Pollett River, to the County Line.—5 from the Great road to Bell's Farm.—5 from the River at Uz Blakeney's to John Laller's.—5 from Bannister's to Alexander Cain's.—5 from the Great road, Shediac, to Gilbert's Mill Settlement.

Wednesday, April 14.

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, requiring the immediate attendance of the House in the Council Chamber.

The House attended, and being returned—

The Honorable Mr. Speaker reported, that he had addressed His Excellency as follows:—

"*May it please Your Excellency,*

"The Assembly, with feelings of devoted loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty's Person and Government, attend Your Excellency with the several Bills of Supply passed during the present Session.

"During a Session of great length, the Assembly have diligently devoted themselves to objects of great importance to the Province; and they trust that the amendments made in the Law relating to Parochial Schools, may lead to a remedy of the defects which have been urged against the present School system.

"The Assembly have provided for the Ordinary Services, and made liberal appropriations for the Roads and Bridges, and other Public Works in the Province; and they entertain the fullest confidence that the appropriations so made will be as faithfully applied as they have been freely granted.

"The Bills I now have the honor, in the name and on the behalf of Her Majesty's Loyal People, the Commons of New Brunswick, to present to Your Excellency, are intituled—

"A Bill to appropriate a part of the Public Revenue for the payment of the Ordinary Services of the Province.

"A Bill to appropriate a part of the Public Revenue for the services therein mentioned.

"A Bill to provide for opening and repairing Roads and erecting Bridges throughout the Province.

"A Bill to provide for the erection of a Building for a Provincial Lunatic Asylum.

"A Bill relating to the Provincial Revenue.

"A Bill in relation to the Trade between the British North American Possessions," *(with a suspending clause.)*

That His Excellency was then pleased to give his assent to the several Bills presented by the Assembly, as also to the following, intituled—

An Act to repeal the 5th Section of an Act, intituled "An Act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen, not being Paupers, belonging to the Province," and to appropriate for a particular service a part of the surplus fund collected under that and other Acts.

An Act to appropriate a part of the Light House Fund for a particular service.

An Act to alter and amend the Act to regulate Sales by Public Auction.

An Act to provide for the support and improvement of the Parish Schools.

An Act to alter and amend an Act, intituled "An Act to provide for the erection of an Alms House and a Work House, and to establish a Public Infirmary in and for the City and County of Saint John."

An Act to amend an Act, intituled "An Act for the appointment of Town and Parish Officers in the several Counties in this Province."

An Act to amend the Act repealing the Acts affording relief to persons unfortunate in business.

An Act for the further amendment of the Law, and the better advancement of Justice.

An Act to amend an Act, intituled "An Act for improving the administration of Justice in Criminal cases."

An Act further to amend the Laws regulating proceedings before Justices of the Peace in Civil Suits.

An Act further to continue an Act relating to the Herring Fisheries in the County of Charlotte.

An Act to revive an Act relating to the Inspection of Fish for Home consumption and exportation.

An Act to continue an Act to regulate the Survey and Exportation of Lumber.

An Act to prevent injuries on Lands in the vicinity of the River Saint John, by persons conveying Timber, Logs or Lumber down the same.

An Act to alter part of the Great Road of Communication leading from Newcastle to Bathurst.

An Act to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the County of Carleton to levy an assessment for the erection of a new Gaol and other County Buildings in the said County, and to pay off the County Debt and the contingent and other expenses of the said County.

An Act to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte to assess the inhabitants of Saint Andrews to pay expenses incurred in the support of Emigrant Poor in said Parish.

An Act to authorize the Trustees of Saint Stephen's Church, in the City of Saint John, to sell and dispose of certain Lands in the said City, and to re-invest the proceeds thereof.

An Act to provide for the incorporation of certain Presbyterian Churches in this Province, not in connexion with the Established Church of Scotland.

An Act to incorporate the South Bay Boom Company.

An Act to incorporate the British North American Electro Magnetic Telegraph Association.

An Act to incorporate the Chignecto Railway Company.

An Act to amend the Act to incorporate the Maduxnikik Boom Company.

An Act to incorporate the Madam Keswick Boom Company.

An Act to incorporate the Kings' County Mutual Insurance Company.

An Act to incorporate the Saint John Omnibus and Transit Company.

An Act to incorporate the Saint John Phœnix Fire Insurance Company.

An Act to incorporate the York and Carleton Mining Company.

An Act to incorporate the Portland and Lancaster Steam Ferry Company.

An Act to incorporate the Fredericton Gas Light Company.

An Act for the regulation of Benefit Building Societies.

An Act to repeal the Duties imposed upon articles imported into this Province under the Act of the Imperial Parliament, intituled "An Act to regulate the Trade of British Possessions abroad," *(with a suspending clause).*

An Act to regulate the importation of Books, and to protect the British Author, *(with a suspending clause.)*

An Act to facilitate the making of a Railway across the Isthmus which connects the Provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, to open the communication between the Waters of the Gulph of Saint Lawrence and the Bay of Fundy, *(with a suspending clause!)* and

An Act to authorize the granting of a tract of Land, as a Mill Reserve, to the Honorable John Robertson, *(with a suspending clause.)*

The Legislature was then prorogued.

