She was permitted, (though, as it should seem, against her will, and contrary to her expectation) to call up the Spirit of Samuel from his rest, who predicted dismal events to the terrified King, in punishment of his impious desire to take counsel of Evil Spirits. Elijah withstood the prophets of Baal and the prophets of the groves, in whom Ahab confided, and put them utterly to confusion, in the presence of the Monarch and his people. Micaiah confronted others in like manner, and revealed the lying spirit which possessed them, and by which they seduced Ahab to his destruction. Thus wherever contests were permitted between true and false prophets, the latter were uniformly defeated and disgraced. Again, the damsel, mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles, who was possessed with a spirit of divination, and brought her masters much gain by soothsaying, was exorcised by St. Paul, and totally deprived of her art.

From these circumstances, we may venture to assert, (without peremptorily determining what particular cases were the result of human imposture, or what of demoniacal agency,) that no real and indisputable Prophecies have ever proceeded, but from the inspiration of God himself. Liars and Diviners, false Prophets, Soothsayers, and Sorcerers, are all put in Scripture on a level with each other; and there are express declarations that God would "frustrate their tokens," and expose their delusions to public scorn. These declarations were fully verified, whenever there appeared an occasion for manifesting His superiority over them. No instance of a competition between the true God and these agents of falsehood and impiety can be produced, where the issue of the contest was not decisive and complete. This, therefore, may satisfy us, as to the point in question, respecting the power of any created beings to predict future events, without the inspiration of the Almighty, or in opposition to his will; and hence the consequence is undeniable, that Prophecy, real and undoubted Prophecy, affords the most convincing evidence of a Divine mission.

WIND ON TROIS.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1841.

We renew to-day our observations upon the religious duty of FASTING, which, from the length to which we found it necessary to extend them; we were compelled to postpone. We offered some remarks upon two of the stated fasts of the Church, the Fridays in each year and the Rogation Days; we now proceed to a brief consideration of the Ember Days.

"Ember," observes Mr. Shepherd, in his admirable work upon the Common Prayer, "is a word of uncertain derivation. Some suppose it signifies ashes, and some abstinence. Abstinence or fasting, it is commonly known, was anciently accompanied with the act of sitting upon ashes, or of sprinkling ashes upon the head. In the Western Church, the ember weeks were styled, 'the fasts of the four seasons.' This title, as well as the usage mentioned above, appears to favour the derivation already given. But others derive ember from a Saxon word, signifying course, or circumvolution, for the ember weeks return at fixed and certain periods, and are fasts in course.'

The Ember days, it may be necessary to state, are the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday after the first Sunday in Lent, the feast of Pentecost, September 14, and December 13. The weeks in which these days occur are, therefore, styled Ember weeks; and the Sundays which immediately succeed to them are, in accordance with aucient institutions, appointed by the thirty-first Canon of the Church for the Ordination of the Clergy. This last appointment furnishes a sufficient reason for the observance of a fast on those special days; for if the early Christians fasted, as the Scriptures themselves assure us that they did, antecedent to the ordination of ministers of the Lord; if such is recorded as their practice; if "they fusted and prayed" when Barnabas and Saul were to be separated to the ministry of the Gentiles, it cannot surely be less incumbent upon believers now. Nothing can be more important than that "the minds of the Bishops and Pastors of Christ's flock should be so guided and governed, that they may lay hands suddenly on no man, but faithfully and wisely make choice of fit persons to serve in the sacred ministry of his piety. Church." And if, as our Lord assured his followers, there was a species of devils which could not be dislodged from their victims without "prayer and fasting," we may believe that the same holy chastening of our grace, will bring down this blessed answer,-that "those which shall be ordained to any holy function may both by their life and doctrine set forth God's glory, and set forward the salvation of all men."

