British News.

SAD EVIDENCE OF DISTRESS AMONGST THE OPERATIVE CLASSES.—One of the most striking proofs of the desperate condition to which the industrious classes in the manufacturing districts are now reduced, and the little hope which they entertain of an early improvement, is to be found in the fact that they are abandoning all efforts to secure themselves from ultimate pauperism. Hitherto, the manufacturing operative especially has been remarked for the pride which he has entertained in the prospect of a decent burial at the close of his life and toil. To secure this, every little manufacturing village, and almost every branch of trade has had its sick and burial clubs, the former to provide against incapacity to work, and the latter to furnish the means to his surviving relatives of giving him a decent funeral. Furniture, bedding, and even clothing he would part with in his season of trial; but his penny or twopence a week was always raised for this sacred object. We learn, however, from the *Manchester Courier*, that

"In the district of Ashton, such is the condition of the factory workers, that those of them who are members of sick and other societies, have met to divide the funds of the various clubs to which they belong, to enable them to subsist. We have heard that £700 has been distributed to the members of one of the sick and burial societies in the town. Notwithstanding the suffering which exists, the operatives appear to manifest the greatest patience."

In the district of Oldham equal distress exists. At a public meeting, the gentry, clergy, and other inhabitants of the town, held on Thursday, for the purpose of taking into consideration the state of the working population, one of the speakers stated, that

"The total number of operatives in the district was 20,000, but most of them were only working two, three, and four days per week, whilst hundreds were entirely out of work. (Hear.) Supposing that most of them only worked three days per week, and that when in full work they got upon an average eight shillings per week, their present earnings would be four shillings per week. It might be calculated that the total wages were £8000 per week, but it was probable that at present they only amounted to £4000 per week, so that in wages alone there had been a falling off in circulation to the district of one-half. Then in machine making, there had been only a short time ago, 2000 men employed here, but at present not more than one fourth of them were working, and those were not employed full time. When in full work, their wages might have averaged £1 per week—now it was likely they were not getting more than ten shillings per week. (Hear.) Then there were the miners and hatters also in great distress. (Hear.) Altogether it was probable that the decrease in the circulation of money in one week alone in this borough amounted to £6000 or £7000. (Hear.) The present extent of destitution was awful in the greatest degree; there were instances of families having to make meals of half pounds and pounds of Indian corn. (Hear.) He could well remember the disastrous times of 1826 and 1842; but they were nothing in suffering to the present period."

Nor is this state of things confined to the cotton manufacturing districts. From a Birmingham paper we extract the following:—

"We are sorry to say the mechanics and labourers heretofore well employed by railway companies are being daily discharged. On Saturday last a considerable number of hands employed in a large carriage manufactory were discharged, and many more will follow on Saturday next. Add to these thousands of 'navvies' in this town and neighbourhood, and we shall have an enormous number of unemployed persons immediately thrown upon the rates and roads."

What is to become of all these poor people in the winter season which is approaching it is not easy to say. We look to the wisdom of Parliament to enlighten us upon the subject. That the ratepayers of our large towns, burthened as they already are with the immigrant pauperism of Ireland, and suffering from the unexampled depression of trade, can afford to bear this new burthen is as little probable as it is that the poor will submit to starve much longer in peace.—*Liverpool Standard.*

THE PROGRESS OF LIVERPOOL.—At the late dinner given by the Mayor to Sir Robert Peel and a distinguished party, our late noble representative, Lord Sandon, gave the following interesting statistics, exhibiting the increase of the importance and commerce of the town since he was first returned as a member in 1831. The data, we are authorised to state, were furnished by Mr. Alexander Neilson, clerk to the borough treasurer. The population in 1831 was 205,964; in 1846 it had nearly doubled, being 358,655. The revenue produced by the Corporation property was £45,968; in 1847 it is £59,336. The town dues were in 1831, £49,332; in 1847 they were nearly double, the amount being £97,219. The dock revenue in 1831 was £183,455, and although the rates were reduced 38 1-8 per cent. in 1836, they produced this year £244,435. In 1831 we had 111 acres of water space in our docks; we have now 189 acres, with 14 miles of lineal quay space. The shipping of the port was in 1831, 12,537 vessels; it is now 20,889 vessels. The tonnage of the port was in 1831, 1,594,436 tons, and in 1847, 3,351,539. The cotton imported was, in 1831, 793,463 bls., and in 1846, 1,134,081 bales. In 1831, the railway system was in its infancy, the Liverpool and Manchester line having been one of the most successful. In 1844, the United Kingdom had expended on 2,668 miles a capital of £62,411,598. Parliament sanctioned in 1845 and '6, 7,654 miles additional, estimated to cost £190,344000, and in 1834, 1394 miles, to cost £34,692,800. The total railway capital will thus be £287,448,398.—*Liverpool Standard.*

THE PORT OF LIVERPOOL.—Number of ships of all descriptions, and their registered tonnage, that were in the different docks on the 25th inst. Total, 860 ships, 225,294 tons. There were 31 vessels in the river waiting to dock, the flags being up at all the principal docks. In the Birkenhead Dock, 25th instant, there were 14 ships, 2015 tons.

