and Vincente was obliged to abandon it to his rival. Patxot carried it off in triumph, but Vincente was heard to murmur vengeance. Ere a week had elapsed, the shop of Patxot was consumed by fire, and the body of the unfortunate bibliopole reduced to ashes together as it was supposed, with all his treasures. The authorities did not think of enquiring into a circumstance that seemed natural, until the number of assassinations began to attract attention. A German literateur, who visited Barcelona had been found murdered: a curate also, of the neighbourhood. This was at first attributed to political causes, until, at length it was remarked, that all the victims were men of studious habits. Ar. Alcalde, Don Pablo Rafael, author of many learned works, had disappeared: a judge too, and other functionaries. It was rumoured forthwith that the Inquisition had been secretly re-established, and that a tribunal under its laws held mysterious sittings and pronounced those fearful sentences, so fearfully executed. Search was made at the domiciles of all persons supposed likely to belong to such a society; and in pursuance of this suspicion the shop of Don or Friar Vincente was searched. Nothing was found but books. The corregidor seized one of these, the "Directorium Inquisitorium" of Gironne, as relating to his object; when the removal of the volume caused another to fall, which had been secreted behind it. This was picked up and opened and proved to be the *Furse Ordinacions*, the volumn purchased so dearly at this sale by poor Patxot, and which was now found in the possession of his rival bidder. The search was continued, and another book was found which belonged to Don Pablo N——, another victim. Vincente was seized, confined, menaced, and at length he promised to confess, upon one condition,—viz., that his collection of books should not be scattered or sold to different persons. Satisfied in this respect, Vincente made a clean breast, and repeated his confessions with full explanations respecting his conduct, on the day of his trial.

Placed at the bar, Vincente appeared a little, stout, dark man, with a ruddy and open countenance, Having made the sign of the cross he thus began:—"I will tell the truth; I have promised it. If I have been guilty, it has been with good intentions. I wish to enrich science, and preserve its treasures. If I have done ill, punish me; but leave my books together—they have done no harm. It was most reluctantly I consented to sell my first precious book to a curate. St. John is witness I did my utmost to disgust him with it. I told him it was a bad copy, had a page in manuscript, &c. all would not do: he paid the price, and went away. As he walked off, along the Calle Ancho, I followed him begged him to take back his money, and return the book. He refused and whilst I was entreating him we reached a lone place. Wearied with his obstinacy I took out my dagger and stabbed him, rolled him into the ditch, and covered him with branches, and carried home my precious volumn, which I see yonder on the table."—The president then asked if this was the only time he had killed persons for their books. Vincente replied, "My library is too well stocked for that; *no se gano Zamora en una hora.*—Rome was not built in a day."—The President bade him explain how he had dispatched the other victims. Vincente replied, "Nothing more simple. When I found a purchaser so obstinate as he would have the volume, I tore out some pages well aware that he would come back for them. When he did, I drew him into an inner room, under pretence of replacing the pages, and then dispatched him. My aim never failed me."—President: "Did not your heart revolt at thus destroying the image of your Maker?"—Vincente: "men are mortal; they die sooner or later. But books are not so, they are immortal and merit more interest."—President: "And you committed murder merely for books?"—Vincente: "And for what more would you? Books are the *gloria de Dios*" (the glory of God).—President: "And Patxot, how did you murder him?"—Vincente: "I got in by the window, found him asleep, threw a scaped cord about his neck, and strangled him. When he was dead I took off the cord, set fire to the bed, and withdrew."—The advocate of Vincents endeavoured to invalidate the evidence, by proving that the copy of the work which Patxot had bought was not unique. This he succeeded in proving, and which affected his client more than anything else—more than even his sentence. Notwithstanding, he was condemned to the penalty of *garrote* (strangulation.)

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY,

Friday, January 20.

Mr. Partelow, by leave presented a Petition from William H. Street and William P. Ranney, of Saint John, Merchants and Co-partners in trade, setting forth that on the night of the 14th instant the whole stock of wines and spirits contained in their warehouse was consumed by fire, and praying that the Parliamentary and Provincial duties on the same may be refunded to them; which he read.

And the rule of the house, limiting the time for receiving Petitions, being dispensed with as regards this Petition as well as also others that may come from Saint John under the same circumstances, Ordered, That the said Petition be received, and lie on the Table.

On motion of Mr. Partelow, *Resolved*, That the said Petition be referred to a Select Committee to report thereon, and that the said Committee be instructed to take into consideration and report upon all Petitions from Saint John that may hereafter be presented to the House during the present session, praying a like return of duties on articles consumed at that place during the recent conflagration. Ordered, That Mr. Partelow, Mr. Weldon and Mr. Brown, do compose the said Committee.

