THE COURIER

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1849.

☞ SEE FOURTH PAGE.

THE ENGLISH NEWS.

By some mischance our London Correspondence has not come to hand. We make as copious extracts from the English papers as our time will permit of.

The English papers still continue to make the "Address to the People of Canada" the theme of many brilliant articles, but all of which, more or less, show that fearful ignorance of Colonial affairs for which they have been so long celebrated. The tone of all these articles, however, are to the point, and say, as plainly as they well can, that whenever the Canadians desire to sever the connexion with England, they will meet a hearty response at the hands of the English people.

Willmer & Smith, in a long editorial article regarding Sir Henry Bulwer's departure for his mission at Washington, says that a Hampshire paper, which professes to know the spirit of Sir Henry Bulwer's instructions, intimates that

"Sir Henry is empowered to ascertain what encouragement the United States Government will give to the Annexation of Canada. The inference is, that the Home Government will not interfere with the wishes of the Colonists on this point. Last week we inclined to the belief that the Canadians were all but unanimous in desiring Annexation with the neighbouring Republic. The intelligence brought by the Caledonia this week shews that the feeling is by no means general, and that not merely the inhabitants of Upper Canada, but the French habitants in the Lower Province, are opposed to the severance of the British Connexion. Public feeling in the Mother Country is inclined to act liberally with the Colonists. If a generally expressed desire for Annexation with the United States were made, it would be conceded; but to secure this, unanimity is indispensable. The fact of Lord Elgin having removed the seat of Government from Montreal to Toronto, shews the extent of his unpopularity in the Lower Province amongst the British race; and we shall see, in all probability, a strong contest between the inhabitants of the two provinces on the question which threatens to convulse the Colony. The step which the Canadians have taken cannot fail to produce important results at home. The present management of the Colonial office is admitted on all hands to be defective; and the concentration of public opinion on the subject will demand reforms that ought long since to have been complied with. One or two simple remedies, if acted upon in a liberal and sympathising spirit, could not fail to remove many of the grievances which sting expatriated Englishmen. Foremost may be mentioned the introduction to the British Parliament of Colonial representatives. The machinery of the Colonial office is notoriously incapable of meeting the requirements of the case. Cries of dissatisfaction reach our ears almost daily from all parts of the world, provoked by the incompetency of the parties who are sent out as the representatives of the crown, and whose errors and follies almost invariably find an apologist in the chief of the Colonial office. Lord Grey's administration has been more productive of complaints than any of his predecessors; but the fault is rather in the system than the man. Those who filled the post before him embrace some of the best practical statesmen of the day; but they all retired from the Colonial office with reputations more or less damaged. The existing condition of Canada shews the extent of the blundering, and the consequences to which it will unquestionably lead. *Sat. verb.*"

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

In the course of the past week additional information respecting the gallant Sir John Franklin and his crews have been received.

The first who brought any later news from the Arctic regions was Capt. Sir J. C. Ross. His ship the Enterprise and the Investigator arrived off Scarborough on Saturday last, having been knocking about between the Orkneys and that place for several days.

Captain Sir James Ross arrived at the Admiralty on Monday, and had interviews with the board. The gallant officer appeared rather the worse for his perilous voyage, but was animated with his characteristic energy. It is his confident opinion that neither Sir John Franklin nor any of his brave companions are east and of any navigable point in the Arctic regions, and if there be any chance of their existence it is in the supposition that he proceeded in a westerly direction, and in such case we only expect to hear from the missing adventurers by the Mackenzie detachment, or by her Majesty's ship Plover, Commander Moore, by way of Russia.

Sir James traversed at least 230 miles on the ice, the bergs of which were frightful, much more so than any of the experienced Arctic voyagers had seen before. Sir James and his party penetrated as far as the wreck of the Fury, where he found the old tent standing, and everything about it in a state of the best preservation. At this point Sir James deposited a large quantity of provisions, and also the screw-launch of the Enterprise. The march of Sir James across the boundless regions of ice is truly stated as a most unparalleled feat in exploration. We are sorry to find, however, that it was in no way successful.

