

of it true? Does he himself believe it? This is a matter of little importance. He has accomplished his task, and may now enjoy his repose. The letter goes to London, is published in one of the leading papers, and is seized upon by others. It passes to America, and there again runs through the papers. In how many I have seen it I can hardly tell; the self-same letter emanating from the idle brain of a young man on the Bosphorus. How much evil may come from one inconsiderate act! Did he reflect that he was implicating the good names of men to whom in many respects he might well look up for example and instruction? Not for a moment. He was amusing himself with his own ingenuity and performing his task of a letter. He never dreamed of consequences. I brought the matter back to his recollection the other day. He had not a word to say in defence of his theory.

And is it possible, I have asked myself over and over again, that these idle lucubrations of an idle letter-writer are taken by grave and intelligent men as sober truth? When I first saw the said letter in print, its gross absurdity to me, who knew the facts of the case, was so palpable that I pointed it out to one or two others as a most eminent specimen of nonsense.

But a little knowledge of facts and circumstances makes all the difference in the world, and of this story it may at least be said that it is not more enormous than some others that have been told of the East, and believed to. But the subject is a serious one, and I will therefore proceed at once to give you some reasons why this strange speculation of the letter-writer is and must be a false one—a mere fabrication that never had existence out of the writer's brain. No one here at Constantinople ever dreamed of imputing the massacre to such a cause, excepting the author himself; and whether he believes it I seriously question. Every one with whom I have conversed, who is informed of the truth of the matter, attributes it to one single cause—the lust of Mohammedan chiefs for dominion. The Nestorians, you well know, have been an independent people for centuries. Living in the retreats of their snow-clad mountains, they have escaped the action of changes which have swept over their country. They have been unmolested, excepting their occasional quarrels with the Kurds, among whom they dwell for ages; and they still might have been unmolested, if the ambition of the Mussulman rulers had not looked with envy upon their liberty. The Turkish Government has long been anxious to subject them to its sway, for they live within the nominal boundaries of Turkey, although owing no allegiance to its authority.

A powerful Pasha was some years ago sent to subdue all the refractory and lawless tribes of Kurdistan, and bring them into subjection to the Sultan. This he had well nigh accomplished, when he was cut off by death. In the execution of his commission he advanced almost to the borders of the Nestorian country, and if his career had not been so suddenly terminated, that too would doubtless have yielded to his arms and intrigues, as did most of Kurdistan to the west of it. But though arrested, the Turkish authorities did not abandon their purpose, and unfortunately they soon found an ally within the country itself. Nourouh Bey, the chief of the powerful tribe of Hakkari Kurds, had long looked with a jealous eye on the power of the Nestorian Patriarch, who was a civil as well as spiritual ruler, and as head of the Christians was first chief of the mountains. Nourouh Bey wished at once to break the strength of the Patriarch, and make himself a sort of Pasha over the whole country. For this purpose he courted alliance with some of the Turkish Pashas, promising, if they would aid him to subdue the country, he would rule as a subject of the Sultan. They listened to his suggestions and helped him with means, and I believe also with men. With their assistance he gradually acquired strength, and in 1841 had an open rupture with the Patriarch. He even deceived some of the Patriarch's own people, and attached them to his interests. All this happened before there was a missionary in the land. In 1841 the Patriarch fled for refuge to another part of the country (the Tiyari district) where, among his own people, he was safe at least from the Bey's designs upon his person. The Bey sought to get him into his toils by stratagem, and sent him messages of peace, proposing to heal all their strifes by friendly conference. But the Patriarch would not listen to his proposals. Last winter Nourouh Bey sent two messages to the Patriarch, inviting him to come to a certain village, and settle all the differences in a fraternal interview. The Patriarch was warned by his own people that a snare was laid for him, and civilly declined the invitation. Nourouh Bey seeing that all hope of accomplishing his purpose by intrigue was cut off, sent to Bedi Khan Bey, another powerful Kurdish chief on the borders of Kurdistan, and proposed a joint expedition for invading the Nestorian country. Bedi Khan Bey, as eager for power as the other, readily accepted it. The plan was formed, their forces joined, and they suddenly made an irruption into the Tiyari district, burning, slaughtering, and leading captive, as you have heard. This was the Nestorian massacre. And now, in all this, where is there any appearance of missionaries or religious discord? The events were in progress before there was a missionary in the country. When Nourouh Bey sent his last message to the Patriarch, the English missionary, who has had so much of the blame to bear, had just reached Mossoul, and whatever contentions arose between him and the American missionaries arose afterwards. Neither Nourouh Bey or Bedi Khan Bey probably ever heard of rival missionaries, or could now tell, if the question were put to them, that the missionaries in Mossoul are not all one body.

