THE ARMY.

The officers and men of the 8th, at Cork, tendered their services for China; but it is supposed the destination of this efficient battalion will not be altered, and that they will embark for the Cape of Mauritius after Christmas, in a ship of war.

Lieutenant-Colonel James, 26th Regiment, or Old Cameronians, entered the Army in Dec, 1805, and only a few months survived his predecessors in command of the Regiment, the late gallant veteran, Colonel Oglander. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Pratt, who succeeds to the Lieutenant-Colonelcy, has distinguished himself to the operations of China. Brevet Major Hogarth obtains the Majority, and Lieutenant Thompson the Company.

The *Cornwall*, transport, having on board the head-quarters of the 8th (the King's) Regiment, arrived at Cove, on the 26th instant, from Halifax, after a voyage of about twenty days, and next day was transferred, per river steamer, to Cork, where they await further orders.

The 86th (Royal Downshire) Regt. will embark at Cork for the Cape of Good Hope, in the transport which has brought the 8th Regt, from Halifax.

The 8th Regt expects to move from Cork to Buttevant.

The 37th Regt. on landing at Cork from Halifax, will march to Fermoy.

Lieut. George Maunsell, 84th, third son of Lady Catherine Maunsell, is nominated to a company by purchase in that regiment.]

Col. Presse, 16th Lancers, arrived from India at his brother's, Moyode, county Galway, on Friday. The gallant Colonel was received most warmly by his numerous connexions, after a long service and perilous adventures in the Affghanistan campaign.

A deserter cannot obtain a discharge by purchase. A discharge is granted only on four grounds, viz:—1. Excessively bad conduct: 2. Good conduct, the soldier paying a regulated sum, according to the time he has served; 3. Expiration of the full term of service; 4, A physical disability.

THE EXPEDITION TO CHINA.—On Monday morning, at 7 o'clock, the three ships appointed to carry out troops to China, sailed from Plymouth with a fair wind. The Belleisle conveys Major-General Lord Saltoun, with his staff—Captain Hope Grant, 9th Lancers, as Brigade-Major, and Captain Cunynghame, 3rd Buffs, late of the 60th Rifles, as Aide-de-Camp—and the 98th Regiment, commanded by Colonel Campbell, and a detachment of Artillery.—Detachments of the 49th, and some smaller detachments, go by the Apollo and the Sapphire. The troops on board the Apollo are under the command of Colonel Bartley, of the 49th, and those on the Sapphire, of Major Pasley, of the same Regiment. The Artillery are under the orders of Captain Greenwood.

The 4th Light Dragoons embarked at Bombay for London on the 1st of November, in the Repulse and Mary transports, bringing 15 officers and 474 men.—Lt. Col. Fendall has preceded the Regiment to England.

The Secretary at War directed the issue of 100*l.* to each of the officers lately embarked on board the Apollo and Sapphire troop-ships for China, in aid of the expense they will incur in providing themselves with a proper mess.

The left wing of the 17th Regiment has left Bombay for a marine tour, to recruit the men's health. The right wing under Col. Croker is at Aden.

Lieut.-Col. Sir Walter Scott, 15th Hussars, has introduced mid-day drills at Madras, which is rather critical in a tropical climate.

The 25th, under Col. Chambers, enjoy good health at Capetown, Cape of Good Hope.

THE NAVY.

PORTSMOUTH, Tuesday—There are at the present time twenty-three line-of-battle ships, thirty-four frigates, seventy-three steamers, one hundred and seven brigs, corvettes, and sloops, ten guard and receiving ships, three Royal yachts, and one gunnery ship, making in the whole 251 vessels in commission.

That fine ship the Java, fitted for stores and troops, arrived at Gravesend, on the 3rd, under the command of Lieut. John Imrie, R.N., and on the 6th received on board troops and proceeded to Gibraltar, where she will land them and the heavy ordnance for that place; she is then to embark the 46th Regt., and convey them to Barbadoes; where she will take on board the 52d Regiment, and convey them to New Brunswick; then take on board the 30th, and return to Portsmouth. This splendid ship embarks a regiment entire, with all their women, children, and baggage. She is 1280 tons. The Volage, 26, Captain Sir W. Dickson, Bart., is gone to Plymouth from Chatham; his supposed destination is China. The Viper schooner, Lieut. Carter, went out of harbour yesterday, and sailed to-day for Rio Janeiro, with Francis Leeson Ball, Esq., Secretary of Legation at Buenos Ayres, on board. It has been officially notified by the Government, that the money obtained from the Chinese authorities at Canton, under the arrangements entered into by Captain Elliot, on the 27th of May, in order to relieve that city from "hostile pressure," is a droit of the Crown; and as such, after paying what her Majesty may graciously be pleased to grant to the forces employed at Canton, it must be carried to the amount of the Consolidated Fund.