On motion of Mr. Crane, The house went into Committee of the whole, in further consideration of a Bill to enable the proprietors or shareholders of a Company, called *The Bank of British North America*, to sue and be sued in the name of any Manager, for the time being, of any one of the Banks or Agencies of the said Company established within the Province of New Brunswick. Mr. M'Leod in the Chair of the Committee. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair. The Chairman reported, that the Committee having the Bill referred to them again under consideration, they made further progress therein, and he was directed to ask leave to sit again. Ordered that the report be accepted, and leave granted.

On motion of Mr. Street, Ordered, That the house do on Monday next go into Committee of the whole, in further consideration of a Bill in addition to and in amendment of the Laws now in force for regulating Elections of Representatives to serve in General Assembly in this Province.

Mr. Partelow moved for leave to bring in a Bill, to authorize the Treasurer of the Province to pay the sum of ten thousand pounds borrowed for the public service of the Province. Leave granted. The said Bill being brought in, was read a first time.

Saturday, January 21.

On motion of Mr. Partelow, The House went into Committee of the whole, on a Bill in addition to and in amendment of an Act, intituled "An Act to increase the number of Constables in the City of Saint John."

It being the time appointed for taking into consideration the Petition of Thomas Anderson, John Robb, John Morine, and 54 others, of the County of Westmorland, complaining of the undue election and return of William Wilson, Esq. as a member for that County, and praying that his seat may be vacated.

The Members were called in, and the House counted, when Twenty-five members being present. Ordered, That the parties be heard at the bar. Whereupon the Petitioners appeared by George J. Dibblee, G. F. S. Burton, Esquires, as their Counsel, and Humphrey Gilbert, Agent for the said Petitioners; and L. A. Wilmot, Esq. as Counsel on behalf of the sitting member. The orders of the day were then read.

When the names were drawn to the number of *Eleven*, and Members appointed, as is directed by the Act regulating controverted elections and returns of members to serve in General Assembly. The doors being then unlocked. The drawn lists were then handed to the Counsel for the respective parties, and the same being struck, a printed list of the members so drawn, with the Numbers affixed thereto, was then handed in, which the following appeared on the members of the Committee:—

Mr. James Taylor,
" Peter Stewart,
" Lewis Burns,
" Hugh Johnston,
" William M'Leod.

NOMINEES:

Mr. George S. Hill, for Petitioners,
" John R. Partelow, for sitting Member;

Who were duly sworn well and truly to try the matters of the said Petition referred to them, and a true judgment to give thereon according to the evidence.

Lists of the Committee so sworn were then delivered to the respective Counsels; and on motion of Mr. Robinson, Ordered. That the said Committee do meet on Tuesday next the 24th instant, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon, in the Supreme Court Room, and proceed in the investigation of the several matters alledged in the said Petition.

Mr. Wyer, from the select Committee to whom was referred the Petition from the President and Directors of the Saint John Bridge Company, submitted a report which he read, and handed the same in at the Clerk's table, where it was again read, and is as follows:—

"The Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition from the President and Directors of the Saint John Bridge Company, praying that the Act incorporating the Company may be extended, by giving a further increase of capital, and also praying that such increase of stock may be taken by the Province; Report:

"That having taken the subject matter of the said Petition into their consideration, they are of the opinion it would not be advisable for the Province to take any stock in this Company, but that they see no objections to the passing of a Bill to increase the Capital Stock of the said Company.

THOMAS WYER, *Chairman.*

Committee Room, January 12, 1837.

Ordered, That the report be accepted.

Monday, January 23.

Mr. Johnston, by leave, presented a Petition from Thomas Harding, John Ward, Ezekiel Barlow, Junior, and 76 others, of the City of Saint John, praying that an Act may pass better regulating the Laws between Landlord and Tenant; which he read.

And the rule of the House, limiting the time for introducing Bills and Petitions, being in this instance dispensed with, Ordered, That the said Petition be received, and lie on the table

A Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

The Honorable Mr. Baillie, a member of the Executive Council, delivered the following Message:—

"NEW BRUNSWICK.

"*Message to the House of Assembly, Jan.* 23, 1837.

"ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL.

"The Lieutenant Governor submits to the House a report of Mr. Burton, who was appointed to prepare the revised Edition of the Laws, stating the destruction of the work in the late fire at Saint John, and recommends to the House the making of such provision as may be deemed requisite for remedying this evil. "A. C."

FREDERICTON, 21st January, 1837.

"*To His Excellency Major General Sir* ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, *Bart. G. C. B. Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c*

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

"I have this day received information that the revised Edition of the Province Laws was destroyed by the calamitous fire at Saint John on the 14th instant.

"The copies had been transmitted in sheets by the publisher, Mr. Simpson, to Mr. M'Millan, the Binder, and were burned in the Warehouse of the latter.

"The Laws had been printed to the end of the session of 1836, when Mr. Simpson was prevented from proceeding with the Appendixes and the Index by the business of the present session of the Legislature.

"It is with sincere regret that I communicate this unfortunate occurrence to Your Excellency. I had flattered myself that the work on which I had bestowed much labor, and which had undergone the careful examination of His Honor the Chief Justice, would have been creditable to me, and at the same have afforded satisfaction to Your Excellency, the Legislature, and the public.