LORD MAYOR'S DAY IN LONDON.—The usual ceremonial of Lord Mayor's day passed off with greater *eclat* than ever on Wednesday. A fine day for the show drew thousands from all parts, and the dinner appears to have been on a most magnificent scale. Her Majesty's Ministers, the Foreign Ambassadors, and Judges of the land were of course present. The premier, in returning thanks for her Majesty's ministers, was very brief. His Lordship said;—"I beg, in the name of her Majesty's ministers and my own, to thank you for the great honor you have done us in drinking our health. We are fully aware of the importance of having the support and confidence of the city of London for the purpose of carrying on the government. I am sure that we, the Queen's ministers, intend to do what we think will be most beneficial for the country; and in that behalf, omitting all subjects of political controversy, I will say we shall not hesitate to administer, and, if need be, to exceed the law, if we think it necessary for the public welfare. I have heard with great pleasure your lordship's sentiments in favour of the continuance of peace—sentiments which were so well responded to by my illustrious friend, the French Ambassador, who is here present. I wish, like him, that that peace which has now lasted for thirty years, may long endure, and my anxiety for its continuance, I own, arises not more from a sense of the evils of the war which then closed, than from the experience of the benefits of that peace we have so long enjoyed." (Loud cheers.) He concluded by proposing in complimentary terms, the "health of the new Lord Mayor."

BORNEO CHURCH MISSIONARY INSTITUTION.—On Tuesday a general meeting of the members and friends of this society, established under the sanction of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, for the purpose of founding a clerical institution, church, and mission school-house in Borneo, was held at their chambers, Waterloo-place. Letters were read from the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, confirming the appointment of the Rev S. F. Montgomery, M. A., and other clergymen as missionaries to Borneo. It was stated that a meeting of the committee had been held a few days previously, at which Mr. Brooke had attended. Mr. Brooke, it appeared, had described at considerable length the present state of Sarawak, the preparations he had made before leaving Borneo for the reception of the missionaries, and his views as to their future career. From this account it appeared that the fixed Malay population of the town of Sarawak amounted to nearly 10,000, besides the Dyaks, who inhabit the neighbourhood, and a considerable number of Chinese. Everything seemed most favourable; but Mr. Brooke insisted much upon the necessity of quiet and cautious conduct on the part of the missionaries, so as to conciliate the sympathies of the natives without offending their prejudices. With due precaution he considered the extension of Christianity amongst the Dyaks would eventually be rapid, and that a foundation might be laid at Sarawak for the future conversion of the natives throughout the whole Indian Archipelago. The Earl of Ellesmere was elected president of the committee.

DARING ATTACK ON DR. BOWRING, M.P., AND HIS BROTHER.—The two highwaymen who attacked Dr. Bowring and his brother, on Thursday week, in Glamorganshire, and plundered them of £1000 in gold, notes, and silver, have been apprehended. They are both Irish, and their names are Richard Mahoney and John Lloyd, desperate-looking fellows, who had been employed at the Llanvi iron-works, of which Mr. C. Bowring is the resident director. Immediately on the daring attack being made known in the neighbourhood, all grades turned out to scour the mountains for the ruffians. Of the large amount stolen nearly all has been recovered; £662 15s. 10d. was found on the prisoners, and notes to the extent of £170 were subsequently discovered in the Cwne Nantywyn Wood. Mr. C. Bowring was in the habit of drawing money of the bank every Thursday for the workmen's wages, and it appears that the prisoners made the most deliberate preparations for the robbery, as they had purchased the pistols on the previous Monday, at the shop of Mr. Moses, in Swansea. They were brought before Viscount Adair, and a full bench of magistrates, for examination, at Bridgend, on the 2nd instant. The Messrs. Bowring were the principal witnesses, and fully identified them. Mr. C. Bowring said he had procured the money at Bridgend Bank for wages. He placed it in a bag in the boot of the gig, in which also rode his brother Dr. B. When they got about half way to Bowrington, they saw the two men approaching them. "When (continued the witness) they came close to us they separated, one on each side of the gig, and when they got about a yard or two from our persons, they each presented a holster pistol at us. The prisoners are the two men, I am certain. Lloyd said, "your money or your life." Mahoney repeated the words. Lloyd then held the pistol to my breast; it was cocked, and his finger was on the trigger. He afterwards said, "Mr. Bowring, I want your money, not your life." I replied, "I can't resist, I'll give you the money," and I stooped down to reach the bag. Both pistols were presented the whole time. I opened the boot, and the strap of the bag hung out, and Lloyd pulled the bag out. I ought to mention that when I stooped Lloyd said, "Give me the two bags." I used to carry the money in two bags, but on the present occasion I had it in one. After Lloyd got the bag he went on for a couple of yards, and then turned round and shot the horse in the gig in the head. It dropped dead. The prisoners then made off through a field on the west side towards Margam, carrying the bag together. I immediately went to a farm house near at hand and made known the robbery, and borrowed a horse and galloped to Bridgend and gave information. A number of our workmen and neighbours went across the mountains during the evening in pursuit of the prisoners." They were both apprehended late the same night, and were identified.—Dr. Bowring, M.P., corroborated this testimony, adding that the coolness of the robbers was wonderful. Before they got the bag, he pulled out his own purse to give to them, but they took no notice of it. He expressed his sincere thanks to the inhabitants of all grades for the assistance they *rendered in pursuing and apprehending the prisoners.* The arrest of each was proved, and the evidence being complete, the magistrates committed both the prisoners for trial at the ensuing assizes.—*Liverpool Standard, Nov. 16.*

