SKETCH OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

From one of a series of papers in the *Britannia*, entitled, "The Anatomy of Parliament."

In all probability, the majority of my readers have never been within the walls of the House of Lords; and would rather have a circumstantial description of what it really is, than be called upon to indulge at second-hand in associations which are after all perhaps somewhat trite. For this purpose, then, we will post ourselves in the gallery appropriated to strangers.

At the further end of the house, between the two high glazed doors which form the Peers' entrance, is the throne. It is placed under a splendid canopy, and raised two or three steps from the floor. All that is not gilded is covered with crimson cloth. Behind the throne, under the canopy, in a circular emblazonment of gold, are the Royal initials; but, by a strange negligence, the "W. R." has not yet been replaced by the initial of the Queen. The space in front of the throne, and on the steps, is occasionally occupied by gentlemen who are introduced by the Lord Chancellor's order, and the three or four aristocratic-looking boys who are paying such devout attention to the proceedings are the sons of Peers. Immediately in front of the throne is what is called the woolsack—a large crimson mound or bank, like nothing but itself, in the centre of which sits the Lord Chancellor, in all the glories of a silk gown and full judicial wig. A less commodious seat for one who has to be there for many hours, after a fatiguing day in the Chancery Court, cannot well be conceived. Other peers occasionally lounge about on the woolsack, though, as there is no back to lean against, one is at loss to account for their taste. Immediately in front of the woolsack are two other banks of the same kind stretching forward into the house, which are also used as seats or lounging-places. The Princes of the Blood generally occupy them when present in the house. In front of these is a table, at which sit, with faces to the Chancellor, two or more clerks (barristers) in wigs and gowns; and occasionally a master-in-chancery or so. The former individuals have to read petitions and other matters to the house, when desired to do so, and are chiefly distinguished by being the worst readers in the United Kingdom. In front of the table, between it and what is called the "bar," behind which strangers and members of the other house are admitted, are situated the cross benches of the Duke of Richmond and other neutral noblemen—those who have not yet made up their minds, or who have no minds to make up.—The great mass of Peers are ranged on benches stretching on each side along the sides of the house, from the glass doors before mentioned down to the bar. Of these the Government and their supporters sit on the right of the Chancellor, and the opposition on the left. As you view them from the strangers' gallery, or stand at the bar, however, these positions, of course, appear reversed—the opposition being on your right and government on your left.

So much for the ground plan; now for the filling up. But before you begin to inquire who the individual peers are, the first impression that strikes you is the gentlemanly aspect of the whole assembly. No buzz, no creaking of boots and scraping of feet, such as you hear in the House of Commons—but all quiet, easy, and well-bred. You instinctively feel that you are in an assembly of gentlemen, nor do you hear or see anything to dispel the illusion. The peers are in one peculiar respect distinguished from the commons; they pay a due attention to dress. There are no dirty, vulgar men in the House of Lords—no men with soiled stockings and disordered shoe-ties. They do not seem to favour the delusion that slovenliness and talent have any necessary relationship.

Now for the peers themselves. Immediately on the right of the Lord Chancellor, and on the extreme left of the house as viewed from the gallery, is the bench of bishops. In the front is a meek, sickly-looking prelate, in a close fitting dark wig. He is the Archbishop of Canterbury, against whom not even his enemies have a word to say. He can champion the church without provoking the fire of her foes.—Near him is the less abstracted, but scarcely less respected, Bishop of London. His full, ruddy face, offers a fine contrast to the pale visage of the archbishop. Conspicuous among these divines is the celebrated Bishop of Exeter. The next seats to the bench of bishops, farther down the house on the right of the chancellor, are occupied by ministers. In the midst of them sits, or rather lolls, the all-potent, because all-impotent Melbourne. Observe the careless air with which his white hat is tilted off his forehead, and the *dolce far niente* which his whole bearing expresses.—He is turning hastily over the leaves of a government bill—it is the first time he has looked at it, though the order of the day for its second reading is now being moved! The tall dandy, with a face like the Saracen's Head in acute grief, is the Marquis of Normanby. An elderly gentleman next him, fresh colored, and with a staid, respectable air, is his brother Marquis, of Lansdowne. A very stout, infirm old man, with crutches, a bald head, and bearing in his face a marked resemblance to the great Charles James Fox, is his nephew, Lord Holland. He is chiefly remarkable for vociferous cheering at inconvenient times, and for making good speeches greatly to the embarrassment of his colleagues. To the right of the Marquis of Lansdowne you will observe a peer with a peculiarly sheepish expression and enormous shirt-collar—that is Lord Duncannon. In spite of his very silly appearance, his lordship is one of the few men of business in the ministry; but the desk, not the house, is his sphere. Immediately adjoining ministers, on the right, and at the head of a bench that is scarcely separated from theirs, sits Lord Brougham. He displayed his usual sagacity in the choice of that seat.—He is as it were among the ministers, but not of them; yet the neutrality of his position is not so marked as to signify the impossibility of reunion. Behind the noble and learned lord, on the back bench, sits the Earl of Radnor. To his right sits the Marquis of Clanricarde, concerning whom even his friends are silent; near him, also, sits Lord Denman, with that fine severe face of his—the index of so much more than his mind contains.

