

a memorial in a book, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua; for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven." Moses expressed no difficulty in complying with this command of Jehovah, which he probably would have done, had writing in a book been a new thing to him. Some writers affirm that letters were invented by Memnon the Egyptian, more than three thousand six hundred years ago; and others decide that the Phenicians have the best claim to the invention. To us it is not of any great importance whether this be correct or not; suffice it to say, that we have an alphabet, and we ought to be as grateful for it as if God had sent it by an angel from heaven expressly for us.

Ethmund.—But our letters are not like those of other countries.

Traveller.—No, the alphabets, like the languages, of different nations, are various, bearing a greater or less degree of similitude one to another. We know that languages were confounded at the building of the tower of Babel; but how alphabets are become so different from each other, we cannot tell. Five hundred years ago, the art of printing was unknown to us; every book was written with the pen, and of course was very expensive, but now books appear to be absolutely numberless.

(To be Continued.)

NEWS.

The Queen opened Parliament in person.

A further increase of the Royal family is expected this year.

The prosecutions were still going on in Ireland, and the excitement very great.

The Duke of Sutherland has granted some sites for Free Churches.

The exportations from Britain, to India and China, have increased with extraordinary rapidity, and to Germany and most other quarters, the trade is steadily increasing.

There is a proposition before the Scotch Temperance Societies, to raise £1000 as a free will offering, to be presented to the Union, at their next meeting.

Dr. Kalley, a British physician, residing in the Island of Madeira, has been imprisoned by the authorities there, for reading the Scriptures to some of the Portuguese inhabitants. His case has excited much interest amongst the Christians of Britain, who have requested the interference of Lord Aberdeen, who has made two representations on the subject to the Portuguese Government, but hitherto without effect. It is however said that the authorities of the Island, are becoming alarmed for the consequences of the step they have taken, and would willingly liberate the Doctor quietly, but he says, he has broken no law, and requires a recompense for his false imprisonment. Meantime the inhabitants of the Island are taking an interest in the matter, and the Doctor has as much as he can do, to receive visits, read the Scriptures, and exhort to the Christian life.

Hydrophathy or the cold water cure is exciting great interest in Britain; and as a necessary consequence no small amount of opposition. Several celebrated practitioners have declared in its favour.

The prospects of the Free Church College are encouraging beyond expectation. The number of students is very large, and many more have entered the preliminary classes of the University, with a view to the future prosecution of their studies. It may be interesting to state, that about fifty young men have applied to the Presbytery of Edinburgh alone for examination, previous to entering the Hall. From all parts of Scotland, and even from England, indeed the most promising of our youth are flocking in, resolved to prepare themselves for fighting the battles of the Lord, in their own, or if need be in other lands; many of them having, with that view, given up lucrative appointments, and several of them witness situations, which held out a certain prospect of worldly affluence.—*Witness.*

There are 18 line of battle ships, 16 frigates, 22 sloops of war, and 14 steam frigates, now building at the various dock yards of England.

A meeting was held at Leicester, on the 30th ult., to consider the propriety of establishing a Dissenting College in the midland counties, and also for the instruction of young men designed for secular purposes, against whom the universities of this country are closed. Another feature is the founding of a class especially designed for the service of Christian missions, to the members of which it is proposed to communicate such a knowledge of medi-

cine and simple surgery as may qualify them to subserve the physical interest of those among whom they may labour, and at the same time to afford such a knowledge of science in general as may enable them to promote the secular and commercial as well as the spiritual interests of the people whom they may visit. Leicester has been named as the seat of the projected college.—*Leicester Mercury.*

An American vessel taking in iron at Newport, Wales, was deserted by a coloured sailor, who, by the marks of chains, and other wounds upon his person, appeared to have been a slave. The fugitive took refuge in a British vessel, where he was betrayed by a pilot named Jenkins, and captured by the American captain and crew, who aided by a policeman acting without orders, boarded and searched the British vessel and carried off their victim unmolested. The following is the language of an American paper on the subject: "The poor slave, if he was such, as is believed in England, erred in not making his case immediately known to some respectable person on shore. And yet his error is not to be wondered at, for how can an American slave be supposed to possess the means of realizing that in England, both the people and the laws are his friends, and ready to defend him to the utmost extremity. For the treacherous English pilot and mercenary policeman, and the cowardly English captain, we do not believe even Americans can feel a more burning contempt and indignation, than is felt in England."

The Russian ukase ordering the Jews to remove from the frontier provinces to the interior is now being carried into effect. This measure affects nearly 100,000 persons; the families receive passports delivered by the magistrates indicating the place to which they are to go, and some days after they have received the passport they must sell and turn into money all their property.

The British settlers in New Ireland, have come into collision with the natives, and been massacred to the number of about sixty. Investigation shew however, that the whites were the aggressors, and that five of the natives were slain, before they retaliated.

We have recently been favoured with copies of able temperance journals, issued in the Sandwich Islands and East Indies; who shall say that tee-totalism does not possess vitality?

LAW AGAINST SEDUCTION.—The State of Michigan have just passed a very severe law against seduction and licentiousness—the penalty being imprisonment in the State prison for three and four years.—*N. Y. Evangelist.*

The Legislature of Indiana have passed a bill for the establishment of a State Institution for the education of Deaf Mutes.—*ib.*

IMPORTANCE OF THE CHINA TRADE.—Manufactured cotton cloth is one of the few articles which can be sent from this country to China. The moment that market was opened to the world, the New England manufacturers availed themselves of it; and in 1842, not less than 2,500,000 pieces of cotton goods were sent to China. In addition to this, some ten thousand bales of raw cotton were exported! It is impossible to estimate the magnitude which this trade is yet destined to reach.—*ib.*

MONTREAL PRICES CURRENT.—MARCH 1.

ASHES—Pot 25s 3d	LARD 4½d a 5d p. lb
Pearl 26s 0d	BEEF—Prime Mess tierce \$12
FLOUR—Fine . 28s 9d a 30s 0d	Do do bbls - \$7
U. States 28s 9d	Prime \$5
WHEAT 5s 9d	TALLOW 5d
PEASE 2s 3d per minot.	BUTTER—Salt 5d a 6d½
OAT-MEAL 8s 6d per cwt.	CHEESE 3d a 5¼d
PORK—MCS \$15½	EXCHANGE—London 1¼ prem.
P. Mess \$12	N. York 3
Prime \$10	Canada W. ¾ a 1

The last advices from Britain indicate increased firmness in the price of wheat and flour, accompanied by a slight advance, owing to Sir ROBERT PEEL'S declaration, that he intends to make no alteration in the Corn Laws. Nevertheless, the orders which have been received here, are not higher than from 27s 6d to 28s currency, free on board ship next spring.

Beef was much neglected, owing to a very large importation from the United States, and an accumulated stock equal to nearly the demand of twelve months. For home consumption even the very best quality was deemed unsuitable. It will, therefore, be advisable to send as little forward to Montreal next spring as pos-