

By the Steamer America, of the Cunard line of Mail Steam Packets, that perform their trips between Liverpool and Halifax, with remarkable regularity and safety, which vessel reached the latter port on the 24th, was received the melancholy intelligence of the loss, by fire on the 4th, of the Steam Packet Ship Amazon, on a first voyage from Southampton bound to the British and Foreign West Indies and Gulf of Mexico. The catastrophe was caused by the friction of new machinery or other accident, and by reason of strong breezes was so sudden and destructive, as to occasion the total loss of the ship and boats with the exception of three, in which ten of the passengers and forty-seven of the crew, with difficulty effected their escape. Among the 104 persons missing by fire and water, we regret to record the name of Elliott Warburton, the talented author of the Crescent and the Cross—Darien, &c., whose writings have been long and favorably known in these Colonies and in the old world.

There is little of interest to note in European affairs. Since the revolutionary *coup d'etat* of Louis Napoleon on the 2nd of December, he has maintained his usurped position in France with little apparent difficulty, backed by the power of the army; but has nevertheless exercised a system of extreme severity in reference to political opponents, by deportation of all persons of inferior note, suspected of disaffection to his authority, to the settlement of French Guiana, in South America,* and by the banishment from French territory of more considerable opponents as Generals of the Army and members of the popular Assembly. In Britain the retirement of Lord Palmerston from the office of Secretary for Foreign Affairs, who is succeeded by Lord Granville, has attracted much attention, and the public mind has been further excited by the accounts from the Cape Colony of a disastrous nature—the rebel Kaffir tribes having not only maintained their ground, but inflicted severe loss in officers and men, upon the British force despatched against them. In the United States the latest absorbing topic has been the visit of the Magyar Louis Kossuth, ex-Governor of Hungary, in seeking sympathy and aid for the re-establishment of a Republic in his native country. The reports of his numerous eloquent public speeches, during his previous tour in Great Britain, and through the daily and weekly press of this continent, exhibit him as one of the most able and extraordinary men of the age. Our limits warn us that we must now close our brief review of the past month, but we hope to record periodically hereafter such leading events of the day, as while they are un-political as regards parties, may not be uninteresting as matters of current history to our provincial readers.

DIED.—At Ship Harbour, County of Halifax, on the 29th of December, Mr. DANIEL WEEKES, in the 117th year of his age. Mr. Weekes was born on Long Island, near New York, on the 3rd December, 1735, and served in the British army in which the gallant Wolfe fell, September 12, 1758, at which time he was 24 years old. He adhered to the Royal cause at the time of the American Revolution, and received a grant of land at Ship Harbour, on which he has since been settled. He brought up a family of 21 children, whose offspring to the third and fourth generation, are settled around him, or scattered in many parts of the world, numbering some hundreds. In 1838 he enjoyed his second sight, and up to a couple of years ago, went daily bare-headed into the woods to cut wood and timber, an occupation he preferred above all others.

* The sentence of deportation designates Cayenne, a peninsular island of four times the extent of the peninsula of Halifax, viz.: fifteen leagues in circumference. It is reputed to be very unhealthy from the miasma of marshes and the extreme heat—being within four degrees of the Line.