Let us now turn to the conservative benches on the left of the Chancellor. First, in all points of view, let us single out the Duke of Wellington. He sits at the end of the first bench, in front. His dress is the simplest, consisting of a blue frock coat, and plain white trousers. His attitude is singular. With his arms folded, his head sunk on his breast, his hat slouched over his eyes, and his legs stretched out their full length on the floor, he would appear to be asleep and regardless of all that is going on. But if you watch his mouth, you will perceive that he is engaged in deep thought, and frequently he rises and proves that he has been so, either by delivering a plain, manly John-Bull-like exposition of his views, or by answering in detail the arguments of those who have gone before. Next to the illustrious duke, is his parliamentary squire Lord Ellenborough—the peer with a full, fresh colour, and curling head of dark hair. One of the most clear-headed and sensible of his party, he has until lately neglected business for pleasure, but he is now an altered man, and seems wisely to have become a sort of parliamentary pupil to the duke. Immediately on his right, is a dark-haired, pale-man, dressed in black, and with the air of a very serious clergyman of the establishment—it is the Earl of Aberdeen, also a strong clear-headed man. Lower down, an infirm old man, with white hair and supported by crutches, is Lord Wynford; near him is Lord Kenyon, the peer whose cheek is ruddy with health, but whose hair and whiskers are white as snow. Behind the Duke, on the back bench, is the Earl of Wicklow, a stout, ruddy faced man, with sandy hair. When he does not get into a passion, there are few more sensible men in his party. On the same row at the extreme end of the house, farthest from the Lord Chancellor, Lord Lyndhurst has chosen to post himself, for what reason it is difficult to say. Quite cut off from the other leaders of his party, it would seem that the inconvenience of the position is its charm. Any other man would feel embarrassed at having to address the house at such a distance; but Lord Lyndhurst's fine, clear, manly, trumpet-like voice overcomes all those obstacles of space, as his self possession overcomes all those of situation; and he makes himself heard, *aye, and felt too*, in any part of the house.

If the strong and characteristic contrast between the House of Commons and the Upper House be marked in the building, its decorations, and the personal appearances of the members, how much the more evident is it in their respective modes of conducting a debate! The reader is aware that scenes of riot and confusion occur at times in the Lower House, in comparison with which the councils of the Indian Sagenachs are venerable. In the House of Lords no such scenes occur. The only event of the kind that at all approached to them, was when the late King came down to prorogue parliament after the rejection of the reform bill. But how different was the display of feeling! If ever strong excitement was pardonable, it was on such an unprecedented occasion. Yet it did not degenerate into a riot, as is the case in the House of Commons; and their lordships had scarcely given way to it when it was put a stop to. The fact is, that the tone which pervades the house, and the good breeding of its members precludes such exhibitions. No man is in that house by accident—all have their credentials, either of birth or of talent. But not in the absence of noise, and the maintenance of order alone, is the superiority of the House of Lords evident; the tone of the debating is far superior. Almost every man who rises in that house is, more or less, a statesman. He feels himself—not the representative of a mere class, the advocate of an isolated few, but one of the guardians of the welfare of the community—a member of the high court of appeal of the nation—the constitutional moderator of the passions and prejudices of the people.

HOUSE OF LORDS, July 30.

Ecclesiastical Duties and Revenue Bill.—There was no further business in the Lords than that of furthering the several bills which were on the table of the house; but a debate of great vigour and interest sprung up on the Church Revenue Bill going into Committee.

"The Bill," said the Bishop of Exeter, "is little less than an act of ecclesiastical spoliation, without either necessity or policy, and scarcely with a decent pretext. The universities had petitioned against it, the parochial clergy regarded it rather as a machine which undermined the general security of their property, than as a benefit; and rejected what might be called the "*bait*" with a degree of scorn. The expression of their dislike had indeed become so general that not one petition had been presented in favor of the bill except from some minor canons, who would derive an interest in the patronage of chapters should it pass. He denied that the cathedral institutions were sinecures. They were to maintain the services of religion, and thus they were to perform duties involving the care of souls. The direct advantages of such institutions afforded were very great, but the benefit which indirectly they conferred upon society was enormous. It had been said that they had done very little good, but they might be called upon to perform a much greater amount of duty and to extend the sphere of their usefulness. If they refused to do what was required of them, let them be abolished; but let not this be done without an effort to increase their utility. The whole revenue which would be obtained would not amount to a large sum, and if the property in the hands of the bishops and chapters were made the most of, sufficient could be raised to meet the demands made by the spiritual destitution of the country without trenching upon rights which had always hitherto been respected. The bill was in many points inconsistent, and in reference to the metropolitan chapter of Canterbury its provisions were positively disgraceful. The mode which he had proposed would relieve the destitution which had been so clearly exposed, it was consistent with the spirit of the English law, and unless it could be shown that such a course could not be adopted, he called upon the eminent persons who had been members of the commission to give it effect."

