on the 6th and 7th, were unusually destructive of human life. A farmer, from the neighbourhood of Honfleur, was caught in the storm, whilst travelling on horseback, and both man and beast were struck dead by the lightning. At Gonneville, near Rouen, another man and horse were killed. At Aurinville, near Paris, a man employed in ploughing, and one or two horses he was driving, were killed. The steeple of the church of the new and favourite watering-place Trouville, near Honfleur, was destroyed. The town of Weleschin, in Bohemia, was struck at one moment by the lightning in five different parts. Forty-five houses and twenty five barns were reduced to ashes. A woman, aged 22, and a boy 6 years old, were found in the ruins. On the evening of the 11th, fearful storms of thunder, lightning, and rain visited the districts around Hull, London, and other places. The streets of Hull were flooded in some places nearly to the height of two feet. The unfavourable state of the weather has induced fears for the forthcoming harvest, and wheat rose 1s. per quarter on the 11th inst. in the Wakefield market, in addition to the advance of 2s. to 3s. per quarter on the previous market day.—*Willmer & Smith's European Times, July 19.*

Her Majesty and the Experimental Squadron.—On Tuesday afternoon 15th July, the experimental squadron of line-of-battle ships, under the command of Rear Admiral Parker, got under weigh at Portsmouth, and proceeded to sea, accompanied by Her Majesty, in her steam-yacht, the *Victoria and Albert*. Never was there a spectacle of which an Englishman might feel more justly proud than the one that was witnessed here this day. Many years have elapsed since anything like the same excitement has been witnessed at this port as that exhibited on the present occasion. Not a bed was to be procured in Portsmouth or Gosport. Train after train arrived bringing hundreds of persons from the Metropolis, many of whom were unable to procure beds at any of the hotels and inns, and were glad to obtain even the shelter of a roof, regardless of the lack of other accommodations. Shortly before twelve o'clock the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by their Majesty the King and Queen of the Belgians, arrived at the Gosport terminus, where they were received by a guard of honour from the 37th Regiment, under the command of Major Franklin. Upon the *Victoria and Albert* leaving the harbour on her passage to Spithead, the forts saluted, and the tens of thousands of spectators that were congregated on either side londly cheered. A more magnificent sight could not be pictured to the imagination than that which presented itself when the squadron reached St. Helen's. As far as the eye could behold the waters were covered with countless vessels, all under sail, and each vying with the other to keep with those mighty fabrics which consitute the bulwarks of this sea-girt isle, and are the pride and glory of its people. The *Queen* was the first to round the Nab light, followed by the *Rodney, Albion, Superb, Vanguard*, which had passed the *Canopus* and *Trafalgar*. During the time the vessels were making the Nab light, her Majesty was on the platform which connected the paddle-boxes, and appeared to take great interest in the scene before her, and in the trial of sailing between the line-of-battle ships. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, with their royal guests, then returned from sea and proceeded to Osborne House, where they propose remaining for a day or two. The experimental squadron proceeded on their course down Channel, for the Bay of Biscay.—*Portsmouth paper.*

Commercial.—Trade in every department continues brisk. The London markets have been liberally supplied with all descriptions of produce since this day week, yet former rates, in nearly every instance, are well supported; the demand from the home trade has been good, they still considering that they cannot do amiss in getting well stocked at present moderate rates. The export purchases made have been larger than for some time, and in articles for manufacturers' use the operations are upon a more extended scale, but not at higher rates. The arrivals of produce are to a small extent only during the past week, whereas the deliveries have been very extensive. A great number of public sales are declared. From all parts of the manufacturing districts the accounts are very satisfactory for trade. Money is yet plentiful, and the rate of interest low, the best bills being 2½ per cent.

In Liverpool the demand for Cotton has been good, and higher prices are now realized than when the last steamer sailed.—*July 19.*

Iron.—The quarterly meeting of the Iron-masters has recently been held in Staffordshire. During the last few weeks every description of manufactured iron has been reduced upwards of 20 per cent. The impression at present is, that the market will sink still lower, and some talk is already current about lowering the colliers. Many of the speculations which have been and still are before the public, must, it is clear, be either abandoned or postponed, and a much less quantity of iron will suffice than was some time ago calculated upon. Speculation has thus received a blow, under the effects of which the trade is now reeling. The price of bar-iron is now nominally £10 per ton at the works. The demand at present is dull, and stocks are accumulating.—*European Times.*

