as the bridge of Boats at Villa Velha, and at length got entangled in the labyrinths of Portugal. I have heard and read of sitting down before a town, opening trenches, blowing up the counterscarp, and all according to rule; but this was a crisis, time was precious, added to which the Guardians ran in our rear, and the pontoon bridge had been carried away once during the siege, by the swelling of the river.

When the French soldiers found that the town was falling by escalade on the south side, and that the castle was lost to them, they made an attempt to retake the latter by an old gate, leading towards the town; the gate was pierced by their musketry, in numberless places. I never saw a target better covered with holes. The third division had in return twice discharged a gun through it, which made two large holes. An old hand spike was placed under its breach to depress it, and remained precisely in the same way three days afterwards. The scaling ladders were well placed, five quite close together against an old round tower. Many slain soldiers had evidently been pushed from off the parapet, and rolled nearly fifty yards down the hill; some lay with heads battered to pieces, whilst others were doubled up, looking scarcely human, and their broken limbs twisted in all directions.

The third division had been obliged to cross the broken bridge over the small river Revellas, rank entire, (amidst a shower of grape shot, bullets, and bursting shells,) and during the work of death, to drag the unwieldly ladders up a ragged hill, to plant them against the walls; their first effort failed; many of the enemy then, contrary to General Philippon's orders, evacuated the castle, and went to assist at the breaches. At this moment, Lieutenant Colonel Ridge, of the fifth regiment, called on an officer of this corps, 'there you mount one ladder, and I will lead up the other. Come on fifth. I am sure that you will follow your commanding officer.' He was killed; but the place was carried!

Let us pause and reflect that this act of heroism was executed after a long and fearful struggle, high walls, and defeat staring them in the face.

The third division then filled the castle, and there remained until day light. On the south side of the town, General Walker's brigade of the fifth division hearing the rolling fire at the breaches, became impatient, and, with a simultaneous rush, gained (by escalade) the top of the walls, and even formed on the ramparts. On scaring a light, the cry of *mine* was set up, and a short panic ensuing, the enemy at the same time charging forward at a run with fixed bayonets, and shouting loudly, these troops were forced to give ground. An officer informed me, that he had thrown himself over the ramparts to save the colors of his corps, while nearly surrounded by the French grenadiers. This bold fellow had the choice of either being pinned to the wall, or the risk of breaking his neck; he chose the latter. The rear regiment, however, fortunately stood firm. Many of the enemy then precipitately abandoned the town, accompanied by the Governor, crossed the bridge, and shut themselves up in Fort St. Christoval, on the other side of the Guadiana; and the next morning surrendered themselves prisoners of war. This brigade continued to be hotly engaged in the streets during the whole night. Some even asserted, that many of the Spaniards fired from their windows on our troops, and held out lights to guide the French; knowing that their property would fall a sacrifice, should the town be taken.

The place was eventually completely sacked by our troops; every atom of furniture broken; mattresses ripped open in search of treasure; and one street literally strewed with articles, knee deep. A convent was in flames, and the poor nuns in dishabille, striving to barrow themselves into some place of security; however, that was impossible; the town was alive, and every house filled with mad soldiers, from the cellar to the once solitary garret.

When I examined the three breaches by day, and witnessed the defences the enemy had made for their protection, I was fully satisfied that they were impregnable to men; and I do declare, most positively, that I could not have surmounted the *chevaux de frise*, even unopposed, in the day time.

Some talk that grappling irons would have moved them. Who would, who could have done it? thousands of warlike French soldiers standing firmly up in the breaches, not giving an inch, and ready for fight. They fought in the breach in the last, and tried to retake the castle— *Que voulez vous?*

The *chevaux de frise* were fired after dark; round shot alone could have destroyed these defences, which were all chained together, and not made in a temporary manner, as most military men imagine but strong and well finished; and the enemy, behind all, had made a deep cut, over which they had thrown planks, communicating with the town, besides three field pieces, to enfilade the centre breach, if the *chevaux de frise* should be seriously shaken. Had it not been for this, the divisions would have entered like a swarm of bees.

One man only was at the top of the left breach (the heaps of dead had, as a matter of course, rolled to the bottom,) and that was one of the rifle corps who had succeeded in getting under the *chevaux de frise*. His head was battered to pieces, and his arms and shoulders torn asunder with bayonet wounds.

Our batteries did not play on the ramparts that night after dark; but when the explosion took place, the whole of them opened with blank cartridge in our rear—probably to frighten the enemy, or to make them keep down; but they were old soldiers, and not to be so done.

