BRITISH NEWS.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Monday, July 11.

THE DISTRESS OF THE COUNTRY.

This vital question, which has of late occupied the House of Commons almost nightly, under various forms of discussion, pressed with laudable perseverance by the independent members of the House upon the attention of Government, was brought forward by Lord Brougham in a speech worthy of himself in his best days. He showed that there is scarcely a Branch of British trade or manufacture which is not in a state of suffering unknown in the worst of former periods of distress, those namely of 1808 and 1812, and afterwards of 1816 17, and he adduced instances of this in facts illustrative of the condition of each great seat of trade, and in cases of appalling individual and family suffering. In instancing the intense suffering now prevailing in Leeds, where the number of uninhabited houses had quadrupled within the last two years, and where 40,000 persons out of 150,000 were now on the relief list, Lord Brougham remarked that the distress in this woollen district was greater than that of the capital and emporium of the cotton trade, proving the fallacy of the argument that the increase of machinery was the cause of the distress, for machinery was much less in use in the woollen than in the cotton manufactures. In Bolton the number of hands employed in the cotton trade had, within these few weeks, been reduced one third, and the number of persons receiving relief had been doubled within the same time. In the hosiery districts there were similar symptoms. At Hinckley one-half the frames were idle, and at Loughborough the number of unemployed were 70 per cent. of the population! At Nottingham the rates within two years had risen in the proportion of three to five, and the number of persons receiving relief had nearly doubled while in Sheffield the rates had actually increased between 1839 and 1842 in the frightful proportion of eight to one! He showed that machinery of the finest and most effective description that human ingenuity could devise, was at this moment being purchased by foreign agents at one third of its prime cost, in order to be employed in competition with us in other countries where capitalists and manufacturers were preparing to follow, driven forth by ruinous and absurd legislation. In pointing out the remedy for this wide spread decay of national prosperity, Lord Brougham dwelt with much force and earnestness upon the necessity of putting our vast and momentous commercial relations with America on a new and wiser footing, observing that the strength of the advocates of the protective system in America lay chiefly in our example, and though he did not wish to justify smuggling, he showed that with free trade on our part, the advocates of the protection in the United States could not possibly prevent the influx of our manufactures, even if they possessed a government ten times as strong as they ever would have, observing as a parallel case, that Napoleon with his immense power was unable to enforce his Milan and Berlin decrees until we ourselves assisted him to do us mischief by passing the orders in council. In pressing the present consideration of his motion upon their Lordships, Lord Brougham spoke as follows:—The question was not only the well-being of the people, but the positive subsistence of the people; and not only their positive subsistence, but their actually continuing to exist at all, and whether they should be a people or not—and, moreover, winter, that was approaching to shadow us over with his sable wings, would afford in his long, cold, dark nights, followed upon cheerless and foodless days, would afford and suggest opportunities for acts of desperation which hitherto the suffering and patient people, amidst all their fearful distress, had firmly resisted in spite of all inward and outward excitement. He concluded by moving that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the distress of the country.

The Earl of Ripon replied to Lord Brougham. He revived a piece of fallacy that has been several times refuted, especially and with great clearness by Lord Howick a few nights before, namely, that the Corn-laws was in no respect the cause of the depression of our American trade, because that trade had greatly flourished (in 1836) while the Corn-laws were in full force, overlooking the fact urged by Lord Howick, that the trade between England and America at that period was, to a great degree, an exchange of British Goods for shares in American speculations.

Earl Stanhope opposed the motion in a speech worthy of himself or of Mr. Ferrand. His speech was a tirade against manufactures and machinery, of which the introduction was represented as the order the Great had conquered the world, he wept that there were no more countries for him to overcome. The manufacturers of England would in a short time clothe the whole human race, but their *rapacity* would be unsatiated, and they would regret that they could find no new country to which to send their manufactures."—(Hear, hear, and laughter.)

Lord Kinnard supported the motion, and read extracts from letters descriptive of the condition of trade in Liverpool, in order to show that the distress was not confined to the manufacturing districts. He had heard that the right hon. Baronet at the head of the Government had, at a private meeting, questioned the delegates about Liverpool, supposing that Liverpool was not as much equally distressed as it was represented with other towns. He had received letters stating the existence of that distress, describing it as very great, declaring that the shipbuilders and carpenters were out of employ, that the ships were in docks with brooms at their heads, and that it would not be less till they had gone further through the mill. One manufacturer said, "The existing distress is fearful, though we are said to be suffering comparatively little, looking at the manufacturing districts. As to ship-building here, there is positively nothing doing, and the carpenters are in such a state of distress from want of employment, that some fears of insubordination are entertained, for they are a class little accustomed to privations, and less disposed to suffer patiently. The shipping interest, you must be aware, is suffering dreadfully; the docks filled with broom-headed vessels, which may be purchased for a song. Those who do find employment for their ships are every voyage sinking money, and if things do not mend soon there must be some smashing among the owners, who are staving off the evil day." Another said, "We shall not mend until we have gone further through the mill. I am quite prepared to hear of failures, to some extent, in the American and East India trade particularly, and as to the shipping interest, it never was before in such a deplorable state. Every voyage sinks them deeper and deeper, and when a vessel is put on the berth, she may remain six months or proceed half empty. As I said before, the docks are full of vessels, with brooms at their masthead, many new vessels lying till they are nearly rotten; and, are long, if things do not mend, the dock trust will become the greatest ship-owners, as they will have to take the ships for dock dues owing. There never were so many carpenters out of work, and an old and respectable sail-maker tells me, that he has not known so many sail-makers out of work for the last 35 years. The sail lofts are crowded with sails, which the idle vessels have deposited there and have no occasion for. A respectable merchant in forms me that he has a cargo of teak wood, extensively used in ship building, which he cannot sell; when imported, about six months ago, it was worth 4s. 6d., but no one will now give him 3s. a foot for it.

