appear from the evidence. His suspicions, however, and by whomsoever excited, did not arise till March last. Perhaps the public will never know the secret history of the transaction. Doubtless, however, in this case, as in most cases of the kind,

"..... Some eternal villain,
Some busy and insinuating rogue,
Some cogging, cozening slave—
Design'd the slander."

The result has been to excite very general sympathy for the unfortunate wife, who was equally accused, morally, though not legally, with Lord Melbourne, and nothing but compassion for the unhappy husband, who is made

"A fixed figure, for the time of scorn,
To point his slow unmoving finger at"

A plot, both domestic and political,—domestic against Mrs. Norton, and political against Lord Melbourne,—there has unquestionably been. Let us hope that the conspirators against the honour of the lady and the character of the Minister will be detected, exposed, and punished.—*Liverpool Albion.*

MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, AUG. 10, 1836.

The packet ships *Poland* from Havre, and *St. James* from London, arrived at New York, bring down the dates from Paris to the 1st July, and from London to the 30th June. We subjoin a selection from the New York journals of the news, the most important of which, if true, will be found under the head of Turkey.

England.

The proceedings of Parliament are not important. In the House of Commons on the 29th, many petitions were presented on the subject of the Irish Corporations Bill, and for the abolition of tithes. Mr. S. Crawford represented that one of them implored the House to assist in promoting the views of the "universal liberator of mankind, Daniel O'Connell"—language that produced no ordinary entertainment.

THE POLAR EXPEDITION.—Capt. Back sailed on Tuesday se'nnight from Chatham, in command of his Majesty's ship *Terror*, on his expedition to Wager River, on the south-west of Sir Thomas Rose's Welcome, with a crew of sixty men. His return may either be expected next November, or the same month in the next year.

LONDON, *June* 30.—Letters from Tunis are quoted, which show the possibility of a collision between the French and Turkish fleets in that quarter, "unless Russia shall intimate to the Porte the danger that would attend such an imprudence as a naval engagement, even though undertaken with a numerical superiority over the French." The Dukes of Orleans and Nemours arrived on the 18th at Roverdo.

We have had a few fighting episodes, as a relief to the dull routine of business in the Commons. On Friday week, Colonel French and Mr. Rigby Wason had a quarrel; it was taken up by the House, and French (in Wason's absence) was committed to confinement, as he declined giving a pledge that he would not accept a challenge. Wason, it seems, had "cut and run" to Dover, expecting French to follow and have the duel, "snug and comfortable," as Sir Lucius O'Trigger would say, at Calais. He was *nabbed*, however, by one of the officers of the House, and, on Monday week, brought before the Commons—when, after a two hours' discussion, he and French mutually explained, and the matter ended. The next day, Walter (the leading proprietor of the *Times*) got up and made a severe speech against Ministers, on the Irish question. O'Connell hates the *Times* for its constant and foul-mouthed abuse of him, and seized this opportunity of castigating it, through Walter. He was met with five distinct interruptions from as many Tories; but he went on in spite of them. On Thursday, Colonel Sibthorpe and Sir John C. Hobhouse (Byron's friend) had a row—but they mutually retracted the offensive expressions they had used. On Monday, while the Commons were in Committee upon the newspaper stamp duty, Mr. Roebuck made a speech in favour of the reduction of the tax, which did not please a Mr. Kearsley, Member for Wigham, in Lincolnshire. This Kearsley is a half-witted fellow, who (*entre nous*) is like the immortal Captain Wattle, who was all for love, and a little for the bottle. Kearsley, *mere me*, was "three sheets in the wind," and getting up, he stuttered out that Roebuck's speech was "most disgusting." This the House could not bear, and he was loudly called to order. But he would not obey, and kept on muttering that he was "disgusted" with what Roebuck had said. There was a mighty hubbub—at last, Mr. Paul Methuen, M. P. for Wiltshire, remonstrated with Kearsley, who, to the amusement of the House, deliberately put up a quizzing glass over his immense spectacles, and with the most ludicrous drunken gravity, called out in a loud voice, "Paul, Paul, why persecutest thou me?" Mr. Paul Methuen was obliged to throw himself, at full length, upon the bench, so overcome was he with laughter. Kearsley then commenced walking up and down the middle of the floor, amid the roars of the Members, for he found it a task to keep his centre of gravity. However, he only stumbled three times. Finally he made an apology for his offensive language. Roebuck sent him a message, by the hands of Sir William Molesworth, but (as he states in a letter to the *Chronicle*) when Sir William delivered the hostile message to Kearsley, who was "in his glory" in the smoking room, Kearsley read it aloud for the good of the company, and said he could not think of fighting. Roebuck has let the matter drop, thinking there is no credit to be gained by a quarrel with a drunken man.—*Liverpool Correspondence N. Y. Star.*

Ireland.

