LATEST NEWS.

From the New-York Commercial Advertiser, Nov. 30.

LATER FROM CHINA.

The *Globe* Indiaman, Capt. Christopher, arrived yesterday from Canton, bringing Macao papers to the 4th of July.

Admiral Elliott, commander-in-chief of the Chinese expedition, arrived on the 28th June. The force in the China seas, on the 4th of July, consisted of the following vessels:—The Wellesley 74, Melville 74, Druid 44, Blonde 42, Volage, Alligator, and Conway, 28 each, Larne 20, Hyacinth, Algerine and Pylades, 18 each, Cruiser 16, sch'r Rattlesnake, the war-steamships Atalanta, Enterprize, Queen, and Madagascar, and 25 Transports. All had proceeded Northward except the Druid, Volage, Hyacinth, Larne, Pylades, and Madagascar, which remained to enforce the blockade of Canton.

This blockade, although notified to commence on the 28th of June, did not commence until the 3d of July, on which day the Volage, Hyacinth, and Madagascar moved up to the Bocca Tigris, and began operations by seizing a junk laden with salt. It was considered very doubtful whether the blockade could be rendered effective, there being so many passages by which access can be had to Canton.

Nothing further was known as to the ultimate intentions of the Admiral.

Two American ships entered after the 28th of June, and it was believed that all American vessels in the river would be allowed to take in cargo and depart.

Captain Elliott (the superintendent) had issued the subjoined proclamation, in the Chinese language:—

MACAO, 25th June, 1840.

To the Inhabitants of the coasts of the Province of Canton.

The High Officers Lin and Tang having visited the English superintendent and people of Canton with perfidious violence, in contemptuous disregard of the Imperial Command that they should be treated with justice and moderation, and having shamefully deceived the Emperor with false reports, it has been determined by the Gracious Sovereign of England to send Royally appointed Officers to the Coast of China, to the end that the truth may be made manifest to His Imperial Majesty, and lasting peace and honorable Trade firmly established.

This Notice is to declare that the Queen of England, venerating the Emperor and tenderly cherishing the good and peaceful inhabitants of the land, has strictly Commanded that their persons and property should be rigidly respected whilst they are opposing no resistance to Her Majesty's Arms.

Let them therefore bring their supplies to the several stations of the British forces without fear, in the certainty that they will receive kind protection, and just payment.

The High Officers Lin and Tang having by false representations drawn from the Emperor orders for the discontinuance of Honorable British Trade (to the deep injury of tens of thousands of just men, native as well as Foreign,) The Commander-in-Chief of the English Sea forces has now to declare, by the Command of the Queen of England, that no native vessel will be allowed to pass in or out of said Port, and others hereafter to be named, till the British Trade shall proceed without obstructions at points to be indicated by the Commander-in-Chief, and until further notice under his seal of office.

But fishing craft will be allowed to pass in and out of the Port of Canton without obstruction in the hours of daylight and the native trading vessels of the outside Cities and Villages are permieted to pass to and fro, and to resort for purposes of mutual exchange to the station of the British shipping.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.

True Copy: EDWARD ELMSLIE, Secretary and Treasurer.

PROCLAMATION.

Rates of Rewards for destroying the English.

An offer of rewards, which will be truly awarded to any who shall destroy the English:

1st. Whether civil or military officers, soldiers or people, whoever shall be able to take an English man of war carrying eighty great guns, delivering the same to the Mandarins, shall receive the reward of $20,000. For a smaller vessel, carrying fewer guns, less will be given. For every great gun less, the reward will be diminished $100. Whatever the great vessel contains besides the great guns, weapons of war, and opium, which must be given up to the Mandarins, excepted; such as clocks, watches, cloths, or money—all these in addition shall be awarded to the takers of the vessel! Again, to any who shall destroy a great man of war of said foreigners, not leaving even a single plank—substantial evidence being produced of the same,—shall be given the reward of $10,000. For a smaller one less in proportion.

2d. Whoever takes an English merchant vessel, shall have as a reward whatsoever the vessel contains—excepting the vessel, great guns, implements of war and opium, which must be given up to the Mandarins, such as goods and money. In addition to which for a large vessel with three masts, the takers shall receive the reward of $10,000; two and a half masts, $5,000; two masts $3,000. For taking an English large (sampan) or passage boat, $300; a small one, $100.

Whether large or small, for the destroying or sinking of each English vessel—substantial evidence being produced for the same—the proportion of one third of the foregoing rewards shall be awarded.

3d. For taking alive a foreign Mandarin or officer, on inquiry should it be ascertained that he is the said man-of-war's chief officer, the reward shall be ($5,000) *five thousand dollars*: for any other officer, more or less, according to his rank and office,—the rule of lessening, for every degree lower the reward shall be diminished $200.

4th. For killing foreign mandarins or officers—substantial evidence being produced of the same—one third of the proportional reward for taking such alive shall be awarded.