LONDON, Nov. 15.—The Bank of England has been supplied during the past week with £475,000 in gold. About £200,000 more was expected yesterday. In a week or ten days forward about half a million more is expected as advised of. These ample supplies are almost exclusively derived from Russia. Such extraordinary imports of the precious metals must necessarily be the result of financial operations upon a large scale, the actors in which do not appear at present, although the origin may be guessed without much chance of error. The "eight per cent." recipe is working, as such potent medicine might be expected to work. Such a price for money being proclaimed to all the world (and the *Examiner* declares that the Bank has itself *paid* seven per cent.), it is inevitable that money should flow towards such a market. All the cash that can be spared from Holland and other places, where 4½ and 5 per cent., has been the currant price, is naturally forwarded to London, to gain some of the premium thus offered. And thus the bullion in the Bank-coffers begins to be augmented: and as a consequence, the quantity of the Bank's disposable paper is increased. The bullion and coin in the possession of the Bank, according to the *Gazette* of Friday, was, on the 6th of November, as follows:—

Gold coin and bullion.....	£7,247,959
Silver bullion.....	1,178,571
Gold and silver coin.....	303,021
	£8,729,551
In the preceding week it was	£8,438,874
Increase.....	£290,677

MINISTERIAL PERPLEXITY.—Lord John is already in a fix; already does he show symptoms of weakness. He is clever enough to see his true position, and honest enough to admit it. He knows not what he shall do, and only guesses as to what he will be expected to do; he looks upon nothing as a certainty, and he is right. He is only sure of coming difficulties, and they will, in all probability, be too much for him. The Birmingham deputation have sounded him in vain. He has nothing satisfactory to declare. As to the crisis—the monetary difficulties—he *does not say that he will, or he will not,* attempt to grant relief. Of a certainty he knows not what to say; he will know not which way to turn. He scarcely knows who are his friends, and those who will support him on one question will oppose him on another.

CONSUMPTION OF SILK.—The quantity of this material used in England alone amounts each year to more than four millions of pounds weight, for the production of which myriads upon myriads of insects are required. Fourteen thousand millions of animated creatures annually live and die to supply this corner of the world with an article of luxury. If astonishment be excited at this fact, let us extend our view to China, and survey the dense population of its widely-spread region, whose inhabitants, from the emperor on his throne to the peasant in his lowly hut, are indebted for their clothing to the labours of the silkworm. The imagination, fatigued with the flight, is lost and bewildered in contemplating the countless numbers which every successive year spin their slender threads for the service of man.

TRIAL BY JURY.—The 53rd anniversary of the trial of Horne Tooke, Thelwall, and Hardy, took place on the 6th inst. at Radley's Hotel. An excellent dinner was provided, to which upwards of a hundred gentlemen sat down. The chair was taken by Col. Thompson, M. P., supported by Messrs R. Taylor, P. Taylor, jun, Galloway, Mackenzie, Ashurst, &c. The chairman proposed as the first toast, the "Sovereignty of the People," which was drunk with three times three. "The Queen" was the next toast, followed by other toasts commemorative of the principles of reform, and of the institution of Trial by Jury. Speeches were delivered by Messrs Richard Taylor, F. Lawrence, Paul, Beskwith, Galloway, (almost the last surviving member of the celebrated jury of 1794), and Havistock, a member of the once noted political Corresponding Society.

WOOLWICH.—*Royal Arsenal.*—Such is the demand for military stores in consequence of the vast increase of guns and carriages required for the coast defences and the advanced ships preparing for commission, that orders have been received for the entry of more than one hundred mechanics and labourers for the carriage department of the Royal Arsenal. The establishment now employs more men than it did during the war of 1814.—The buildings are inadequate to the accommodation of so large body of workmen, and the departments are to be enlarged.

Mr. Lefevre, brother to the Speaker of the House of Commons, and also brother to a gentleman holding a high office in the Board of Trade, has invested £60,000 in a spinning factory at St. Petersburgh.

Since the first week in August, upwards of forty commercial houses, placed by the magnitude of their mercantile transactions in the first class, have been compelled to suspend payments.

