The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, AUGUST 7, 1849.

ENGLISH MAIL.—The steam-ship *Cambria*, with the third July mail, bringing dates to the 21st, arrived at Halifax on Thursday morning, and the mail was received in this City at six o'clock on Friday evening. The Cambria brought out 55 passengers for Boston, and two for Halifax.

There was every probability of an abundant harvest throughout Great Britain and Ireland.

A steady business was going forward in most departments of trade.

Parliament was soon to be prorogued, after which the Queen would set out on her visit to Ireland.

LIVERPOOL, July 21.—The Grain markets are dull, and prices, as the harvest approaches, shew symptoms of a decline. The Metal trade is steady. Cured Provisions command attention, and both here and in London a fair amount of business has been transacted. Money is still abundant, and readily obtained at 2¾ to 2½ per cent. for first-class paper. The funds are steady, and prices of English securities have advanced. The sales of Cotton, for the week ending July 20, amount to 76,420 bales, of which speculators took 23,560, and exporters 7500. The market in the early part of the week was active, and although not so animated since Wednesday, closed yesterday at a further advance of *one-eighth of a penny* per lb. for all descriptions.

There is not any activity in our markets for Breadstuffs, on the contrary there is rather a depressed feeling, and prices are lower than at the date of our last issue. Old Western Canal Flour is selling at 24s., 24s. 6d., and 25s., Ohio and Baltimore, 25s. to 25s. 6d., and Philadelphia 24s. 6d. Indian Corn is quoted at 30s. to 32., the latter being the value of prime white. The prospects of the harvest throughout all parts of the United Kingdom are very encouraging and satisfactory. The reports from the continent of Europe, relative to the state of the growing crops and probable result of the harvest, are of rather a conflicting character.

COMMERCIAL SUMMARY.—LIVERPOOL, July 21.—Trade continues active, and the business done this week has been large, and in general at improved prices. The produce markets are well supplied. A healthy feeling continues to prevail, and a fair extent of business has been done at steady prices. Cotton has continued in favor at advancing prices, and money to a considerable extent is being invested in the article. The consumption of cotton is now greater than it was ever known to be; and the conclusion of an armistice between the Germans and Danes, just announced at London, will doubtless increase the present demand.

A Manchester and other manufacturing marts the market has been firm, and spinners, influenced by the buoyant state of the cotton market, have claimed, in many instances, an advance of half penny per pound. An additional price has also been demanded upon goods. The prospects of the harvests throughout all parts of the United Kingdom are encouraging and satisfactory.

During the last few days considerable sales have been made of all descriptions of Iron. The armistice now arranged between Denmark and Prussia has caused an advance of about 2s. per ton on Scotch Pig. The market is firm at the following quotations, with a tendency to improvement:—Merchant Bar, £5 10.; best Rolled, £7; Hoop, £7 10s.; Sheet, £8; Scotch Pig (nett cash) £2 15s.

Parliament is to be prorogued on the 29th inst. The motion which Lord Brougham previously announced his intention to make, with reference to the French expedition to Rome, was laid upon the Peers' table on Friday. The resolutions embrace a wide range of subjects, and implied a direct censure of the foreign policy of the government; and it is understood that the envoys and agents in Northern Italy and Sicily will be fully noticed in the debate which took place on the 20th.

CHOLERA.—In allusion to the cholera, Lord Ashley, the chairman of the board of health, stated in the House of Commons on Tuesday last, that he had reason to know that not one half of the cases were reported. Enough, however, is officially known to render it certain that the epidemic is raging in many parts of the country to a dreadful extent.

During the last week, 339 deaths by cholera were reported in London, which is more than double the number of the preceding week.

At Bristol, Plymouth, Portsmouth, and along the whole of the south coast, the cholera is raging in a very malignant form, and the mortality is very great. At Liverpool the disease is rapidly increasing. The number of cases reported for four days previous to Thursday were respectively, 64, 74, 85, and 102.

Scotland continues to be generally exempt from the scourge.

Mr. Joseph N. B. Kerr, from Nova Scotia, had an interview with Earl Grey, lately, at the Colonial-office. Mr. Hincks had also an interview with the noble earl.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, June 30.—The Queen was this day pleased to confer the honor of Knighthood upon Commander William Winniett, of the Royal Navy, Lieutenant Governor of the Gold Coast.—[London Gazette.

During the last six months 87,443 emigrants have sailed from the port of Liverpool. The number for the corresponding period of 1848 was 82,680.

Baron de Rothschild is about to leave Paris on a trip to Italy. It is said that his journey is in connection with the indemnity to be paid by Piedmont, which would necessitate a loan, and also the unpaid half year's interest on Roman bonds.

The accounts from the manufacturing districts of Lancashire and Yorkshire are still of an encouraging nature. At Manchester manufacturers are looking for advanced prices; and the operatives are fully employed in executing the several orders on hand.

The frightful disclosures made respecting the malversations of Mr. Hudson, in the report of the York and Berwick Railway line, which must end in his irretrievable ruin, if not his impeachment in a criminal court, have given a chance to Government to press the Audit of Railways Bill, to the principle of which they have given their approval.

