The Weekly Observer.

England, &c.

[*From the Boston Commercial Gazette, April 21.*]

FROM ENGLAND.—The New-York papers of Monday afternoon, which reached the Post-Office in this city yesterday between one and two o'clock, (by the President,) contain copious extracts from London papers to the 31st March and Liverpool to the 1st of April—the latter received by the packet Caledonia, Rogers, which has been absent only fifty-nine days, twenty three of which she was in port!

A letter from London, of March 30th, says—"The Grain and Flour markets look well. American flour is worth 29 to 30s. per barrel." The Corn Exchange report, however, represents the market as dull, at a decline of 2s per quarter on wheat, oats and barley.

The London Courier of the 29th says, the accounts received this morning from Lancashire generally, and more particularly Manchester, represent the state of trade as particularly active at the present moment. The demand for Goods during the whole of last week was universal, being for the Mediterranean as well as other parts of the globe. An advance in wages had also taken place.

The Blackburn Gazette says, "Trade, we rejoice to say, still wears a favourable aspect in this town and neighbourhood. One manufacturer advanced the price of weaving on Saturday last on four different kinds of cloth, and the manufacturers in Over Darwen, Haslingden and other places, have also made an advance."

It is reported that some new embarrassment will delay the final arrangement of the affairs of Greece. Leopold has asked for delay before he finally agrees to accept his new dignity.

The London Ledger of the 31st March, states, that 12,000 tons of shipping had been contracted for in London, to convey stores and troops from Toulon to Algiers.

In the House of Lords on Tuesday, the 30th ult. the Earl of Aberdeen laid on the table, by command of His Majesty, a copy of the Treaty entered into between His Britannic Majesty and the U. States of America.

The Earl of Stanhope complained that the Treaty would not afford that reciprocity to this country which ought to exist, and that the shipping interest would be much injured by it.

The Earl of Aberdeen admitted that the Treaty was not a commercial Treaty in the way in which the Noble Lord looked at it. He could not, however, see how the treaties would injure the shipping interest. The present treaty was in progress when he came into office, and without acting in an inconsistent manner, Government could not do otherwise than conclude it.

Lord Goderich considered that since this country had entered into these treaties of reciprocity, the shipping interests of this country had been materially benefited.

Lord Ellenborough observed that the number of British ships employed in trade was nearly equal to the whole number of foreign vessels engaged in trade with foreign ports. The noble Lord was not aware of this subject being brought forward, or he would have been provided with the return of the different vessels employed.

Lord King brought forward his proposition for a repeal of the Corn Laws, on the 29th of March.—The principle upon which he proceeded in an able speech, was, that all regulations which tend to restrict or prohibit the importation of any foreign commodity are both impolitic and unjust. It is impolitic because it tends to impede the exportation of British manufactures in exchange for imports, and it is unjust to make the labouring and middle classes pay 50 per cent. more for the first necessaries of life, in order to give a bonus to the landed interest. The Duke of Wellington, in opposing the resolutions, took occasion to remark, that within the last two years, more than 8,000,000 quarters of foreign and Irish grain had been imported into England. The resolutions were negatived, without a division. The Morning Chronicle denounces the speech of the Premier on this occasion, as being "narrow and unstatesmanlike."

The London Morning Chronicle makes copious extracts from Mr. Cambreleng's report, which it pronounces a "valuable document." Its doctrines are strongly recommended to the British Government for adoption.

The London Times has an article of great length on the subject, speaking of the report in terms of the highest commendation. The following is an extract from the article:—"We have once already referred to a valuable and important report from the Committee of Commerce of the United States, supposed to be from the pen of Mr. *Cambreleng, one of the highest authorities existing* on questions of Navigation and Commerce. The document is too long to be inserted, and too full of matter to be usefully abridged. There is not a page which does not contain some striking facts, some masculine and sagacious reasonings, and some views of the rights and interests, as well of other civilized countries as of the Republic herself, calculated to shed lustre on the intelligence and liberty of those from whom so enlightened a paper has proceeded."