Poor M'Leod, in his 27th year, was buried half a mile from the town, on the south side, nearly opposite our camp, on the slope of a hill. We did not like to take him to the miserable breach, where from the warmth of the weather, the dead soldiers had begun to turn, and their blackened bodies had swollen enormously; we therefore laid him amongst some young springing corn; and, with sorrowful hearts, six of us (all that remained of the officers able to stand) saw him covered in the earth. His cap, all muddy, was handed to me, I being without one, with merely a handkerchief round my bruised head, one eye closed, and also a slight wound in my leg.

The country was open. The dead, the dying, and the wounded, were scattered around; some in tents, others exposed to the sun by day, and the heavy dew at night. With considerable difficulty, I found at length my friend, Lieutenant Madden, lying in a tent, with his trowsers on and his shirt off, covered with blood, bandaged across the body to support his broken shoulder, laid on his back, and unable to move. He asked for his brother—'Why does he not come to see me?' I turned my head away; for his gallant young brother (a captain of the 52nd) was amongst the slain!

Captain Merry, of the 52nd, was sitting on the ground sucking an orange. He said, 'How are you?—You see that I am dying; a mortification has ensued.' A grape shot had shattered his knee; and he had told the doctor that he preferred death, rather than permit such a good leg to be amputated. Another officer had just breathed his last between these two sufferers.

The camp became a wilderness, some of the tents being thrown down, others vacant, and flapping in the wind, while the musketry still rattled in the town, announcing the wild rejoicing of our troops.

British News.

From latest British Papers.

(From the Liverpool Mail, August 22.)

Lord John Russell has announced it to be his intention to intimate Sir Robert Peel and provide for the destitution of Ireland out of the taxes paid by the people of England. The noble lord has numerous precedents for thus dealing with the public money—those of yesterday, and of times rather more remote; but we question whether the *parson* has not arrived when a stop should be put to a policy so unwise and so unjust.

We have no disposition to check the flow of national benevolence, nor any desire to aderrate the sums that arise from national exigencies; but as is bound, either by law, reason, or charity, to maintain another man's family, except in cases of extreme poverty, so no nation ought to be taxed to feed another unless it can be clearly shown that, without that relief, famine and death must ensue. Is Ireland in this condition?

Let us inquire. There are admitted to be two millions of beggars in Ireland—*born*, bred, and breeding beggars—the filthiest race of human beings within the circle of civilization. And why are they beggars? The answer generally is, because the poor people cannot find employment—because the population is in excess compared with the productions of the soil, the amount of capital invested, the inability on the part of landowners to make improvements, and the constant drain upon the income of Ireland by its absentees.

This answer does not satisfy us. We deny that it has any foundation in truth. The fact that Ireland exports produce to the amount of many millions sterling peg annum—that she sends so much money annually to absentees—that the higher and middle classes live in a style of extravagance unknown in other countries, proves to demonstration that the answer is inadmissible. Ireland, we repeat for at least the five hundredth time, is not a poor country. It is blessed with the richest soil in Europe—its pastures are luxuriant—its rivers and estuaries teeming with fish, and yet, its population, if not a mystery, is at least a reproach and a shame. We grant that she has been misgoverned, but in a way negative to the representations of her sordid and blustering and profligate demagogues—misgoverned, not by oppression but by over indulgence. The property of the Island has been protected, and its owners pampered, at the expense of the common people. The law for the distribution of the land, and its management, and its absorbing profits, have been made exclusively for the rich.—The parliaments of Ireland were in a hideous curse; they originated that complicated system which presses upon its breast like the blood-sucker. They were happily abolished; every Irishman with a grain of sense in his head must be thankful for this; but it will take years of reform, if not a sweeping revolution, to remedy the evil.

On the other hand, it must be admitted that Ireland pays an unpardonable disproportionate share of the public burdens imposed upon the other parts of the United Kingdom. For instance, since the time of Elizabeth, the land in England has been taxed to maintain the poor—not merely the sick, old and infirm pauper, but the healthy and the strong, the imprudent one, and the vicious, the unfortunate one and the depraved, if unable to obtain work or adequate wages. The consequences have been, that no person can possibly starve in England, who chooses to demand relief. In fact, it is the natural effect of our political jurisprudence that the land owner should prefer, on the score of interest, and even selfishness, giving employment of some kind to the labourer, to that of supporting him, as he must do in idleness.

This to a great extent accounts for the superiority of Englishmen, for the better training, the better treatment, the high tone of independence, and the prosperity of our countrymen of the working and laboring classes. Why Ireland has not been similarly governed we shall not stop to inquire. It is enough to know that she never had a race of yeomen, never an order of intelligent and independent farmers, never a community of honest, virtuous or otherwise than poverty stricken labourers and other rustics. She has never been in any correct sense a nation. She never had a king to love or a priest to reverence, without some faction to dispute the title of the one, or objurgate the faculties of the other. She has for two or three hundred years been ruled arbitrarily, but not in the paternal affection of absolutism. She has been restrained, but not with a design to improve her condition or benefit her morals. She has been punished, not reclaimed; courted, not gained; reproved not chastened; indulged, not improved; flinging, in a spirit of disdain, every mark of affection overboard, like a spoiled child which has no sense to appreciate a favour, or of too malevolent a disposition to comprehend acts of kindness in their relation to the duties of obedience and gratitude.