"I have the honor to be,
"Your Excellency's most obedient
"and very humble servant,
G. F. S. BERTON."

Wednesday, January 25.

Mr. Woodward, by leave, presented a petition from Alexander Robertson, of the City of Saint John, Merchant: also a petition from Charles M'Lauchlan, of the said city, Merchant, praying a return of Duty on articles destroyed by the disastrous Fire at that place on the night of the 14th of January instant.

Thursday, January 26.

Mr. Partelow, by leave, presented a Petition from the President and Directors of the Saint John Water Company, setting forth that the works of the said Company are in progress, but in consequence of the disastrous effect of the late Fire at Saint John, they will not be able to proceed therewith, and praying that a sum of money may be granted them on loan for the term of two years, in order that they may carry into effect the objects contemplated by their Charter.

Read a third time as engrossed, A Bill to alter and amend an Act, intituled "An Act more effectually to provide for the support of a nightly watch in, and for lighting the City of Saint John."—*Resolved*, That this Bill do pass,

Saturday, January 28.

Mr. Johnston, Chairman of the select Committee to whom was referred the Petition from Thomas Anderson, and others, praying against the election and return of William Wilson, Esq. submitted a report, which he read, and handed the same in at the Clerk's Table, when it was again read and is as follows:—

"The select Committee drawn and sworn on the 21st instant, under and in pursuance of the Act made and passed in the ninth year of His late Majesty's Reign, intituled "An Act to regulate the trials of controverted Elections or returns of members to serve in General Assembly," to try the matters of the Petition of Thomas Anderson and others of the County of Westmorland, complaining of the Election and return of William Wilson, Esquire, as a member for that County, and praying that his seat may be vacated, met on Tuesday the 24th instant, the time appointed by the House, and heard the Counsel on both sides relative thereto, and then adjourned from day to day in consequence of the illness of Mr. Hill, the Nominee on the part of the Petitioners, until this day, when Mr. Hill attended and the Committee then duly considered the said Petition; and were unanimous in the decision, that the same should be dismissed, and they further declare the same to be frivilous and vexatious.

"HUGH JOHNSTON, Chairman.

"*Committee Room, January* 28, 1836.

Ordered, That the report be accepted.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER,

Thursday, January 26.

DISENTIENT.

To the Bill passed yesterday, entitled "A Bill for the support of the Civil Government of the Province.

Because the fifth section of this Bill provides that every sale, lease, or other conveyance of Land or Timber, not by Public Auction, shall be utterly null and void, thereby absolutely establishing the system of dispensing of Crown Lands and Forests to the highest bidder only; a system which however goodin a general measure will be productive of much vexation and injustice in very many cases, will retard the settlement and improvement of the County, by enabling capitalists to become the sole purchasers of all Land and Timber, hereafter to be disposed of, to be by them monopolized to the actual settler, reduced to the alarming alternative of either quitting the Colony or paying therefore such augmented prices as combination or avarice dictate.

Because the monopoly to be created by establishing the auction system exclusive will materially injure all those interests which are of the highest importance in this Colony, and from which its Provincial Revenue, as well as His Majesty's Royal Revenues, have been heretofore derived.

The Capital already embarked in the erection of Saw Mills has been correctly estimated at nearly half a million of pounds. The Proprietors of those Mills have built them under an impression that a general competition would never be permitted to extend to them when applying for reserves of timbered lands or licences to cut Logs without which their Mills must become useless, and this equitable and reasonable claim has always been favoured by the Government of this Colony, and acceded to as a kind of bounty to that enterprising class of His Majesty's subjects; thus a species of vested right has been established which will be abolished by the operation of this section and the Mill Trade materially affected, possibly destroyed.

Because the discretionary power heretofore existing in His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and His Majesty's Executive Council, of granting Lands at a low price to actual and meritorious settlers has never been improperly or unjustly exercised, but has confessedly been the means of planting very many industrious and loyal families in this Colony, who, unable to contend at Public Auction with more monied though less deserving competitors would have otherwise been compelled to leave the Country.

Because the gratuitous granting of Lands in reasonable quantity in aid of religion and education, has ever been practised with most salutary effects in all His Majesty's North America Colonies, thus having become a vested right in the inhabitants without which, in many places neither houses of worship nor schools could have been erected or supported.

Because it has been the wise policy of His Majesty's Government to encourage the settlement in this Colony of officers retired from His Majesty's service as well as old soldiers, from whose loyalty and habits of subordination the happiest results were naturally anticipated, and whose claims (frequently supported by the direct commands of the Home Government) were always maturely investigated and complied with in such a manner as to carry the intentions of Government into complete effect; they too will be exposed to the evil effects of an exclusive auction system, and (unless wealthy) must seek a settlement elsewhere.