The papers mention the death of Sir C. Baring, by suicide; the cause not stated.

The Cork election has terminated, as was anticipated, in the return of Mr. Callaghan, whose previous election had been set aside for illegality.

Mr. Brougham's health is in a precarious state.—He begins to feel the effects of severe mental application.

An attempt had been made to murder Mr. Wolf, the Missionary, and his wife Lady Georgiana Wolf, at Jerusalem, by the Jews.

EMANCIPATION OF THE JEWS.—Mr. R. Grant's motion respecting the removal of the civil disabilities affecting the Jews, stands postponed to the 6th inst.

BRAHAM.—We hear that he actually netted, after all his expenses were paid, upwards of £5000 by his tour in Scotland and Ireland.—*Times.*

LONDON, March 30.—A mail from Holland, arrived to day, states that symptoms of the plague appeared some time ago at Jassy and Bucharest, the chief towns of Moldavia and Wallachia; they have not, however, excited much uneasiness, precautions having been promptly taken to cut off all communication, except for medical aid, with the persons attacked.

The Algiers expedition will, it is expected, be ready to sail from Toulon on the 26th of next month. Shipping for mercantile purposes was scarce, and freights high, in consequence of the demand for transports.

FRANCE.—The Standard, of the evening of March 31st, the latest London paper in the country, says, the French Ministers are determined on a *dissolution* of the Chamber.

On the arrival of two of the deputies of the *extreme gauche* at Rouen on the 28th ult. the electors waited upon them in a body, and one of them in the name of the rest returned thanks to them for having voted the address against Ministers. Mr. Thil, one of the deputies said, "Let us await the future, gentlemen, without fear, but without indulging in a deceitful security."

Seven hundred electors of the department of the Seine gave a dinner on the 1st April to their Deputies, to "commemorate the victory" lately gained in the Chamber. The price of tickets was 20 francs.

The Paris National of the 29th of March, says that negotiations had been going on for the return of M. de Villele to the Ministry, but had failed. It is certain that the Ex-Minister has disapproved of every thing that has been done by the Ministry since the 8th of August.

The following are extracts from a letter from the correspondent of the London Morning Chronicle, dated Paris, 27th March:—

"I tell you before hand—and you will admit I have not exaggerated, and never deceived you—I tell you beforehand, and, through you, the British Parliament and the British Government, that there must be one of three things occur in France: Mutual Concessions—a Civil War—or the Occupation of Paris and certain Cities in France by Foreign Troops. The end of the last is certain. The People will destroy the old Charter, and have a new one. The Bourbons may remain under a new Charter, but not under the old one. Let us then try to avert a civil war by advising mutual concessions at the present moment."

"As it was in 1814, so is it now; but with this difference, that in 1814 the Royalists were the rising, and now they are the setting sun. In 1814 the King of France returned as a conqueror—now he exists as a Member of the old Dynasty which the Revolution overturned once—and must overturn again, unless mutual concession be made, and mutual advantages conceded."

"The dissolution of the Chambers is, according to the *Gazette de France*, agreed to. The *Gazette* ought to know, as it is in the direct pay of the Minister. When this dissolution will take place, is, however, by no means certain, and I am more than half disposed to believe that Ministers have not decided themselves.—Much will depend on the affair of Algiers—on the opinions of Villele, Peyronnet, and others, and on various minor incidents which are beyond the reach of control. But the dissolution of the Chambers is decided on, and I will say more upon this subject in my next letter. The consequences of that dissolution are most momentous, and should not be cursorily considered.

