinguished her armies under Napoleon le Grand whose immortal remains now repose within the sanctuary of the Invalides. As yet France has not established military colonies similar to her allies of Russia and Austria, as a reward to her bravest veterans; but the subject is under the special consideration of his Majesty Louis Phillipe, and his Excellency Marshal Soult, the minister of war, according to the plan proposed by Marshal Vallee, who has made Northern Africa, once the retreat of pirates and savage Arabs, become civilized by France and her deserving warriors. The army in France is raised by the law of conscription, which obliges each canton to furnish annually the contingent of young men of the age of one-and-twenty, required by the government, which number is balloted for by the rich proprietor's son, as well as that of the humble peasant; and, once exempted, they are not called upon to draw again. The length of service is for seven years, at the expiration of which they can either continue in the army, or demand their discharge to retire home to the bosom of their family. The officers rise gradually from the ranks according to their bravery and merit, or are named by the king from the Ecole Polytechnique of Paris, and the Military school of Saumer. No commissions are purchased, and all corporal punishment is prohibited by the military code. Population, 34,150,000 inhabitants; army, 480,000 men, exclusive of National Guards; 380 ships of war, and 45,000 sailors or marines. France is divided into 86 departments, 363 arrondissements, 2,834 cantons, and 37,234 communes. One of the richest and most fertile countries in Europe, producing grain, fruit, cattle, &c. in abundance.

Great Britain.—Although it may be classed among the military nations of the north, it must be considered more a maritime power than a military one, and one of the most commercial, fertile, and industrious nations in the world; through its particular geographical position as an island, which gives it the command of the seas. Its possessions in the different parts of the globe present a population of 143,185,000 inhabitants, and an army of 305,500 men including the troops belonging to the East India Company and other colonies. The British army, as well as the navy, is raised by voluntary enlistment. The commissions in the army are purchased by the *elite* of the aristocracy, few men ever rising from the ranks, however brave. In the navy, royal marines, and artillery, the officers rise from the rank of midshipmen (*aspirant de vaisseau*) and cadets. Population, 23,400,000 inhabitants, viz. 7,500,000 inhabitants Ireland; and Scotland, 2,300,000 inhabitants. Standing army, 125,000 men; navy, 20,000 men; marines, 10,000; ships of war, 545 of various rates.

Spain.—Population, 13,000,000 inhabitants; army, 80,000 men; navy, none; very fertile.

Portugal.—Population, 8,850,000 inhabitants; army, 30,000 men; navy very small; very fertile.

Sardina.—Population, 4,400,000 inhabitants; army, 48,000 men; navy small; very fertile.

Sicily.—Population, 7,480,000 inhabitants; army, 55,000 men; navy very small; very fertile.

Greece.—Population, 750,000 inhabitants; army, 6,500 men; rich in fruit, silks, &c.

Turkey.—Population, 20,000,000 inhabitants; army, 100,000 men; rich in fruit, and silks, &c.

Persia.—Population, 9,500,000 inhabitants; army, 95,000 men; rich in fruit, silks, &c.

Morocco.—Population, 6,100,000 inhabitants; army, 25,000 men.

America (South).—Population, 39,000,000:—viz. 14,600,000 whites, 10,000,000 Indians, 7,400,000 blacks, and 7,000,000 other castes.

United States.—Population, 11,900,000 inhabitants; army, 7,000 men; a large commercial navy.

Brazils.—Population, 5,000,000 inhabitants; army, 30,000 men; fertile in grain, fruit, gold, and precious stones.

Mexico.—Population, 7,500,000 inhabitants; army, 25,000 men; fertile in grain, fruit, gold, and precious stones.

Peru.—Population, 1,700,000 inhabitants; army, 10,000 men.

Hayti.—Population, 880,000 inhabitants; army, 45,000 men.

India.—Population, 139,000,000 inhabitants; army, 230,000 men.

China.—Population, 175,000,000 inhabitants; army, 920,000 men.

Japan.—Population, 25,000,000 inhabitants; army, 120,000 men.

Siam.—Population, 3,600,000 inhabitants; army, 30,000 men.

Oceania, in the maritime world, consisting of New Zealand, and all the other islands, forming the fifth part of the globe; population, 20,500,000 inhabitants.

Latest from England.

Halifax, March 31.—The British Queen steamer, from Southampton, bound to New York put into this Port yesterday afternoon for a supply of Coal, and to repair damages sustained on the voyage—having experienced very boisterous weather. She brought London papers to the 10th inst. with which we have been obligingly favoured, but, with the exception of news from China, a short outline of which we give below, they contain nothing of much moment.

The British Queen will start this Evening, she has 64 passengers.—*Royal Gazette.*

London, March 10.—By an extraordinary Express from Marseilles, we have received intelligence from China and India—from China the accounts are to Nov. 24, and Macao to Dec. 18, and Bombay to Feb. 1.

The great object of interest is the state of the British relations with the Chinese Government.—The negociations appear to have produced nothing, for the Chinese seem desirous of shuffling and delay. A truce was concluded on the 6th Nov. with the Chinese, binding them within certain limits—the British boundaries being Chusan and the small Islands adjacent. Admiral Elliot had resigned the command in consequence of ill health, and had sailed for England in the Volage. The command devolved on Sir J. J. G. Bremer.

Sir S. F. Whittingham, the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army, had died of Apoplexy.

A notice was issued yesterday from the Chamberlain's office, of the Court's going into mourning for her late Royal Highness the Electress of Hesse.

A Deputation of the North American Colonial Company had an interview with Lord John Russel yesterday, on the subject of emigration to the British North American Provinces.