Mr. Macready, the celebrated tragedian, is editing and will shortly publish an edition of Pope's works.

COLONIAL REFORM.—The friends of Colonial reform have assembled in London at a dinner, at which all the great leaders of colonial reform of all parties were present. Sir William Molesworth being in the chair. The speeches made were of more than usual interest. Those of the Chairman, Lord Monteagle, Mr. Horsman, Mr. Adderley, and Mr. Mackay were especially distinguished by enlarged views, and were expressive of an earnest desire to promote the prosperity of our distant colonies upon the basis of popular local control.

The speech of Mr. Mackay, a rising man, the author of the late work on North America, with respect to our Canadian possessions, produced considerable effect. He drew an admirable picture of the position of Canada, contrasting it advantageously with the United States. He then, with reference to the efforts made to disunite the colony from the mother country and to annex it to the United States, showed that the other North American colonies, with Newfoundland, must follow the fate of Canada, and if they must be severed, which he denied, at least it was desirable that they should become an independent state. Mr. Mackay with great eloquence insisted, that by pursuing a internal policy we should convince the Canadians that annexation with another power was not a necessary condition precedent to the proper developement of her resources. That by adopting such a course the Canadians would never harbour a thought of annexation. Mr. Mackay did not develope the details of his views further than to press most particularly upon the attention of the company that the Canadians found a difficulty in borrowing money from European capitalists for internal improvements, which the adjacent States did not. Mr. Mackay shadows forth an enlarged scheme of loans for public purposes in Canada, and more than hints that a liberal "pull at the Exchequer" might be very beneficial just now at this critical moment in fixing the wavering connection between the mother country and the colony.

In Canada the elements of open rebellion are found; in Australia, dissatisfaction exists; and in our African colony the government, by the introduction of convicts, is driving the loyal population to the verge of outbreak. This state of affairs cannot be allowed to last; the hardly-won colonies of England cannot be sacrificed for the sake of an experiment, or to satisfy the insatiable demands of a knot of clamorous and pseudo political economists.—*Standard.*

LIVERPOOL, JULY 21.—ARREST OF THE EUROPA STEAMSHIP.—On Saturday, the Queen's Advocate applied to Dr. Lushington, at the Admiralty Court, on the part of several passengers and others who were on board the Charles Bartlett when she was run down at sea, to grant a warrant to arrest the Europa for the losses they had sustained by the sinking of the vessel. The application was of a novel character. Dr. Addams, acting for the owners of the Europa, did not know of any case where passengers had brought or could bring an action for their loss. Here were one hundred and sixty three persons on board, forty-two of whom were saved, and each of these might bring his action, and thus swell out the amount of costs against the owners of the vessel. The learned judge replied that he would not decide the question, whether a passenger could or could not bring an action, but he would take care that no unnecessary expense in the form of costs should be incurred. The warrant for the arrest of the vessel must go out. One action is said to be entered for £14,000.

IRELAND.—The Queen's visit and the harvest prospects have given a tone of cheerfulness to the provincial journals, which afford a most striking and gratifying contrast with the deep despondency that prevailed almost universally even two or three months ago.

Offers of several private residences have been made for the accommodation of Her Majesty during her sojourn at Cork, which, as it is not her intention to stop out of the royal yacht, have been graciously declined.

The Repealers in Dublin have failed to procure the mention of "Repeal" in the address to be made to the Queen at her approaching visit.

The 9th, 31st, 43rd, 49th, 71st and 74th regiments are to be brought up from country quarters, and temporarily added to the garrison of Dublin, to be reviewed in presence of the Queen, during the sojourn of her Majesty in the metropolis.

The accounts from all parts of the country are of the most satisfactory kind—the crops of all kinds are progressing to maturity, there is no appearance of blight in the potato, and on all sides there is a prospect of abundance. There have been some slight rains, but still more moisture is required after the very warm weather for some weeks past. The *Banner of Ulster* states that from Wednesday to Saturday last 301 loads of perfectly sound potatoes were brought into the Belfast market, which sold from 4d. to 9d. per stone.

The Cork Examiner, in alluding to the Potato crop, says, that the disease has appeared in a few fields, there can be no doubt; but it is equally positive that, as yet, the general crop is safe, and, in almost all cases, unusually abundant and thriving. The general impression is, that it is so far advanced, that, supposing a blight to set in, the tuber will have been out of the ground before such time as the disease could have reached it.

The 12th of July has not passed over without bloodshed. A violent conflict took place between a party of Orangemen and Ribandmen at the pass of Dolly's Brae, near Castlewellan, County of Down, and several lives were lost. It appears from the evidence on the inquest which has been held on the dead bodies, that the parties are not agreed which fired the first volley of musketry; but the Ribandmen having at length fired at the soldiery, as Major Wilkinson describes it, "a regular round-my-hat affair," the troops interfered and put an end to the affray. The question which excites most party feeling is, whether these Orange processions are illegal or not, and this dispute is to be settled in the common law courts. The act which prohibited party processions has expired, and Government has not deemed it advisable to renew it. The jury have found an open verdict against persons unknown, and the two factious parties in Castlewellan are wound up to a high pitch of exasperation. Both Orangemen and Ribandmen appear equally to blame in the affair, and it is greatly to be lamented that demonstrations on either side were permitted at all.