And because the remedy proposed for some of the evils here pointed out by the passing of another Bill sent up to this House by the House of Assembly, restraining the operations of this Bill, there being no clause in this Bill to authorize such second Bill, is in fact passing two Bills in the same Session, repugnant and in opposition to each other, which is contrary to that established law and usage of Parliament. THOS. BAILLIE.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, JANUARY 30.

On motion of Mr. Johnston, Whereas it appears by a certain publication in a Newspaper published at Miramichi, called "The Gleaner," on the 24th day of this instant January, that L. A. Wilmot, Esq a member of this house, has been grossly and scandalously libelled for words spoken by him in debate: And whereas James A. Pierce, the Printer and Publisher of the same, has therefore been guilty of a breach of the privileges of this House; thereupon

Resolved, unanimously, that the said James A. Pierce be forthwith taken into custody of the Sergeant at Arms, and brought to the Bar of this House to answer the matter and things arising out of the said publication, and that Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant accordingly.

Communications.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

Sir,—At a meeting of the Church Wardens and Vestry of the Parish of Sussex, held a short time ago, to take into consideration the subject of the Church Society about being formed in the Province. I was so much pleased with the sentiments contained in a brief address offered by A. C. EVANSON, Esquire, one of the Churchwardens, and considered it so much more likely to advance the interests of the cause in hand, than the fears and doubts and scruples of "Laicus" in a late number of the Weekly Observer, that I requested a copy of the Address, and ask for it a place in your next number.

CLERICUS.

It must be very gratifying to all those attached to the Church, that the time has arrived when they will have an opportunity of proving that attachment, by more closely uniting themselves to extend its usefulness in this favoured Land.

From the manner in which we have from the Pulpit heard the principles of the contemplated Society explained, little doubt can be left of the expediency of at least a trial. The Church to which we belong, has hitherto been fostered and supported in this Province, as most of us are aware, through the instrumentality of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts: and so long as the bounty of that society was continued to us to its former extent, so long I fear we should have been wanting in that exertion which we are now called upon to make.

The altered circumstances of the Church, make it necessary that something should be done, and I cannot for a moment imagine that we who profess to belong to that Church, should show less zeal, less activity, or feel less interest, than those of other denominations, in promoting in its purity the cause of our holy religion.

Let us then seize the present moment not only to express, but to establish our firm attachment for her institutions.

When I look around and consider the various calls upon our charity, I am almost inclined not to enter another channel of expense; but then a moment's reflection whispers that the promotion of Religion should be the great and primary consideration, and I cannot therefore hesitate to contribute my mite.

My confident belief is, that if the objects proposed by the society which we are about to establish, be zealously supported by all those in this Province who profess to belong to the Church of England, it will be the means through God's assistance of increasing the number and of cementing its members more unitedly than heretofore, in furtherance of true Christianity.

It is indeed full time our eyes were open to view the position in which we stand, and the necessity of using that combined exertion so indispensable even in the best of causes, to maintain our ground and not only to resist encroachment, but to follow up perseveringly that good part in which our Mother Church has ever been so conspicuous.

Sussex Vale, January, 1837.

BUILDING ACT.

All the buildings erected in London and the several Parishes within the Bills of Mortality, are subjected to the regulations of an Act of Parliament, of the 14. Geo. III. the main object of which is to lessen the danger to be apprehended from fire. As many of the Provisions of this act are of great importance, and deserve to be universally known and acted upon, we shall conclude the subject of Building by an abstract of them. Those which relate to the Carpenter are the following:

Timber partitions between building and building, erected or erecting before the passing of the act, may remain till one of the adjoining houses is rebuilt, or till one of the fronts, or two-thirds of the fronts which abut on such timber partition, is taken down to the bressummer, or one pair of stairs floor, and rebuilt.

Three months' notice of the pulling down of such wooden partition, when decayed or of insufficient thickness, to be given by the proprietor to the owner or occupier of such a house, and if the house be empty, such notice to be stuck up on the front or front door of it.

No timber hereafter to be laid in any party arch, or party wall, except for bond to the same; nor any bond timber within nine inches of the opening of a chimney, nor within five inches of the flue; nor any timber within two feet of any oven, stove, copper still, boiler, or furnace.

The wood work of chimney breasts to be fastened to the said breast with iron wall hooks, spikes, nails, or holdfasts, which must not be driven more than three inches into the wall, or nearer than four inches to the inside of the opening of the chimney.

No timber bearer to wooden stairs let into an old party wall, must come nearer than eight inches and a half to the flue, nor nearer than four inches to the internal finishing of the adjoining building.

No timber to be laid under any hearth to a chimney, nearer than eighteen inches to the upper surface of such hearth.

No timber must be laid nearer than eighteen inches to any door of communication through the party walls of warehouses and stables.

Bressummers, story posts, and plates thereto, are only permitted in the ground story, and may stand even with the outside of the wall, but must go no deeper than two inches into a party wall, nor nearer than seven inches to the centre of a party wall, when it is two bricks thick, nor nearer than four inches and a-half, provided the party wall does not exceed one brick and a half in thickness.