The Iron Speculation.—The bubble has burst at last. Pig Iron, which was selling at £6 two months ago, can now be bought at 55s. a ton; and is, under present circumstances, a dangerous speculation even at that figure. Fine calculations appear in the papers, going to prove that Iron really ought to bring £7 a ton or more; and yet people are so blind to their own interests, that they will persist in giving only 55s. when they ought to be giving at least double. It will not do to tell us about new railroads going on. The Iron works can provide for them as fast as the Legislature will pass their acts. We should like the question solved, what is to be done with the enormous quantity of iron now storing on behalf of speculators? How is this additional quantity to be got rid of? How is our foreign trade to be revived?—certainly in no way but by a season of continued low prices. We wish makers would see it their interest to face the matter at once, and reduce prices to a figure that will encourage consumption at home, and cause exportation to foreign countries. Instead of pursuing this course, however, they hold their meetings, and say the price is £4 10s. when it can be bought at 55s. Now this state of things cannot last. Their order books may be full now, and they may think themselves independent of prices for six months to come; but these months will pass over, and they will then find that most of the orders now executing, and most of the iron now being produced, will enter into competition with their future make, and, in all probability, force down prices lower than ever.—*Glasgow National.*

Her Majesty's Visit to Germany.—Her Majesty and Prince Albert will, during their approaching sojourn at Coburg, take up their abode at the delightful summer palace, Rosenau, while the Grand Ducal family of Saxe Coburg will reside in its immediate vicinity. Mansions are being prepared on the Callenberg and in Ketchendorf for the reception of her Majesty's suite and the distinguished personages who intend to repair to Coburg to present their respects to the Queen and her Royal Consort during their visit to that city.

The *Augsburg Gazette* gives the following, dated Vienna, July 2:—"Yesterday afternoon her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived here, with her Brother, Prince Ferdinand of Saxe Coburg, who had gone to meet her at Lintz. Her Royal Highness will only remain here a few hours, and will then proceed to the estates of her brother, to await the arrival of Queen Victoria, with whom she will afterwards visit Coburg."

Her Majesty the Queen Dowager, in the early part of the ensuing month, will leave Bushby-park for Scotland, on a tour through the Highlands, and will, it is understood, during her progress there, honour several noble families with visits.

The Great Britain Steam-ship.—This magnificent vessel, since her arrival in Liverpool, has been visited, up to Tuesday evening last, by upwards of sixteen thousand persons. On Saturday evening the number was 11,000, on Monday it was increased by 2,729, and on Tuesday by 2,665, makig a total altogether of 16,394. We are not in possession of the numbers who went on board yesterday, but as hundreds of strangers had come to the races, and there were two cheap trains from Manchester, we understand the vessel was much more crowded with visiters than she had been on any day since she reached the port. The expressions of delight and astonishment at her stupendous proportions above and below decks were visible on every countenance.—*Gore's Advertiser.*

The Terrible.—The British war steam-ship Terrible is in the inner basin of Woolwich dockyard fitting with her engines and paddle-wheels. This powerful vessel begins to assume a formidable appearance, owing to the great strength of her timbers and the dimensions of the projections for her paddle-boxes. She will have four funnels, two of which are already put up, and the other two in progress; and everything connected with her appears to be on a gigantic scale, her engines being of 800-horse power.

Massacre on board H.M.S. Wasp.—The warbrig Rapid has arrived at Plymouth, with part of the crew of a captured slaver, charged with murdering Mr. Palmer, a midshipman, and eight of the crew of the Queen's sloop Wasp. The prisoners are ten in number, eight Portuguese and two Spaniards. An examination has been begun before the Mayor and Magistrates of Plymouth. A native of Bahia, master of a slave-schooner captured by the Wasp who was present at the massacre, said he tried to dissuade the murderers from it. According to his evidence, the Englishmen were put on board the schooner; and the accused, who formed part of the crew of the Echo brigantine, which had been captured, were placed under their charge. They resolved to murder the Englishmen; and, seizing an unguarded moment, killed them all though not without receiving some wounds themselves; and they threw the bodies into the sea. They then fired on the brigantine, which was in company, and sailed away. A short time after, however, the vessel was captured by the sloop Star; and the prisoners were sent to England for trial. They have been fully committed.

Dr. Wolff.—Sir Benjamin Brodie commenced the process of extracting the Bokhara worm, termed rishta, from Dr. Wolff's wrist, by winding it round a piece of paper. Great skill was displayed in this operation. After no less than eight visits, Sir Benjamin succeeded in extracting the worm entire, and it measured more than three feet in length.

Destruction of a ship by Fire.—By the arrival of her Majesty's ship Rapid, letters have been received in the city announcing the total destruction by fire of an Indiaman named the Uruguay, Captain Kelso, between 400 and 500 tons burthen, belonging to Liverpool, together with a rich cargo—a loss estimated, with the ship, at nearly fifty thousand pounds. The ship, which was amongst the class A 1 at Lloyd's, was a very fine vessel, and left Liverpool on the 29th of May last, with a full cargo of bale goods and other such merchandise, bound to China. When off Cape Verd islands, on the 19th of June, an alarm was raised that the ship was on fire; the flames spread rapidly, and after four hours' fruitless exertions, the captain, finding that the destruction of the ship was inevitable, directed the boats to be launched. They then left her to her fate; and ere they had reached two hundred yards, the ship blew up with a tremendous explosion, and almost immediately afterwards sank in deep water. Three days afterwards, the crew, who were twenty-one in number, were picked up by a brig going to Africa, which afterwards transferred them to her Majesty's ship Rapid, then on her passage to England. Insurances to the amount of £35,000 were effected on the vessel in several of the principal fire offices in the city. The ship was nearly new.