We should, however, remember that, between the Celtic and Saxon races, there is an intuitive disaffinity. It is the fault of the former that they act as if they felt that they are of an inferior species. Whether there be any real foundation for this unfortunate prejudice we are not competent to decide. But true it is that such feelings prevail, and while divisions on this score continue (the extreme position of Ireland in the western world being favourable to them), the fires of feud and discord will be unextinguishable. [With this causation, real or imaginary, we do not mean to deal. We have ample reasons for believing that many other sources of discontent exist, and, among the rest, one of great importance, namely, the perpetual dependence of Ireland upon English charity, which is appealed to as a matter of right, on all occasions, irrespective of the justice of the claim.

'Justice to Ireland,' according to the factions and, in some extent, popular phrase, is a catch word used by knaves to exasperate fools and delude and plunder the ignorant. In a restrictive sense, 'justice' never has been done to Ireland. Her landowners have never been taxed to support the poor as has been done in England since the time of Elizabeth. We do not object to loans under the sanction of the Imperial Parliament for the benefit of the peasantry of Ireland; but we object to all loans, and grants, and subsidies, and donations which are not made chargeable upon the soil of Ireland for the Irish people. We protest against this abominable system of nonintermittent alms, and of compelling the people of England to furnish supplies to a nation of labourers, while resources are ample enough among themselves. We reprobate the idea of taking a single penny from Ireland. But we contend that the profits of the lands of Ireland are sufficient in themselves, if properly taxed, not to maintain its paupers in idleness, but to support them and improve their moral condition by furnishing them with employment, and making their industry contributory to their means of subsistence.—Grants of public money are generally, if not invariably, abuses of public money; and of all countries in the world, Ireland is the most notorious for jobbing, peculation, and misappropriation of funds.—What the government gives rarely brings any return even of gratitude. When a labourer on a road or railway knows that the supplies came from the state and emanate from state necessity, he works slovenly, reluctantly, and eats not his bread thankfully. Government agents in such cases are never looked upon as interested employers. They are conventionally treated more as servants than masters, and are cheated with fewer pangs of conscience.

It is, therefore more desirable that this policy towards Ireland should be wholly changed, not only by the discontinuance of grants of public money, but by adopting some compulsory rule, by which the Irish landowners, whether resident or nonresident shall provide employment, and subsistence for the destitute labourers. Now the only way in which this can be done, is to enact a law of settlement, under the provisions of which, a portion of the profits arising from land and other property, should be made available to the maintenance of the poor. We do not mean to recommend such a poor law as that which *at present*, oppresses, degrades and starves the paupers of England. That a modern enactment, a political speculation of empirical economists, which was satanic in its conception, and infamous in its operation; and which we hope before many months pass by, will be expunged from the statute book, and exist only in the musty pages of the criminal annals of the country. The old poor law of England, with all its imperfections and abuses was the best. The principle was right, the management was in the proper hand the local authorities of each parish governing the poor. All that was needed was an improved system of revision.—The union scheme has not only failed, but it has disgusted the whole nation, sickened every generous heart, exposed the old and infirm to cruel privations, led to murder, and encouraged suicide and infanticide.

As England is once more in a state of reaction, and as this abominable law is inevitably doomed, an excellent opportunity is afforded of giving to Ireland the benefit of our experience and practical knowledge. Great of course will be the outcry in Ireland on the part of the landowners and gentry.—The Roman Catholic priests also, for reasons we need not name will join in the howl and wail.—Most probably the beggars themselves will oppose the measure; for it is the nature of confirmed mendicancy to detest labour; but let not this prevent the parliament of the United Kingdom from doing *justice to Ireland*, by taxing property for the extinction of pauperism.

To accomplish this, an enlarged, expansive and comprehensive measure must be enacted, by which the revenue laws of the three countries, England, Ireland, and Scotland, will be reduced to uniformity and equalization. There is no excuse whatever in wise policy or in necessity, for taxing an English workman more than an Irish one. Why should the people of England be called upon to pay seven pence in the pound upon their incomes, and an onerous and vexatious tax upon their windows when the people of Ireland are totally exempted from both? Why should a clerk in an office here, having a salary of only £150 a year, be fleeced of a portion of his hard earnings and his family of a portion of their bread, while an Irish gentleman, in the receipt of thousands annually who keeps beagles, hounds, rides revels, encourages extravagance and profligacy by his example, pays not a single penny? These are the anomalies which distract men's minds in this country, and foster pauperism and discontent on the other side of the channel.