The celebrated General Drouot, one of the most eminent field marshals of Napoleon, has just died, at an advanced age, universally regretted. He distinguished himself greatly in the campaigns of Germany, Russia, and Waterloo. He has left no fortune behind him, having given all that he had to the poor. Just before his death he actually sold his epaulettes and uniforms to buy bread for the wretched. Napoleon loved him greatly, and always regretted that he had not followed his advice to remain at Elba, where Drouot accompanied him.

An accredited delegation from the natives of the Hudson's Bay Company's territories is at present in London, urging their complaints against the company. They complain of illegal oppression, and of neglect on the part of the company to provide for the moral advancement of the natives.

The Princess Alexandra of Saxe Altenberg leaves Altenberg in the course of this summer for St. Petersburg, there to be prepared for conversion to the rites of the Greek Roman Church, previously to her marriage with his Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia.

[From the Chronicle of Friday.]

We beg to direct the particular attention of our readers, to the subjoined Report of the farewell speech in Common Council of L. Donaldson, Esq., the late Mayor of this city. It is a document of the highest utility; and may, hereafter, prove eminently serviceable, as a record of the fiscal statistics of our Corporate affairs, at the present time, and for the last four years. We would also take this opportunity, of adding our humble tribute of personal commendation in favour of our late Mayor: Mr. Donaldson has, during the four years' administration just concluded, as well as when he filled the Civic chair in former years, proved himself an active, efficient and most useful Chief Magistrate, and we are convinced that the fiscal and general affairs of the City have been materially benefited by his indefatigable exertions. He has deserved the gratitude and good will of the citizens at large; and we therefore wish him, in private life, happiness and prosperity.

COMMON COUNCIL CHAMBER,
Monday, April 19.

At the meeting of the Board this morning, after the business of the day had been gone through, Mr. Alderman Harding, in the name of all the Members of the Board, presented His Worship the Mayor, (Lauchlan Donaldson, Esquire.) with the following Address:

St. John, 19th April, 1847.

To Lauchlan Donaldson, Esquire, Mayor of the City of Saint John.

Sir—We, the undersigned, Members of the Common Council cannot allow you to retire from the Mayoralty of this City, without expressing our opinion of the highly efficient and exemplary manner in which you have discharged the important duties of the Office, during the Four Years you have held the same; and we avail ourselves of this occasion, to express our deep sense of your uniform kindness and courtesy to us, in all our intercourse with you, both in public and private.

We also assure you, that you will carry with you into your retirement, our best wishes for your future health, happiness and welfare.

We have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servants.

H. Porter,	Joseph Fairweather,
Wm. O. Smith,	W. H. A. Keans,
Thomas Harding,	Wm. Hagerty,
G. VanHorne,	Bartholomew Coxetter,
Thomas Coram,	Joseph O. Dunham,
George Bond,	Joseph Beatteay,
Aldermen.	*Assistant Aldermen.*

To which His Worship subsequently forwarded the following Reply:—

St. John, 20th April, 1847.

To the Aldermen and Assistant Aldermen of the City of Saint John.

Gentlemen,—Your kind Address has yielded me much satisfaction. The prompt assistance afforded me in my endeavours to bring the City affairs into order, reflects much credit upon all the Members of the Board. The effects of your exertions are now apparent, in the state of your funds, and in the respect of the public. I retire from a situation, which to me has been one of incessant labour and much anxiety during the last four years, but with the knowledge of having patiently toiled on, in order that what I had undertaken should be carried through.

With best wishes for your health and happiness, I have the honor to remain,

With much respect, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
L. DONALDSON.

After receiving the Address, His Worship the Mayor addressed the Members of the Common Council to the following effect:—