The Marquis of Clanricarde supported the motion in an able speech, but Lord Melbourne, to the astonishment of his side of the House, opposed it on the ground that the effect of appointing the proposed committee would be to produce a general opinion that the question of the Corn-laws was still afloat and unsettled. He was not of opinion that the whole of the evils of the country had been occasioned by the Corn-laws.

The Earl of Radnor, who could scarcely believe until he saw it, that the noble Viscount (Melbourne) would vote against the motion, made a powerful speech in favour of Lord Brougham's proposition, contending that the effect of cheapening food would be instantaneous in relieving trade. Such had been the case in 1826, in consequence of the mere proposal to give Ministers the power of introducing 500,000 quarters of wheat by order in council. When it was urged in the debate that such a measure would have no immediate effect, Mr. Canning answered it by producing letters from practical manufacturers asserting that instant and considerable benefit had been produced. The very hint of an intention to do something to relieve the distress, at that time attributed to the Corn Law, had been followed by relief. If Ministers would now only undertake to inquire, the same result would follow.

Lord Wharncliffe having said a few words against the motion, and Lord Brougham having replied, the House divided, negativing the proposal for a committee by 61 to 14.

(From the Dover Chronicle.)

The Light of all Nations—Successful Attempt to Float the Caisson.—After many and repeated disappointments, Mr. Bush, at half past 11 o'clock on Thursday night, had the gratification to find himself and one of his men floating with his caisson on the briny deep. The Monkey steam-tug and the Volcano steamer of two hundred horse power, had at the two tides of the previous day, and at the morning tide of Thursday, moved the ponderous machine into such a position that, by removing about ten tons of the ballast previously taken in, as soon as the water had flowed a little above the first chamber, it floated like a cork in a perfectly vertical position. It was left to float for three hours and a half, during which time it did not make the least water; and as the time for taking it to the sands and placing it in its proper place will take up no more than about two hours and a half, it is clear that there is every probability of a successful issue.—We trust that, as the public have been so often disappointed, and now that Mr. Bush can make a certainty of the caisson going to the sand on any day, provided the weather is suitable, he will give the public timely notice. Such is and has been the interest manifested for the success of the undertaking, that, notwithstanding the repeated failures, at each renewed attempt, great numbers of people flocked to the beach, to be gratified, as they hoped, with the sight of seeing her go off; and though the attempt was so late made on Thursday night, as soon as the "inverted iron pot," as it is humorously called, was afloat, Mr. Bush was greeted with hundreds of hurrahs, each person seemingly being as much pleased as if he had a pecuniary interest in its success.

In closing these hasty remarks, we congratulate Mr. Bush on his success thus far, and cordially wish him uninterrupted success in its completion.

A Present for the Queen.—A most beautiful enamelled gold Watch is at present being exhibited in the shop window of Mr. Ralph Thompson, watchmaker, Collingwood-street, Newcastle, which has been ordered by a number of ladies as a present to the Queen. There in an admirable likeness of Her Majesty in enamel on the back, which is richly ornamented with jewels.

Wheat from South America.—A cargo of wheat, grown in the southern part of the Republic of Chili, was imported into Liverpool last week. We understand that it is of excellent quality, and that the speculation is likely to turn out well. It is reported that the wheat was bought in Chili at 24s. a quarter; and supposing the freight and charges to be as much more, it will still leave a profit at the present prices and duties, besides paying a good freight.—[Liverpool Times.

Overland Route from India to England.—This route is as follows: by steam ships from Madras or Bombay to Suez, at the head of the Red Sea:—from Suez to Cairo in Egypt across the desert, either by two wheeled Vans, carrying four persons each,—by Donkey Chairs, a species of sedan—or on Donkeys or Horseback, the baggage being carried by camels. The land journey is performed without extraordinary fatigue, in about twenty-four hours, allowing some hours of repose at the centre station house, where are beds and other accommodations in the European style. The passage from Cairo down the Nile and Canal across to Alexandria, is by Steam Boats and Canal Boats, occupying from twenty to twenty-four hours. From Alexandria to Malta or Southampton in England, the passage by Steam Ship, takes four days to Malta, and ten days to England. The whole time occupied from Bombay to England, is from 40 to 45 days.