Royal Artillery.—Captain Turner's company, 6th battalion, recently first on the roster for service in Canada, have been ordered for New Zealand. The change in the destination of Captain Turner's company has caused the issuing of orders for Captain Stanway's company, 1st battalion, to hold themselves in readiness to proceed with Major Anderson's company, 1st battalion, for foreign service at Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Captain Vaughan Arbuckle's company, 6th battalion, is to be immediately withdrawn from Manchester, to hold themselves in readiness to embark with Captain Glasgow's company, 2nd battalion, for foreign service in Jamaica.

Hong Kong.—A Court-martial was held at Victoria, Hong Kong, last March, for the trial of Lieut. Augus Macdonald, of H. M. 98th Foot, on the charge of writing an insulting note to the Sheriff of the colony, Major Caine, with the view of establishing a personal quarrel with that officer, in circumstances connected with his official duty. Lieut. Macdonald was found guilty, and in the first instance sentenced to be cashiered, but on a revision of the proceedings had a minor degree of punishment awarded him. Major-General D'Aguilar took the opportunity of this trial to convey to those under his command his abhorrence of the practice of duelling, remarking that "while he can make every allowance for that high feeling which renders it worse than death to a British officer to submit to an unprovoked insult, without reasonable explanation and redress, he is equally determined to visit with the severest penalties any one under his command who is urged to wanton violence only by vicious propensities."

The *Gazette* of Tuesday notifies the following appointments:—George Grey, Esq., to be Lieut. Governor of New Zealand; Major F. H. Robe, Lieut. Governor of South Australia; and Geo. Lilly, Esq., Assistant Judge at Newfoundland.

The *Dublin Evening Mail* states that the office of Advocate-General in India, which, though the salary is £3500 per annum, seems to be going a begging, has been offered by Sir R. Peel to Mr. Whiteside, one of the leading counsel for Mr. O'Connell in the late trial, and refused.

Scotland.—The work done by the FreeChurch since its disruption from the Scottish Establishment, is wholly prodigious—marvellous in their own eyes, and marvellous in the eyes of others. It was estimated at the last meeting of their Assembly that, on the whole, upwards of £700,000 had been subscribed for the objects of the Church. That at that time 540 churches were erected; and that 600 would be completed before the close of the current year. It appeared that, from the common fund accumulated for the purpose, £120 had been voted to every clergyman of the Church for the year, while the various congregations added to this common contribution a variety of amounts suitable to their means, and to the station and position in society which their ministers occupied. It appeared that means were in operation with a view to the erection of a school and a parsonage in every parish, and for a College for the whole, to which last named object, in two or three days, nineteen individuals subscribed £1,000 each. It also appeared that amidst all these gigantic labours at home, the subscriptions of the body for missions to the Heathen and the Jews, instead of being allowed to drop, were actually considerably higher than those made by the united body before the members of the Free Church left the Establishment. In this brief statement we have not narrated, by any means, all the wonders which their zeal and energy have accomplished; but this brief abstract of their proceedings is surely fitted to excite admiration in every well constituted mind, to make us ashamed of our own comparatively paltry exertions in the cause of God, and to produce a resolution in the minds of those to whom they are made known, to endeavour in the use of every legitimate means, to put an end to those acts of persecution to which various members are still exposed.—*Record.*

Wesleyan Conference.—The next Wesleyan Conference will take place in Leeds, about the close of July. The stationing committee will meet on Saturday, after which the various preliminary committees will assemble and transact their business, preparatory to the general meetings of the body, which will be on Wednesday, July 30, when the President for the ensuing year will be elected, to succeed the Rev. Dr. Bunting, who now holds that office. It appears to be generally thought, that either the Rev. Jacob Stanley, or the Rev. William Atherton, will be elected.—[Derbyshire Chronicle.

Jews' Synagogue.—On Wednesday the Rev. Dr. Nathan Marcus Adler was installed Chief Rabbi of the united congregation of Jews of Great Britain, in the Great Synagogue, London. Dr. Adler was, till the death of the late English Chief Rabbi, the Chief Rabbi in Hanover, where his talents and his amiable character had caused him to be much respected. The synagogue was crowded to excess, all the *elite* of the persuasion being present—the Rothschilds, the Montefiores, and many others. The ceremony was characterised by unusual pomp and splendour.

IRELAND.

