DOVER, Nov. 3 ¹.—*Presentation of a Gold Cup to the 50th Regiment.*—Yesterday Lord Hardinge dined with the 50th Regiment (Queen's Own), at the mess-room, Dover Castle, when his Lordship presented a massive gold cup to the officers, the gift of his Royal Highness Prince Waldemar of Prussia. The mess-room was tastily decorated with the colours of the regiment, several flags taken by them from the Sikhs, arms, accoutrements, &c. There were present about 50 gentlemen, comprising the officers of the 50th, and a few distinguished visitors. Col. Petit acted as chairman. He was supported on his right by the guest of the evening, Lord Hardinge, and on his left by E. R. Rice, Esq., M. P. for Dover. The band of the Regiment occupied the gallery, and during the dinner played favourite airs. On the Cloth being removed, the usual loyal toasts were given from the chair, and warmly responded to.—S. M. Latham, Esq., Prussian Vice Consul at Dover, then handed the cup to Lord Hardinge, on which Lord Hardinge rose and said he had the pleasing task to perform of presenting the cup to the officers of the gallant regiment, at the request of his Royal Highness Prince Waldemar of Prussia. They were all aware his Royal Highness not only wished well to the officers of the 50th—he had acted with them in the late brilliant operations on the Sutlej, where the Prussian Legion greatly distinguished themselves. He enlogised the Prince, as a worthy descendant of Frederick the Great. His lordship then read a letter he had received from the Prince, requesting him (Lord Hardinge) to present the cup, and concluded by reading the inscription it bore, as follows:—"As a token of remembrance of the happy days spent among the officers of the 50th Regiment, at Loodianah, and the following glorious campaign on the banks of the Sutlej, this Goblet is presented by his Royal Highness Prince Waldemar of Prussia." His lordship having placed the cup in the hands of Col. Petit, begged to propose that it be filled with generous wine, and that they all drink from it the health of Prince Waldemar of Prussia. This being complied with, the Prince's health was drank with all the honours.—Mr. Latham, acknowledged the toast in behalf of the Prince, regretting the absence, from indisposition, of the Prussian Consul-General.—Colonel Petit returned thanks, and concluded by giving "the health of Lord Hardinge." Drunk with deep enthusiasm, the band playing "See the Conquering hero comes." Lord Hardinge returned thanks. At half-past 10 o'clock, Lord Hardinge retired amid deafening cheers.

MANKIND IN THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY.—They had neither looked into heaven, nor earth, neither into the sea nor land, as has been done since. They had philosophy without scale, astronomy without demonstration.—They made war without powder, shot, cannon or mortars; nay, the mob made their bonfires without squibs or crackers. They went to sea without compass and sailed without the needle. They viewed the stars with no telescopes, and measured altitudes without barometers. Learning had no printing press, writing no paper, and paper no ink. The lover was forced to send his mistress a deal board for a love letter. a billet doux might be of the size of any ordinary trencher. They were clothed without manufactures, and their richest robes were the skins of the most formidable monsters.

THE PENITENTIARY.—Messrs. Brown and Bristow returned yesterday. We learn that during their absence they visited some fourteen of the penal establishments in the United States, gaining information regarding the system of each, which will no doubt render the Report of the Commissioners of much value. Whatever difference of opinion may exist relative to the comparative value of the different Penitentiary systems of the Union, in reforming the Convict, only one opinion exists we believe as to the Working department; namely, that all, if properly managed, pay, or nearly pay their own expenses; some even exceeding the amount of their expenditure. This will no doubt form a prominent feature of the Commissioners' Report.—*Kingston Argus.*

TROUBLE IN YALE COLLEGE.—We learn from the Northampton Courier, that the faculty of Yale College have punished several of the actors in the annual ceremony of "burying Euclid." The faculty were determined to break up the custom, and threatened this year to take severe measures with any who might engage in its repetition. Hence the student who delivered the sermon, and the one who read the poem, with one or two others, were expelled. Others were rusticated or otherwise punished. Nearly all the students were spectators, but only the actors were punished. A tutor who went among them as a spy was roughly treated. The students kicked him, knocked off his hat, and snow-balled him, until he was obliged to flee for his life.—*Boston paper.*

WAR IN OHIO!

Ohio presents at this moment a beautiful exemplification of party government. The two parties being about equally strong in the Legislature and the State, threaten to come to blows and decide the question of ascendancy by brute force. "A telegraphic despatch," says the official organ at Washington, "was received from Columbus yesterday morning. It states that two organizations of the House had been effected. The democratic organization consists of 42 members, and the whig house of 30. (The number of the House, under the constitution, is 72.) The democrats have control of the legislative hall, and are now in session.

"This is an anomalous condition of things. There are three legislative bodies in session at once in Columbus—one, the Senate, consisting of 17 democrats and 16 whigs, and 1 free-soiler; and two Houses—one democratic, of 42 members; and the other whig, of 30 only."

