THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, JULY 8, 1842.

By the arrival of the Mail steamer *Caledonia* at Halifax, in 15 days from Liverpool, we have received our usual files of English papers to the 19th ult., and from which we have copied and inserted below a large and interesting summary of the principal events which have transpired since the arrival of the last mail from Britain. The mail arrived here on Tuesday afternoon, via Digby.

LONDON, June 18.

TRIAL OF FRANCIS FOR ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE HER MAJESTY.

The trial of John Francis for attempting to shoot her Majesty, on Constitution-hill, took place yesterday at the Old Bailey. The court was very full, but from the regulations which had been made, not inconveniently crowded. Colonel Arbuthnot, Colonel Wylde, and some other officers of her Majesty's household, had seats on the bench.

The Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, Mr. Adolphus, and Mr. Waddington, were counsel for the prosecution, Mr. Clarkson was counsel for the prisoner.

At ten o'clock Lord Chief Justice Tindal, Mr. Baron Gurney, and Mr. Justice Patteson, entered the court and took their seats.

Immediately afterwards the prisoner was placed at the bar. He was respectably dressed in a dark frock coat and trousers. He appeared dejected, and considerably altered since his examination at the Home-office.

The usual forms were gone through. The Attorney-General stated the case in a speech of considerable length; several witnesses were examined, but the facts detailed in evidence presented nothing more than what is already known to the public.

Mr Clarkson then addressed the jury for the prisoner. After a few remarks from the Solicitor-General, Chief Justice Tindal proceeded to sum up the case, telling the jury that the great question for them would be—what were the contents of the pistol at the time it was fired by the prisoner, and what was the intention of the prisoner in discharging it?

The jury then retired from the court at 20 minutes past four o'clock, and returned into court at three minutes after five, having been absent nearly three quarters of an hour.

On being asked by the Clerk of the Arraigns whether they had found the prisoner guilty or not guilty,

The Foreman of the Jury rose and said, "My lord, we find the prisoner guilty upon the second and third counts; but we are not satisfied upon the first, namely, that the pistol contained a bullet."

Chief Justice Tindal—The first overt act charges him with firing a pistol loaded with gunpowder and ball. Do you find him guilty of that?

The Foreman—No, my lord, we do not.

Chief Justice Tindal—Do you find him guilty on the second count—of firing a pistol loaded with gunpowder and some other destructive material?

Foreman—We do, my lord.

Chief Justice Tindal—Then you think that some other more destructive substance than the wadding and powder was contained in the pistol?

Foreman—We do, my lord.

This amounted to a verdict of Guilty upon the charge of high treason, and the prisoner was called upon to say whether he had anything to urge why sentence should not be passed upon him.

He made no reply, but his breast heaved convulsively, and he appeared to breathe with difficulty.

Chief Justice Tindal proceeded to pass the usual sentence of death upon the prisoner, namely—that he be taken to the place from which he had been brought, and thence drawn upon a hurdle to the place of execution, and hanged by the neck until he be dead, when his head should be severed from his body, and his body cut into four quarters, to be disposed of as her Majesty should think fit.

The prisoner then turned from the bar to quit the dock, but became exceedingly faint, and would have fallen had he not been supported by the warders present.

OUR NAVAL FORCE.—A rumour is very prevalent and is believed in well-informed quarters, that six sail of the line are to be immediately commissioned. We are quite aware that it is usual, and very advisable, to have ships put into commission towards the fall of the year, when seamen are returning from the timber voyages, and ships for the India trade are not fitting out; but there does not appear in the political horizon to be any cause for this addition to the naval force; however, we understand the armament for the Vengeance and Collingwood, of 84 guns each, has been got ready in our own gun wharf.—*Hampshire Telegraph.*

OUR NAVAL PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.—The determination of France to build 73 steam frigates above the size of those in the British navy has given our Government great concern, as the country is not in a state to build an equal number of the same class to cope with them. Accordingly, the Admiralty assembled the master-shipwrights at Woolwich dockyard, and formed a committee of the royal builders, to devise the best means to protect our line-of-battle ships from the certain destruction which our enemies intended by their formidable preparations to visit them with. All the large ships building at the royal dockyards were stopped proceeding with for the time—the Albion, Aboukir, Exmouth, Princess Royal, Hannibal, and Victoria—until a plan should be determined upon to make them adequate to repulse the steam ships of the French and American navies. It has therefore been determined upon to fortify their bows and stern with long 68lb guns, to keep them at a respectable distance, and which will enable our large class ships to approach the harbours and towns on the coast of America or France, and destroy them at pleasure, without the power of our enemies' battery cannon being able to injure them, as our ships will be able to keep out of their reach. Our steam ships are all to be fitted out forthwith with long 68 lb guns, and the experiments going forward at Woolwich are intended to make them impregnable in running up the harbours of Brother Jonathan and those of our friends on the opposite side of the English channel. Sir R. Peel's Government are quite alive to the necessity of preserving our sovereignty of the sea; and are determined not to give America, France, or our subtile enemy Russia, any chance of gaining the ascendancy on that element of which we have so long been the mistress. England has nothing to fear from them, were they all openly, as they are secretly combined against us. We will beat them, as we have before done, over and over again.—(From a correspondent)—*John Bull.*