The speech of the Bishop of Exeter was answered with great temperance and propriety by the Archbishop of Canterbury, but we scarcely remember the Duke of Wellington taking a more shining and conspicuous part than he did on this occasion. "I have always thought, my lords, that additional means should be adopted for preaching the word of God to the people, and considering in what degree the church is endowed, that the first step to procure funds for the purpose should be made by the clergy. These have always been my sentiments on the subject, and when a commission, composed as this has been from which the present bill has emanated, reports that there are means adequate to the purpose, it is ridiculous to suppose that parliament should not insist that these resources should be employed before the public be called on to find others for this important and most necessary service. In providing means for the spiritual instruction of the people, parliament will only perform a duty incumbent upon it, and follow the example of every other nation. I have lived much among people of all creeds, but I never knew a case in which public means were not provided to teach the people the religion of the country, and I hope that the subject will never be dropped till a sufficient provision be made for the spiritual instruction of the English nation. I am convinced that such will be the result of the discussion, and I feel deeply obliged to the rev. prelate, who has stated that the resources of the church are able to maintain it as it ought to be maintained. I consciously desire to see the word of God taught to every individual under the rule of her Majesty, and any measure for that purpose shall have my most cordial co-operation."

The Bishop of London, in defending the bill, appealed to a case of shocking destitution present to the eyes of all persons.

He said that an absolute necessity existed. Situated as he was, in the centre of this vast metropolis, he was daily and hourly a witness to the most lamentable spiritual destitution amongst immense masses of the population. If he directed his steps towards the Cathedral of St. Paul, he saw that noble structure with one dean, and three residentary canons, enjoying an income of £10,000 or £12,000 a-year, and twenty-six officers connected with it, holding complete sinecures, a mounting to an annual income of £12,000, and in a very few years this income would, in the ordinary course of events, be very largely increased. If he proceeded a mile or two eastward, he found himself in the midst of a population the most wretched and destitute of mankind, consisting of artificers, labourers, beggars, and thieves, to the amount of 300,000 or 400,000 souls. Throughout this entire quarter there was not more than one church for 10,000 inhabitants; and in one, nay, in two districts, there was but one church for 45,000 souls. But he was told that this district belonged to the Cathedral of St. Paul, and that he was not to touch it. There was a sermon preached each Sunday in this church of 45,000 souls by one of the canons of St. Paul's, and another was preached by a clergyman who was paid by the corporation of London for that purpose. Yet, he was not to meddle with the revenues of any one of these sinecures, to provide spiritual food for 100,000 famishing people! Was it asserted at this time of day that there should be no such thing as a re-distribution of ecclesiastical property? Why, it was a principle which, if not acted on, the church must cease to exist. It was a principle acted upon in every country of Europe, which had been acted upon in every Roman Catholic country, and which had been acted upon in Protestant England. What was the alienation of the tithes from the purposes of spiritual instruction to the religious houses but a re-distribution of ecclesiastical property? What was the resumption of those tithes, and the new arrangement instituted by parliament, but a re-distribution? Every cathedral in England existed through a re-distribution of church property. The new ones were the result of a double re-distribution. This legislature did no more at the present period than step in at a time when spiritual destitution was widely diffused, and re-distribute a portion of this property for the third time.

TAXATION.—In 1688, the year of "our glorious revolution," the taxes of Great Britian amounted to 2 millions, and we had *no national debt!* In 1840, the taxation is 50 millions, and we have a national debt of nearly 900 millions!

Twenty millions of our taxation only is required for current expenses: the remainder goes to pay the interest of the national debt. This debt (a Tory legacy; the will being drawn up by Mr. Pitt) was quadrupled in 25 years.

National Debt, in 1790...£228,231,228.
" " in 1815.. £48,284,000.

MEN-OF-WAR LIBRARIES.—By an Admiralty order, dated August, 1838, libraries are directed to be established in each of her Majesty's ships, for the use of the crew, furnished at the public expense, and placed in charge of the schoolmaster. The books, amounting to 270 volumes for large and 100 for smaller ships, inclusive of Bibles, are judiciously chosen, with the view of combining amusement and instruction, and making the first subsidiary to the last. Besides the accomplished men now appointed to instruct the junior officers, it is further directed, by an order from the Admiralty, May 1837, that a fit person should be appointed to give elementary education, comprehending reading, writing, and arithmetic, to the sailor boys, and others seamen and mariners who may require it.

From the New York Albion.

We are happy to announce the arrival of Dr. Rolph from the scene of his meritorious labors in Great Britain, where his success in the cause of Emigration has been most complete and gratifying. He did us the favor to address to us the following letter, which we have great pleasure in laying before our readers.

NEW YORK, September 1st, 1840.