LATER FROM COLUMBUS.—Intelligence up to the 12th inst. has been received. Matters appeared to be coming to a crisis. Several unsuccessful attempts had been made in the House of Representatives to bring about a compromise. There were two distinct organizations, whig and democrat, but neither had the necessary number to proceed to business, the quorum being 48. The whigs occupied one side of the house, the democrats the other. The former adjourned from time to time; the latter remained in session night and day, sleeping in their seats.

In the Senate, on the 12th, Mr. Archibald, a democratic senator, brought in a preamble and the two following resolutions, which were ordered to be printed:

"Resolved—that the senators voting for this preamble and accompanying resolutions will by all open means, *peaceably or forcibly*, oppose the collection of taxes during the disorganisation of the General Asembly, and for the fulfilment of this resolution they pledge their lives, fortunes and sacred honors.

"Resolved—that county treasurers are hereby advised and invited by the senators so voting, to withhold all revenue for the present, until the organization of the Assembly, or until ulterior measures by the true friends of the country."

On the whig side it was contended that the object of the preamble and resolutions was to overthrow all law, and to bring about a state of things little inferior to the anarchy and terror of the worst days of the French revolution.

Mr. Whitman, a democrat, said that he and his associates desired to wait until sufficient time should have elapsed for the organization of the legislature, failing in which, *the people would come to Columbus and organize a provisional government.* [Quebec Gazette.

GEN. TAYLOR'S ESTIMATE OF WAR.—It is matter of gratification to find the following paragraph in a recent speech of General Taylor, the President elect of the United States. As the testimony of a military man, observant of the actualities of war, it deserves being noted:

"I cannot avoid the opportunity of expressing my deep conviction of the evils of war, of which, here as elsewhere, my mind receives daily and mournful proof. Throughout my service, I assure you, the proudest moments of my victory have been darkened and rendered sorrowful by the reflection of the painful occurrences which it produces; of the wives made widows, of parents made childless, of friends bereft of those bound to them by the dearest ties. For the awful results of war are not confined to the bloody scenes of the battle field; but disease, slow, consuming disease, more than any instruments of war, scatters death among those engaged in the trying fatigues and exposures of military duty. Of those who have died in active service in Mexico, the proportion of those cut down by disease to those who fell on the battle-field, is about five to one. For these reasons, as a constant witness of all the stern and painful realities of war, I assure you that there is no one who rejoices more in the conclusion of the war with Mexico, now happily terminated, than I do."

WALKING THE WATER.—*Excursion Extraordinary.*—Ferry boats and bridges are likely to become articles of unnecessary expense. A celebrated india rubber firm of the city of New-York have recently "fixed up" a contrivance which will enable a man to fling himself into the river with perfect impunity, and float there, too, as pleasantly as he likes, and as long as he chooses, only using his digits for propulsion whithersoever he lists. The thing was practically tested on Monday last about noon, when a young gentleman named Lowell, leaping from a steamboat at the South Ferry, went out with the current and returned with the flood tide to Castle Garden, about five o'clock, having been about four hours in the water. He came out perfectly dry and warm, to the astonishment and satisfaction of a number of gentlemen who witnessed the commencement and close of the excursion. He regretted that he did not take along with him a newspaper or a book, to while away the time! We expect now to see the North River full of floating bipeds, furnished with those *rubbers*, going to and coming from Hoboken.—*N. York Express.*

THE GOLD FEVER. "The great topic of excitement in this city, says the New York *Albion*, of the 16th instant, is the Gold Region of California, the emigration thither that the accounts received have stimulated, and the general results upon the commercial and monetary affairs of the country likely to ensue from the unexpected influx of gold. The columns of the American papers are crowded with letters from California, all confirming the official report of Col. Mason. The majority hail the newly discovered treasure as a mighty boon. The samples sent home to the Government have been assayed at the Philadelphia mint, and pronounced the genuine article, giving an average of 894 parts out of a thousand, the mint standard for coin being 900. Seventy ships at least have sailed, or are preparing to sail from the Atlantic ports, freighted with passengers for this new El Dorado, that carries off all the roving spirits thrown upon their own resources by the termination of the Mexican war.

LIBEL CASE IN BERMUDA.—We notice by a supplement to the Bermuda Herald of the 8th inst., the result of an action for Libel brought against Mr. Robert Ward, the Editor of that journal, by the House of Assembly, for admitting into his paper a communication reflecting in no very measured terms on that body. The Editor of the Herald is the youngest son of Mr. E. Ward, formerly Editor and Proprietor of the Sentinel, published in this place; and BOB, when here, was a quiet and intelligent boy, whom we would not have supposed at all likely wantonly to wound the feelings of any one. We are therefore sorry he should have been betrayed into the imprudence which has brought him within the fangs of the law, but at the same time we cannot help thinking that unless the representative wisdom of the Bermudas can afford to stand before the public on their own merits, without being obliged to call in the strong arm of the law to protect them against a political squib, published by a young printer, the sooner their constituencies dispense with their services, the better for the country. It seems pretty evident, from the testimony, that the Assembly would have better consulted its own dignity and respectability, by letting the matter alone, but as they thought otherwise, we trust the Herald will out-live the assault made upon its existence, and aid in giving a tone to public opinion which would render such petty vindictiveness, on the part of the representatives of the public, a libel on the good sense of the country.—The sentence of His Honor the Chief Justice is a very elaborate document, adducing ample authority for the legal views which are enumerated, but its conclusion is the only portion which is of interest here. It is as follows:—