Gentlemen,—Being about to retire from my official connection with the Corporation of this city, I have concluded to engage a Professional Gentleman to take notes of the observations which I am about to address to you, because I consider their correct publication to be a duty I owe, not only to myself, but to you and to the community at large.—In addressing this Board upon entering upon my present office, four years ago, I stated, that it would be one of our first duties, to ascertain exactly the amount of the debt due by the Corporation, up to a certain period. That was done; and instead of about £80,000, as it was at one time asserted to be, or £102,000 as it was afterwards alleged, the fact turned out to be, after a full inspection of the affairs of the Corporation, that the actual amount of the City debt, four years ago, was £125,930 and upwards. By various payments on account, and by the Legislature taking off a large sum for which the City was liable, and by a variety of other arrangements, the gross amount of debt with interest was reduced to £115,366; which sum was finally awarded to the City creditors and set forth as due to them in the Act of Assembly. On the whole amount thus due, instead of *three per cent.* as agreed upon by the Trust Deed, you have lately paid *five per cent.* interest to the Bondholders in half yearly payments; and those payments of interest are now as regularly and punctually made as the 1st of June and the 1st of Dec. in each year come round. It was observed also by me, at the period of my entering office, that it should be ascertained by you how this immense amount of debt had arisen; particularly as a Report drawn up by Mr. Vanhorne and signed by Aldermen Bond and Vanhorne, had made it appear, that in 1837 the Corporation Debt was only £24,000; and thus seeming to shew, that in six years time from that period, the debt had increased by the enormous amount of £100,000 besides the expenditure of the revenues received during that period. It became then our duty to ascertain, if possible, how that immense additional sum of debt had been incurred. This has not been done; this Board never could do it; no man could do it; it was impossible to be ascertained. We found the Corporation accounts in a state of the most unprecedented confusion; a portion of the accounts and documents had been destroyed by fire; and the accounts therefore were made up by a Committee of this Board in the best way they could. It turned out, in our progress, that large amount had been charged in the shape of Bonds, which were not warranted to be charged in that form; that money was charged as paid, which never had been paid; that sums had been paid to the late Chamberlain which had been neglected to be credited in his accounts; and that the Four Shilling Note account was a mass of confusion. It was then thought proper to call the attention of the Trustees to these facts; the accounts were most carefully examined and reported upon by Mr. W. Mackay; as also by Aldermen Smith and Vanhorne and myself; they were also fully, carefully and scrupulously examined and agreed to by, perhaps, some of the very best accountants in this country, viz: Messrs. Swinney, Smithers, Wright and C. A. Wiggins; the result, you all know. I am glad to see Alderman Vanhorne here, be cause I am sure he will do me the justice to say, that, at the time, I strongly objected to the *form* of Adjustment on those accounts. I said that the Accounts had been settled and Bonds given and received in payment of the balance; and that all that the late Chamberlain had to do was to rebut the allegations of surcharges made against him.—But the Trustees at a meeting in the Bank of British North America took a different view of the matter; and the result I am not surprised at.—It was then, in 1843, also stated, that attention should be turned to the Rent Roll; which, as far as possible, is now complete. It is defective only on account of certain leases which have fallen out of date, and not been renewed; but the great existing difficulty has been from want of a new Trust Deed; there being certain difficulties between the Hon. John Robertson and this Board, which, from want of such document have prevented a renewal of his & other leases. That, however, is not the fault of this Board, but is attributable to other causes.—Lastly, I mentioned to you, on taking office, that the Chamberlain of this City was not to be considered as a common Collector of Rents or Taxes; it was not his business to be running from house to house to collect the revenues of the Corporation; you, as the Corporate body, are the Guardians of all the resources and credit of the city, and are bound to see that they are duly collected and applied; it is the business of the Chamberlain to remain in his office to receive the payments brought to him; and it is your business, through him, by written notices to notify parties indebted to the Corporation to make payment, in the same manner as the Banks notify their debtors. Those were the observations, Gentlemen, that I made to you, on coming into office; I will now state what has been done. It is my duty to mention here, that a message got down to the public at large that amidst all the ruin and dismay that were spread over the city at one time, this Board boldly and resolutely determined to cancel the floating Corporation liabilities in the shape of *Four Shilling notes;* this was done to the amount of £2343 10s. which were duly burned: and it was wisely done. Then there was an account called "the Burnt District Account:"—all balances due thereon have also been paid off, amounting to £969 4s 10d. Owing to the unfortunate system, or rather absence of system of keeping accounts formerly pursued, the sum due to the Watch, Scavenger, Lamp and Statute Labour accounts had been applied to other purposes, up to 1843. This improper mode of appropriation has been discontinued, and all the arrears due to those accounts, amounting to the sum of £1295 5s. 9d. have long since been paid off. In addition to this, a variety of debts and liabilities, to the extent of £3100 have been paid by this board, including every debt or claim of £20 and under, up to April 1843; while the annual Interest or Dividends, on the debt, to the amount of £13,529 5s. 1d. has been paid; and, in all this time, *not one shilling has been borrowed.* I would also remind you, that there is at present in the hands of the Chamberlain a sum of £365 16s. 7d. of unclaimed dividends; a fact which is of itself a high compliment to the system which has been pursued of late by this Board, and by the present Chamberlain. So fully aware are the whole community, that money allotted for any specific purpose, is perfectly safe, and that it will be scrupulously kept for such specific purpose only, that parties do not always call for their dividends when due, and the amount therefore remains in the Chamberlain's hands till applied for. On the Statute Labour account, also, there is a sum at present on hand of £40 17s. 2d. balance of last year after the whole expenses of the season were defrayed.