DUBLIN, *June* 14.—The distress in Donegal has almost reached the extreme point. The scanty stock of provisions has been wholly consumed, and those who are usually considered well off, and to whom compassionate aid the mere paupers have recourse in seasons of ordinary privation, are paupers themselves. Whatever means they can yet command from the wreck of their substance they are compelled to expend in purchasing food from other parts of the country for their own families, so that the lowest, and by far the most numerous class of the peasantry, are utterly destitute, and without resource. In a very short time, indeed, as the wretched remnant of the farmers' stock-purse shall have been drained, all will be reduced to the same frightful level; and for two months yet to come, the entire population will be doomed to undergo the unmitigated pains and horrors of famine. The actual want and the dread which prevails among these poor people of being left without a single morsel of food have made them nearly desperate. Last week a small vessel, laden with potatoes, was sent by agents in the employment of the Government to the little harbour of Rutland; and immediately on its approaching the land the people crowded the shore, and, regardless of danger, rushed into the surf, and, at the risk of being drowned, waded out to obtain a share of the precious cargo, so as to prevent its being thrown overboard. They had not patience to wait until the men could weigh out and distribute the potatoes, and it became necessary to introduce an officer and guard of policemen into the ship before a space sufficient for that purpose could be cleared. Fierce contentions broke out amongst the multitude whilst the work was proceeding. It began at six o'clock on Sunday morning, and continued, without allowing the sailors an hour to rest or take refreshment, until eleven at night; and all that remained of the cargo was served on the following day amid the same signs of anxiety and impatience. This supply afforded great relief for the time; but, compared to the necessities and demands of the thousands who required it, it was scarcely more than a week's provision.

We are sorry to learn that Mrs. O'Connell is in a very precarious state of health. The complaint under which she labours is the dropsy, and no hopes are entertained of her recovery.—*Blackburn Gazette.*

The King has been pleased to raise to the dignity of Baronets of the United Kingdom the following gentlemen, who are all Irish:—Mr. John Power, of Kilfane; Mr. John Kennedy, of Johnstown; and Mr. F. Workman M'Naughten.

DEATH OF THE RIGHT REV. DR. M'MAHON, BISHOP OF KILLALOE.—Died, on Tuesday, at his seat, Wellpark, near Quin, the Rev. Dr. M'Mahon, R. C. Bishop of the diocese, of Killaloe. Dr. M'Mahon was consecrated coadjutor Bishop of the diocese about Nov. 1819, in which capacity he continued to officiate until the death of the late Dr. O'Shaughnessy, which occurred in August, 1829, when he succeeded to the bishopric. The Doctor was educated for the Church in Nantz, where he distinguished himself.—*Dublin Morning Register.*

France.

Alibeau, the assassin, had made no disclosures, and persisted in declaring that he had no accomplices. A number of young men had been arrested, and the police had been active in visiting the gun-smiths' shops, seizing prohibited weapons. In the shop of the man from whom Alibeau obtained his gun, or pistol, fourteen others like unto it were seized.

The following paragraph throws some light upon the motives of the assassin:—"When Alibeau was taken into his cell at the conciergerie, he amused himself with reading the inscriptions Fieschi had scratched on the walls during his detention there, and which have been suffered to remain on account of their moral tendency. Alibeau soon began to smile, and said, "How silly this man made himself! Yet he and I shall go down to posterity. You will find, however, that I shall conduct myself very differently from him; for he was a great babbler, and fancied he produced a great effect by his oily words and affections." When conversing with his townsfolks, M. and Madame Mercier, though he declared he had no accomplices, and that he dared not confide his project, on account of the egotism of the age, he asserted that there were at least 20,000 persons in France who were as determined as himself.

It is stated, among fifty other stories, that Alibeau when a soldier, received a wound in the head, the effect of which, aggravated by a life of dissipation, had been an occasional aberration of intellect. One of the accounts gravely says that he is particularly fond of wine and good living. He had been for some time in a state of abject poverty, living on bread and water.

His trial was to be brought on with all possible despatch, and one account states that the act of accusation will be simply of an attempt to kill, without reference to the fact that the attempt was against the life of the King.

The king had been urged, since the attempt of Alibeau, to establish a body-guard, but would not listen to it, saying that bayonets had not been wanting, and that he would rather expose his life than submit to such servitude. His Majesty had address-ed the following letter to the Archbishops and Bishops of France:—

"REVEREND SIR,—A new attempt has just threatened my life. Providence has prevented it. My gratitude is raised towards him who has covered with his powerful hand a life entirely devoted to the welfare of France. I have the firm conviction that their persevering protection will aid me in maintaining in my country peace and respect for religion, order and law. My intention is that a solemn *Te Deum* and thanksgivings should be celebrated in all the churches of your diocese.

"LOUIS PHILIPPE."

Paris, June 27, 1836.