Inundation in Clare.—The *Clare Journal* gives the following account of destructive floods in that county:—"One of the most dreadful and extensive calamities with which it has pleased Providence to afflict any portion of this county for many years, occurred to the tract of country lying between Broadford and Glenomera, a distance of nearly five miles, on Friday last. The morning was particularly calm and serene, but about two o'clock rain fell with such violence, and came in such impetuous torrents from the mountain tops, as to completely inundate the lower parts of the country. Such was the awful violence of the deluge (it could be called by no other name,) that it swept before it three bridges. It swept by the old chapel of Kilbawn, and laid part of it prostrate. Amid the general ruin we have yet heard of only one loss of life, that of Mary Kinneen, a girl about fourteen years of age, whose body, all bruised and disfigured, with every limb broken, was found at a distance of about half a mile from the place where her residence stood but a few hours previously. An inquest was held on her remains by James Martin, Esq., coroner, and a verdict returned according to the circumstances. Over 700 acres of meadowing have been completely ruined, the mountainous waters leaving mud scattered upon it so as to render it perfectly useless for the present season. We have heard of similar devastions in some of the adjoining parishes, but nothing so authentic as to warrant a public notice.

Alarming and Fatal Riots.—On Saturday last, the 12th instant, being the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne, the Orange processions were pretty general throughout the north of Ireland, in spite of the exhortations of Lord Roden, the Marquis of Londonderry, and others, to the contrary. In most instances, they seem to have passed off without any particular disturbance, probably in consequence of the earnest advice given by the Repeal Association, and Mr. Thomas Steele, its agent, to the Roman Catholics, not to interfere with the Orange displays; but at Armagh, a dreadful riot occurred, in which one life was lost and several persons were wounded.

The collision between the Police and the peasantry at Ballanhassig, on which occasion no less than eight of the peasantry were shot dead and others grievously wounded, has been followed by another affray at Grainard. A number of people who had been enjoying themselves round a bonfire were returning home, when they were met by some policemen who ordered them to "stand," which not being complied with, a policeman fired into the crowd, and shot one man, wounding him severely, but it is supposed, not endangering life. In this case, the policeman, who had been held to bail, appears to have acted wantonly, but in the more melancholy affray, at the fair of Ballanhassig, it is said that the police were compelled to fire in self-defence.

Proclaiming the Disturbed Districts.—It is stated in *Saunders' News Letter*, that the Lord Lieutenant is prepared to proclaim the disturbed parts of the Counties of Leitrim, Roscommon, and Cavan, on receiving a requisition to that effect from the Lieutenants of the respective counties. The troops encamped have had every means taken to secure their comfort; the tents have been supplied with timber flooring, raised six inches or more from the ground. Several log-houses, lined with sheet iron, have been constructed under the superintendence of an engineer officer, to house the police where accommodation cannot be procured for them. Each log-house is capable of containing ten men. They have iron bedsteads, which fold up into the smallest possible compass during the day.

The Murder of the late Mr. Booth.—We learn, from letters received from Cavan, that a person has been taken up for the murder of the late Mr. Booth, and has been identified by Mrs. William Bell, who was returning from church on the Sunday, and in sight when the horrid deed was perpetrated. The man, it appears, is from the county of Longford, and has already given the authorities much useful information.—*Erne Packet.*

Maynooth College.—At the recent meeting of the Irish Roman Catholic Bishops and Lay Trustees, held in Maynooth College, Archbishops Crolly and Murray, with Sir Patrick Bellew, Bart., and Mr. Strong Hussey, were appointed as a committee, to confer with the architect appointed by Government, respecting the improvements and additions to the College, if it should be deemed advisable to retain the present site, and renovate and extend the existing edifice.

The Regium Donum.—At a meeting of the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church, held last week in Dublin, a memorial from B-fast, recommending the abandonment of the *Regium Donum*, on account of the passing of the Maynooth bill, was taken into consideration. The Rev. Dr. Carlyle scouted the notion of throwing away £35,000 a-year in a pet, because the Roman Catholics were to have £30,000; and the Rev. Dr. Stewart having taken the same view of the matter, resolutions condemnatory of the memorial, were carried without a dissentient voice.

Exeter Hall.—The month of May has passed, and the immense assemblages that congregated during that month in Exeter Hall for the propagation of charity and religion have separated. The pecuniary results of the meetings are as follows:

Church Missionary Society,	£105,219	13 7
British and Foreign Bible Society,	35,317	15 9
London Missionary Society,	32,376	9 3
Ditto, the Jubilee Fund,	24,000	0 0
Religious Tract Society,	54,194	4 1
Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society,	109,188	0 0
Colonial Missionary Society,	3,388	14 8
Irish Evangelical Society,	2,641	14 10
Foreign Aid Society,	5,490	0 0
British Reformation Society,	1,514	4 1
Home Missionary Society,	8,600	0 0
Primitive Methodist Missionary Society,	2,567	0 0
Christian Instruction Society,	899	12 5
London City Mission Society,	9,579	0 0
British and Foreign Unitarian Society,	731	16 7
Sunday-school Union Society,	9,561	5 5
British and Foreign Sailors' Society,	2,072	19 6
Total,	£405,264	1 8