—Of the Watch Tax there is a sum on hand of £754 7s. 7d. There is a sum of £47 6s. 1d. in hand on account of the Fire Department; and there is already in the Bank a sum of £500 on account of the Dividends coming due on the 1st June next.—Independently of all this, as you are aware, in 1843, we had no Markets. You have since built them, and paid for them, and now derive a rent from them of over £800 per annum.—Again, independently of the £13,529 5s. 1d. paid as Dividends on the debt, the Chamberlain has paid, half-yearly the full interest on all the pledged property of the Corporation, on which the Trustees are only second Mortgagees; and also a large amount of back rents due for Navy Island and Fort Neck; amounting, altogether, to about £1750. Besides all this, you may boldly challenge any comparison between the condition of the Streets and Squares of the city, at the present time, and the period when this Board came into operation, March 1843. They have been kept in better order than at any period of the City's history; new Streets have been made, and the Squares have been essentially improved. One subject connected with the streets and squares I particularly beg to mention; which is, never to give up the control and expenditure of this money by the Board. Trustees and other Bondholders have repeatedly urged its being given up, towards increasing the general funds. This has invariably been refused, the Board thinking it neither expedient nor proper; the law of the Province being directly opposed to any such appropriation. I hope this will never be done; the law never was passed for any such purpose. At the period of my taking office, there was also a large Mortgage on the steam Ferry Boat, amounting to £875,—besides arrears of interest amounting to about £100, which is now all paid off. I have great satisfaction in stating that the income derived by the City from the Mayor's office, has every year increased since I have occupied it; last year the sum collected there was £237 11s. 11d.; and I have no hesitation in saying, that if common industry and prudence are exhibited, the receipts of that Office will still steadily increase.—There is one Act passed by the Legislature, for which it is my duty to return thanks to this Board. That Act was passed *on your own petition;* by that petition you prayed, that in the existing state of the City funds—(and it was not the Legislature that proposed the measure; it was not from any out of door movement or pressure that it emanated; but it was your own voluntary petition)—that the Legislature should put a stop to the possibility of increasing the City debt; that was your own proposal, and was one of the wisest things you ever did. That same Act provides also, that in case the dividend or annual interest payable to the bondholders is at any time not fully realised by the ordinary resources, the Corporation shall have power to lay an assessment on the city to the extent of not more than £1000 per annum, so as to raise the amount of the dividend to 5 per cent on the whole debt.—There has been a good deal of discussion at this Board on this subject: Mr. Alderman Smith has often argued, and probably with great propriety, that such assessment should only be raised and paid the bondholders on condition that they would take 5 per cent. in full; and which many of them consented to do. But in the event of that not being agreed to, the period when the new Trust Deed has to be entered into, will be the proper time to consider the propriety of having it drawn with some such provision as is contended for by Alderman Smith. Such Tax may never be imposed, and on the exertions of the officers of this Board, must it depend whether it shall be. At present you are paying the bondholders regularly and promptly 5 per cent. interest; but neither should you forget, nor the public be uninformed, that there is at this moment running on, at the rate of £1100 and upwards per annum, a *new debt*, being the difference between 5 per cent. and the big 1.6 per cent. per annum of interest due upon the debt. This is not your fault; but the community should know that such a new debt is hanging over them, and is growing every year. One other matter is worthy of remark. In the statement of the debt of £115,366 there are embodied various sums amounting to £4807 17 which are in no way secured to the bondholders, under the Trust Deed, being of dates after that document was made. You very prudently got it acknowledged in the statement of the debt contained in the Act passed by the Assembly; but in the event of any difficulty hereafter, the old Trustees may say that they are not bound to recognise that sum at all, as a charge on the securities in their possession: they hold the property, they have the power, and they possibly might act in this manner. But I should confidently hope that they will act no such act; it would be ungenerous.—When the Trust Deed was given, the amount of debt was enormous, and the prospects of reducing it very poor indeed. You have since that period paid off immense sums, and the total property is now better in value by £15,000 to £20,000 than when that trust Deed was signed; while the income has increased 50 per cent. It would therefore be ungenerous in them to take the advantage to which I have alluded; neither do I believe they will. Corporation Bonds, four years ago, were offered for sale at from 50 to 55 per cent. on their amount; they have lately been sold at 95 per cent. No words that can be used, will better convey an assurance of the confidence of the public in the present system of management, than this one fact.—As I am now about to leave you, perhaps you will excuse my giving you one piece of advice, which is—*Never anticipate payments.* If you have notes coming due, and payments to make, or liabilities of any kind to meet, meet them according to your actual resources in hand; don't anticipate in any way, especially by discounting notes; if you have not funds on hand, don't attempt to pay or make any partial payments; but pay when you can, and as fast as funds come in; tell your creditors you have not the money, and they must wait till you get it; but never mislead the people by hollow appearances or pretences—lineal the difficulty at once. This is the only piece of advice that I presume to offer you; but it is one that involves serious consequences.

