

England, &c. LONDON.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—On the 19th February in Committee on the Army Estimates...

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A late number of the Liverpool Times, in comparing the Session of the Imperial Parliament of 1829 and 1830, says:

The meeting of Parliament is always an event of some interest and importance. Whether that body forms the collective wisdom of the nation, or as the Radical Reformers and Ultra Tories contend, its collective folly, matters not in this respect: whatever people may think of its wisdom or its power, and as long as it possesses this power, its assembling will always be one of the most important events in the political year.

And yet, though this event is always so interesting and often so important, how different are the circumstances from which it is introduced and its termination. The opening of a country has always been decided, and on this contest the eyes of thousands are fixed, and in the result of it, perhaps millions are interested. Every thing said or done in this assembly, is known in the most remote corners of the United Kingdom, and every sentiment uttered, or act performed, excites sympathy, or calls forth the disapprobation of nations.

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Roza, Feb. 16.—The Rev. Dr. Reid, Cardinal elect has arrived here with his daughter in law (a daughter of Lord Clifford). The consecration of his eminence is fixed for the 18th March.

COLONIAL INTERCOURSE.

The treaties of 1814 and 1815 being obtained, the American lost no time in recommending their commercial facilities, which we met with the same spirit as from 1783 to 1807. First, in 1816, they made the third general revision of the tariff, reducing their duties upon manufactures and West India produce by from 30 to 100 per cent. above their former rates; the internal duties upon their own manufactures and distilled spirits, excepting those on rum, were reduced upon other foreign goods to 6s. 6d. and raised to 10s. 10d. upon such as should come from British colonial ports to which the United States were not admitted.

In 1820 they closed their ports against our vessels arriving from, or even touching at, any such colonial port; and further, they prohibited British ships, though entering their ports from the United Kingdom, from clearing out for any colonial port from which our ships were excluded, and were without example since colonies were placed, and most contrary to the treaty of 1815—in spirit at least, if not in the letter. By this they reduced the whole British tonnage to their ports from 17,474 (the average of the three years preceding) to 45,557 tons, the average of the three succeeding years.

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trade and navigation appears to have been no less than £1,194,832 annually, and this excluding the freights of the articles from the United Kingdom and Bermuda, and from the Foreign Islands. This, so freely thrown away on our part, the Americans made haste to gather up. In two years they got 100,000 tons of shipping into the direct trade with the British Islands, besides the 75,000 in the trade to the Northern Colonies, and their exports to the Islands and Colonies doubled from £511,900, the amount in 1821, to £1,057,305 in 1826, while their imports thence this year were only £292,632, and the British shipping employed in the whole intercourse was but 18,228 tons, the American amounting to 175,923.

With which state of things Ministers seemed to content in 1825 they offered to make it perpetual, and with great additional advantages to the Colonies. What these offers were, and why they failed, and what the consequences, shall next be discussed. Here, however, it may be remarked, that the Americans revived their tariff for the fourth time in 1824, increasing their duties upon our manufactures, and principally upon woollens, about 20 per cent; and in 1825 the fifth American Tariff again raised their duties upon wool from 50 to 80 per cent, and on rum about 30 above all former duties. The rate of duty on pig iron was 50 per cent, on sugar 14s. 6d. per cwt., and on West India produce, on sugar 14s. 6d. per cwt., and on molasses on salt 50 per cent, and on what is of most importance, on rum 3s. 8d. per gallon, more than cent per cent, being equal to a prohibition.

Our means of information are so limited, that we are unable to give but a very languid idea of the value to us of the West India trade (ill 1822, or of its loss after, by the suspension to the Americans. The amount of capital put without return, and of industry paralyzed, by a change so sudden and so great, and the effect upon private property and contracts, are things not easily calculated or estimated, though known to be great, and of which returns of imports and exports afford an imperfect conception. But there is in the nature of things a restraining power, which accommodates itself to circumstances, and bears up against and partly remedies most of the evils which, however, or in how far, it is not possible to include in the measure of 1825, if received in 1820. The admission of American ships into the West Indies would now be attended with far greater injury to our interests, for reasons we shall give.