PARIS, *June* 28.—We learn that, after their return to Neuilly, on Sunday, the King, Queen, and Royal Family, went to the parish church, and were present at a *Te Deum* performed, in thanksgiving, for the preservation of his Majesty's life. The church, and all the avenues to it, were crowded. Detachments from the National Guards of Neuilly, Pateaux, and Courbevoie, attended spontaneously; the passage from the door to the altar was formed by a company of the grenadiers. The *Domine salvum fac Regem* was joined in by the whole congregation with such fervour, that the eyes of the whole Royal Family were bathed in tears, and even some of the oldest veteran officers were affected.

PARIS, *July* 1.—At a preliminary meeting, held on Wednesday, Admiral Sir Sydney Smith being unanimously called to the chair, a resolution was agreed to, that a general meeting of the British and American residents in Paris and its vicinity, be held tomorrow (Saturday,) at three o'clock, in Musard's Great Concert-room, No. 359, Rue St. Honore, for the purpose of agreeing to and signing a Congratulatory Address, to be presented to His Majesty, Louis Philippe, on his late providential escape.

A Committee was appointed to draw up a suitable Address on the occasion, and, thanks having been voted to the Gallant Admiral in the chair, the meeting adjourned until tomorrow, when a very numerous assembly is anticipated.

The *Journal de Havre* announces that an experiment was made on Monday of Messrs. Feyre and Bremond's apparatus, for rendering sea water potable and fit for all the purposes of fresh water. It appeared at first to be rather complicated; but in the end showed that, at a very small expenditure of fuel, it will produce a constant supply of wholesome water.

The *Gazette de France* has been seized for an article on the late attempt on the King's life.

The Marquis Charles de St. Maurice, responsible Editor of *La France*, has been condemned to three months' imprisonment, and a fine of 3000 francs, for an article on the subject of the National Guards.

Advices from Madrid, of the 23d June, speak of an arrangement about to be entered into by a reunion of the grandees, to guarantee a loan. Should this fail, it is said the queen will pledge the royal domains.

A letter from Smyrna, dated June 3d, published in the *Journal du Commerce* of the 30th, contains alarming accounts from Greece. The kingdom is said to be swarming with small bands, assembled under native chiefs conspicuous for their dislike of the Bavarians. The writer even says that King Otho is not expected to return, and that the monarchy is on the eve of falling to pieces. We place little confidence in these reports.

It was rumored in Paris on the 30th that the sultan of Turkey had consented to dismiss the reis-effendi, on the demand of Lord Ponsonby.

Also, that general Villareal, chief in command of the Carlists, recently appointed on account of the feeble health of Eguia, had himself tendered his resignation, nominally for the same reason.

SUPPRESSION OF GAMBLING-HOUSES IN PARIS.—The Chamber of Deputies passed, on Friday week, an important vote, suppressing all the gambling-houses of the capital from January, 1836. The company which framed these establishments had hoped to parry the mensced blow by volunteering to suppress such gambling-houses as were frequented by artisans, and where the stake was as low as a franc. The House and Finance Ministers deprecated the loss to the revenue, and proposed a more gradual suppression. But the Chamber decided upon adopting the motion of M. Gastan de la Rochefoucauld, which fixed the commencement of 1836 as the term of permission to such houses.

M. Passy, one of the Ministers, voted for this motion—deprecated, if not opposed by his colleagues—a circumstance which gave rise to some observations in the Chamber. The suppression of gambling-houses in France was a measure which must have been foreseen, since the lotteries were suppressed. No one can deny its excellence and urgency; but the difficulty is to render it effectual, and to prevent those public establishments in which life, at least, was secure, from being replaced by secret dens of infamy, escaping the scrutiny of the police.

The French Finance Minister denounced the existence of seventeen noted gaming houses which exist in Paris in defiance of the law.—Count d'Argout said, that if the motion was agreed to, Paris would lose the foreign population which enriches it. One effect of the law will most certainly be to send immense crowds to the town and watering places of Germany, where public tables still remain to attract those infected with the passion of gambling. Baden, Wishbaden, and Carlsbad will overflow with visitors; and the "Bubbles from the Brunnens" will be golden ones.

We have great pleasure in announcing that the King has created Captain Basil Hall a Commander of the Order of the Legion of Honor, in consideration of the services he has rendered to the sciences, and particularly those of navigation and astronomy.—*Galignani.*

Spain.

The intelligence from Spain is melancholy and afflicting. Poverty, discontent, outrage and ferocity mark the unhappy contest raging in that distracted kingdom. No military movements of consequence have taken place, and both parties seem to be in a wretched condition. The Queen was about to visit the seat of war in person.

"On the 24th June 13 Carlist battalions, commanded by Garcia, attacked Larrasona with five pieces of artillery. A company of the Foreign Legion, which defended a block house, blew it up after a vigorous resistance. The Viceroy, setting out from Pampeluna with six battalions turned the enemy's position, and drove him back upon Buratin, after having killed or wounded nearly 400 of his men. The Christinos set out in pursuit of the remainder the day after."

Nothing new from Saragossa or Navarre, but great anxiety was felt at Madrid for the situation of affairs in Valencia, where the Queen's forces are greatly out-numbered by the Carlists Don Carlos was still at Villafranca.