"The appointment of General Bourmont to the command of the military part of the Algerine Expedition is by no means a popular measure, but it evinces the resolution of the King and the unity of its Councils.—There are Marshals disappointed—General Officers of longer standing, equally royalist and equally patriotic—then why select M. Bourmont? The answer is evident. Bourmont is unpopular as a man, and therefore, yet more so as a Minister. I have already, in a former letter, supplied you with a sketch of his life, and an impartial portrait of his character. Three Colonels, appointed to take command, have given in their resignations since he has been appointed—it is said in consequence solely of his nomination. Should Algiers be taken, the Dey made prisoner, and the citadel razed to the ground, the expedition will be popular—France will sing of glory—and the Chambers will vote the expenses of the war; but Bourmont will be still the unpopular Minister and reproached General—"Give a dog an ill name and hang him!"

There is an account of an attempt to assassinate the King of France, which the London Courier gives both in French and English, without vouching for its truth. The following is the article.

"*Paris, March* 25,—Charles X. was hunting in the forest of St. Germain; at the turning of one of the avenues, his Majesty found himself in front of one of his Gardes du Corps, who had been placed there on duty, and who suddenly drew from his holster a pistol, which he fired at his Majesty.—The King was slightly wounded, and excessively terrified. The Garde du Corps, seeing that his aim had failed, destroyed himself by drawing from the holster the remaining pistol and blowing out his own brains; "I have missed you, but some other person will be more adroit than me." The greatest silence respecting this event was commanded, and the greatest precautions were taken to prevent its coming to the knowledge of the public. It was merely announced, in the ministerial journals, that the king kept his room from indisposition, and the public never heard of the adventure."

SUMMARY.

PARLIAMENT.—*The Budget* was produced to the *House of Commons*, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday the 15th of March, which presented the following estimate of the revenue.

Customs, 17,200,000*l.*; Excise, 19,300,000; Stamps, 7,100,000; Assessed Taxes, 1,900,000; Post Office, 1,500,000; Small branches, 200,000; Miscellaneous, 280,000. Total, 50,480,000*l.*

In the course of his speech the Chancellor proposed to take off the whole of the beer tax, of the leather tax, and the tax on cider, and to raise the duty on English spirits from 7 to 8*s.* per gallon. He also intimated his intention to fix a day on which he would give notice of the period at which he should propose to convert the four per cent stocks into another stock of a different rate of interest.

It is estimated that the beer tax now amounts to three millions of pounds, the leather tax to 250,000*l.* and the tax on cider to 25,000*l.* ster.

By the reduction of the four per cents, to $3\frac{1}{2}$, a saving is calculated of 750,000*l.*

CAPTAIN ROSS'S ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—The English expedition to the Arctic Pole (says the Moniteur) has safely reached the 67th degree of north latitude. The steam boat has traversed the most dangerous seas of the globe. But, wishing to touch at the coast of Spitzbergen, she was overtaken by a violent gale of wind, which carried away her maintopmast. Owing to a very fortunate accident, especially in a region where no spar proper to repair such a loss could be procured, an English vessel happened to get among the ice, and was therefore abandoned by its crew, when her mainmast was taken out by the steamer, as well as the provisions and fuel, that were requisite for continuing the voyage to the Pole.

That the Government is strong, and strengthening, we truly believe; but as we wish most sincerely that it should not be exposed to needless trials, we rejoice very much to find that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has requested Mr. Hume to postpone his motion with respect to Sierra Leone. We hail this request with the greatest satisfaction: first, because we believe that Government has at length resolved upon abandoning the settlement, and secondly, because we firmly believe, that if they do not make it a case of voluntary surrender, they will be beaten into it on a division. We are quite sure they ought to be, and we believe they will.—*John Bull.*

Upwards of a century ago, an alderman of Bristol, named Vick, who had a taste for the sublime and beautiful, left £1000 to the Society of Merchants, at Bristol, to accumulate, at interest, till it should amount to a sum sufficient to build a stone Bridge over the Avon, at Clifton. The money and its accumulations were faithfully preserved, and they now amount to £30,000. Mr. Telford has furnished plans and estimates, and leave has been obtained from Parliament to bring in a bill for the execution of the wonderful work, which Mr. Telford has undertaken to complete. The expense will be about £50,000.