The Captain, officers, and ship's company, have worked together most harmoniously—a spirit of emulation having animated every one in the great philanthropic task of endeavouring to carry help and succour to their long-lost friends. In the whole course of his researches it is said Sir James Ross never met with a single Esquimaux.

Sir James speaks most highly of all those who have been connected and associated with him.—He is fully satisfied that all has been done that could be done by the Admiralty in the appropriation of the vessel, the selection of the crew, and the extensive equipment of each vessel, in stores, provisions, &c.

The intelligence which had reached New York on the 20th ultimo by the barque McLellan from Davis' Straits is in a great degree confirmed by a communication from Kirkaldy, dated November 1, of which the following is a copy:—Captain Kerr, of the Chieftain, arrived from Davis' Straits, confirms, in the main features, the report made by Captain Parker, of the Truelove—viz, that on the 11th of July, being then in lat. 72-40, and lon. 75, W., off Cape Graham More, and fast to the land ice, they were visited by a party of the Esquimaux, (who came from the main land on sledges, and on being questioned regarding the discovery ships, stated that some of those persons present had, in the course of last winter, seen four vessels (not whalers), two of which had been lying near to the west entrance of Prince Regent's Inlet for four winters, and two for one winter, on the eastern side of that Inlet, not far from the north entrance; that the vessels were completely ice-bound, but apparently in good order, with their masts standing, and their yards struck; that the captains and crews were in good health, and had no want for provisions, (salmon and reindeer).—Captain Kerr expresses his belief in the statement. He has had an interview with Lady Franklin, and he has hopes that this report will prove true, although it depends on the veracity of the Esquimaux.

IRELAND.

The third weekly meeting of the Repeal Association was held at Conciliation-hall on Monday last. The attendance was rather scanty; Mr. Myrhael Murphy presided; Mr. John O'Connell handed in M., the required subscription of the Right Rev. Dr. O'Higgins, Roman Catholic Bishop of Ardagh, and called attention to the letter of the Most Rev. Dr. Maginn. He then prefaced the speech recently addressed by Count Montalembert in the French Assembly, accused the revolutionary leaders throughout the continent of cowardice, incapacity, and facetious conduct, and concluded by moving the inserting upon the minutes of the letter of Dr. Maginn and the speech of Count Montalembert. Mr. O'Connell then handed in 16l. from Mr. Crawley Higgins, enclosed in a letter writing from London. Alderman McLaughlin next addressed the meeting in handing in his subscription. Mr. O'Connell then brought up a report on the subject of the Protestant Church Temporalities, and said that insult to the Irish people—the Protestant Church—must come down. The honorable gentleman then proceeded with the speech of the day, which he concluded by saying that they would have repeal. The rent for the week was announced to be 2l. 5s. 3d.

Lord London-erry has written a long letter, declining to sign the Down address to Lord Arden. He speaks in the nature and objects of the address, finds fault with the public acts of Lord Arden and the brothers Beers, and urges on the magistrates of Down to use their best efforts to allay the spirit of party feeling which prevails in that country.

The constabulary throughout Ireland are at present engaged by listing as returns, for the information of Government, of the quantity of produce, stock, poultry, &c., in the land. The object we suppose, is to ascertain the amount of food in the country; but no notice of the matter having been given by the authorities, many poor people are suspicious when the police make inquiries of them, and refuse to give information.

With regard to the 6th of November, so much dreaded in the north, we are informed that all passed off tranquilly. There were no orange or ribbon processions, but from the accounts received, it appears that both parties were ripe for mischief, and the preservation of peace and prevention of a collision are attributable to the precautionary measures adopted by the Government. A dream fight was to have taken place in Innishgarvie, County Cavan, but some of the Protestant inhabitants, fearing hostilities between the parties, lodged information before a magistrate, and had the affair nipped in the bud.

The most extensive preparations had been made by the Orangemen for the fight; for in one house alone upwards of 800 rounds of ball cartridge were discovered. Mr. Singleton, with a troop of hussars, two companies of infantry, and forty policemen, remained in the place during the day, and left in the evening, when all danger of disturbance was at an end.

