THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, FEBRUARY 26, 1841.

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITANNIA.

This Steamer arrived at Halifax on Saturday morning last, in 15½ days from Liverpool, being the longest passage of any of the Cunard line.—The Britannia brought out 80 passengers. The papers received by the steamer are to the 4th instant.

The Imperial Parliament was opened on the 26th January by the Queen in person. The opening speech will be found in another column: It embraces few topics of great interest, and will be found extremely short.

The Mail does not furnish any news of importance, and nothing later from China.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—On Monday the 15th inst. an important Resolution was moved by Mr. Barberie, respecting the heretofore secret Contingent Bill, which has always swallowed up large sums of money for purposes unknown to the Province The next evil surrounding this great money Bill, was, that it invariably was kept out of sight until the closing of the session, and until many of the members who were apt to be a little inquisitive, had actually taken their departures for their respective homes. Mr. Barberie succeeded in carrying his Resolution, which is "That if any provision be "made for a Reporter of the Debates of this House, "the same shall be made in Supply, and not inserted in the Contingent Bill; and further, That the "Contingent Bill of this House be hereafter printed "for the information of the constituency of the "Country."

The country would have been much pleased, if the following amendment of Captain Owen could have been added to the original Resolution of Mr. Barberie. Mr. Owen moved "that no sums "shall hereafter be voted by this House, under the "head of Contingencies, before the particular "charges contained therein have been submitted to "its full consideration."

NEW-BRUNSWICK MAILS.—The invariable delay of our English Mails after the arrival of the steamer, and also after the Canada Mails are forwarded to their destination, occasions great complaints by our merchants as well as other individuals.

The evil, we think, can be easily remedied; let the merchants and other respectable inhabitants of the city draw up a respectful petition to the Post Master General in London, requesting that the New Brunswick mail be forwarded direct to Saint John, instead of being opened to be assorted at Halifax; we should then invariably receive the mail in 48 hours at most after the arrival of the steamer. The proper place for opening the New-Brunswick mail is St. John, where, it is generally supposed that at least three fourths of the letters and papers are distributed. If no petition be sent to the proper quarter, we need not complain of the detention.

We understand that the "*Humbert Sacred Musick Society*" intend holding their first regular Public Quarterly Concert early in March next, when it may be expected, from the gratification expressed by the crowded and highly respectable audience who witnessed their late "Introductory Concert," that a choice selection of Sacred Poetry adapted to appropriate (strictly vocal) Musick, will be furnished to the lovers of "Sacred Song."—*Observer.*

We have much pleasure in stating, that our Merchants have received the gratifying intelligence by the English mail, of the steady advance in the prices of our great staple article Timber, and that every thing looked encouraging for the ensuing spring.

Registration of Voters in Ireland.—On the 2d inst. Lord Stanley moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend the laws relating to the registration of voters in Ireland. Mr. O'Connell opposed it. After some preliminary discussion the House divided

For Lord Stanley's motion,	261
Mr. O'Connell's amendment,	71
Majority,	190

Leave was given to bring in the Bill, and it was ordered to be brought in by Lord Stanley, Lord G. Somerset, and Mr. E. Tennent.

Canterbury and Walsall elections have added two members to the Conservative strength in the House of Commons.

The Eastern Question settled. Mehemet Ali, has given up the whole of the Turkish fleet to Admiral Walker, and also engaged to send Egyptian officers and men to navigate the fleet to Marmorice Bay.

The trial of Earl Cardigan before the House of Lords, was to take place the 16th instant.

The contents of the speech from the throne, relative to the affairs of China, stating in effect that commissioners had been appointed to arrange the demands of the British upon the government of the Celestial Empire, had a favourable influence upon the tea market on 'Change this afternoon. Company's Congous have fallen to 1s. 4 3-4d per lb., with a very heavy demand.

COMMISSARIAT.—To be Deputy Commissaries Gen.—Assistant Commissary General L. Pennell; Assistant Commissary General W. H. Robinson.

We understand that energetic remonstrances have been again made, within the last few days, on the part of the Great Powers, against the continued armaments of France, and that the British Cabinet, *which hesitated* on the subject, has determined to express its sentiments very clearly, in accordance with those of its allies. The French government feels itself ill at ease under the accumulation of these reproaches, particularly at a moment when it had hoped to find something tending to renewed friendship in the Speech of the Queen of England, on the opening of parliament. Our informant, who has hitherto kept us so fully advised in diplomatic affairs, suggests the convocation of a congress, as the sole mode of terminating existing differences. In the face of public opinion, France cannot be the first to disarm, and it is clear that those who followed her movements in that respect cannot give way before her. It is only, our informant says, through the medium of a congress that a general disarmament, under guarantees, can take place.—*Morning Herald.*

Portugal and Spain have accepted the mediation of England in respect to the navigation of the Douro.