Turkey.

The intelligence from Turkey is interesting, if the correspondent of the *London Times* may be relied on. He writes as follows:—

PARIS, *June* 27.—Despatches from Constantinople, dated 9th instant, arrived to this Government last night by a French courier; they state that all intercourse between Lord Ponsonby and the Porte had ceased, and the rest of the diplomatic body, finding the affair become very serious, had backed out of it, refusing further to interfere. I am bound to add, that the *corps diplomatique* consider that Lord Ponsonby went too far in his demands and menaces.—The Ottoman fleet which had orders and was ready to sail, was, in consequence of the state of this question, countermanded, and the squadron, which had already quitted the Bosphorus, was recalled (that is, orders for its recall were issued.) The reason for these measures was, lest the British fleet should attempt to seize that of Turkey by a *coup de main.*

The Porte is in other respects, assuming a defensive attitude, and is displaying an unpleasant degree of enmity or incivility towards England. A few days before the date of these despatches, a firman applied for to enable a British vessel (with despatches) to enter the Black Sea, was formally refused by the Turkish government.

M. Boutanieff (the Russian ambassador) had forwarded to his court and London, remonstrances and protests against the charges directed against him and his imperial master, by Lord Ponsonby, justifying himself against the imputation of having had any thing to do in producing the treatment of which Mr. Churchill had been the object. The Austrian ambassador had also protested against those accusations, declaring them unfounded.

This is not all.

The Austrian Government has forwarded to its representative at the court of London, a formal protest and remonstrance against the conduct of Lord Ponsonby in the respect in question, and stating unequivocally that it (the Austrian Government) will consider as a declaration of war, any act of hostility committed against Turkey, by any power of Europe, and that it is determined, moreover, to maintain in its fullest extent and meaning the integrity of the Ottoman empire.

In a late number of the *Minerve*, there is a laboured article on the subject of the Royal Commission. The writer takes for granted that the Commission is illegal, and tries heard to prove that it is an insult to the Canadian majority, (*Nation Canadienne,*) while he makes no secret that his party would overlook the illegality, insult, &c. of this inquisitorial visit, should the representations to the Home Government, to which it will lead, be favourable to their cause. This is strange reasoning, although it has been applied to the Commission by others besides the party in question. Is it, however, wise, just, or honourable?

As to the legality of the Royal Commission, it is sufficient to say that it exercises no functions contrary to law. It does nothing that is illegal, nor does it aim at or usurp any authority that is inconsistent with or opposed to that which is regularly established in the land. The appointment of Commissions of Enquiry is a prerogative of the Crown, which is daily exercised. Their efficiency is entirely owing to the deference which all loyal and upright men are inclined to pay to the source whence they emanate, and to their object, which is the investigation of truth; but more especially is it owing to the anxiety of contending parties, to lay before them as full and as favourable representations as possible, of their own cause. What vast changes in Britain have not been generally the result of the investigations of Royal Commissions which have furnished the data upon which the Legislature has founded its enactments? To mention no other, the Commissioners that examined into the abuses of Municipal Corporations were clothed with no other authority than their mere appointment under the great seal. The rest was left to the operation of those causes to which we have already alluded, and which produced a strong competition between those who were for the continuance of the old corporations and those who desired their overthrow, to supply the Commissioners with every variety of information. The only way in which such Commissions, which are composed of competent and honest men, can be rendered of little or no value is for no party, to urge their claims before them. It is evident, however, if any class of citizens neglect to make representations of what peculiar hardships they may be suffering, or of their wants, &c. while other classes take extreme pains to give prominence to all their wishes, that the pretensions of the latter would occupy a place in the Reports of the Commissioners, more favorable than they might be in strict justice entitled to. With respect to the Royal Commission now Canada, self-interest, were there no higher motive in the matter, ought to prompt every party to lay before it a full and faithful detail of their views.

But, we are losing sight of the *Minerve.*—To prove that the Commission is insulting to the *Nation Canadienne* and its appointment a tyrannical exercise of power on the part of Britain, it argues in this way. The Commission of Enquiry is insulting, because it necessarily proves that the Imperial Government is in doubt concerning, or wholly disbelieves the substance of, the 92 Resolutions of the House of Assembly, which is affirmed to be a true representation of the veracity, wisdom, intelligence, and moderation of the *Nation Canadienne*; and which Assembly is alone clothed with the power of enquiring into the wants and wishes of the people.

As to the appointment of individuals to enquire on the spot into the truth of the Assembly's allegations being insulting, it is just as it may be taken; though we must own, it cannot be construed into a compliment to the veracity and judgment of the Representatives of the *majority.* The *Minerve*, in denying the right of enquiry as exercised by the King, denies a right which may be said to belong to every subject, equally with the King; but the exercise of which would undoubtedly lead to disproportionate results in the two cases.