The sale of several lots of the Buckingham and Chandos estates in Westmeath and the Queen's County, by the creditors of his grace the duke of Buckingham, is now confirmed by the legal approval of the title deeds and power of the creditors to sell, and they are now in possession of the purchasers—a pretty good haul being taken from them for legal expenses, interest, &c.

ROMAN STATES

A deputation from the Municipal Council of Rome, headed by Prince Odescalchi, set out for Portici on the 20th ultimo, to request his Holiness to return to Rome.

The Pope has confirmed Captain Alderano Palombini in the post of Commandant of Civita Vecchia.

The Jewry of Rome has been for several days subjected to a rigorous search for articles of value belonging to the State, and pawned or stolen during the revolution. A great number of articles have been found on Jews

All the universities in the Papal States are to remain closed till further orders.

About 150 galley slaves who had taken advantage of the circumstance of their being employed on the Republican Government to work at the fortifications of the city, and made their escape at the time of the surrender, have been recaptured at Rome by a general razzia.

The command of the Pontifical troops at Rome and its environs, has been taken from General Levaillant, and given to officers appointed by the Court of Gaeta. This step is taken by the advice of Austria, Spain, and Naples.

General Rostolan held a review of the French troops in the plain of Acquasoton, on the 28th ultimo. The sight of 18,000 men under arms, and going through their evolutions, was a rare and imposing sight.

Among the many arrests lately made at Viterbo is that of the well-known composer Maestro Selli. A list of fourteen persons has appeared in the Roman journals, who have been condemned by court-martial to various periods of imprisonment, excepting one, who is condemned to the galleys for 25 years.

The blockade of the Jewish quarter at Rome terminated on the 20th ultimo.

Mgr. Savoli, with a view of checking political discussion, has forbidden lecturers to have more than four customers at a time in their shops.

The Roman finances exhibit a deficit monthly of three million francs.

Large Austrian forces are being concentrated at Ancona, and fortifications are in process of erection on the road leading to Rome.

LIVERPOOL MARKET—NOVEMBER 9.

Ashes.—Pot and Pearl are dull, and sales too trifling to enumerate.

Timber.—There has not been any new feature in this market during the week. The trade is quiet and prices as last reported.

Corn.—No improvement can be reported in the Grain Trade. At London, Liverpool, and all the great provincial markets, very little business is going forward, and prices, although not much lower than last reported, are on the decline. Wheat, per 70 lbs., Canadian Red, 5s. 10d. to 6s. 1d.; White, 6s. 4d. to 6s. 8d.; United States Red, 6s. to 6s. 3d.; White, 6s. 4d. to 7s. 2d.; Peas, Canadian White, per qr., 34s. to 36s. Indian Corn, per 480 lbs., American White, 27s. to 28s.; Yellow, 27s. to 27s. 6d.; European Yellow, 27s. to 28s. Indian Meal, per 140 lbs., 13s. 6d. to 14s. Flour, per barrel 196 lbs.; Canadian Sweet, 22s. 6d. to 24s. 6d.; Western Canal Sweet, 22s. to 24s.; United States and Canada Sour, 19s. to 21s. 6d.; Ohio, 24s. 6d. to 26s.; Philadelphia and Baltimore, 23s. 6d. to 25s.

Provisions.—We have to report only a limited business during the past week, in fleece there has been a disposition to buy freely of low qualities, but the transactions extended are few, holders declining to submit to a reduction, and buyers wishing to operate on easier terms; good Western Short Middles, cut, have sold, brought 27s. 6d. to 28s.; fair Eastern ditto to 29s. 6d.; better descriptions can be bought at a shade less, in fact little doing, without actual change in prices. Irish cured is offering, for delivery during the next season, at prices which will compete with good brands of American, low Prime Mess Pork is enquired for at about 38s.; good brands are dull of sale. No demand for low qualities of Hams; sales in retail have been made at 54s. to 56s. for fine mild cured. Nothing doing in Shoulders. Cheese of really fine quality continues to sell readily on arrival at 48s. to 48s.; ordinary and low qualities may be bought cheaper; the *Constitution* is just reported.