NEW MUSKETS FOR THE ARMY.—Mr. William Greener, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, has had the honour of an interview with his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, to submit to him his new single and double barrelled model muskets, made by order of the Board of Ordnance. His Royal Highness was pleased to express his high approbation of the simplicity and lightness of their construction compared with the old musket. Experiments are about to be made by the Board of Ordnance to ascertain the extent of advantage belonging to Mr. Greener's muskets, which we understand to be 3 lbs less in weight, and therefore less burdensome to the soldier, besides commanding greater accuracy and range in the flight of the ball.

PROJECTED ALLIANCES IN HIGH LIFE.—The preliminaries of a marriage are finally adjusted between the Earl of Desart, M. P., and the Lady Elizabeth Lucy Campbell, third daughter of the Earl and Countess of Cawdor, and niece to the Duchess of Buccleuch and the Countess of Harewood. The noble Earl has not long come of age, when he took possession of a large and unincumbered rent roll, after a lengthened minority. A marriage is spoken of between one of the accomplished daughters of a rev. and noble lord and a gallant captain, holding brevet rank of major in the Scots' Fusiler Guards. The young lady is distinguished by high literary and musical acquirements. The announced marriage between Sir Thomas Wilmington, Bart., and Miss Domville, daughter of Sir C. Domville, Bart., will shortly be solemnized. The marriage between Lord Evelyn and Miss Cavendish will not take place until a week or ten days subsequent to the marriage of his lordship's sister with Lord Desart, which will not take place in three weeks."

[From the London Standard, June 18.]

The conviction of the traitor Francis (announced in our Second Edition of last night) must have been expected by the country. The evidence against the culprit—of which all were aware some time—was complete and demonstrative, and the total absence of any topic of defence on his part—for not even the plea of insanity was surmised—renders this as perfect a case of full proof as ever was presented to a court of justice. Mr. Clarkson, the prisoner's counsel, did all that it was possible for zeal and talent to do in behalf of a client; and the brief deliberation of the jury, which extended but little beyond half an hour, employed probably in applying the evidence to the proper counts of the indictment, shows how very clear the matter was made to the minds of the gentlemen impanelled. On the whole, the result of the trial must be of great value. Queen Victoria has ever been secured in her own character and conduct from traitors by personal or political malignity, and now she is protected against the assaults of traitors by vanity or caprice. It may be safely predicted that the precious life of a Sovereign so justly dear to her people, will never again be in danger from the act of an assassin.

The Income Tax Bill was proposed to be read a third time last night in the House of Lords. After the Earl of Ripon had moved the third reading, in a speech of great ability, the Marquis of Lansdowne proposed, as an amendment, a resolution asserting the preference due to the arrangement proposed in the budget of 1841. This strange amendment led to a debate of considerable length, in which the merits of the abortive budget were the chief object of discussion. Lord Colchester condemned strongly the virtual encouragement to slavery held out by the project of the late ministry. Lord Brougham made one of his extraordinry wayward two-edged speeches, denouncing the principle of the budget of 1841, and the details of the Income Tax Bill, ascribing the defects in the latter to the jealous, but unconstitutional, rule established by the House of Commons, not to admit of any alteration in its money bills. The speech was, like all Lord Brougham's speeches, clever and amusing, but—must we say it?—like all the noble and learned lord's speeches, inconclusive, unsatisfactory, and useless. Lords Melbourne, Clarendon, and Clanricarde, supported the amendment, the Duke of Wellington and Lord Wharncliffe the third reading. Lord Wicklow complained of the omission of Ireland from the income tax as an insult to that country, and complained that the imposition of the tax upon Irish proprietors resident in England would cause persons coming under that description to emigrate to the Continent. On a division the numbers were—

For the amendment	52
Against it	112
Majority	60

Another debate arose upon a motion of adjournment to Tuesday proposed by Lord Clanricarde, in the course of which the Duke of Newcastle said that he would divide against the bill—

For the adjournment	55
Against it	186
Majority	131

A third division arose upon a new proposition to adjourn to Tuesday—

For the adjournment	36
Against it	159
Majority	123

Ultimately the third reading was fixed for Monday.

Lord Wicklow's complaint is perhaps the only novelty introduced into the debate. If, however, the Income Tax Bill exempts the property of Irish proprietors resident out of the United Kingdom—of which we are by no means certain—it is very certain that it holds out a temptation to English money capitalists to transfer to Ireland the employment of their capital, a change which would be as beneficial to England, which has too much capital, as to Ireland, which has too little. What is wanted is, to equalise, as far as the rights of property will permit, the distribution of capital throughout the United Kingdom; and this the exception complained of by Lord Wicklow must effect to some extent.