Seventeen out of thirty-seven persons charged with appearing in arms and firing shots at the constabulary and others at Dolly's Brae on the 12th inst., were committed to take their trial at the ensuing assizes at Downpatrick, but bail was subsequently taken for their appearance.

On Friday, two medical gentlemen drove through the country, round about the scene of the contest, with the view of administering relief to those who were wounded, but they were refused admittance at every house where they called.

ITALY—ROME.—The Pope has addressed an autograph letter to General Oudinot, on the occasion of receiving the keys of the city of Rome. His holiness congratulates the General on the triumph of order in Rome, and expresses his hope that divine Providence will remove the difficulties that may still exist. He adds, that he does not cease to direct his prayers to Heaven for the General, the army, and the French nation. The letter was dated Gaeta, 5th July.

Cardinal Piccolini and the Marquis Sacchetti arrived in Rome, from Gaeta, on the 9th. The latter is Grand Chamberlin of the Apostolic Palace. Preparations are making at Rome, which lead to the impression that Pius IX. is expected soon to return to the Quirinal. All the wounded have been removed from that palace.

The National announces that the Prince of Canino, son of Lucien Bonaparte, and Ex-President of the Roman Constituent Assembly, has been arrested at Orleans, by order of the government, on his road from Marseilles to Paris. It is said that, having a claim against his cousin, Louis Napoleon, for money lent in aid of his election, the Prince came to France to demand it, the cousin's conduct against Rome having stirred up his ire. It is said that the Prince will not be imprisoned, but that he will be forced to embark for England or America.

HUNGARY AND AUSTRIA.—Although numerically considered the hostile forces are of appalling superiority, the Hungarians are very far indeed from being in any desperate extremity. A Turkish Ambassador in Paris received a despatch on the 19th inst. by courier, announcing that the Polish Gen. Bem had again completely defeated the Russians under the command of Gen. Leurs, in Transylvania, and that the latter had been obliged to take refuge in Wallachia with a small remnant of his army.

Advices from Vienna, of 13th July, state that Buda-Pesth surrendered to the Austro-Russian troops on the 11th inst, without resistance.

From a report from Gen. Haynau, addressed to the Emperor of Austria, it appears that a very sharp conflict took place on the 11th before Comorn, between the combined armies and the Magyars. The Hungarians fought with furious impetuosity, but the Austrians claimed the victory. Another one. Bem's exposure to danger arises from his courage and not his superstitions. If he entertains any such foreboding, the nature of the conflict in Hungary presents a prospect of realizing it. The Czar has offered a reward of about $28,000 for him.

PRUSSIA AND DENMARK.—The armistice between Prussia and Denmark has been ratified. A suspension of hostilities both by sea and land for six months is agreed to. At the close of this period the armistice, if not to be renewed, is to continue six months longer.

AGRICULTURAL.

We understand that the celebrated Professor JOHNSTON sailed on Saturday 28th by the steamer from Liverpool to Halifax, on his way to the United States, which he visits on the invitation of the New York State Agricultural Society. The Government of this Province have requested him to spend a month in the Province, and to make a report on its Agricultural capabilities, which he has agreed to do; and we are informed that Dr. Robb and James Brown, Esq. M. P. P., have been appointed to accompany him on his tour through the Province. We believe that he may be looked for in Saint John within the next fortnight.

Being convinced that the agricultural resources of the Province far surpass what is even imagined by its inhabitants, and require only to be examined into and reported upon by some person held competent to form an opinion on such matters, to make New-Brunswick take that station as a field for farming emigrants to which she is well entitled, we consider that the Government have conferred a greater boon on the Province by their invitation to the celebrated Professor than could have been obtained by ten times the amount expended in any other way.

Professor Johnston holds the first rank as an Agriculturist and Chemist. He has been employed for the last five years as Professor of Agriculture to the Highland Society of Scotland, and is now Professor of Agricultural Chemistry in the University of Durham. Whatever he chooses to say, therefore, respecting us, will carry with it an authority that will be respected wherever scientific farming is known.

We beg to remark that the Government have confined themselves to giving Mr. Johnston an invitation to remain a month and make a report.

Would it not be advisable that the Farmers of New-Brunswick should avail themselves of his presence to get his opinion on their various soils, and the mode of cultivation adopted to them? The most experienced farmers of England and Scotland were forced to take the position of learners before him, and it is to be presumed that he might teach us something too.

We would suggest that the different Agricultural Societies throughout the Province should meet immediately, and appoint two or three of their members to accompany the Professor through their respective counties, making such arrangements as may be convenient to have conversational meetings in various districts, at which the Professor might preside. A small portion of the funds of each Society, we should thing, could not be better spent.

