

ries of seven resolutions was moved by Mr. F. Hincks. These resolutions proposed an address to the Queen, condemnatory of Sir J. Pakington's refusal to introduce into the Imperial Parliament a bill for the repeal of the Clergy Reserves Act (3 and 4 Vict. lxxviii.) of 1840; they also re-asserted Earl Grey's declaration, (in his despatch dated 27th January, 1851,) that the decision of this matter ought not to be removed from the Provincial Legislature; they threatened Her Majesty with "deep and wide dissatisfaction" among her Canadian subjects, at the "violation of their constitutional rights," if their demand is not complied with; and they concluded with a singular protestation of "loyal feelings," and a "desire to prevent the lamentable consequences of a collision." The motion of Mr. Hincks was not by an amendment proposed by Mr. Boulton, to the effect that "it is not desirable to revive the agitation or in any wise to legislate on this subject, which has heretofore produced such discord, strife, and hatred, in this colony." This amendment was negatived by a majority of 37 against 22, and Mr. Hincks's resolutions were carried by majorities still larger. An analysis of the votes on the amendment appeared in our last number, page 166; it may suffice to remark here, that the minority of 22 included a majority of Protestants, and a majority of the representatives of Upper Canada. So that a question affecting the property belonging to Protestants, is carried against Protestants by Roman Catholics; and a question affecting property belonging principally to the Upper Province, is carried against the representatives of the Upper by the representatives of the Lower Province.

Not without reason then, we deny in the strongest terms the justice of allowing the Canadian Legislature to confiscate the endowments in question. The majority in that Legislature has generally shown itself incapable of dealing with the matter with either justice or wisdom. Even in wrong-doing they have been inconsistent. It must not be forgotten that when Sir F. Head was governor, they presented a report recommending a five fold division of the (Protestant) endowment among the Churches of England, Scotland, and Rome, the Methodists, and the Baptists. They passed a bill in the time of Lord Sydenham, by which (had it not been disallowed in England) the annual proceeds of the Clergy Reserves would have been divided among sixteen different religious denominations, according to their respective numbers, to be ascertained once in every four years. They accepted the Act (3 and 4 Vict. lxxviii.) of 1840, as a measure professedly intended to "provide for the final disposition of the lands called Clergy Reserves," and in 1846\* they adopted a report recommending "that no change or deviation from that Act should be sanctioned by the Legislature." Yet they now threaten rebellion unless the British Parliament repeal that Act, and surrender the property unconditionally into their hands, not for redistribution, as Lord John Russell stated, but for alienation to secular uses.

With significant good taste, when they sent last year an emissary to England to urge their request, they selected for this purpose Mr. F. Hincks, a well-known Unitarian. This is a pregnant fact. An Unitarian representative of a Roman Catholic majority came to demand from the Imperial Parliament the unconditional surrender of the property of the English Church in Canada. Was this step prompted by ignorance of British feelings, or by excessive confidence in their chosen advocate, or by a profound estimate of the character of Earl Grey? Had they any ground for imagining that the minister in whose eyes the appointment of Colonial Bishops is "a kind of perquisite" of the Colonial Department, would show himself peculiarly ready to listen to the counsels of Dissenters with regard to the proper exercise of the influence of the State on the Colonial Church?

The feelings of the Roman Catholics and of the Dissenters who do not participate in the profits of the Clergy Reserves form the ground work of the present opposition.

\* See *Colonial Church Chronicle*, vol. iv. page 377.

### News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. America, Dec. 26.

#### THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The following is a copy of an official despatch received at the Admiralty:—

"Her Majesty's ship, North Star,  
Beechey Island, Sept. 7, 1852.

"Sir,—I beg to report to you for their Lordships' information the arrival at this place this morning of the merchant steam-vessel Isabel, (Commander Inglefield.) His stay is so short that I do not enter into any particulars of what he has done, but confine myself entirely to a short sketch of my own proceedings from the 24th

ult., the day which the Prince Albert left this, with a full account of the movements of the whole squadron.