5th. For seizing alive Englishmen or Parsees, whether soldiers or merchants, for each one a reward shall be given of $100; for each one killed, evidence being produced of the same, D.20. As for taking the black devils, it ought to be decided whether they are soldiers or slaves, and the reward granted accordingly.

6th. For taking *Han rascals*—Chinese—who supply the barbarians, or deal in opium, the same on trial being condemned, decapitated, and their heads exposed; for each of such D.100 reward; besides these, for those of less crime, a less reward will be given. Translated by I. J. R.

June 24th, 1840.

From the Canton Press

Imperfectly as we believe the estuary of this river to be known, and affording as it does, by means of passages through the many islands, called by the natives 10,000 Isles, access to the river to native boats of all sizes, we suspect the blockading squadron will have quite enough to do to guard them sufficiently. The Bogue entrance is, we believe, generally preferred by native vessels as the *nearest* way to Canton, through the main channel of the river, which runs in a perfectly straight course from the Bogue to first bar, and by that entrance alone foreign ships are allowed to approach Canton; but besides that arm of the river, generally called the Macao passage, by which foreigners are obliged to go between Canton and Macao, if in native boats, and to which there are many entrances by channels formed by the many islands, there are other navigable arms of the Chokiang river, the mouths of which are, we believe, considerably to the westward of Macao, one of which connects the wealthy town of Fa-shan, in the neighbourhood of Canton, with the sea. The width of the whole estuary of the Chokiang, taking the Bogue entrance to be the most easterly, cannot fall short of 70 or 80 miles from N. E. to S. W., and will therefore require a numerous flotilla to guard it strictly.

31 July, 7 P. M.—We have received the gratifying intelligence that part of the blockading squadron moved up yesterday to the Bocca Tigris, consisting of the Volage, the Hyacinth, and the Madagascar steamer, and that a salt junk has been already seized and sent to the Cup-sing-moon. The great advantage of the steamers is already proved, as the junk would most probably have managed to escape, had she not been out manœuvred by the steamer. The blockade will, we have no doubt, make Lin furious, and we may fully expect to hear that he has choked the river up, and put an end to all trade. It is only the first, we can assure him, of a series of operations, each subsequent one more seriously affecting the welfare of China.

From the Canton Press published at Macao.

From Canton we have lately not heard any news of much interest, except that considerable excitement prevails as to the movement of the English, and as to the measures the Chinese authorities may take. By some of the Chinese it was thought that in case of the English approaching Canton, the whole population of the suburbs would be made to retire within the city walls, and apprehending this many of the wealthier people have removed into the country with bag and baggage. Apprehensions of insurrections among the people, now thrown out of employment by the cessation of the foreign trade, were also entertained, and it was thought they might possibly break out immediately after all the foreigners shall have left Canton. The fury of the populace would in that case probably be first directed to the Hongs and warehouses of the Hong merchants. Most of the foreigners, by our last advices from Canton, either had left or were about to leave, so that within the next week we suppose there will be none remaining. Numerous are the garrisons now in the provincial city, but whether they be intended to act against an invading enemy or the refractory people, it is difficult to say. No less than seventeen culprits were executed in Canton about a fortnight since, for having provided the English at Cap-sing-moon with provisions. Governor Lin it is said does not manifest any uneasiness at the expedition.

From the Canton Register.

We have little doubt that, should a mission be sent to Pekin, as a politic and friendly preliminary proceeding becoming a civilized nation and the high standing of England, it will fail; no answer will be given, much less positive and satisfactory answers. It will be ordered away. H. M. ships will be ordered to leave the Chinese waters, and the British troops to evacuate Tinghae; then, perhaps the imperial dragon may deign to give an answer, but not till then. In the then emergency, it rests with the commanders in chief to adopt such measures to compass the objects of the expedition: which are, in the language of Lord John Russell, to obtain reparation for the insults and injuries offered to Her Majesty's Superintendent, and Her Majesty Subjects, by the Chinese government; and in the second place, they were to obtain for the merchants trading with China, an indemnification for the loss of their property, incurred by threats of violence offered by persons under the direction of the Chinese government, and, in the last place, they were to obtain a certain security that persons and property in future trading with China shall be protected from insult or injury, and that their trade and commerce be maintained upon a proper footing.

Add to this, from the speech of Her Most Gracious Majesty, that "the interests of the British nation are to be protected and the dignity of the British crown is to be sustained."