The Atholl troop-ship embarked a detachment of the 92d Regiment, on Thursday, for Jamaica.—The Warspite, 50, Captain Lord John Hay, is to escort to England the King of Prussia, on his approaching visit to this country, on the occasion of the christening of the Prince of Wales to whom his Majesty will stand as sponsor. It is understood that the Thalia and Volage will also form part of the escort. The Warspite is ready for sea.—The Formidable, 84, Capt. Sir C. Sullivan, is ordered to be expedited at Chatham, to proceed to the Mediterranean, calling at Spithead. The Seringapatam, 46, has been undergoing survey, to ascertain her fitness for recommissioning, at Sheerness. The Conway, 26, Captain Bethune, with treasure on board, arrived China and Callcutta, at the Cape of Good Hope, on the 1st of October; she may therefore be daily expected. The Cornwallis, 72, Captain Richards, on her way to China, made a splendid passage to the Cape from Plymouth, having left that port on the 5th July, and reached the Cape on the 26th September. The Ferret, 10, Commander Oake, will soon be ready at Plymouth to proceed to the coast of Africa. The Crocodile, 26, recently returned from the West Indies, is ordered to be again brought forward for Commission. The Java transport, with detachments of the 1st Royal, 5th, and 7th Fusileers, 46th, 48th, and 79th Regiments, sailed from Gravesend on Saturday last, for Gibraltar. The 1st division of the 97th Regiment, under the command of Major Cannon, has left Corfu for Zante, to relieve the 38th Regiment. The lieutenant's commission given by the Admiral half-yearly to one of the mates studying at the Royal College, has been awarded this Christmas to Mr. James Francis Ballad Wainwright.

THE EXCHEQUER BILL FRAUD.

Long prior to the arrival of the learned Judge it was currently rumoured in the Court that the prisoner would plead guilty, and that such a course should be adopted seemed to produce considerable surprise, inasmuch as it was understood that Sir T. Wilde, who was specially retained for the prisoner, had received 300 guineas for conducting the defence.

Mr. Baron Parke entered the Court at 10 o'clock.

The prisoner was placed at the bar. He looked extremely pale, and seemed greatly embarrassed by his unfortunate situation; but notwithstanding the poignant feelings of shame and sorrow with which his mind was evidently oppressed, he bowed in the most respectful manner to the learned Judge and the Court. He was dressed in black, and is a good-looking and somewhat portly man, of fair complexion and gentlemanly address.

The Clerk of the Arraigns then addressing him said, Edward Beaumont Smith, you are indicted for that you, on the 10th day of October in the present year, at the parish of St. Martin's-in the Fields, feloniously did forge a certain Exchequer bill, which is set forth in the indictment, dated the 16th day of June, 1841, and numbered 6,405, for the sum of £1,000., which interest after the rate of twopence farthing per centum per day, with intent to defraud our Lady the Queen. How say you, are you guilty or not guilty?

The prisoner, in a firm tone of voice, answered—"My Lord, I plead guilty."

Mr. Baron Parke then ordered the prisoner to be called up for judgment, and—

The Clerk of the Arraigns, addressing him, said—Edward Beaumont Smith, you stand convicted, by your own confession, of felony, what have you to say for yourself why you should not receive judgment according to law?

The prisoner expressed a wish to be allowed to make a few observations, and then, drawing from his pocket a paper, from which, though evidently labouring under the most agonising feelings, he read the following address:—