"The sentence of the Court then is, that you be imprisoned in the Gaol at Hamilton for twenty days—that you pay a fine to the Queen of £50—and the costs of prosecution—and at the expiration of the 20 days that you give security for your good behaviour for one year from that date—yourself in the sum of £100, and two securities, each in the sum of £50—and that you remain in prison until such fine and costs be paid and security be given. Such imprisonment not exceeding six calendar months."—*Fredericton Head Quarters.*

GIANT PROGRESS OF STEAM.—The beginning of the year 1849 will be distinguished in the history of this country as the period when a steam communication, by way of Egypt and India, was established between Great Britain and our vast colonies in Australasia. For some months past powerful and well-appointed steamers have been leaving Southampton Water, and wending their way to the Indian Ocean, prepared to convey, or to supply the place of those which may be appointed to convey, mails between Singapore and New South Wales. The gradual progress and extension of steam navigation in the east, from Egypt to India, and from India to China, almost prevents us from estimating the magnificent enterprise which is now about to be completed. In five weeks's time the government will have entered into contract, probably with one single steam navigation company, for the conveyance of mails eastward for upwards of 12,000 miles. Very shortly a letter posted in England will be delivered in two months afterwards at the antipodes. Two lines of steam navigation will be found branching off east and west from this country. The one to the east will, by means of a branch steamer from Sydney, extend from Southampton to New Zealand, and the other to the west, extending also from Southampton, through the Mexican Gulph, to the borders of the Pacific Ocean; and at no distant day perhaps an ocean pathway will be formed which will extend round the globe, and be only broken by the Isthmus of Suez and that of Panama.

State Pensions.—It is stated in the Reformer's Almanack, that the Duke of Grafton and his ancestors have had, since the time of Charles II., in pensions, £2,857,658 of the public money.

The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, JANUARY 2, 1849.

ENGLISH MAIL.—*Highly Important News from Europe!*—The letter portion of the English Mail of the 16th December, by the *Europa*, was received in this city about 10 o'clock on Sunday night, bringing intelligence of the deepest importance from the European Continent—the Election of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte to the Presidency of France—the Flight of the Pope from Rome—the Abdication of the Emperor of Austria in favour of his Nephew—Liberal Constitution in Prussia, &c. &c.

There had been an improvement in Trade in England, and prospects were brightening.

The European Times says—"As the winter advances and the year is fast drawing to a close, the feelings of apprehension which so generally prevailed some weeks ago of 'continued pressure, stagnation, distress, ending again in quiescence,' has given way to a far more healthful and satisfactory tone, and the commercial prospects of the expiring year have sensibly brightened up in almost every department of commerce. The official returns of the Board of Trade, showing that at length the exports of our chief manufactures, after having reached their lowest point, have steadily increased during the last four months, and have now, in the last month reported, exceeded in amount the corresponding period of last year, have greatly tended to inspire confidence."

A frightful tragedy, involving the loss of life of about seventy poor Irish emigrants on board a Steamer on the coast of Ireland, has taken place. Its melancholy and revolting details will be found in another column.

The newspaper portion of the Mail had not arrived in this city at the time of our going to press this afternoon. It is now upwards of *forty* hours behind the letter mail. The immense quantity of snow on the route, with the great weight of the mail, are the causes of its non-arrival. The Halifax Mail also, due at one o'clock yesterday afternoon, has not yet arrived. The following summary of the news is taken from the extras issued by the New-Brunswicker and Morning News.

We will give further details of the news in our next paper.

The *America*, with the Mail of the 30th December, will be the next Steamer from Liverpool.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 16.

The state of business affairs since the beginning of the present month, has had an improving tendency. The Colonial Produce markets, although not active, have manifested considerable firmness, and a fair amount of business has been done. The firm feeling in the Cotton market, which prevailed in the beginning of the month, continues, and during the last two days there has been much animation. Sales to a large extent are now going forward, with advancing prices. In Breadstuffs a fair business is doing, but the market is without buoyancy, and prices, if anything, are below the rates we last quoted. Money has been in fair request, and can be without difficulty placed on call at 2 per cent. Some of the large discount houses, however, have lately shown rather less willingness to grant accommodation at the low rate of interest which prevails. Bills of first class are discountable at 2½ per cent. Trade in the manufacturing districts is reviving, and hopes are confidently entertained that the new year will bring with it a renewed trade, and brightness in all departments of business.—Sales of Flour in bond have have been made at 25s. 6d., and one very fine parcel at 25s. 9d. to 26s. per barrel; but the best Western Canal cannot be sold in quantity above 25s. The value of duty paid is quoted at 27s. to 28s. per barrel. Indian Corn, which had receded to 29s. 6d. to 32s. per quarter for inferior or white to the best yellow, has, in consequence of an increased demand, advanced to 32s. to 35s.; but at these figures the demand is somewhat restricted. The inquiry for Indian Meal is limited, and prices are reported at 16s. per barrel. The imports from North America during the fortnight comprise 23,426 qrs. of Wheat, 108,036 bbls of Flour, 28,655 qrs. of Indian Corn, and 2728 bbls. of Indian Meal.