In the House of Commons the New Poor-law Bill was read a second time, after an exceedingly long debate. Mr. Sharman Crawford proposed an amendment, the effect of which would be to leave the country without any poor-law. Captain Pechell seconded the proposition, which was supported also by General Johnson, Col. Sibthorpe, and Mr. Grimsditch. Mr. Pakington defended the poor-law and its administration in a thorough-going speech (of which more on Monday). Mr. Ferrand, in a very able speech, exposed the administration of the new law, which was also condemned by Mr. Stuart Wortley, Mr. Liddell, Col. Wood, and several others, who, nevertheless, would not vote against the second reading. Sir J. Graham offered a defence of the law, but gave this satisfactory assurance—"that the bill was so framed, with hardly an exception, that, after they had agreed to continue the commission, all the other clauses were clauses of mitigation of the rigour of the existing law, or might be made such in committee, where, too, the mitigations proposed might be extended if thought desirable."

Upon the faith of this assurance we presume it was that the second reading passed by a majority of 260 to 61. The crowded state of our columns forbids that we enter upon the consideration of this debate at present; on Monday, however, we propose to offer some reply to the extraordinary speech of Mr. Pakington, and to some of the observations of Sir James Graham.

Lord Congleton (formerly Sir Henry Parnell) put a period to his existence on Wednesday morning, the 15th inst, at his residence in Cadogan-place, London, by hanging himself with a handkerchief.

Up to the 31st of May, the amount of contributions for the sufferers at Hamburgh, was about £1,948,000.

The cholera has been raging at Calcutta, carrying off many scores of natives and several Europeans.

The Marquis of Waterford was, on the 8th instant, married at Whitchall Chapel, to the Hon. Miss Stuart, the accomplished daughter of Lord Stuart de Rothesay.

The whole of Lord Ashburton's homestead, situated at Clapham, a romantic village about two miles distant from Bedford, together with twelve houses in the villa were recently totally destroyed by fire.

The crew of the Ann Hall, of Liverpool, were tried at the Central Criminal Court, London, on Thursday, for mutiny and piracy on the high seas, and were found guilty of a common assault on the captain.

Riots of a very serious character have occurred at Cork, Limerick, Ennis, and other places, in consequence of the high price of potatoes and other articles of food. At Ennis the police were forced to fire on the mob; two or three lives were lost, and several persons were wounded.

A proclamation was ordered to be issued on Monday, respecting a new coinage of half-farthings.

A rumor is very prevalent, and is believed in well-informed quarters, that six sail of the line are about to be immediately commissioned.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Major-General Sir William Maynard Gomm, K. C. B. to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the island of Mauritius and its dependencies.

We regret to hear of the failure of a large paper factory in the neighbourhood of Manchester; the engagements are said to amount to upwards of £200,000, one of the Manchester Banks being principal creditor. A great number of hands will be thrown out of work by this event.—*Morning Herald.*—(The failure is that of Messrs. Hilton, of Over Darwen, near Blackburn.

Rear Admiral Griffiths died at his villa, at Barnes common, on Tuesday in his 73d year.

Great activity is observable in the preparations at our naval stations and dock yards.

Six vessels arrived at Cork lately with cargoes of wheat from Malta and Marseilles.

The report gains currency that Lord de Grey means very speedily to retire from the government of Ireland. The Duke of Buccleuch, it is supposed, will be Earl de Grey's successor.

Important to Timber Merchants.—The commissioners of the customs have, with reference to the contemplated alteration in the timber duties, issued an order to their collectors and comptrollers, at ports where regular bonding timber yards and ponds have not already been provided, directing them to acquaint the merchants engaged in that trade, that they are ready to receive applications as to temporary arrangements for bonding colonial timber and other goods imported to the 10th October next. This will enable the timber merchants to import cargoes previously, and hold them in bond, subject to the low rate of duty, if not taken out for home use before the proposed tariff becomes law.

THE MANUFACTURING AND THE MONEY INTERESTS.

(From the London Standard.)

The accounts received from the great centres of manufacturing industry in the northern countries, are of such a serious character that they are producing considerable disquietude in the minds of the monied interests in town that are in daily communication with the suffering districts. Since the arrival of the last Indian mail the gleam of hope which had sprung up for the two or three preceding weeks has entirely disappeared, and the demand for goods is to the full as limited, and prices as low as at any period since the commencement of the year. The accounts brought from the United States by the Acadia steamer are not calculated to have any immediate favourable effect upon business; for altho' they have removed all apprehension of an ultimate rupture arising out of the political points in dispute, there is no prospect held out that there will, for months to come, be any material increase in the demands for our manufactures. The uncertainty that prevails respecting the course that will be taken with the American tariff is no doubt increasing the evil, as a similar state of uncertainty, we have seen, has injured our home trade; but the main cause of the difficulty arises from the market being overstocked with all the principle articles adapted for American consumption, so that additional orders are not to be expected unless they are executed on credit, and the result of forcing business on that basis requires no illustration.