It is on these grounds that we protest against all grants of public money to Ireland, and even to loans unless they can be secured on undoubted property, not upon the contingencies of future success, but upon present and certain security. We see clearly enough that the financial affairs of the country are already in confusion and increasing embarrassment; and we warn Lord John Russell to beware how he meddles with that sort of dangerous money called Exchequer Bills. There are already too many of them in circulation, as their price indicates. The premium upon them has gradually declined during the last six or seven months, and yet the noble lord proposes to increase their issue in order to raise *real* money to provide employment in Ireland. This is a perilous game. How are these bills to be met if they should fall a single sixpence below par, no improbable event, and in which case he might have ten millions of them thrust into the treasury in the course of a fortnight? Surely he would not think of raising the interest on them! This would be a grave experiment.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

On the 28th ult. Parliament was prorogued by commission.

The Lord Chancellor in a clear voice read the following speech from her Majesty:—

'*My Lords and Gentlemen.*

'We are commanded by her Majesty to express to you the warm acknowledgement of her Majesty for the public spirit you have evinced in the discharge of your laborious duties during an anxious and protracted session.

'Her Majesty trusts that you will be rewarded by witnessing the beneficial results of the measures which have been sanctioned by her Majesty for the present relaxation and ultimate repeal of protective duties on corn and sugar.

'Her Majesty entertains a confident hope that the more free admission of the produce of foreign countries into the home market will increase the comforts and better the condition of the great body of the people.

'Her Majesty feels the greatest satisfaction in reflecting that her Majesty's efforts to settle, in a manner consistent with national honour, the conflicting claims of Great Britain and the United States, with respect to the territory on the North West coast of America, have been completely successful.

'Her Majesty continues to receive from all Foreign Powers the strongest assurance of their desire to cultivate friendly relations with this country.

'Her Majesty commands us to congratulate you on the victorious course and happy conclusion of the war in India, and her Majesty has much gratification in announcing to you that perfect tranquility prevails throughout the whole of the British possessions in that quarter of the world.

'*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

'Her Majesty has observed with satisfaction the care you have taken to prevent permanent loss to the revenue and to maintain the public faith.

'Her Majesty has commanded us to acknowledge the zeal and unanimity with which you assented to the increase in the naval and military estimates which a regard to the exigencies of the public services indeed her Majesty to propose for your consideration.

'*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

'Her Majesty has to lament that a recurrence of a failure in the potato crop, in an aggravated degree will cause a serious deficiency in the quantity of a material article of food.

'Her Majesty has given her cordial assent to measures by which this calamity may be mitigated in that part of the United Kingdom where the cultivation of the potato has hitherto afforded the chief supply for the subsistance of the people.

'Her Majesty has been pleased to hope that a considerable diminution of crime and outrage has taken place in those counties of Ireland which had been most disturbed.

'Her Majesty is confident that on your return to your several counties, you will find a spirit of loyalty generally prevalent. The extension of works of improvement has increased the demand for labour, and the tranquility of the country has favoured the pursuits of industry in all its branches.

'Her Majesty trusts that by a combination of prudence with enterprise, and a willing obedience to law, with a desire for social progress, her people will, through the Divine blessing, enjoy the full advantages of peace.'

The noble and learned lord then, in her Majesty's name, and by her Majesty's command, declared the Parliament prorogued to Wednesday, the 4th of November.

Viscount Falkland had an audience of the Queen on Thursday last, at Osborne House, on his return from his Government of Nova Scotia. The noble Viscount also had the honour to kiss hands on being appointed Captain of the Yeoman Guard, and received from her Majesty his gold stick of office.

The steamship Hibernia, arrived at Liverpool on the 28th ult. after an excellent passage of 11½ days.

The 'Great Western' Steamship, from New York, commanded by Captain Matthews, arrived at Liverpool Sept. 3d, after a remarkably pleasant passage of 14 days.

The British Navy.—The present lords of the Admiralty have issued new regulations for the retirement of officers of the navy, and extended the time to October 1st. Officers not in Europe, who may be desirous of accepting the retirement, will not be excluded in consequence of their letters not reaching the Admiralty before the 1st of October next, as a reasonable time will be allowed for such applications.

Important Colonial Appointment.—The system upon which the present government is acting in its colonial appointments is eminently satisfactory.—Instead of being given to the partisans of the minister, they have in every recent instance been made rewards of efficient public service, and in this respect partake rather the character of promotions than appointments. Thus, Lord Elgin, after acting with much ability as Governor of Jamaica, has been appointed to the more important post of Governor General of Canada; Sir C. E. Grey, late Governor of Barbadoes, will succeed Lord Elgin in Jamaica; while Lieutenant Governor Colonel Reid, from Bermuda, will replace Sir C. E. Grey, and he himself be succeeded at Bermuda by Captain Elliott. The only fresh appointment is, therefore, to the least important post, and the principle is established that a colonial governor, by an able and diligent discharge of his duty, may rise through regular gradations to the highest honours and emoluments of the department.