Turkey.—The Augsburg Gazette, in a Constantinople letter of the 15th June, states—"That on the 11th, a conference of the representatives of the Five Great Powers was held at the residence of Baron de Bourquency, the Representative of France, in which Sir Stratford Canning expressed himself with great energy as to the propriety of compelling the Porte to do justice to the Christians of Syria, and was warmly supported by M. de Bourquency and the Austrian Ambassador. The Prussian Ambassador is stated to have promised his concurrence, but the Russian Charge d'Affaires, M. de Titoff, is said to have observed, that the moment is not arrived for energetic demonstrations. The letter is referable to retorts, at the head of which Reschid Pacha will be Minister for Foreign Affairs, is daily expected."

Syria.—The following is an extract from a letter of an English traveller, dated Damascus, 5th June, 1842, addressed to Sir Moses Montefiore:—"I received visits from the principal Jews of the city, the Harraris, Farkhis, &c. &c., and returned them. In the houses of the Jews of Damascus there is an appearance of well-doing, and in their persons and manners there is an air of good breeding and cleanliness, which pleased me much. I have heard from their own mouths the details of their horrible sufferings; but now, thank God, they enjoy much respect and consideration, and are happy. The three brothers Harrari, who are under British protection, have, at the instigation of our worthy and intelligent Consul, Mr. Wood, emancipated the slaves who were in their possession, and are doing their best to cause the other Jews of Damascus to do the same act. I think they will succeed."

The See of Jerusalem.—The munificent sum of £10,000 has been collected in the Protestant Churches of Prussia for the schools and hospitals belonging to the bishopric of Jerusalem on Mount Sion, in compliance with the order of the King, who has already given £15,000 towards the establishment of a Church of England bishop in that place.

"*Banner of Ulster.*"—We have not had time hitherto to notice the appearance of a new auxiliary in the cause of the Church of Scotland, and the highest interests of mankind, that has recently sprung up in Ireland. It was altogether a wise and fitting thing for our Presbyterian brethren in that country, on the recurrence of the two hundreth year since the standard of the Covenant was planted in the green fields of Ulster, to celebrate the event by the establishment of a journal in which they might have perfect confidence, and which, by being detached from all mere political partisanship, might be free to make the advancement of true religion in its simplest forms its grand and paramount object.—We congratulate them on the appearance of the "*Banner of Ulster.*" Those who have had opportunity to observe the vigour and indefatigable ardour of its able editor in a similar sphere in our own country, will not need to be told that it gives the most satisfactory promise of a long and prosperous course. It is published twice a-week.—We cordially bid it God speed.—[Scottish Guardian.

Westminster Assembly.—The bicentenary of the great Westminster Assembly, which takes place in July, 1843, is destined, we have no doubt, in the providence of God, to tell with mighty effect in reuniting all the Churches, which adhere to the doctrinal standards drawn up by that celebrated council, in the bonds of holy and brotherly fellowship. Of this there are abundant and cheering symptoms on all sides; but the intelligence brought by the New York papers, which want of room hindered us from giving in our last, shows that the Presbyterian Church in America has already set about preparations for engaging all the sound Presbyterian Churches at home and abroad, to join with it in suitably commemorating the setting of that most memorable Assembly. The same papers bring a series of resolutions, from the General Assembly of that Church, expressive of "tender sympathy with the Church of Scotland in her present season of tribulation," approval of the principles for which she is struggling, and earnest prayers that she may prove faithful even unto death in the noble cause in which she is engaged. It is singular, that while the faithful majority have received testimonies of sympathy and encouragement from England, Ireland, Switzerland, Prussia, and America, not one single voice has come from any Christian Church to testify approbation of the intrusionist minority.—[Scottish Guardian.

A Handsome Donation.—We understand that a most gratifying tribute of affection and esteem has been made to Mrs. Noble, wife of the Rev. James Noble, minister of the Gaelic Chapel in Edinburgh, by the females of her husband's congregation. It consists of a tray, with an uncommonly handsome silver tea service, each piece of which is engraven with an appropriate inscription. This token of heartful regard cannot but afford the highest degree of pleasure to Mr. Noble and his amiable wife.—[Edinburgh Witness.

Facts for the Sceptical.—In four groups of Islands in the Pacific ocean, where 30 years ago the people were idolaters and most of them cannibals, there are now 40 000 members of Christian Churches. In one district in Southern India, the Church Missionary Society have 19,000 candidates for baptism, and 693 communicants. In New Zealand, in one district of the island, the average attendance of the natives upon divine worship, is 7,517; candidates for baptism 1,400; native christians 878. By the labour of missionaries of the American Board, 59 churches have been gathered among the heathen, embracing about 10 000 members.

THE OBSERVER.