The Earl of Mountcashel on Monday asked Ministers if the Report of the committee of Foreign affairs of the Congress of the United States of the 15th February last, (which had reference to the Affair of McLeod,) was genuine—as he was inclined to think otherwise, from the high opinion which he entertained of the practical good sense of the people of the United States. Lord Melbourne replied, that he had no doubt of its authenticity.

Sheerness, March 8.—The Monarch and Vernon have been ordered to expedite their fitments.—America, it is said, is to be their station.

Portsmouth, March 6.—The Indus and Tweed have gone to Spithead to await orders—destined, it is supposed, for America.

The British Queen encountered a severe gale of wind which continued for ten successive days—during which she lost every Float from her larboard Paddle, and many from her starboard one—every sail was split or torn out of the bolt-ropes as soon as set,—Capt. Franklin, consequently, had no alternative left to him but to make the nearest port. During a lull of six hours, a few Floats were replaced, but the number was not sufficient to justify an attempt to continue the voyage to New York without previously putting into this port.—*Royal Gazette.*

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, APRIL 9, 1841.

☞The Chronicle Office is removed, in consequence of the late Fire, to the store of N. Merritt, Esquire, in Water street, over the store of Messrs. Milby & Thomas.

City Elections.—On Tuesday last, our City presented quite an active appearance, it being the day appointed for the election of Civic Officers.

The greatest competition was manifested in the different wards. That of Queen's terminated in favor of Benjamin L. Peters, Esq., giving him a handsome majority of sixty-seven over the sitting Alderman, Mr. Humbert.

Sydney Ward was also warmly contested, which resulted in displacing the present Assistant Alderman, Mr. Cameron, and electing in his place Mr. E. D. W. Greenwood. Mr. Sandall has demanded a scrutiny of the votes polled for the sitting Alderman, Mr. Van Horne.

In King's Ward, Mr. Fairweather has demanded a scrutiny of the votes polled for the sitting Alderman, Mr. Porter.

On the Western side of the harbour there was also a keen contest in Guy's Ward, which terminated in displacing Assistant Alderman Coram, and electing Mr. Olive in his place. Mr. Coram has protested against the legality of the election.

A beneficial change having been now made, it is fully expected that still greater and more effectual changes will be made in the annual election of 1842.

M'Leod's Case.—The release of this gentleman had not taken place at our latest dates from the United States. What definite time the British Minister has given for the positive release of Mr. M'Leod, the papers do not state, but all agree in publishing that Mr. Fox has demanded his release from the General Government.—It now remains to be seen how much longer the British Government will allow the Americans to play the *ruse*, in detaining M'Leod, by ordering, appointing, and countermanding the time of a trial, which they know they dare not put in force. There is only one thing which would give courage to the General Government of the United States to proceed with the trial of M'Leod, and that is, if France should declare war against England; then indeed would M'Leod be tried and condemned, and the veil which now covers American hypocrisy would be raised—their protestations of lasting friendship would vanish in the secret hope of being enabled by assistance to strike a fatal blow against the prowess of England.

PUBLIC MEETING.—Several gentleman have desired us to state, that it is in contemplation to call a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants, for the purpose of presenting an Address of congratulation to the new Governor on his arrival to these shores; and to request that His Excellency will be pleased to dissolve the present Legislative Body, in consequence of their having forfeited the confidence of an overwhelming majority of the inhabitants of the Province.

Through the politeness of our respected Correspondent, we have been favored with a file of Jamaica papers to the 27th February, which brings the following important political intelligence:

KINGSTON, Jamaica, February 23.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO JAMAICA AND THE OTHER BRITISH WEST INDIA ISLANDS.

By the arrival of H. M. Brig *Sappho*, we are put in possession of a circumstance which might have been of the most appalling nature, at once shewing the duplicity and deceit of the French Government towards Great Britain under the administration of Thiers. The information we have obtained is to the following effect:—The Sappho had orders to reconnoitre the several foreign ports on her way down to this island. In accordance with such orders she called in at Martinique, where, to the surprise of the Officers of that vessel, they perceived Sixteen Broad Pendants, Six of which were double-banked Frigates, at anchor.

When the British Government were made acquainted with the different armaments equipping by the French at Brest, and other ports of France, a demand was made through our Ambassador at Paris, for information as to their destination. The reply given was, that they were intended to be sent to demand satisfaction for insults the French nation had suffered from a Barbary State, and the other portions of the armament was to proceed to reinforce the Squadron acting against Buenos Ayres. The British Government was satisfied, but, in consequence of the hostile feeling of the Thiers administration, hostilities were contemplated against England, and the Squadron which sailed to Buenos Ayres, carried with them instructions to the Naval force there employed to return to Martinique, and at the same time to expect a war with England.—One French vessel, partially dismantled, appeared off Barbadoes, supposed to have been sent to reconnoitre the British islands, but having been observed by Captain Leith, the senior officer, a Steamer, with additional force of Artillery and marines, was sent out to ascertain who she might be; the Frenchman showed Spanish colours, and was consequently supposed to be a Slaver, but, on examination, proved to be a French vessel. The captain stated that from the information he had received he supposed that war had been long before declared between England and France, which induced him to hoist spanish colours. The *ruse de guerre* was good, and had war ensued between the two nations this powerful force, concentrated in the midst of our West India isles, would, on the lately expected declaration of war, have at once pounced upon us and the other islands, and have made us an easy prey. In our present unprotected state resistance would have been less than useless—our militia a mere nonentity—only a handful of regular troops,—few, if any, vessels of war in harbour, the British Standard would soon have been surmounted by the Tri-color of France, our homes invaded, and ourselves unsuspectingly made prisoners of war.

Royal Gazette.

Provincial Secretary.—We have heard in various quarters, that William Young, Esq. is appointed, provisionally, to conduct the busines of the Provincial Secretary