Progress of Annexation.—We translate the following from the *Avenir*, of the 24th inst.:—

"A correspondent at Rouville informs us that a meeting was to have taken place at Henryville, on Thursday last, in favour of Annexation.

"The meeting was to have been composed of the inhabitants of Henryville, Clarenceville, and St. Andew—Mr. Laberge Dufresne, and the Honourable R. Jones, of St. Athanase, were invited to take part in the proceedings. This meeting is but a signal for a general meeting of the County to take place at an early period. We strongly believe that the protest of the Representative of Rouville against Annexation will not be endorsed by the electors.

"It is also stated that the County of Huntingdon will assemble, so soon as the Winter roads are formed, for the purpose of taking up the great question of Annexation.

"There will be meetings in several other parts of Lower Canada before long, and there is no doubt that the people generally will declare themselves in favour of Annexation."

We understand that the meeting was well attended, and that it went off to the satisfaction of the conveners.

We shall give a full account of the meeting in our next.

The Third Riding of York.—The writ has been issued for the election of a member to represent this Riding in the present Parliament. Our advices from the Riding in question assure us that the election of Mr. Peter Perry is certain. He is a staunch Annexationist.

The Vacant Seat in the Cabinet.—It appears that the strong Government find much trouble in coming to a decision as to who shall be the fortunate possessor of the office of Receiver General, with a seat at the Council Board. The Upper Canada papers speak of Mr. T. S. Ridout, President of the Bank of Upper Canada, as likely to be the man. Lower Canada talks of Mr. J. S. Macdonald, of Glengarry. We advise the Ministry to select the latter, as they will then find no trouble in raising the wind when it comes to a *sauve qui peut* question. It is possible, however, that the latter has too much sense to accept it.

Resignation of the Governor's Secretary.—The *Toronto Colonist* announces the resignation of Major Campbell, the Governor's Secretary. He will continue to discharge the duties of the office until the appointment of his successor. The salary attached to this fat birth is £1,111, some odd shillings and pence!!

We expect to hear of a rush of applicants,—like vultures to the carrion.

New Railway.—A prospectus of a Railway, to be called the Quebec and Melbourne Railway, has been published in the Quebec papers. It is proposed to raise a capital of £350,000 currency, in 28,000 shares, of £12 10s. each.

The office-bearers elected are Mr. P. Patterson, President; Mr. N. Freer, Treasurer; and Mr. S. W. Lloyd, Secretary. The proposed route is now in course of being surveyed. Subscription lists have been opened for the subscribing of stock. We are much mistaken, however, if the call meets any response on the part of the people generally! We must finish our St. Lawrence and Atlantic Road first, and then we will give the Quebec and Melbourne Road a helping hand.

The Indian Troubles.—As yet no authentic intelligence has reached us regarding the movements of the Indians at Nice Bay. The Upper Canada papers seem to think that matters will be brought to a peaceable compromise before long. In a few days we may expect to have interesting intelligence from the Mining Districts.

"*It must hurt our Colonial vanity to know that the question of Annexation excites very little interest among the leading Statesmen of the neighbouring Republic, who are enough too well-informed not to know that there is very little chance of such an event being brought about in a hurry, and are by no means disposed to run any risk to obtain it. Canada is not an El Dorado, like California, nor does its possession excite any very magnificent visions in the minds of the shrewd Yankees. There is besides a very strong feeling that the 'Annexation' cry is all 'humbug,' and that the Tories, who set it a-going, were never in earnest. On the whole, therefore, the movement has fallen almost dead upon the Yankee mind, and is regarded as (what it indeed has been) a mere local spurt, likely to end in nothing.*"