The French Fleet.—Vice-Admiral Hugon, who, is now in the chief command of the Levant squadron at Toulon, has under his orders eighteen sail-of-the line, a frigate, and a corvette.

The New Houses of Parliament.—About 170 masons are daily engaged at the new houses of Parliament, and there are about 100 other workmen in full occupation. The works are progressing rapidly. The average height of all the walls is now about 15 feet, and they already present a striking appearance when viewed from the river. Mr. Barry, the architect, pays it is said, the closest attention to all the works, which are, for the most, executed under his personal superintendance.

Whale Fishery.—It appears that for many years of late remarkable changes have taken place in the circumstances of this species of fishery in the northern seas, which every day become more and more perceptible. The whole regions are no longer the same as formerly. Originally the seas situated between Spitsbergen and Greenland were frequented; these were afterwards totally abandoned.—Whalers gave the preference to Davis's Straits, Baffin's Bay, or the seas to the east of Greenland. At the present time Davis's Straits appears on the point of being deserted in their turn. France no longer sends any ships there; Holland sends only one or two; England which formerly sent upwards of 200 ships to those regions, in 1822, only sent 51. The number is now much less.

COURT MARTIAL.—A general court martial assembled at Clare Castle, on Monday, for the trial of Lieutenant Wm. Curtois, of the 36th regiment, who was arraigned upon the undermentioned charges, viz:—For conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, and highly subversive of military discipline, in having, at Clare Castle, on or about the 12th of November 1840, sat down to the officers' mess table of the depot of the 36th regiment to dinner in a state of intoxication, he having also been at the time on duty as officer of the day.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT,

It being announced that her Majesty would on Tuesday open Parliament in person, a more than usually large concourse of her loyal subjects crowded to greet her with those acclamations and expressions of affectionate homage which on this occasion were uttered with more than common enthusiasm, as it was her Majesty's first public appearance since the interesting event which gave to the nation an heiress in the direct line to the throne.

Her Majesty left Buckingham Palace shortly before two, and was loudly and heartily cheered on her way to the House of Lords. A royal salute of twenty one guns announced her Majesty's arrival there, Within the house her Majesty was received by the Lord Chancellor, and the other great officers of State.

Her Majesty having entered the House of Lords, which presented a very brilliant appearance,—Her Majesty having commanded the attendance of the House of Commons, that body in considerable numbers, headed by the Speaker, appeared below the bar, and the Lord Chancellor, kneeling at the foot of the throne, presented her Majesty with a copy of the following.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

"*My Lords and Gentlemen.*

"I have the satisfaction to receive from Foreign Powers assurances of their friendly disposition, and of their earnest desire to maintain peace.

The posture of affairs in the Levant had long been a cause of uneasiness and a source of danger to the general tranquility. With a view to avert the evils which a continuance of that state of things was calculated to occasion, I concluded with the Emperor of Austria, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of Russia, and Sultan, a Convention intended to effect a pacification of the Levant; to maintain the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire, and thereby to afford additional security to the peace of Europe.

I have given directions that this Convention shall be laid before you.

"I rejoice to be able to inform you that the measures which have been adopted in execution of these engagements have been attended with signal success; and I trust that the objects which the contracting parties had in view are on the eve of being completely accomplished.

In the course of these transactions my naval forces have co-operated with those of the Emperor of Austria, and with the land and sea forces of the Sultan, and have displayed upon all occasions their accustomed gallantry and skill.

Having deemed it necessary to send to the coast of China a naval and military force, to demand reparation and redress for injuries inflicted upon some of my subjects by the officers of the Emperor of China, and for indignities offered to an agent of my Crown, I at the same time appointed Plenipotentiaries to treat upon these matters with the Chinese government.

The Plenipotentiaries were, by the last accounts, in negociation with the Government of China; and it will be a source of much gratification to me, if that Government shall be induced, by its own sense of justice, to bring these matters to a speedy settlement by an amicable arrangement.

Serious differences have arisen between Spain and Portugal about the execution of a Treaty concluded by these Powers, in 1835, for regulating the navigation of the Douro. But both parties have accepted my mediation, and I hope to be able to effect a reconciliation between them upon terms honourable to both.

I have concluded with the Argentine Republic, and with the Republic of Hayti, Treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade, which I have directed to be laid before you.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have directed the estimates for the year to be laid before you.

However sensible of the importance of adhering to the principles of economy, I feel it to be my duty to recommend that adequate provision be made for the exigencies of the public service.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Measures will be submitted to you without delay which will have for their object the more speedy and effectual administration of justice. The vital importance of this subject is sufficient to ensure for it your early and most serious consideration.

The powers of the Commissioners appointed under the act for the amendment of the laws relating to the poor, expire at the termination of the present year. I feel assured that you will earnestly direct your attention to enactments which so deeply concern the interests of the community.