We would most emphatically caution our newly-arrived fellow-countrymen and the commissariat, to use the utmost caution in buying or receiving food or water from the sons of Han: even in drinking from their wells or springs. The late attempt to murder the sailors of the English ships in the Kapsuymoon by poisoned tea, is sufficient proof that the caution is not needless: *poisoning is one of the Chinese modes of making war.*

Thus, then, 1840 years after the christian era, the Caucasian and Tungasian races are on the eve of being brought into hostile contact; the Tungasian race tracing its paternal form of government, on which principles the people and their families are governed at the present day, to more than two thousand years before that epoch! Surely this is a great event in the annals of the world! Two great nations, wide as the poles asunder, after a commercial connection of more than two hundred years are now about to rush into mortal conflict. Jacta est alea—the die is cast, and it is useless for us now to dilate upon the causes of the disruption of two vast empires, even if we had not on many occasions in many numbers of the Register, discussed fully, as we think, the most moving incidents which have caused the present hostile position of England and China; but we now express our deliberate opinion, that the motto of England—Dieu et mon droit—can be most justly made the war cry of her sons on the shores of the celestial empire, should its government unhappily continue obstinate in its ignorance, and confident in the enchantment with which it has enthralled so large a portion of the human race for centuries: for it is not an unfair conclusion that the numbers of the population of the Chinese empire has had nearly a relative proportion to the rest of mankind as far back as the third century B. C.—when Tsin—the burner of the books, the destroyer of the literati, and the builder of the great wall—conquered the contending states and consolidated the various principalities into one empire, as at the present day.

Blockades.—The history of Europe shows that general reprisals have often preceded a declaration of war, that embargoes and blockades have in like manner been previously established: these are mitigated forms of hostility; and a nation which *has a right of war against another*, may use *any* form of mitigated hostility. The larger right includes the smaller.

Now, as to Englands's *right of war* against China, at the date of the threatened blockade; can England's *right* be disputed after the acts of the high commissioner in March 1839; the involvement of a third and neutral party in the quarrel which obliged the English to seek refuge on board their ships; after the murder of British subjects on board the "Black Joke," and the proclamation of the 31st of August? If this *right* cannot be disputed, the right to blockade the Canton river is established apart from the particular circumstances which led to the announcement of the intention to blockade. And it is held by the Courts in England that a commander of a king's ship on a station so distant as to preclude the government at home from interfering with the expedition necessary to meet the change of circumstances, may have authority delegated to him to extend or vary the blockade on the line of coast on which he is stationed.

Law of Blockade.—Lord Palmerston, at the instance of merchants trading to the Rio Plata, took the opinion of the crown law officers as to the law in cases of vessels coming out of a blockaded port with cargo. Their answer is:

"By the general law of nations vessels are not allowed to come out of a blockaded port with cargo, unless such cargo was on board before the commencement of the blockade."

Lord Palmerston's answer of 21st Dec. 1839, to the deputation of British merchants and shipowners, connected with the trade of Buenos Ayres, whose letter to Lord Palmerston was dated the 9th December, 1839.—*New-York Herald.*

From the Pekin Gazette

We have seen a Gazette of May 22d, which however contains little interest to foreigners. One officer is dismissed for being too lax in the performance of his duties, another is allowed leave of absence on account of the sickness of his mother. The most important item of news we can glean from this paper is the fact of six candidates for literary honors having been discovered with opium on their persons in the very hall of learning. They have been expelled from the sacred precincts, deprived of all acquired rank, and await in chains the issue of a judicial inquiry. In an after column of the paper we find their sentence: "Let them receive a hundred blows and be transported to a distance of 2,500 le." The vender of the Opium in question has not yet been discovered. The officer superintending the repairs of the banks of the Tungho river, has allowed the works to proceed in so slovenly a manner, that his criminal conduct has been reported to, and reprimanded severely by the Son of Heaven. "Let him take warning, and be more careful in future." Our old acquaintance Tang has accused the Kwang Chow Hee and another military officer of accepting bribes. They have been consequently degraded.

From the Singapore Free Press 11th June.

SIAM.—The Fairy has brought us letters during the week from Bankok to the 1st ult. from which it appears that the rumors of our preparations against the Chinese had created some sensation there, mingled with no small share of vague apprehension on the part of the Court—a feeling which it has endeavoured to veil over or disguise by an affected ridicule of the insignificance of the force we were about to employ against the countless host of the Celestials. We may be allowed to suppose, however, that his Siamese majesty entertains a profound feeling of anxiety as to what may befal his imperial brother at the hands of these terrible *Ingresis*, when he reflects how a few years ago they humbled, with such inferior numbers, his own formidable and dreaded foes, the Burmans, whom even his numerous and *invincible* armies has so often fled from—and before he despatches another "golden flower" to the foot of the Dragon throne, he may chance to hear that the English are thundering at the very gates of Pekin, or the British standard actually floating over its walls! As regards the Chinese in Bankok, they, it seems, like their countrymen in Singapore, really laugh in all sincerity at what they consider the absurd idea of our hoping to effect any thing against the central land with such a mere handful; apparently entertaining the full conviction that we shall find it necessary to put every man in China to death before the Emperor can be reduced to any real extremity. They say that if every individual of the English nation were to go to China in their youth, and to commence cutting off the heads of unresisting Chinese as fast as they were able, they would find themselves grey headed old men before they had got through one fourth of its enormous population! So much for the confidence of the Chinese in their numbers—in the meanwhile the King of Spain has ordered all his junks engaged in the China trade into the dock; not at all liking the prospect of their being peradventure captured on the Chinese coast, in spite of the Emperor and his myriads—whilst the Bankok Chinamen are loading vessels with tea, rice, and *salted eggs* in thousands, for the supply of the expedition.