A commercial house in the West of England, in a very extensive way of business, who had been for years in the habit of abating all odd sums upon their customers' bills; as, for instance, the 9d. upon a bill of £2, 19*s.* 9d. lately ascertained by calculation, that the aggregate of such abatements amounted in one year to nearly £200.

It is said, that Sir Walter Scott has received the sum of 1,000 guineas for his *History of Scotland*, being part of the historical series of Dr. Lardner's *Cabinet Cyclopædia*; and that Sir James Mackintosh has received 600 guineas for the Dissertation which he has contributed to the new edition of the *Encyclopædia Britanica.*

FEMALE PREACHER OF HIGH RANK.—The young, beautiful and fascinating Irish widow, Viscountess Powerscourt, is preaching and expounding the Scriptures at public assemblies, in Brussels, with an eloquence and fervor that would do honor to Rowland Hill or Orator Irving. She opens her service with a hymn, of which, after touching a piano-forte, she gives out the melody and first stanza.

According to the last census, Sicily contains 1,780,000 inhabitants, of whom 300,000 are ecclesiastic, or persons living on ecclesiastical revenues. There are in the island 1,170 convents, containing 30,000 monks and 30,000 nuns. The nobility of this small population consists of six dukes, 27 princes, 217 marquises, 2000 barons, and the same number of an order called gentlemen. In Palermo, the population of which is only 150,000, there are 388 churches.

IRELAND.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—A meeting of the Society for promoting the Education of the Poor in Ireland was held in Dublin on Tuesday last, the Marquis of Downshire in the chair. According to the report of the Society, it appeared that in 1815 there were no Schools, but eight were established in 1816, and so great was the encouragement—such was the wish for knowledge, that last year they had increased to 1153, in which were educated 127,419 scholars. The total number of scholars sent out since its commencement from the establishment, in which they were then assembled, amounted to 12,413. The school-masters trained in it, during the same period, being 1610. school-mistresses 363. On the estates of the noble Marquis in the chair, in the County of Down, were 35 schools, containing 2351 scholars. Several excellent speeches were delivered, and Lord Lougford being called to the chair, thanks were voted to the Marquis of Downshire, and the meeting separated.

The Roman Catholic bishops of Ireland have just issued an address to the clergy and laity under their charge, in which they speak in glowing terms of the healing effects of the Relief Bill, and pass a high eulogy on the Duke of Wellington, "the most distinguished of Ireland's own sons—a hero and a legislator" for having paved the way to the establishment of peace and justice in their long-distracted country.

MARCH OF CATHOLICISM.—Lady Paget (the Lady of Sir Charles Paget, at present Admiral on the Cork station) and her daughters, have been converted to the Roman Catholic Church. The ceremony took place at the parish chapel, in Cove, within the last few days, and was attended by an immense concourse of people.—*Limerick Evening Post.*

Since the Union, or within thirty years, 500 churches have been built in Ireland, 54 are now in progress of building, and 99 have been enlarged; also 519 glebe-houses have been built within the same period, and 27 are now in progress.

AUSTRIA.—Vienna has been subject to a melancholy inundation, by the overflowing of the Danube, on the breaking up of the ice. The first intimation of it occurred on the 3d of March, when the ice began to crack with a loud noise, and the water rose in a most sudden and rapid manner, breaking down every thing that opposed its course. All the suburbs near the Danube, comprising upwards of 50,000 inhabitants were, in a short time, totally submersed. The damage done is greater than has occurred for more than one hundred years. Up to the 6th instant, eighty dead bodies were found; but it is feared that there are many in the houses, which it has not yet been possible to examine, on account of the standing water and the ice.

HOLLAND.—A gigantic enterprise has just been set on foot in Holland, which is no other than an attempt to drain the celebrated lake of Haarlem. This vast piece of water, which covers a surface of fifty thousand acres, was the effect of an inundation, which happened about two centuries ago. An association for emptying it has been formed, with a capital of six million florins.