The Cobden Testimonial.—The subscription for this object has now reached the enormous sum of £70,000. Contributed by Manchester, £25,000; London, £12,000; Liverpool, £9,000; Birmingham, £2,000; Leeds, £1,000; Bristol, £1,000. From an analysis of the subscription it appeared there were four of £1,000 each, one £800, one £750, eleven £500, six £100, eight £300, seventeen £250, one £240, twenty six £200, one £180, nine £150, one £125, four £105, seventy seven £100, and a great number of smaller sums. The sums under £5 amounted to £112 12s 3d.

There has been a considerable falling off in the import of Canadian Timber this year as compared with the corresponding period last year. The deficiency amounts to nearly 20,000 tons, all from Quebec. The recent cargoes have met with an advance, and, as the demand at the present moment is good, stocks are being reduced and the prospects of the trade are favourable. A number of timber vessels continue to arrive from the Baltic, principally laden with railway sleepers.

Freights at Liverpool.—Shipping continues to arrive freely, so that though the quantity of weight going forward has increased, there is little improvement to notice, and several vessels have cleared in ballast—many others buying salt and coal on owners' account; a partial advance has however, been obtained in some cases. We quote, for New York, dead weight, 7s to 8s; earthenware, 5s; fine goods, 12s 6d to 15s; hardware, 10s to 12s 6d per ton. Philadelphia—dead weight, 8s; earthenware, 6s; fine goods, 20s; hardware, 20s. Boston—dead weight, 10s to 11s; earthenware, 4s 6d; fine goods, 15s to 20s; hardware, 12s 6d to 15s. New Orleans—dead weight, (except salt, which is quite nominal,) 7s; earthenware, 5s; fine goods, 20s; hardware, 10s. Mobile, earthenware, 10; hardware, 25s. Charleston—salt and coals, 5s per ton offered; earthenware, 6s to 7s per ton; fine goods 22s.—[Focke & Boult, Ship Brokers.

Intelligence has been recieved from Tiflis of the 20th June, of the complete success of Scamyl's expedition for the destruction of the Russian establishment in the Caucasus. At the head of 20,000 men he rushed from his mountain fastnesses upon the Cossack settlements in the Kaburdins, took sixteen or twenty of them, and seized all the property and the inhabitants they contained. The booty found was immense, and in order to secure it, Schamyl put the greater part of his prisoners to death in order not to be impeded in his fight to the mountains with plunder.

The Potato Disease.—The disease affecting potatoes would appear to be in the soil rather than in the root itself, and it continues to spread in every part of the country. Scarcely a field has escaped in South Lancashire or Cheshire. Its ravages are much more general and fatal than they were last year. Then it principally prevailed in wet and heavy soils, whilst this year it exists in soil of every kind; then goodness of cultivation appeared to check it, whilst now the best cultivated crops are the first to be seized with the malady. Some of the worst specimens of the disease are found in perfectly dry soils, where the potato has never been grown before, and where the greatest care has been taken in selecting healthy seed. Hopes were entertained by many parties that new varieties of the potato might be raised from foreign seed, which would be free from this disease; but we learn from Mr. Skirving, that of twenty-five foreign varieties grown by him, in his nursery grounds at Walton, not one has escaped. The sorts tried by Mr. Skirving were brought from every part of Europe and America, and after so entire a failure, in the hands of so skilful a cultivator as he is universally allowed to be we fear that the prospect of renewing the crop from foreign seed is very slight. In this neighbourhood, and in other parts of Lancashire and Cheshire some farmers speak of giving up the cultivation of the potato, except on a small scale, and turning their attention to milk and hay. In most instances they will be compelled to do so for the want of seed, for none of the potatoes are likely to riven properly this year, and it is therfore very improbable that they will until spring. A correspondent in Denbighshire thus writes to the *Chester Courant*:—"When I see so many absurd accounts respecting the failure of this year's crop of the finest vegetables in the world, may I be allowed to say a few words. The heat at one time this summer was more oppressive than scarcely ever was known; the land was as hot as if it had been in an oven; and when the rain fell upon the land in that hot state, the potatoes were half boiled. This is the sole cause of decay; there is no more disease in them than in the inside of a cork; and there is no doubt that what potatoes are preserved for planting next year, should we be blessed with a favourable season, will flourish as well as ever they have done."—*Liverpool paper.*

Cocoa Nuts, Varnish, Chairs, &c.