CHINA.

On the feasibility and expediency of establishing British settlements on some of the islands of China, for the purpose of securing a commercial depot, the *Canton Press* of April 25th, makes the following remarks:—

"As great attention has lately been attracted towards the Islands with which the Yellow Sea and other parts are sprinkled, and as it has moreover been stated that we know next to nothing of the same, we wish to say a few words upon the subject. The whole mass may be divided into the following groups; 1. The Canton; 2. The Formosan; 3 The Haetan; 4. The Choosan; 5. The Korean; 6. The Japanese.

"1. The largest of the Canton group are Haenan and Namo, the former at the South-western, the latter at the Eastern extremity of this province, whilst the Canton archipelago is thickest studded with them. The coasts of the first island are well known, and have been partly surveyed by Ross; the interior is a *terra incognita*. The numerous islands in our neighbourhood have been again and again visited by our mariners: and both the harbours between them, as well as the passages are well described in the Directory. No anchorage, however, is so convenient, and for all purposes of trade so well situated as Hongkong. Namo has been traversed in every direction, and the places of shelter about that island have carefully been noted down.

"2. The Formosan group has been less visited. The great Island itself has, since its repossession by the Chinese, scarcely ever fixed the attention of the mercantile adventurer. Of its riches we have frequently heard; its importance to the opposite continent is very great; but there is only one harbour on the West coast, viz. that of Tan-shwuy, and another on the northernmost point, Bay of Kelung. The Eastern coast is an unknown territory, and we are even less acquainted with it than with Spitzbergen. Had some of the ardour which prompted our most hardy seamen to visit the Polar regions been directed to these quarters, the result would have been more satisfactory; and if we had had information about the said island, we do not doubt but that a flourishing trade might have been carried on by this time. To the East is the Hat-chiko-matchi group (eight islets,) inhabited by as gentle and civilized a race as the Loochoo islands; but we are not able to tell whether there are any harbours amongst them. The Pang-koo (Pascadores,) between China and Formosa, are remarkable for their sterility and good harbours; and their possession is indispensably necessary to the land of Formosa.

"3. The Haetan group is less numerous and important than the preceding. The principal island known under that name is well inhabited: those that are situated at a considerable distance out to sea, like Oksunan-yih (Lam jit), are exceedingly sterile; nevertheless inhabited, not by pirates, as some would lead us to believe, but by industrious farmers and fishermen. Me-choo is a very delightful spot. These, as well as the islands around the entrance of Min river, are tolerably well known: but the whole chain that stretches thence to Fah-ning-foo and the frontiers of Che-keang has scarcely ever been visited. Some very good anchorages have been found by occasional visiters, and the natives bear a high character for orderly behaviour.

"4. The Chusan group is small, but remarkable for the high state of cultivation in which the islands are found, whilst their situation in a commercial point of view is the most advantageous that possibly can be found anywhere. Close to Central China, in the neighbourhood of the most flourishing cities of the empire, are Ning-po, Hang-choo, Shang-hae, and Soo-choo, and many more; and being the general thoroughfare between the Northern and Southern trade of China, they are the most important of the whole.

"5. The Korean group is countless in number; little known, however, and only the outer ones have been twice visited. They are richly wooded, but scantily inhabited; the timber that grows there is of the best quality. Some of this chain stretch out to the Gulf of Chihle, and near the coast of Shantung. The largest is situated to the South, called Quelpart; which was made known to us by some shipwrecked Dutch sailors, who lived there at the beginning of the seventeenth century.

"6. The Japanese islands are the most considerable; the principal of the Loochoo group has often come under the observation of our navigators; the chain that runs in a northerly direction to Japan is well laid down on the charts. Both this and another stretching down from the bay of Jeddo to the Bonin Islands are of volcanic construction, and several have craters. The whole is an archipelago in itself, inhabited by semi-civilized races, with strong prejudices against foreign intercourse.

"Of all the propositions made for the establishment of an European settlement none is less feasible than at the Bonin Islands. No Chinese junk would ever venture so far in a boisterous sea; and if one in a hundred reached them, it would be mere luck. The policy itself of having an insular establishment beyond the control of the adjacent despotic governments is a very sound one; and, as there is such an extensive field for making a proper choice, we do not doubt but that a suitable spot will be fixed upon. We want another Singapore, which shall not attract neighbouring nations to its market, with a good harbour, and sufficient arable soil to feed its own inhabitants. These are two indispensable things; the island must, moreover, be situated on the high-road of the trading craft. Under such circumstances, we may promise ourselves great results from such a colony, and though this measure does not contain a panacea for healing all wounds, yet a great many evils will be counteracted, and almost insurmountable difficulties obviated. Time will show how far this important object can be realized, and also prove whether our anticipations have been fallacious or true."