The weather throughout the country is unusually fine, we scarcely remember ever to have experienced such a warm temperature in December.

THE CHOLERA.—The cholera still lingers about the suburbs of the metropolis, and in Scotland its ravages have not sensibly diminished. The total number of cases from the inception of the malady up to Wednesday last were 2169, of which 998 had died, 356 had recovered, and 815 continued under treatment. In the metropolis, however, the cases are generally not more than from three to five per day, and in the provinces about the same number upon an average. It is in Scotland still where the average continues from 20 to 30 per day. The fatal cases in the metropolis were last week only 21 against 20 in the preceding week, and 34 in the week before that, whilst the mortality for the three or four preceding weeks varied from 54 to 65. The general health continues good.—Two or three cases have been reported in Manchester, and the same in Liverpool.—Last week the disease was reported to have broken out in Paris, but the alarm has quite subsided.

The cholera is raging fearfully at Presburg.

The report of the death of Ibrahim Pacha has been confirmed. His brother, Abbas Pacha, succeeds him in the viceroyalty of Egypt.

IRELAND.

Ireland remains in a state of tranquillity. The evictions, voluntary and involuntary, together with a vast emigration, continue upon an extensive scale.

The special commission of oyer and terminer opened in Dublin on Tuesday last. The presiding judges are Mr. Justice Perrin, Baron Richards, and the Lord Mayor of Dublin. Little interest would be attached to the proceedings were it not that the trial of Mr. Charles Gavin Duffy is expected to take place thereat. Mr. Justice Perrin, in charging the grand jury of the city of Dublin, referred to the case. On Wednesday the grand jury came into court and the foreman handed down true bills against Charles Gavin Duffy on all the counts of the indictment. The court appointed yesterday (Friday) for the arraignment of the prisoner. The trial, it is probable, will not commence before Monday, as there will be a good deal of legal sparring before the merits of the case are entered upon.

Mr. Duffy is now the only remaining prisoner in Newgate; his trial commenced on Friday, and notwithstanding the numerous trials with which the Irish public have been lately surfeited, this last investigation seems to excite considerable interest. With its conclusion the Irish rebellion of 1848 will finally close.—The rotatory Parliament agitation makes no progress; the applications made by Lord W. Fitzgerald for support seems in many cases to be repulsed in unequivocal terms.

Awful and Fatal Disaster on board an Irish Steamer.—Accounts have reached Liverpool of a terrible loss of life which occurred on board of the steamer *Londonderry*, plying between Sligo and Liverpool.

"It appears that on the evening of the 1st December, the steamvessel Londonderry, left the harbour of Sligo, with about 150 emigrants, the majority of whom intended to proceed from Liverpool to America. Towards nightfall a heavy gale came on, and at last blew with so much violence, that shortly after midnight on Saturday morning, the decks were cleared of all except the seamen. The steerage passengers, perhaps one hundred and fifty in number, were crowded into the narrow compass of the fore-cabin, a compartment little more than eighteen feet long by eleven feet wide, and seven feet high. The space was capable only of accommodating about forty passengers, and here were nearly one hundred and fifty of both sexes, huddled together indiscriminately, the old and the young, the robust and the sickly, the adult and the infant. Meanwhile, the sea was running high in the channel, so that the waves repeatedly broke over the steamer. Then it was that, through the negligence of those who were responsible for the lives on board, a measure of momentary convenience was adopted which led to a catastrophe the like of which has only occurred before in the notorious prison of Calcutta. The companion, the only aperture by which the fore-cabin received ventilation, was closed, and over the companion was nailed down a piece of tarpaulin!

"This was at about midnight between Friday and Saturday. The result proved to be only such as common sense would tell every one was inevitable. The dizziness and qualms of sea-sickness were very soon forgotten in the unendurable sensations of suffocation. Efforts were made to force a way out of the confinement: they were found to be unavailing. Shouts were raised to attract attention; they were drowned in the roaring noise of the storm. And then according to the description of the few survivors, ensued a spectacle such as set the imagination of even the most morbid at defiance. The steamer drove bravely through the tempest, while those who directed her remained wholly unconscious of the frightful conflict for life and death which was then raging in her very entrails.