Mr. O'Connell presented a petition, on Monday, from Drogheda, praying for a repeal of the Union, which Mr. Peel hinted, was probably got up at a convivial meeting, and intended as a hoax upon the Hon. Member, being subscribed with the ominous names of Paddy Bruy and Bill Powderly. There can exist but one opinion on the subject.—London, March 27.

The London University has lost all its popularity, and is considered as a complete failure. Its Professors are at war with one another, and several resignations have been given in.

From the Philadelphia American Sentinel. SIONS OF THE TIMES IN PHILADELPHIA. Shipping in demand, and large quantities of Flour, the staff of life, the staple of Pennsylvania, shipped abroad.

Market Street encumbered with goods sold to the West, and never a more busy and profitable intercourse with merchants from the western country and interior.

The Susquehanna Trade by the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, the Schuylkill trade, the Delaware and Lehigh trade by that navigation, all pouring in their riches of various kinds, especially coal, flour and lumber.

Great numbers of buildings erecting in the city, Southwark, Northern Liberties, and Kensington. Exchange, as explained by the late report of the Senate of the United States on the currency, in our favor with England and all the rest of the world; hard money plenty; labour, wages, and rents, at satisfactory prices.

Domestic Manufactures in request at improved prices, increasing in quantity, improving in quality—taking firm root.

From the Albany Evening Journal, April 20. How miraculously brief the distance between New York and Liverpool is becoming! Gor. Simpson and party, of the Hudson Bay Company, who breakfasted this morning at the Eagle, dined in London a fortnight before last Wednesday! It is, after all, but a span across the Atlantic. We shall soon expect to hear of some "strong swimmer" accomplishing the passage. At any rate, if the race of aquatic Leanders and Byrons, who swam from Sicily to Abydos, are not extinct, the feat will be attempted.

By one of the late arrivals at New-York from England, a letter was received at Philadelphia, from St. Petersburg, in thirty-eight days from the time of its date.

From the Novascotian, May 5. PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—On the 4th of March, His Excellency Governor Reade opened the Session, with a most interesting and judicious address, in which he gave a glowing picture of the state of the Colony.

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in consequence of which he was subsequently expelled. On the 15th, the following Resolution, which it will be perceived is similar to that proposed by Mr. Stewart in our Assembly, was proposed by Mr. Cameron, and carried:—That this House direct the Clerk to enquire for, for the future, to effect an interchange of Laws and Journals with Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Canadas.

The following day, Mr. Cameron, by His Excellency's command, laid before the House a study communication upon the subject of a Light House on St. Paul's Island, and a Resolution was subsequently passed giving £150 towards its erection. On the 18th the following Resolution was adopted:—Resolved, That an humble address be presented to His Majesty, upon the subject of the negotiation now pending between the British Government and that of the United States of America, relative to conceding to the Americans a direct intercourse with the West India Colonies.

On the 20th, Mr. Owen moved for the appointment of a Committee to bring to the heads of a Bill to establish a Bonded Warehouse in Charlotte-Town, for Goods liable to duty. A Brick Store, he thought, could be built for £500, capable of containing 600 casks, the expense of which would be saved in four years, in Warehouse rent, and in the check given, in smuggling, which the appointment of a Gauger would produce—besides avoiding the risk of loss, by casual failures in the payment of Bonds, under the present system, which he estimated at one per cent on the annual Revenue. After paying the Salary of the Gauger and Warehouseman, which offices might be combined in one person, and allowing Forty Pounds for the rent of a suitable Building, until one was erected, there would be a clear saving to the Revenue, by adopting the Bonded system, instead of the existing mode of giving credit on Bonds or Recognizances, according to a calculation which he had carefully made, and which he submitted to the House, of at least £150 per annum.