It is always with entire confidence that I recur to the advice and assistance of my Parliament. I place my reliance upon your wisdom, loyalty, and patriotism, and I humbly implore of Divine Providence that all your councils may be so directed as to advance the great interests of morality and religion, to preserve peace, and to promote by enlightened legislation the welfare and happiness of all classes of my subjects."

SETTLEMENT OF THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The public may be at length congratulated upon the arrangement of the Eastern question. This most important and satisfactory intelligence was received by her Majesty's Government yesterday in despatches from Sir Robert Stopford, dated Marmorice Bay, Jan. 14..

It appears that Commodore Napier, who we stated yesterday left Marmorice Bay in the Stromboli on the 6th, arrived at Alexandria on the 8th..

On the 8th, as we also stated, Adml. Walker left Marmorice in the Icendar, and arrived at Alexandria on the 10th. Affairs seem to have been so successfully arranged by Commodore Napier, that on the 11th, the Pacha made his complete submission to the Sultan, and gave up the whole of the Turkish fleet to Admiral Walker.—Mehemit engaged to send Egyptian officers and men to navigate the Fleet to Marmorice Bay.

It further appears that Ibrahim's army was immediately to evacuate Syria and to return to Egypt, and arrangements had been made to send transports to Caiffa, to bring away the women and children, and sick of the army, if they could get to that port.

Intelligence has also been received from Paris, that on the 13th January the Sultan sent instructions to his commissioners in Egypt to inform Mehemet Ali that, his submission being complete, he would grant him hereditary tenure of the pachalic of Egypt.

Thus the Eastern question may be now regarded as settled, upon a basis which affords security for peace in the Levant, and which, even by his partisans, cannot be regarded as unjust to the pretensions of Mehemet Ali. Nor, we hope, will the blessing of an additional guarantee for the preservation of peace be confined to the Levant. With the settlement of this question, we trust the angry feelings which arose out of it may speedily subside, and that Europe may be relieved, not by fair words but by acts, from the uneasiness necessarily resulting from the attitude assumed by France.—*Morning Chronicle.*

It is contemplation to construct a bridge or tunnel from Dover to Calais. The cost is estimated 1,000 millions of francs in money, and ten years of labor.

The steamer *Thames*, belonging to the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company, was totally wrecked on a dreadful reef of rocks called the "Jolly Rocks" on her passage from Dublin to London. Captain, crew, and passengers all lost except three females. A subscription has been set on foot for the benefit of the sufferers, to which Her Majesty, with her usual benevolence, has been graciously pleased to contribute £30.

Lieut. F. L. Ingall, 15th, is appointed Deputy-Assistant-Quarter-Master-General upon the staff of the army in North America in succession to Captain Stirling, 73d.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—Sir Colin Campbell, the new Governor of Ceylon, will embark in the course of the ensuing week for the seat of his government.

Sir Colin Campbell, had an interview with Lord John Russell, at the Colonial-office, on the 22d January.

LONDON, Jan. 23.—Company's Congo Teas have fallen to 1s. 5½d. money.

THE TEA TRADE, Jan. 18.—The deliveries of tea increased again last week, thus showing that the fall in prices has been followed by an increase in the consumption. The quantity taken was 437,500 pounds. The trade presents no new feature, being still dull.

THE EARL OF CARDIGAN AND THE 11TH HUSSARS.

(*From the Alligator.*)

We regret that we should have occasion to call public attention to the conduct of the Earl of Cardigan towards Dr. Sandham,* a most meritorious officer of this regiment, which conduct has, however, had the good effect of producing a just, but tardy and unwilling reprimand of the Earl by the General Commanding-in-Chief, to whom complaint was officially made.

The circumstances, we understand, were, that Lord Cardigan had given orders that Dr. Sandham should attend the troops to church and back; on leaving, the Doctor passed through the little gate of the churchyard, and fell in with the men, who marched through the large gate. When the troops reached the barracks, the Adjutant said to Dr. Sandham, "It is his Lordship's order that you fall in with the troops." "I don't understand you," replied the Doctor. "It is his Lordship's order," rejoined the Adjutant, and went away. On the dismissal of the troops, Dr. Sandham went to the Earl of Cardigan and said, "My Lord, I have been ordered to fall in with the troops;" to which his Lordship replied, "Those are my orders, Sir."—"But I don't understand them, my Lord." "They are my orders, Sir;" and then his Lordship, seeming to reflect, inquired "did you not come out at the small gate?" to which the Doctor replied, "I did." "Then," said his Lordship, "I order you in future, Sir, to come out at the large gate."

Some one overhearing the above conversation, asked Dr. Sandham what the row was about, when he replied, "I came out of the small gate instead of the large one." His Lordship overheard, and sent for the Doctor, and in the presence of two officers he gave him a severe reprimand Dr. Sandham sent in a written complaint to the General-Commanding-in-Chief, through Lord Cardigan, who called for a counter statement from the two officers, as his witnesses, of what passed, which exactly agreed with the Doctor's statement. The Earl of Cardigan came to town to see Lord Fitzroy Somerset, who was absent, but he had an interview with Lord Hill, and shortly afterwards the Earl received the following reprimand:—

"Horse Guards.