The above declaration is from the *Transcript* of yesterday, and, as a part and parcel of the extraordinary and *laboured* efforts which are daily being made by this journal against Annexation, is truly a valuable State document. It is a mere string of assertions, which does not embody a single fact, nor contain the shadow of an argument against the present movement of the Annexationists. The *Transcript* may, perhaps, be in correspondence with the "*leading Statesmen of the neighbouring Republic*," and conversant with their opinions respecting the present agitation in Canada, and, if so, is fully competent to speak for these gentlemen. Happening, however, personally to know some of these "leading Statesmen," and to be acquainted with the policy generally pursued by them in political affairs, we are bold to affirm, that the *Transcript*, as well as other journals of this Province, can know but little concerning their views respecting the present position of Canada. They do not openly come forward to anticipate public opinion by the avowal of their own sentiments, or those of their Government. They refrain in their high and dignified stations from giving currency to any policy which would seem to pledge their future actions. They are silent from motives of prudence as well as policy. Let not the *Transcript*, nor any of its abettors, suppose, from the circumstance, "*that the question of Annexation excites very little interest among them.*" "*They are much too well-informed not to know.*" (as the *Transcript* observes,) that the immediate expression of their wishes, and future determinations respecting the Province of Canada, would be premature, and might possibly exhibit towards the Mother Country of this Colony, not only a disrespect, but a disposition to disturb the friendly relations which at present so happily subsist between England and the United States.* Where did the *Transcript* gather the fact, "that the question of Annexation excited very little attention among the leading Statesmen of the neighbouring Republic?" Who gave to it the information that these "Statesmen" know "*that there is little chance of such an event being brought about in a hurry?*" Where and how did this redoubtable champion of Loyalty learn the nature of that strong feeling "which exists," that the Annexation cry is all a "humbug?" "We do not pause," but hope for "a reply." Many of the prominent public journals of the United States have expressed favourable opinions of the "Manifesto" put forth by a portion of the people of Canada; they have assented to the cause which called for such a declaration, and as representatives of the feelings and sympathy of the American people have entered deeply and favourably into the present wishes of the Annexationists. This is as far as they can, and ought at present to proceed, in the great and absorbing question of Annexation. The people of the United States have calmly and dispassionately considered the present condition of Canada—they have literally been the sad spectators of many of those evils which for the last twelve or eighteen months have diminished her revenue, obstructed her commerce, and impoverished her citizens. They have on such a state of national misfortune freely, yet temperately, expressed their opinions as to the course now being pursued by those desirous of a union with their interests and their political institutions. We read the American newspapers, and from "the signs of the times" exhibited by these journals towards Canada and her present troubles, must confess we do not, with the penetration of the *Transcript*, discover "*that the present movement has fallen almost dead upon the Yankee mind.*" Perhaps the *Transcript* felicitates itself that the fatal blow which has so heavily fallen on the Yankees was dealt by its own vigorous arm; and that its vaunted and sickening effusions about loyalty and allegiance, and its inflammatory abuse of the institutions of the United States, have overcome and benumbed the faculties of our shrewd and calculating neighbours. We fear this is a sad mistake, however, and fancy that it will require a more valiant and courtly prowess than that of the Knight of the *Transcript* to stifle the opinions of these people. Our contemporary knows well what a large share of indomitable courage, untiring perseverance, and intellectual excellence, are associated with the descendants of the Puritans. The late Lord Chancellor of his mighty and loyal England, Lyndhurst, was a Yankee, born and educated in Massachusetts; and that distinguished man would certainly consider that the *Transcript* pays him no very high compliment in the general estimate which it forms of his countrymen of the United States.

The great argument of the *Transcript* against the present movement of Annexation, if argument it may be called, is to be found in the unpardonable sin of apostacy from loyalty considered as a generous sentiment, to that form of government in which liberty is recognised as a fixed principle, worthy of lasting veneration. To throw off an allegiance growing out of the mere circumstance of birth and education, even for the preservation of national safety, or for the benefit of individual prosperity, is considered as a political offence of the most venal nature. This species of speculative philosophy taught by the *Transcript* is calculated to utterly quench the spirit of fast Reform as often indispensable to the preservation of virtue, and the existence of true liberty.