It is idle to say that such men, wild, barbarous Kurds who know no more of western christianity than of the religion of the South Sea Islands, could be governed by such a motive to make war upon the Nestorian christians. These men were I presume never in Mossoul. Certainly they have not been there for years. They are Kurdish chiefs who are as ignorant of most things beyond their own territories as of the region of the moon. There is one little incident that may serve to show you how little idea they have of rival missionaries or any thing of the kind. It was necessary, before commencing their invasion, to give some pretext for it to the Pasha of Mossoul,

whose country lay close upon that of the Nestorians and whose sanction, or at least indifference, it was most important for them to secure. Dr. Grant, one of the American missionaries, has erected a spacious building on the mountains which was intended for the use of his prospective mission. He had erected it with the knowledge and sanction of Nourouh Bey, who was under special obligations to him for medical aid, and who well knew that his purpose was to educate the Nestorians and do good. But a pretext for the war was necessary, and a report was sent to the Pasha of Mossoul, that the "English" were building a fort in the mountains and might afterwards come and possess the land. The Kurds did not know enough to distinguish between English and Americans, but confounded them, as all ignorant people do in this country. How little this looks like being moved by the jealousies of rival missionaries you will at once see. They did not even know that there were different bodies of foreigners at Mossoul. English as well as Americans were involved by this pretext, and I happen to know that it gave the English missionary no small trouble. How I like then and I must say, how wicked the insinuation, half conveyed, half withheld, that the English missionary himself was the author of the report to the Pasha! I cannot away with such dreadful trifling with truth and men's characters. It deserves the severest reprehension. The statement which I have given of the real and only cause of the massacre is drawn chiefly from documents which have recently been before me from the Patriarch himself; and he, we must allow, ought to know the real origin of his troubles better than others. The history of the thing has been familiar to me for years. I was the first American who ever resided in Mossoul, and I believe I was the first Protestant traveller who made enquiries among the Nestorians in that quarter. I knew of the state of things then or soon after, and more than a year ago (before the English mission had reached Mossoul) I was making efforts here to arrest the evils that were coming upon the Nestorians. How futile then to say that that mission, contending with the Americans, brought about those evils.

I trust I have said enough to show you that missionary operations or missionary jealousies had nothing to do with the Nestorian massacre. You remark that the course of the Rev. Mr. B. the English missionary, has been much condemned. I agree with you in thinking that his hostile bearing towards the American missionaries is deserving of censure. No one regrets it more than I. No good, but much evil, must come of such contentions. But I should not do justice to the man, if I were not to say, that he is a true friend to the Nestorians, and has been indefatigable in his efforts for their welfare. He has now with him three Nestorian priests and their families, who have fled from their ravaged country, and are dependent upon him for support. He has spared neither time nor labor to secure to the Nestorians their violated rights, and to procure the restoration of the prisoners, and the re-establishment of the Patriarch in his own land. He is the last man to be suspected of injuring the Nestorians. He has shown himself, throughout their troubles, their unwearied benefactor; and of this all must give him the praise, however much his line of policy with regard to the other missionaries, is liable to exception. You already know that I have no partialities which would lead me to speak better of him than he deserves, but I would render all their due.

Believe me truly yours,  
Constantinople, Dec. 6th, 1843. H. S.  
[The above letter, written by the Rev. Horatio Southgate, of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States was, we believe, first published by an Editor belonging to that Church, but we take it with pleasure from the columns of the New York Observer, a Non-Episcopalian paper, because its appearance there, is an additional voucher for the credit attributed to the statements it contains. The Observer, indeed, mentions expressly that Mr. Southgate's view of the origin of the Nestorian invasion is substantially the same with that assigned by Dr. Grant, missionary of the American Board of Foreign Missions. It is satisfactory in two respects, namely, as it removes the heavy charge which had been advanced against missionaries, and as it exhibits the moderation and judgement of the writer in a light highly creditable to his christian and ministerial character.—Editor.]