MEETING AT CALCUTTA ON THE EAST INDIA QUESTION.—The *Bengal Harkaru*, of the 3d December, contains a requisition to the Sheriff of Calcutta, signed by upwards of a hundred British and native merchants residing in that city, requesting that he will call a meeting of the inhabitants, at as early a period as possible, "for the purpose of petitioning Parliament to throw open the India and China trade, and to provide, on the expiration of the existing charter of the East India Company, for the unfettered application of British skill, capital, and industry to the commercial and agricultural resources of India." In compliance with this requisition the Sheriff has called a meeting, which was to be held at the Town-hall, on the 15th of December.

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S CHARTER.—All monopolies are evils in principle; therefore, all monopolies are highly detrimental and injurious to society, and cannot exist without inflicting a consequent punishment. In making this declaration, I am not insensible to the difficulties which rise in the way of abolishing these serious restrictions to national wealth, nor am I insensible to the justice and necessity of making full compensation for any sacrifice that may be made by individuals, or any body of individuals, for the advantage and welfare of the public. But if the distresses of England must be effectually removed, and if her wealth, talent, and industry must be most advantageously employed, she must not be cramped by monopolies, she must have a FREE power of changing her produce for the produce of other nations, and she must not be fettered by internal bonds. *The monopoly to which I especially allude is THE EAST INDIA CHARTER; and to this I add every other description of monopoly, whereby a given body of individuals have the slightest power whatever, in regulating the conduct of the community—the price of any commodity—the terms and conditions of trade—or the free will and actions of any man in either a commercial, agricultural, or financial undertaking. Englishmen are generally patriotic enough to respect the Government, and obey the laws; but when those laws are unjust, it never can be the interest of any Government, to continue to enforce obedience; and the days of darkness are too long gone by, for an enlightened community like that of Great Britain to bow its head to the dictum of any body of individuals who monopolise advantages to which they are equally entitled, without a powerful, an unusual, and a manly struggle. But while we claim justice to ourselves, it is our duty to be just to others. This feeling prompts me to approach the subject of the East India Charter, with that respect and delicacy, which its highly respectable body of Directors and Members deserve; and without entering into any of those details, which will be so extensively canvassed by the committees of the house, and which most well-informed men are more or less acquainted with, I shall merely express my anxious hope, that whatever may be the result of parliamentary inquiry on this subject, and whatever the decision as to the renewal of a remodelled charter, or its total abolition; the present* distress of England *may induce a removal of one of its chief causes—that some satisfactory equivalent can be devised to recompense the East India Company, for the sacrifice of that authority which restricts our trade with China and the interior of India, which compels us to purchase many necessary commodities at prices far exceeding their real value, and which prevents the investment of British capital in a British colony, when such measures would not only tend to the advancement of the wealth and power of our own country, to the relief of our own burdens, to the establishment of commercial reciprocity with other states, but also to the happiness and civilization of the world at large.*—[Badnall's Letters on the present condition of Great Britain.

INSTRUCTION ON THE PLAN OF BELL AND LANCASTER.—Of the schools on this plan, there are in Europe above 5,000, which give instruction to about a million and a half of scholars.

COLONIAL.

From the Halifax Royal Gazette, April 21.

The following Resolutions were passed in the House of Assembly, on the 10th instant:

Resolved, That the many important public services of this Province, which the Legislature have usually been desirous of promoting, and the provision to be made for the payment of the Officers of Government, and the other usual charges, which form the Civil List, and likewise the heavy Debt due by this Province, rendered it necessary for the House of Assembly to provide means by raising a Revenue sufficient to meet the current expenditure of the present year, and to provide for the payment at least of the *interest* of the Public Debt.

Resolved, That the Monies contemplated to be raised by the Bill, entitled, "An Act to alter and continue the Acts now in force, to provide for the support of His Majesty's Government in this Province, and for promoting its Agriculture, Commerce and Fisheries, by granting Duties of Impost on Wine, Brandy, Gin, Rum and other Distilled Spirituous Liquors, Molasses, Coffee, and Brown Sugar," which passed this House on the twenty-ninth day of March last, were absolutely necessary, and not more than sufficient, with what might also be produced by the other Revenue Bill which have passed during the present Session, for the above purpose.