Texas.—The Hon. Ashbel Smith, who arrived here on Monday in the steamer Great Western from England, will take his departure for Texas in the course of a few days, via Cumberland, Wheeling and New Orleans. We learn that he has accomplished the objects of his mission, which consisted neither in obtaining a loan, nor in selling his country to the French, English or Dutch, nor in procuring its independence, instead of annexation to the United States. Texas has now no diplomatic representative in Europe, except Mr. Dangerfield, who we believe has sometime since received an order of recall. A principal object of Mr. Smith's mission, as we understand it, was to prepare the way for closing the relations of Texas with European powers, in a respectful and becoming manner. Those relations had been of the most friendly character, and the governments of England and France especially, had manifested a cordial interest in the welfare of the young Republic. That they wished her to remain independant, rather than be annexed to the United States, is beyond a doubt; but this is to be said to their credit, that in any negotiations they may have had with Texas for this object, they have never, either of them, proposed to reserve any advantages to themselves, beyond what should be enjoyed by other nations. This further should be said to their credit, that now, when they see that annexation is the will of the Texan people, fairly expressed, they abandon all further attempt at interference. And this, still further, may be relied on, that they have and will exert themselves to restrain Mexico from the infatuation of making war upon the United States, which would only seve to complicate affairs, without the possibility of preventing annexation. Mr. Smith expresses his opinion decidedly, that there will be no war, not even with Mexico. The same opinion is expressed by the Washington Union; and it is an opinion founded upon evidence.

Before this time, without doubt, the Texian Convention which was to meet on the 4th of July, has adopted the terms of annexation proposed by the American Congress, probably by a unanimous vote. Such an act on the part of the Convention, is all that is necessary to perfect the *Annexation of Texas* as an integral part of the United States, though not as a State of the Union, until the Convention shall have adopted a State Constitution, and the same shall been ratified by the people. But this will follow, as a matter of course.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

Culture of the Sugar Cane.—Every year shows an increase in the culture of the sugar cane throughout our State. For a long time after the introduction of this exotic, it was supposed that the cane could only flourish in our extreme Southern border, where could be found a climate sufficiently warm to be congenial to a tropical plant. Experience has shown, however, that the crop can be raised to profit, in a much higher latitude than was at first supposed possible. We observe that the culture is gradually advancing northwards. Formerly, the Point Coupee was the upper limit of sugar plantations; but the present season we are told that large crops are growing in the neighborhood of Alexandria, on Red River, and the cotton planters of Rapides parish, many of them, are abandoning the old staple, and embarking extensively in the manufacture of sugar. How much farther north the culture may advance, experience alone can demonstrate. The plant has evidently a capability of adaptation to change of latitude. By slow degrees, it may undergo a process of acclimation, that will make the cane hardy enough to withstand the cold of regions farther north than Alexandria. Perhaps the whole of Louisiana may be found well adapted in climate to the plant. Supposing that the culture may be confined to only two thirds of the State, yet how ample and rich the sugar region we have here. The soil is the most fertile on earth, and sufficiently extensive, when brought under cultivation, to raise sugar enough for the consumption of the whole nation. When it is considered that in Texas we have annexed vast territories, reaching a lower latitude than Louisiana, and better suited in climate to the growth of tropical plants, some idea may be formed of the extent to which the culture is destined soon to be carried by American enterprise. It would not be hazarding much to say, that before the lapse of seven years, more sugar will be manufactured in the United States than is wanted for home consumption.—*N. Orleans Bulletin.*

Communication.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Mr. Editor.—Being a resident in the neighborhood of the Theatre, permit me through the medium of your journal, to call the attention of the public authorities to the necessity of preserving the peace, in this hitherto peaceful part of the city. Assured that the prevention of evil is one great end of good government, it is to be lamented that no measures have as yet been taken to check the extensive demoralization connected with this establishment.—No later than last Saturday night an offence was offered to the laws of both God and man, by the unseasonable hour to which the performances were prolonged in this place; and may can bear testimony to the disorderly scenes presented in the adjoining streets. These facts speak for themselves, and if worthy of appearing in your pages, you will oblige me by their insertion.

I am sir, your obdt. servt. Veritas.

5th August, 1845.

THE OBSERVER.

St. John, Tuesday, August 5, 1845.

Second July English Mail,

The Royal Mail Steamer *Cambria*, bringing the second July Mail, arrived in Halifax on the morning of the 29th ult., after an unprecedentedly short passage of *nine days and sixteen hours*; and as the regular land Mail for this Province was on the very eve of starting from that city, our Mails were immediately forwarded, and thus reached St. John on Thursday morning last; having been only *eleven days and a half* in the Passage from Liverpool, (England,) to this City! Such an instance of speedy transmission of correspondence between the old and new worlds has never before occurred!