Dear Sir.—The deep interest you have ever manifested in the prosperity of the British North American Provinces, and the devolopement of their unexampled resources, induces me to convey to you the cheering intelligence that their value and importance is universally appreciated by all classes in the United Kingdom, and that a general and zealous desire to promote their welfare and contribute to their happiness, pervades the whole community. The triumph of steam inbringing these colonies within a fortnight's intercourse with the Mother Country—the spontaneous and ardent loyalty so nobly exhibited by the glorious and unrivalled militia of Upper Canada—the chivalry, enterprise, patriotism, and energy evinced by the New Brunswickers and Nova Scotians—the increased and increasing conviction felt by the British nation of the insecure tenure of foreign trade, and of the insanity of trusting to foreign power for the bread they eat, and their corresponding desire to obtain the staff of life from their own dominions—the philanthropic anxiety to secure for the industrious and labouring classes employment in the Colonies, have all contributed, and still contribute, to rivet the attention of the British people on their gigantic and valuable possessions in the Western Hemisphere. The spirit is fully aroused, it wants but to be fostered to continue and augment.

In cherishing and nurturing a more abiding connection between the North American Colonies and the parent state, a generous and patriotic rivalry now appears to exist. The landlord—the farmer—the merchant—the manufacturer—the capitalist—the artisan—and the mechanic, seem all equally interested in promoting emigration, which they view as essential to the maritime, commercial, agricultural, manufacturing, and general interests of the nation; the only security for the maintenance of the integrity and indivisibility of the empire; and promotion alike of imperial greatness, and colonial prosperity. Another gratifying circumstance in this hallowed and patriotic confederation is the absence of political and sectarian rancour—the influential of all parties and creeds, make one common cause—they view this as a national, neither as a party nor religious question—and the number of anti-colonists have now dwindled into insignificance and contempt. The debasing calculation about cost is repudiated, and has yielded to the more generous, just, patriotic, and ennobling feeling, how shall we best maintain the glory of the empire, the welfare of the colonies, the dignity of the nation, the safety and honor of the state.

The British North American Colonial Committee, of which I was Honorary Secretary for some time after its formation, will resume its sittings in January. The first idea for establishing this valuable committee was suggested by the Earl of Mountcashel and Dr. Ifill, and was matured after the delivery of my lecture on emigration before the Colonial Society. A. J. Robertson, Esq., of Inshes, attended the first meeting with the former distinguished and indefatigable friend to British North America, and the latter a most patriotic and zealous advocate of the British Colonies; our ranks soon extended, and we soon added to our numbers the Duke of Argyle, Earl Fitzwilliam, the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl of Dunmore, Lord Macdonald, Lord James Stuart, Sir Augustus d'Este, Sir Duncan Macdougall, Sir J. de Courcy Laffan, The Chisholm, The Mackinnon, McLeod of McLeod, McLeod of Raarsay, W. S. O'Brien, Esq., M. P., H. Baillie, Esq., M. P., Major Campbell, Islay, M.P., Sir Donald Campbell, Capt. Belsted, C. Franks, Esq., Col. Wyndham, Major Head, G. Fyler, Esq., and many other most influential and important persons.

It would add greatly to the utility and efficiency of this committee to have a member from each B.N.A. Colony, who would impart to the members generally that information which they seek, and which by their exertions is then spread over the entire community. A desire to reach Canada prevents me from going more into detail at present, but believe me, Dear Sir, most truly your's, THOS. ROLPH.

HEBREW WOMEN.—Wherever the women of the Hebrews are to be found (and where are they not?) they still exhibit the type of that intellectual beauty which subdued Egypt and reformed the penal statutes of Persia; and their fine heads are cited by science as models of the highest moral conformation. Bright thoughts flash from their bright eyes, quick perceptions animate their noble linements; and if the force of circumstances is no longer directed to elicit the high qualities of an Esther or a Judith, the original of the picture drawn by the prophet king, of the virtuous woman "whose price is above rubies," may be found among the Jewish Women of modern as of ancient times; for "they eat not the bread of idleness," and "the hearts of their husbands trust in them."

Manure is the capital on which farmers do business; and the man who teaches them how to obtain it at a reasonable rate, and in sufficient quantities, does the public better service than if he lectured the live-long day on copper and silver mines, and amised the sleepy hours with golden dreams.

Communications.

MR. EDITOR.—The Observer being among the Watch Towers of the City, will you be so kind as to cast your eye on the King's Square and adjacent side walks, and with your finger pointing to the spot usually occupied as a stand for the market carts—it being one of our City Markets—enquire of the authorities whether the filth and bog-mire with which it is o'erspread is necessary to the health of the city, or comfort of those who are called to the market?

If this evil were of a day's standing it might be winked at—but every rain storm has exhibited the nuisance with increased repulsiveness. Have we no scavenger whose duty it is to keep the streets and squares of King's Ward decent?—Have we no Alderman in that Ward who daily treads the light fantastic toe o'er the outspread nuisance—whose duty it is to take notice of this matter?

Are not many parts of our city streets undergoing improvements—and must such a public market place as King's Square be thus neglected?—Let the watchmen cry out Reform! Reform!!