**Political and Local Intelligence.**

SPAIN.—Of all the countries of the known world, perhaps there is none which presents stronger claims upon the attention and sympathy of the Christian than Spain; and as her internal distractions have of late years given her affairs an unhappy prominence in the events of Christendom, the remarks which follow may not be inappropriate. In point of antiquity, Spain holds a high rank among the nations of Europe. She was also one of the first where the Christian religion was proclaimed, for it is generally supposed that the Apostle St. Paul visited her soil in person. The History of Spain presents many remarkable extremes: at one period we see her in the power of the Mohammedan Moors, at another, the most zealous protector of Christianity; at one time the most flourishing of states, extending her possessions even to new worlds and holding the first rank among the nations of the earth, but now alas! a prey to civil discord and contention, and scarcely advancing in the arts of civilization. The period which followed the expulsion of the Moors from the Spanish soil was that of her greatest grandeur. The Sovereigns who then occupied the throne, by their wise and successful administration of the Government, increased the prosperity of the country; and the discovery of the continent of America, while it opened out new avenues to the ambition and daring of the adventurous portion of the population, and gave employment to many restless spirits; added greatly to the resources of the Kingdom and threw an imperishable lustre over the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella. Another remarkable event of that reign was the establishment of the dreaded Inquisition by a Papal Bull in the year 1478, for the purpose of detecting and suppressing heresy. The atrocities committed by this tribunal, during three centuries, in the language of a modern historian "have contributed more than any

other cause to depress the lofty character of the ancient Spaniard, and have thrown the gloom of fanaticism over those lovely regions which seem to be the natural abode of festivity and pleasure."

Spain has excited great interest since the commencement of the present century on account of the French invasion of that country and the subsequent revolutions. Napoleon under the pretence of attacking Portugal, obtained the right of a free passage for his men through Spain. Having thus succeeded in introducing a large body of his troops into the Spanish territory, he soon compelled the royal family to sign a renunciation of the crown in his favor, and placed his brother Joseph Buonaparte upon the throne. This atrocious act excited the greatest indignation: the people rose en masse, appointed a supreme Junta of Government, and declared war against the invaders. After a long and bloody struggle in which the Spaniards were materially assisted by the treasure and the forces of England and gallantly led on by Lord Wellington, the French were at last dispossessed of the country, and the crown restored to its legitimate owner Ferdinand VII.

The Spanish people were but ill rewarded for their acts of heroism and self denial, but this will be the subject of a future article.

IMPORTANT FROM HAYTI.—Advices received at Charleston, S. C. by way of St. Thomas, state that the negroes have broken into Aux Cayes and murdered the whites and colored—and the President, Herard, is killed. Four hundred persons have taken refuge in Jamaica. In Port au Prince a similar attempt as at Aux Cayes was hourly apprehended. From a letter dated Dec 25, it appears that Marquesas and Tahiti have been proclaimed open ports for the commerce of all nations—no duties being charged. Munitions of war and spirituous liquors are, however, declared contraband.

EARTHQUAKE AT ST. THOMAS.—A severe shock of an earthquake was experienced at St. Thomas at 10 o'clock A. M. on the 7th ult. It created great excitement throughout the town for some hours. A number of persons quitted their dwellings for fear of accidents. We are happy to say that no damage occurred. It was supposed from the direction of the roaring, that had news may be expected from the Windward Islands.—(Charleston Mercury.)

HALIFAX, April 25th.—THE APOLLO.—H. M. Troopship Apollo arrived yesterday in 20 days from Port Royal, Jamaica. This ship has on board the second battalion of the 60th Regt. (the King's Royal Rifle Corps.) According to the rotation system, this gallant corps have now come to North America to finish their period of foreign service previous to their return home. It is, we believe, about twenty years since the 60th left this garrison. They will remain here until the navigation of the St. Lawrence is completely open, when both the Apollo and Resistance (the latter with the drafts for Canada,) will take their departure for Quebec.