Business generally continued good in the commercial and manufacturing districts.

Colonial Timber, notwithstanding large additions to the stock on hand by recent arrivals, seems pretty firmly to maintain its price.

Throughout Great Britain and the neighbouring portion of the European continent there had been deluging rains, with heavy thunder and lightning, attended with considerable destruction of property and loss of life. Wheat had in consequence advanced a little in price.

The Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt have intimated that they will invest during the current quarter a million sterling, in the redemption of the Exchequer Bills lodged with the Bank, and nearly £600,000 in the purchase of stock.

The Bill for the abolitiou of Tests in the Scottish Universities has been rejected by a majority of eight, in a thin house. The subject will, it is said, be again brought before Parliament in another shape.

The total quantity of lace and gauze exported from England from the 1st of January last to the 14th of June, was 37,387,630 yards.

Sir Robert Peel, at his late rent audits at Tamworth and Fazeley, returned 10 per cent to his tenants.

The Queen has conferred the dignity of a Baronet of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, unto John Francis Davis, Esq. Governor of Hong Kong.

The crop of flax this year in Ireland will, it is supposed, produce about 30,000 tons, valued at nearly £2,000,000—a sufficient quantity to afford exportation to France, Belgium, and America.

The whole of the provisions imported into Liverpool from Ireland alone, netted last year, £7,000,000.

A boy, nine years old, lately, at Bilston, cut one of his fingers, which was suffered to bleed copiously for twelve hours, when he died.

It is calculated that the consumption of gas in London amounts to eight millions and a half cubic feet every twenty-four hours.

Trinity College, Dublin, has conferred the degree of LL.D. on the Rev. W. P. Appleby, a Wesleyan minister.

The curious have inquired as to the manner in which the crew of the steamship Great Britain distinguish her six masts. We are told that they are jocosely called after the days of the week, beginning with Monday.

The coat and waistcoat which Nelson wore when he fell at Trafalgar had fallen into the hands of a London alderman's widow. Sir Harris Nicholas was about to open a subscription to purchase the relics for Greenwich Hospital, (the price asked was £150.) when Prince Albert learned of the circumstance, and ordered them to be purchased on his own account, and presented to the hospital.

The freedom of the city of London has been recently presented by the Court of Common Council to Sir Henry Pottinger. It was contained in a magnificent gold box, on which was inscribed the vote of the corporation in the most complimentary terms. Splendid silver cups were also voted to Sir Robert Sale and Sir William Nott; the latter veteran being recently deceased, this testimonial will be transmitted to his widow.

A Madrid letter states that Queen Dowager Christina has made a present to the Pope of a tiara, worth 100,000 francs, and is about to send his Holiness a crosier, worth 17,000 duros, (about £3,500.)

The King of Denmark has despatched a frigate to China, with the object of endeavouring to effect a treaty of commerce with the celestial empire.

Letters from Naples announce that the expected eruption of Mount Vesuvius has commenced, and that tourists are flocking in on all sides to witness it.

Mr. Thomas Briggs, of Richmond Hill Ropery, Salford, has just turned out a rope 4374 yards, or nearly 2½ miles in length.

The Fire at Quebec.—A public meeting of the merchants, bankers, and other commercial denizens of the city, was held at the London Tavern, on the 4th July, to set on foot a subscription for the relief of the sufferers from the late awful Fire in Quebec. Mr. Carter, the honorary secretary, read a long list of subscriptions, headed by Lord Stanley with £100, and comprising many sums ranging from £100 to £250.

Her Majesty has sent $200, Prince Albert £100, the Bank of England £200, and the Canada Company £100 to the Hon. Secretary of the Quebec Fund, for the sufferers by the late disastrous conflagration. There is not a doubt that a large sum will be ready to forward to Quebec by the next Halifax steamer, which will leave our shores on the 18th inst.—The Manchester subscription in aid of the sufferers already amounts to £3,578 17s.; and the Manchester Parks subscription to £3,438 14s. 11d. The Liverpool subscriptions amounted on Saturday evening to £966.

The court of Common Council of London have voted £500 to the fund for the Quebec sufferers.—The Bank of Br. N. America has voted £250.

The sum subscribed in London for the sufferers by the fire at Quebec exceeds £23,000, and in the contributions appears Mr. Buckmaster, the military tailor, for 50 guineas, the men in his employ £41.

Meetings have been held in Limerick, Dublin, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and subscriptions are in progress for the sufferers, and very handsome sums are likely to be realized.

A subscription has been opened in Paris, in favor of the sufferers by the recent dreadful fire in Quebec.