"On the 26th August, considering the ship in a secure place for wintering, and that as much ice was out of the bay as was likely to come, I resolved on leaving for Maxwell Bay; therefore shoved off at two in the afternoon with a month's provisions. After a day's detention at Gascoigne's Inlet by a gale of wind, I got into the Bay on the 29th ult., landed on its western shores, to the northward of Cape Herschell, and could almost see at once that the land was continuous all round the head of it; however, to make sure I remained the greater part of next day for a more complete examination, when I got a latitude placing me in 74 deg. 42 min. 7 sec. N., but did not succeed in obtaining the longitude; but as I was perfectly convinced that no passage, either by water or land, for travelling over, could be found from the head of this Bay, I consequently made the best of my way back to the ship, which I reached on the 2d instant. On my way, both to Maxwell Bay and back again, I found on several occasions more of the same sort of circles found at Capo Riley, and from the examination was perfectly satisfied that they were not placed by any white people. Again, at one spot among them, I found several pieces of the vertebrae of the white whale. In a small bay to NE. of Capo Hurd, I found the roots and 20 feet 4 inches of the stem of a red pine, well above the high water mark, and 3 feet 6 inches in circumference just above the roots. It had, apparently, been lying there a long time, was white from exposure, and saturated well through to the heart.

"On my return to the ship, I found the Bay was completely clear of ice, the vessel lying at her anchor, and on two occasions nearly driven out to sea by the pressure of such heavy bodies as were forced out with the strong northerly gales lately blowing and strong currents running through the narrow between Beechey Island and the main. However, I now consider there is nothing more to apprehend, and am anxiously looking for Mr. McCormick's (surgeon) return, and if not here on Thursday shall send a boat as far up Wellington Channel as Cape Osborne, not only to meet him, but to make caches for the spring operations, thus anticipating the sledge party I intend sending away as soon as the ice is made.

"Wellington Channel from the summit of Beechey Island, as far as the eye can reach, is still open, and I anticipate Sir Edward Belcher has got very far on this season; but, as I said in my letter of the 23d ult. by Prince Albert, that I should endeavor to communicate with him next spring, I still hope to do so, more particularly as we have picked up the dogs Mr. Kennedy of the Prince Albert, landed on Beechey Island the eve of his leaving, rather than kill them.

"The house, which I have called Northumberland House, in honor of his Grace the First Lord, is progressing, and I hope to make it so far complete that it will afford a most comfortable asylum for any who might reach it, and need its shelter. It is seven feet high, thirty feet long, and twenty-five feet broad.

"We are now preparing the ship for the winter, but I do not expect the bay will be frozen over for some time, as the temperature of the water is yet high—29 this morning, air 23 30 is the lowest we have had; strong north and north-west winds have been prevailing lately. Much snow has also fallen, which is constantly driving about with the gales.

"In conclusion, I beg to acquaint their Lordships that all my crew are in good health and high spirits, and with a firm determination of doing their best endeavors to set at rest the long-pending question.

"I have, &c.

(Signed)

"W. J. J. POLLEN.

"P. S.—Commander Inglefield, by his discoveries in Smith's and Jones' Sounds, has greatly narrowed the field of search; for it is perfectly evident that no traces of our missing countrymen have been found in Smith's or Jones' Sound; but a great addition to our geographical knowledge of these regions has been gained.

From Papers By R. M. Steamship Europa, Jan. 8.

The R. M. S. Europa arrived from Liverpool yesterday morning, after a boisterous passage.

All the new Ministers returned to their constituencies, had been re-elected, except Mr. Gladstone.

We understand that when the steamer left England, Mr. Gladstone's re-election was doubtful. On the third day he was about 40 ahead of his opponent. We presume unsoundness in politics, and not in religious doctrine, is the cause of his predicament.