Gentlemen—My quarterly accounts to the first of this month will be handed into the Chamberlain's Office to morrow, and as soon as the Clerk can make up the accounts to the first of May, my account in full will be put into your hands.

In concluding my remarks, I would only say that we all partake of the common human frailty; we are all liable to err; we all have our passions our feelings, and our prejudices. During the management of the city affairs for the last few years, bitter observations have often been made, and severe strictures on various parties, in the public papers. I can only say, I am sorry such should have been the case. I did not join in them; I had nothing to do with them; I have, in my time, suffered much abuse myself in the same way; all public men are liable to such unpleasantnesses. I have frequently been attacked by anonymous writers and newspaper contributors; every active man in small communities must expect to be so; but I am too proud to care for such things, and in place of answering, I always suffered them to have their own way without any interference on my part.—When His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor first spoke to me regarding the office of Mayor of this city, I stated to His Excellency that in the then state of confusion and ruin in which the Corporation affairs were involved, my appointment would necessarily subject me to many bitter observations by parties whose accounts might be incorrect; but having accepted the office, I determined to waive all personal considerations, and resolutely and determinedly to do my duty as long as I held it, and without reference to any other consequences. If I do not in all respects leave the affairs of the city as I could wish, it is because it was impossible; I have done what I could—you have done the same.—I have now to thank you sincerely for the kind, courteous, and gentlemanly feeling and manner which your Board have evinced towards me during the four years that I have presided over it. Of course we could not always agree in our opinions, but you have uniformly acted towards me with the best dispositions and gratifying deportment; and I therefore return my sincere thanks.—I have also to return thanks to a gentleman, who is now on the other side of the Atlantic. Many years ago, when first retiring from the office I now hold, I said that the Common Clerk of this city was one of the best public servants to be found in the country. I thought so then, and I think so now; and I leave this Board with every wish for his health and happiness.—The Chamberlain of the city is well known to you all; you have just unanimously re-elected him to the office that he has so faithfully and efficiently filled for the last four years; and the value of his services is too well known to require any commendation from me. The public also have a perfect confidence in that officer; they well know, that all the monies that come into his hands will be promptly paid over wherever they are due; he is a gentleman of independent fortune and station in society, of the strictest integrity and punctuality, and the city is fortunate in possessing so trustworthy and faithful an Officer.—There is another, and the last public officer whom I shall mention, and that is the Land Agent, Mr. Lugrin. A more persevering, or a more correct business man, I never knew; in his accounts and in all the duties of his office, both as Land Agent and as Clerk to the Chamberlain, the utmost regularity and correctness are always evident; and I sincerely hope that as time passes on, and when a proper opportunity in respect to funds may enable you to do so, you will mark your sense of his services by making some addition to his present limited emoluments. Since the present Chamberlain and Land Agent have been in office, their exertions have been a blessing to this Board, and the city has greatly benefitted by their labours; no difficulty ever occurs in their department; it is a pleasure to do business with them. In conclusion, I will only add, that notwithstanding all the abuse which has been so freely bestowed, and notwithstanding any differences which have arisen between others and myself, for doing my duty sternly as Chief Magistrate, I freely forgive them. My conduct has been just what I considered to be my duty; and aware that time will do justice to the line of conduct adopted, especially considering the task I have had to perform, I am content to abide the result.

His Worship having concluded his observations, the Council adjourned.

IN SESSIONS.

At a special Sessions, held on Saturday 17th inst., the following Resolution was moved by Robert Payne, Esquire, and seconded by Robert Keltie, Esquire—

Unanimously Resolved, That the thanks of the Justices of the Peace in Session, be now presented to Lauchlan Donaldson, Esq., Mayor of the City of St. John, and Chairman of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace, for the zeal and attention evinced by him in endeavouring to place the public affairs of this City and County on a proper basis, and which are now in a much more satisfactory condition than they have been for many years—as also for his kind and gentlemanly conduct while presiding at our meetings.

THE OBSERVER.

St. John, Tuesday, April 27, 1847.

English Mail.—The first April Mail, which arrived at Halifax on Sunday evening, 18th inst., per Steamer Cambria, in 14½ days from Liverpool, was not received in this city until last Saturday afternoon.—The first intimation of the Steamer's arrival was received via Boston. Mr. James Alexander, who was passenger by her, having arrived in town on Thursday night from that City, by the Steamer *Herald*—and by this circuitous route, reached home about forty hours before any of his fellow-passengers for this City, who landed at Halifax. The following passengers by the Cambria, arrived in this city on Saturday evening, via Digby, per steamer *Maid of Erin*—Messrs. John Gillis, John Hegan, J. Fotherby, James Robertson, H. K. Smithers, Thomas S. Estey, Geo. Young, F. McDermott, A. McTavish, William Doherty, E. E. Lockhart, William McNamara, and P. McCullough.

The Governor of Newfoundland, Sir Gaspar Le Marchant, Lady, and family, and Thomas Cannon, Esq., of Liverpool, and family, were also passengers in the Cambria, and landed at Halifax.—She brought out 125 passengers fifty of whom landed at Halifax—the specie brought by her amounted to £420,000—£30,000 of which was landed at Halifax.