We are glad to learn that the St. John Agricultural Society, at a meeting held on Thursday last, have made a move in the matter. We subjoin a report of their proceedings:—

At a meeting of the Saint John Agricultural Society: It having been intimated to the Society that Professor Johnston is about to visit this Province, and may be expected here in the course of a fortnight—

Resolved, that a Committee of five members be appointed to receive Professor Johnston on his arrival, and to afford him every facility and assistance in examining the County, by accompanying him to such districts as he may wish to visit, or in whatever other way may be most useful or acceptable, and that Mr. Jardine, Mr. Drury, Mr. Dewar, Mr. Dunn, and Mr. Bowes, be the Committee; and further, that if time will allow, a meeting of the whole Society be called to meet with the Professor, so that all possible advantage may be derived from his visit.

Resolved, that the foregoing Resolution be published, and a copy of the newspaper sent to each Society in the Province—to be held as a request that united action may be taken—and that if Committees are appointed, they are requested to communicate with the President of this Society, who will furnish such information as to the Professor's routes, time of arrival in different districts, &c. as he may be possessed of.

There are various reports of the potato disease having re-appeared in several sections of the Province, but they cannot yet be depended upon as an "established fact."—New potatoes, of excellent quality, have been in market for some days past.—The hay crop in many parts will, it is hoped, yield better than was anticipated some weeks ago. Oats and turnips are promising well almost every where.

A correspondent in Kent County, dated 1st inst. says—"The Hay crop in most of the Eastern parts of Nova Scotia, as well as in this section of New-Brunswick, will be extremely short."

Extensive Fires are raging in the woods between Gagetown and Oromocto, which have caused much damage to farmers.

THE CIRCUIT COURT for August commenced its sittings at the Court House in this City this morning. His Honor Judge Carter presides.

The Rev. Dr. George Burns, formerly of St. Andrew's Church in this city, preached in three different Free Churches in Scotland, on Sunday 8th July, at all of which collections were taken up in aid of the building fund of the Free Church in this City.

Coal readily brings $20 per ton at Valparaiso.

The steamship *Caledonia*, from Boston, with 30 passengers for Europe, arrived at Halifax on Friday morning, and sailed same day for Liverpool.

Lady HEAD and Family arrived in Town on Wednesday evening, to reside in Carleton for a short time and enjoy the benefit of sea-bathing. His Excellency left on Thursday for Fredericton, thence to proceed on Friday morning up the River St. John to the Tobique, where His Excellency will meet an Officer of the Royal Engineers from Canada, now engaged in examining the St. John with Mr. John Grant, of the Crown Land Department, in order to devise measures for the permanent improvement of the River Navigation. We learn that it is His Excellency's intention to proceed up the River Tobique to its source, and thence *portage* to the Nepisiquit, which river he will descend to the Bay of Chaleur, returning to Fredericton by way of Miramichi. His Excellency is desirous of becoming personally acquainted with the line of country proposed to be traversed by the Halifax and Quebec Railway, and will have an admirable opportunity of doing so by this route.—*New-Bruns.*

THE AMENDED CHARTER.—We copy to-day, from the Royal Gazette of Wednesday last, the official announcement of the confirmation, by Her Majesty in Council, of the Act passed at the last session of the Provincial Legislature for the amendment of the Charter of this City, with the appointment of Benjamin L. Peters, Esquire, to the office of Stipendiary Magistrate. The Act is published at length in the Gazette, and no time, we presume, will now be lost in enforcing its provisions, many of which are much needed. We learn that there were upwards of twenty applicants for the office to which Mr. Peters has been appointed. That gentleman has been long conversant with Magisterial duties in St. John, having been in the Commission of the Peace for many years, and at times held the office of Alderman and also Mayor of the City. He may, herefore, be presumed to be well qualified for his new situation; and from his experience and love of system and order, we anticipate the organization of a Police Establishment which will redound to his credit, and retrieve the character of the City for good order in every department which comes under his surveillance. He has the power, and we give him credit for the energy and talent to carry out the expectations of all good citizens. We trust we shall not be disappointed.—*Courier.*

CITY COURT.—Not the least important of the reforms which the recent amendments of the City Charter will effect, is the improved practice of the City Court, which, we understand, will be at once adopted. In future, no attachment will be issued on the return of a summons, and in cases where the summons shall have been served three days before the return day, judgment will be rendered at the first sitting of the Court; in other cases the giving of judgment will be on the second Court day. The Court will sit on Thursday in every week, instead of every alternate Thursday, as heretofore; and it is obvious that the introduction of these changes, although imposing some additional duties on the Aldermen and Common Clerk, will prevent much delay, inconvenience and expense to the numerous suitors.—*Ib.*

SAINT ANDREW'S CHURCH SABBATH SCHOOL.—The Scholars in connexion with this Institution met on Wednesday afternoon in the body of the Church, and passed a highly creditable examination on the different subjects given them by their Teachers to study for the occasion. The male and female Bible classes appeared to be quite conversant with the subject on which they were examined, viz:—*The office of the Priesthood under the Jewish dispensation*; and the manner in which they answered the numerous questions put to them by the Rev. Messrs. Hunter and Donald, must have been highly satisfactory to these gentlemen, as well as gratifying to the teachers and the parents of the children who were present.