A CITIZEN.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1840.

The steam ship Britannia will probably arrive at Halifax to-day or to-morrow, and the mail by her may be expected to arrive in this city during the present week. She was to leave Liverpool on the 4th inst. and has now been out eleven days.—The Caledonia is to leave Liverpool on the 19th instant, Saturday next.

The Steamer North America arrived this morning from Boston.—Arrivals at New-York and Boston furnish English dates to the 6th August; and by an arrival at St. Andrews Liverpool papers to the 8th have been received. The following extracts are from Boston and New-York papers.

NEW-YORK, Sept. 9.

TWO DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.—The transient ship Alexander, Captain Copie, arrived this morning, from Liverpool, bringing Liverpool papers to the 6th August.

The intelligence from London is two days later.—In the interim the overland Mail had arrived from India, with advices from Bombay to the 23d of June. The Russians had not obtained possession of Khiva, and the British envoy in that country had left for St. Petersburgh on a mediatory mission. The state of affairs in Afghanistan was rather unsatisfactory.—Schah Soojah was closely pressed, and it was feared could not maintain himself on the throne of Cabul without British assistance.

The Circassians had obtained another victory over the Russian troops. The French embassy had left Ispahan on its way back to France, having failed in the principal object of its mission—namely the establishment of consuls in different parts of Persia, and the conclusion of a commercial treaty. The insurrection in Syria was at an end. A despatch from the Governor of Beyroot, dated the 12th ult. informed the viceroy of this fortunate event. The Druses and other insurgents had sent hostages to Damascus in return to propositions made by Mehemet Ali, granting them important concessions. The Egyptian fleet had left Beyroot, and the Pacha's forces were expected soon to return to Alexandria.

The King of Naples had published a decree, announcing the conclusion of all difficulties with England in relation to the sulphur question.

An ambassador from the court of Lisbon has arrived at Rome, and there is every probability of an immediate arrangement of those differences with Portugal, which had so much the appearance of a schism in the latter country.

The London, of 92 guns on two decks, was to be launched from the Dock Yard at Chatham about the middle of August. She is a sister ship of the Rodney, and has been on the stocks for 12 years. She is 205 feet 6 inches long on the gun deck, 54 feet 3 inches extreme breadth, 2602 tons. She was designed by the late Sir Robert Seppings, and approaches very nearly in form to the Swedish models of the celebrated Chapman.

The following other men of war are on the stocks at Chatham. Mars and Goliah, 80 each; Cumberland, 70; Active, 36; Calypso, 20; two steamers, 800 tons each.

FRANCE.—The London Times the 6th of August says:—

The latest information which has reached us from the most trustworthy quarters in Paris, is of a nature to strengthen our hopes of an amicable arrangement of the affairs of the East. The orders which have been transmitted to the French fleet are understood to be by no means of an aggressive character. The army, though considerably increased, will not be put on the full war establishment, and the government seem thoroughly disposed to show as much discretion as energy.

It is pretty obvious that the strong feeling which suddenly pervaded the French community, impelling with equal vehemence the populace, the pacific middle classes, and the highest ranks, forced upon the king and the government the adoption of a bold attitude towards England. So far the compliance with the hasty impulse of the people was perhaps essential to the security of the throne, but it is no less essential to France and every other country, that weapons of such weight and edge should be handled with very great caution.

The solution of the question lies no longer in Paris or London; and the parties on either side must be content to wait, though certainly not without great anxiety, the arrival of intelligence from Alexandria. The nature of M. de Walewski's mission to the Pacha had not transpired, but the selection of that individual for so important a service has excited the more attention from his natural hostility to Russsia; and in choosing a Polish agent, however illustrious his origin in other respects, M. Thiers is thought to have given an additional proof of his anti-Russian determinations. The decision of the Pacha will of course be influenced, if not determined, by the hopes he may entertain of having France on his side. But, whatever may be the policy of France in the event of a settlement of the question by force, we may presume that she will not support or encourage the claims of the vassal, which she has herself proposed to circumscribe or control, against the rights of the Porte, which she has pledged herself to maintain.

The utmost possible anxiety prevailed in Paris for the arrivals from London, Berlin, Vienna, and St. Petersburgh, with intelligence of the manner in which the war-like attitude of France should have been received in those capitals respectively.

Pacification of Syria.—Lieut. Spark, of the British navy, commanding the Prometheus British steamer, which left Malta on the 28th July, states that on the day of his departure the English packet from Beyroot and Alexandria announced that the insurrection of Syria had been terminated without firing a shot, and that the Egyptian fleet had returned to Alexandria with part of the troops it had conveyed to Syria.—*London Times.*

CHINA.—H. Majesty's ships Wellesley and Druid, had arrived at Singapore, where the transports of part of the first division of the Bengal troops had also arrived

The Chinese were actively engaged in making preparations of defence. Volunteers were invited and encouraged to join the celestial army, and the women of several of the maritime cities had been removed into the interior from fear of an attack of the English. No hostilities had of late occurred along the coast.