OPIUM.—Externally applied it is emollient, relaxing and discutient, and greatly promotes suppuration. A moderate dose of opium taken internally, is generally under a grain, yet custom will make people bear a dram, but in that case nature is vitiated. Its first effect is the making the patient cheerful; it removes melancholy, and dissipates the dread of danger; the Turks always take it when they are going to battle; it afterwards quiets the spirits, eases pain and disposes to sleep. After the effect is over, the pain generally returns in a more violent manner; the spirits become lower than before, and the pulse languid. An *immoderate* dose of *opium* brings on drunkenness, cheerfulness and loud laughter at first, and after many terrible symptoms, death itself. Those who have accustomed themselves to an immoderate use of opium, are apt to be faint, idle, and thoughtless, they lose their appetites, and grow old before their time.—*Hill.*

BERMUDA, Nov. 7.—Barbadoes had been suffering, up to the 14th of October, from a very severe drought, which created much alarm for the ensuing crop. Our latest papers, however, convey the gratifying intelligence, that a most beneficial change had taken place in the weather. Between the 15th and 19th the island was blessed with abundant and heavy showers, reviving again the prospects of the planters, and diffusing gladness throughout the land.

The *Journal des Debats* says, "that the abdication of the Queen of Spain is a fact that ought not to have surprised any one. Exposed for the last two months to all kinds of insults, the Queen's position was no longer supportable—she had no choice left but to retire or be degraded. The Young Queen is to remain in Spain; her name will for some time, at least, serve as a watchword for her party, and there may possibly be some cries heard of 'Long live the Constitution! Long live Isabella!'

"By retiring, the Regent leaves the municipal authority and the military dictatorship at issue. The destinies of Spain are placed between the Juntas and the Duke of Vittoria. If Espartero was one of those energetic characters who sometimes appear in the midst of a revolution, the victory would not be long doubtful, and the friends of Spain might desire his triumph, because in defalt of right, he represents unity, and unity is the only mode of regeneration for Spain. But, with his resolute character, it is to be feared that the ardent passions of his adversaries will annihilate him. The retreat of the Regent will infallibly create a collision between Espartero and the hundred-headed anarchy of democracy.

QUEEN CHRISTINA AND ESPARTERO.

A Valencia correspondent informs us that the young Queen, on leaving Valencia for the capital, met with warm demonstrations of loyalty from the inhabitants of the former city, and of all the principal places along her route; every body taking great interest in her situation. It was said that Sir A. Aston, on learning the Queen-Regent's intention to abdicate, had endeavoured to change her Majesty's resolution, but that the Queen told his Excellency that she was actuated by nothing but a desire to promote the good of her daughter's subjects, and that she had no doubt Spain would come to regret the absence of one who was so much disposed to promote the welfare and happiness of the country. We find it stated in the same letter that the Queen-Regent had expressed herself in very bitter terms to Espartero a few minutes before leaving Valencia. Her Majesty reminded him that he had no cause to complain of her conduct towards him, to treat her in the way he had done; that, from being a subaltern officer, he had been raised to high command, had been made by her Count of Luchana, Duke of Morello, and had been created a grandee of Spain. "The only thing I could not do," added the Queen, "was to make you a gentleman!" We may add to the above the following extract of a letter from the same city, which gives an affecting account of the separation of the Queen Christina from her two daughters, Queen Isabella and the Infanta Donna Louisa:—

"Just as the young Queen and her sister were going to bed, their mother called them, and told them that she was going to leave them the following day, and that she should be absent for some time. All three immediately began to sob aloud. After having recovered a little, Maria Christina told the two Princesses the state of her health required a change of air, and asked them if they would wish their mother to die? The two children did not reply, but their lips were sealed to those of their mother. The latter then taking the young Isabella in her arms, gave her some advice adapted to her age, and desired her never to forget the numerous sacrifices which her subjects had made for her. She then embraced them again, and held them convulsively in her arms, bathing them with her tears. An old soldier, who was present at this interview, was so affected that he several times put his hands before his eyes to conceal his tears.—Queen Christina, wishing to terminate this painful scene, desired that her children might be removed, but the young Infanta exclaimed—'Mother, we will go with you; we cannot remain alone.' The Queen fainted with emotion. When she recovered, she told them she would soon return, in order to calm them; and added, that the persons to whom she confided them merited all their confidence. She recommended them to obey these persons as they would do herself. Christina then gave them the last kiss, holding them both in her arms; but wanting the power of separating herself from them, it was found necessary to tear them away. Queen Christina then fainted, and was for some time in such a state of unconsciousness, that serious fears were entertained. This distressing scene however, at length terminated. Before she set out, the Queen-Mother again desired to see her children; but as they were asleep she was afraid of renewing their grief, and therefore contented herself with looking at them, and bidding them a final adieu. 'May God and Spaniards,' said she, render you happy; love your mother always as she loves you.' She then said with firmness, 'Let us go, and withdrew. She did not cease weeping until she embarked. The crowd received her as she passed with the respect due to her rank and virtue."—*Galignani's Messenger.*

The English Government have been making experiments in percussion shells, which have been successful. It is stated that these shells will destroy any fleet opposed to them.