The Testament classes likewise acquitted themselves in a masterly manner, their subject being the *Life of John the Baptist*; they readily repeated the different passages in the New Testament relating to this extraordinary personage; they were then questioned—and the answers were immediately and correctly given.

The examination was well conducted and sustained throughout, and must have been gratifying to the parents and friends of the children who were present to witness the amount of information that the youths of Sabbath Schools acquire on subjects relating to their eternal welfare.—*Tem. Tel.*

COCAIGNE ACADEMY.—The annual examination of the Students at the Cocaigne Academy took place on Tuesday the 24th July, occupying nearly seven hours. The praise was awarded as follows:—

IN GREEK.—Valpey's Grammar; Græca Minora.—To George McCall Theal.

IN LATIN.—Eaton's Grammar; Cornelius Nepos.—To George McCall Theal. Esop's Fables.—To Daniel G. Hanington.

ON THE GLOBES.—Paterson's Manual; Goldsmith's Problems.—To Eliza Ann Hanington and George McCall Theal—First. Daniel G. Hanington and William Harshman—Second.

IN WRITING.—To Anna Dale Harshman.

IN EUCLID.—To George McCall Theal.

IN READING.—To George McCall Theal—First. Daniel G. Hanington—Second.

IN HISTORY.—To George McCall Theal, and Daniel G. Hanington.

IN GEOGRAPHY.—To Maria Theal—First. Anna Dale Harshman and Henrietta C. Theal—Second. William Harshman—Third.

IN ENGLISH GRAMMAR.—To Henrietta Charlotte Theal—First. Eliza Ann Hanington and Maria Theal—Second. Anna D. Harshman—Third.

IN NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.—To E. A. Hanington—First. G. McC. Theal—Second.

IN ARITHMETIC.—In this class there were ten competitors, the whole of whom performed so well that a choice could not be made.

IN SPELLING.—To George McCall Theal.

After the Examination, the Trustees requested the Rev. Principal to name the Student who had attended the most closely to study within School, and of the best behaviour; when he remarked, that during the last term the students generally had conducted themselves in a very satisfactory manner, but that Daniel G. Hanington's conduct had been the most exemplary. The Rev. Principal expressed his regret at the absence of several of the students in the junior classes this day, particularly John Harvey, who had much credit to his [illegible]—At the close, the Trustees addressed the students, expressing their entire satisfaction in the great progress they had made during the past year, and intimated that at the next examination they might expect more substantial prizes to compete for.—*Com.*

It gives us much pleasure to state that we have received accounts of the flourishing condition of the crops from almost every part of the country. Those upon new lands are said to be uncommonly luxuriant, and the corn is fine beyond a parrallel. A planted field owned by Mr. John Burpe of Douglas, affords a strong proof of the virtues of the common mud deposits which may be found in almost every farm in the country. On that part of the field where Mr. Burpe applied it with a mixture of barn manure, the strong vegetation and peculiar dark green verdure of the plants, beyond those treated in the ordinary way of manuring, are quite apparent, while the benefits which the land will derive from it, for at least three successive seasons, will render it of three-fold advantage.—*Fred. Rep.*

EMIGRATION—BRITISH SHIPS.—Notwithstanding the existence of cholera here and elsewhere, it is a singular fact, that at scarcely any period have the great masses of settlers been landed on these shores in a more healthy condition than lately. Whereas, also, the American ships have generally had the credit of better build or better management in this respect, during the present season the British vessels have landed their living cargoes in unusually good health. On Tuesday the British ship *David Cannon* (331 tons, of St. John, N. B.) was reported with 607 passengers on board, "all well," being the exact number with which she cleared from Liverpool.—*New-York Albion.*

The boundary line between the United States and Canada, run in accordance with the Ashburton treaty, cost the labour of 300 men 19 months. For 300 miles a path was cut through the forest 30 feet wide, and cleared of all trees. At the end of every mile is a cast iron pillar, painted white, square four feet out of the ground, seven inches square at the bottom and four inches at the top, with raised letters on its sides, naming the Commissioners who run the line, and the date.—[Quebec Gazette.

THE CUNARD STEAMSHIPS.—The following extract from a letter, received by last mail, is published by the N. Y. Express:

"I was in Greenock a few days ago, and saw the new steamers building for the Cunard line; they will be more noble ships, if that is possible, than those now running, and a great deal more power, to wit: 96 inch cylinders with 9 feet stroke, the largest that have ever been cast in this country, and they are expected to make the passage from Liverpool to New York, that is, in anything like moderate weather, with ease in ten days, and very little over nine days to Boston."