Our cotemporary becomes outrageous at the idea of external Interference; but has not the House of Assembly courted it by its representations? By what authority did it imagine that it was to be put in possession of all the extraordinary powers to which it has laid claim, unless by that of the Imperial Legislature? Would it not be interference with a vengeance, for the whole fabric and spirit of the Constitution to be changed as asked for by the Assembly? The *Minerve* and its party may have to their hearts content about the illegality of the Royal Commission, its being an insult to the *Nation Canadienne*, and a piece of tyranny; but we believe that, as Imperial interference has become absolutely necessary, the complexion, nature and extent of that interference, will be very much influenced by the Reports of the Royal Commission. Great weight is always allowed by the Imperial Parliament to the representations of such, and we see nothing to make us believe that less will be given to those of the one now among us. Reformers should give this their serious consideration, and let no foolish suspicions of the result of the Enquiry prevent them from laying before the Commissioners a faithful statement of their demands.

Our readers will find in another column a copy of a Petition to the Royal Commissioners. We have published it, that it may be read, that the original may be signed and sent to its destination with the names of some thousands of our fellow-citizens. An underhand attempt, which, coming from the quarter it does, is of too common occurrence to excite our surprise, has been made to misrepresent not only the nature of the petition, but also the motives of those with whom it originated.

With respect to all insinuations concerning the nature or contents of the document, we have only to say "READ IT," and let those persons judge of its merits, who have their judgments in their own keeping. Neither the opinions nor the signatures of others are worth having. Let it be read, we say, and the conclusion that every unprejudiced mind must arrive at, is, that it exhibits a faithful synopsis of those real and substantial grievances which we every day experience. In it are avoided all abstract political subjects, and reference is only made to those which are known and practical—to abuses which are felt, and which it is acknowledged on all hands must be remedied.

There is one characteristic of the Petition, however, which we had nearly overlooked, but which is, in fact, the real stumbling block in the way of those who cavil at it. Its principles are liberal. It protests against all exclusiveness or favoritism. It regards all the classes of the population as equally entitled to Government protection and favour, whatever may be their religious opinions. It deprecates the exclusive establishment in this colony of any religious sect.

The motives of the promoters of the petition have been falsely maligned, upon the most absurd grounds. "Register offices and all that kind of thing," to which nineteen twentieths of the contents of the document refer, "are said to be used as a cloak for the one object of the petition," "the new doctrine," which, if we do not mistake the allusion, refers to the opinion embodied in the fourth paragraph, relative to the religious equality of all sects, as far as State patronage is concerned. Does the *Herald* not know that the nursing and propagation of this very doctrine in all its length and breadth, without the semblance of a cloak over it, is the peculiar province of a society about to be formed for the purpose? What occasion was there for any disguise in enunciating this "doctrine," which is by no means "new"? And yet the embodying of the "doctrine" in the petition, has drawn upon its promoters the imputation of "*crafty meanness!*" But who, pray, do not assent to the "doctrine,"—what and where are they? Why do they not let themselves be known?

The following is from yesterday's *Herald*, and all we have to say about it is, "read it," and admire the discrimination and judgment displayed in the last sentence especially, of the first paragraph. What next!

"The petition, to which we yesterday alluded, is represented by its godfathers as being for Register Offices, &c. Now the truth is, that Register Offices and all that kind of thing, have been already demanded, and are now used as a cloak for the one object of the petition. Read it. *If you disapprove of the new doctrine, withhold your name on that special ground; if you approve of the new doctrine, withhold your name on account of the* CRAFTY MEANNESS OF ITS OPPRESSOR PATRONS.

"We know, that several signatures were obtained in a very questionable way; and we hear that several names have been erased."

The failure of Mr. RATHBUN, a most extensive speculator in Buffalo, has caused a great sensation both there and in New York. There are some circumstances of a singular and discreditable nature connected with it, and which will be found detailed below:—

"The news of the failure of Benjamin Rathbun, at Buffalo, which was received this morning, caused a very unusual sensation in Wall street. His affairs have for months past been the subject of much speculation, and his notes, endorsed by some ten or twelve of the best names in that city, have been crowded upon the market at the enormous discount of three or four per cent a month. They have served for the quotations of some of our neighbors in giving the condition of the money market. The credit of every body in Buffalo of course became deeply implicated, and it was said repeatedly that, if Rathbun failed, all Buffalo must fail.