Upon the origin and intent of the great Fast of the Forty days of Lent, it is not necessary, after our former remarks upon that institution, to dwell at any length; but it will edify as well as gratify our readers, we feel assured, to offer a few reflections upon the subject in the words of the highly-gifted and pious Bishop Horne:from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof. And if ever there was an institution calculated to promote the glory of God, by forwarding the salvation of persons to consider their ways, to break off their sins, and to return from whence they are fallen through the infirmities of the flesh and the prevalence of temptation. For though most certain it is, that sorrow should be the constant attendant upon sin, and daily transgressions call for daily penitence; yet fatal experience convinces us of another truth, no less certain, that in a body so frail, and a world so corrupt, cares and pleasures soon oppress the heart, and insensibility brings on the slumbers of listlessness and negligence as to its spiritual concerns, which, unless dissipated and dispersed by frequently resleep of a final impenitence.....It was wisely foreseen that, should the sinner be permitted to reserve to himself the choice of a 'convenient season' wherein to turn men might enter upon the great work of their repentance. of prelude to the renovation of all things?'

the same as in that passage of St. Mark, 'What shall be of his heavenly kingdom. Grace, saith St. Augustine, is in reference to the present circumstances of the Mo-

in my thoughts, I would propose the following conjecture to those who are skilled in the Scripture, namely, that the first man spent forty days in Paradise, and that in this period he was tempted, fell into sin by eating the forbidden fruit, and forfeited the tree of life with the inheritance of immortality. If this be supposed, the period of forty days will occur naturally in other transactions, and particularly in this of our Saviour's temptation, which is evidently founded on the temptation and fall of the first Adam. The curse brought upon the world by the flood, and occasioned by the sin committed in Paradise (Gen. v. 29) was forty days in the execution; for so long the rains were descending, and the great deep emptying itself upon the earth's surface, that the sin and its history might be recognized in its punishment.-When the Israelites searched the land of Canaan, that

"Under the ministry of the prophet Jonah, the space of forty days was allowed to the Ninevites, as an interval divine judgment by repentance and fasting. Moses and the same act was repeated on occasion of the tables which were broken. During his continuance in the mount, he 'did neither eat bread nor drink water;' and forty days and forty nights in that wilderness wherein state of penance for forty years.

rived from the original I have supposed; but however or any attempt at democratical innovation on the other. that may be, it could not happen by chance; and therefore it might well be said, when Christ had fasted forty credit of the best intentions, we cannot allow ourselves days, that the days were fulfilled, -this period, according to say that they have acted well or wisely in the deveto the abundant testimony of the Scripture, being more lopment of their plans for bringing about this important suitable to the occasion than any other. As he suffered result. It does not strike us as an evidence of the highand rose again on the third day, according to the Scrip- est wisdom, nor of the purest taste, nor of the most disture, so he fasted forty days, according to the same interested patriotism on their part, to desire the substi-Scripture; and the example of Moses, independent of tution of strangers and perhaps the merest tyros in legisevery other testimony, would have been thought suffi- lative knowledge for the men of established principle cient to prove this, in the opinion of many good judges, and unimpeachable integrity, who have borne the heat both ancient and modern."

no exact rule, but leaving the fulfilment of the duty to cannot understand why such,-simply because they have what her members must, in a great degree, be guided been disciples of the Whig creed of politics or have by, the constitutional faculty which each may possess of | breathed the atmosphere of the vice-regal court, -should abstaining from meats and drinks. She enjoins the be esteemed more competent to legislate for this noble general duty, but imposes no arbitrary rule for its per- Province than those against whom the only charge ever science in the sight of God. With some, a total absti- We cannot understand why office-seekers and officenence from food at particular times will be a practicable holders should be deemed more suitable objects of the equally severe. It must, however, be understood to go for the best interests of the country. We know of no further,—to an abandonment for a season of many re- sound reason why the latter should be displaced, and creations and indulgences, innocent in themselves, and the former should occupy their room,—unless the arguthe withdrawal from which is favourable to the chasten- ment should hold good that, because of their freedom ing of the soul and its improvement in the temper of from local bias or predilections, representatives from