The people of the United States are not disposed to raise a hue-and-cry about Annexation, and involve themselves and their Government in a quarrel with a peaceable and friendly nation. Nevertheless they are in principle and in feeling with the advocates of Canadian Annexation; and when a crisis shall arrive, demanding their peaceful co-operation, they will both speak and act as becomes a brave and generous people.—*Communicated.*

* The *Transcript* says "*That the question of Annexation excites very little interest among the leading Statesmen of the neighbouring Republic.*" How does that journal reconcile this assertion with its editorial of the 10th instant. Adverting to the speech of Mr. Holmes at the late Annexation Meeting, it says "*That gentleman did tell one truth, and a very disagreeable truth for his friends, the Yankees! (by the Yankees) wanted Canada for its lands, &c., &c. There can be no doubt that this is the calculation of the 'American Statesmen.' (!) and in the history of the civilized world a more dishonest and insolent calculation was never made by a nation.*" It would appear this avowal of the *Transcript* appears that "*excites some deep interest among the leading Statesmen of the neighbouring Republic.*"

AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A Glance at Southern Feeling: Annexation and Disunion—The Cabinet and Henry Clay—Deficit in the Revenue—Navigation Laws—Commerce with the New Territories—Internal Improvements, &c., &c.

New York, Nov. 24, 1849.

Within the last few days, a portion of the ultra-Southern Press has opened on the subject of Annexation. Some decide; others consider the question with an astuteness that is quite remarkable. The Government organ in Alabama has a short leading article on the subject in a late number, wherein it is treated of mainly as a matter of news, more than as an event of National importance—but that journal goes in for universal Annexation. It has no particular enmity to Canada—but thinks we had better wait awhile to digest well this project, before we begin to embrace New Brunswick! Another, speaking the voice of Tennessee, holds heroic language. As to what part the South will take in this matter, says this journalist, will depend entirely upon circumstances. There is present before his eyes, however, this frightful *ignis fatuus*; that no more leniency will be extended toward the South at the hands of the Canadians, when they become citizens of the Union, than she now receives at the hands of her Northern brethren. The article then rambles off into a tirade against the "unconstitutional, unjust, and unnatural attitude" of the North against the rights of the South—hints mysteriously at dire consequences—and, finally, threatens a flat-footed Separation. The moment Canada comes in, they go out. But this is idle vaporing—the smallest kind of petty spleen. There is no more danger of those valiant bodies disowning us, and cutting loose, than there is of Greenland floating to the South Pole. They may talk, threaten, bully; but what can they do? Calhoun, it is true, will very probably wake up a breeze in the new Senate, when the North tries to pass the Wilmot Proviso, or recognize the Constitution of California excluding Slavery. But he will very speedily become aware of the important fact that, even among his Southern brethren, the ties of common interest and National patriotism are far too strong to be so readily severed—or severed at all on any similar pretext.

It is true that the Governors of several Slaveholding States, Alabama just among the number, have issued calls for State Conventions to adopt suitable measures for relief.* But here, again, they are met by the merited contempt of every true man whose head is sufficiently long and far-seeing to observe rightly the signs of the times. Henry Clay will be an earnest, and, I need not say, effective, opponent of any scheme of Disunion. He is one of those who finds, in the Consideration of individual aggrandisement, a mighty power which centers mainly in its unity—and that the North is as much dependent upon the South for manufacturing material, as the latter is constantly indebted to the North and West for the products of the earth and the loom—for cheap and efficient modes of transportation. There are advantages and disadvantages on both sides, which are plain as naked facts, when the whole matter comes to be viewed in a sober, serious aspect.

If worse should come to worse, by any chance, the agitation of our Southern brethren can be readily abated by a very simple and peaceful means. Mr. Clay stands ready, with his compeers, for another compromise—backed by a numerous and influential clan of those sturdy upholders of American Nationality, of whom this country has always been prolific.

There has been some talk of a change in the Secretaryship of State, as well as other portions of the Cabinet. It is, however, definitely settled that no changes will occur; the greatest harmony is believed to prevail among the President and the individual members of his Cabinet, so that the story of Mr. Clay's contemplated resignation, and Mr. Clay's acceptance of the office, proves to be nothing more than an idle rumor got up for some unknown effect. Mr. Clay takes his seat in the new Senate for a six-years' term, and will ever be found battling nobly for the best interests of his country. Like his old friend, J. Q. Adams he will, in all probability, die upon his post of duty. He is now far upon the down-hill of his long, laborious, and eminently useful and illustrious career.