By the *Prosperity*, from Boston, and for sale:—

1000 COCOA NUTS; 10 bbls. Bright VARNISH;
10 brls. BEANS; 120 Dozen TUMBLERS;
110 Bundles of CHAIRS; 6 Nests TUBS;
2 Feather Beds; 24 boxes bottled INK.

JOHN KINNEAR.

September 18. *Prince Wm street*

Pine and Spruce Scantling WANTED.

THE Subscriber wishes to contract for Two thousand tons of Pine and Two thousand tons of Spruce.

SCANTLING,

from fourteen to fifteen inches square, in lengths of twenty feet and upwards, to be delivered in the autumn or next spring. Parties wishing to contract for the whole or part of the above can obtain further particulars on application to

THOMAS CORAM.

Aug. 7. or J. C. LITTLEHALE, Carleton.

Office to Let.

PLEASANTLY situated in Perkins' new building, large enough to be divided into two if required. Apply to JOHN KINNEAR.

—*Also, for Sale*—

A Share in the St. John Society Library. Sept 4.

J. HUTCHINSON, Dentist,

BEGS leave to inform his friends and the public in general, that he has recently returned from the United States, where he has had an opportunity, of gaining every information in the line of his Profession; and is now prepared to furnish Teeth on the most approved plan, at his Office in Mr. P Reed's premises, head of King street. Aug. 21

GAS FITTINGS, &c.

JUST received per ship *Chester*—A large and choice selection of GAS FURNISHINGS, consisting of Lamps, Pillars, Pendants and Brackets with Glasses to suit, which will be sold as low as any in the market. T. R. GORDON.

August 28.

THE person who took a Partridge Wood Cane from the Commercial Hotel on Monday evening last, is requested to return it. Sept. 18.

☞ Banks, Handbills, and Job Printing of all kinds, executed at the Chronicle Office at lowest prices.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, SEPT. 25, 1846.

The Royal Mail steam ship *Cambria*, arrived at Halifax on Wednesday morning last, in 11½ days from Liverpool, bringing 127 passengers. The mail reached this city on Friday afternoon last.

The news is not of great importance. Parliament was prorogued on the 28th August. The recent advanced prices were still maintained in the Timber markets.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

Monday the fifth of October next, will be an eventful day, for the City and County of Saint John. The inhabitants of the City and County have been officially informed by the high Sheriff, that on the above named day, a Court will be opened at 10 o'clock, a.m. for the purpose of enabling the assembled freeholders of the County of St. John, and the freemen and freeholders of the City, to nominate fit and proper persons to represent them in the General Assembly. At this time, we are informed that the Sheriff will require *all* the Candidates to make the declaration of their respective qualifications, as the law requires. If this declaration is not filed with the Sheriff within six hours, from the time it is demanded, the name of the candidate refusing it, is struck off the Poll Book. Should a Poll be demanded, as it is more than probable will be the case, *for the County*, the election will be held at eleven different places on Friday the ninth ultimo. The Poll at each place opening at 8 o'clock a.m., and closing at 4 p.m. that day. For the City, the Poll is held between the same hours, in the six different Wards on the following day. The law requires that every elector should Poll in the Ward, Parish, or District in which he resides, under a penalty of £5 for voting elsewhere, and the *possible* consequence of his vote being struck out in case of scrutiny. The following is a list of the Polling places for the City, "in the City of St. John," &c.

In the City of Saint John:—District No. 1—*King's Ward.*—At the Sheriff's office.

In *Queen's Ward*—At the Court House in the said Ward.

In *Duke's Ward*—At William Jacob's Dwelling House in Duke Street, in the said Ward.

In *Sydney Ward*—At Thomas M'Avity's new building, at the corner of Charlotte and Britain streets, in the said Ward.

District No. 2—At the Market House in Carleton.

For the Parish of Portland—At the National School House in the said Parish.

For the Parish of Lancaster—At Mrs. Tilton's at Musquash.

For the Parish of St. Martins—At the School House adjoining the Baptist Meeting House, Middle District.

For the Parish of Simonds—District No. 1, at Chas. Wade's at Loch Lomond.

District No. 3—*Black River*—at the School House on Robert Power's Farm.

District No 3—*Red Head*—at Philip Furlong's.

At the close of each Poll, every Poll Clerk seals up the Poll Book, and hands it to the returning officer, who forthwith delivers the same to the Sheriff.

On Monday the 12th day of October, the Sheriff holds another Court, at which time the seals of the 17 different Poll Books are broken open, the columns are added up, and the result of the election is then generally proclaimed.

We sincerely hope that competent men may be selected at the ensuing contest. Men who will faithfully uphold the important interests committed to their charge and who will freely dismiss all narrow minded, *hypocritical* and bigoted prejudices from their minds, and not permit such propensities to interfere with the *substantial* claims of a young, but thriving country. The following is a list of the polling places for the City:

King's Ward.—At the Sheriff's office.