It appears, however, that nothing short of the literal extinction of a number of our manufacturers, will teach the remainder to apply the only remedy which, in the nature of things, can ever better their condition, namely, the regulation of production to the means of obtaining equivalent values, whether the exchange be made abroad or at home. It seems that the slight improvement which took place in the prospect of business in the early part of last month immediately led to the re-employment of nearly the whole manufacturing power of Lancashire and Yorkshire on full time; and the result, as might have been expected, is an increase of stocks in Manchester and other towns sufficient to preclude all hope of an advance in prices throughout the remainder of the season. The futility of the reduction of wages is also again palpable, and those that have had recourse to the unwise expedient find themselves in no better position in respect to profits than they were at the point from whence they started. They have gratuitously increased the misery of their labourers without the consolation of a single week's additional profit, or of selling one piece of goods more in consequence of the reduction. It is preposterous to talk of foreign competition in this race of cadicity of prices. It is entirely a domestic affair into which no foreign competition can enter, and it more clearly illustrates the fallacy of the free trade principle of levelling than has been exhibited in all the past experience of civilised communities. No foresight on the part of the working classes can guard them against the consequences of the tremendous power that is brought against them; and all their hopes must rest in a limit being fixed to its operation by legislative enactment. This is the view which was early taken by the most acute observers of the working of the system, who laboured in the vineyard with the late Mr. Sadler, to shorten the hours of labour as the only remedy, and which subsequent experience has further and further confirmed. This is encouragement for Lord Ashley to persevere in the effort, and, from what we have occasion to know, there is no reason to doubt but these efforts will be crowned with the desired and deserved success. Every day disarms hostility, and gains converts to the cause of humanity and true national greatness.

Money continues at very nearly the same rate in the discount market. First-class commercial bills are currently done at 3½ per cent, and the large houses have for two or three days been obtaining money returnable on call as low as 3 per cent.—Where bargains are made to allow the money to remain in their hands for specified periods the interest allowed rises from 3¼ to 3½ per cent according to circumstances.

The Bank of England has steadily acted on the principle laid down when they reduced the rate of discount to 4 per cent., namely, to maintain the value of money in the open market as near as possible to 3½ per cent., from the belief that that rate is as high as the present rate of profit will afford. As the financial quarter has advanced, they have sold an amount of exchequer bills corresponding to the payments into the exchequer of taxes and duties, by which they have succeeded in keeping the market easy. Within the last day or two they have discontinued these purchases in consequence of the market indicating a tendency towards a lower rate than 3½ per cent. and as a consequence the premium on the bills has fallen to 36.

(From the London Courier.)

Fr. Ferrand brought forward his motion on the distress of the country, with a proposition of relief by a vote of one million to be applied in alleviation of the general state of suffering. Conceiving the remedy proposed to be quite inadequate to the object in view, besides its manifest impolicy and injustice in taxing all for the behoof of a part of the population, whereby property would escape that fair proportion of the burden which would have rightfully fallen upon it under the old constitutional Poor Law, we must still join with the general voice in applauding the sterling benevolence of intention on the truly honourable and philanthopic mover.—As usual, whenever he rises, he was assailed from the Opposition benches with all the taunts and scurrility which language and action could convey, and the forms of the House admit of. It is one of the peculiar merits of Mr. Ferrand, and happily one leading cause of his great usefulness, that he possesses, in a remarkable degree, a coolness of temper which cannot be ruffled, and a moral courage so indomitable that it cannot be shaken. He repelled the foul invectives of his opponents, therefore, with a becoming expression of scorn and contempt. Referring to the accusations launched against him of exciting the suffering people out of doors to violence, by his noble exertions in their behalf within, he, in a burst of indignant eloquence, asserted the integrity of his own conduct, and denounced the mal practices of that nefarious nest of agitation, the nearly defunct and bankrupt Anti-Corn-law League.

IPSWICH ELECTION.—The polling commenced this morning at eight o'clock, and took a decided turn in favour of the Liberal party until nine o'clock, when their tide changed, and it has been running down ever since. During the first hour they obtained a majority of about seven votes, and in a quarter of an hour there was nearly double that majority in favour of the Conservative candidates. Notwithstanding the money that has been spent by the friends of Messrs. Gisborne and Moffat, they have not been able to recover their lost ground, and the success of Lord Desart and Mr. Gladstone is the result.

The declaration of the poll took place on the hustings at six o'clock, by the Mayor. For—

Lord Desart	680
Mr Thomas Gladstone	673
Mr. Thomas Gisborne	543
Mr. George Moffat	541
John Nicholson	3

The Earl of Desart and Thomas Gladstone, Esq., were therefore declared duly elected. The announcement was received with rapturous applause.

The Noble Earl and his colleague respectively returned thanks very shortly, and the chairing immediately followed.