FARE OF THE UNICORN.—The statement which has found its way into several of the Colonial papers from the Charlotte-Town Islander, to the effect that the fare of the Steamer Unicorn had been reduced from £5 to £3, is contradicted. The passage is the same as formerly.

The 7th Regiment arrived in town on Tuesday morning by the steamer Queen, and marched to the Jesuit Barracks. At a special meeting of the City Council on Friday last, petitions against the Market House in process of erection in Garden street, were presented from the following:— From the respective officers of Ordnance. From a large number of citizens. From the Trustees of St. Andrew's Church. From the Select Vestry of the Cathedral. They were referred to the Market Committee to report thereon.

FREE CHURCH DEPUTATION.—Dr. Burns of the Free Church of Scotland had a meeting at the Court of Appeal's room on Friday last, when a subscription was opened in aid of the Church building fund in Scotland. We understand that two individuals of this city subscribed £100 each, the other contributions were not considerable. Dr. Burns preached at the Congregational Church on Friday evening, and at the Wesleyan, on Saturday; yesterday, at St. John's and St. Andrew's Churches, and collections were made at all of them.

This morning a public breakfast was given to the Reverend gentleman at PAYNE'S HOTEL, and further liberal subscriptions obtained. There are differences of opinion on the subject of the late disruption in the Church of Scotland, and a disposition to "non interference," in many. Those who have heard Dr. Burns, all agree as to his talents and the zeal with which he acquits himself of his mission.—Gazette of Monday.

CLERICAL:—The Rev. Mr. Adamson has been appointed assistant minister of Christ Church, Montreal. MONTREAL, May 4.—MORE TROUBLES ON THE CANALS.—We learn from Beauharnois that the whole of the men employed on the Canal struck for wages on the 1st instant. It appears that at the time of the strike the men were working for 2s. 6d. a day—the hours being from half past 5 o'clock to seven. Their demand was for 2s. 9d. a day, which the contractors, on deliberation agreed to give them, and it was then supposed that all would go on well. Instead of this being the case, they immediately afterwards demanded 3s. which the contractors refused to give, and the consequence is that the works have been suspended till the 1st June.—Transcript.

The St. Lawrence and Rideau Canals are open. Steamers arrived from Montreal via the Rideau on Monday night, and the mail steamer Highlander, came up to this port yesterday, by the St. Lawrence.—Kingston Chronicle.

CORNWALL, May 2nd.—The little steamer "Pioneer" braved the Rapids on the north side of the Long Sault, (commonly called the "Lost Channel") last week, with the greatest ease imaginable.—This is the first steamer that ever attempted to descend this channel before, and now that it is found practicable, it will be the future thoroughfare of boats similar in size to that of the Pioneer. The fine boats Gildersleeve and Canada,

Captains Bowen and Lawless, run alternately in conjunction with the Highlander through the canal.—*Id.*

The Quebec Forwarding Company's barge Decezon, Antoine Charbonneau, master, arrived here yesterday morning in 67 hours from Kingston, with 1050 barrels of flour for P. Langlois & Son. This passage, we may remark, is one of almost unprecedented quickness.

**Postscript.**

9 o'clock.—The Steamer Queen has just arrived from Montreal, and gives us the gratifying intelligence of the arrival at Boston, on Sunday last, of the Mail Steamer Hibernia. The Unicorn has not yet appeared. We are able to give only a few items of the news, compiled from Wilmer and Smith's European Times. The abstract of the quarter's revenue is gratifying, as it shows a considerable increase on the quarter and year. The three per cent Consols are at par, the first time for many years. The motion which was brought forward in the House of Commons by Sir Andrew Leith Hay, to reward the surviving Officers of the Peninsular war, was withdrawn after some discussion.

Prince Albert has returned from Germany. Lord Abinger, one of the first English Lawyers, died on the 7th ult. at the age of 67 years.

It is reported that Sir James Graham is to retire from the office of Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The sentence upon Mr. O'Connell and his associates had not yet been delivered, but it was supposed that Government intended to imprison him. Mr. O'Connell had attended a great Repeal dinner at Cork, at which more than 800 persons were present.