The most important event since the departure of the Hibernia is the decline in the price of provisions. The Corn markets are receding in every direction, and in some descriptions—that of Indian Corn, for instance—the fall has been astounding. The price has receded about 24s. The rapid rise in this species of food surprised many persons, and, even in the judgment of the uninitiated, exceeded the necessities of the case. Flour, like Indian Corn, has sustained a considerable fall; and the existing depression can hardly fail to be increased by the fine spring weather we are now enjoying, which foreshadows an early and prolific harvest.

Provision and Cotton Markets.—Throughout the past month, trade, in the generality of its departments, has been steady, and liberal supplies of Foreign and Colonial Produce have been brought forward. A better feeling has manifested itself in the manufacturing districts. The Cotton trade has revived, and Grain Produce of all descriptions have receded considerably.

From the 1st to the 31st of March inclusive, 108,827 bales cotton of all descriptions reached the port of Liverpool: of this quantity 77,308 bales were American.

At our market on the 5th ultc Western Canal Flour sold at 37s. per barrel, and even rather less; Baltimore and Philadelphia at 35s. to 36s. These rates show a reduction during the month of about 5s. per barrel. At the market on the 1st inst. several buyers from Ireland attended, and generally there was a better feeling perceptible. Flour received 1s. per barrel; Western Canal selling freely at 37s. 6d. and Indian Corn improved from 46s. to 50s. per quarter for both white and yellow.—According to calculations made on the 31st March, we find that the stock of Bread Stuffs at the port of Liverpool on that day was as follows:—65,000 quarters of Wheat, 330,000 barrels of Flour, 40,000 quarters of Beans, 10,000 quarters of Peas, 5000 quarters of Barley, 100,000 quarters of Indian Corn, and 40,000 barrels of Indian Meal.—*European Times, April 1.*

The reports from the *Manufacturing Districts* of England and Scotland do not contain such gloomy statements as these last noticed. The change which has taken place in the Corn markets throughout the kingdom has imparted more confidence on the part of manufacturers, which added to an increased foreign demand, affords just grounds for expecting that we have passed the worst point, and that, ere long, we shall be able to announce that our woollen and cotton machines are employed full time, filling up numerous and remunerating orders. At Manchester there is more confidence prevailing, and more extensive purchases have been made, both in Cloth and Yarn, but only at late prices. The accounts from the Woollen districts are of an improving character.

For Colonial Timber "there has been a fair consumptive demand, more particularly in the supply of railway requirements, and there has been some improved feeling in the market, with firmer prices."—One cargo of St. John Pine Timber, 19 inch average, had been sold at £18 1s. 3d.; St. John Planks and Boards have been sold apart at £10 per standard, and in cargo at £10 7s. 6d. per standard.

Mr. O'Connell left Paris on Monday, for Orleans, on his way to Italy. His health is represented to have improved since his arrival in Paris. Dr. Ollifie and Dr. Chonel, who have been in attendance, pronounce him free from organic disease, and give hopes of recovery. A gossip in *Galignani's Messenger* says, "He is labouring under severe hypochondriasis, and allows religious matters to press heavily upon his mind." Before his departure, Mr. O'Connell received a deputation of Peers, Deputies, and Members of the Institute, eager to testify their admiration for his services in the cause of religious liberty. He also saw M. Berryer for a moment, and pressed his hand, just before his departure.

During the past week, potatoes were imported into London from Holland, Germany, Italy, Spain, France, Madeira, the United States, and the British colonies in North America.

A vessel has arrived in London with 2000 barrels of flour from Venice. Although corn has frequently been imported from that city, flour had not previously been brought thence.

The greatest activity prevails in the ship-builders' yards at Sunderland, in consequence of the extraordinary demand for new vessels, to be engaged in the timber and corn trade.

The shipping trade is exceedingly brisk in Glasgow. About forty vessels are taking in goods and passengers for foreign ports, and the arrivals are unprecedentedly numerous.

Greater activity now prevails in the shipbuilding trade at Perth than has been witnessed for several years past.

Trade is reviving in Paisley—so much so, that the relief committee expect to be able to cut off 200 portions per day of soup kitchen supplies.

Fever is greatly on the increase in Glasgow.

Mr. Cobden is at present in Naples, where Baron de Rothschild, the head of the house in that city, has given him a banquet, which Prince Oscar of Sweden honoured with his presence.

Observance of the Fast Day.—It affords us sincere gratification to state that the day of national humiliation was observed in the metropolis with a degree of solemnity befitting the occasion. The churches and chapels were, in most instances, filled with worshipers, and looking at the portions of the Divine Word chosen as texts by the various ministers, we cannot but entertain the hope that the day will be a memorable one in the personal history of thousands as well as in that of the nation at large.

The Bishop of St. Asaph preached before the House of Lords, and the Archdeacon of Surrey before the House of Commons.

The fast was decorously observed by the Jews of the metropolis.