"I pray your Lordship's indulgence while I offer a few words to your consideration before you discharge the duty which my conduct has imposed upon you—that of passing sentence upon me. I would have received that sentence in respectful silence, and have thereby shortened the period of my painful exposure as a public criminal at this bar, and would have retired in penitence to my cell, did I not feel that I owe it to public justice—to the innocent persons whom my conduct may have placed in circumstances of suspicion, and also to myself, to say a few words. The crime I have committed is great; I do not attempt to excuse or to extenuate it; but it will not be forgotten that I have submitted myself to meet and exclusively to bear all the consequences of that crime, and have not sought to screen myself by the addition of duplicity or meanness; and I respectfully implore the Court not to think that I do not feel all the weight and enormity of the offence itself because I humbly call its attention to circumstances which are calculated to show that I have not become altogether debased, nor my feelings and principles entirely destroyed. Pecuniary difficulty arising from misplaced confidence, and unconnected with discredit, and of very limited extent, not exceeding a few hundred pounds, altho' beyond my means to meet them, first exposed me to the suggestion of those who tempted me to obtain a temporary relief by the fraudulent fabrication of Exchequer bills, to be pledged for a short time, and then to be redeemed and cancelled for ever. I yielded to the temptation, but without obtaining the promised relief, and, once committed, I became in the power of the tempter, and my retreat has been prevented. Allured and beguiled by plausibility, power, and talent which I could not resist, I became entangled beyond escape; and while Exchequer bills were obtained from me to an enormous extent, I never derived benefit even to the small extent necessary to relieve me from my comparatively trifling embarrassments, and I am at this moment in debt for money actually borrowed from sources unconnected with Exchequer bills to pay off my original incumbrances. A sordid or avaricious motive has never influenced me, and I have been sacrificed to the objects of others. Whatever speculations may have been carried on by those who have used these Exchequer bills, no profit or even account either of moneys received or speculations entered into, or of the losses or gains which have resulted, have ever reached me, and never were intended to do. Year after year bills have been wrung from me under pretence of redeeming and cancelling those outstanding, in order to prevent discovery; and afterwards, by the repeated misapplication of them, the necessity was created for more, to accomplish the original purpose, and thus the frightful issue which has taken place was occasioned. If those yet unstained by guilt could appreciate the horrors which attend a course of crime, no sentence of the law could be necessary to warn and deter them from entering upon it. I am born of a family upon which disgrace never lighted till now. Educated in principles of integrity and honour I have lived respected, and I believe esteemed, and I have enjoyed the confidence of many highly honourable persons; I am now, by my own confession, a guilty criminal, exposed and trembling at the bar of justice, and shrinking with agony from the gaze of my former friends. If any there are who are disposed to think my principles and education aggravate my crime, let them forbear their censure till they have estimated by how much they deepen my condition and aggravate my punishment. I have lived for years in the certain anticipation of this dreadful hour, knowing that it was certain to come, except, overborne by my own feelings, I should escape it by a still greater crime, or by flight. Uncertain how soon the period of detection would occur, every day and almost every hour has awakened some alarm lest it should have arrived, and that my character, station, and comfort should be destroyed for ever. My Lord, during the time that has passed, I have had the means and strong temptations to give Exchequer bills to raise sufficient money to enable me to fly, and thereby escape my present disgrace; but however, the word honour may be supposed to be prostituted by my using it, I yet declare I have been restrained from flying or raising money for such a purpose because I know that, in my absence, suspicion would arise that others had been either negligently or criminally instrumental in the commission of the fraud; and that public alarm would be the consequence to a much greater extent than the evil justified. During the period of my distress therefore, although I was overcome and induced to continue the commission of my offences to avoid meeting immediate disclosures, and forbear making a full disclosure of my previous criminal conduct, which I had often desired to do, I yet always resolved that, whenever the time of discovery should come, I would remain, and instantly avow myself as the solely guilty official person, and make the best reparation in my power by preventing unnecessary alarm and agitation to the public; that I would bear with whatever might be the whole consequences of my guilt, and not permit the innocent and honourable persons in the office, whether high or low, to be subjected to unjust suspicion. However guilty therefore, I yet am voluntarily a prisoner, and destitute of means, having acted under the influence of feelings much more consonant with my general character than are the acts which have brought me to this bar; and you, my Lord, from the depositions before you, will have learnt that, with ample opportunity to escape, and when suspicion had not in the slightest degree slighted upon me, I, unasked, made to the respectable solicitor of the Treasury the most distinct confession that I was the sole official author of the mischief, and instantly submitted myself to the doom which now awaits me, and which presents the prospect of the remainder of my life being bereft of everything that can render life desirable, and as a means only, by its continuance of protracted punishment, of wretchedness to those near and dear to me, and who are interested in the fate of so unhappy a being. The only use of that life must now be to enable me, by the fullest disclosure of every part of the transaction to diminish the consequence of my crime as much as possible, and to offer the only atonement in my power; and dreadful as every one perceives my present situation to be I can yet declare that, whatever may avail me, the horror cannot equal what I have endured during the years of anticipation of the discovery of my guilt. My Lord, I await your Lordship's sentence in a spirit of respectful submission; and I repeat that I know my crime has been great, but I also feel assured that in the execution of your high functions, and in the judicial censure of my offences, your lordship will never be unmindful that mercy is the best attendant upon justice, and that while the best of men need to cry aloud for mercy at Heaven's bar, it should not be forgotten in the administration of justice upon earth."

Whilst reading this address the prisoner's voice faltered repeatedly, and when he reached the passage in reference to his family, he was almost overpowered by his feelings. He burst into tears, and some moments elapsed before he could resume his painful and wretched task. The address of the prisoner affected the Learned Judge deeply, and many of the individuals in Court to tears.