of Lent from customary enjoyments, whether sensual or concerns of Great Britain! And we regret the manifes- Church are being withdrawn, day by day, from the old paths mental, of a worldly character, it has by the early Church been universally deemed an improvement of that sacred very individuals who are sought to be rejected would be found to be most faithful supporters of the Government, and the contracting parties and the contracting parties had in view are on the eve of being commental, of a worldly character, it has by the early Church very individuals who are sought to be rejected would be found to be most faithful supporters of the Government, and the contracting parties had in view are on the eve of being commental, of a worldly character, it has by the early Church very individuals who are sought to be rejected would be found to be most faithful supporters of the Government, and the contracting parties had in view are on the eve of being comsouls, united with fervent supplications to the throne of season, to increase the ordinary exercises of public and found to be most faithful supporters of the Government, dued and chastened, as well as with the whole soul in a cause they have every added motive of interest to labour devout and holy frame. The multiplication of sacred for the peace and welfare of the country. A support services are a legitimate means to this end; and the like theirs, we are firmly persuaded, is the only one perspirit will delight in them the more, as the flesh is sub- manently to be relied on: those who have been tempodued and the body brought into subjection.

We so little dread, from the sober-minded and the reflecting, the imputation of superstition in our recom-"In this hallowed season the Church, by the voice of citation of so many precepts and examples from Scripall her holy services, calleth the world to repentance, ture, that we shall not waste time in endeavouring to remove that ignorant and groundless charge. And no less absurd is the objection sometimes advanced against Fasting as a religious duty,—that it is a Popish custom! man, it is this appointment of a certain set time for all As well might we, upon that ground, abolish the observance of the Lord's Day, reject the doctrine of the Trinity, and discontinue the humble posture of kneeling in prayer. It might be well, however, to assure those who lay stress upon such an objection, that Fasting, as a religious exercise, is as old at least as Moses under the Levitical dispensation, and has the sanction of our Lord and his Apostles under the New Testament. And as for the observance of stated seasons for this duty, the cial interests is proportioned exactly to the amount of citation already made of the decree of the Council of gratuity which its treasury can annually afford them.-Chalcedon will shew that it was a custom of the primi- Anxious, as we unfeignedly are, that the Province should tive Church long before the name of Pope was known, peated admonitions, will at length seal it up in the deep or Rome arrogated to herself a spiritual pre-eminence over the other Churches of Christendom.