St. John, Tuesday, August 16, 1842.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Lady Colebrooke and family, arrived in town yesterday afternoon, by the steamer *New-Brunswick*, from Fredericton; and were escorted from Indian Town by His Worship the Mayor, the Hon. the Speaker of the Assembly, and several other gentlemen, to the St. John Hotel, where they will sojourn during their stay in the city. A guard of honor from the 30th Regt. was in attendance at Indian Town.—His Excellency, Lady Colebrooke, and the Misses Colebrooke intend visiting the Exhibition and Bazaar of the Mechanics' Institute, to-morrow. The Bazaar will be opened at 12 o'clock, noon, under the especial patronage and superintendence of Her Ladyship, who will, we learn, preside in person in that department; and as the Ladies of St. John have been for some time past zealously preparing fancy works for disposal on this occasion, and the tables will be graced by the superintendence of a number of our fairest and loveliest citizens, we are convinced that an attraction never before equalled in St. John will be presented for public enjoyment. Considering, also, the truly philanthropic and patriotic object of the Institution, whose funds are to be benefitted by this occasion,—viz. the intellectual and moral improvement of society,—we hope that the visitors will be liberal in their disbursements; that they will acknowledge the kindness and exertions of the presiding ladies, by the liberality of their purchases, and will pay their willing homage to the fair sex generally, by the generous distribution of them. Immense exertions, also, have been made to render the Exhibition attractive; and we can assure our readers that the visitors will be astonished and delighted at the multifarious and beautiful collection of objects which will be thrown open to their view. Too much praise cannot be given to the Directors and other gentlemen connected with the Institute, for their untiring labours in rendering the Exhibition worthy of patronage; or to the numerous owners of the paintings and curiosities, who have so kindly lent them on the occasion; and we trust that the result will amply compensate the labour, and extensively aid the praiseworthy objects of the Institution.

The customary salute in honor of His Excellency's arrival, was fired by the Royal Artillery from the Lower Cove Battery.

THE BOUNDARY.

The papers by the *North America* state that the Boundary Treaty has been signed by Lord Ashburton and Mr. Webster, and sent to England by Capt. Wright, bearer of despatches from Lord Ashburton, who took passage in the *Great Western* on Thursday last, for Liverpool. The Treaty had not received the sanction of the *Senate*, as stated in papers brought by the *Huntress*; but it would probably be laid before that body early on last week, for their concurrence.

It is stated that Lord Ashburton would soon leave Washington for New York, to embark for England.

THE BRITISH TREATY.—[illegible] in stating that the treaty with Great Britain was signed on Tuesday, by Lord Ashburton and Mr. Webster, and it is probably before this time laid before the Senate for ratification. It is reported in some of the letters from Washington that it was laid before the Senate on Tuesday and ratified. This is doubtless an error.—[Daily Advertiser.

The Great Western.—The steamer Great Western took her departure from New York on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, on her fifteth passage across the Atlantic, with 66 passengers. Among the passengers was M. Bacourt, the French Minister, who has been for some time resident at Washington, and who returns to France on account of ill health. Among the passengers is also Mr. Wright, bearer of despatches from the British Ambassador at Washington, who carries out a copy of the treaty just completed, and signed on Tuesday by Lord Ashburton and Mr. Webster.—*Ib.*

New York, August 12.—Upon the present occasion, the Great Western carries out one of the most important treaties that have been negotiated for years, and one which we trust will be equally acceptable to the United States and Great Britain. Capt. Wright, a Queen's Messenger, is understood to be the bearer of that instrument, having arrived with it from Washington on Wednesday morning, signed by Lord Ashburton and Mr. Webster, and only wanting the ratification of our Senate and the British Government, to go into full effect. That it is of such a character as to receive that ratification promptly, we do not doubt; and we most sincerely congratulate both countries upon so auspicious a result.—*Courier & Enquirer.*

Washington, August 10.

The Convention with Great Britain is concluded and signed; and is before the Senate.

Lord Ashburton and suite will leave this city tomorrow morning, for New York, whence he will take his departure homeward in the Warspite. He carries with him the cordial good wishes of all those who have been officially connected with him, and if the American people have a spark of generosity in their character, it may be added that he carries with him their hearty thanks for the spirit of liberality and amity in which he has conducted and concluded his important mission.

He sought for peace, in the spirit of peace; and even had he been unsuccessful in his object, and had left us to the alternative of a war, still, a magnanimous nation would be grateful to him for the zeal and sincerity with which he discharged the office of peace maker.

The able and skilful management of the negotiation, on the part of the Secretary of State, is a subject of admiration here; and, when the correspondence shall be laid before the public, it will be found that, but for the firmness, tact, and ability which he brought into each question, the whole negotiation would have proved a failure, or terminated in a less satisfactory manner.—[N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

The Boston Mercantile Journal says—"It is contemplated to pay Lord Ashburton, on his return to New York, some signal mark of respect. This is well—but we hope that this signal mark of respect will be something more than a *dinner*. This mode of testifying our kind feelings towards distinguished foreigners is rather *hackneied*."