The Society of Friends were the only sect who failed to observe the proclamation, and even they felt it prudent to distribute handbills justifying their course of proceeding. The announcement stated that their body had already forwarded the sum of £40,000 for the relief of the distressed Irish; and further, that although they had resolved on not observing the fast, they intended to appropriate one day's income as an additional contribution for the same source.

The last occasion of a General Fast was in 1832, when the cholera raged in England; and the particular day then appointed was the 21st of March.

An Interesting Event.—We have again the gratification to announce the approach of an event calculated to increase the domestic happines of our Sovereign and the Prince Consort. Her Majesty's accouchement, it is confidently stated, will take place in August next.

The Committee of the British Association for the Relief of Distress in Ireland and Scotland announce the receipt of £1000, the result of a public subscription in St. Petersburgh.

The trade of Liverpool has increased so wonderfully that new docks are to be opened on the opposite side of the Mersey.

It is now proved that Liverpool exceeds London in the amount of its shipping. Liverpool is now the greatest shipping port in the world.

The Canada Company are making efforts to facilitate emigration.

Mrs. Bancroft, the lady of the American Minister at the Court of St. James's, was present at the Queen's Drawing room, on the 27th March.

A new Iron Steamship has been launched at Liverpool, to ply among the West India Islands.

Field-Marshal the Marquis of Anglesey and Field-Marshal Grosvenor received their batons on Saturday, from the hands of the Duke of Wellington; Field-Marshal Sir George Nugent was prevented by the infirmities of advanced age from attending the ceremony to receive *his* baton.

During the last ten years, commissions in the army have been conferred upon 376 non-commissioned officers.

It is expected that in the spring of 1849, a helmet similar to the one in use in the Prussian service, with the addition of a horse-hair plume, will be taken in wear by the British infantry.

The Pope has ordered general gas works to be constructed beyond the walls of Rome, in order to light the streets and supply private consumers.

The Queen of the French has forwarded some articles to be sold at a grand bazaar, which is to be opened at Cheltenham, in aid of the distressed Irish.

The magnanimous Government of Louis Philippe has refused Prince Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte permission to spend a fortnight in Paris with his sister, the Princess Matilda Demidoff.

Prussia and Austria intend to reduce their armies.

A subscription has been set on foot in London for the purpose of erecting a statue in honour of the Queen Dowager.

A Society has been formed at Frankfort by the Jewish women, for the education of the poor Jewish girls.

Stirling—Temperance Lecture.—On Thursday the Hon. Judge Marshall, from Nova Scotia, paid a second visit to Stirling, and addressed a numerous and highly respectable meeting in the Free North Church, on the principles of true temperance. The hon. gentleman was listened to, throughout his able address, by a deeply attentive audience, and seemed to leave deep impression on the minds of all who heard him.

Captain Sir Edward Belcher, late of the Samarang, in which vessel he was engaged surveying on the Coast of Borneo, has been granted a pension of £250 per annum, for wounds received in an encounter with pirates at Sarawak.

The Sarah Sands brought over from New York a large barrel of oysters, alive and in prime condition. They were supplied with salt water on the passage, and occasionally regaled with a little oatmeal. She also brought several packages of eggs, a novelty in the exports from the United States, fifty barrels of potatoes, and an immense quantity of other provisions. The Sarah Sands is advertised to sail from Liverpool for New York on the 6th April.

Corn Riots in Turkey.—A letter from Constantinople states that in consequence of the large quantities of corn lately exported to Europe, some disturbances had taken place at Salonica. They were at last put down, but the Pacha, in order to avoid the chance of a similar outbreak, has forbidden, for the present, all further exportation of grain.

Promotion for the Jews in Russia.—The Emperor of Russia has issued a ukase declaring that Jews in the army shall be allowed to be promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

The state of affairs in Spain is serious—nay, alarming. The plot thickens—the work goes bravely on. The young Queen and her husband—young in years each, and in matrimonial felicity—instead of being one, are two, distinct in soul, sympathy, character. They have not a feeling in common. Had they enjoyed wedded life half a century, they could not evince more indifference to each other. Royalty, unhappily, knows no exemption from the ordinary feelings of humanity. The "accident of a chance" makes a youthful, and not over wise or discreet, lady, the sovereign of millions—people once proud, and still gallant and sensitive. Her follies provoke disgust; and the "divinity," which the great bard of nature tells us, surrounds the throne, is insufficient to exempt her from the insults of her Ministers, and, according to present appearances, the contempt of her subjects. It is said the affections of the Queen have been transferred from her husband to a handsome young cavalier, one General Serrano, who is in high favour at court, but in disgrace with the ministry. The latter, to get him out of the way, ordered him to join his regiment, he refused, secreted himself, and was abetted by the Queen in his insubordination. In this state of things all eyes are turned to France. Louis Philippe is charged with having foisted, through his Madrid representative, an imbecile consort on Isabella, in order to pave the way for the accession of his daughter-in-law, the Duchess de Montpensier; and, assuming the charge to be correct, the leading organs of the English press are firing away paper pellets at the old man in the Tuileries, as furiously as if the fate of the two kingdoms depended on the intensity of the literary warfare. The female Marplot, Queen Christina, dreading the coming storm, has left her daughter's dominions to take refuge with the King of the French. Meanwhile, another Carlist insurrection is threatened; and the son of Don Carlos will make an effort, at the point of the bayonet, to supplant his fair cousin. It is a melancholy specimen of family intrigue and double dealing; and the world, in amazement, looks on wondering what can happen next. When things come to the worst they must, of necessity mend, saith the proverb. The present state of Spain is a reproach to civilisation. The fear is, that the impending explosion may embroil neutral parties, and that the flames may produce an European war. The materials are all prepared, the train only requires firing, and then, as the Scaramouch, in the circle of the circus, says—"we shall see what we shall see!"