Churchmen have now and then their little trials to endure from such cavils against the wholesome customs from sin to righteousness, that 'convenient season' of their fathers, as these which have been just alluded would never come; and the specious plea of keeping to. While they bear them with meekness and patience, every day holy alike would often be found to cover a let them be resolute in maintaining what tends to the design of keeping none holy at all. It seemed good, spiritualizing of the soul and to godliness of life. Above the possible contingency of a change of ministry, as therefore, to the Church to fix a stated time, in which all, while they are strict and uniform in the practice of likely to bring about that "equal justice" to the staunch such Christian duties, let them never lose sight of the upholders of Conservative principles, which appears to And what time could have been selected with greater caution thus expressed in one of the Homilies of the be denied to them now. We do not, in the present propriety than this 'Lenten,' or spring season, when Church, and echoed in all her formularies:—"The life condition of the Mother Country,—enjoying, as it does, universal nature, awakening from her wintry sleep, and which we live in this world is of the free benefit of God an unparalleled quiet from political agitation,—either coming out of a state of deformity, and a course of pe- lent us, yet not to use it at our pleasure, after our own anticipate or desire such a change. The Conservatives nance, imposed for the transgression of man, her lord fleshly will, but to trade over the same in those works of England can do more for their country's good in their and master, is about to rise from the dead; and putting which are beseeming them that are become new crea- present position, than if they were installed in office toon her garments of glory and beauty, to give us a kind | tures in Christ. These works the Apostle calleth good | morrow, and had at their disposal the enormous patronworks, saying, 'We are God's workmanship, created in age of the Crown. Their all but equality with their On the number of the days assigned to the Fast of Christ Jesus to good works, which God hath ordained political opponents in the Commons, and their over-Lent, we feel that the following observations of Sir that we should walk in them.' [Eph. ii.] And yet whelming majority in the Lords, forces the present ad-William Jones, although published about three years ago his meaning is not by these words to induce us to have ministrators of the Government to direct it by Conserin this journal, will be new to a large number of our any affiance, or to put any confidence in our works, as by vative rules; in other words, with the mere name of readers, and the views they contain are too important the merit and deserving of them to purchase to ourselves Whigs and Liberals, they are content to govern as Connot to be generally diffused and weighed: - "Concerning and others remission of sin, and so consequently ever- servatives would govern, and what more do real lovers the period of forty days during which our Lord fasted, lasting life; for that were mere blasphemy against God's of their country desire? It is true we should wish to see the words of St. Luke seem to imply that it refers to mercy, and great demogation to the blood-shedding of the whole direction of public affairs in the hands of the some other transaction of Scripture, as a counterpart and our Saviour Jesus Christ. For it is of the free grace Conservatives, but not until their strength in the nation accomplishment; and that this precise time of forty and mercy of God, by the mediation of the blood of his becomes such that no doubt can exist of their permanent days, rather than any other, was proper to the occasion. Son Jesus Christ, without merit or deserving on our retention of office. When we express our qualified ap-He says, 'When the days were ended,' or, as the Greek part, that our sins are forgiven us, that we are reconciled probation of the conduct of the present Ministry, and will bear, 'when the days were fulfilled;' the word being and brought again into his favour, and are made heirs our willingness to see them still at the head of affairs, it

pression of the Evangelist implies it, or not, the period then bring not forth grace, but are brought forth by of the nation, before the seals of state are wrested from be found below. The Britannia left Liverpool on the afternoon of of forty days doth certainly connect this transaction grace. The wheel, saith he, turneth round, not to the their hands. This renovation, we are grateful to bewith many others in the Sacred History; and there is | end that it may be made round; but because it is first | lieve, is rapidly proceeding, and upon the best foundation, reason to suppose, that the period itself was derived made round, therefore it turneth round. So, no man from some very early occasion. After revolving it long doth good works, to receive grace by his good works; of the Gospel as inculcated in the Established Church. but because he hath first received grace, therefore consequently he doth good works."

In a very short period after the issue of our present number, the Election contests will have commenced throughout the Province; and with them all that train of strifes, and heart-burnings, and moral calamities, which, with the acknowledged necessity of elective institutions to a modified extent, are their invariable result. In the forthcoming conflict, the constitutional supporters of the honour and integrity of the Crown will, in not a few instances, be found arrayed against its revolutionary opponents; and to the advocates of the righteous cause of our Queen and country, in the approaching struggle, we warmly wish the most triumphant success. There will also be found Conservative opsecond paradise which was to be the reward of their posed to Conservative, -without a shade of difference probation in the wilderness, they had a foretaste of it in political opinion, and only appearing in the present for forty days (Numb. xiv. 33, 34); and the people who posture of collision from some sectional partialities of murmured at the evil report of the faithless spies, were | their respective supporters, or a varying estimate of their condemned to wander forty years in the wilderness, a personal qualifications. Between the respective merits year for a day; so that this penance symbolizes again of such, it is not for us to interpose a word of judgment: with the curse which was consequent on the loss of pa- suffice it to say, that, if standing upon equal ground in loyal devotion to the throne, in firm support of the constituted authorities, and in intellectual fitness, let the electors decide the merits of their candidates by this in which they might have an opportunity of averting the great touchstone,—the safest which, in any case, can be appealed to,-their fear of God, and their consistent adspent forty days and forty nights upon the mount, when herence to those principles of integrity and truth of he received the tables of the law from the hand of God, which a genuine religious profession affords the only guarantee