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On the 7th of April, the House addressed the Governor, expressing their opinion that illicit importation had, beyond a doubt, been carried on in a very considerable extent, and calling for the appointment of an additional number of preventive officers; and on the 19th and 20th £1500 was voted for the service of Roads and Bridges; £200 for the support of Schools, £130 for the encouragement of agriculture, &c. On the 21st, the House went into a Committee of Enquiry, relative to the Lawrence Steam Navigation Company, on condition that the Boat called Charlotte-Town, a member of the Company, should be presented to the House, turning its attention to the state of the Globe Islands, the following Address to His Majesty's Government, which, as it touches a subject which may one day or other call for investigation in our own Province; and as it gives some information regarding the state of the Colony, of which we are treating, we shall give it in full, in another number will endeavour to complete our notice of the Legislative proceedings of the Island.

By the terms and conditions of the original Grants from the Crown, one hundred acres of land in each Township in this Island are reserved for the support of a Minister of the Gospel; and although no particular denomination is specified or referred to, the Episcopal Church claims an exclusive right to the Lands so reserved, to the prejudice of every other denomination.

We should humbly beg leave to represent to your Majesty that when the British Government, in consequence of the settlement of this Colony, it appears to have been then contemplated to settle the Island with German Protestants. This measure, however, was eventually abandoned. Circumstances occurred which entirely changed the situation of the country. The original Proprietors or Grantees disposed of their possessions indiscriminately to persons of various descriptions, by the first British Emigrants who arrived consisted chiefly of Roman Catholics, from the Highlands, and Presbyterians, from other parts of Scotland. At the close of the Revolutionary War in America, numbers of Loyalists, expelled their native country for their attachment to the cause of their legitimate Sovereign, were encouraged, by various inducements held out by the Government, to settle in this Colony. The families and descendants of these persons form a considerable portion of the present population. There are also several large Settlements of Acadian French, the descendants of those who remained on the Island at the time of the conquest. Since the passing of the Catholic Relief Bill, are now placed on the same footing, with respect to civil and political privileges, with your Majesty's Protestant subjects.

The adherents to the Church of England comprise a very small proportion of the population, and have only two small Churches in the whole Colony, to one of which the Members of the Church of Scotland possess a joint right. On the other hand, there are numerous places of worship scattered throughout the Island, erected and maintained for the accommodation of the various persuasions of Christians who are unconnected with the Established Church.

Though, we humbly presume, has been shown to make it obvious to your Majesty that, from the present state of Society in this Island, and the granting the Lands in question exclusively to any one particular denomination of Christians could not fail to be viewed as a very partial measure, and one which would inevitably produce a very general feeling of discontent throughout the Colony.

It must be equally evident, that any attempt at sub-division of the Lands among the various and discordant claimants, for the purpose for which they were originally reserved, would prove abortive and impracticable.

We therefore, humbly submit the expediency and propriety of appropriating those Reserves for the encouragement and support of Elementary Schools—object which the Legislature has much at heart, but which the Revenue of the Island, from its scanty supply, is inadequate to accomplish.

We beg leave to express our confident assurance that, were your Majesty graciously pleased to condescend to the wishes of your faithful subjects by permitting this measure to be carried into effect, it would be attended with the most salutary and beneficial consequences. The Members of the English Church are sensible of the utility of the measure, and eager for its adoption. It would be hailed, with unmingled satisfaction by all classes, as all would participate in its advantages.

May it therefore please your Majesty to take this subject into your gracious consideration, and make such order thereon as to your Majesty may seem meet and proper.

HALIFAX, MAR 5.—THE CANAL.—We have great pleasure in stating that Letters have been received, via the Halifax, from Charles R. Fairbanks and John Dunbridge, Esquires, communicating the agreeable intelligence, that the whole amount of private subscriptions (£27,000 in addition to the £20,000 given by the British Government) necessary to complete the St. Lawrence Canal, has been obtained.

The season is singularly promising—for a month past we have had an almost uninterrupted spell of fine weather, some days being extremely warm. Many of the fields are quite green, and in some the grass has started up with a freshness and vigour that is unusual at this early period. Our peninsular agriculturists are in active employment, and every thing promises rich reward for their labours. Letters from the interior assure us that other parts of the Province are quite as highly favored; and as the hay crop was so short last year, it is gratifying to learn that the forwardness of the season will be the means of saving a great many head of cattle, that would otherwise have died, or even prematurely slaughtered, in consequence of the scarcity of fodder.—Nassau.

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