"Mr. Rathbun's business was enormously extended. In addition to large operations in real estate, in which he was constantly engaged, he was a contractor for erecting the great hotel, and many other buildings. In this line he has shops and establishments of his own for making bricks, and furnishing and working all sorts of materials for building. He had no less than four stores kept in his own name, three of which were one hundred and fifty feet deep, filled with valuable merchandize. He owned the line of stages from Buffalo to Batavia, and in fact almost all the lines running out of that city, and for this and other purposes, owned six hundred horses. He employed twenty-eight clerks, and two thousand other persons in the various departments of his operations. His skill and enterprise, sustained by a large number of well known fortunate speculations, gave him a reputation for talents and wealth by which, until now, he has been able to carry on these diversified and almost limitless operations. But he has failed at last. From statements which are as good as can be had in such a case, we are led to hope that the consequences will not be ruin on so broad a scale as had been anticipated, if indeed there is any ruin at all.—At any rate it does not appear that the citizens of Buffalo are likely to loose to any considerable extent. Mr. Rathbun, we understand, represented the whole amount of his debts at a million and a half of dollars, and on more than a million of his paper he acknowledged that he had forged the names of rich neighbors. On a particular occasion he procured L. F. Allen and eleven others to endorse three of his notes for 5000 dollars each. The transaction was generally known in Buffalo. These notes with the endorsements thereon, he multiplied at his pleasure, and the forgeries passed unsuspected, as whenever a forged note was mentioned, it was taken for one of the well known and genuine notes. This forged paper was sold in Wall street, in Canada, and wherever a market could be found for it.

"To pay the million and a half of responsibilities, Mr. Rathbun exhibits a list of property which he has conveyed to assignees, valued at two millions and a half. Other persons name the list at two millions, or something under. If these statements are near the truth, it is to be hoped that the affair will not in the end prove seriously injurious to any one. Rathbun and a brother who is charged with having executed the forgeries, have fled to Canada.—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

It is stated by the *Albany Journal*, that four thousand dollars were received lately on the Utica and Schenectada Railroad, in the course of one day.

It is calculated that Virginia loses this year, by the failure of the wheat crop, not less than two millions of dollars.

A report, to which however not much credit is given, appears in some of the New York papers, to the effect that the Mexican forces had made an attempt to cross the Colorado, and were met by the Texians and repulsed with the loss of upwards of 800 men killed besides many wounded and taken prisoners.

To the Right Honorable the Earl of GOSFORD, *the Right Honorable Sir* CHARLES E. GREY, *Knight, and Sir* GEORGE GIPPS, *Knight, Commissioners for the Investigation of all Grievances affecting His Majesty's Subjects in the Province of Lower Canada, in what relates to the Government of the said Province:—*

The Petition of the Subscribers, His Majesty's Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, Inhabitants of the City of Montreal, in the Province of Lower Canada.

Humbly Sheweth,

That in order to give effect to the gracious intentions of His Majesty, in the appointment of Commissioners to investigate the various subjects of complaint, in the Province of Lower Canada, which have been brought under the consideration of His Majesty's Government, your Petitioners are desirous to place before your Honorable Body, in an authentic shape, a brief statement of their wants and wishes, which might otherwise be misinterpreted, or misunderstood, should it be supposed that they are faithfully set forth in the public Journals of this City.

That your Petitioners are warmly attached to British connection, and desire no organic change in the political Institutions of the Province; that the evils by which the Colony is afflicted, are to be ascribed solely to the jealousies and dissensions, excited and fostered by grasping ambitious men, and, that the Constitutional rights and privileges of the people are insufficient, properly applied, to secure the blessings of good government, and the happiness and tranquillity of Society.

That your Petitioners are anxious to cultivate friendly relations with all classes of their fellow subjects; they seek no superiority, nor a monopoly of office, and public station, let men be their origin; and that so long as justice is administered, and public offices held by men impartial in their conduct, and possessing the essential qualifications of integrity and ability, complaints of disappointed aspirants will not, neither their sympathy nor regret.

That your Petitioners, in common with a great body of the British and Irish population (so far as they have had an opportunity of judging,) are opposed to the lessening of State Offices, honors, emoluments on any one religious sect in a greater degree than on all; and they are sure that all public appropriations, or endowments for education, should be subject to regulations as to afford equal advantages to all classes of the population.

The objects of the British population are free of an exclusive, or selfish character. They are understood by those of French origin, who are to be equally anxious with others, for their advancement: but it is the misfortune of the country that the greater number of the educated and intelligent among the French—who are fully aware of what is misguided public opinion—have a personal and a sordid interest in maintaining a system of Laws, which is incompatible with national prosperity, is at variance with the spirit of a free Constitution bestowed upon the country by British liberality, and altogether unfit for the wants of the age.

The abrogation of Feudal Laws, designed in a time of ignorance and military violence, and pressing with equal severity on all the great interests of the State, would be among the objects of an enlightened and patriotic legislature; but in Canada, such is the obscure condition of British subjects, that the agitation led to implore the interposition of the Imperial Parliament for some measure of relief, has begotten despair of obtaining it, from those who constitute the majority in the Provincial Assembly. The British inhabitants rest the expediency of Parliamentary interference, not merely upon the ground that they are oppressed, but that their interests both here and elsewhere are seriously affected, but upon the stronger ground of right. They claim under the Royal Proclamation of the 7th of October, 1763, which declares that "all persons inhabiting in, or resorting to our said Colony," (of Canada,) "may enjoy the benefit of our Royal protection for the enjoyment of the benefit of the Laws of our Realm of England; and that the Representatives of the people shall be limited in their powers, to make and ordain Laws "as near as may be agreeable to the Laws of England," by which is to be understood Laws, such as exist in the British American Colonies; and this interpretation is fully borne out by a subsequent clause of the Proclamation, engaging to settle and agree "for such lands, tenements and hereditaments, as are now, or hereafter shall be in our power to dispose of, and them to grant upon "such moderate quit rents, services and acknowledgments, as have been appointed and settled in other Colonies."