Every corner story post must be of oak, and at least twelve inches square, when employed for the support of two fronts.

Window frames and door frames to the first, second, third, and fourth rate classes, are to be recessed in reveals, four inches at least.

Door-cases and doors to warehouses only of the first, second, third, or fourth rate classes, may be even with the outward face of the wall.

No external decoration to be of wood, except cornices or dressings to shop windows; frontispieces to door-ways of the second, third, and fourth rate classes, and covered ways or porticoes to buildings; but not to project beyond the original line of the house in any street or way. Such covered way or portico not to be covered with wood; nor such cornice, covered way, or roof of the portico, to be higher than the under side of the sill to the windows of the one pair of stairs floor. No flat gutter or roof, nor any turret, dormer, or lantern light, or other erection placed on the flat of the roof belonging to the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth rate classes, to be of wood.

No wooden water tanks must be higher from the ground than the tops of the windows of the ground story.

Those provisions of the Act which relate to the Bricklayer are the most numerous. Every master bricklayer must give twenty-four hours' notice to the Surveyor of the district, concerning the building to be altered or erected; but if the building is to be piled or planked, or begun with wood, it becomes the business of the carpenter to give such notice.

The footings of the walls are to have equal projections on each side; but where any adjoining building will not admit of such projections to be made on the side adjoining to such building, this direction to be complied with as nearly as possible.

The timber in each rate, as girders, beams, trimming joists, &c. may have as much bearing as the nature of the wall will admit, provided four inches be left between the ends of such timber and the external surface of the wall.

EXTERNAL WALLS.

Every, front, side, or end wall, not being a party wall, is called an external wall.

External walls, and other external inclosures to the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth rates of buildings, must be of brick, stone, artificial stone, lead, copper, tin, slate, tile, or iron; or of some or all of these materials in conjunction, except the planking, piling, &c. for the foundation, which may be of wood.

If any part to an external wall of the first and second rate is built wholly of stone, it is not to be less in thickness than as follows: first rate, fourteen inches below the ground floor, nine inches above the ground floor; second rate, nine inches above the ground floor.

Where a recess is meant to be made in an external wall, it must be arched over, in such a manner, that the arch and the back of such recess, shall respectively be of the thickness of one brick in length: hence no walls are allowed to be recessed which are not more than one brick in thickness.

No external wall to the first, second, third, and fourth rate, is ever to become a party-wall, unless the same shall be of the height and thickness above the footing, as is required for each party-wall to its respective rate.

[*To be concluded next week.*]

British News.

DREADFUL HURRICANE.

FALMOUTH, December 3.—The weather which had been very boisterous for the whole of last week, terminated its wild career for a season, on Tuesday last, with most destructive violence. On the early part of Tuesday morning, the wind was about s. s. w. from which it gradually veered around to N. W., when it blew with more fury than we ever before remember. The sea was taken up and scattered by the wind in such density as to hide the shipping and the surrounding country from view: having much the appearance of a thick white fog. Nothing appeared to escape its violence; especially in exposed situations. The scene altogether presented a picture of the awful and ludicrous. Slates were flying like leaves from an old tree, the tiles were uplifted from the houses as if they were straw, and the chimneys falling, disturbed the morning dreams of many slothful sleepers, who lay

"Quaking in their beds,
For fear their roofs should fall in."

whilst those who were up and stirring, were engaged in preventing any mishaps to their windows. All the shops were soon closed after a few of them presented rather a shattered appearance, although those employed in shutting them, did so, while

"Tiles and chimney pots
About their heads were flying.

The eastern part of the town suffered considerably, particularly the shop windows; but although the injury sustained in the aggregate was great, we believe the greatest sufferers are Mr. W. Carkett, merchant, &c. who had about 35 panes of glass broken; J. Britton, Esq. of Green Bank Terrace, through the roof of whose house one of the chimneys fell, and penetrated a bed room, which considerably alarmed its inmates; and Capt. Triscott, of Water Lane, whose family was in great danger, from parts and stacks of chimneys falling through the roof. Of the power and extent of the gale some idea can be formed, when we state that an hay rick of some tons weight in this neighbourhood, was removed a great distance from its original position; and several beautiful full grown trees in the grounds of G. C. Fox, Esq. and near Budock Church, were torn up by the roots. In the harbour the damage was comparatively inconsiderable; for the following, we believe, are all the casualties that occurred: The sloop Emma, of this port, drove on shore near St. Mawes Castle, and the schooner Violet, Perriman, drove foul of the bark West Indian, Turner, when the former carried away both her masts; the Bragila, and Norway brig Anna Margaretha, Wright, started anchors Little Falmouth pool, and went on shore, but have not received extensive damage—the Alert, Truran, drove foul of the Yeoman's Glory, Cooper, of this port, and the Solace, Barrett, and carried away their fore-top-sail and top-gallant-yards, and a punt broke adrift from the stern of a pilot boat, and drove out of the harbour: she is marked No. 1. John Chard, Pilot. Fortunatly the gale was not of long duration, or the damage would have been beyond calculation. It is gratifying to state that no serious personal injury occurred.