Resolved, That this House consider the rejection of the said Bill by His Majesty's Council, particularly at the day on which the Laws thereby continued unexpired, as highly impolitic and unwise, and it has already produced disorder and confusion in the Trade and Commerce of the Country, by giving an undue advantage to those who are at present availing themselves of the state of the market, and disposing of large importations of articles, free of duty, to the manifest injury of such as have paid or secured the duties formerly payable upon the same description of articles which remain unsold.

Resolved, That the Bill, entitled, "An Act to revive, alter and continue, the Acts to provide for the support of His Majesty's Government in this Province, and for promoting its Agriculture, Commerce and Fisheries, by granting Duties of Impost on Wine, Brandy, Gin, Rum, and other Distilled Spirituous Liquors, Molasses, Coffee and Brown Sugar," which passed this House on the 2d day of April, instant, was intended by this House to remedy as speedily as possible the evil consequent upon the rejection of the first Bill; and this House framed the same conformably to His Majesty's Instructions, to be in force for a period not less than one whole year, which continued the operation of the duties thereby imposed on the 6th day of April next; and this House entertained the hope that His Majesty's Council would have given the subject that deliberation which its importance demanded, and that they would not again have rejected so important a Revenue Bill particularly as the altered circumstances of the Country, owing to the great quantity of articles charged with duty under the said Bill, which had in the mean time been introduced into the market to supply the consumption of the present year, rendered necessary an increase instead of a diminution of such duties.

Resolved, That His Majesty's Council having rejected the last mentioned Bill, this House is deprived of the means of raising a Revenue to meet the exigencies of the Government, unless they will consent to frame an Act conformable in all respects with the opinions and dictates of His Majesty's Council.

Resolved, That it is the inherent and undoubted right of this House to impose duties upon His Majesty's Subjects in this Province, and that His Majesty's Council ought not to interfere in matters of Revenue either by proposing alterations or amendments to such Bills, or dictating to this House the amount of duties which they are to impose on their Constituents, and that the interference of His Majesty's Council in such manner is a breach of the privileges of this House.

Resolved, That the rejection of the Revenue by His Majesty's Council, at this time, is particularly unwise and impolitic, when it is considered that in the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor the Administration of the Government has necessarily devolved upon His Honor the President, who is a Member of that Council, and whose request to the House of Assembly to provide the necessary supplies for carrying on the Government led the House of Assembly to make the provision which His Majesty's Council have thus rendered unavailing.

Resolved, That by this very extraordinary proceeding of His Majesty's Council, the Province will be thrown into great confusion, a total suspension of all the beneficial improvements which the Assembly have been so desirous of promoting, will ensue, and a general discontent be excited throughout the Province.

Resolved, That the Revenue Bills of the present Session were framed upon the same principle as those of the last year, with some trifling increase of Duty upon Articles, which the House considered, could well bear such increase.

Resolved, That the Revenue of the last year was found to be insufficient to meet the necessary expenditures, and that a large addition was in consequence made to the Public Debt, and therefore this House considered that it would have been inexpedient to have adopted any measure which would have tended to diminish the Revenue of the present year.

Resolved, That the conduct of His Majesty's Council, on the present occasion, betrays a want of due consideration for the best interests of His Majesty's Subjects throughout this Province.

Resolved, That the free enjoyment of all those Rights and Privileges which belong to the People of this Province, as Subjects of His Majesty, affords the best security for the continuation of that loyalty and attachment to His Majesty's Person and Government, which is so warmly cherished, and which so universally prevail throughout this Colony; and this House therefore deems it both inexpedient and unwise, for those entrusted with the Executive Government, to interfere with the due and proper exercise of those Rights and Privileges.

From Neilson's Quebec Gazette, April 12.