The Lords of the Admiralty have lately issued instructions positively forbidding officers of the Navy from giving or accepting challenges, or being in any way concerned in duelling.

The intelligence from China and our Indian possessions is highly satisfactory. Peace and tranquillity prevailed. Messrs. G. B. Symes and Roberts are among the passengers by the Hibernia.

**Port of Quebec.**

ARRIVED.  
May 3d.—Ship Great Britain, Swinburn, London, 19th March, P. McGill & Co. general cargo, 2 cabin passengers.  
—4th—Ship Caledonia, Allan, 30th March, Glasgow, G. B. Symes, general cargo, 17 cabin passengers.  
—7th—Bark City of Rochester, Campbell, 19th March, Toulon, T. Froste & Co. ballast.  
— " —Bark Mahaica, Jump, 29th March, Liverpool, Armour & Whitford, gen. cargo, 1 cabin passenger.

CLEARED.  
May 3d.—Bark Universe, Meredith, Liverpool, T. C. Lee.  
—4th—Sch. Coquette, Levey, Miramichi, A. Gilmore & Co.  
—7th—Sch. St. Laurent, Bernier, Bathurst, G. B. Symes.  
—8th—Sch. Julie, Marguerite, Blais, Miramichi, do.

**NEW GOODS, PER "GREAT BRITAIN."**

**GLOVER & FRY**  
Will show this day, the 9th instant,  
THEIR SPRING STOCK OF  
STRAW BONNETS, RIBBONS, SILKS, &c.  
OF THE LATEST LONDON AND PARISIAN FASHIONS,  
PERSONALLY SELECTED BY MR. FRY,  
To which they respectfully invite the attention of the public.  
THE remainder of their SPRING IMPORTATIONS, consisting of a large and complete Stock of FANCY and STAPLE GOODS of all descriptions will be received by the "ZEALOUS," from London; the "ALEXANDER WISE," from Liverpool, and other vessels, on the arrival of which, their Store will be closed for 5 or 6 days, and further notice given.  
May 8, 1844.

ARRIVAL OF  
**RICH FANCY GOODS,**  
Per Ships Great Britain, Pearl, Zealous, & Lady Scaton,  
SELECTED IN LONDON, PARIS, MANCHESTER, AND GLASGOW MARKETS,  
THE Subscribers beg respectfully to announce, that in the course of a few days, they will submit for inspection their NEW STORES, facing John Street and foot of Fabrique Street, a VERY ELEGANT AND FASHIONABLE ASSORTMENT OF NEW GOODS,  
Recently selected by one of their firm, which consist in part of,  
Queen's Paisley and Satin Shawls and Scarfs in every style; Watered Satin Mantillas, Cardinal Capes, &c. &c.; Rich Watered Silks for Dresses, in every shade and colour.  
Striped and Worsted Figured Balzarine's Muslins and Swiss Muslins.  
Rich French Satins, for Dresses,  
French Boots and Shoes, Gloves, &c.  
Lunetta, Cashmere, Parametta Lyons Cloth and Lustras for Dresses,  
Black Buge Berthas, Collars, Girdles, &c. &c.  
Rich Striped Silk Tabanets and Damasks, for curtains, chair and sofa coverings,  
The newest style of Fashionable Bonnets and Ribbons,  
Brussels, Imperial and Kidderminster Carpetings,  
Floor Oil Cloths, &c.  
Superfine Cloths, Fancy and Plain Kerseys, &c.  
Tweeds, Drills, &c. &c.  
French Worked Rich Embroidered Muslin, Collars, Capes, Canzous, Mantillas, Caps, &c.  
Plain and Figured French Cambric and India Grass Cloth Handkerchiefs.  
Children's Dresses, Polishes, Cloaks, Mantles, Satin Bonnets, Hoods, Caps, &c.  
A large assortment of Fringes, Trimmings, French Flowers, Thread Laces, &c. &c.  
Fine Linen Sheetings, Lawns, Hosiery,  
The newest Style French Parasols,  
Rich Gilt and Silver Painted and Flowered Table Coverings.  
The above assortment will be found, on inspection, to be the most superior qualities, and of the latest fashions, the greater part having been purchased in London and Paris last month.