"Lord Hill regrets to find that his recommendation to the Earl of Cardigan, on a previous occasion has not had the effect of preventing applications to the Horse Guards, by way of complaint of the Earl's conduct."

We think that Lord Cardigan would best consult his own dignity—comply with the wishes of the army in general, and more particularly of his own regiment, and would conciliate the feelings of the British public towards himself—were he at once, by retiring from the army, to restore that harmony and good fellowship again to the 11th Hussars, which, until his Lordship joined the Regiment, previously existed.

We understand that the two officers and Doctor Sandham expressed their intention of leaving the Regiment in consequence of this affair.

* Dr. Sandham entered the service in 1805, was at Buenos Ayres with the Carbineers, at the taking of the Cape of Good Hope, through the war of the Deccan, and the taking of the different fortresses, and at Beurtpore. The Doctor has been thirty years at least upon foreign service.

THE 97th REGIMENT.—The Head Quarters of this Regiment (the Earl of Ulster's Own), under the command of Lt. Colonel Darrell, will embark this morning on board the *Eagle* steamer for Cove, to be transferred to Her Majesty's troopship *Apollo*, Mr. W. White, Commander, to reinforce the garrison at Corfu.

Melancholy loss of Life at Boulogne.—Boulogne, Friday Evening.—A very melancholy occurrence has just occurred off this harbour, by which eight persons have unhappily lost their lives. About 12 o'clock this day her Majesty's packet the *Beaver*, Captain R. Mudge, from Dover, hove in sight, not being able probably to reach Calais in time for the *estafette* for Paris. Unfortunately there was but little water in the harbour, and the sluices being open and the wind blowing on shore, caused a great deal of surf off the harbour. As soon as the steamer reached the roads, she signalled for a boat to fetch the mail bag. The harbour-master ordered the pilot whose turn it was to go out, but he declined, stating as a reason for disobeying orders, that there was too much surf for so small a boat. Another was requested, who at first hesitated, although the most intrepid of seamen His son, however, appealing to his courage, and observing that it was cowards only who know not how to do their duty, prevailed upon the father to venture with six other seamen; they weathered the surf, and reached the steamer in safety, and immediately took on board the mail bags, the mate (Mr. Eyre.) whose duty it is to accompany the bags to the post-office, and two passengers. Two other passengers also got into the small boat, but the pilot considering they were too many, recommended the two last to return on board, promising to land them at a second trip. They then made for the harbour, but, alas! at midway between the steamer and the shore the boat capsized and sunk; the passengers and seamen struggling together among the most terrific breakers, and in a situation where no earthly assistance could be rendered them. As soon as the accident was observed from the packet the galley-boat was let down, and the poor fellows who manned it believe did their utmost to render assistance, but they could not approach the spot in time. Nine of these unfortunate beings were carried by the current to the westward, of whom three were picked up by this boat, one of whom only (a Frenchman was rescued in time, the two others having died from exhaustion and cold before the galley-boat could reach the steamer. Two other French seamen were fortunate enough to regain the shore by swimming. Those who have perished are two passengers, American gentlemen, Delpierre (called Cator) the pilot and his son, and four seamen. The gentlemen who met with a watery grave are Charles Philip Taschereau, Esq. of Quebec, Lower Canada, brother of Andrew Taschereau, of the same place, barrister at law, county seigneur, &c. of St. Mary's in the county of Beauce; and Mr. Webster, of Virginia, a gentleman who accompanied the former.—It is singular that Mr. Webster's father and two sisters were unfortunately lost two years since, on board an American steamer going to the south. They left him sole heir to an estate worth from 20,000 to 30,000 dollars a-year. Always bearing painfully in mind the sad calamity that befel his family, previous to his leaving the United States he made a will, bequeathing the whole of his large property to his only surviving relative, a nephew, aged 14 or 16 years. Mr. Webster was about 28, and Mr. Taschereau about 22. Both were very fine young men.

Melancholy Death of Scott, the American Diver.—This celebrated diver, who was this afternoon to have exhibited his feats from one of the arches of Waterloo Bridge, accidentally met with his death in a very extraordinary manner. He was in the habit, previous to taking his leap, of hanging for some time by a cord passed round his neck. He ascended the ladder, and proceeded to do this in the usual manner, about half-past two. After hanging for some time, persons called out 'how long he hangs?' and it soon became evident that the poor man was in danger. He made a convulsive effort to get his feet upon the ladder, but in vain. He was then taken down with as little delay as possible, but was apparently dead. Several medical gentlemen, who happened to be present, gave immediate assistance, and opened a vein; the blood flowed but slightly, and no appearance of his probable recovery presenting itself, he was at once taken to Charing Cross Hospital. The cause of this melancholy accident originated in the knot of the rope, which he usually kept under his chin, slipping round under the ear, and thus causing strangulation.—*Globe.*