Extract from the Protest of Seven Members of the Legislative Council against the Supply Bill for the Current Year:—

"*Dissentient*, 1. Because the Supply Bill having been committed to a committee of the whole House, yesterday the 24th day of the present month of March, and the committee of the whole House having been equally divided in their votes, rose without any order to report the same, the Bill thereby was according to the usages of Parliament lost and could not constitutionally be revived in the same Session of the Provincial Legislature.

"6. Because if this system of annually discussing and voting the salaries separately, and altering and negativing the same at their will and pleasure shall prevail, a popular despotism will ensue and a complete revolution in the present constitution and government be effected, whereby all public officers, from apprehension of losing their bread may be necessitated to become subservient to the views of the Assembly.

"7. Because the Legislative Council under that system, must become a mere office for enregistering the decrees of the Assembly to which implicit obedience will be then exacted as it seems now to be expected.

"10. Because such treatment of this House aims at the destruction of its rank, influence and utility as a co-ordinate and independent branch of the Legislature, wisely interposed between the Crown and the people, in order to retain both within constitutional limits."

By the Act of the British Parliament, 31 Geo. III. cap. 31, the independence of the Legislative Council is sufficiently secured. The Councillors are appointed for life; no law can be passed, no law altered, amended or repealed, without their consent, or the consent of a majority of them. In common with all his Majesty's subjects within the Province, nothing is binding on them, their persons and property cannot be effected, otherwise than by law.

How happens it then, that one half of the members of the Legislative Council present when this protest was entered in its Journal, assert, that, under a system of discussing and voting in the House of Assembly, the Legislative Council "*must* become a mere office for enregistering the Decrees of the Assembly?"

Do the Protestors mean to account for it, when they say that under a system of discussing and voting in the Assembly, "all public officers, from an apprehension of losing their bread, may be necessitated to become subservient to the views of the Assembly?"

Admitting that by any system adopted in the Assembly, "all public officers" were so *necessitated*, how can that affect the independence of the Legislative Councillors, guarded as it is, by the Constitutional Act? What have they to do with public offices? Under the Constitution, public officers are appointed by the executive at its pleasure, dismissed at its pleasure; and the salaries and emoluments of the different officers are provided for by Law, to which a majority of the Assembly, of the Legislative Councillors and the Governor consents. How then, it is asked particularly of the protestors, how can any system of discussing or voting in the Assembly preparatory to the sending up of a Bill for the consent of the Legislative Council, affect the independence of the Legislative Council, or in their own language, force the Council "to become a mere office for enregistering the decrees of the Assembly? Are they public officers?—are they (*pro pudor!*) afraid "of losing their bread?"

If they were, if the public officers were under apprehension "of losing their bread;" it would be an evil to be guarded against, particularly as regards the Provincial Executives who have the undoubted *prerogative* of making them lose their bread, who both here and elsewhere, have made some of them lose their bread unjustly, at its mere will and pleasure, and may do so again, without consulting or obtaining the consent of either the Legislative Council, the Assembly or the sense of the people. Why this dread of "popular despotism" *only*, on the part of gentlemen who tell us that they are "wisely interposed between the Crown and the people, to retain both within constitutional limits?" Are they Executive Councillors, Judges, Sheriffs, Commissioners of Crown Lands, all really liable to lose "their bread" at the mere will and pleasure of the Executive, and under so much "apprehension" of losing it, that the mere discussing and voting in the Assembly of a Bill to which their own body must assent as well as the Crown, before it can in any way affect them, puts their independence in jeopardy?