It is difficult to predict the general result of the approaching Elections: most heartily, however, do we his fast was observed in a wilderness. Elijah also, when avow our hope that a good majority of the members rehe fled out of Judea, crossed the river Jordan, and fasted turned may be found to be supporters of the Government,-that is, resolved to be conservators of our Conmount Horeb stood; where Moses had twice fasted stitutional Charter as it stands, and intent upon working forty days, and where the Israelites were led about in a out its most favourable practical results. Such an issue of the Electious is the only one which promises stability "The general agreement on so many occasions con- to our present institutions, -as guarding us from the cerning the period of forty days, might probably be de- factious opposition of the disappointed on the one hand,

Yielding, as we cheerfully do, to the Executive the and burden of our Colonial trials. We cannot under-Having offered these remarks, and adduced these stand why the importations of the last or the preceding testimonies, upon the instituted fasts of the Church, we year should, in the eyes of our Executive, be thought nay proceed to a few observations upon the kind and preferable to the growth of the land, or to those at least egree of fasting which is meant to be enjoined. Here who, having adopted this as their country, have grown the Church acts with her usual moderation, - prescribing with its growth and strengthened with its strength. We rmance,-leaving it, as it were, to every one's con- attempted to be established, is their excessive loyalty! ortification; whilst to others a reduction of its quantity, people's disinterested choice, than individuals of ample com constitutional incapacity, would be a self-denial property, of habits of business, and of undoubted zeal the cantons of Switzerland or the free borders of Crim Annexed to the duty of abstinence during the period | Tartary should be best qualified to regulate the domestic rarily lifted up into official consequence, without stake in the country or sympathy with its inhabitants, will be subservient and obedient only so long as self-interest feting the waves, but quietly yielding to the refluent impulse. It is a poor compliment to those gentlemen who, in the hour of the country's peril, were found bravely at their post, breasting the flood of rebellion and forming a gallant phalanx against the gathering storm of foreign sympathy,-it is, we repeat, a poor compliment to such halls the weal and honour of that land for which their heart's blood would have been freely shed, and that others should be—not very equivocally—designated as and at great personal inconvenience, the above Reverend be competently and honestly represented, we trust, even at this eleventh hour, to see the influence of the Execuwho have battled for the British Constitution in its most perilous day, and who cherish it as one of their dearest

Some of our contemporaries are still harping upon the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled? but I belongeth to God, who doth call us; and then hath he ther Country,—that more time may be allowed for the the sign when all these things shall be fulfilled s' but I belongeth to God, who doth call us; and then hath he lay no great stress upon the word; for whether the expression that peace might not be maintained with Europe.

The Madress was agreed to without opposition.

wishes to hand it down unimpaired to their posterity.

-the deeper growth and wider spread of the principles

The Lord Bishop of Toronto will hold his next General Ordination at the Cathedral, Toronto, on Sunday the 25th of April. Candidates for Holy Orders, whether of Deacon or Priest, are required to obtain previously the Bishop's permission to offer themselves, and they will be expected to be furnished with the usual Letters Testimonial, and the Si Quis attested in the ordinary manner. The Examination will commence on Wednesday the 21st April, at 9 o'clock A. M.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Church, CHURCH STATISTICS.

The Township of Brock contained, in 1838, according to the return made under the Provincial Act 1 Victoria 21, which was taken with considerable care, a population of 1321. The inhabitants are, almost exclusively, either emigrants from the British Isles, or their children. The majority are natives of Ireland, amongst whom some of the first settlers are to be found. The Protestant Irish are to the Roman Catholics as three to one. The former belong principally to the Church of England; although there are also some Wesleyan Methodists and a few Presbyterians amongst them. The Episcopalian Irish have settled in or near the south-west part of the Township, while the Irish Wesleyans are, for the most part, in the north-west quarter. The Roman Catholics are much dispersed.