Further Particulars.—Monday afternoon, shortly after 2 o'clock, great excitement pervaded the western portion of the metropolis by a rumour that Scott, "the American diver," who had of late become so notorious by his extraordinary feats, had met with his death during the performance of his customary evolutions prior to taking his dive from the summit of Waterloo-bridge into the Thames. It appears that in the morning a placard, of which the following is a copy, had been posted throughout the metropolis:—

"Challenge to the world for 100 guineas! Monday next, Jan. 11th, 1841, and during the week, Samuel Scott, the American Diver, will run from Godfrey's, White Lion, Drury-lane, to Waterloo-bridge, and leap into the water 40 feet high from the bridge, and return back within the hour every day during the week, between 1 and 2 o'clock. S. Scott will be in attendance every day at the above house, open to any wager."

This notice drew, long before the time appointed, thousands of persons to Waterloo bridge, and at five minutes past 2 o'clock Scott, accompanied by several persons, arrived on the bridge. He was merely attired in a blue striped shirt and white canvass trowsers, and had on neither shoes nor stockings. On his arrival there could not have been less than from 8,000 to 10,000 persons assembled upon the bridge and along the banks of the river to witness his extraordinary performance. Immediately over the second arch on the Middlesex side and nearest to Somerset-house, was erected a species of scaffolding, composed of two upright poles, and three others crossing them at intervals of about four or five feet, the entire height of which above the balustrades being about 10 feet. Scott appeared as usual firm and undaunted, and made several jocular remarks to those around him. Having ascended the scaffold, he attached the rope he carried with him, which was about 10 feet long, to the uppermost cross pole, and after placing some tin boxes round the necks of several of his friends who were to collect money for him, proceeded to commence his performance, observing, "Why you all appear to be cranky." He first put his head into a noose of the rope, and suspended himself for a minute or two: after which he placed his feet in a similar position, and swung with his head downwards. He again mounted the top beam of the scaffold, and taking a handkerchief off his head, placed it on the top of one of the perpindicular poles. He then seized the rope, and placing it round his neck, exclaimed at the top of his voice, "Now I'll show you once more how to dance upon air before I dive." The unfortunate man again let himself down to the extremity of the rope with his head in the noose, but had scarcely hung more than three or four minutes when a person named Brown observed that he much feared the man had hung himself in reality, as animation appeared suspended. To this one of Scott's friends replied, "Oh, he has not hung half his time yet." In two or three minutes after, however, shouts were heard in all directions of "Cut him down." Mr. Brown immediately ascended and raised the poor fellow's arm, which on being let go fell heavily back to its original position by his side. This gave convincing proof of the suspension of animation, and renewed cries were raised from all quarters of "Cut him down—cut him down." Some time elapsed before a knife could be procured, and then two persons ascended the ladder, and with the aid of some of the F division of police, succeeded in cutting the man down.

Mr. Havore, surgeon of the York road, and another medical gentleman who happened to be upon the spot, immediately stepped forward and opened the jugular vein, and also a vein in the arm, but only a few drops of blood followed; and to all appearance Scott was lifeless. A cart was then procured, in which he was conveyed with all possible speed, followed by hundreds of persons, to Charing cross Hospital. On his admission, it was ascertained by Dr. Golding, the senior physician of the institution, that life was not quite extinct. Under that gentleman's direction, the unfortunate man was, in the first place, subjected to the galvanic process; secondly, cupped between the shoulders; and then, lastly, placed into a warm bath, in which he had been but a few seconds when it was ascertained that the vital spark had fled.

Scott was a remarkably fine young man, about 30 years of age, and, although he called himself an American, was supposed to be a native of Deptford, where, he, together with his wife, was residing. She was not, as was her usual custom, with him on the present occasion; but information however, of the melancholy affair was immediately despatched to her on its result becoming known.

The cause of the occurrence is not to be attributed, as it was generally rumoured, to the unfortunate man having indulged in drinking prior to his undertaking his perilous exhibition, but to the mere accidental circumstance of the knot in the noose having slipped from under his chin in such a manner as to produce suffocation. It will be remembered, that a similar accident occurred to the celebrated Blackmore, and which almost terminated fatally, a few years since, whilst performing his evolutions at Vauxhall-gardens.