"The frantic cries and beating sounds within the cabin were rendered inaudible by the throbbing of the pistons, and the shrieks and groans of the sufferers only died away with the gale towards morning. Not until then were the seamen aware of the tragedy which had been enacted under their feet. Out of the one hundred and fifty passengers who had been driven down the companion-ladder a few hours before, seventy-two were found to have perished! Men, and women, and little children, husbands and wives, sons and mothers, were heaped about the floor of the cabin in disorder, some with their clothes torn from their backs in tatters some with their hands and faces lacerated, some with their features trodden into a mummy by the iron-shod 'brogues' of their fellow-sufferers! here a father locked in the arms of his daughter; there a sister clinging to the corpse of her brother, their countenances black and distorted with the convulsions produced by suffocation.

"Captain Johnstone appears at length to have been made aware that he had become a main actor in a scene of the most horrible calamity. But he was uncertain what to do. He put his steamer into Lough Foyle, but it was twelve hours before he could make up his mind to pass up to the quay at Derry.

"We have nothing more to add to this brief but tragic tale save that the coroner's jury have found Alexander Johnstone, captain, Richard Hughes, first mate, and Ninian Crawford, second mate of the Londonderry, guilty of manslaughter, and have expressed in the strongest terms their abhorrence of the inhuman conduct of the other seamen on board throughout this unhappy transaction."

IMPORTANT FROM FRANCE.—ELECTION OF BONAPARTE!

The news from France informs us of the election of Prince Louis Napoleon Bonaparte to the office of President of the Republic. The polling commenced on Sunday the 10th of December, and terminated on Monday evening, 11th.

It is impossible, says one account, adequately to describe the effect which the results of the elections which continue to arrive hourly have produced in the Chamber. All parties are literally thunderstruck, the partisans of Bonaparte scarcely less so than those of Cavaignac. A majority was expected, indeed counted on with certainty by all, but none expected such a universal acclaim as that which has burst upon Paris from every part of the country. The only question now is the amount of the numerical ratio of the whole population, by whose voices Prince Louis will be proclaimed chief of the state. None of the calculations are less than four-fifths, and the *Debats*, a moderate and impartial organ, this morning says that he may probably have six-sevenths of the whole. The danger now is that in the "entrainement" by which the people is now affected, the cry of "Vive l'Empereur" may be seriously raised, and, if so, the most sagacious would find it difficult to say what would be the issue.

Our latest news from Paris only confirms the fact of Louis Napoleon's increasing popularity, and of General Cavaignac's downfall. The returns from the provinces are even more decisive, as we anticipated, than the suffrages of the Parisians.—In Paris alone the absolute majority of the Prince over all his competitors was nearly 20,000; and in the *banlieue* (suburbs) he had a majority of 20,233 votes, and an absolute majority of 16,411 votes out of the 36,007 votes polled for all the candidates. At Bordeaux 70,000 voted for Prince Louis, whilst only 6650 voted for the General. Judging from all the reports which have reached us, the Prince will have so large a majority, as, coupled with the fact that Gen. Cavaignac's votes have mostly been procured by Government influence, must establish the authority of the new President with the utmost decisiveness. Indeed, the cold, but firm demeanour of the Prince on the occasion. Already lists of a new ministry are circulated, comprising the names we have enumerated, some of them placing Marshal Oudinot in the Ministry of War. The triumph is so decisive that the Assembly has resolved not to wait for the returns from Algeria, which cannot affect the result, but the Prince will be proclaimed immediately. Wednesday is the day named for this important act, and we have no doubt that the Parisians will shout their acclamations in support of the new President with tenfold more enthusiasm than ever they did at the inauguration of the Republic. It is already significant that thousands of the peasantry rushed to the voting urns in large bodies, crying *Vive l'Empereur!* It is satisfactory to state that the election has proceeded throughout with the utmost tranquility. The Red Republicans perceive that their hopes of a general scramble are annihilated. Even the Legitimists who have supported Prince Louis, doubt for the moment whether they have acted wisely. However, the die is now cast.

The latest accounts received with regard to the election state that the number of votes known amount to 1,240,000. Of these 782,000 are for Louis Napoleon, and 268,000 for General Cavaignac. The election was conducted in the most peaceful manner.

Prince Louis proposes to raise General Cavaignac to the rank of Marshal of France.