GLASGOW, Dec. 19.—Official accounts have been received in Paris of the defeat of Marshal CLAUSEL's expedition against Constantine. The state of the weather is assigned as a cause of the failure; but it is evident that the Arabs had also presented greater opposition than was expected. The Marshal fondly anticipated being able to take possession of Constantine without striking a blow; but he was saluted with cannon shot, and a red flag was hoisted, as the emblem of hostility. After cannonading the town for some time, a retreat was found necessary, which was so disastrous as to be likened, in the French journals, to that of Moscow.

It must be considered highly honourable to the Arabs that they should thus have been able to defeat invaders who opposed to their irregular mode of warfare all the military science to which the most civilized nations have attained.

Bilboa continues to hold out against the Carlists; but ESPARTERO has, as yet, been unable to do anything worth mentioning in order to relieve it, and the correspondence from that quarter is consequently of a gloomy tenor.

GOMEZ, it is said, has been again defeated. He appears, however, to be still too swift for his pursuers: he is making his way northward at the head of a considerable force.

SPAIN.

The following telegraphic dispatch had been received by the French Government:

"Bayonne, Dec. 8, 1-2- past Two o'clock.

"Carlist report of the 5th announce that Espartero, on the 4th, attempted to force their positions at Asna, furnished with a part of their besieging artillery, and that he succeeded on the 5th; but Villareal and Eguia, having joined, had repulsed him. He fell back upon the heights opposite Desierto, and was preparing to repass to the left bank of the river. The mail from Madrid was stopped at Ateca by Quilez, but an English courier has brought letters of the 3d. announcing that Gomez has escaped and arrived at Osuna."

"Dec. 8, Half-past Eight in the Evening.

"They write from Portugalete on the 6th, that Espartero has repassed the river in order to join his reserve, which has arrived from Belmaceda. It is hoped that with the aid of this reinforcement he may be able to make his way into Bilboa. Irrebarran again came up with Cabrera on the 3d. near Jouguas, and killed or took 150 of his men, and as many of his horses."

Dec. 10, Three o'clock.

"Nothing new from Bilboa. It is believed that the capture of the town will depend upon the result of the operations against Espartero, who was joined on the 6th at Portugalete, by five battalions of reserve. The Carlists have made an unsuccessful attempt to destroy the bridge of the Desierto. Brigadier Albuin on the 4th took from Cabrera 150 more horses. The Bishop of Pempeluna is among the prisoners."

"Dec. 11, Half-past Twelve.

"According to indirect reports, Alaix came up with Gomez, at Alcaudete, in the night of the 29th, dispersed his force, and killed or captured a great many of his followers."

Royal Exchange, London, Dec. 17.

The Consol Market opened this morning at 88 3 4 7-8 for the Account, but has since receded to 88 5-8 3 4. Exchequer Bills remain at 12 to 14 premium.

In the Foreign Market Spanish stock has been without fluctuation at 20.

LONDON, Dec. 17.

We are still without reason to think that anything decisive has been done before Bilboa. On the 5th there appears, by a Carlist letter, to have been a movement on the part of Espartero, but it led to nothing; and by the latest accounts both parties occupy their former positions. The Alcala division arrived at Portugalete on the 5th, and on the 6th must have joined Espartero at Aspe. The Carlists, too, appear to have brought up reinforcements—almost all the troops, having been marched from before the St. Sebastian lines.

The Courrier Francais says—"The lamentable intelligence from our army of the expedition in Africa has excited a deep sensation among the Deputies in Paris, all of whom concur in reproaching Ministers with the impediments and delays with which they met the pressing remonstrances of Marshal Clausel, when, at the close of September, he dispatched his aide-de-camp, M. de Rance, to France. The disaster is universally attributed to the Members of the Cabinet.

The Court-martial of Tours has sentenced Bruyant and Thierry to death for their late attempt at Vendome. The remainder of the prisoners, with the exception of Eudinot, Descartes, and Marchal, were acquitted; these three are condemned to five years' imprisonment.

The visits of Marshall Gerard to the King and the prolonged stay which he generally makes, have given rise to a rumour that he is consulted by Louis Philip upon the subject of the ministry. An explanation has been hinted at by one of the Marshall's friends, which is much more likely—viz., that his Majesty desires to have the experienced warrior's opinion upon the necessity for sending an immediate reinforcement to Africa. Admiral Massieu de Clerval is said to have left town for Toulon, to expedite the preparation of transports for the embarkation of the troops destined to the African coast.