Of the plan of operations nothing had transpired, but it was generally believed that the campaign would open by the bombardment of Canton.

Her Majesty's line of battle ship Blenheim, Capt. Sir H. Fleming Senhouse, Kt., arrived at the Cape of Good Hope from England on the first of May, and in company with the Columbine sloop of war, Commander G. Elliot, would immediately proceed to Canton.

Some English vessels purchased by the Chinese, it is said are to be turned into "men of war," and to be manned by Chinese and Americans. Three American Captains had accepted commands, much to the annoyance of American merchants—the American vice consul had made a remonstrance on the subject.

FROM INDIA.—Liverpool papers to August 6, have been received at New York, containing late accounts from India, received overland, viz. from Bombay to June 23. In addition to the particulars given in the above extracts, there is a narrative from the Bombay Times of June 18th, of the disastrous wreck of two transport ships from England—the Lord William Bentinck, and Lord Castlereagh, with the loss of a great number of lives. The following is an extract from this narrative:

"The Lord William Bentinck, Captain Ord, with one hundred and fifty troops and passengers on board, had been beating off the mouth of the harbor, for two or three days, but was prevented entering by the violence of the weather. On the afternoon of the 17th. she was seen standing across the opening of Black Bay in gallant style, and every hope was entertained, if she could stand on five minutes longer, of her weathering the S. W. prong of the lighthouse. Unhappily, an immense sea forged over, and pooped her, and she struck heavily on the rocks, at ten minutes past four, P. M. Heavy squalls of wind and rain soon drove her masts over her side, and a quarter of an hour after the commencement of the occurrence, she was a complete unmanageable wreck. The crew and passengers were seen to crowd forward to the forecastle.

Three ladies were on board, Mrs. Fraser, Mrs. Eckford, and Miss Robertson, also a maid servant and some soldiers' wives and children. Captain C. Benbow was in command of the troops, and Dr. Fraser, Mr. Mason (a cadet) and several other passengers, whose names we are not able yet to learn, were on board. She kept firing guns and showing the signals of distress, but, alas! little aid could be afforded.—The surf was too violent for a boat to live in, and the most dismal apprehensions were entertained. She first hoisted out her gig, which rode gallantly for awhile, but was soon engulphed. Her launch was then got alongside, and some men were seen to enter her. One gentleman was observed, before he descended the side, to elevate his hands to Heaven as if in prayer; he then went into her, and in a moment she shared the fate of the other boats. Having nothing to hoist her out by, the long boat appeared to be pushed over the side by main force. She also sunk, never to rise. The cries of the unfortunate were distinctly audible in the lulls of the wind, and filled every spectator on shore with horror and distress. No hand could be held out to save.

After much delay, boats were brought from the dockyards by Coolies, and we observed the very great exertions made by the captains belonging to this port in endeavoring to bring them up and launch them.—As boats were brought down, (of course after great delay, from the distance from the fort,) every means were tried to float them and steer them to the wreck. Captain Saunders and Hayman, of the Indian Navy, were especially conspicuous in their exertions, leaving no means untried; while Captains M'Gregor, Baxter, and many others, attempted in vain to steer to the ill-fated craft. She tried to fix a rope from a gun, after Captain Mauby's principle, but failed. The Victoria steamer proceeded as near as she could to the spot, but it was evening before she could get her steam sufficiently up to move, and even then she could not approach the wreck with the smallest chance of success.

Thousands of anxious spectators were assembled at the lighthouse during the evening, and perhaps a more painful and intense interest was never excited in the society of Bombay. Night, dark and lowering fell, and we believe many a heartfelt prayer was offered up to the throne of grace for those who were so near on the brink of eternity. The moon rose about nine o'clock, and hopes were entertained that she might hold together until morning, but the gale still continued violent. By twelve o'clock at night a raft with ten men had by great exertions reached the shore; but at half past three the vessel finally went to pieces. Another raft had been prepared, on which the ladies, seven children, and the passengers were placed.—Hopes, however faint, were breathed that she might bring her precious cargo safe to land, but, alas, a lofty wave struck her, and when she rose from the shock, neither the ladies, children, nor 16 of their comrades, could be descried by the survivors. Those who remained, reached land naked, cold and shivering.—Captain Benbow, Dr. Fraser, and Mr. Manson, were among the survivors, also two officers of the vessel.

The captain and his son were reported drowned, but as yet no accurate information on these points can be collected. Another raft with 17 men on it was carried into Black Bay, and getting entangled among the rocks remained until morning, and 15 of them (two having died during the night) were saved by the exertions of Captain Saunders. But, as if misfortunes were never to come single, the Castlereagh, Captain Tonks, from Karrack, with 150 troops on board, about twelve o'clock at night, having it is said, seen the lights in the wreck, and mistaking her for a vessel at anchor, bore up, and also went on shore within a few yards distance of the other wreck. This morning before day light, as active means as could be taken, (considering the paucity of boats and men) were set on foot to bring off crew and passengers, and the same parties still exerted themselves, and by 10 A. M. about 150 sepoys of the 24th native Infantry, were got on shore; four were unfortunately drowned in the surf, getting out of the boats, and Captain Saunders, with one European seaman belonging to the Clive, who tried to swim from a part of the wreck of the Lord William Bentinck, was lost in the attempt.