It is very remarkable that eight peers who were married to divorced women, died suddenly within the last three years.—[Limerick Chron.

The Flag of Lord Exmouth, which was supposed to have been destroyed, with other valuable relics, in the conflagration at Plymouth Dock-yard, has been discovered on board a barge, where it was thrown with other things during the confusion.

Guy Fawkes' Day, the 5th of November, passed off in London in a very quiet manner, its glory having departed, and the celebration of the famous gunpowder plot was left to ragged and dirty boys, who pocketed a few pence in the name of "poor old Guy."

Sir Anthony Carlisle died on the 2d instant, in the 73d year of his age. This eminent surgeon has been long numbered among the most distinguished anatomists, physiologists and naturalists of the age. During a period of sixteen years, he was professor of anatomy and lecturer to the Royal Academy. He was also surgeon-extraordinary to George IV.

The Duke of Northumberland was on Wednesday se'nnight unanimously elected Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, vacant by the death of the Marquis Camden.

A monument is about to be erected to the memory of COPERNICUS, the great astronomer, in his native place, Thorn, in Germany.

Mr. Barry states that the new Houses of Parliament will be completed by the beginning of the session of 1851.

The estates of Glengarry and Inverlochy Castle were put up for sale at Edinburgh, last week. The former was sold to Mr. Ward for £91,000, the latter to an English gentleman for *L.*75,150.

INTERESTING WORK UPON IRELAND.—Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hall, of London, have just commenced the publication, in monthly parts, of a splendid work upon the "Emerald Isle." It will embrace every thing of importance in reference to that extraordinary country—its history, legends, traditions, manners, customs, towers, castles, & remains of monastic edifices, and will contain forty views of the most remarkable scenery of the country, engraved on steel, and about three hundred on wood.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, November 21.

THE COLONIAL TRADE.—The Portland Advertiser says that a memorial, to be presented to Congress it is presumed, is now in that city and numerously signed, upon the subject of the British Colonial Trade. There is not the memorial says, even the semblance of reciprocity in the trade. Our vessels are not admitted to all British Colonial parts, where Custom Houses are established, in the manner as British vessels are into the ports of the United States, nor are they admitted to carry all the productions of this country, to her ports, and freely offer them for sale. Our Fish Oil and Salted Fish, the staple articles of the New England States, prohibited by her altogether, in the Colonies; the ports to which we may trade are limited also, and the articles which we are allowed to take there, taxed more numerously than like articles, entered and coming from other Colonial ports in British vessels. The monopoly of a large proportion of the carrying trade by British vessels, operates injuriously to American vessels, a trade which they enjoyed the principal share of prior to the opening of these ports.

The plaster trade alone, of which there is probably imported into the United States from seventy five thousand to one hundred thousand tons annually, and employs a large amount of tonnage, is now almost wholly imported in British vessels, the annual freight on which will probably amount to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. This was a trade greatly advantageous to United States vessels, prior to the opening of the ports to us, and from which we are now driven in a great measure, and it is only from certain free ports, and at an advanced price, that American vessels are allowed to take it; whilst British vessels are privileged to take it direct from the quarries, and at a diminished price, equal at least, to the amount of freight from the quarries to the place of exportation. But the injury the memorial says does not stop here. Prior to the opening of the British ports, our vessels enjoyed the whole carrying trade, and supplied the British West India Colonies with the productions of this country, which are of vital importance to them, through the other or neutral Islands, and we received the specie in payment. But now English vessels come direct to our ports, with British Colonial productions, and here dispose of them, and purchase a return cargo and proceed to the English West India Islands; and there dispose of the same, and take a return cargo of molasses, sugar, coffee, &c. and proceed direct home, to the British North American Colonies, or to Europe, thus making a profitable triangular voyage, and this they are now enabled to do, much to the injury of American Commerce.

The Memorialists in conclusion ask—"What advantage has our country received in return? Is there a sufficient *quid pro quo*? If there is, we should, and will acquiesce most willingly; but we are constrained to say we perceive a great and increasing disadvantage to the shipping interest of this wide and extended country."—*Express.*

MOST MELANCHOLY SUICIDE.—We learn that Edward Prime, Esq., one of the founders of the house of Prime, Ward, King & Co., was found dead in his room this morning, having cut his throat with a razor. Mr. Prime lived on the shore of the East river, opposite Hurlgate, and was in every way situated as happily as any man could wish to be. No one knew any thing in his habits, his estate, or condition of his mind, which was likely to induce such an act. He was in Wall street yesterday, and transacted business with his accustomed cheerfulness.—*N. Y. Jour. Com.*

Wm. L. M'Kenzie, the Canadian Patriot, who has made a good deal of noise in Canada, and out of it, in the course of the last dozen years, entered a complaint before Justice Wheeler, of Rochester, New York, against several persons, whom he accused of a design to kidnap and send him off to Canada, to claim the 1000 dollars reward offered for him by the British Government. Mr. Cameron, late of the Commercial Bank, Toronto, happened to be in Rochester, was arrested as one of the conspirators, and gave bail for his appearance at trial.