Mr. Baron Parke then, addressing the prisoner, said—Edward Beaumont Smith, the course you have taken in thus publicly and openly acknowledging that you are guilty of the heinous offence imputed to you—an offence, as I learn from the depositions, and from your own statement, which is one only of a long series of crimes committed by you during a period of several years—leaves to me only the duty of announcing to you the sentence which the law assigns to persons guilty of that crime.—However painful it is to me to perform that duty, much more painful would it have been to me if I had that sentence to pass which a few years ago the law would have called for at my hands—when I should have had to announce to you, notwithstanding all you have said in the observations which you have addressed to the Court, that your life was forfeited to the law, and that you must have perished by an ignominious death. The humanity of the law now prevents me from being called upon to make to you so fearful an announcement, and prescribes that even the worst of forgers—and notwithstanding all you have said in mitigation of your offence I must say that, considering the circumstances under which that offence was committed, and the consequences likely to spring from it, and which will operate most harmfully for many years to come, I must rank you among that class—shall now atone for their crimes with their lives; but that, instead of this awful punishment, they shall submit their lives to the use of the State in servitude, and in degradation and disgrace. It is indeed a painful duty that I have to discharge towards you, because I have to make this announcement to a person who has filled situations of trust and confidence, who has walked in a higher rank and filled a more exalted station in life than the individuals who are usually placed at that bar, and who belongs to a family, as I have just heard, whose name is illustrious in the naval history of this country. Looking, however, at the consequences of your crime—at the deep injury which by that crime you have inflicted upon society, I can do no less than pass upon you the severest sentence which the law permits, which is that of transportation for life. You have done yourself no discredit by the course you have pursued. You have done yourself no harm, and I trust that those who shall read the statement which has fallen from your lips to-day—a statement which bears the impress of truth upon it—will take warning, and, seeing what fatal consequences follow the slightest, even a single deviation from the principles of honour and integrity, will ever avoid the adoption of such a line of conduct as might in the smallest degree be deemed a departure from the line of truth and rectitude.—In discharging the painful duty imposed upon me it is impossible for me not to feel for you as a man; but, as a magistrate, it is my duty to censure, in the strongest language I can use, the wicked crime you have committed. Even what you have urged as a palliation of that crime—considering the results likely to be produced—ruin has been entailed upon some individuals, and loss of their whole fortune to others, and all in consequence of the want of principle which you have shown. Under such circumstances, I should be wanting in my duty if I held out to you the least hope that the severest sentence of the law will not be carried into effect upon you—a sentence which, as yourself have said, consigns you to punishment for life, bereft of the society which are near and dear to you, and of all that renders life either valuable or desirable. By law, for the rest of your existence, you will be a slave in a foreign land, occupied in hard labour and surrounded by disgrace and infamy. The sentence of the court upon you for this your heinous offence, therefore is, "That you be transported beyond the seas, to such place as her Majesty, by the advice of her Privy council, shall direct and appoint, for the term of your natural life."

The prisoner appeared deeply affected by the observations of the Learned Judge, and, on receiving sentence, was so overcome as to require the assistance of two of the gaolers to enable him to leave the dock.

The allusion made by Mr. Baron Parke, in passing sentence to the family of the prisoner refers to his being a descendant of Sir Sidney Smith.

MONEY MARKETS AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

London, January 1.

In the money circles this week we have dull symptoms, for to close the year reports of several failures were current. On inquiry there does not appear to be much truth in them, but still capitalists are on their guard, seeing what desperate mishaps have of late occurred. One stoppage was announced yesterday, that of the firm of Messrs. Winsgate and Co., in the Paisley trade, the consequence of the failure of Messrs. Nicholson, and Co., last week. Money has not, however, been scarce, but yet the brokers keep up the rate to 4½ for the best bills, and are careful not to do too much business even at this rate. A circumstance that has pressed somewhat on the Money market within the last two days is, the striking, as usual, by the bankers of their cash balances on the last day of the year. This had extended its influence to the Stock Exchange, where cash has also been in more demand, and for the reason that the two settlements in Foreign Stocks and Railway Shares have been made since Wednesday.

THE ROYAL CHRISTENING.—The baptism of the Prince of Wales is expected to take place at the end of next month, and according to the present arrangment, the place will be St. George's Chapel, Windsor. This solemn rite will be celebrated under circumstances of unusual interest, and what we cannot but consider as most auspicious. The sponsors invited to answer at the font for the future monarch of this great empire are, the King of Prussia, the Duke of Cambridge, Ferdinand, Duke of Saxe Coburg, uncle of Prince Albert, the Princess Sophia, and the Duchess of Saxe Coburg. It is understood to be the intention of the King of Prussia to visit this country, in order that he may in person assist at the baptism; and surely no visitor can be more welcome to the Christian people of England than a prince who is not more by his position than by his own sincere connections, the representative and champion of the Protestant cause upon the continent of Europe; the Protector of the exiles from Zillerthall, our associate in the foundation of the Protestant church of Jerusalem. England and Prussia have never stood in union but for their common glory, and for the good of mankind—never seperated but for a common loss, and to the injury of the civilised world. Their union was, we trust, cemented for ever on the field of Waterloo.—Thanks to our gracious Queen, it is now to be recognised by another bond of affection, so domestic, familiar, and friendly, that we shall seem to have established a relation of brotherhood with the men who so gallantly fought by our side in the fiercest and most momentuous contest the world has ever witnessed. We trust that the Duke of Saxe Coburg will also be able to attend. Had he no other claims to the love of this people than his relationship to our Queen, and to this amiable and excellent prince who holds the second place in this empire—that would entitle him to a hearty welcome, such as Englishmen know how to give when their hearts are engaged; but the Duke also had a share in the deliverance of Europe, and his personal qualities would command respect every where. But we need say no more. England will know how to receive the royal and illustrious guests of their beloved Queen, invited upon an occasion so joyful as the present, and so full of hope.—*Standard of December.*

The Government of France and England are said to have come to an entire understanding relative to the differences between Turkey and Greece. King Otho will be called up to answer the charges of Turkey, and if his answer be not satisfactory, the Great Powers have resolved to compel him to respect the intergrity of the Ottoman Empire.