☞The Concert of Sacred Music in St. George's Church, Carleton, is postponed until *Thursday* next, the 18th instant, at 3 o'clock, P. M. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Lady Colebrooke are expected to honor the Concert with their presence.

The St. John Sacred Music Society, as will be seen by an advertisement in another column, are to give a Concert at the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, on Monday evening next, 22d inst.

The *Herald* has been changed from a weekly to a tri-weekly penny paper—the first number of which, in its new form, made its appearance yesterday morning. It is half the size of the former sheet.

Circuit Court.—On Monday the 8th inst., the Court commenced trying the criminal cases; and those persons convicted of crimes received their sentences on Saturday.

Elizabeth Williams, convicted of stealing a Watch, the property of A. Smithers, Esq.—sentenced to eight months imprisonment in the Provincial Penitentiary, at hard labour.

Margaret Shea, a servant girl, and Jeremiah Shea, her uncle, convicted of stealing on the 31st July, a variety of silver plate and other articles, the property of Mrs. Isabella Nichols and her daughter.—each sentenced to twelve months imprisonment at hard labour in the penitentiary.

Thomas Gibson, convicted of stealing, on the 11th April last, a horse, the property of Mr. J. E. M'Donald.—Sentenced to twelve months imprisonment at hard labour in the penitentiary.

A man named Hugh Kelly, and Mary, his wife, were convicted of committing an assault on Mr. James Stockford, while in the discharge of his duty in serving a warrant on Kelly.—[Sentence of these parties postponed for a few days.]

John Benson, charged with having issued counterfeit money, was acquitted.

The lad named John Keenan, who was arrested on suspicion of having recently set fire to the National School House on King's Square, was acquitted.

We understand (says the Courier) that the persons who were committed, or under bail, charged with having been engaged in the Riots in this city on the 12th July last, and against whom bills of indictment were found by the Grand Jury, last week, have been released on *their own* recognizances, by consent of the Attorney General, to appear at the sitting of the Supreme Court in January next, one of them having stated that he was not ready for trial. Six of the party, we are informed, for whom R. L. Hazen, Esq., was engaged as counsel, were willing that their trial should take place immediately.

Two new ships were launched last week—one of which, the *Paragon*, a barque of about 400 tons, was built by Mr. John Hawes, of Portland; and the other, a ship of about 700 tons, built by Mr. James Smith, at Courtenay Bay. They are both owned by their builders, and are stated to be in every respect first class ships.

The Veto Again.—*The third time!*—President Tyler has again vetoed the Tariff Bill, and returned it to the House of Representatives for re-consideration. In his message on the occasion he expresses much regret that he conscientiously differs from the views adopted by Congress on the subject. The President's principal objection to the Bill is that it contains a clause relating to Land Distribution. He wishes a Tariff Bill relating to no other subject than custom house revenue.

[Correspondence of the N. Y. American.]

Washington, Aug. 10.

On motion of Mr. Fillmore, the House took up the Veto Message, with the Tariff bill, which is the subject of it.

Mr. Adams spoke for an hour with even more than usual ability and wisdom, in relation to the character and consequences of this veto, and of the President's conduct generally for the year past. He said that in the remarks made on a similar subject, in reply to his colleague, on Friday and Saturday, much that he would otherwise have said, he had then deferred, in the hope of an event not then determined. He had then said, and now repeated it, that the signature of this bill by the President,—the bare writing of his name, with the word "Approved,"—would have restored credit, honor, prosperity, and hope to this suffering nation.

He proclaimed all negotiation and compromise between the contending Legislature and Executive to be at an end. The positions of both parties were new irretrievably taken.—The Executive cannot now retreat. Congress cannot retreat. The issue is made.

He concluded [illegible] the message to the House then voted to refer the message to the Committee of thirteen. Yeas 108, Nays 84.

Congress is expected to adjourn on the 22d inst.

Another Fire.—*Four houses burnt.*—We have again to record another visitation from this devouring element in Saint John, and, that, too, on a spot which has been twice similarly visited within a few years. About 10 o'clock on Thursday night, a light was observed in the upper part of a store on the South Market Wharf, west of Ward-street, and ere the alarm was given, a body of flame burst through the windows which showed that even at that early hour the fire had made great headway, (although the occupants of the building in which it is supposed to have originated had left it not more than half an hour before,) and threatened destruction to all the stores in the neighbourhood, as well as to numerous loaded wood-boats and other small vessels lying in the Market Slip, the tide being completely out at the time; but by strenuous exertions on the part of the Fire Department, aided by numerous well-disposed persons, and in a short time a plentiful supply of Water from the Fire Plugs, and from the harbour by means of Engines on board the Steam Ferry Boat, the ravages of the flames were confined to four buildings, as follow:—

A Store, owned by Mr. Joshua Hughson, (not insured) and occupied by Mr. W. D. Pickup, Flour dealer, (insured,) and Messrs. John D. Purdy & Co. Flour and general dealers, (not insured.)