ITALY.—FLIGHT OF THE POPE.—The revolution in the city of Rome has terminated in the flight of the Pope from his dominions, and the Head of the Roman Catholic Church, one of the most popular and patriotic princes that ever ascended the Papal throne, is now an exile and a wanderer. After the scenes described in our last, the Pope remained a prisoner in his palace in the Quirinal, protected from personal danger by the direct intervention of M. d'Harcourt, the French ambassador. It is of course notorious to the world that the English Government has no diplomatic agent at Rome. The business of the Government was carried on in the Pope's name, but without his sanction. On the 24th of November arrangements were made by the Bavarian and other ambassadors, and the Pope was smuggled out of his palace in the disguise of a livery servant, placed in a carriage ready in waiting, and driven out of the city. M. de Spaur, the Bavarian ambassador, contrived to convey his Holiness safely across the frontier, and he arrived at Gaeta, in the Neapolitan dominions, on the next day. Thence a messenger was despatched to the King of Naples, who with the most exquisite delight repaired in a steamer to do homage to the fallen Potentate, and offer to him all the solace in his power. The Ministry at Rome were thunderstruck when the departure of the Pope was discovered, but up to the present moment tranquillity has been maintained. The Pope refused to go to France, and the expedition dispatched by Gen. Cavaignac to protect his Holiness has been recalled. The Pope has signed a protest declaring all the late acts null and void, and has appointed four persons as a government committee to carry on the affairs at Rome. This proceeding may be regarded as a mere formality, as little doubt can be entertained but that Naples, Spain, Austria, and perhaps Russia, will notify in some decisive mode that the head of the Christian Church shall not be dethroned by an insensate mob. France also, now that Louis Napoleon is raised to power, will very probably put forth an arm, to reduce the distracted elements, now in confusion throughout Italy, to something like order.

AUSTRIA.—*Abdication of the Emperor.*—We have to announce that the Emperor of Austria, by a decree of the 2d inst., abdicated the imperial throne in favour of his nephew, Francis Joseph. The father of the new Emperor, who was next in succession, joined in the act of renunciation, and the youthful son, who is 18 years of age, was proclaimed Emperor before all the authorities of the empire who could be collected at Olmutz. Prince Schwartzenburg, the President of the Ministry, has delivered a speech declaring the principles upon which he and his colleagues propose to carry on the new Government; and the address of the Emperor contains the most direct pledges to maintain true liberty, being convinced of the necessity and value of free institutions to secure the prosperous reformation of the monarchy. This most important step has produced a signal effect throughout all Europe, and, together with the events in Prussia, has tended immensely to reinspire confidence throughout Germany. We have but slender accounts from the seat of war in Hungary. A battle is said to have taken place at Presburg. The accession of the young monarch to the throne, surrounded by energetic able advisers, will probably produce a great change in the minds of the Hungarians, with whom the young Prince is an especial favourite.

PRUSSIA.—In Prussia a mighty change has come over both the people and the court. The King has promulgated a constitution of a highly liberal character, embracing all the guarantees for public, private, and religious liberty.

MEMEL.—There were alarming riots at this place on the 4th inst., the town being completely in the hands of the populace during four or five hours. Great excesses were committed.

INDIA.—Dates from Calcutta to the 21st, and Madras to the 24th October, state that the detachment under Gen. Whish, before the walls of Moultan, remained in the same position; but Sher Singh, the ally of Moolraj, had separated himself from the Dewan on the 9th Oct., and marched his army across the Ravee to the country north-west of Lahore, and formed a junction with his father, Chuttur Singh.

Already a numerous army of at least 30,000 men is collected on the Sutlej, and the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Gough, was expected at head quarters on the 9th November. Lord Dalhousie has also proceeded in person to the upper provinces. About 5000 additional troops will leave England next month for Bombay, and we know the vigour and intelligence of Sir John Hobhouse too well not to be fully assured that he will ably second Lord Dalhousie's exertions, and that the whole weight of the British power will be at once put in force to crush this mad rebellion, and restore trade and commerce in India to their ordinary course of prosperity.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH is now ready for operation.—A beginning was made yesterday, and the line was found perfect as far as Calais. Something, however, is wrong between Calais and Bangor, but, no doubt, in a day or two all will be made right. We noticed the Telegraph Office encircled all day yesterday by a crowd of wondering observers, and this certainly, even in an age of exciting marvels, is an invention to be wondered at.

When we consider the facility with which business messages can now be transmitted, and the command of markets thereby attained, we cannot but think this one of the greatest boons that could be conferred on a commercial community. Without it, indeed, we would have been quite behind the age. We are glad to learn that one of our own folks is to be operator here.—Mr. Moun, late Sergeant in the Royal Artillery, who has been for some time engaged at Quebec, is to take charge of this Station.—*Courier.*

The English news by the *Europa* was yesterday telegraphed to Calais, but the imperfection noticed above, not being yet discovered, prevents the operation of the telegraph beyond that station.

We learn by the Telegraph that the late snow storm has been very heavy to the Westward, and that travelling is greatly impeded by the vast quantities of snow which has fallen.

☞ The Annual Meeting of the New-Brunswick Auxiliary Bible Society will take place to-morrow (Wednesday) evening, in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute. The Chair will be taken precisely at 7 o'clock by the President, the Hon. Judge PARKER.

THE WEATHER.—With the close of the old year, stern Winter has set in, in reality. On Wednesday night last a snow storm commenced which did not terminate until Thursday evening, and proved to be the heaviest experienced here for many years past. The quantity of snow on the ground is immense, and has greatly impeded travelling; nearly all the mails due during the last few days having been considerably beyond their time, and some not yet arrived. The atmosphere being now, however, clear and cold, and the snow beginning to pack down, we may expect the roads will soon be good, and that steady winter weather will continue for some time. Last night was very cold, and this morning the thermometer stood at 2° below zero.