The Opposition Press are making a hideous outcry on the rumored deficit of fifteen millions in the Revenue; but the fact (if indeed it be a fact) is a simple and very natural illustration of that Mexican war which was brought upon us by their own late Administration. Our Treaty of Peace was a bad piece of business and one that we are not likely to reach the end of in a hurry; we shall take our chances of the after-chips. This deficiency in the Revenue, so anxiously trumped forth, will, in all probability, be found not to have been occasioned by any insufficiency of the regular revenue to meet the customary expenditures, but altogether growing out of the enormous sums of the war, the treaty, and the indemnity. This matter should never have been made a topic for public talk and wonderment, until the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury had been duly rendered to Congress; but since it has got out, unless prepared by explanations, it is well to mention it, in order to guard against the false impressions given it by those unconscionable beings who have a faculty of seizing upon everything for political capital.

There are many, hereabouts, who find much cause for gratulation in the new British Navigation Laws. To the minds of Free Traders it affords much balm and consolation. The commercial correspondent of the Washington *Union*, writing from this city, has set forth a formidable array of figures, to depict the benefits, both to the United States and Great Britain, of the recent changes. I am tempted to copy a few of these statements, and institute a comparison between the action of an *ad valorem* Tariff, and a Free Trade; but I will not press this matter till after the meeting of Congress. The practical working of all the experiments hitherto tried, will then be brought fairly and justly before the public—and till then we can afford to wait.

I have alluded, on a former occasion, to the growing spirit of dissatisfaction expressed in other cities, relative to their own disadvantages for the California trade, in comparison with New York. New Orleans has complained in bitter terms; Charleston and Savannah begin to grumble; and, finally, the merchants of Philadelphia have spoken. This week, they have prepared a Memorial to the President, asking that Philadelphia, inasmuch as she has so largely contributed to the population of California, shall not be excluded from a direct and regular means of correspondence. They ask that a second semi-monthly line of mail steamers from Philadelphia may be established, and intimate that steamships are all ready there to enter into this service, with the same aid that Government extends to those of other cities; and further claim that the benefit would accrue to the whole of those portions of the South and West which are in connection with Philadelphia. The subject is one of interest and considerable importance. It is a fresh evidence of the effects of an enlargement of the territory of a great Nation, when its new population is marked by the enterprize, zeal, and perseverance which errect new States in the wilderness, and constitute the most incongruous elements into one People, governed by the same great Laws, and who carry with them everywhere the same unquenchable Northern fire of Freedom, and love of the arts and order.

When the Government is called upon by city after city for more rapid and numerous means of communication with their newly "annexed" brethren, we have pretty certain evidence that a quiet, unostentatious, but mighty element is at work among us. It will not be long ere it makes itself felt in other directions, where we ought long ago to have had free and untrammelled access.

The people of our Western States are again moving in the matter of Internal Improvements—which President Polk told them they could not have. At several of the principal towns on the Great Lakes, memorials to Congress have lately been prepared, asking for a reversal of the policy of the late Administration. The young and growing town of Sheboygan, on Lake Michigan, has even gone so far as to make an appropriation to defray the expenses of a delegation to Congress, to urge the necessity of prompt action in their behalf. The present Administration will not be found deaf to these urgent calls, which have been far too long neglected under former Governments.

The Canal Commissioners of this State have given notice of a delay in the time of closing the canals, until the fifth day of December. Even then, however, is rather too short a period. The first proclamation, closing them on the first of the month, gave rise to manifold complaints and bitter remonstrances from our Western millers and shippers. They are anxious that the Erie Canal, at least, shall remain open till closed by the severity of the season; and it is barely possible but the time may be still further extended. In accordance with this desire.

The Regents of the University have just organized a new system of Meteorological Observations, under the provisions of a liberal Act passed at the last Session of the Legislature. It is contemplated, by the new arrangement, to obtain a full investigation of Meteorological phenomena—the precisation of storms, and weather, or not, their approach can rightly be foretold—the regularities or alterations of climate, and their applications to agricultural purposes—and the subject of Climate generally. These investigations are to be prosecuted in communion with the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, which has projected a similar plan, embracing the whole Union—and of which a number of telegraph lines have been offered for chronicling the indications of approaching storms and comparisons between different points. The Regents, having charge of the matter for this State, have engaged the services of Professor Arnold Guyot, Neufchatel, who is well known from his devotion to scientific pursuits. Professor Guyot has already left, upon his tour between Albany and Lake Erie, and the results of observations cannot fail to be deeply interesting.