A Store belonging to Mr. William Flaherty, (partially insured) and occupied by Mr. John Bowes, Flour and Dry Goods dealer, Mr. G. F. Gove, Flour dealer, and by Messrs. I. & J. G. Woodward, as an office.—None of the occupants are insured; Mr. Gove, however, saved all his effects.

Two Stores belonging to Mr. Jesse Haycock, (both insured) one of them occupied by Messrs. G. & J. Salter, general commission merchants, (insured), Mr. Thomas Hanford, Auctioneer, and Mr. J. Hardenbrook, Sail-maker—the two latter not insured. The other occupied by Mr. J. R. Sweet, Flour and general dealer; Mr. H. Hawkins, Auctioneer Mr. Sam. Broadbent, dry goods dealer, and Messrs. Fought & Brundage, Sail-makers—neither of whom was insured.

The schooner Ion, of Yarmouth, Capt. Kelly, which arrived from Halifax during the day with a cargo of rum, sugar, and other articles, was lying aground at the wharf opposite the first-named Store, and was only saved from entire destruction by the most strenuous exertions, and by having her masts cut away, after sustaining considerable injury in her sails and rigging. Her repairs, it is supposed will cost about £100.

The whole loss of property has been estimated at £2500, on which insurance had been effected to the amount of £1600 or £1800.

The effects of the fire will be severely felt by several of the sufferers, who were not insured, and most of whose stocks of goods were destroyed, as well as by the occupants of the numerous adjoining stores, who must have suffered considerable loss by the hasty removal of their effects.

The flames, as we have already stated, broke out so suddenly that it is still, we believe, uncertain in which of the two first named Stores they originated. We deeply regret, however, to state, that there is too much reason to believe the fire to have originated from the hand of an incendiary; and the fact of the hose through which the water was led from the Fire-plugs to the Engines, having been most maliciously cut in the public Market square several times during the progress of the flames, thereby greatly retarding the Firemen's operations in extinguishing the flames, goes strongly to strengthen the opinion, and shows what demons there are amongst us, and how disappointed such fiends must have been at seeing their work of destruction so soon got under. But justice, though slow, may, and we earnestly hope, will, yet overtake them.

We have again to acknowledge the valuable assistance afforded by our friends in Portland and Carleton, who brought their Fire Engines to our assistance; the latter being placed on board the Ferry Steamer furnished a supply of water at the lower end of the wharf, which could not otherwise have been easily procured while the tide was out.

To Captain Douglas, of the *Glasgow*, and the first Officer of the *John Bentley*, with portions of their respective crews, our citizens are much indebted for their exertions in preventing the fire from extending up the wharf.

The Military, headed by Major Locke and Major Poyntz, with the Garrison Engines, were early on the spot, and, as usual, lent their ready and willing efforts in saving and protecting the property of the citizens; and a portion of them having been judiciously disposed of as guards at several points, were, we have no doubt, the means of preventing considerable plunder, as we know, in connection with the City authorities, they contributed much to keep back an unnecessary and idle crowd from blocking up the wharves, and hindering the really useful from doing good service.—[Courier

An investigation took place by His Worship the Mayor and other Magistrates, the day after the late fire, in order to ascertain its origin, and after a very full examination of a number of persons present, at or about the time of its breaking out, the Magistrates came to the conclusion that the fire originated in the rear of the upper loft of one of the buildings burnt, and near the back windows of the loft. There was no trace of incendiarism to be discovered.—*Herald.*

The Rev. W. Scovil is about resigning his connection with this Parish, as Assistant Clergyman.—Few Ministers were ever more sincerely and deservedly beloved and respected by their Parishioners, than this Reverend Gentleman; and none, we are confident, ever left this Parish, whose absence will be more generally regretted.—*Ib.*

The Market House.—The present state of the ruins of the Market House, in the Market Square, has for some time been a subject of general complaint in the City—the stench in their neighbourhood, arising from the filth which is nightly deposited within the walls, at times being almost intolerable. It was therefore with much satisfaction that we learned, a few days since, that a proposal had been made by our townsman, Mr. W. F. Smith, to rebuild the Market House, on a reduced scale, (ninety feet by sixty, we believe,) for the sum of £2150—taking the rents, *as they might be realized therefrom*, in payment of the amount.

If such a proposition has really been made to the Common Council, we think no time will be lost in securing the erection of a building, the want of which is a serious inconvenience to the inhabitants of both town and country, especially when it can be done without any outlay whatever on the part of the Corporation, and with prospect, in a short time, of securing a handsome income to the City, while the ruins are at present a nuisance, and by no means creditable to our civic authorities.—[Courier.