FIRE IN PORTLAND.—About 12 o'clock on Friday night, a fire broke out in a house owned by a Mr. Mealy, on the east side of Simonds-street, Portland, which, with four or five others, belonging to persons named Wark, Nelson, McCandless, and Baird, were consumed before the flames could be arrested. One or two other buildings were considerably injured. The houses destroyed were occupied by 15 to 20 families, who lost much of their effects. There was insurance on some of the buildings. The Portland engine was promptly at the fire, but the great quantity of newly fallen snow prevented the early arrival of the City engines at the scene of the calamity.

The collection in the Germain Street Baptist Church last evening, for the poor, amounted to £6 11s. The amount collected in the Brussels street Baptist Church, on Christmas day, for the same same purpose, was £3 5s.

In our Obituary of this day will be found the name of the Hon. THOMAS WYER, of Saint Andrews, and we cannot forbear paying a passing tribute to the memory of a most worthy and estimable member of society, whose loss is almost irreparable in that place, and will be felt far and wide where he was known: and who is there who has visited the part of the country in which he resided who will not bear testimony to his kindness of heart, great hospitality and attention, and almost universal benevolence? Colonel Wyer has filled various public situations for many years, bestowing his time and labour to the benefit of the community, with little advantage to himself beyond the satisfaction experienced from the discharge of duty. He was for many years a Representative of the County in the General Assembly, from which he was deservedly elevated to a seat in the Legislative Council. In both Branches his attendance was most regular and zealous, and the knowledge he had acquired of mercantile affairs—having been many years a partner of the late Robert Pagan, Esq.—his acquaintance with the various districts, and with the inhabitants of his own County, his honesty of purpose, great liberality, and sound local principles, made him a useful and valued member. Of the loss which his much respected relic his children, and a large circle of relatives will sustain, we forbear to speak—we trust they will derive the best consolation from the memory of his Christian character and virtues.—*Courier.*

ANOTHER INCENDIARY ATTEMPT.—About a month since the House in Sewell-street, occupied by Mr. T. Millidge, received considerable injury from fire, which, after a careful examination of the chimney, was generally supposed to be the working of an incendiary, the opinion being strengthened by the fact of fire being discovered the day following on the top of the hay in a barn on the same premises. We have now to notice another diabolical attempt to set fire to the same dwelling-house. About four o'clock on Wednesday morning last some of the family perceiving smoke in the house, search was immediately made by Mr. Millidge, and wood shavings and other combustibles were found to have been placed in an upper room, close to the roof, and set on fire. Owing to the timely discovery that was Providentially made, the fires were extinguished before much damage was done.

On Wednesday a male servant, who sleeps in a room which by person going to the place where the fire was found would have to pass and open a door against his bed, underwent examination before His Worship the Mayor, and Alderman Lockhart; but although some circumstances were found to be rather suspicious, yet there was nothing sufficiently positive to indicate him in so heinous a crime, and he was therefore discharged. He was found apparently asleep by Mr. Millidge. The Police should be instructed to keep a vigilant watch upon suspected parties and places, as a gold watch belonging to Mrs. Millidge, and other valuable articles, which were stolen at the first fire are still missing. The watch was taken at the time from a young gentleman belonging to this City by a lad who represented himself as living in the house. He has as yet eluded detection.—*Ib.*

NORMAL SEMINARY.—An examination of this institution (under the direction of Mr. McPherson) took place on Saturday the 23d instant, in presence of the Rev. Dr. I. W. D. Gray, Rector, the Rev. A. Stewart, B. Traverse, Esq., M. D., and several other visitors, with some of the parents and friends of the pupils. After receiving the approbation of the gentlemen present the boys were dismissed for the Christmas vacation. The school will re-open on Monday the 8th of January.—*News.*

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.—Supervisors and Commissioners of Roads are hereby required forthwith to transmit to the Auditor General their Accounts and Vouchers for all Monies expended by them, under the Act of last Session, for repairing Roads and erecting Bridges, &c.

Members of the Assembly and Magistrates are requested to lend their aid in giving publicity to this Notice, and to use such means as may be in their power to facilitate the object it has in view, in order that the same may be carried into effect with the least possible delay.

By His Excellency's Command.

J. R. PARTELOW.

Secretary's Office, 26th December, 1848.

CANADA.—It is distressing to read the accounts published in the Canadian Journals, of the depressed state of trade in that Province, and the fears entertained with regard to the present winter.

The following is copied from a Montreal paper, it furnishes a deplorable picture of the condition of that city:

"The number of stores closed and empty houses in all quarters of our city must strike every observing citizen with concern, especially when it is remembered that, in addition to the stores closed, many now open have only passed through bankruptcy, and not a few of the remainder on the brink of insolvency, struggling against heavy rents and expenses, will shortly have to yield to the pressure of the times, unless improvement in business comes to their relief."

Flour Market very dull—24s. 9d. a barrel.