Mr. Cherry estimates the gross annual loss in Great Britain of agricultural animal stock, from want of attention and disease, at £10,000,000 per annum.

Communication.

OBITUARY OF MRS. SUTCLIFFE.

Sympathising deeply with our Christian brother in the loss of his estimable companion, and knowing the strong attachment and respect of her acquaintances in different parts of the Province—we solicited from the Rev. Mr. DANIEL an obituary notice of the deceased, who has furnished us with the following notice as it was presented from the desk of the Centenary Chapel on Sabbath evening last.—May its perusal quicken every reader in the great work of our present life, to be prepared for the crown of life, which the Lord shall give to all those who love his appearing.—*Christian Visitor, Dec. 8.*

"It is usual upon occasions like the present, to present something like a brief outline of the religious character of the individual whose demise we are called to notice.

The substance of the following outline was drawn up by my respected colleague—whose knowledge of the religious history of the beloved partner of his cares, rendered him best capable of doing. The loss which he has sustained, he most keenly feels; and it was therefore an effort, a strong effort of mind, to bring himself to perform a duty, although connected with many pleasing reminiscences—yet most affecting and depressive.

Our beloved Sister Sutcliffe was born in St. John's, Newfoundland, on the 20th of June, 1816. Her Parents spared no expense in procuring for her the best education which her native land could afford. From her early years she was an attentive scholar in the Wesleyan Sabbath School. In due time she was elected a Teacher in the same Institution, and most harmoniously co-operated with the officers and teachers in imparting instruction and Christian knowledge to the Children entrusted to their care. In connection with her engagements at the Sabbath School, she was also a diligent and successful collector for the cause of Missions, and felt deeply interested in the spread of religious truth, and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom—she lived at the same time in the daily exercise of prayer to God, and felt deeply the importance of personal salvation, frequently repeating with seriousness and sincerity, the impressive lines,

"Nothing is worth a thought beneath
But how I may escape the death,
That never, never, dies."

By this seriousness of disposition, and the strivings of the Spirit of God, she was kept from associating with the gay and thoughtless, in the frivolous pursuits of mere worldly pleasure.

When she was about twenty years of age, she united herself with the Methodist Society by becoming a member of a class met by Mrs. Smithies, the excellent wife of the Rev. John Smithies, now a zealous and devoted Missionary in Western Australia.

She was married on the 30th of May, 1837, and in a few days left for Brigus, the circuit to which her husband had been appointed by the District Meeting. She entered upon her new sphere with great cheerfulness, with deep humility, and with that self-denying spirit that enabled her not only to endure inconvenience but even hardships without murmuring or repining. It is not necessary to follow her through the various circuits in which her lot was cast. It may, however, be proper to state, that at a prayer meeting in *Port De Grave* in the year 1839, she received a special manifestation of the mercy of God to her soul. For months after, her every word and action appeared to say,

"O let our heart and mind continually ascend,
That Haven of repose to find,
Where all our labours end,
Where all our toils are o'er,
Our suffrings and our pain,
Who meet on that eternal shore
Shall never part again."

On the *Black Head* Circuit she faithfully discharged the office of a Leader for the space of three years, and rendered valuable assistance in the Sabbath School. Here she was called to endure a painful privation in the death of her infant daughter. She manifested great resignation to the will of God in this severe trial, and found great comfort from the following Hymn, sung at the funeral,

"See Israel's gentle shepherd stands
With all engaging charms,
Hark how he calls the tender lambs,
And folds them in his arms."
[See Wesleyan Hymn Book, page 570.

The same spirit of resignation was manifested by her under other painful bereavements in the death of her children—one in St John's Newfoundland—one in Fredericton, and another in this city. The prospect of meeting her little ones in Heaven frequently cheered and animated her spirit, knowing that they were no longer

"Sufferers here,
But seraphs there."

During the ten years of her marriage her deportment was uniform and consistent. The important duties of her high position as the wife of a Wesleyan Minister, were faithfully performed. On the several circuits where she resided, she greatly endeared herself to our people, and was not only respected but greatly beloved by them. Her natural disposition was diffident. Her habits retiring and unobtrusive, so that the real excellencies of her character were only known to her most intimate friends.

She possessed a strong and active mind, a sound judgment, a cheerful disposition, a tender, affectionate and benevolent heart. It was in her own house that her excellent qualities were chiefly developed and most conspicuously manifested. Her devotion to her husband and children was exemplary, and her efforts to promote their happiness unremitting.

For some time past there had been a deepening of the work of God in her soul, manifested by an increasing love for the means of grace, and greater fervor and earnestness in the holy exercise of family worship. She loved the Word of God, and never neglected to give some portion of each day to a private and careful perusal of its sacred pages. She loved the Ministers of the Lord, and esteemed them highly in love for their work's sake; saying "How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of them that bring good tidings, that publish peace, that bring good tidings of good, that publish salvation, that saith unto Zion, thy God reigneth."