An important legal decision has just been rendered in our Supreme Court, viz.:—That neither the personal property of a Mutual Insurance Company, nor its funds, held as capital, are liable to taxation. The effect of this is to reduce the tax-roll of this city to the extent of some Four Millions of dollars, which would otherwise have been added to the taxable property of the present year. The Counsel to our Corporation appeals from the decision, and has engaged Associate Counsel, who are all sanguine of their ultimate success.

The visit of Henry Clay to our city has been strictly private; still he has had almost a public reception. He left this morning for Washington, followed by a host of friends, who have all joined to pay him a heartfelt tribute during his brief sojourn among us.—Two of the Irish Refugees, McGee and Doheny had a fisticuff and knock-down quarrel yesterday in the street; probably all for patriotism.—One of our publishers has brought out the first number of a new and complete edition of Poor Richard's Almanac, Dr. Franklin's home-book of wisdom and aphorisms. Who does not remember the homely sense of old Richard Saunders?—The city is agog with busy preparations for the winter's amusements; and Concerts, Lectures, Operas, and Fancy Balls, are beginning to attract their usual throng of pleasure-mongers.

Ariel.

Annexation in New Brunswick.—The following extract from the New Brunswick correspondence of the *Toronto Independent* is worth notice:—

"I have just seen a paper published in Halifax, N. S., the organ of the Church of England, called the *Church Times*, November 2, the Editor of which has been recently on a tour through the northern part of New Brunswick, and he publishes it, that every nineteen out of twenty persons whom he conversed with in this Province, passed themselves in favor of *Annexation*. What think ye of this? That is the decided feeling of St. John, take my word for it, as I am intimately with it. I had almost said, every business man in the place, and, therefore, have a good opportunity of judging. Despair has destroyed the old feeling of attachment to England. A man's fireside is of greater importance to him, than a Crown three thousand miles off, that promises to do him no good."

Colonial Life Assurance Company.—We find the following correspondence in the *Quebec Mercury*. The testimonial alluded to in the letters, was, we understand, in the shape of a rich and elegant silver inkstand:—

Quebec, November 21, 1849.

Reverend Sir,—We have been requested by the Directors of the Colonial and Standard Life Assurance Companies of Edinburgh, to present to you this testimonial as a mark of their approbation of your valuable essay on the utility of insurances on lives, which has been productive of much good in bringing forward, in a most convincing and forcible manner, the benevolent object of Life Assurance Institutions.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to express the high sense we individually entertain of your benevolent and philanthropic exertions in the cause of humanity.

We are, &c., &c.

William Walker,
Chairman of the Directors.
Alex. Simpson,
Director.
W. Bennett, Agent,
Colonial Life Assurance Company

Rev. J. Cook, D. D.

Quebec, November 21, 1849.

Gentlemen,—I beg you will convey to the Directors of the Colonial Standard Life Insurance Companies of Edinburgh my warm acknowledgments for their very unsought and unexpected present. I take a deep interest in the Institutions over which they preside, and in similar Institutions, and have long earnestly desired to see the benefits of them extended to all classes of society.

It will always give me much pleasure to think, as the Directors encourage me to do, that my humble essay intended only for my own sphere of duty here, has proved more extensively useful.

I beg to offer my best thanks also to you, gentlemen, for the kind terms in which you have expressed yours on this occasion.

I am, &c.,

J. Cook, D. D.

Hon. W. Walker,
A. Simpson,
W. Bennett, Esqrs.

[Circular.]

City Hall, Montreal, 24th Nov. 1849.

Sir,—Many complaints have been lately preferred against the Newspaper Carriers, on account of the loss they wantonly and unnecessarily make in the streets that they wantonly and unnecessarily make in the streets that they wantonly and unnecessarily make in the streets that