FALMOUTH, January 8.—Intelligence has just been received of the melancholy loss, on Monday morning, during a violent snow storm, of the London and Dublin Company's steamer *Thames*, on her voyage from Dublin to London, on the south-west rocks of the Scilly Islands, and all on board, consisting of from 60 to 70 persons, drowned, with the exception of a lady passenger, two stewardesses, and one man. When the vessel was discovered in her perilous situation by the islanders, their boats were aground, but with great efforts they succeeded in launching a whale-boat through the breakers, and getting her under the stern of the Thames. The commander, Captain Gray, insisted on the females being first hoisted therein; and, unfortunately, as soon as a lady and two stewardesses had been placed there, the boat broke adrift, and drove off the land. This was perceived by a sailing-boat which took her in tow, and succeeded with great risk, in towing her to the shore in safety. By this time the wind increased almost to a hurricane, which rendered it impossible for any other boat to approach the vessel. Captain Gray then formed a raft, on which a great many of the crew got, but it was almost immediately dashed against the rocks, and all the poor fellows thereon met a watery grave, with the exception of one man, who was miraculously thrown on a perpindicular rock, where he remained till the following day, when he was rescued in an exhausted state. The vessel became a complete wreck and the remainder of the crew perished. Very little of the cargo is saved. It is stated that the captain mistook St. Agnes's light for that of the Longships; which error he might unwittingly have been led into, owing to not giving proper allowance in his reckoning for the strong gale of north easterly wind then prevailing. Of the authenticity of the report there is no question, seventeen bodies having been picked up, but of the vessel there was not a vestige to be seen. During the many years the Dublin and London Company's line of steam vessels have been established, this is the first accident attended with fatal consequences. At present it cannot be ascertained in this case, either as to a definite loss of life or of property; both, however, must be tremendous in extent.

Total Loss of the Philestrus.—On Tuesday information reached Lloyd's of the total loss of the brig, *Philestrus*, of Greenock, on the morning of Wednesday week last, in Dundrum Bay, on the coast of Ireland, and attended with dreadful sacrifice of life. It appears that the unfortunate vessel left New Orleans on the 11th of November, for Greenock, having on board a valuable cargo of cotton. The crew consisted of the master, Captain Delly, first and second mate, sixteen seamen, and three boys. About one o'clock on the morning above-mentioned, the vessel struck the sunken rocks in Dundrum Bay, and became instantly a wreck. All perished except the second mate and two of the boys, who were washed on shore on a spar, to which they had lashed themselves. The spot where the catastrophe occurred is some miles from any habitation, and no assistance could be obtained. The survivors remained on the rocks eight and twenty-hours, and were taken off by a fishing-smack. The loss of the vessel is reported to be 2,000*l.*

Destruction of the Shipping in the River Wear.—SUNDERLAND, Jan. 19.—Never within the memory of the oldest inhabitant has the shipping interest of this port sustained, by river floods, damage and loss so extensive as that which has this day been occasioned by the breaking up of the ice in the river Wear. The thaw and the heavy rains to the westward, which have prevailed for two or three days, had led the crews of the respective vessels to use every precaution in securing them so as to withstand the pressure of the vast body of ice which would inevitably, on its breaking up, be borne along with the ebb tide, but notwithstanding the utmost vigilance of the respective crews and the river authorities, the harbour from the entrance to the Hetton Staithes, presents one vast scene of wreck and confusion. The main body of the ice, borne down with increased rapidity by the floods, reached the harbour at about half-past four this morning, bearing with sweeping and irresistible sway all before it, driving from their moorings—and in some instances with their moorings—upwards of a hundred sail of ships, several steam-boats, innumerable keels and other small craft, with rafts of timber, huddled together in the most distressing confusion.—The scene which presented itself at day-break was truly terrific, and beggars description; vessels entangled with broken masts, bowsprits, rudders, bulwarks, stanchions, sterns, stems, bows, and rigging, so as in many instances to render it impossible to identify the respective properties. The ice is completely formed into so solid and extended a sheet, that it has remained immovable during the whole of the day, undisturbed by the flux and reflux of the tide, interspersed with wrecked materials, and men and boys passing and repassing in pursuit of what they can pick up. In the present confused state we are unable to ascertain the extent of the loss of life, as several vessels have driven out to sea; and it is hoped that some of the missing hands are on board. Those whose opinions are to be relied upon, estimate the loss at one hundred and fifty thousand pounds. The coal drop and part of Hetton spouts were carried away by ships coming in contact with them, and several of the Sunderland and Durham Railway Company's staithes sustained injury. A poor boy, the last on board, while in the act of leaving his ship, which was in imminent danger, by means of a rope, was unfortunately cut in two. Numbers of men as well as several vessels are missing; but being near post time, no further intelligence can at present be communicated. Nine o'clock, Monday night.

CRYSTAL BEDSTEAD.—Among the many presents sent to the Schah of Persia, by the Emperor of Russia, and which are customary in the East, after the conclusion of peace, is a bedstead of extraordinary magnificence. It is entirely made of crystal, and is accessible by steps of the same material, worked in imitation of large diamonds, incrusted in solid frame. On each side there are spouts made to eject scented water, which by its murmuring, invites to sleep. It is crowned by a large chandelier, which spreads light in such a manner, over itself and the rest of the frame, as to give to the whole the splendid appearance of millions of diamonds reflecting their brilliancy at once. The bedstead, the only one of the kind ever imagined or attempted, has been worked at the imperial manufactory of St. Petersburgh.