The *Shipping Gazette* contains intelligence of the utter failure of the Niger expedition. "We have," says that journal, "obtained information which puts an end to all speculation on the subject:—'The expedition is a failure; and the vessels may be expected home early in the spring—if not before!.'" It is added that "on the 18th of September the expedition was at the confluence of the Niger and Tebadda; that up to that period seven individuals had been taken of by fever; that between seventy and eighty others were under the influence of the disease; and that one of the vessels, the Soudan, had been sent with the sick to Fernando Po and Ascension."

THE RECORDER OF BRISTOL.—It is repeated that Sir Charles Wetherall, our learned and respected Recorder is about to resign that office.—*Bristol Mirror.*

The Duke of Northumberland has forwarded the handsome sum of 100*l* to the fund for the relief of the distressed operatives of Paisley.

A splendid importation from St. Petersburg, in the shape of a sledge, has been landed at the London Docks, and consigned to the Earl De Grey, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The sledge, with magnificient harness, was brought in the vessel Viscount Downe, and duty was paid on it the 29th of last month. It is now propable on its way to Ireland. It is described as being of a gorgeous description, lined with luxurious Persian carpet, and having bearskin enough for a polar expedition.—The harness is studed with his Excellency's coat of arms.

The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland last week caused their annual bounty of blankets, clothing, and coals to be given to the poor families in the neighbourhood of the princely mansion, and also a liberal supply of beef, &c., that the necessitous and deserving poor might enjoy this festive season of the year.

On Friday the Duke of Northumberland's gift of half-a-crown a-piece to 800 poor men and women, residents in the parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, was distributed at the Rectory House by the Rev Sir Henry Dukinfield. His Grace has this season issued five-shilling tickets to the number 1,000, for poor persons to obtain, coals potatoes, tea, and sugar, to that amount.

Capt. Gore, M. P. for New Ross, has declined to advance anything to the O'Connell Annuity, contrary to the expectations of his friends and supporters.

The Approaching Visit of the King of Prussia.—His Prussian Majesty has announced his intention of reaching by the 20th of Jan., at latest, the Palace at Windsor, where preparrtions are making for his reception on the most sumptuous scale.

Preparations are already making amongst ministerial and diplomatic personages for His Majesty the King of Prussia. The corporation of London, it is expected, will likewise show its hospitality in a manner becoming to the greatest Protestant Prince of the Continent, coming to England on an occasion so deeply moving the affection and loyalty of the British nation.

A rumour prevails of the marriage of a French diplomatist, well known in England, the Marquess de la Vallette, and Mrs. Wells, the Widow of an American merchant, late resident in Paris, who left his *belle moitie* a fortune, said to be 25,000*l.* per annum.

The Queen has sent 5*l.* to the parents of a little child who fell over the cliffat Chudleigh, while dancing round a bonfire which was lighted by quarrymen on hearing on the Prince of Wale's birth.

The chairman and deputy-chairman of the East India Company have selected Weekes to execute the statue of the Marquess of Wellesly, which was voted by the Court some time since to be placed in their Court-room.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. West, M. P. for Dublin. He had been ill only a few days with cold and influenza.

The *Moniteur* of Monday contains an important ordonnance. It reduces the French Army by one company for each battalion, and brings down its number from the 433,000 men voted for 1842, to 344,000 men, which will produce an economy of 30 millions of francs in 1843. The reduction is of 90,000 men, and 15,000 horses, the latter to be absorbed by the artillery and commissariat. (We may here observe that three-fourths of the horses supplied hastily last year have perished.) The soldiers raised by conscription, or already in service over and above the 344,000 men, will form the reserve, and will be subject to half-yearly reviews, and can raise the number of the effective army immediately to 500,000 men.

The friends of peace cannot but applaud this measure which is in accordance with the best interests, even with warlike interests of France.—Ninety thousand men ploughing her fields, instead of standing with fixed payonets on the frontier, will not only lighten her expenditure and add to her production, but by doing away with the attitude of menace, so idly assumed, give to France that moral force in Europe her late appeal to physical force had totally destroyed.

There are still rumours afloat that all is not right in the Cabinet, and that a ministerial modification or change is very probable, arising from the dissensions between the members of the present ministry.

In the Ministerial circles it is whispered that M. de Lamartine's nomination will not be insisted upon at the meeting of the "221" or Right party, which will take place at the house of General Jacqueminot, on the eve of the opening of the session.