**BENJAMIN & BROTHERS.**  
Quebec, 8th May, 1844.  
**HATS,**  
EXPRESSLY MADE IN BRITAIN FOR THE QUEBEC BRANCH OF THE  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL  
**LONDON HAT WAREHOUSE.**  
**W. S. HENDERSON & CO.**  
PROPRIETORS,  
I HAVE just unpacked the largest and most splendid Stock of Goods in the above line they have ever had in their power to offer to the public, consisting of Gentlemen's best Velvet Nap Beaver and Paris Hats, Ladies' Riding and Children's Hats of every description, with Youths, Men's Stuff, Waterproof and Silk Hats, in all their varied shapes and textures.  
From the immense quantity of Goods in the above line which annually disposes of, the Proprietors are thereby enabled to take an exceedingly small profit on every article.  
**MILITARY AND FANCY CLOTH CAPS MADE TO ORDER.**  
All goods returnable after sale, if not approved of.  
Quebec, 19th April, 1844. **NO SECOND PRICE.**

ENTERED FOR LOADING.  
May 2d.—Cromwell, 1026, Liverpool, J. Munn; Munn's Wharf.  
— Prince Charlie, 733, do. do. do.  
— Calm, 43, Miramichi, Deau, Rodger & Co. Morrison's Wharf.  
— Sea Gull, 47, Dalhousie, do. do.  
— 6th—Amity, 183, Liverpool, M. J. Wilson, Diamond Harbour.  
— 7th—Gaspé Packet, 74, Miramichi, H. J. Noud, Budden's Wharf.  
— Caroline, 38, do. do. do.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.  
The Great Britain and Caledonia left for Montreal on the 4th instant. The latter vessel met with a great deal of heavy ice near the Banks.  
The Mahaica left for Montreal on the 7th inst.  
8th, 4 p. m.—A light Brig reported as coming up.

**QUEBEC MARKETS.**

Corrected by the Clerks of the Markets up to Tuesday, 7th May, 1844.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef, per lb.	0	4	0	5
Mutton, per lb.	0	4	0	5
Ditto, per quarter	2	6	2	9
Lamb, per quarter	3	6	3	9
Veal, per lb.	0	4	0	4
Do., per quarter	0	4	0	5
Pork, per lb.	0	2	0	4
Hams, per lb.	0	4	0	5
Bacon, per lb.	0	4	0	5
Fowls, per couple	2	9	3	0
Ducks, per couple	none.			
Turkies, per couple	none.			
Geese, per couple	none.			
Fish, Cod, fresh, per lb.	none.			
Butter, fresh, per lb.	0	8	0	9
Ditto, salt, in tins, per lb.	0	7	0	8
Eggs, per dozen	0	5	0	5
Lard, per lb.	0	5	0	6
Potatoes, per bushel	0	10	0	10
Turnips, per bushel	1	5	1	6
Maple Sugar, per lb.	0	4	0	4
Peas per bushel	2	0	2	7
Flour, per quintal	11	0	13	6
Oats per bushel	1	3	1	6
Hay per hundred bundles	25	0	35	0
Straw ditto	16	8	17	0
Fire-wood, per cord	10	6	12	0

**W. HOSSACK, JUNR.**

BEGS leave to inform his friends and the public in general, that he has opened an Establishment for the sale of Groceries, Wines, Liquors &c. in the premises, corner of St. Ann and Garden Streets. Upper Town Market Place, where he will have always on hand a choice assortment of goods in the line, and respectfully solicits a share of public patronage.  
Quebec, 8th May, 1844.

**M. PIERCE,**  
F O R T H A I F A I S T E R E,  
No. 7, DELERY'S BUILDINGS.

TO LET,  
THREE OFFICES on Arthur Street, opposite the Exchange. Apply to CHRISTIAN WURTELE, St. Paul's St.  
Quebec, 4th April, 1844.

FOR SALE,  
F O R T Y B A G S C O F F E E,  
AND  
A FEW TONS LIGNUMVITE.  
R. PENISTON,  
India Wharf.  
Quebec, 1st April, 1844.