TWO SHIPS DESTROYED BY FIRE AT SEA.—Accounts were received at Lloyd's on Monday, from Penzance, respecting the burning and total loss of the brig Harmony, Captain Tesselin, belonging to Dunkirk, on the 30th of last month, on the coast of Portugal. The vessel was homeward bound, and had a valuable cargo of wine and brandy on board. From the report made by the master, Captain Tesselin, it appears that the fire commenced in the forepart of the vessel, and from the fact of the ship having been struck by lightning on the previous day, there is every reason to suppose that that was the cause. Upon the discovery having taken place, every soul on board exerted themselves to prevent its extending, but it was soon found impossible; for in a short time the flames reached the spirits in the hold, which compelled the crew to take to the boats immediately and quit the vessel. They had scarcely succeeded before the decks blew up, and she was instantaneously enveloped in flames. Within two hours after she sank headforemost into deep water. Captain Tesselin and his crew were the following day picked up by the ship Urana, Captain Wenghill, on her passage from Calcipali to St. Petersburg, which arrived off Penzance, in Cornwall, on Friday last, where the unfortunate crew of the Harmony were safely landed. The vessel is reported to be insured to a large amount. On the same day (Monday) the following particulars respecting the loss of a large American ship by fire was received in the city from Havre:—The master of the Louis XIV, Captain Paul, which arrived at this port this morning (June 10,) reports that on the morning of the 30th of May they passed, in lat 48 N lon 18 47 W, the wreck of a large vessel, an American apparently, about 800 tons burden, having been destroyed by fire. The remains consisted of the keel and fourteen of her timbers. The fire appeared to have been recent.

A royal proclamation has been issued, ordering that gold sovereigns of less than 5 pennyweights 2¾ grains, and half-sovereigns of less than 2 pennyweights 1¾ grains, shall not be allowed to pass current. It is stated that about one-third of the gold in circulation is under weight; and some of the sovereigns are intrinsically worth no more than 18s. 6d. or 19s.; the half sovereigns, not more than 9s. or 9s. 6d. It is supposed that a new gold coinage is about to issue, fortified by some new means against the fraudulent practices of 'sweating' and 'plugging."

The following is an account of the average amount of promissory notes in circulation in the United Kingdom, and of the average amount of bullion in the Bank of England, during the four weeks ending the 28th May, 1842:—England—Bank of England, £17,891,000; private banks, £5,365,654; joint stock banks, £3,101,540. Scotland—Chartered private and joint stock banks, £2,954,383. Ireland—Bank of Ireland £3,093,900; private and joint stock banks, £1,963,152; total, £34,366,629. Bullion in the Bank of England, £7,383,000.

SHIPPING OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.—The trade of the year 1841 employed according to the entries inward, 17,883 British ships, with 3,197,501 tonage and 172,404 men; and 10,198 foreign ships, with 1,460,294 tonnage, and 81,295 men; and according to the entries outwards, 17,633 British ships, with 2,292,984 tonnage, and 181 580 men; and 10,440 foreign ships, with 1,488,888 tonnage, and 81,672 men. The trade of the year 1842 employed, according to the entries inwards, 18,525 British ships, with 3,361,211 tonnage, and 178,686 men; and 9,527 foreign ships, with 1,201,165 tonnage, and 73,634 men; and according to the entries outwards, 18,464 British ships, with 3,429,279 tonnage and 111,686 men; and 9,786 foreign ships, with 1,336,892 tonnage, and 75,694 men. This comparison shows a slight increase.

INDIA AND CHINA.

AFFGHANISTAN.

The intelligence from Bombay is of three days later than usual, the mail having been detained until the 4th of May, to wait for the Governor-General's despatches. Our dates from Calcutta are to the 24th of April, and from China to the 10th march.

The gloom which surrounded the news received by the four preceding mails from India will be considerably lessened by the highly important events detailed by the intelligence which has now reached us.

The British Indian troops have re-entered Affghanistan, and have gained higher honours and more glory than ever. They have forced, with very little loss, the dreaded pass of the Khyber. The robber-chief leader of the Affghans, Akbbar Khan, with 6,000 men, has been routed by the garrison which he professes to blockade. As if to serve as a foil to these successes, there have been two partial reverses, one of which had during some time been expected, while the other is comparatively trifling, and can be easily retrieved.

The British Indian armies to the west of the Indus during the months of March and April may be classed under five distinct heads, viz., those of—

1st. The Bengal division under General Pollock, which has entered the Khyber pass from the neighbourhood of Peshawar.

2d. The troops forming the garrison commanded by General Sir Robert Sale at Jellalabad.

3d. The Bombay detachment, under the orders of General England, which having gone through the celebrated pass of Bolon, had, after some fighting, taken its station at Quetta.

4th. The garrison at Candahar, under the command of General Nott; and

5th. The surrender of Ghuznee.