From the Montreal Herald, Feb 11.

Yesterday afternoon at one o'clock, the members of the Special Council, the Judges, the Clergy, and the Heads of Departments assembled at the residence of His Excellency the Governor General, who took the customary oath on assuming the government of the Province of Canada. A salute of nineteen guns was fired by the Royal Artillery on the Champ de Mars and by the Volunteer Artillery on the ice in front of the city,—the latter showing their usual soldierly appearance and precision.

At two o'clock His Excellency held a levee, which was very numerously attended. In the evening he gave a ball which was also numerously and fashionably attended. We were glad to observe that his Excellency appeared to be in good health and spirits.

During the levee a guard of honour from the 23d regiment, was drawn up in front of the Chateau, and the band played a variety of favorite airs.

His Excellency the Right Honorable CHARLES, BARON SYDENHAM, of Sydenham, in the County of Kent, and Toronto in Canada, one of Her Majesty's most Honorable Privy Council, Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief in and over the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward, and Vice Admiral of the same.

SYDENHAM.

A PROCLAMATION.

In obedience to the Commands of the Queen I have this day assumed the Government of the Province of Canada. Upper and Lower Canada, separated for fifty years, are once more reunited, and henceforward will form but one Province under one Administration.

On my arrival in Lower Canada I declared that one of the main objects of my Mission was, to put an end to the suspension of the Constitution in that Province, and to restore to its inhabitants the full benefits of British Institutions. That object is accomplished. By the Imperial Act which fixes the Union representative Government is again established, and that control by the People over their own affairs, which is deemed the highest privilege of Britons, is once more restored to them. The Act which provides for this allows certain conditions to the grant, over which the Provincial Legislature can exercise no authority; while it leaves to the final arbitration of that Legislature all questions but those which the Imperial Parliament in its wisdom has deemed essential itself to determine—the Legislative Reunion—the establishment of a secure and firm administration of Government—and the maintenance of the due relations of Colony and Parent State. Efforts have been sedulously made to deceive the unwary, and especially some of our fellow subjects of French origin, upon this point—to represent these Provisions as injurious—to treat them as susceptible of change here—and to excite opposition which can only prove as mischievous as it must be useless.

I rely, however, on these efforts proving unavailing; and appeal with confidence to the Loyalty and good sense of the Inhabitants of Lower Canada, of whatever origin, so to use the power which is now again committed to their hands as to justify the trust which Our Sovereign and the Imperial Parliament have reposed in them, and cordially to join in an endeavour to promote the common interest of the United Province.

In Upper Canada the sense of the People was declared fully and freely, through their Constitutional organs, upon the great question of the Union itself, and on the principles on which it should be based. Those principles have been adopted by the Imperial Parliament, and it will ever be a matter of the utmost gratification to me, that my humble efforts have aided in perfecting a measure, securing, as I firmly believe, to that Province, which I regard with feelings of affection as well as interest, advantages, which it could attain by no other means.

Inhabitants of the Province of Canada! Henceforward may you be united in sentiment as you are, from this day in name. Who can visit, as it has been my good fortune to do, the extensive regions which are now united in one common denomination, and fail to acknowledge the vast resources they present for all that can conduce to the comforts and happiness of man? A part of the Mighty Empire of England—protected by Her Arms—assisted by Her Treasury—admitted to all the benefits of Trade as Her Citizens—your freedom guaranteed by Her Laws, and your rights supported by the sympathy of your Fellow-Subjects there—Canada enjoys a position unsurpassed by any Country in the World.

It is for you, its inhabitants, to cultivate these advantages—to avail yourselves of the new Era which now opens upon you. Our Gracious Sovereign and the people of England watch with anxiety the result of the great change which has to day received its completion. It is the first wish of the Queen to rule in the hearts of Her Subjects, and to feel that they are contented and prosperous under Her mild and just sway; Her Parliament and Government in conferring on you new institutions have sought only your happiness and advantage. In your hands rests now your own fate, and by the use which you will make of the opportunity, must it be decided. May the all wise Disposer of events so ordain your acts that they may tend to the promotion of Peace and Happiness amongst you, and may He pour His Blessing upon that Union of which it is my pleasing duty this day, to announce to you the completion.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms, at the Government House, in the City of Montreal, in the said Province of Canada, the TENTH day of FEBRUARY, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty-One, and in the Fourth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By command,

D. DALY,

Secretary of the Province.

From the Fredericton Royal Gazette.

CIVIL APPOINTMENT.—Henry W. Baldwin, Esquire, to be a Commissioner for the management Wrecks and derelict Goods, in the County of Gloucester.

HEAD QUARTERS, FREDERICTON, 20th February, 1841.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDER.

The Commander in Chief has been pleased to appoint Ensign Richard M'Gee, to be Adjutant of the 24 Battalion Charlotte County Militia, vice Flaherty, deceased.