The Act 14 Geo. III. chap. 83, which deprived the English inhabitants of Canada of the advantages, present and prospective, of the Royal Proclamation, was well described to the Congress of the then British Colonies, now the United States of America, as "An Act for abolishing the equitable system of English Laws, and establishing a tyranny there." Sagaciously foreseeing its inevitable effects, the Americans refused to tolerate in a neighbouring Colony, a state of things, which they rightly considered, would retard their common improvement. After the lapse of more than half a century, and the patient endurance of wrongs, the prospect of which hastened the separation of the United States from the Parent Country, the English inhabitants of Canada, claim from the Imperial Parliament, relief from the evils which have been inflicted by Imperial Legislation. Respectfully but firmly, they assert their right to the benefit of Laws "as near as may be agreeable to the Laws of England." They do not require in the entire system of Canadian Laws should be overturned and destroyed, but that such modifications should be introduced as will suit it to the wants of society, as at present constituted.

They ask:

That all Feudal rights throughout the Province shall be abolished, on terms of equitable compensation to the Seignior.

That Offices of Registry shall be established for the Registration of the Titles and Encumbrances of Landed Estate.

That the Laws governing Commercial transactions shall be altered to suit the present circumstances of the Country.

The evils thus far enumerated, exist in manifest violation of the Royal promise; but there are others, nearly as injurious, which have been inflicted upon the Province by the improvident legislation of the Imperial Government.

The Seigniories of Lower Canada, where the ancient inhabitants resided, and where from habit and inclination their descendants continue to dwell, form but a small part of the territory comprehended within the limits of the former government of Quebec. The fertile region to the West, and the free tenure there established, could not fail ultimately to attract the attention of British Settlers, and gradually to give them a preponderating influence in Provincial affairs. An active and enterprising population, attached, to British interests and connection, would, in the end, have outnumbered the old inhabitants and afforded adequate relief to their less fortunate brethren inhabiting the Seigniories. But even this hope, although distant, has been destroyed by the Government, by the Act 31 Geo. III. chap. 31, which by dividing the Colony into the two distinct Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, have left the English inhabitants of Lower Canada unprotected, with their property and estates deteriorated in value, and unable to carry out measures for their private advancement, or for the public prosperity. The experience of half a century has demonstrated, that those measures of local benefit which the state of the country requires, cannot be obtained from the Provincial Legislature; the English inhabitants therefore claim the interference of the Imperial Parliament.

To provide for the improvement of the Navigation of the St. Lawrence, the natural outlet of an extensive and encreasing commerce:

To Charter such Banking Institutions as may be necessary, and on a more permanent basis than heretofore:

To grant permission to Private Companies to improve the natural advantages of the Country, by the construction of Railroads, Canals and Wharves, wherever such works would be of public utility.

Another subject, although of a more local character, requires to be noticed. The Seminary of St. Sulpice and other Communities, are in possession of large tracts of Land, within, and close to the City, which are kept as Farms, although well adapted for Building Lots, and in some instances valuable for Commercial purposes; and it has yet to be explained how it happens that these Lands have been retained by the Seigniors to their own profit, instead of having been conceded on the usual terms of settlement; but however that question may turn, your Petitioners faithfully represent the public sentiment earnestly remonstrating against such valuable tracts of Land, in a Commercial City, being held in mort-main. The evils of mort-main are here been admitted in all countries where that description of property exists; and the Proprietors and Inhabitants of Montreal, in their prospects, the growth of [illegible] checked, and public improvements [illegible] from that cause. Whatever may be [illegible] ments concluded between the Government and the Seminary of St. Sulpice, one [illegible] condition to remove the irritation [illegible] greatly increased to an alarming [illegible] by the sale of the mort-main Lands [illegible] to the City, with the exception [illegible] wanted for the use of the different [illegible]

It might, perhaps, remove some [illegible] to the measure, if the Commun[illegible] permitted to sell the land *en constitut*, bearing a small interest, which would afford them an immediate and permanent revenue.

Your Petitioners have briefly stated to your Honorable Body, the chief practical evils of which the British and Irish inhabitants complain: so long as this system is suffered to remain, discontent will continue to spread; their removal would advance the prosperity of the Province, and contribute to the peace, welfare of all classes of the population, and whilst the power of the Imperial Parliament is wisely directed to effect such a desirable end, it will serve but to strengthen the loyalty and affection of the enlightened and well-disposed, and to deprive the turbulent and disaffected of their chief means of agitating and otherwise happy community.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray, that your Honorable Body will investigate the complaints, and recommend such measures, as shall, by Imperial enactment, [illegible]

Montreal, Aug. 1836.