LOVE AND SLEIGHING.—'Egad and what of it? I wouldn't give a *sous* for a sleigh-ride unless I went like a whirlwind. Give me a frosty sky, blood-horses, and plenty of new laid snow, and I'll whistle off my fifteen miles an hour, making the old woods spin by me as if they were running off a reel. Sleighing!—by the soul of my meerschaum, sir, it's a blessing rarely vouchsafed us in these degenerate times and when it does come, I've enough of the old chip in me to make the most of it, kick care to the kennel, and go whizzing helter-skelter over hill and dale, like the wizard horseman, or a will o'-the-wisp gone wild.

Wasn't those jolly times, when you and I were young, with winters *like* winters, and pretty girls, such as in these days would set a continent on fire? Ah! the world's growing worse and worse daily—the horses don't trot as they used to—we haven't snow enough now for a fairy's frolic—and as for getting up your tearing sleigh-rides by moonlight, with a dozen or more vehicles in company, all the pretty girls of two counties, and jokes, songs, soft words, and merry laughter by the bushel, why, I verily believe, sir, you could as well raise the dead, or go to bed without smoking you meerschaum. Then too, the young fellows!—they're not worth a maravedi. Instead of the bold, manly, open air exercise of their fathers—whirling along with their sweet-hearts in the frosty moonlight, making the dear creature's eyes dance, and their cheeks tingle with the delicious sport, they mope, and flirt, and play the fop in some hot, crowded ball-room, dressed out like dancing masters, and shivering at a breath of cold air, as if they had an ague fit. Pshaw on such puny atomies!—I'd cut off my heir with a shilling, if he dared to ape the scoundrels.

Faith, sir, there's nothing like your sleighing to get up a love scrape, and I'd like to know how one can resist it, when he sits so cosily by the side of his partner that he can feel her breath upon his cheek, and hear the lowest whisper of her trembling voice! Then too, you *must* both be under one buffalo, and your feet *will* get together, and your hands stray naturally into each others', and, bye and bye, even your lips get some what close to hers, and catch yourself kissing before you're aware of it. Ah! my boy, there's many a sweet beauty loses her heart at such times, and finds herself engaged—she scarce knows how—at the end of some moonlight sleigh-ride. If you don't wish your daughters to get married, and any gay gallant asks them to a sleighing party, take the impudent scoundrel by the collar, and—battery or no battery—cane him within an inch of his life.—*Jeremy Short.*

Communications.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

MR. EDITOR,—When a man sits down to criticise the writings of another, he should at least do it fairly and honestly, and not attempt, by garbled and incorrect quotations, to impose a meaning upon the words of his author, which they were never intended to convey. Mr. Foulis has most disingenuously and unhandsomely done this, in his last letter, with regard to Dr. Gesner; in which he pretends to shew, by *quotations* from *page* 9 of Dr. G's second Geological Report, that Dr. G. gives the fall outwards (of the St. John,) a descent of "twenty feet," and "the fall inwards at high water, *fifteen feet*, making the whole height of this *double fall* thirty-five feet." These quotations are precisely as given by Mr. Foulis; and by his mode of quoting, he would evidently make it appear to those who know no better, that Dr. Gesner thus states the "double fall" of the river to be *under all circumstances* and *ordinarily, thirty-five feet*; whereas, Dr. G's *real* statement is as follows:—"The fall outwards we have estimated at twenty feet, and at *high tides* the fall inwards at high water is fifteen feet," &c.—Now these most important words "*high tides*," Mr. Foulis has chosen to *omit*; and by thus leaving out a most essential feature of the quotation, has disingenuously endeavoured to mislead readers, who are not acquainted with the subject, and to impute a totally incorrect meaning to Dr. Gesner's words. This is, at least, a most unfair mode of criticism, and can add nothing to the reputation of those who practise it. He who pretends to correct others, should be ever most scrupulously correct himself. X.

St. John, Dec. 7th.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1840.

News from China to the 4th July has been received via New York. The whole of the British fleet, under Admiral Elliott, had arrived at Canton. A variety of extracts are given in the preceding columns.