The officers in her are Capt. Earle, 24th Regt. Ensign Grant, 1st European Regt: Lieut. Walker, Engineers; and Dr. Davis. The Castlereagh, as was reported by a 'Seacunnie,' who came on shore, had lost her rudder, and was full of water, but as yet did not pump much, but we fear she will be a total wreck. At the time we left the spot, exertions were still being made to reach her. We believe, though of course can only guess from a rough calculation, that from 50 to 70 persons have been saved from the Lord Wm. Bentinck out of between 200 and 300 souls.

In addition to what we reported in our yesterday's extra, we are deeply grieved to have to announce that the catalogue of human suffering and woe had not reached its climax. Yesterday, at 3 P. M. about ebb tide the Castlereagh went to pieces, and the crew and passengers were seen drifting on shore on pieces of the wreck. In attempting to save them, Mr. Atkinson, second master attendant, nearly lost his life, his boat being upset. Capt. McGreggor (late of the Hannah,) Mr. Webster of the American Press, and some others, at considerable personal risk, picked up the commander, Capt Tonks, clinging to a small plank, and in a sinking state. Out of nearly two hundred souls, it is feared that not more than seventy are saved. Ensign Grant, one of the passengers, was a survivor, but of the rest we have no certain accounts.

"*The rain it raineth every day.*"—Weather since our last publication.—Wednesday, cloudy, occasional showers, wind S. W.—Thursday, rain and fog, wind S. W.—Friday, rain, wind E.—Saturday, rain, wind N. E.—Sunday, steady rain, wind N. E.—Monday, do. do. wind N. E.—Tuesday, 15th, showers, wind S. W.

The low meadow lands in the country are stated to be flooded, and much grass yet remains uncut.

The Fredericton *Sentinel* has some remarks upon the recent documents published by the Chamber of Commerce in this city. The editor says he feels it his duty to give an "unqualified contradiction" to the statement of the Chamber, that "the climate of New-Brunswick is much less fit for the production of wheat than that of any of her sister provinces."—"Which," says the Sentinel, "if not promptly and extensively contradicted and explained away, must have the effect of diverting the stream of immigration from this fertile Province."

The Sentinel then goes on to say—"We have had ample opportunity from personal observation and intercourse with the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring Province of Nova Scotia,—and to a certain extent of Prince Edward Island,—of forming an estimate of the capabilities of each; and we have no hesitation in asserting, and defy contradiction, that for the cultivation of wheat New Brunswick is superior to either; and with the exception of Upper Canada, we know of no portion of the British Provinces, where an industrious emigrant has better opportunity of securing competence and comfort for himself and family."

"We are satisfied that the Chamber of Commerce will best consult the permanent prosperity of their city, if they endeavour to found it upon the agricultural interests of New Brunswick." * * "And members of the Chamber need only proceed up the River St. John 20 or 30 miles, to find wheat successfully cultivated, and where it was never known to fail."

The editor adds—"We can easily conceive however, how those gentlemen, enveloped in fog, and inhaling during a large part of the year a misty atmosphere, may have been led to form erroneous conclusions with reference to other parts of the country; but had they visited the places to which reference is made by us to-day—particularly Jacksontown, they would have found a tract of country, where wheat was formerly cultivated with advantage and success, until the people turned their attention to the precarious pursuits of lumbering; and they would have met elsewhere with many farmers, who have raised during the present season, from five hundred to a thousand bushels of that useful article; besides extensive crops of buckwheat, oats and potatoes."

SHUBENACADIE CANAL.—The Halifax Recorder says—"This important public work, we are happy to learn, is not altogether forgotten. Her Majesty's Government, with a view of ascertaining the practicability and probable expense of completing it, have required His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to direct an inspection of its present condition to be made, and Lieut. Colonel Jones and Captain Wentworth, of the Royal Engineer Corps, left town this week, for the purpose of drawing up a report upon it, which will be transmitted to England by Sir Colin Campbell. Those gentlemen are accompanied by Judge Fairbanks and Mr. Wm. McKay. We are of opinion that the completion of the Canal would increase the resources of the capital to an incalculable extent, and should be heartily encouraged by all who wish to promote its advancement."

The bags made up at the Post Office at Quebec, to go by the *Acadia*, contained 5,338 letters, and 4,536 Canada newspapers.