At auction yesterday the ship George Washington, 1624 tons, built in 1832 at New Bedford, sold for $20,750. She was immediately put on the berth for California.—*New York Express, 23d inst.*

In the Louisiana Legislature, a bill has been introduced, punishing by fine and imprisonment, the operators and other officers attached to Telegraph Companies, who shall refuse to omit to transmit messages over their lines in the order they were received.—*Ib.*

A fearful railroad collision took place on the 17th inst. on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, between a passenger and a freight train. The locomotives and cars were smashed to a considerable extent, but fortunately no lives were lost.

A fire occurred at Saco, Maine, on the 21st ult. which destroyed eight houses and stores; loss estimated at $20,000.

THE CHOLERA NOT AT NEW ORLEANS.—The New Orleans papers of the 15th, deny that the Cholera had appeared there. A special meeting of the Board of Health had been called to consider the disease which had carried off so many persons, while on the voyage from Havre. These cases, the public are assured, were simply severe attacks of cholera morbus, brought on and aggravated by long confinement on shipboard, and improper indulgence in fruits on the arrival of the vessel.

The Cincinnati papers state that a Mr. Hathaway, a wealthy resident of that city, has been declared by a commission de lunatico inquirendo, incompetent to manage his estate, which is landed, and valued at $750,000. It has accordingly passed into the hands of guardians, for the benefit of his children. Mr. H. purchased this property in 1810 for $1,100!

Sixteen of the New York Pilots have purchased the barque Josephine, in which to go to California, gold hunting. They put into the fund $1000 each.

It is stated that the Boston Pilots are intending to despatch one of their fleetest boats, the "Anonyma," (seventy-five tons) in about a week, from that port for California.

A speculator in Brooklyn is having some three hundred house frames prepared for exportation to California, and it is expected that he will realize twenty times their cost in gold dust. Lumber in the neighbourhood of the gold regions is worth from $75 to $100 per thousand feet, even for the commonest kind, and carpenters wages $15 to $20 per day!

The gold region already discovered, it is estimated, is sufficiently extensive to give profitable employment to 100,000 persons for generations to come.

The safest and cheapest route to California, is said to be by sea, around Cape Horn. It is however, a tedious voyage, of some 17,000 miles, and will require an average of six months to make it. Other routes through Mexico, and by way of Panama, are more expeditious, but very expensive.

CHINESE MUSEUM.—This extensive collection of Chinese curiosities is, we understand, nearly ready for exhibition, and will be opened in a few days. It gives a most perfect idea of the appearance, curious manners and customs and advancement in the arts of civilized life of a nation whose origin is lost in antiquity, whose fertile territory is the most extensive in the world, whose population embraces more than two-thirds of the whole human race, and who, by excluding foreigners entirely from the interior of their country, have heretofore rendered it almost impossible to obtain correct information respecting them.—*New York Express.*

THE POWER OF PERSEVERANCE.—All the performances of human art, at which we look with praise or wonder, are instances of the resistless power of perseverance. It is by this that the quarry becomes a pyramid, and that distant counties are united by canals; it is therefore of the utmost importance that those who have any intention of deviating from the beaten roads of life, and acquiring a reputation superior to names hourly swept away by Time, among the refuse of Fame, should add, to their reason and their spirit, the power of persisting in their purposes,—acquiring the art of sapping what they cannot batter,—and the habit of vanquishing obstinate resistance by obstinate attacks.—*Johnson.*

THE SHORTEST DAY.—This forenoon, about 11 o'clock, the Sun attained its greatest *south* declination, and, consequently the interval between sunrise and sunset, is to-day, in northern latitudes, the shortest in 1848. This interval was in Boston 9h. 4m.; in New York, 9h 16m; in Washington, 9h. 27m; in Charleston, 10h 1m; and in New Orleans, 10h 11m.—[Boston Traveller of the 21st Dec.

☞ An adjourned meeting of the Agricultural Society, will be held at Mr. Perley's Office, on Thursday next, the 4th January, at 12 o'clock. Punctual attendance is requested.

☞ The next Mail for England will close at the General Post Office in this City on Wednesday the 10th of January inst., at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Important from Canada.

Quebec, July 24, 1848.

To all who are afflicted with Asthma:

I have at different times been afflicted with severe colds, which produces in my case, the Asthma. I have, on these occasions, used *DR. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY.* Two years ago I was quite sick, so much so, that I could not rest at nights. I procured of the agent in this city, a bottle of this Balsam of Wild Cherry. Before I had taken the whole of it I felt relieved. I continued taking it, until I had used three or four bottles, which completely cured me. The present season I took another severe cold, and immediately resorted to this Balsam, and a part of one bottle had the desired effect. I therefore cheerfully recommend my friends and all others who need it, to try this medicine for their coughs and colds, and particularly the Asthma.

Respectfully yours, WM. McGRATH.

None genuine without the written signature of I. BUTTS on the wrapper.—For sale by S. L. TILLEY, King Street, St. John