NEW VESSELS.—Launched from the Building Yard of Mr. John Fisher, in the Lower Cove, on Saturday, 21st inst., a splendid looking Ship of 765 tons, called the *Hawthorn*. She has been examined by competent judges, who have pronounced her a most superior vessel, in every respect, and one which does credit to the port and to her industrious and enterprising builder. Her top is composed of Hacmatack, and she is copper-fastened throughout.

Launched, on Saturday, 28th inst., from the Building Yard of William Olive, Esq., in Carleton, a Ship of 775 tons, called the *Jane*, which for beauty of model and superiority of workmanship, equals any of the many fine vessels built by that gentleman.

A number of other new Vessels have recently arrived and are now fitting out in Harbour. Among them are the *Montrose*, of 733 tons, built at Quaco, for John Wishart, Esq.; the *Alberta*, 611 tons, built at Kingston, for Messrs. Adams & Ketchum; the *Transit*, 336 tons, built at Granville, for Messrs. Eaton & Ray; the *Teal*, 364 tons, built at Oromocto, for Messrs. Wilmot; the *Gambia*, 603 tons, built at Monkton, for Messrs. G. & J. Salter; a Barque, built at the same place, and the *Colombine*, 71 tons, built at Washademoac, for Messrs. Allison & Spurr; the *Cadet*, 375 tons, built at St. Mary's Bay, for Mr. James Malcolm; the *Beladonna*, 400 tons, built at St. Mary's Bay, for Capt. Payson; the *Sutcliffe*, 206 tons, built at Quaco, for Mr. E. Hippisley; the *Sulton*, 645 tons, built by Mr. Appleby, at Kennebecasis; the *Echo*, 109 tons, built at Black River, for Mr. J. V. Troop.—[Courier.

KINGSTON, CAN., July 26, 1849.

MEETINGS OF THE LEAGUE.—Last night the Convention of Delegates of the British American League assembled at the City Hall, in this City, to take into consideration the distressed state of the Province; and having discovered the sources from which the existing evils have sprung, report thereon to their constituents. A larger or more respectable assemblage never met for any public business in the Canadas. All classes and interests are here represented. The veteran politician, the experienced merchant, the honest farmer and hard-working mechanic, together with the professional man, are here met together, and form an imposing and interesting sight.

The delegates in all amounted to 120. These, of course, are not all the delegates returned. Numbers are expected by the river lines of steamers this evening.

After the delegation had taken their seats, on the motion of Mr. McDonald, seconded by Mr. Scobie, the Hon. George Moffatt was appointed chairman to the convention, and W.S. Mack, and W. Brooke, Esqrs., appointed joint secretaries. On the motion of Mr. Gowan, Mr. Green, a Baptist Minister, and one of the delegates, offered up prayer. The rules for the government of the convention were then read by Mr. Montgomerie; they are the same as those adopted by Parliament, with the exception of one, stating that no delegate should speak disrespectfully of the Queen and her representative in these Provinces. Mr. Powell, of Carlton, then got up and moved, seconded by Mr. McDonald, of Kingston township, that so much of the 13th rule as applied to His Excellency the Governor General be expunged. After this motion had been brought up in various shapes and rejected, the original one was again brought up by Mr. Powell, and carried by 51 to 59. The convention then adjourned till to-day. The question to be discussed this afternoon is a motion of Mr. Gamble's:—

"That it is expedient to inquire into the depressed state of the great interests of the Province, the commercial distress that prevails, and the stagnation that pervades every branch of colonial industry. That a committee be appointed for the purpose of making such inquiry, and to report to this convention such remedial measures as to them shall appear best adapted to restore and secure a more prosperous state to the commercial, agricultural, and manufacturing interests of the Province."

This is at once coming to the pith and marrow of the question for which the present movement was inaugurated, and will no doubt lead to a warm and interesting debate on the subject. From it we will be able to learn the views of the delegates, and through them those of their constituents. All are, at the time I write, deeply engaged preparing for it, and it is evidently considered of much moment.

Every room in all the hotels here is crowded to excess, and the coming delegates will find it difficult to obtain quarters. Everything in Kingston is exceedingly dull. There is not much talk of cholera, and the movements of the convention occupy all minds.

JULY 27.—The convention was engaged the whole of yesterday, discussing the question of an elective legislative council, with closed doors.—After a rather violent discussion, the question was lost, 58 to 19. This morning it was announced that the doors of the convention would be open to the public, and questions of great importance come under the consideration of the delegates. After the journals had been read by the Secretary, Ogle R. Gowan, Esq., rose, and spoke to the following motion:—

"That it is essential to the prosperity of the country that the revenue tariff should be so proportioned and levied, as to afford just and adequate protection to the manufacturing and industrial classes of the country, and to secure to the agricultural population a home market, with fair and remunerating prices for all descriptions of farm produce."

He emphatically declared he had not come there to build up any particular party, on the ruins of or at the expense of another; but to raise one upon all these, which would be devoted to the interests of the country, and round which all alike might rally.