The three great northern Powers have acknowledged the new dynasty of France, and not coldly. Their autocratic Majesties style Napoleon *mon frere*. The Em-

peror is creating new senators by the dozen, among them are recruits from the Legitimists. There are some in England who think that to keep his huge army from mischief at home, he may attempt an invasion of England, if he can conjure up a pretext.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY ELECTION.—On Tuesday a Convocation was held, for the election of a Burgess in the place of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Provost of Oriel proposed Mr. Gladstone, and alluded to the ancient and salutary principle of returning a member, when once chosen, for life. Archdeacon Donison, of Oriel, proposed Mr. Dudley Perceval, of Christ Church. Mr. Donison remarked on the pain with which he sored a friendship of 30 years, but Mr. Gladstone's conduct and Mr. Gladstone's junction with his present colleagues compelled him to the step.—Dr. Robert Phillimore, who obtained permission to speak in English, passed some very severe censures on the committee who had, as he stated, used Lord Chandos's name without authority, and regretted that the etiquette of the university did not permit Mr. Gladstone to explain his present opinion and causes of conduct. Dr. Macbride, who had taken part in the opposition to Mr. Gladstone, assured Dr. Phillimore that neither himself nor any of the honorable gentlemen who acted with him had used Lord Chandos's name without being assured, and in their own minds convinced, that his lordship had consented. After about an hour and a half, spent in preliminaries, the Vice Chancellor adjourned to the Convocation House, and the polling commenced. At the close of the poll, on Thursday, the numbers were:—

For the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone,	277
For Dudley Perceval, Esq.	294

THE REVENUE.—The official return of the Receipts and Expenditure for the Quarter which terminated on Wednesday, has been published. The gratifying result is an increase, compared with the corresponding period of last year, of no less a sum than £702,776.

BENEFICES.—There were in England and Wales in 1850, 8,077 benefices where the incumbents were resident; 2,952 where they were non-resident; and 699 miscellaneous cases. The number of benefices upon which there is a glebe house amounts to 8,214.

THE present naval force of Great Britain consists of 545 ships-of-war (either in commission or in ordinary,) carrying from 2 to 120 guns each. Of this number 180 are armed steamers, from 100 to 800 horse power engines, constructed on the most approved principles, for active sea service (besides revenue cutters and smaller vessels). This immense fleet, the largest of any maritime power, employs in time of peace 140,000 able-bodied seamen, 2,000 boys, and 15,000 Royal Marines, divided into four divisions (102 companies), viz:—First division, head quarters, Chatham, 25 companies; second division, Portsmouth, 27 companies; third division, Plymouth, 25 companies; and fourth division, Woolwich, 25 companies; and 10 companies of Royal Marine Artillery, head quarters, Portsmouth. Besides, there are 7 brigades of Dockyard Volunteers well trained to gunnery, viz., Deptford, Woolwich, Chatham, Sheerness, Portsmouth, Devonport, and Pembroke, and three other battalions, Coast Guard, &c.

NEW ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.—It is the impression in naval circles, as letters have been received by officers who formerly served in Arctic expeditions, requesting them to state to the Admiralty if they were willing to serve again, that one, if not two expeditions will be sent to the Arctic regions early in the present year, and both well appointed with steam and sailing vessels. One of the expeditions will be sent to Smith's and Jones's Sound, to follow up the discoveries made by Commander Inglefield last year. It is also expected that that officer will be promoted to the rank of captain, and be appointed to the command of the new expedition; and that an efficient steamer will be made ready to proceed with the expedition for further exploration in the open sea he discovered during his last voyage. The other expedition will proceed to Behring's Straits, with the object of aiding Capt. Collison's expedition, as all eyes are now turned, in the expectation that some intelligence will be learned of Sir John Franklin from Capt. Collison's party; and the Rattlesnake, at Sheerness, is fitting to proceed as a store-ship, under Commander Trollope, to Behring's Straits.

Professor Wilson, so long a contributor, and for several years editor of the *Edinburg Review*, died in that city last month.

THE TELEGRAPH LINES OF THE WORLD UP TO 1853.—The extent of telegraphic communication completed and in operation throughout the world, at the beginning of the present year, may be estimated, as far