We learn with sincere pleasure that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in Council, has issued an order for the survey of a fine tract of land, lying between Gagetown and the Nerepis Road; and, from about the middle of the flourishing settlement, called Coote Hill, towards Gagetown. This ridge will be near Adair and a new road which has been laid out to meet the Nerepis from the shire-town of the County, about four or five miles above Darby Gillan's.—The base line, when extended, will meet the fine old settlements west of Mauger's and Ox Islands, and there meet the road to Oromocto and Fredericton; and by the way of Mrs. Mathers' on the Nerepis Road, the settlers can reach St. John Market by water, through Coffin's Manor to Indian Town or the Market Slips. As very abundant means of settlement have been afforded to the industrious labouring Emigrants here during this and other seasons, we would earnestly recommend to the prudent to avail themselves of every eligible opportunity to settle in the interior of New-Brunswick, where the Executive and Legislature are alike emulous to promote the interests of all its inhabitants by opening Roads; by affording means of moral and religious instruction, and by every philanthropic and patriotic course. When the survey is sufficiently advanced, information relative to the land will be furnished by the Honourable the Surveyor General to the Government Emigrant Agent here, and Mr. Wedderburn will then communicate it to all applicants. In the mean time he will receive and transmit to the proper authorities, applications from parties, who can satisfactorily show to them, their intention to become *actual settlers!*—*Gazette.*

The venerable JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, formerly President of the United States, who proceeded to Halifax last week in the Steamer *Acadia* from Boston, arrived in this city on Tuesday afternoon, in the *Maid of the Mist*, from Annapolis. We are pleased to learn that this distinguished American was received with the utmost kindness by the Officers of this Garrison. On Wednesday he was waited on by many of our most respectable citizens, and was shewn through the different Barrack Rooms, Hospitals, &c. in this Garrison, the cleanliness and general arrangement of which he highly approved. The Band of the 69th Regiment was in attendance, and played a number of airs in fine style. He was invited to dine at the Mess in the evening, where he met with that gentlemanly hospitality so proverbial among the officers of that gallant corps. Mr. Adams left town on Thursday morning, in the steamer *New-Brunswick*, for Fredericton.—*Courier.*

From the Fredericton Sentinel of Saturday.

The Hon. John Quincy Adams, Ex-President of the United States, arrived here from St. John on Thursday, having visited Halifax in the Acadia steamer, and crossed the Bay from Annapolis. Mr. Adams is on his return to the United States, and remained here on Friday, during which time he visited the Province Hall, and other Public Buildings, and received the calls of the Lieut. Governor and a number of gentlemen of the army and town. In the course of the day the Committee of the Reading Room waited upon him; and in the afternoon, attended by his son and Mr. Curtis, he visited that institution. In the evening he dined at Government House, where we understand a large party met him; and this morning he took the Woodstock Coach on his way to Houlton. Mr. Adams is rather advanced in years, reminds us much of his father, whom we saw in 1820 engaged in revising the Constitution of the State of Massachusetts, in a Convention assembled for that purpose. He is very communicative and agreeable in his manners; and expressed himself much pleased with his tour through these Provinces.

It is stated that the aqueduct of the Chippewa Canal, Upper Canada, has recently been blown up, and that the notorious Lett was the perpetrator.

During the memorable visit of the Governor General to our City, the Coloured People presented a Petition to him, in which they prayed that as their children did not obtain admission into any of our endowed Schools, other means might be taken to communicate knowledge to them.—In reply to this Petition, His Excellency stated that although he had not assumed the Administration of the Government of the Province, yet he had recommended to the Lieut. Governor to take such measures as may appear advisable to secure to the Petitioners a full participation in all the advantages enjoyed by white persons.—We are now happy to state that a School for the education of this portion of our community has been in operation for about six weeks, that it consists of about one hundred pupils, who give a punctual and regular attendance to the instructions of their Master, and that their diligence and good conduct are highly exemplary.—Subjoined is a copy of a Petition connected with this School, which we have lately seen:

"To His Worship the Mayor and the Common Council of the City of Saint John, in the Province of New-Brunswick, in Council convened:

"*The humble Petition of the undersigned Heads of Families of African origin residing in the City of Saint John aforesaid,*

"SHEWETH,—

"That your Petitioners are not exceeded in loyalty and attachment to the British Constitution, by any of the other Inhabitants of New-Brunswick, and fully conscious of the blessings which they enjoy under the mild and just government of our gracious Queen, they have always performed the military duties required of them with zeal and alacrity, and contributed cheerfully to defray all the Imposts and Taxes necessary to support our civic and provincial expenditure.

"That your Petitioners in being excluded from becoming free Burgesses of the City of St. John, by the charter of the City, and in their children's being practically deprived of the benefit of attending the Seminaries, in a great measure maintained by Legislative Grants, labour under disabilities, which it ought to be the study of all well disposed persons to remove or to compensate.

"That your Petitioners by not being allowed to become free Burgesses of the City, sustain a loss in the aggregate, by not participating in the profits arising from the disposal of the fisheries belonging to it; which cannot be estimated at less than one hundred pounds a year: and it is doubtless true, that their efficiency as citizens is impaired, and their moral and social condition injuriously affected by the operation of the other disabilities, under which they labour.

"That your Petitioners having been able in consequence of a