The delegates again assembled at 3 o'clock, and the chairman having taken his seat, Mr. Gowan brought forward the following motion:—

"Resolved, That the present expenditure of the civil government is disproportioned to the resources of the Province, and that great economy and retrenchment may be safely introduced into the management of the public affairs of the country, without impairing the efficiency of the public service."

Mr. Gowan then proceeded to rehearse the numerous existing evils in the administration of the government of the Province, with particular reference to the salaries of Provincial Officials, from the Governor General downwards, all which he declared to be extravagantly high and many of the offices quite useless.

Seconded by Mr. Bronse, and carried unanimously.

Mr. McDonald, of Kingston, supported the motion. Several other delegates spoke on the subject.

MONTREAL, August 1st.—The convention has declared itself *en permanence*. The proclamation, calling the Provincial Parliament together, is to be the notice for the convention to assemble. The address to the people of Canada has been carried unanimously.

A despatch from Montreal of July 31, to R. Jardine, Esq. of this city, says—"The Convention has decided on recommending a permanent consolidation of the Province into a Federal Union; and it has been determined by the citizens of Kingston to present an address to the Convention, expressing their entire concurrence in the proceedings of the League."

CALIFORNIA.—ITS POSITION AND PROSPECTS.—There is every probability that the people of California will send delegates to Washington next winter, and ask admission into the Union, as a sovereign State. There are now twenty thousand emigrants on their way to the land of gold from the Atlantic coast, and thirty thousand from the Western States. These, when they arrive, will swell the population to one hundred thousand or upwards—considerably above the amount of population required to constitute a State of this confederacy.

What a singular spectacle is thus presented! In a single year, the enterprise, industry and intelligence of the American people, have built up a flourishing community in a region which, in the hands of the Mexicans, was an idle waste for three centuries. Towns and cities are springing up. San Francisco is a bustling mart for trade and commerce. New York, of the Pacific, located most favourably, is destined one of these days to be a large and populous town, and other villages, towns and cities are rapidly growing into importance. Newspapers are issued—warehouses are built—vessels are launched—streets and squares are laid out and built up—the foundation of republican government is laid—all the elements of a civilization of the most advanced type present themselves. All this in a region thousands and thousands of miles off from the farthest frontier of the United States! The history of the world affords no parallel to this extraorninary movement. Of course, there will be a great contest for the post of United States senators and representatives.—*New York Herald.*

Colonel Fremont and lady had arrived at San Francisco, and left for Arancho, below the Puebla de los Angelos, which he had purchased for $200,000. It is well stocked with cattle, some 10,000 head, and has good buildings on it. He will probably be a candidate for the Governorship.

Buildings were springing up very rapidly, mostly of the cheapest character. At present, one half of the population live in tents. The population increases slowly, as the departure for the mines nearly equal the arrivals. The risk to property at San Francisco from fire is very great. The buildings are all of the most frail and combustible description.

Good order in general prevailed both at the bay and mines. As a general thing property is respected, evil doers being kept in check by fear of Lynch Law.

Provisions were abundant and comparatively cheap at the mines—say $2 per meal, consisting of game, potatoes, preserved meats, &c.

Land, which a few years since was purchased for $700, will now command $200,000 cash. Central business lots, not exceeding 100 feet square, command from $10,000 to $20,000—buildings in same proportion. Money loaned on good security at from 2½ per cent. to as high as ten per cent. per month.

OREGON.—A census of the inhabitants of Oregon has recently been taken, and it shows that the number of the population is 8,902, including foreigners, who number upwards of 300.

INCREASE OF NEW ORLEANS.—New Orleans had a population of 102,000, in 1840; now she has probably over 150,000. The exports during the year 1842, amounted to $28,405,149, and the imports were $8,033,590. For the year ending June 1848 the exports were $40,971,361, and the imports $9,290,439.

MONTREAL, August 1.—A large meeting was held in this city yesterday, at which the citizens passed a vote recommending the corporation of the city to take stock in the Portland railroad to the amount of £125,000.

His Excellency the Governor General has suffered from a slight attack of cholera, but is now recovering.

A VALUABLE POLE.—The Emperor of Russia has offered a reward of 40,000 rubles ($27,000,) to whoever shall capture Gen. Bem, the Pole.

BLACK LEAD.—The lead from which pencil points are made, comes from the principal plumbago mine in the world, at Burrowdale, Cumberland, England. It is situated in a hill, and instead of being worked constantly, like other mines, it is opened only once a year, when a sufficient quantity is taken to supply the world for a year to come, and it is again closed with strong doors, bars and locks, until the next annual supply is required. From the time of Queen Elizabeth it is said that all the fine pencils in the world have been made of the black lead from this mine.