By Command,

GEORGE SHORE, A. G. M.

IN THE SUPREME COURT.

HILARY TERM, 4TH VICTORIA, 1841.

James S. Morse, Theophilus Des Brisay, Robert H. Gilbert, James F. Berton, and Edward B. Peters, Gents., Attornies of this Court, are called to the Bar and admitted, sworn and enrolled Barristers.

Gustavus R. Jarvis, and James J. Kaye, Students, having procured the requisite Certificates, and having been examined as to their fitness and capacity are admitted, sworn and enrolled.

Tuesday the 25th day of May next, is appointed for the examination of Students applying for admission as Attornies at the ensuing Trinity Term; to be held at the residence of Mr. Justice Parker in the City of St. John.

House of Assembly, February 18.

Mr. L. A. Wilmot from the Committee appointed on the second day of February instant, to take under consideration the subject of the claim against the Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Land Company, submitted their Report; and he having then read the same, handed it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as follows:—

"The Select Committee to whom were referred the various Despatches and Documents laid before the House on the 25th ultimo, and 12th instant, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, on the subject of the Nova-Scotia and New-Brunswick Land Company's purchase, Report:

"The Committee cannot avoid expressing their surprise and displeasure at several of the observations upon the Report of the Select Committee of the last Session, contained in the letter of Messrs. Bainbridge and Aggas to Lord John Russell, under date the 9th of June last: and while the Committee are well satisfied with the fair and correct character of that Report, they are nevertheless inclined, for the reasons hereinafter stated, to reconsider the whole question, not from any claims of right on the part of the Company, but purely, from a desire to afford every facility to their prospective operations, for the encouragement and extension of Immigration and Agriculture, and to set at rest all causes of discontent and complaint on the part of the Company.

"Passing by the correspondence between the Board of Directors and the Colonial Office, the Committee would refer to the letter of the Company's Commissioner to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, under date the 6th instant, wherein the propositions submitted for the consideration of the Committee are distinctly set forth.

"The Company having thrown itself, by this letter, upon the liberality of the Legislature, and made it to appear to the satisfaction of the Committee that they have already expended upwards of £200,000 in the prosecution of their operations; and that preparations have been made for the expenditure of further large sums for the immediate cultivation and settlement of their lands; and also the sum of £16,000 sterling, has been paid on account of the purchase money, during the past year, the Committee have great pleasure in unanimously recommending to the favourable consideration of the House the following propositions, which, if adopted by the House and accepted by the Company, should for ever after be deemed to be in full for all claims heretofore made by the Company or its Agents:—

"1.—That all claims for interest heretofore accrued be remitted.

"2.—That a deduction of £2,500 sterling, including the sum of £485 for tonnage money as recommended by the Committee of the last Session, be made from the balance now due; and

"3.—That the balance, after making this deduction, shall be paid in two equal annual instalments on the 30th November, 1841, and the 30th November, 1842.

"In conclusion, the Committee must express their high satisfaction with the manner in which the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies has adhered to the spirit of the arrangement between this Province and the Home Government, with regard to the surrender of the Casual and Territorial Revenue: and the Committee indulge the hope, that by the liberal concessions herein recommended to the House, the Company, the Government, and the world will duly appreciate the disposition which prevails in the Assembly of this Province to hold out every reasonable encouragement for the advancement of Immigration and Agriculture.

"Respectfully submitted.

L. A. WILMOT,
J. R. PARTELOW,
CHARLES FISHER,
WM. M'LEOD,
JAMES TAYLOR.

Ordered, That the Report be accepted.

LUNENBURG, Feb. 6.

McLeod Indicted.—The Grand Jury of the County came into Court this forenoon with a bill of indictment against Alexander McLeod, for the murder of Amos Durkee, at the time of the burning of the steamboat Caroline. The case had engaged the attention of the Jury since Wednesday morning, and the testimony of a large number of citizens was given in. Of the twenty Jurors present, nineteen, it is understood, were for the indictment of murder.

The prisoner was brought before the Court this afternoon, and, after being apprised by the District Attorney of the finding of the Jury, he was remanded to jail by order of the Court until next term of the Oyer and Terminer, which commences on the fourth Monday of March next, when his trial, in all probability, will take place.

It is not improbable that a special commission of Oyer and Terminer will be issued for his trial, as there will hardly be time for it at the regular term in March. If a special commission is issued the Court must be held by a Circuit Judge, or a Justice of the Supreme Court.—*New-York Com. Adv.*

THE U. S. STEAM FRIGATE MISSOURI.—This magnificent vessel is constructed principally of live oak from Attackapas, in this state, and her entire cost is $50,000. In her rig she will resemble a handsome cork, and her builder has constructed the hull so admirably, as to render her, as a sailing vessel, a No. 1 of the U. S. Navy. She will sail the greater part of the time,