Some of the Conservatives proclaim loudly their opinion that M. de Lamartine must not rely on their support. Count Mole, it is understood, disapproves now of the name of M. de Lamartine being put in nomination, and Emile de Girardin, of the *Presse*, and a few personal friends of the poet and Deputy alone persist in making use of his name. The fact is, that de Lamartine is but a very late member of the Conservative party. He is what is termed a Legitimatist *rallie*, or a renegade Royalist. He essayed to form a party of his own, called the Social Side, but he never had at most but two or three partisans in the Chamber. He gained ground by his opposition to the Fortification Bill, but the members of the "221" protest against his taking so specedily a prominent position, when others have fought under the Mole banners and possess great claims to the posts of distinction.—*Journal of Commerce.*

The fortifications of Paris are suspended, the contractors are nearly all ruined, the Engineering Department having enforced the execution of their engagements with the utmost severity. A large body of workmen are consequently thrown out of employment, and they will doubtless augment the difficulties of the Ministers.

QUEEN ADELAIDE.—It gives us the highest pleasure to state that her Majesty's health is so far improved as to leave little doubt but that in a very short time this illustrious lady will be restored to her wonted health and strength.—*Derby Reporter.*

The Queen having expressed some natural uneasiness that her son, the Prince of Wales, should have, during her life time, precedence of his Royal Father, it has been resolved that Prince Albert shall be immediately created King Consort, by the style and rank of his Majesty King Albert.—English history affords no precedent for such a step as this, but in other kingdoms in Europe the elevation under similar circumstances is not uncommon; and at this moment, in Portugal, the brother of Prince Albert, who is married to the Queen enjoys the title of King Consort.—*Mail.*

Why is the little Prince of Wales like the 11th Hussars?—Because he is "Prince Albert's own."

Why is he like the 10th hussars? Because he "don't dance."

We have authority to contradict a paragraph which has appeared in several of the public journals, that his Royal highness the Duke of Sussex is about to resign the Grand Mastership of the ancient order of Freemasons. That his Royal highness has no such intention is evident when we state that he was unanimously proposed at a meeting of the Grand Lodge on Wednesday to fill the distinguished office for the ensuing year.—*Times.*

COLONIAL BISHOPRICS.—We have reason to believe that, among other beneficial arrangements, the church in the West Indies is about to be placed on a far more efficient footing. Instead of two bishops there will certainly be four, and in the end perhaps six, in that part of the world. The bishopric of Barbadoes, which is now vacant by the resignation of Dr. Coleridge, is about to be divided into three, each of which will receive an endowment of £2,000 a-year. To meet this the bishop's revenues—at present 4,000 a-year—will be distributed, and the three archdeaconries, each of which is now worth 1,500 a-year, reduced to £600. So also it is stated that at the Cape of Good Hope and in New Brunswick sees will immediately be established; and that the same arrangements will be entered into throughout the colonies in general.

☞NOTICE.

WILLIAM NEEDHAM AKERLY, of Fredericton, Merchant, having assigned to the Subscribers all his Real Estate, Goods, Chattels, Debts and Effects, upon and for certain trusts and purposes in the Deeds of Assignment mentioned, require all persons indebted by Book Account or otherwise to the said W. N. Ackerly, to make instant payment to them at the Office of WILLIAM WATTS, Esquire, in Fredericton.

JOHN F. TAYLOR,
WM. A. McLEAN,
Nov. 12, 1841. W. WATTS.

MENS, Women's & Childrens INDIA RUBBER SHOES, for sale cheap for Cash only at FOSTER'S SHOE STORE,
Dec. 3d. Corner of King and Germain st's.

☞The Chronicle Office is in the Brick Building at the corner of Prince William and Church streets, near the Market Square.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, JAN. 28, 1842.

The English Mail, bringing dates to 4th January, arrived in this City on Sunday morning, by express. The *Britannia*, steamer, which brought the Mail to Halifax, had a stormy passage of 16 days, during which she had her paddle boxes much injured and her life boat stove.

We are indebted to an invaluable friend for London Papers to the 3d instant.

Lord Ashburton has been selected for a special mission to the United States to negociate for the immediate and final settlement of the existing differences on the boundary, the *Caroline*, and the right of search questions, and will embark in the course of a week or two. We trust that he will be successful, and that the renewal of those alarms which have proved so detrimental to commercial intercourse will be prevented.