Retrospective.—The site of the fire on last Tuesday night was included in the district swept by the *first* great fire with which this city has of late years been visited, viz.: that of the ever memorable 14th of January, 1837. The conflagration of November 15, 1841, which destroyed the whole of the buildings on the South wharf, Ward-street, part of Water and Prince William streets, &c., did not extend to any portion of the *present* burnt district; while that of March 17th, 1844, destroyed the whole range of buildings on the East side of Prince William street, from Church-street to Princess-street, and partly opposite to those now in ashes; the fire of last week has gone over nearly the whole of that portion of the scene of devastation of 1837 which was saved from desolation in the fires of 1841. It is a little singular that none of the fires with which this section of the city has been visited have extended beyond the limits of the great conflagration of 1837, except burning the Market House, in the Market-Square, in November, 1841; while the *whole* of that section (save a small space in Prince William and Water-streets) has *now* been twice swept of its buildings; and a part of the South Wharf *three* times!

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Suite, arrived in this City last evening, from Fredericton, and have taken apartments at the St John Hotel. We understand that the visit of His Excellency is principally on business connected with the projected Rail Road through these Provinces, from Halifax to Quebec.

The Quebec Sufferers.—On last Sabbath Collections were made in the several Churches in this City, Portland, &c., in aid of the sufferers by the Quebec Fires. In the following Churches the sums annexed were collected:—

Trinity Church,	£25 0 0	
Saint John Church,	18 0 0	
Saint Luke's and Saint Paul's Churches, Portland,	15 2 9	
Catholic Churches, Saint Malachy, City,	£32 15 0	111 15 10
Saint Peter, Portland,	29 0 10	
Saint Andrew's Church,	8 0 0	
Saint Stephen's Church,	7 3 6	
Methodist Chapel, Germain-street,	16 11 3	
" Centenary Chapel,	3 11 0	
Baptist Chapel,	10 17 10	
Reformed Presbyterian Church, Lower Cove,	7 0 4	

The total amount raised in Halifax for assisting the sufferers by the recent fires in Quebec, according to the official returns, is £1,219 7s. 6d.—of which, £183 3s 10d was collected in ten churches of that city; viz:—St. Mary's Church, £81 6s 2d; St. George's Church, £22 18 6d; St. Matthew's Church, £20 3s 4d, &c.

British North American Wesleyan Magazine.—The July number of this valuable periodical has just been issued from the Press in this City, and, as usual, contains a variety of interesting Religious and Miscellaneous articles. The work, from its merits, should meet with an extensive patronage among the numerous and very respectable body of christians for whose particular benefit and information it has been undertaken. We learn from an article in the Magazine on the subject of a "Proposed Conference of Wesleyan Ministers in the North American Districts," that there are labouring in the work of the Ministry in these Districts, ninety-two Wesleyan Ministers.

An advertisement in the magazine announces that the next Term of the Sackville Academy is to commence on Thursday the 14th instant.

Thunder Storms.—On the evening of the 17th ult. there was a very severe thunder storm at Quebec. seven persons were struck down, two of whom were instantly killed. The lightning struck the old Palace, near which the unfortunate individuals were standing.

Toronto was a few days ago visited by a severe storm of thunder, lightning and rain. The lightning struck several buildings; a young man named M'Erea, at work in a carpenter's shop, was killed instantly by the fluid. Several other persons were struck, but not seriously injured.

Deputation from the Church of Scotland at Miramichi.—We have been informed by a friend just arrived from Miramichi, that the Deputation from the Church of Scotland had been greeted, on their arrival in that quarter of New-Brunswick, with a most cordial and enthusiastic welcome, and that their pulpit ministrations, and public addresses had been listened to with edification and delight by crowded and admiring audiences.

On Monday morning, 28th inst. the members of the Deputation were entertained at a public breakfast, Dr. Key, of Chatham, in the chair, at which upwards of seventy gentlemen were present, although the rain which fell in torrents rendered it impossible for residents in the County town, Newcastle, or in the populous village of Douglastown, to be present, both of these places being on the opposite side of the River, and several miles distant.

On this occasion the Deputation were presented with a most gratifying Address, to which, we are informed, both Dr. Simpson and Mr. McLeod replied in eloquent and affecting terms.

On Wednesday, our informant states, the Deputation were to proceed to the Bay Chaleur, in which case their stay in New-Brunswick will be protracted beyond their original intention, which was, we believe, to make Miramichi the northern limit of their visit to that Province.—*Halifax Guardian, August 1.*

After Sermon in St. Andrew's Church, on Sabbath afternoon, Doctor Simpson, in a style simple and unaffected, but extremely affectionate and beautiful, addressed the Children who attend the Sabbath School in Chatham, conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Millar. He congratulated the Teachers on the good and holy work in which they were engaged; and the children on the valuable privilege which they enjoyed; and earnestly urged upon them the propriety of *practically* applying the useful instructions thus conveyed to them.—*Miramichi Gleaner.*

Ship Launch.—Yesterday, was launched from the Building Yard of Messrs. W. & J. Lawton, Portland, a beautiful ship registering 730 tons, called the "*Prince of Wales.*" She is owned by the enterprising builders, who spared no pains to render her a superior vessel, and will prove a worthy addition to the large number of first class ships of which this Port can boast.—*New-Brunswicker.*