The floods continue to excite alarm in France. A greater rise in the Seine is still expected; and the inhabitants of Chaton, as a measure of precaution, have been invited to leave their dwellings. Alarm is felt for the bridges of Paris; and the greatest precautions are taken to prevent barges breaking adrift which it is felt would be most destructive.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Nemours has arrived in good health at Toulon, from Bona.—*Galignani.*

Different letters from Rome agree in saying that Don Miguel, who had frequently circulated the news of his escape, with the intention of baffling the pursuit of the police by fatiguing them with false rumours, disappeared towards the latter end of November. At Rome, it is not believed that he has proceeded to France to join Don Carlos; on the contrary, it is supposed there that he will accompany the expedition which is to attempt a landing on the coast of Portugal.—*Courier Francais.*

A great meeting of the Reformers of South Devon was held at Totness on Wednesday last. The Ballot, the Reform of the Peers, and the policy of open questions, was much insisted on by Mr. N. Fellowes, Sir W. Molesworth, and Mr. Leader. Lord Seymour, as a member of Government, adverting to the charge that Ministers did not move fast enough in the march of Reform, asked what Government ever kept pace with the sanguine expectations of the people—but instanced the Church Rate and Irish Church as amongst those questions which it has become more and more urgent to set at rest.

Surmises and Conclusions.—If we may judge from circumstances, it appears pretty plain that it is the intention of the British Government to keep permanent possession of St. Sebastian in the event of the Legion being withdrawn from it, or otherwise disposed of; or if not, there is every reason to suppose that we are not very far from some foreign political movement, that in its results may lead to another Peninsular war, as within the last fortnight, no less than five vessels have been dispatched to St. Sebastian, freighted with ordnance stores of every description, ammunition, blankets, medical stores, &c. namely—the Rhadamanthus and Lightning steamers, the Diligence transport of 400 tons, the Devon lighter, and the General Evans cutter, and there is now the Blazer steamer at Woolwich, it is said only waiting for orders to take on board more military stores and proceed to the same destination. These conclusions receive additional confirmation from the fact of there being at this moment in Spain, of the British forces, a company of artillery under Major Colquhoun and three subalterns, a detachment of Sappers and Miners, and nearly 1000 Marines, under the command of Major Owen.—*United Service Gazette.*

The plague is still working dreadful ravages in Turkey. The total number of deaths is reported to have been 9150.

The marriage of the King of Naples to the Archduchess Theresa was to take place at Trent, on the 6th inst.

The dinner to Sir Robert Peel at Glasgow is fixed for Friday the 13th January.

Henry Cowper, Esq. of Tewin Water, near Hertford, has made a donation of £500 to the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge.

A joint-stock bank, on the Scotch system, is about to be formed in Carlisle; the capital to be a quarter of a million, in £5 shares.

Government has abandoned the further patronage and prosecution of the Euphrates expedition; which has been broken up, the steamer having been transferred to the East India Company. Col. Chesney and his party return to England.

Collision at Sea and Loss of Eight Lives.—We regret to state that an accident, attended with the loss of the Perseverance, of Shields, and the lives of eight persons, occurred on the Elbe, on the 29th ult. About one in the afternoon, the Perseverance, Captain Pain, was proceeding up the Elbe to Hamburg, with a steady course and fair wind, but on arriving at the pilot station, have too, to exchange pilots, and a boat put off towards her. The pilot-boat had nearly reached the brig, when the Lee steamer, from Hull, approached at a rapid rate, and appearing to be bearing down upon them. The Lee would doubtless have passed between the boat and Perseverance, and thus saved a turn, but upon a near approach it was evident that she must either run down the pilot-boat or foul the brig. She turned from the boat and entered the brig's quarter, carrying part of it away. The Lee proceeded to Hamburg, and the master of the Perseverance thinking it possible to save the vessel, threw part of her cargo of coals overboard; as she continued to fill, he attempted to run her ashore, but she would not steer, and it being certain she would soon go down, the whole of the crew and the pilot took to the long boat, into which they had just entered, but had not got clear of the brig, when she sunk, and the boat was drawn after her and engulphed in the eddy. Fortunately the mast heads of the brig remained above water, otherwise the whole crew would have perished. Captain Pain, after having been under water several times, seized hold of something which proved to be the leg of one of his men, who had that moment taken hold of the main-yard. By mutual assistance they managed to save themselves; an old sailor, upwards of 70 years of age, saved his life by clinging to the top of the other mast. A boy was also saved. The pilot and remainder of the crew, eight in number, were drowned. Those who succeeded in gaining the rigging remained there all night; and were taken off in the morning. The day was perfectly clear; in fact, the collision was observed at a distance of several miles. It appears that the Perseverance hoisted a signal of distress, but no vessel came to her assistance.—*Hull Observer.*