If they are really under such apprehensions for themselves or their colleagues, or the public officers; if the independence of the moderators between the Crown and the people is in danger from "popular despotism," they have only themselves to blame.—The Constitutional Act does not say that the Members of the Legislative Council shall be Executive Councillors, Judges, Sheriffs, Commissioners of Crown Lands &c.; it did not intend it. The Crown, willing to take them as moderators, and not as servants during pleasure, did not probably intend it. Why did they accept; or why, being called to the Legislative Council to keep the Crown and the people within constitutional limits, as they tell us, did they solicit and accept to be servants of the Crown during pleasure? Why do they not now resign situations, which according to their own avowal, merely from the exercise of the undoubted right of a co-ordinate and independent Branch of the Legislature to discuss and vote as it thinks proper, preparatory to submitting a Bill to the other Branch, places them in a situation in which they "may be under apprehensions of losing their bread," and rendering the body to which they belong incapable of the high station to which they aspire; "a mere office for enregistering the Decrees of the Assembly?"

There are many who will believe that such a course, for those who are really under the apprehensions expressed, would be more likely to preserve the rank, influence and utility of the Legislative Council as a co-ordinate and independent Branch of the Legislature, than angry and abusive protests against the Assembly, founded on false allegations and erroneous notions of proceedings in that body not regularly before the Council.

QUEBEC April 6.—R. H. Hamilton, Esq. of His Majesty's Customs, has been appointed, we understand, Naval Officer at this port in the place of the late Hon. M. H. Perceval.—*Merc.*

The total amount of tonnage arrived at Quebec last year, was 236,565 tons—being an increase of 53,084 tons over the year 1828.

APRIL, 8.—The Shop and store of Mr. Boissonault, M. P. P. at St. Vallier, about 27 miles below Quebec on the south shore, was burnt on Tuesday. The flames spread so rapidly, owing to the strong north-east wind which blew that night, that the Clerk, Mr. Jos. Ponsan, formerly of this city, who slept in the building, was burnt to death. No part of the property was insured and the books were destroyed—loss estimated at about £1000.

Sail-boats have been in use about the ports for a fortnight, and on Tuesday several arrived from the parishes at a distance of 60 miles below. The wind has been strong from the North East and the weather chill for the last four days.

APRIL 12.—The first steam boat arrived at Montreal on Thursday forenoon, and several others were expected on the following day. Above Montreal, on the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario, steam boats have been plying since the first of the month. The ports of Kingston and York were not however entirely free from ice on the 3d.

A new ship called the *Portia*, of about 340 tons burthen, was safely launched from J. S. Campbell, Esq's. ship yard, Wolfe's Cove, on Saturday. It is intended we hear, that she shall perform three voyages to Great Britain this season.

VACANT LANDS IN UPPER CANADA.

Statement of the probable amount of the surveyed, vacant, or grantable land, in the Province of Upper Canada, in obedience to the command of His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, dated 26th of Feb. 1830.

District.	Surveyed grantable land. ACRES.	Unsurveyed land. ACRES.
Eastern	1630	none.
Ottawa	98138	—
Johnstown	5830	—
Bathurst	212671	—
Midland	348170	236800
Newcastle	366171	5000
Home	376678	731302
Niagara	none	none
Gore	—	—
London	13534	2280000
Western	291501	342810
Total	1708829	3606120

Surveyor General's Office, York, 1st February, 1830.

BROCKVILLE, (U. C.) March 30.—It is stated in the Upper Canada Herald, that a joint stock company has been formed in Kingston for manufacturing Salt from the Hallowell salt spring. As the strength of the waters of this spring are superior to any heretofore discovered in this Province or on the opposite side of the Lake, there is little question but the operations of the company will be attended with success, if a sufficient supply of water can be obtained. The spring at present opened, is only sufficient for making about four barrels a day.—*Record.*

A meeting of the inhabitants of Ogdensburgh, took place on the 17th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration and adopting measures for procuring a Rail Road to be made from that village to Lake Champlain, and from thence through the States of Vermont and New Hampshire to Boston.

SETTLEMENT OF THE OLD AMERICAN COLONIES.

Virginia was settled in	1607
New-York	1614
Massachusetts	1620
New Hampshire	1620
New Jersey	1624
Delaware	1627
Maine	1630
Maryland	1633
Connecticut	1635
Rhode Island	1636
North Carolina	1650
South Carolina	1670
Pennsylvania	1682
Georgia	1733