The emigrants from Scotland stand next to those from Ireland, in regard to numbers, and are nearly all from the Highlands or Western Islands. The Gaelic language is spoken invariably amongst themselves, and few can converse in English. The children, however, speak either language is the converse of the con verse in English. The children, however, speak either lan-guage. These Highlanders, amongst whom are some of the oldest settlers, are all Presbyterians. This is likewise the case with the few Lowland Scotch in Brock. The Scottish settlements are mostly on the east of the Beaver river; and extend through the whole length of the Township.

There are very few English families resident in Brock.

The settlers are all very industrious. Their present condiion of comparative comfort has been attained by persevering abour, which has nevertheless been greatly obstructed, and s still much paralysed by the state of the roads between hem and the more settled parts of the Province. The only time during which they can carry the produce of their farms to market, or bring out to the woods those manufactured and other goods, which are really necessary for the health and comfort of their families, is while the sleighing lasts Until recently the Township has been wholly destitute of schools, and none at present exist suited to the wants of the

According to the return before alluded to, the numbers of the different religious denominations were, in 1838, as

Church of England,... 554 | Presbyterians,..... Methodists,..... 206 Romanists,..... 154 59 Christians,... The Presbyterians have no place of worship in the Town-

ip, but service is frequently performed in private houses, a the adjoining Township of Thorah, a grant of 100 acres has been obtained for the support of a Presbyterian minister, and it is said that a chapel will shortly be erected in the rillage of Beaverton. A resident minister is expected, who will, it is supposed, also officiate in Brock.

The Methodists have a convenient school-house, in which

service is performed twice a week by two ministers, both of hom reside in the Township. Some of their best preachers lso attend the Camp and Quarterly Meetings, and of course use every exertion to extend their influence. Amongst the Wesleyans are several persons who were originally members of the Church of England, but being without any spiritual instruction, according to the rites of their own Church, nacurally connected themselves with that denomination of Pristians which most nearly resembled their own. Nor is unreasonable to suppose, that if a resident minister of the hurch of England were appointed, they, or some of the would relinquish their present connexion, and return to the Church of their fathers. In truth, those who have once belonged to the English Church, have so many affecting recollections, associated with her services, that no neglect or length of time can ever entirely destroy them. They may have been proposited to deep for have been permitted to sleep for very many years, but with the existing generation, it is not yet too late to re-awaken them. It is not so, however, with their children, whose hearts are cold to what would excite the most powerful emotions in their parents. To a Churchman attached by early instruction and subsequent reflection to the doctrines and discipline of his Church, few things occasion so much pain-

the Township regularly every six weeks.

The Baptists and Christians are also without any place of "In the course of the course worship, but they are frequently visited by persons exerci-

The Episcopalians have no place of worship whatever, I have resided for upwards of five years in the Township. During the first two years of that time, divine service was performed occasionally by the Rev. A. Elliott. After he removed to Franktown, we remained for nearly three years mendation of the duty of fasting, especially after the sways; the changing tide will find them not nobly buf- without once seeing a clergyman. In December 1840, however, some of the settlers determined to adopt measures for edying this serious evil, and the destitute condition of the Township was represented to the Lord Bishop of Tointo, whose powerful influence has been exerted on our behalf, and during the past summer and present winter we have once more been able to join with regularity in the services of our Church. The Rev. R. J. C. Taylor of Newgentlemen that the voice, as it were, of authority should service should be performed in the Township once a month, pronounce them incompetent to plead in the legislative and as the members of the (hurch are too numerous and remote from each other to form one congregation, he further engaged to hold two services on separate days.

In defiance of the almost impassable state of the roads, their substitutes, who care as much for Botany Bay as for Canada, and whose fervour of regard for our Provincial interests is proportioned exactly to the amount of of the Church of England resident in the Township.