Queen's Ward.—At the Court House in the said Ward.

Duke's Ward.—At Wm. Jacob's Dwelling House in Duke Street, in the said Ward.

Sydney Ward.—At Thomas M'Avity's new building at the corner of Charlotte and Britain streets, in the said Ward.

Guy's Ward.—At the Market House in the said Ward.

Brook's Ward.—At the School House near Alderman Bond's, at Sand Point.

The Crops.—We have much pleasure in stating on the best authority that the Crops of all descriptions throughout the Sea Shore are abundant, and that the Potato Rot which it is said is so extensive and destructive in the interior of the Province, has scarcely been felt in the Rural districts along shore. It is rather a matter of surprise to us, as it will be to our readers generally, to learn that the Wheat Crop which has suffered so much in the sunny vales of the St. John and Kennebecasis, are wholly untouched with either rust or smut on the sea board. It is truly astonishing how far and how firmly rooted prejudice becomes as it grows older, and how difficult it is to remove it when once fully established.—It is only within the last six or seven years that the experiment of growing wheat has been tried in the vicinity of Musquash, while such has been the happy results of the attempt, that while it has not only been free from all disease, it has successfully rivaled the best samples brought into this Province from the United States, and it is now the decided opinion of good judges, that the districts *infested with Fog*, and so much decried as unsuited for Agricultural purposes, will at no distant period become the Granary of the Province. We can speak from experience on visiting a farm in that vicinity, on which we found Potatoes abundant and of the very first quality; and Wheat and Oats thick on the ground, standing generally six feet high, and all in good condition. Indeed so fully established are the capabilities of this Province, for Agricultural pursuits, that if fostered by the hands of the Legislature, we shall in a few short years be independant of our neighbours for every species of food.

On Sunday last, 20th inst., the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, held an Ordination in Christ's Church, Fredericton, when the Revd. Richard Simonds, A. M., of King's College, Windsor, was admitted to the holy office of Deacon, and the Revd. Noah Disbrow, and Revd. W. L. Ketchum, both of King's College, Fredericton, were admitted to the holy order of Priesthood.

The Bishop was assisted by the Venerable the Archdeacon Coster, and the Rev. E. J. Roberts, of Kingsclear. His Lordship preached a most interesting and appropriate Sermon from Luke 5, v's. 27 to 32, to a large and attentive congregation.

NIBLO'S GARDEN BUILDINGS DESTROYED BY FIRE.

On Friday morning last the establishment in New York known as Niblo's Garden was consumed by fire. The Journal of Commerce says before the fire was subdued it destroyed all the buildings south of the Racket Club House to Prince street, and from Broadway to Crosby street, including the Theatre, the Saloon, two three story brick houses on Broadway, one occupied by Mr. Niblo, and the other as a drug store by J. T. Smith, and the med store of Billstand & Son. The two brick houses on Broadway belonged to the heirs of the late Stephen Van Koneweler; the rest of the buildings to Mr. Niblo.

Among others who will suffer inconvenience in consequence of the fire is the American Institute, who were about to hold in the Saloon their annual Fair.

The entire loss of property is estimated at $40,000 to $50,000. Insurance about $25,000, of which $4000 was on the Theatre.

The evening Mirror says,—

"The Saloon lost all their property in the theatre consisting of dresses, &c. amounting to about 5000 dollars. No insurance. The loss of Billstand and Sons is 4000 dollars—partly insured.

The Woodstock Telegraph says Colonel Simpson, formerly a member of the Canadian Legislature, and Commissioner from that Province to superintend the interests of Canada in the exploration of the contemplated Rail Road between Halifax and Quebec, has been here a few days collecting information on the subject.

Murderous Concurrence.—Two men—one named Vanborne, who kept the Fish Market, at Eastport; and the other, David Morgan, who resided in Campobello—both of the former place, on a fishing voyage, on Monday the 14th inst., in a small decked boat of about 4 tons for Grand Manan.—On the following day, Tuesday, a boat was discovered drifting past the Northern end of that Island when three of the inhabitants went off and found a body suspended by a rope beating against the outside of the craft while in the small cabin there lay a person sound asleep and to all appearance, dead drunk. The body of the dead man has since been recognised as that of Morgan; but how it came to be placed in the awful situation no information could be elicited from Vanborne. The general belief is that both were intoxicated—that Morgan in that state fell overboard, and that Vanborne, being unable to assist him, threw him a rope, (which it is supposed the deceased himself must have made fast round his waist) and afterwards returned to the Cabin, where he must have gone to drinking again.—[Charlotte Gazette.

Prince Edwards Island, Sept. 11.