The Weather.—With one exception, and that was in '13, we never recollect to have seen so much rain in the month of July. The river here is in consequence risen almost to an unprecedented height, for the season, and we believe that serious damage has already been sustained by the grass and crops on the lower Intervales and Islands. Yesterday the rain fell in torrents for a great part of the day.—*Fredericton Reporter.*

The late heavy rains have caused an overflow of the Musquedoboit River, and it is feared that a great loss of the hay crop on the intervales along the banks of the River will be effected by the inundation. Some fields of grain have likewise suffered from the same misfortune.—*Halifax Recorder.*

Boston.—The Worcester Spy says that the population of Boston, according to the new census, is about 120,000. In 1840, it was 93,383. Increase, 26,617, or about 25 per cent.

The Crops.—Within the last two or three weeks we have travelled 1000 miles in the State of New York, and every where have made it a point to observe and enquire after the crops. The uniform testimony in regard to wheat is, that the crop is beyond an average. We however saw many fields which did not come up to our expectations; while others were as good as could be reasonably desired. Passing into Canada, we found the wheat crops there also, very fine. Gentlemen from the interior gave the same account. We also saw persons from Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, and other Western States. Even in Ohio the crops is now thought to be a full average. In Michigan, Wisconsin, and parts of Indiana and Illinois, it never was surpassed. The accounts from Pennsylvania are also favorable. In Virginia the crops are a full average, and in Maryland more than an average.

To make a long story a short one, it may be said in general, that the wheat crop of the country is one of the largest in quantity, and best in quality, that ever was gathered. For this all ought to be thankful, and especially *consumers*. Besides supplying the home market, there will be a plenty for people abroad,—as much, at any rate, as they will be willing to pay for.—*N. Y. Journal Commerce.*

Purchase of Steamer Unicorn.—We mentioned some days ago a rumour that the Unicorn had come to New York for the purpose of being sold and placed on a line between New York and Havana. This is a line on which she could not run under the English flag. The New York papers confirm the report, and say that she has been sold for £10,000, which is much less than her cost. It is said that she is to run semi-monthly from New York to Havana, Vera Cruz and Carthagena.—*Boston Daily Advertiser.*

☞ The following account of the destructive conflagration in this City last Tuesday night, was published in a *second* edition of the Observer, on Wednesday morning, and forwarded by the several Provincial mails, and the mail to England, on that day.—We republish it to-day, with some corrections.

GREAT FIRE IN SAINT JOHN.

FORTY BUILDINGS DESTROYED.

It unhappily falls to our lot, to issue this morning a second edition of our paper, to record the particulars of a most disastrous Fire, with which this devoted City was last night visited. It seems as if every commercial City on this Continent was doomed this year to be scourged by the all devouring element. In our paper, as issued last evening, we briefly noticed the many devastating fires which have already occurred in other places; and scarcely was the town edition of our paper circulated, ere the horrid tocsin of alarm resounded throughout our streets, filling every heart with terror and dismay.

About half-past 10, P.M. last evening, the fire bells rang the alarm; when it appeared that fire had broken out at Mr. Nisbet's Blacksmith's Shop, on Peters' Wharf. In a few minutes this tenement, and the large building adjoining, occupied by Mr. John Walker, and containing a large amount of valuable goods, was one mass of flames, and the fire then rapidly spread eastward, along the line of houses from the Blacksmith's Shop, to the large and lofty building, corner of Water Street and the wharf, occupied by Mr. H. Hawkins, and others.

It was at first hoped, that here the progress of the flames would be arrested, and that about half a dozen houses would be the extent of the destruction; but it is said, that one of the Engines (of American construction) upon which great dependence was placed, proved for a long time wholly inefficient and useless; and the delay thus occasioned, gave time for the devouring element to gain overpowering extension and force. The fire speedily crossed to the South side of Peter's Wharf, which it completely swept of every building from Water Street to its Western extremity; from thence it rapidly ran Southwards along Water Street, destroying every building from Peter's Wharf to the Toll House at the Steam Ferry landing, the whole range of buildings on Johnston's Wharf, and those fronting on the North side of the Ferry landing: from the Western side of Water Street, despite all exertions, the furious torrents of fire caught the opposite buildings, the whole of which, from the South-eastern corner (occupied by Mr. Olson,) to the massive brick store of W. H. Street, Esq. are swept away. From the range of these buildings, the flames reached those above and behind them, fronting on the Western side of Prince William Street, and in an incredibly short space of time levelled the whole of them to the ground, from Mr. Major's, (Hair Dresser,) on the South to Mr. Street's building, above mentioned, on the North.

So vast and intense was the tremendous body of Fire on two sides of Mr. Street's building, from the extensive ranges of burning