OPENING OF THE HALL OF THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening this splendid new building was opened and dedicated to the advancement of Science, Literature and the Arts, in this our Province of New-Brunswick. The occasion was a most stirring one, and never before in this city was seen within the walls of one room, so gay, so brilliant, and so numerous an assemblage. The opening Address commenced precisely at eight o'clock, and a very admirable address it was, in every way worthy of the occasion; Doctor Gesner well maintained his previous high character as a Lecturer, and added fresh honors to those he has already won. The Lecture commenced with a brief but comprehensive view of the rise and progress of Science and the Arts, and depicted, in a very felicitous manner, the advancement of mechanical science from the smallest beginning to the present high state of perfection; he alluded very happily to the numerous individuals in humble life who at various periods have been the originators of great improvements, and have risen to the highest rank and honors, and been blessed as the greatest benefactors of their country. The establishment of the Institute only two years since, almost as an experiment, was mentioned, and its rapid growth and extraordinary success were also introduced, while great credit was awarded to the untiring industry, steady perseverance, hearty cordiality, and perfect unanimity of its Officers and Directors, while surmounting every difficulty until success crowned their labours, by the noble building which had been erected, and the establishment of the Institute on a sure and lasting foundation. Acknowledgments were also made to His Excellency Sir John Harvey, for his aid, countenance and support on all occasions, and for the lively interest he had always manifested for the success of the Institute; the encouragement given by the liberality of the Legislature, and the contributions of our philanthropic and public-spirited citizens, received due honor and suitable thanks.

A tone of high religious feeling pervaded the Lecture, and the necessity of inculcating the Christian faith with all instruction, was strongly insisted upon and declared indispensable to a proper state of society,—while it was explicitly declared that no party or political feeling should be provoked, or for one moment allowed to exist, in such an institution, as thereby its declared objects, the advancement of science, the progress of the useful arts, and the diffusion of useful knowledge among the people, would be wholly defeated.

We regret that we are unable to give more, at present, than the foregoing brief outline of the Address, which we trust will be remedied by its publication at length.

The new building is fifty-five feet in width, and ninety feet in length, three stories in height, with rooms also in the basement presenting an outward appearance quite ornamental to the City. The Lecture Room is fifty-five feet square, the ceiling twenty-three feet in height; it has four handsome Gothic windows on each side, and is fitted up with seats rising geatly above each other, like an amphitheatre. Last evening, the magnificent silk banners of the Trades, on which their several arms are gorgeously emblazoned, were displayed on the walls, which were also decorated with a number of flags and paintings belonging to the Institute. The room was brilliantly lighted, with three large chandeliers, and numerous branches on the walls, filled with wax lights. There were nearly eight hundred persons present, and although the place was certainly well filled, yet there was no crowding, or squeezing. Among those present, we noticed His Worship the Mayor, and all the Members and Officers of the City Corporation, (who attended by invitation, and marched in procession from the Council Chamber),—the Judges; the Clergy; the members of the Executive Council; the Speaker and Members of the Assembly, the Officers of the Garrison, the Magistrates, and in short nearly every person of standing in the City, with a very great number of Ladies. The President of the Institute was seated at the back, in the centre of the upper seat, in a Chair of State, with the crimson satin of the Directors displayed above him; it bore, emblazoned in gold, the bare arm and hammer of the Mechanic, with the motto, "Knowledge is Power." The great blue silk banner of the Institute, bearing the golden bee-hive, was displayed above the Lecturer; and taken as a whole, a more magnificent *coup de œil*, we will venture to say, was never before presented in New-Brunswick, than was seen last night during the delivery of the address.

At the close, it was announced by the Corresponding Secretary, whom we observed very active in receiving and seating the company, that Mr. GEORGE BLATCH would lecture upon *Self Instruction*, on Friday evening, a subject very appropriate at the present time; and it was also announced, that the Directors had resolved that the new building should be called and designated, "THE HALL OF THE INSTITUTE," and by that name we shall hereafter speak of it, when we mention the doings within its walls.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor honored the St. Andrew's Society of Fredericton with his company, at their Anniversary Dinner, on the 30th ult.

The Light company of the 56th Regt. (100 men,) were to leave Quebec last week for Madawaska, to garrison that post. The following officers are to accompany the detachment: Col. Eden, Capt. Walmesley, Lieut. Smith, Ensign Conran, and Surgeon Campbell.

A fall of snow yesterday has again made good sleighing, and the jingling of the horses' bells are heard in all directions.—Sunday was as cold a day as has been experienced here this season, the thermometer ranging as low as 3° (above zero.)

A fine new ship named the *Caliope*, 630 tons, built at St. Mary's Bay, N. S., and owned by J. T. Hanford, Esq. of this city, was towed into this port by the steamer Nova-Scotia, a few days ago.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.—We understand that the Legislature of this Province will meet on Wednesday the 20th of January next, for the despatch of business.—*Courier.*

LITERATURE.—We take pleasure in directing attention to an advertisement in another column, from Mr. R. SHIVES, announcing his intention of undertaking the publication of a Literary Magazine, monthly, in this City. As a great number of literary periodicals, printed in the United States, are taken in this Province, the postage on which alone exceeds the price intended to be charged for the proposed publication, we think Mr. S. has every reason to expect that the *Amaranth* will be extensively patronized.—*Ib.*

BIBLE ILLUSTRATIONS.—The very flattering reception which the first volume of the "*Pictorial Illustrations of the Bible*" has met with, has indeed the publisher, Mr. R. Sears, of New-York, to announce his intention of