The Vessels in the Ice.—We learn that a memorial has been forwarded this day to the Commissioners of the Admiralty, signed by several inhabitants of the town, requesting them to loose no time in dispatching two vessels to the North Seas, with stores, provisions, and clothes, so that they may be in readiness to relieve the distressed seamen on their escape from their horrible imprisonment. It states the names of the six vessels, viz., the Swan of Hull, the Dee of Aberdeen, the Grenville Bay of Newcastle, the Norfolk of Berwick, and the Thomas and Advice of Dundee, and that their crews must amount to at least 300. The memorial further suggests the propriety of re-establishing the hospital at Stromness, which rendered so much service last year to the crews of those vessels which had been detained so long.—*Hull Saturday Journal.*

The Augsburg Gazette inserts letters from "the frontiers of Italy," from which we take the following extracts:—"It is affirmed that the government of Turin discovered by late arrests things which nobody dream of. The vigilance of the authorities was consequently doubled. It is now known at Genoa, whither many strangers are drawn by commercial connections, that intrigues were carried on, the object of which was the overthrow of the monarchical principle in all Italy. The means which the conspirators had at their disposal give ground to a conjecture that a powerful hand supported them. What passed in the first French revolution is repeated almost literally.

The turnpike gates in all Scotland yielded, according to a parliamentary paper, on an average of 1833, 1834, and 1835, about £250,000 a year, the amount being one good index to the increase of trade, by remembering that there was a period not very remote when there were no such things as turnpike gates.

A deputation from the tradesmen of Dublin, accompanied by Mr. O'Connell, waited on Lord Morpeth on last Monday, for the purpose of ascertaining the intentions of government respecting the introduction of poor laws into Ireland. In making this inquiry, the deputation stated its conviction that great caution would be necessary in the introduction of any measure for the relief of the poor, and that in the opinion of those whom it represented no measure to that effect should in the first instance extend beyond the relief of the aged and sick. From the reply of Lord Morpeth, it appears that it is the intention of the government to introduce an Irish poor law bill next session, and that the law officers of the Crown are at present engaged in its preparation.

POTTERIES TURN-OUT.—The Staffordshire Potteries turn-out still continues. The Staffordshire Advertiser says—"The effects of the turn-out, as may be supposed, is begining to be felt by a greater increase in the number of applicants for parish relief; and in order that they might adopt the proper course, at so difficult a juncture, the board of guardians of Stoke parish have obtained advice from the poor law commissioners as to how they should act. The commissioners do not allow the guardians to afford relief to parties who are known to be receiving pay from the union, alleging that the parish fund can be made available only in such cases as are marked by complete destitution; and in the cases of workmen deprived entirely of means of subsistence, relief, by way of loan, is to be afforded in the workhouse, if there is room, and if not, in kind, and their wages to be attached, for payment of the amount advanced, when they obtain work.

Some weeks since, Mr. Ohmlin, a physican of Sachseren, having on going to bed taken a strong dose of opium in order to calm a violent toothache, was found lifeless on the following morning. Of all the physicians who were called in to see the unfortunate victim only one expressed some doubts respecting the reality of his death, but the opinion of the majority was adopted, and M. Ohmlin was interred. His dog, who had followed the coffin, remained for several days on the tomb, and was continually uttering plantive howlings. The sexton's attention was awakened by the circumstances, and he resolved to open the grave and examine the coffin. The dead body was found turned upside down with a part of the hair torn from the head. The unfortunate man had been buried alive! It would seem that the dog had heard the painful cries of his master.—*Constitution Neuchatelouse.*

ADMIRALTY COURT—Dec. 13.

THE EARL GREY—SALVAGE.

The Earl Grey, from Liverpool to Africa, with an assorted cargo, the day after sailing came in collision, 20 miles from the Tuskar Light, with a vessel called the St. Andrew, from New-Brunswick to Liverpool, and became unmanageable, and was in a perilous condition. The Solway, a steam vessel of considerable burden, with two engines each of 45 horse power, having a cargo of live stock and 15 passengers, took her in tow, and in 29 hours bro't her safely to Liverpool. The value of the ship and cargo of the Earl Grey was £3,049; that of the Solway, £16,000.

The King's Advocate (with whom was Dr. Addams,) appeared for the salvors, and Dr. Jenner for the owners.

Sir J. Nicholl said, there were two important facts to be considered in all these cases, and especially the present—the risk of the property, and the assistance rendered by the vessels claiming reward. The situation of the Earl Grey had been one of very great peril; without assistance there was but little chance of her getting into a place of safety, and the crew would have abandoned her if they could. In cases of derelect, the Court seldom gave less than one-third; and this was all but a case of derelict. It was true there had not been any great skill, risk, or enterprise, on the part of the salvors, and no great time had been occupied, and Liverpool was the port of the Solway's destination. On the other hand, the steam vessel was of great value; it had a perishable cargo on board and passengers, and it was consistent with public justice and public feeling to encourage steam vessels to render such assistance, especially in St. George's Channel, otherwise they might not be ready to render such aid. Both underwriters and passengers were interested in such encouragement being given. Looking to the expensive fitting out of the steam vessel, and to the number of the crew, the