The Duke de Rianzares, husband of Queen Christina, has paid 18,000f. duty for the title of Duke de Montmorot in France.

LONDON, April 3.

Corn and Shipping.—Accounts pour in from all corn-growing countries, to the effect that there is no want of grain if there were but vessels to carry it. About six millions of quarters of wheat, maize, rye, and barley have been announced by mercantile authorities as available for shipment on the opening of the navigation in eastern Europe; but everybody is startled at the amount of tonnage required to carry so much. Assuming, in round numbers, five quarters to represent one ton, a fleet of of 1,200,000 tons burthen would barely suffice to convey that quantity to our shores. Two thousand four hundred ships, of 500 tons each, or four thousand eight hundred vessels, of 250 tons, being more than all Europe possesses of either class alone, would but suffice for the emergency.

Wharton, a schoolmaster of Adelaide Crescent, Brighton, has been fined 5*l.* by the Magistrates for cruelly and unnecessarily chastising a pupil.

The wood pavement is rapidly disappearing from the streets of London: that in St. Paul's Churchyard is to be removed forthwith; and it is in contemplation to replace it in several other parts of the City with granite.

Miss Caroline Herschell, sister, and for a long time assistant, of the illustrious astronomer, celebrated the ninety-seventh anniversary of her birthday on the 16th of March, at Hanover. The King sent to compliment her; the Prince and Princess Royal paid her a visit; the latter presented her with a magnificent arm-chair, the back of which had been embroidered by her Royal Highness; and the Minister of Prussia, in the name of his Sovereign, remitted to her the gold medal awarded for the extension of the sciences. Miss Herschell is herself distinguished for astronomical researches, and particularly for the construction of a selenographical globe in relief of the surface of the moon. Notwithstanding her advanced age and infirmities, she still passes several hours every day in astronomical labours, and not unfrequently spends the whole night in her observatory.—*Globe.*

An Irishman who had been begging piteously was taken up before the Warrington Magistrates the other day, and on searching him nothing was found but a large ball of soap. He prayed they would not take that from him, as "he liked to be clean, though he was poor." The earnestness of his entreaty led the gentlemen to cut the piece of soap in two, and inside was found 16*l.* in gold.

Ireland.—Monday's meeting at Conciliation Hall acquired some interest from the presence of Mr. John O'Connell; who brought a few family subscriptions. In one of his speeches the Member for Kilkenny alluded despondingly to his father's health; he spoke of his having gone to try the "last hope." Mr. John commented on the proceedings of Government; with which, especially in reference to the new Poor-law Bill, he was not at all satisfied. He intimated, that if Sir Robert Peel would come forward to feed the Irish people, he would at once go to London and vote for him. Rent 30*l.*

Dublin, March 26.—*The Day of National Humiliation.*—Never, within the memory of man, was there such an universal attendance on Divine worship in this city and its environs as on Wednesday last; and never,—so far as our own observation and the reports which we have diligently gathered from others go to test the fact,—was there an occasion on which the solemn services of the day were observed so respectfully, so seriously, so devoutly by all classes, and, we are happy to add, by all creeds, as on that of our national humiliation and prayer.—*Dublin Mail.*

A deputation from the Dundalk and Enniskillen Railway Company, headed by the Earl of Roden, had an interview with Lord John Russell on Wednesday, to solicit the sanction of Government for a loan of 100,000*l.* out of the Exchequer fund, in order to enable the directors to complete the construction of the works between Castleblaney and Dundalk. With a loan they could employ 6,000 men of the district, instead of 1,500. In answer to an inquiry from the Premier, Lord Roden admitted that half of the company's capital had not been subscribed in accordance with the requirements of the act of incorporation; but he explained that the default arose from the extreme depression of trade in the districts inhabited by the main body of the shareholders. He also on behalf of the company, undertook to guarantee that, if granted, the money should be expended solely on earth and other works which would give employment to the largest number of labourers. Lord John Russell promised carefully to consider the statements, and to communicate with the Exchequer Loan Commissioners; but he could not give any pledge on the subject.

Under date of April 1st, the Dublin correspondence of the *Times* says that "there is considerable improvement in the reports respecting the progress of spring work.