The division under General Pollock, originally a Bengal artillery officer, having gained the renown of opening a pass which even Nadir Shah was obliged to purchase. Having taken due precautions, this division consisting of Her Majesty's 9th regt. of infantry, and the 26th, 30th, 33d, 53d, and 64th Bengal Native Infantry, and a regiment of Jezailchees with artillery, in three columns, on the 5th of April, forced the difficult pass of the Khyber, and, notwithstanding the determined resistance of the Afreedees tribe, succeeded in reaching Ali Musjeed, with the loss of only one officer (Lieutenant Cumming, of the 9th,) and 13 rank and file killed, and 104 wounded. On the 9th of April the division was at Lundee Khan, whence to the point of junction with the garrison of Jellalabad, nothing like effictual opposition was to be expected. The Sikhs troops, who on the occasion attacked another part of the pass, co-operated cordially with the British, and behaved with great gallantry.

During the period of the attack on the Khyber, Akbbar Khan, who with 6,000 Affghans had invested Jellalabad, exhibited great eagerness, as if to aid the tribes around the pass in defending it. On the evening of the 6th he caused a *feu de joie* to be fired in honor, as he said, of the repulse which the British troops had met at the entrance of the pass near Jumrood. But the gallant and experienced warrior, General Sale, was not to be deceived; he resolved to anticipate what he considered to be an intented retreat of the Sirdar, and on the morning of the 7th sallied forth to attack the Affghan camp. Three columns, composed of Her Majesty's 13th Infantry and 35th Bengal Native Infantry, with a detachment of the Sappers and Miners, supported by a light field battery and a small cavalry force, issued from the "blockaded" town and completely routed Akbbar Khan and his 6,000 men, burned their camp, and retook four guns of those seized at the massacre of Khoord Cabul in January last, "the restoration of which is regarded by the troops with much honest exultation." This victory, glorious as it is, has been dearly purchased by the fall of Col. Dennie, whose death, even upon the field of honour, will be regarded as a great calamity, while his memory will be always held sacred as a brave and worthy officer.

The reverse already mentioned as comparatively trifling, was experienced by General England at the pass of Kojuck, 63 miles from Quetta, on the march to Candahar. His force was composed of 5 companies of Her Majesty's 41st regiment, 6 companies of the light battalion of Native Infantry, 1 troop of light cavalry, 4 guns of Leslie's horse brigade and 50 Poonah horse, having in charge a convoy, consisting of treasure, medical stores, and ammunition, together with 1,500 camels, &c. destined for the relief of the troops at Candahar. The convoy proceeded, without encountering any great obstacles and without receiving notice from the inhabitants of any contemplated plan of resistance, to the pass, where it on the 28th of March, found that some field-works had been erected. An attempt was made, by sending 200 men to attack those works, to dislodge the enemy, when they showed a strong force of infantry and cavalry. Captain May, of the 41st, was shot dead, as well as several of his men. Major Abthorp, of the 20th Native Infantry, was cut down (he died of his wounds on the following day), when the General resolved not risk the loss of the convoy, and made a skilful retreat to a neighbouring village which he defended, and thence withdrew to Quetta, where he entrenched himself and waited for more troops, then on the march from Dadur and Sukkur, to join him. The loss on this occasion, besides the officer mentioned, was 2 sergeants, 1 corporal, and 14 privates of the 41st killed, and 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, and 50 privates wounded of the light battalion. Of the 20th, 25th, and 6th regiments Bombay Native Infantry there were 9 killed and 18 wounded. The great difficulty of the position at Quetta has been the want of forage for the camels, and the efforts of the Government are directed towards enabling their troops to proceed onwards as speedily as possible.

As a contrast to this reverse, a force from Candahar, which was sent by General Nott to meet General England, having been attacked, after two days march, by a large body of Affghans, gave the assailants such a reception as obliged them to take to flight. They are described as fighting with reckless bravery, and charging up to the bayonet's point; they therefore suffered a great slaughter, particularly as they were charged by the British cavalry during their flight. About 200 are said to have fallen, including five of their chiefs. The loss on the side of the British was five killed and 25 wounded. The Commander of the British force was Colonel Wymer. Candahar is stated to have abundant provisions, but there is a want of ammunition. The pass of Kojuck can, as is now affirmed, be easily turned.

Of the event calculated to produce the most striking impression we have already been enabled to inform the public. It is the surrender, on the 1st of March, by Colonel Palmer, of the celebrated fortress of Ghuznee. The letter of the colonel, whose regiment, the 27th Bengal Native Infantry, formed the garrison, has afforded ground for various comments. It will be found in another column. Attempts have been made in India to excuse his conduct on the ground of the difficulties with which he had to contend, but it certainly does appear strange that a commandant should venture to surrender such a fortress upon the authority of a letter received, as it were, from his superior by the hands of an enemy, and that he notifies that surrender not to that superior, but to another officer placed also in command of a distant garrison, and which latter officer has immortalized himself by his gallant defence.