The settlers are animated by a zealous desire to see the religion of their fathers established amongst them, and are willing to subscribe their money or give their labour toward the erection of such places of worship as may be required.

tive, if exercised at all, thrown into the scale of those Resolutions were unanimously agreed to, having for their In November last, public meetings were held, at which object the building of two churches, one in the south-west and the other in the north-east quarter of the Township. Committees were at the same time appointed to raise subscriptions, and they have met with so much encouragement and success, that we already begin to entertain the confident hope, that in the ensuing summer this Township will possess twe Episcopalian Churches.

J. THOMPSON. Brock, Dec. 31st, 1840.

For the Church.

Brock, Home District, Feb'y 4th, 1841. At a Meeting of the Subscribers towards the erection of a Church in the north-east division of Brock, held this day, the local Committee submitted a statement of the amount of the Subscription fund and an estimate of the expense of the intended Church, which were considered so satisfactory that

the Meeting resolved to give out the contract immediately. At the same Meeting the gratifying announcement was made, that a resident Clergyman of the Church of England had been appointed for this Township by the Stewart Mission Society. This intelligence excited a powerful feeling throughout the persons assembled, and the following Reso-

lution was carried unanimously: "That the deep-felt gratitude of this Meeting is due to the Stewart Mission Society, for the truly Christian spirit which it has manifested, in not overlooking the spiritual wants of this remote Township."

Civil Intelligence.

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITANNIA.

TWENTY SEVEN DAYS LATER. From the Montreal Herald Extra.

the 5th instant, and was consequently out sixteen days and a half.

The last previous news from China is confirmed, and every thing appeared quiet in that quarter. In France matters had quiet, and there was some intention manifested of discontinuing the fortifications at Paris.

The President steam ship was preparing to resume her trips to New York, and every exertion had been used to increase her speed, and bring her out a crack boat.

and pring her out a crack poat.

Some interesting proceedings took place in the House of Lords with reference to Lord Cardigan, which we have extracted.

In the House of Commons on the 2d instant, Mr. Hume said that he would, in the first week of March, move an amendment to the Reform Bill, to the effect of giving votes to lodgers. Sir Robert Peel asked Lord John Russell whether he had received lately any despatches from the Governor General of Canada, and whether it was his intention to lay them before the House. Lord John replied that he rather thought no despatches had been received since the last that were presented to Parliament, but he

was not prepared to give a positive answer.

Sir R. Peel then enquired whether any day had been fixed upon for giving effect to the Act of Union of the Canadas. Lord John replied that it was the intention of the Governor General to proclaim the Union at the end of January or the beginning of the present month. The noble Lord said also that as it would be necessary, very shortly, to assemble the Legislature of Upper Canada, if the Union was not by that time proclaimed, it was the intention of the Governor General to propose a Special Council to consider what time the proclamation should issue.

Mr. Labouchere gave notice that he would move, at an early day, that the duties on East India and West India rum be equalised

and that both should pay a duty of nine shillings per gallon.

In answer to a question from Mr. Hume, Lord John Russell answered that Mehemet Ali was to receive the hereditary Pachalic of Egypt, and that Syria was to be abandoned by Ibrahim and his

On the same evening, Lord Stanley's Irish registration bill was brought forward, and, after an animated debate, its introduction was carried by a majority of 261 against 71. The Liverpool Mail says that Ministers sneered at it, but dared not vote against

The Steamer Caledonia arrived at Liverpool in thirteen days

The Cambridge Advertiser notices a rumour of a most serious accident having happened on Whittlesly Mere, by the breaking of the ice, whereby about a hundred individuals lost their lives.

Lord Hill's retirement from the office of Commander in Chief, which he has filled for some years with so much satisfaction to the Country, is confidently announced in the Ministerial prints, and

as stoutly denied by the opposition papers.