Notwithstanding the depressed state of the times, we observe several buildings being erected; among which is a handsome house, the property of Mr. Morgan, in King street; a very compact well-built brick store belonging to Mr. Drake; and the machinery for a steam-mill adjoining the store of Thomas Pickard, Esq. on the wharf; which we consider will be highly beneficial to this community, and farmers residing in the neighbourhood. The Messrs. Barker have put up a house built of plank, without any frame.—*Fredericton Sentinel.*

Lady Bagott's Drawing Room.—As our lady readers may feel anxious to learn something of the particulars connected with this ceremony, we extract from the *Quebec Mercury* an account of the forms observed on this occasion:—

On Thursday evening Lady Bagot held her Drawing Room in the apartments at present inhabited by Her Majesty's Representative in the late Parliament Buildings.—The hour appointed for the ceremony was 9 o'clock, and from a little before that hour visitors continued to arrive in quick succession. The ceremony observed was somewhat different from what has been the practice on former occasions, inasmuch as the Governor's Lady has usurped the "*ultima ratio*" of royalty, where the ladies were introduced by the Aid de Camp in waiting, and in turn presented to her. On Thursday, Lady Bagot took her place at a convenient distance from the door, by which the visitors entered, Her Ladyship was attended by Lieut. Col. Antrobus, Provincial Aid de Camp, and supported by her three daughters and Miss Sadler, and there received the ladies presented by the Aid de Camp: the gentlemen by whom they were accompanied (those at least who had seen how the matter was arranged at Saint James's,) quitted their companions and allowing them to advance alone to be presented to Lady Bagot, when, bowing to her Ladyship, they proceeded to rejoin them.

The company, after the ceremony of introduction, passed to the left, and instead of retiring as is the case at a Levee, proceeded up the room where they formed in groups, and conversed with their friends as at any other evening party.

The presentations being ended, Lady Bagot made the tour of the room, waited upon by Colonel Antrobus, and entered into conversation with many of the Ladies. His Excellency the Governor General also was general and affable in his attentions. The Ladies of the family appeared to have recovered from the fatigues of their voyage;—of their attire we are not competent to speak, but the thing that struck us was the absence of all superfluous ornament, and the elegant neatness which is so becoming, especially to young ladies, but unfortunately so seldom understood or practised. The dress of Lady Bagot alone was in any way remarkable, and that was for the display of valuable jewels in the tiara and stomacher her Ladyship wore on that occasion;—these were appropriate and becoming to her rank.—All the principal families of the city and neighbourhood, without distinction of party, were present.

St. Andrews, Aug. 12.

At a Special Session held at the Court House, in Saint Andrews, pursuant to notice, on Wednesday the 27th day of July, 1842.

Resolved, As the opinion of the meeting, that the general distress prevailing in the Province, affects this County very materially, but the Magistrates not having any funds at their disposal, are unable to grant relief to individuals who are at present in a state of destitution, they would therefore respectfully suggest for the consideration of His Excellency, the great good that would result from the immediate issuing of the Bye Road and other Warrants for the County. The expenditure of which amounts, would greatly alleviate the suffering that now exists.

And Further Resolved; That no artificial means, in our opinion, will remove the existing distress, which arises from causes and circumstances, entirely beyond the control of this meeting. The heavy burdens now to be borne in supporting the local Poor, being very great; this meeting view their continuance with much anxiety and alarm.

Thereupon Resolved, That a communication be addressed to the Secretary of the Province, in reply to his Circular, enclosing the foregoing Resolutions. Extracts from the Minutes.

W. HATCH,
Clerk of the Peace.

The above Resolutions were enclosed by the Clerk of the Peace to the Secretary of the Province, to be laid before His Excellency the Lieut Governor.—[Standard.

Halifax, August 13.—Rifle Brigade.—The second Battalion of this Corps, numbering 624 rank and file, arrived on Wednesday, in the Transport Java, from Bermuda, and landed yesterday afternoon. The officers are—*Major*, William Sullivan; *Captains*—Charles Du Pre Egerton, Edward Holt Glegg, John Hamilton Eaton, Sidney Beckwith;—*1st Lieutenants*—Robert Reynard, Henry Oldfield Bowles, Wm. Shipley Warren, Charles Hangerford Poller; *2d Lieutenants*—Henry Hardinge, Wm. Monro Aitchison, Hon. Richard Charteris, Hon. —— Middleton; *Adjutant*—Joseph Wilkinson; *Quarter Master*—Edward Flattery; *Surgeon*—Moses White; *Assistant Surgeon*—John Fraser.—*Recorder.*

Kingston, July 29.—Iron Steamer.—The Steamer for the use of the Royal Navy on Ontario, has lately arrived out from England, in pieces, but the machinery having sent out competent persons, to be put up forthwith. In the same vessel brought out the Iron Steamer, arrived the efficient Engines of the Steam Frigate Cherubim, now almost ready for launching.

There does not often happen a year when fruits of the earth are so universally spoken of as abundant. From all parts of this continent, as well as from the three kingdoms, the most cheering accounts reach us. Only in this neighbourhood, two or three other places, do we have mention made of some damage done to the wheat by rust. Hay is hard to be disposed of in our market at six dollars a ton; it is quoted at four in Montreal. We read of contracts being entered into at Philadelphia and at Cleveland for the delivery of wheat at from seventy-five to eighty cents a bushel, and at Cincinnati from 60 to fifty cents.—*St. Catherine's Journal.*

We learn that the sale of building and village lots in the St. Mary's Suburbs, Montreal, which took place on Monday and Tuesday, went off with great spirit, the buyers being principally mechanics, &c. The prices of lots varied from £12 10s. to £20 each, and the acre and villa lots from £125 to £150 per acre. Of 192 acres purchased 4 months ago for £6000, 40 were sold for £3000, leaving 152 remaining unsold; a rise in property that has not been equalled in this province within such a period.—[Quebec Gazette.