THE QUEEN'S DICTIONARY.—The Messrs. Merriam, some time since, transmitted to Queen Victoria, through the hand of George N. Bancroft, the American Minister at London, a magnificent bound copy of their unabridged edition of "Webster's Dictionary." It was given to the Queen through her husband, Prince Albert, and its receipt has been acknowledged by the Secretary of "His Royal Highness." The acknowledgment is of course directed to His Excellency, the American Minister, and we have the pleasure of presenting it to our readers.—*Springfield Republican.*

SIR—I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that Her Majesty, the Queen, has accepted, with great pleasure, the copy of the last edition of Webster's English Dictionary, which, according to the directions you gave me, was laid by me before His Royal Highness Prince Albert, and was presented afterwards by the Prince to Her Majesty, on the part of the publishers, Messrs. Merriam; and I have been commanded to express to Your Excellency, and to beg of you to transmit to Messrs. Merriam, Her Majesty's gracious thanks for this beautiful present, which Her Majesty highly values, not only on account of the great merits of the work itself, but still more so as a sign of those feelings towards Her Royal Person on the part of a large portion of the Anglo-American nation, which your Excellency informed me it was intended to represent, and which, after the political disunion which has taken place between the United Kingdom and the United States, could not indeed have found a more appropriate way of expressing themselves than the presentation to Her Majesty of a work on the English language, which directly refers to that powerful and indissoluble bond by which the two cognate Nations on the Eastern and Western side of the Atlantic, will forever remain united. Your Excellency, as well as Messrs. Merriam, will, no doubt, feel great pleasure in learning that Her Majesty has placed the work presented through your Excellency amongst the few selected volumes which compose Her own private Library.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your Excellency's faithful servant,
C. MEYER,
Sec'y to H. R. H. Prince Albert

Buckingham Palace, June 20th, 1849.
His Excellency, the American Minister.

ST. LOUIS, July 30.—*Fire Steamboats and Cargoes Burnt.*—A fire broke out on Sunday morning, on board the steamboat Algoma, Captain Young, just after her arrival from the Missouri river. She was heavily freighted with hemp. The flames soon spread to the steamboats Mary, San Francisco, Dubuque and Phœnix, all of which were destroyed.

The value of the Algoma was ten thousand dollars. Her safe, containing $12,000, has been saved. One of the passengers lost $4,000 in specie. Capt. Young jvmped overboard and was lost. William Fitch, a passenger, was burned.

The steamboat Mary, for New Orleans, was heavily freighted with produce, sheep and hogs, of which nothing has been saved.

The steamboat San Francisco, had just arrived from the Missouri river, with a cargo of tobacco.—She was valued at $20,000, and insured for fifteen thousand dollars.

The steamboat Dubuque, was from upper part of Missouri, on the upper Mississippi river. She had discharged most of her cargo before the fire reached her. She was valued at $12,000, and insured for $10,000.

The steamer Phœnix, a Cincinnati packet, had on board many passengers, who lost all they possessed.

THE FIRE AND RIOT AT ST. LOUIS.—A terrible riot broke out between the Irishmen and the Firemen at St. Louis, during the fire which destroyed five steamboats and their cargoes, on Sunday. It was begun by the Irish driving the firemen from their engines. The latter retaliated with spirit, and fire arms were used on both sides. Seven Irish houses on or near the Levee were razed to to ground, and numbers were badly wounded. A fire company broke open a Military company's arsenal and helped themselves to muskets. The firemen proved conquerors. The Mayor ordered out troops to suppress the riotous proceedings, and though much excitement and disturbance prevailed on Monday, there was an end to the serious fighting. Forty-eight of the rioters, mostly Irish, were arrested. The total loss by fire was $148,000, on which there was $130,000 insurance. Capt. Young of the Algoma, perished in the conflagration. Five hundred hogs on one of the other boats were burned.

A recent case in St. Louis strongly illustrates the advantages of Life Insurance. It is thus stated in the Republican of that city:

A few months ago, a young gentleman, a merchant of this city, married, and soon after took out a policy of insurance on his life for $5000, in favor of his wife. A few days ago, he fell a victim to the prevailing epidemic, but it was to him and his friends a source of pleasant recurrence, that his foresight had placed his wife beyond the reach of want. There is no pang to the dying man more severe than the consciousness that he leaves his wife and children unprovided for; how much then is the feeling relieved when they have been cared for and guarded against.

GOOD NATURE.—The editor of the St. Mary's Beacon, published at Leonardtown, Md., must be a good natured and hopeful man.—He says:—

"If there is a man in St. Mary's that has a smaller quantity of flesh upon his bones than the editor of this paper at the present time, we would advise him to exhibit himself. With the exception of a very thin skin, there is not the slightest impediment to our enjoying the summer luxury of having the wind whistle through our ribs. But we are not down in the mouth at all. October will be along after a while, with its cool, bracing days and its frosty nights, and then the way we and the rabbits will fatten."

ATTEMPTED NEGRO INSURRECTION.—Intelligence has been received of an attempted insurrection among the negroes in the neighbourhood of St. Mary's Geo. It was said that about 200 of them intended seizing the steamboat Wm. Gascon, and carrying her to Nassau, New Providence. Owing to a delay in the arrival of the boat, their scheme was detected. Numerous arrests were made.

The defalcation of Mr. Derby, American Navy Agent at Marseilles, amounts to the magnificent *figure* of $155,