The opinion which we have always maintained that the disastrous occurrences at Cabul (and now at Ghuznee, the garrison of which place is described as having in March suffered the same fate as the troops of Cabul in January, the soldiers being massacred by the Ghuzees, or dispersed, and the officers being prisoners for the sake of their ransom), are to be ascribed to the want of efficient military arrangements and proper precaution, and not to the prowess of the Affghans, has been confirmed by the publication of several orders in Council. These orders were published on the receipt of the news of the fall of Ghuznee, and are as follows:—

"The Governor-General in Council has directed that the Commander-in-Chief will submit the conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Palmer, in surrendering the citadel of Ghuznee, to the judgment of a court-martial, at the earliest period at which such court can be duly assembled.

"The Governor-General in Council has already (on the 28th of January last) directed that a full military inquiry shall be made into all the circumstances connected with the direction and conduct of the troops at Cabul, at the earliest period at which such an inquiry may be practicable.

"The Governor-General in Council has now directed that the conduct of Major-General Elphinstone in Affghanistan shall be submitted to the judgment of a court-martial at the earliest period at which such court can be duly assembled.

"The Governor-General in Council will further direct that a full inquiry shall likewise be made into the conduct of all the political functionaries employed at Cabul, at the earliest possible period after he shall be in possession of certain material documents, of which he has already ordered the immediate transmission to Government.

"By order of the Right Hon. the Governor-General of India in Council,

"T. H. MADDOCK,

"Secretary to the Government of India."

CHINA.

Intelligence from Macao to the 6th of March has been received; but it is not of great importance. Sir Henry Pottinger remained at Hongkong, whither he was about to remove the Post-office and all other British establishments from Macao. There were occasional fires in the wooden buildings there. He has issued some proclamations; by one of them Hongkong and Tinghae in Chusan, were declared to be free ports, and to remain, as well as Amoy, in our possession until the British demands were satisfied. If any one of them is to be vacated due notice is to be given, and a special stipulation is to be made for the safety of the native Chinese who may have sided with the English. The batteries along the Canton river were completed, and some of them unmasked; yet no apprehension was entertained of immediate further business was dull there. The troops of the expedition were healthy. A Madras regiment and the Bengal Volunteers were about to return to India. The headquarters of Sir Hugh Gough continued at Ningpo; he and the naval commander were, as it is stated, authorized to act in cases requiring urgent decision, without waiting to consult the Plenipotentiary. Sir H. Gough was about to disperse a body of Chinese troops collected near Yu-Yuan.

The French Vice-Consul, M. Challaye, and some Frenchmen, having ventured too far, were seized and insulted by the Chinese, but released after some parley. It was said there were Russian officers at Pekin, giving instructions in military matters to the Chinese. The coast is now infested with pirates.

A war about to break out between Cochin China and Siam is interesting solely as likely to have some influence in the settlement of the British demands upon China. The Siamese Monarch threatens to invade Cochin, which is tributary to China, and this may tend to embarrass the councils of the Court of Pekin. The King of Siam has, through the influence of the neighbouring British, been induced to grant a portion of his ancient territory to the son of the old Rajah of Quedda. The Governor of Prince of Wales's Island has published a proclamation, announcing the final cessation of slavery within that district.

LONDON, July 18.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

The wheat, where strong, is still improving, but where weak, it begins to look yellow and unpromising, and is suffering much from want of rain. The same may be said of all Lent crops, which, if rain do not fall quickly and plentifully, will suffer most severely. The clover, sainfoin, and trefoil crops have fallen short of expectation. The grass crops (of which mowing commenced here last week are far short generally of last year's produce. The fruit looks worse than a week since; cherries and apples have even now been badly blighted.—*Maidstone Journal.*

There probably never was experienced a more beautiful month of June, as far as it has gone, than the present. The farmers in the olden time used to aver that the weather in June could never be too warm or too dry for the wheat crops, yet in the present day we have heard some complaints of these crops, in certain situations, being so greatly in want of rain, that the plant is actually perishing for the lack of it, and the root appears already to have lost the powers of vegetation; whilst, on the other hand from various parts of the kingdom, the most cheering prospects of the harvest are anticipated. Altho' we have in this county had no rain, yet we are informed that in Devonshire, last week, some copious showers fell.—*Sussex Advertiser.*

THE HAY CROP.—The grass crop in this neighbourhood, and we understand in most parts of the county, has ripened prematurely; and on the uplands in particular, in consequence of the absence of rain, there will be but little bottom. The low meadows exhibit the advantages of irrigation where it can be obtained; these will produce an average crop. The clovers and artificial grasses generally vary in proportion to the quality and condition of the land, but the swarth in every case will be light. There is, however to meet this, owing to the mildness of the past winter and an early spring, a tolerably good stock of old hay in hand.—*Essex Her.*

DISTRESS IN THE WEST OF IRELAND.