She loved the people of God, and knew of no distinction between the rich and the poor. It was her greatest pleasure and her highest happiness to be employed, when her time and health would permit, in visiting the poorest members of the church of Christ, and in relieving them so far as her means would permit.

Nov. 7th. She went to the House of God, and on reaching home expressed herself much benefitted by the service.—Nov. 8th, Monday, she complained of indisposition, and performed with difficulty the matters of her household.—9th. Her indisposition continued. She had recourse to medicine without obtaining relief. The following day the Doctor was in attendance, and means employed to mitigate, and, if possible, to arrest the complaint. For several days no fearful apprehensions were entertained of serious consequences, but an expectation that in a short time she would be restored to her usual health.—On Tuesday, the 16th, it was perceived that her strength was evidently failing; the symptoms became alarming, the fever strong, the breathing laborious, and her head affected with stupor. She was frequently spoken to on the important subject of religion, and a preparation for eternity, and although unable to enter into conversation from a nervous affection of the muscles of the throat, it is matter of thankfulness that she was enabled to understand and answer questions of great and paramount importance. When asked, is your soul happy? she answered, without hesitation, Yes. Do you rest upon the Saviour? I do, I do.—On Thursday evening she was understood to say she was going very fast. When it was asked where to? after a short pause she replied, to Heaven!—On Sabbath morning, 21st, while prayer was being offered, she was much engaged with God. On several occasions during the day, a very holy and heavenly influence was felt by all in the room. All appeared to feel that

"The chamber where the righteous meet their fate
Is privileged beyond the common walks of virtuous life,—
Quite on the verge of Heaven."

By the blessing of God on the means employed for her recovery, and in answer to prayer, on Sabbath evening hopes were entertained that the danger was over, and that her life would be spared. Monday evening she was pronounced better and continued about the same until Tuesday, when all hopes were blasted by an alarming accession of the disease. Wednesday she was greatly prostrated; her heart and flesh began to fail, but God was the strength of her heart, and although unable to speak much, she was, with clasped hands and raised eyes, frequently engaged with the Lord in prayer; and while prayer was offered by our excellent brethren and sisters, her heart, it was evident, went along with theirs. On the evening of this day brother Cooney and myself had the pleasure of conversing with her respecting her prospect for eternity, when she witnessed a good confession. I asked her if she felt happy in God? her reply was, Yes. I again asked her if the fear of death was taken away? Her reply was in the affirmative. While Brother Cooney and myself engaged in prayer around her dying bed, the power of God was eminently felt by all who were privileged to be present, giving us the most incontestible proof that the Lord is nigh unto them who call upon him in sincerity, and that the chamber of the dying Christian is the ante-chamber of Heaven.

Her breathing now became more and more difficult; about 10 o'clock her husband asked the question, Is the Lord precious? She replied, Yes! yes! This was the last time she attempted to speak with her lips, but in the very agonies of death,

"Joy through her swimming eyes did break,
And meant the thanks she could not speak."

At half-past 12 o'clock, on Thursday morning, she peacefully and without a struggle, fell asleep in Jesus. "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord." Yes,

"Happy who in Jesus live,
But happier still are they,
Who to God their spirits give,
And 'scape from earth away.

Lord, thou real'st the panting heart,
Lord, thou hear'st the praying sigh,
O, 'tis better to depart,
'Tis better far to die!"

Thus closed the mortal career of our beloved sister.—She is now breathing in a purer atmosphere, and reposing in a fairer clime, where sickness cannot blast, and death cannot destroy.—"Where all is calm, and joy, and peace." Surely then we are ready to say—"Let me die the death of the righteous." Amen and Amen.

The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, DECEMBER 21, 1847.

The steamers were all due at Halifax on Saturday last, and momently expected—the Hibernia from Liverpool, with the first December mail, the Britannia from Boston, and the Unicorn from Newfoundland.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.—The last Royal Gazette contains His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor's Proclamation, summoning the Provincial Legislature to meet at Fredericton, on Wednesday the 19th of January next, *for the dispatch of business.*

We learn, with much pleasure, that ALFRED SMITHERS, Esq., late Manager of the St. John Branch of the Bank of British North America, at the request of the Local Board of Directors, has consented to defer his departure until the end of January, for the purpose of affording his successor for a time the benefit of his long experience and thorough practical knowledge of the various interests of the Institution—a circumstance which we feel convinced will afford much gratification to the community.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, the Rev. Mr. Lawson lectured to a crowded house, on the *Formation of Character.* We regard much of this lecture as highly valuable and calculated to have a useful tendency, and have therefore solicited some copious extracts to present to our readers in our first number of the New Year.