The revenue returns, which will not be made up until the evening of the 5th instant, we have reason to believe will present an increase in every department except perhaps the excise. It is expected that in the customs there will be an increase on the year of or about £100,000; whilst the increase on the quarter, as compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, will be about £400,000. As the income of the country for the year ending the month of October last was below the expenditure, there will not be any investment during the next three months in aid of the sinking fund. Depression, dullness, and embarrassment, have been the prevailing features in nearly all departments of trade during the past year; but a change, we are assured, is at hand for the better, and we trust will be permanent. The ruinously low prices that have ruled during 1841, not only for manufactures, but also for many leading staples, give a better index to the cause of these general complaints than the actual return of exported consumption, for these would lead to the supposition of prosperity. The monetary system in England is beginning to assume a healthy position; the stock of bullion in the bank now amounting to nearly one-third of the circulation.—*European, Jan. 4.*

STEAM BOAT EXPLOSION.—Yesterday, Mr. Craig, Blacksmith, of this city, started for trial, a newly constructed Iron Steamboat, (destined to ply between this city and Woodstock.) The boat went round the harbour and was found to answer extremely well. She was then brought to the end of the North Market wharf, and before the persons on board could debark, the boiler burst with a tremendous explosion. Mr. Craig and a lad who were on deck were blown overboard; the lad got on shore and Mr. C. after struggling to secure himself to the wharf, was seen to sink. Every exertion was made to recover the body but without success. Some three or four hours after, he was discovered by a lad, sitting on a log under the wharf, in a state of stupor and exhaustion, and taken from thence and medically attended. Two boys, apprentices of Mr. Craig, who were in the Engine room at the time, were severely scalded, one of them (Jeremiah M'Carty,) is since dead. A crowd of people were standing on the wharf at the time of the accident, several of whom were thrown down by the concussion and injured, among whom was Mr. G. Blatch, who was so severely hurt as to be thought in a hopeless condition. We are happy to hear however this morning, that he is somewhat recovered. Mr. Craig is also convalescent. The accident occurred from the circumstance of the boat being started before a Feed pump had been supplied, the water in the boiler being nearly exhausted, and a part of the boiler becoming overheated. This is the first, and indeed the only steamboat explosion that has occurred in this Province, and we sincerely trust, that as the Engine is on the high pressure principle, that a careful as well as a skilful person will be employed to take charge of her when the Boat commences running.

CONCERT.—On Wednesday evening last, agreeably to advertisement, a Concert of Vocal and Instrumental Music was given in the National School Room. The building was crowded to excess, and the whole performance gave general satisfaction. The different pieces were sung with much taste and judgment, by the *St. John Sacred Music Society*, and was decidedly the best Concert given by that body. We trust ere long to hear from the same body, an Oratorio, as we understand they are now practicing some of the most celebrated compositions of Handel, Hayden, Mozart, and others equally eminent.

NEW EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—His Honor Judge CHIPMAN having munificently given a plot of ground in Portland, near the mill pond, for the erection of an Episcopal Church, the frame of the building was raised on Wednesday last. It is anticipated that Divine service will be performed in it, in the course of the coming summer.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.—This number will contain the replies of both Houses to the Speech of His Excellency at the opening of the Session. It is something new to us, to find the Speech from Her Majesty's representative so cordially and so generally responded to. And what makes the marvel the greater is, that a thorough change of system in the Provincial Parliament is about to be adopted.—"Tis strange! 'tis passing strange, that the harmonious workings, yes ALL the harmonious workings of Sir John Harvey's Government, have within a year, a little year, ere the praise was cold, which was so overwhelmingly lavished on his measures is blown "into air," into "thin air,"—vanished, and the discovery is now made that all was WRONG, all was FALLACIOUS, all was—shall we write the word, yes, IniQUITOUS. A change has come over the spirit of their dreams; the same Council is there, the same Commons is there, but where has fled the *Immaculate*, the *Patriotic*, the *Popular* system of RESPONSIBLE Government. That His Excellency has recommended many excellent and wholesome changes in the Government is highly to his credit, as we trust it will be to the benefit of the country. But how this mighty change has been brought about "puzzles the will." Some folks have been so ill natured as to say that they fear a dissolution, and that that is the reason why they so ardently second His Excellency's views; but who will believe that selfish ideas could find a place in the breasts of *Honorable* members.

An amateur Theatrical performance by the Officers of the Garrison, under the patronage of Lady Colebrooke, will take place at Fredericton on the 1st February, in aid of the Funds of the Ladies' Benevolent Society of Fredericton.

ADDRESS OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY IN ANSWER TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.

May it please Your Excellency,

WE the Representatives of Her Majesty's faithful and loyal people of New Brunswick, thank Your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to deliver at the opening of the present Session; and we respectfully and cordially welcome Your Excellency to the administration of our Provincial Government.

We feel with Your Excellency that this favoured portion of the Empire, has abundant cause to be thankful to Divine Providence, for the manifold blessings which it enjoys; and while we sincerely hope that the sufferings which have been occasioned by the late calamitous fires in St. John, as well as by general commercial embarrassment, will be of short duration; we assure Your Excellency, that every effort will be made on our part, with a due regard to our means, to maintain the credit and develop the resources of the Province, in a manner best calculated to prove beneficial to all classes.