Commercial.

IMPORTS FROM UPPER CANADA.

MONDAY, AUGUST 8.

64 brls Flour	-	C. Brodie	
29 do do	-	W. Brodie	
15 do do	-	Forsyth, [illegible]	
700 do do	-	Bostwick & Holcomb	
344 do do	-	J. Torrance & Co.	
154 do do	-	Gillespie Moffatt & Co	
330 do do	-	P. M'Gill & Co	
90 do do	-	Muir Berger & Platt	
21 do Ashes	-	H. J. Nash	
4 do do	-	M. Berger & Platt	
58 do do	-	Gillespie, Moffatt Co	
7 do do	-	J. M'Gill & Co.	
22 do do	-	J. Bradbury.	
4 do do	-	W. Smith Co.	
19 do do	-	A. Miller & Co	
4 do do	-	Burnet & Howard	
8 do Pork,	-	W. Smith & Co.	
17 do do	-	Gillespie, Moffatt & Co.	
13 do do	-	P. M'Gill & Co.	
92 bags Peas,		Order.	
13 kegs Butter,		J. Torrance & Co	
300 box Wheat,		Gillespie, Moffatt & Co	

[illegible] TUESDAY, AUGUST 9.

17 brls Asher	-	W. Brodie	
113 brls. Pork	-	W. Ritchie	
100 bus. Barl	-	P. M'Gill & Co	
300 bus. Wh. A.	-	W. Brodie	
8 brls Ast	-	B. [illegible]	

MONTREAL MARKETS, *August* [illegible]

Generally [illegible] has been very dull since our last; there is little of any change in the leading articles. *Ashes* have been [illegible] total 18. *Flour* is a shade better [illegible] has been effected at 30s. 6d., and [illegible] rising to sell under 31s. 3d. ℔ barrel: the principal business done, however, has been at [illegible] for fair brands. Nearly all the *Prime Pork* first hands, has been sold at $18 ℔ barrel, inferior qualities no alteration. A sale of 16 tons [illegible] has been made at 49s. ℔ cwt.—90 days. Exchange on England remains the same. The Montreal Bank does not draw on New York.

LIVERPOOL CORN EXCHANGE, JUNE 28.

There was a limited demand today for Wheat, [illegible] decline of 1d. @ 2d. ℔ 70 lbs. on all descriptions except fine Irish, which remains at last week's rates. Oats have given way about 1d. ℔ 45 lbs. Oatmeal is 6d. ℔ load lower and is in fair demand. Sack Flour without alteration. 3500 barrels of Wheat have been sold at [illegible] conditions should be introduced as will suit it to the wants of society, as at present constituted. 90s. @ 31s. Flour, in bond, [illegible] tions.

VIEW OF THE NEW YORK MARKET FOR THE DAYS PRECEDING

SATURDAY, Aug[illegible]

ASHES.—By the arrival of the [illegible] we have dates to the 24th of June [illegible] considerable sales by the trade of New [illegible] 7 @ 56½; and a few Pearls at [illegible] rising heavily for the latter, and [illegible] number remaining in first hands. [illegible] is moderate: about 200 barrels Pots have been sold at $5,75; and 150 Pearls, which continue scarce, at $7,75 @ $8, embracing a lot of [illegible] barrels, yesterday, at $7,87½.

FLOUR AND MEAL.—The market for Wheat flour continues in a heavy state, and prices for Western Canal are still lower: sales of fresh and common brands at $7 @ $7,12½; fancy held at $7,25 @ $7,37½. The market continues bare of Troy: Ohio Inspected sold at $6,50 @ $6,75; Philadelphia, $7,50; 200 Bal. more Howard-street, $8,12½; and about 700 barrels Baltimore and Georgetown, $8 @ $8,25.

GRAIN.—1800 bushels middling quality North River Wheat sold at $1,54 @ $1,55; and but little of any description remaining. The stock of Foreign Rye also is considerably reduced, but no demand of no further sales: 1500 bushels Hudson River sold at 93.

LEATHER.—12,178 sides Sole were sold at auction on the 4th instant, at [illegible] Edwards, which went off with [illegible] advance of ½ @ ¾ of a cent on [illegible] The demand from the trade [illegible] the article sells freely with [illegible] buyers. The stock continues light.

PROVISIONS.—Beef and Pork continue [illegible] limited demand, but we have [illegible] in prices: Lard is in steady request [illegible] rates. In Butter and Cheese [illegible] but little doing.

TALLOW.—The market continues [illegible] of Foreign, and nearly so of American.

TEAS.—The cargo of *Champlain*, recently arrived, was offered by auction on Thursday last, and the entire catalogue, embracing 11,063 packages, were disposed of. There were a few leading lots in this cargo of fine quality, but the bulk of the Teas, and the chests of Young Hyson in particular, were of quite