Next Friday evening, Mr. Foulis will lecture, in continuation of his Chemical course, on *Attraction and Repulsion.*

ST. JOHN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—The semi-annual Examination of the Public Grammar School took place yesterday, in presence of the Rev. I. W. D. Gray, D. D., President of the Board, the Honourable the Chief Justice, His Honor Judge Parker, and the Hon. R. L. Hazen, Members of the Board, and Rev. Alexander Stewart, A. B., Major Poyntz, H. Bowyer Smith, Esq., Collector of Her Majesty's Customs, John M. Robinson, Esq., Geo. Blatch Esq., and Mr. John Bedell, Student of Theology, Visitors. Two Greek Classes, eight Latin Classes, one French Class, and various Classes in Mathematics, Geography, and History, were examined. Various Exercises and some Maps, which had been executed by the Pupils, were also laid before the Examiners. The Books in which the Examinations took place were Demosthenes' Orations, Homer's Iliad, Juvenal's Satires, Cicero's Orations, Virgil's Æneid and Bucolics, Cornelius Nepos, Eutropius, Stodhart's Preparatory Latin Book, the Eton Latin Grammar, Corner's Rome, Chambers's Solid Geometry, Euclid, &c.

At the close of the Examination the Rev. Dr. Gray stated to the School that the Examination was upon the whole very satisfactory, and that especially the higher classes had acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner; and after a short but fervent address, tending to impress upon them the necessity of cultivating studious habits, and never allowing play or amusement to interfere with their hours of study, he announced the pleasing intelligence, that the Board of Directors had, in pursuance of a Resolution to form a Library in connection with the School, appropriated Ten Pounds towards the purchase of suitable books. The Christmas holidays were then given out, to continue till Monday, 10th January next.

The young gentleman who by his proficiency and good conduct is justly entitled to the Corporation Gold Medal this year, is Master J. F. Clinton Boyle.

The Steamer *Lady Colebrooke*, with His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Lady Colebrooke on board, arrived safely at Fredericton on Wednesday evening last. Alderman Smith accompanied His Excellency. The steamer's progress upwards was rather tedious, but she came down in nine hours.

A tow-boat from Woodstock also arrived at Fredericton on Wednesday evening, showing that the River St. John was open from this City to Woodstock on the 15th of December—a rare circumstance.

The weather has been colder since Friday last, and a moderate fall of snow has given good sleighing, which will enable our country friends to bring their produce to the city, and if the sleighing continues a full and brisk Christmas market may be expected.

The steamer *Maid of Erin*, Capt. Leavitt, which arrived on Sunday afternoon from Annapolis, brought over 300 sheep.

☞ We are happy to state that Dr. BOYD has so far recovered his health as to be able to resume his professional duties at the Provincial Marine Hospital.

WESLEYAN ACADEMY, SACKVILLE.—We have received a neatly printed copy of the Annual Catalogue of this popular and flourishing Institution, (printed at the Courier office, and embellished with a handsome copperplate engraving of the Academy Building and grounds,) from which we learn that during the year 1847, the total number of Students at the Academy was 141—of whom 60 were in the Classical department; 49 in the Literary and Scientific department; and 35 in the Primary department. Twenty-two of the Students belonged to St. John.—During the term which has just ended, 75 of the Students were boarded in the Academy.—The Rev. Humphrey Pickard, A. M., is still the Principal of the Institution; Mr. Jos. R. Hea, Classical and French Tutor; T. M. Wood, Esq. English Master; and Mr. Geo. Milligan, and Mr. J. T. Outhouse, Assistant Teachers.—The next term to begin on Thursday the 6th of January. The charges for tuition, board, &c., in no case exceed £30 per annum.—"Sackville, (it is remarked in the Catalogue,) is a retired country village, pleasant and healthy, and easy of access from all parts of the Provinces. The Academical Building is elegant, spacious, and comfortable, and delightfully situated."

NEW PAPERS.—The first number of a new paper, called *The Mail*, to be published on the mornings of Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, (issued from the Albion Office, by Bailey & Day,) made its appearance this morning.

Mr. Hill, editor of the Loyalist, also intends commencing, on the 4th of January next, a new morning paper, to be published on the same days, to be called the *Commercial Times.*

We wish the several parties much success in their enterprises, and a fair participation in the various pleasures and profits, as well as "pains and penalties" incident to the profession.

N. B.—With a little squeezing, room probably might yet be made for about half a dozen more, the supply being scarcely equal to the demand, and the money market at present being remarkably "easy."

ARMY.—The 33d Regt., at present stationed in this Province, are not to leave for Ireland till spring.

The Maria Somes, and Blenheim, transports, were to embark a battalion of the 69th Regt. from Ireland, and convey them to Malta, to relieve the 97th, which proceeds to Jamaica. At Jamaica they will take on board a Regt. for Halifax, to relieve the 83d, ordered home.

St. Andrew's Church was brilliantly lighted with Gas, for the first time, on Sunday evening last.—The Church, we understand, is hereafter to be regularly opened on Sunday evening, for Divine Service.

The Union Street Church has also been splendidly lighted with Gas the two last Sabbath evenings.