The joy and thankfulness which resounded through the British Isles, on the late happy and auspicious occasion, has found a heartfelt response in this loyal colony; and we doubtly pray, that our Young Prince may inherit all the virtues of his ancestors, and become in good time the glorious Defender of those principles, which may perpetuate the general good of his people, without distinction of sect or party.

The settlement and establishment of the Boundary Line, has long been an object of our most earnest solicitude; fully sensible of the existing dangers and of the benefits which would accrue to all parties interested, we do most sincerely hope that the negotiations between her Majesty's Government and that of the United States, will result in an early and satisfactory adjustment of this vexatious and embarrasing question.

Our early and earnest attention shall be directed to the principle of municipal government, as recognised by the British constitution, as well as to the local institutions, recently introduced into a neighbouring Colony, with a view to determine how far they may be applicable to this Province, and whether their introduction may be deemed beneficial to its interests

In appropriating the means which have hitherto been placed at our disposal, we have exercised our best judgment, to accelerate the improvement and promote the settlement of the Province: and we shall be rejoiced at any opportunity which may be afforded us, of extending and farther securing the efficient execution of any system, calculated to advance the general welfare of the Province, by the application of scientific and practical knowledge.

The several public works enumerated by Your Excellency, shall receive our early consideration; and we agree with Your Excellency, that among the most important of them, is the great road to Canada.

We highly appreciate Your Excellency's exertions in the encouragement of Agriculture and Emigration; and nothing shall be wanting on our part, that may give effect to a judicious plan of settling and cultivating the districts of rich wilderness lands, abounding in various parts of the Province.

The further prosecution of the Geological Survey, recommended to our consideration by Your Excellency, will receive that attention from us, which its usefulness hitherto, in developing the mineral resources and agricultural capacities of the Province may seem to merit.

Hitherto every effort of legislation and philanthropy, has failed to make any material impression on the indomitable character and habits of the Indian tribes; but we learn with pleasure, that recent reports to Your Excellency have not recognised the existence of any serious obstacle to the introduction of measures for their social improvement; and the information of Indian villages, the establishment of schools, or any experiment likely to result in alluring that unhappy race to the arts of civilized life, shall receive our cordial support.

Notwithstanding the very liberal aid constantly extended to educational purposes, we are painfully aware, that the condition of the common Schools is by no means such as it ought to be; and any suggestions from Your Excellency, which may enable us to improve the present system will be thankfully received.

The laws for the regulation of prisons, the criminal laws, those relating to insolvency, and the imprisonment of debtors, shall receive due attention.

The protection and encouragement of the Fisheries, a subject that has always engaged the attention of the Legislature, shall again receive our anxious consideration.

We are gratified to learn that notwithstanding the present state of commercial distress, the revenue of the Province has not diminished—that by judicious management, the means for defraying the ordinary expences of the government, as well as for encourageing other useful undertakings, will be ample; and we beg to assure Your Excellency, that we shall carefully consider every measure submitted to us, having for its object the improvement of our financial system—whether it be the establishment of a more efficient audit of the public accounts—the consolidation of the departments of revenue—the adoption of British sterling, as the money of account, the consolidation of the Banking system—the discontinuance of the Statute Labour, for a moderate money rate—or the general mode of expending the revenue.

The earnest attention which since your arrival in New Brunswick, Your Excellency has paid to the resources and wants of the Province—the high character which you give the inhabitants, and the desire which you so warmly express that under Providence they should participate largely in the advantages imparted by the British constitution, demand our most grateful acknowledgments and our warmest thanks.

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

I return you my sincere acknowledgments for your address.

The feelings you express, in reference to the auspicious event of the birth of an Heir Apparent will be gratifying to Her Majesty, from the Representatives of Her faithful subjects in this Province.

For your cordial reception of me in entering on the arduous duties which Her Majesty has confided to me, I offer you my warm thanks; and I look with confidence to your support, in carrying out the various measures which will be calculated to promote the welfare of the people.

ANSWER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

To His Excellency Lieutenant Colonel Sir WILLIAM MCBEAN GEORGE COLEBROOKE, *Knight of the Hanoverran Guelphic Order, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, &c. &c. &c.*

The Humble Address of Her Majesty's Legislative Council in General Assembly,

May it please Your Excellency,

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Council in General Assembly, return our thanks for Your Excellency's Speech at the opening of the present session, and we feel most grateful to Her Majesty for having selected a person so well qualified by long and successful public service as Your Excellency, to succeed to the Government of this Province.

We regret to learn that the embarrassment in the commercial world in general, has operated so seriously upon the trade of the Province, and that the city of St. John, in addition to the distress occasioned by the late calamitous fires, is suffering from one of those revulsions to which commerce is always liable from over trading and imprudent investments; yet we feel confident that with a continuance of the protection hitherto afforded by the Mother Country to the trade of these Colonies, accompanied by a rigid exercise of prudence and economy, and due caution in business, the present difficulties will in a short time, under the blessing of Divine Providence be succeeded by a more sound and prosperous course of trade.

We cordially participate in Your Excellency's cong