We are informed that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor received a Despatch by the last Mail, from the new Colonial Secretary, Earl Grey directing him to reinstate the Hon. Joseph Pope, in his seat in the Executive Council. It will be recollected by many of our readers that Mr. Pope was suspended from his seat in the Council in April last, by Sir H. V. Huntley, for using language—in debate on the floor of the House—which His Excellency considered insulting to him as administrator of the Government of this Island. The whole of the facts connected with this affair have been duly laid before the Home Government; and the result has been as above stated.—*Islander.*

Potatoes.—We are happy to hear from different parts of the country that the Potato crop bids fair to turn out much better than it did last year. This we think may fairly be attributed to the prevalence of dry weather. Notwithstanding the stalks of the potato in almost every instance are quite dead, the potato is still growing in the ground; and should good weather now set in, we think we may safely infer that where the stalk is quite dead, and wholly destitute of a juicy substance, there is not that danger of the disease attacking the potato now, that there would have been, had the stalk continued green.

Melancholy Accident.—Drowned, at Tucker Lake Cape Breton, Sarah, daughter of Mr. David White aged 17 years. This unfortunate young woman had with three others, gone into the water for the purpose of bathing, when the deceased and younger sister got suddenly into deep water; an alarm was given, when her brother reached the spot, and with great exertions saved the youngest, but before he could again reach the other, she had sunk, and on getting her on shore, life was extinct.

Death at the Falls.—We have received a letter dated Goat Island, (Niagara Falls,) August 31, in which we are informed that a Mr. Stuart of New York lost his life on the morning of that day in a very unaccountable manner. It is said that he went with another gentleman into the "cave of the winds." His companion saw him climbing over a rock near the mouth of the cave; saw his foot slip, and a few moments afterwards perceived him lying on his back." After some time, as he remained in this position, the other gentleman became uneasy and went to a paper mill near for assistance. Two men came from the Mill and one of them went down to Mr. Stuart, whom he found dead. With some difficulty the body was got out, and our correspondent says he saw it; there were bruises on the head arm and shoulder; but the writer supposes that he was suffocated by a rush of wind from the cave.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

(From the New York Herald.)

Horrible Murder in New York.—The sixth ward police was called into requisition last evening, about 7 o'clock, to investigate a revolting and horrible case of murder, committed by a man by the name of Calvin Russ, upon his wife Eliza, by cutting her throat from ear to ear, with some sharp instrument, causing instant death. It appears from the circumstances, that this unfortunate young woman was boarding with Mrs. Buchanan, at 131, White Street, where she had been for the last three weeks, her husband being a chair painter by trade, and was in the employ of Mr. Howe, at Albany, who, wishing his wife to reside with him, he had sent her several letters requesting her to come up without delay, but omitting to forward any money to defray her expenses. On the second day of this month he wrote her another letter, expressing his surprise and dissatisfaction at her non-arrival, he having stated in this letter that he had forwarded $3 to pay her expenses. This letter, it seems, had never been received by his wife.

Russ, however, becoming uneasy at not receiving an answer, started for this city to ascertain the delay, and arrived in town yesterday morning about 6 o'clock, and proceeded at once to the room of his wife, at No. 131 White street, where they remained together during the day apparently on very friendly terms, and were to have returned to Albany by the evening boat, but from the fact of a dress not being finished, which the deceased was having made, therefore it was concluded by Russ to stay one day longer to obtain the dress. The inmates of the house observed Russ to be somewhat intoxicated in the course of the afternoon, and they were known to be together in the room between 6 and 7 o'clock, and about ten minutes before 7 o'clock a fall was heard in their room by a person who occupies the room underneath, who remarked at the time 'there! Calvin has knocked Eliza down,' and almost at the same moment, Russ was seen coming down stairs from the room, and hailed at Mrs. Buchanan as he passed the room door on the stairway.

In a few minutes afterwards, Mrs. Buchanan went up stairs to call Mrs. Russ to tea, and then beheld the awful sight of this poor creature weltering in her blood on the floor, where she had been thrown by the monster of a husband. Russ has escaped, and is supposed to have gone to Albany by the 7 o'clock boat, as he was last seen in White street going in that direction. He must be marked considerably with blood, and to enable his arrest more readily, we give a description of his person and dress. Russ is but a small sized man of about 5 feet 4 inches in height, brown hair and sandy whiskers, about thirty years of age, wore a straw hat, a light sack or hunting coat, light pantaloons, and satin vest.

His clothing must be spotted with the blood of his victim; also he has left the impression of his bloody fingers on the door of the room where he committed the bloody deed, and on passing down stairs, where he touched the sill of the window is stained with blood. The weapon used for this horrible deed has evidently been carried off by the murderer, for nothing was found in the room by which it could have been executed. The deceased was a very pretty, genteel young woman, of about 23 years of age, and no cause can be assigned for the murder except jealousy and liquor combined. The parties were married in Albany, a year ago the 23d