☞ The Concert given by the Rowe Family, on Thursday evening last, at the Mechanics' Institute, gave much satisfaction to a highly respectable audience. The "Family" propose giving another Concert, embracing a new selection of pieces, on next Thursday evening.

RURAL CEMETERY.—At a meeting of the Shareholders of "the Saint John Rural Cemetery" on Monday the 13th Dec., 1847, the following Gentlemen were chosen Directors:—

William Parks, James Pettingell, Adam Jack, Solomon Hersey, Dr. Botsford, Robert Jardine, Hon. R. L. Hazen, Dr. Peters, William G. Lawton, Charles Drury, Beverly Robinson, John M. Walker.

At a subsequent meeting of the Directors, on the 14th inst., Robert Jardine was chosen President; Edward B. Peters was appointed Secretary and Treasurer; Mr. M. Stead was also appointed Landscape Gardener; Mr. Robert Mills Superintendent of the Cemetery.

The Company being now organized, are prepared to sell Lots for immediate use. Application for the same to be made at the office of the Secretary, or to the superintendent on the ground.

A portion of the Cemetery has been laid aside for single interments at low rates, and a portion for the poor.

ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting on the 6th inst. for the choice of Office-bearers, Henry Porter, Esquire, was re-elected President; Mr. William F. Smith, Vice-President; William Hutchinson, Esq. Treasurer; and Mr. William Patton, Secretary; and, by unanimous request, John G. Campbell, Esq. consented to act as Assistant Secretary.

The iron steamer Corqueror, belonging to Messrs. W. H. & R. C. Scovil, which has during the past season been plying between Shediac, Pictou and Charlotte-Town, arrived at this port on Friday last, from Halifax. She has come round to receive some repairs.

SAILORS' HOME, HALIFAX.—The Halifax Guardian says, the Sailors' Home, in Bedford Row, is now open for Boarders, under the superintendence of Capt. Hervey Doane. A Reading and Newsroom for Seamen, and for the Subscribers, will shortly be opened.

THE NEW MAIL CONTRACT.—*Cunard Steamers.*—By the new contract recently entered into between the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and Messrs. Cunard, Burns and Miller, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails between England and North America, the contractors are to receive £85,000 per annum for the services between Liverpool and Halifax and Boston, and £60,000 per annum for those between Liverpool and New York, (either direct or by way of Halifax)—making in all £145,000 per annum, to be paid quarterly. An additional allowance to be made to the contractors in case a state of war should occasion an increase in the rate of insurance or freight for coals, but not to exceed £40,000 per annum.—The contract to continue for ten years from the first Saturday in January, 1848, and until determined by either party giving twelve months' notice after that period.

In addition to the general penalty of £30,000 for the non-performance of the agreements, the contractors are liable to a penalty of £100 for any delay or deviation on the voyage, without the sanction of the Mail Officer, who is to decide all the discretionary questions as to the necessity of stopping to assist vessels in distress or to save human life. A penalty of £500 is incurred in case of a delay of twelve hours after the appointed time for leaving Liverpool, and also a further sum of £500 for every successive period of twelve hours which shall elapse until the departure of the Steamer.

For the execution of this gigantic contract, this enterprising Company have nearly completed four new ships of greater tonnage and steam power than their present celebrated steamers, which will make a fleet of nine vessels, viz., the Britannia, Acadia, Caledonia, Hibernia, Cambria, America, Canada, Niagara, and the Europa, and, without exception, the fastest and finest Steam Ships in the world.

The hurricane of the 11th Oct., to which we before alluded, caused much destruction of property at the Island of Tobago, as well as a great sacrifice of human life—27 persons are known to have been buried in the ruins of houses, &c., and there were still many individuals missing. The Governor of Barbados had forwarded from the Public Chest of the island £200 towards the relief of the sufferers.

GENERAL TAYLOR AT NEW-ORLEANS.—The grand reception of General Taylor took place in New Orleans on the 3d instant. It was magnificent and enthusiastic. When he landed, the Mayor invited him to become the guest of the city. Old "Rough and Ready" made a suitable reply.

The St. Charles Hotel was brilliantly illuminated in the evening. In front of the gentlemen's parlor was a transparency of General Taylor, in the old brown coat, with the motto, "Little more grape, Captain Bragg."—There was also a public dinner, fireworks, &c.

To-morrow, the 22d instant, will be the 227th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers of New England on Plymouth Rock, in 1620. The day is to be celebrated by their descendants in various cities of the Union.

GREAT FLOOD IN THE OHIO.—The Ohio River and its tributaries has risen to an unusual height. At Cincinnati the water is only 8 feet lower than it reached in the great freshet of 1832. It has caused immense damage throughout the country.

New York papers state that Judge Edmonds has issued an order to commit Messrs. Prime, Ward & Co. to close confinement in the city prison, until they shall make an assignment.