On the 23d ultimo, Her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert and the Princess Royal, and attended by the royal suite, arrived at Buckingham Palace, from Windsor, and on the following day the Queen and Prince Albert attended divine service in the Palace. On the 25th Her Majesty held a Privy Council, which was attended by all the Ministers, with the exception of Lord Lansdowne, who was absent from indisposition. The Queen's speech for the meeting of Parliament was then finally settled.

On the 26th ultimo, the Queen went in the usual state to the House of Lords to open the Session. Her Majesty appeared to be in good health and spirits, and she was very generally cheered on her way to and return from the House.
On the 27th, the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace,

to receive the address of the House of Lords, which was read by the Lord Chancellor, to which Her Majesty returned a most gracious answer. There was a similar ceremony on the part of the House of Commons.

Viscount Melbourne is to be created a Marquis at the approach ing baptism of the Princess Royal, and Lord Palmerston is to ve an English Earldom conferred on him. The Princess Royal is to be christened Adelaide, (after the

Queen Dowager,) Victoria, (after the Duchess of Kent,) and Louise, (after the Queen of the Belgians.) The English language has been substituted for the French, in

the Law Courts of St. Lucia. The island is said to be in a miser-

OPENING OF THE SESSION-THE QUEEN'S SPEECH. The Queen opened Parliament in person on Tuesday. She reached the House of Lords about two o'clock; and was there received by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Melbourne, and the other

Great Officers of the Crown.

After robing, Her Majesty took her seat on the throne; and Prince Albert occupied a chair of state, placed for him at the Queen's left hand. The House of Commons was summoned, and in considerable

numbers, headed by the Speaker, appeared below the bar. Then the Lord Chancellor kneeling at the foot of the throne, presented a copy of the following Speech, which was read by the Queen in a distinct voice.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,—I have the satisfaction to receive from Foreign Powers assurances of their friendly disposition, and

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 tranquillity. 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 the Sultan, a convention intended to effect a pacification of the Levant;

Church as a scite, and it is understood that a priest will visit the contracting parties had in view are on the eve of being com-

"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 those Powers in 1835, for regulating the navigation of the Douro. But both parties have accepted my mediation, and I hope to effect a reciliation between them upon terms honourable to both. "I have concluded with the Argentine Republic and with the blic 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 of 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 have for their object the more speedy and effectual administration of justice. The vital importance of this subject is sufficient to insure 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 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 adviceof my Parliament. I place my reliance upon your wisdom, loyalty, and patriotism; and I humbly implore of Divine Providence, that all your counsels may be so directed as to advance the interests of morality and religion, to preserve peace, and to promote by en-lightened legislation the welfare and happiness of all classes of my subjects.'

As soon as the Queen had concluded the Speecch, Her Majesty was handed from the Throne; and, accompanied by Prince Albert, she left the House.

The House of Lords reassembled at five o'clock. Lord Ducie

moved the usual Address; which, with the exception of a paragraph congratulating the Queen upon the birth of the Princess Royal, was a mere echo of the Speech. Lord Ducie took a review of affairs abroad and at home, and was full of congratulation their prosperous aspect. One exception to his favourable an ticipations was suggested by the Corn-laws—

With regard to our domestic affairs, we were at present in the enjoyment of quiet. Agriculture was in a progressive state of imovement; and manufactures were rising from the depressed state in which they had been of late, into that limited and uncertain state of prosperity beyond which, he feared, they could never rise so long as duties of a restrictive nature were continued, which rendered it impossible for any human foresight or precaution to prevent a recurrence of famine prices in articles of subsistence. Ironical cheers from the Opposition.) It was impossible that a large and extended field for commerce, on which this country depended, could be opened under these circumstances.

Lord LURGAN, who seconded the Address, went over nearly the same ground as the mover, and saw every thing still m couleur de rose. He was filled with "inexpressible delight" at The Royal Mail Steamer Britannia arrived at Boston on Mon- the first paragraph in the Speech; as it had been his erroneous im-

The Address was agreed to without opposition.