We regret to perceive from several of the provincial journals, as well as from private communications addressed to ourselves, that the labouring classes in many parts of Ireland, more especially in Connaught, are already suffering great privations, owing to the scarcity and consequent high price of the poor man's food. Potatoes, we are informed, cannot be purchased under from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. a hundred in the western districts of Mayo; while oatmeal, the usual substitute in times of famine, is not to be procured for less than double its price some six or eight years since. This is, indeed, a very deplorable state of things, considering the comparatively early season at which we have yet arrived, and what must it be in two or three months more, before which period it is impossible, from the lateness of cultivation in the western province, that the potato crop can be fit for general consumption? Meanwhile, to what quarter can we look for relief? That is the question.

England has, hitherto, on all such occasions, been the country to which the eyes of the Irish labourer have been turned in times of want and destitution, and never turned in vain; but what sympathy can he any longer expected from a people whom it has been the constant habit of our self-styled *patriots* to hold up to public execration as the oppressors of the human race, and who have, above all, been designated in the vocabulary of the Dublin Corn Exchange and in the interminable harangues of Mr. Daniel O'Connell, the implacable enemies of his "beloved fatherland?" None, we fear, whatever.

Week after week the peasantry of Ireland are plundered by a systematic levy from their almost-empty purses, and this to minister to the sordid cupidity of one heartless imposter and the gang of trading vampires who follow in his footsteps. The people are confessedly starving, and still the insatiable Mendicant, who sets up the cry of Repeal, demands with inexorable rapacity three million of shillings from his famishing and half-clad countrymen. This is a positive fact. Again—thousands of pounds are annually extorted from the ignorant and superstitious to further the designs of Popery, under the imposing pretext of "propagating the true faith"—in other words, of extending the influence of Papal Rome. All this finds its way to foreign lands, and not one shilling of it ever returns to alleviate the wants of its beguiled contributors. And now we behold the natural result.—*Evening Packet.*

UNFORTUNATE OCCURRENCE.—A melancholy accident occurred in our harbour on Sunday last, involving the death of five persons, emigrants, who had lately arrived here in the brig *Sikseenth*, from Cork. It appears that eighteen of the passengers left the vessel in one of her boats for the purpose of landing in this city. It was very foggy at the time, and the boat had proceeded but a short distance, when they suddenly descried the Carleton steam ferry boat coming towards them, the engine of which vessel was immediately stopped, but the passengers in the ship's boat becoming alarmed and confused, they unfortunately upset the boat. Every exertion was made on board the steamer, and by boats from the shore to save the emigrants, but five of their number we lament to state, found a watery grave; the names given of those who were drowned are—Mrs. Coleman, of the city of Cork; Ellen Hurley, of Kennagh, county Cork; Mr. Morgan, of Tipperary, and his wife; and James Shay, of the County Kerry.

In the Fredericton *Sentinel*, edited by Edmund Ward, we observed a recent Editorial on Emigration, reprehending the practice of sending immigrants to Fredericton, and refers to positive orders having been given against sending any more. We were surprised at the communication, and find it not only correct, but also that our Municipal Poor Commission had received a command forbidding him also to do so. Mr. Matthews, it appears, however, did continue to help those requiring it, until a peremptory order was issued for him to desist altogether, which he did, but remonstrated on the subject. Mr. Ward, (who is called Assistant Emigrant Agent) in the newspaper which he prints, unduly refers to two parties of immigrants who were on their way to Bathurst, being sent to Fredericton—saying they ought to have been sent "direct!" This senseless observation would pass unnoticed by us, if it did not tend to mislead others. The difference of distance from St. John to Bathurst by the Bay shore route and the Fredericton, is about *two hundred miles*; and Mr. Ward, by his editorial, displays alike his ignorance of the Provincial topography and of his duty in the immigrant service; in which, in the cases to which he refers, he ought not to have allowed the parties to have remained a "burthen," as he calls it, on the Fredericton community, but to have instituted the conduct of Mr. Wedderburn, and in accordance with the law, been prompt in "relieving Emigrants, and "in assisting them to reach their several destinations within the Province."

A Christian Father's present to his Family.—Mr. ROBERT SEARS, of 122 Nassau street, New-York, has issued his promised work entitled "Bible Biography." On looking over its 500 pages, with some four or five hundred fine Scriptural Engravings, we are gratified with the matter of the volume and the elegant style in which it is printed and bound. With the strictest propriety the work may be called "The History of the Bible." The preparing of such a book, has doubtless, been a great and expensive undertaking, requiring much thought, experience and judgment. Evidently the Editor has had recourse to the best interpreters, critics and commentators; and the volume closing as it does, with the Life of our blessed Lord and Saviour—every page being replete with evangelical truth and doctrine—appears beautiful and illustrious, of which it is hoped the reader will make a right use and true improvement.

The style, or language of the whole volume, is such as to render it agreeable to modern and intelligent readers. The practical reflections will bear examination, and are purely spiritual, while there is much that throws great light upon some of the obscurer passages in the Old Testament with which we are furnished in the New. The history of our Saviour's sufferings, death, and resurrection, is full and beautifully illustrated with