The Bible is to be stereotyped and printed in the Danish language, by order of the Managers of the American Bible Society. There are now in Northern Illinois and Wisconsin upwards of 20,000 Danes, and this number is to be increased by 2,000 more who are to join them next spring.

We understand that the Hon. Charles Simonds has resigned his commission as a Justice of the Peace for the City and County of St. John, in consequence of the authorities not adopting what he conceived to be proper steps for the maintenance of good order and the preservation of the lives of the peaceable inhabitants of the Parish of Portland, in which the honorable gentleman resides.—*Courier.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On Thursday last, Catharine Jane, youngest daughter of Mr. Thomas Cunard, of Indian Town, aged five years, came to her death by playing with a heated poker, which igniting her clothes, she was burnt so dreadfully that she lingered only five hours. It appears that her sister had entered the room about twenty minutes before the accident occurred; but on being told by the deceased that she did not want her there, she retired, leaving her alone and closing the door. Shortly afterwards the melancholy accident which led to the premature death of an interesting child, was discovered.—*Ib.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On Thursday the 2d instant while Mr. William Taylor, Jr., and Mr. David Gouger, both residing at the French Lake, in the Parish of Sheffield, were returning home from the house of Mr. Henry Treadwell, on the River St. John, they skated into an air-hole in the lake, in sight of their homes, and were both drowned. The accident was seen from the shore and search was immediately made for the bodies, which were recovered in about an hour after the accident happened. An inquest was held before Enoch Barker, Esq., Coroner.—Verdict, 'accidental death by drowning.'

We understand that both the deceased were members of the Methodist Church, and have each left a widow and seven children to deplore their loss. Mr. Taylor was 45 years of age, and Mr. Gouger 40 on the day of his melancholy death.—Both were buried at Sheffield, side by side, in one grave, on the following Sunday.—[Head Quarters.

Incendiarism at Kennetcook, Hants County.—We learn that on Monday night last, the dwelling house and barn of Mr. John Harvey, Kennetcook, together with their contents, were destroyed by fire, of which we may note, 23 head of cattle, 5 horses, 50 tons of hay, grain and other produce, together with farming implements, &c. Loss, about £350. Three men of the name of Sandford have been arrested on suspicion, and lodged in the gaol at Windsor.—*Halifax Sun.*

DREADFUL DEATH.—A boy named Tierney accidentally fell into a vat of boiling spirits in Rugg's Distillery one day last week, and although instantly rescued he was so badly scalded that he died on the day following.—*Halifax Post.*

QUEBEC, December. 13.

THE WEATHER.—The mildness of the season here is almost unprecedented. For the past two or three days we have had heavy rains, the snow has nearly disappeared from our streets, and again wheel vehicles are coming into requisition. The ice on the St. Charles river has given way, and it and the St Lawrence, opposite the city, are perfectly clear, the steam ferry-boats continuing to ply between Quebec and Point Levi. The navigation between here and Montreal is now more practicable than it was some two or three days before the boats were sent to winter quarters. The river intercourse between the latter city and Kingston, continues open also; the last Montreal papers mentioning the arrival of six barges, deeply laden with flour, in addition to three others previously noticed.—*Morn. Chron.*

The Quebec Gazette, in directing attention to some extracts relative to the Halifax and Quebec Railway, says,—"It is a pity that this Railway is not in operation. We could supply our friends in Nova-Scotia and New Brunswick at a much lower rate than 40s. for Flour, their present market price."

At Montreal on the 11th, the Flour market was dull—sales limited, at 25s. to 25s. 7½d. for fine.—Light sales of sour at 23s. to 23s. 9d.—Provisions dull—Prime Pork, $10; Prime Mess, $12; Butter, sales limited, at 5d. to 6d. per lb.

SUDDEN DEATH.—The *Journal de Quebec* mentions the sudden death, in church, of the Rev. M. Lacasse, Cure of St. Henri de Lauzon, on Wednesday 8th inst. It appears he had just descended from the pulpit, when, without any previous sign of indisposition he almost instantaneously expired. He was 62 years of age, and had faithfully and zealously discharged his pastoral duties in the above parish, during a period of thirty years.

A melancholy accident occurred at Toronto, on the 19th ult., at the new Roman Catholic Cathedral, now in course of erection in that city, by the falling of a scaffold upon which a number of men were at work, three of whom were seriously, if not fatally injured. They fell from a height of nearly 60 feet.

POST OFFICE COMMISSION.—We are much gratified in having it in our power to state, that the Commissioners appointed by Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to examine into and report upon, the existing order of our postal arrangements, with a view to the adoption of a system and rates of postage, more in accordance with the times in which we live, than now prevails, have, with the Hon. Mr. Cayley—the Commissioner appointed for Canada—unanimously adopted a report, which, if acted upon, will give the inhabitants of the British North American Colonies, the advantage of a uniform rate of inland postage; and that each rate will not, at all events, be higher than that now in force in the neighbouring republic.—*Montreal Herald.*

CHARLOTTE-TOWN, P.