Canadian Prisoners.—We learn that Chandler and Waite, the first of whom has a wife and eleven children, and the second a wife and one child, in Canada, have effected their escape from Van Diemen's Land, and reached Rochester, N.Y. a day's journey from their respective families.—They left their island prison two days before the escape of Gremmell; secreted themselves effectually from every search, among the fastness of a distant isle near the coast, fortified with more than two week's provisions. How they contrived to get on board a New England whaler and where, is not stated; but it is certain that she brought them safely to New England.—[N. Y. Evening Post.

New York, August 11.—*Money Market.*—Since our last report, no improvement in business has taken place; on the contrary, all branches of trade are, if possible, more dull. The country has been for months kept in constant excitement in regard to the action of Congress upon the Tariff question, and each successive step, instead of diminishing, has rather increased this excitement. The effect of this state of the public mind has been to unsettle the regular operations of trade, and bring about a general feeling of distrust both as to mercantile credits and the profits to be derived from purchases. Prices generally have been on the decline, and the disposition, not to say necessity, of economizing, which is evinced by most classes, has caused a great reduction in the actual consumption of the country. This, together with the great diminution of the actual currency, has tended to continue the depression of prices, and to render the result of operations at the present low rates doubtful of success.

Money continues abundant, and in bank or out of doors can be readily obtained upon first class securities. Large amounts are lying idle, waiting a favorable opportunity for investment, and something on which to ground a reasonable confidence of remuneration. The amount of paper offering is very small, and the banks are in a position of great strength.—Exchange on London, 9½ to 9 per cent premium.—[Com. Adv.

The British West India Steamers.—*Another Accident.*—A letter from St. Thomas, received at the Philadelphia Exchange, states that the steamship Clyde, Woodruff, commander, left that island July 19, with the island mails, bound to Barbadoes, touching at the islands up. Between the 22d and 23d [illegible] the 24th, she was [illegible] and remained hard and fast for about 36 hours, [illegible] not be backed off with her power of steam until [illegible] was lighted by throwing overboard her coal. It is stated that she made considerable water, and was compelled to return to St. Thomas, where she arrived on the evening of July 25, and on the 27th was waiting in coal, preparatory to returning to England to repair damages.—*N. Y. Commercial.*

Mass was celebrated on Wednesday, in the Catholic Cathedral, Boston, and the funeral service and forms of the Roman Catholic Church performed in memory of the late Duke of Orleans. In front of the altar was a sarcophagus, covered with the French flag, and surrounded by the colors of the United States, of Great Britain, Spain, Austria and other European nations shrouded in morning. The sarcophagus were lighted by candles burning round them. Bishop Fenwick, and other priests of the Catholic Church, arrayed in full pontificals, performed the services. The building was crowded to its utmost capacity by an attentive congregation, various to show the sympathy of our citizens with the French people in the loss of a Prince from whose life and reign so much was anticipated.—[Boston Post.

A Choral Hymn.—A fine characteristic trait in the Germans was recently manifested. Just as a fleet of canal boats arrived, loaded with several hundreds of German emigrants. As they got into the city, near the packet boat landing, the whole set up one of their national anthems—the voices of hoary age, vigorous manhood, and tender infancy floating with those of woman in the glorious harmony. The effect, in the calm stillness of a dewy morning, among the spires and domes of a silent city just touched with the golden beams of a July sun, was almost sublime.—*Buffalo paper.*

A good story is going the rounds of the newspapers, about a gentleman in this city, who had a singular passion for buying quantities of second hand furniture and other articles, at auction, that were cheap, whether he had actual use for them or not, and, therefore, dear at any price. Having filled his house with useless and antiquated articles, his wife, a prudent, careful woman, annoyed at his extravagance, very quietly, and without consulting him "took the responsibility" of sending a quantity of the useless trash to an auction room to be sold. Great was her dismay and astonishment when on the evening of the sale, a large majority of the things came back to the house—Her husband had unfortunately stumbled into the auction room, and not recognising his own furniture, had repurchased it at better bargains than before!—N. Y. Union.

About 100,000 emigrants have arrived in Canada and the United States this season from Europe.

The Montreal Herald says a great proportion of the recently arrived emigrants, are wandering about the streets, pennyless and houseless, without the possibility of getting work.

The Loco Focos of New York fired a salute in honour of the President's Veto.

It is said that some members of Congress receive for mileage about $2000, while their actual expenses do not exceed $150.

New wheat is selling at Rochester at 88 cents per bushel.

There are 388 rope walks in the United States. The capital invested in these,