

you that throughout the whole of my West India possessions the period fixed by law for the final and complete emancipation of the negroes has been anticipated by acts of the Colonial Legislature, and that the transition from the temporary system of apprenticeship to entire freedom has taken place without any disturbance of public order and tranquillity. Any measures which may be necessary in order to give full effect to this great and beneficial change will, I have no doubt, receive your careful attention.

"I have to acquaint you, with deep concern, that the province of Lower Canada has again been disturbed by insurrection, and that hostile incursions have been made into Upper Canada by certain lawless inhabitants of the United States of North America. These violations of the public peace have been promptly suppressed by the valour of my forces and the loyalty of my Canadian Subjects. The President of the United States has called upon the citizens of the Union to abstain from proceedings incompatible with the friendly relations which subsist between Great Britain and the United States.

"I have concluded with the Emperor of Austria a treaty of commerce, which I trust will extend and improve the intercourse between my subjects and that of the Emperor.

"I have also concluded a treaty of the same kind with the Sultan, calculated to place the commercial relations between my dominions and the Turkish Empire upon a better and more secure footing.

"I have directed copies of these treaties to be laid before you.

"I have been engaged, in concert with Austria, France, Prussia and Russia, in negotiations, with a view to a final settlement of the differences between Holland and Belgium.

"A definitive treaty of peace, founded upon anterior arrangements which have been acceded to by both parties, has in consequence been proposed to the Dutch and Belgian governments. I have the satisfaction to inform you that the Dutch government has already signified to the Conference its acceptance of that treaty, and I trust that a similar announcement from the Belgian government will put an end to that disquietude which the present unsettled state of these affairs has necessarily produced. The unanimity of the five allied powers affords a satisfactory security for the preservation of peace.

"I lament the continuance of the civil war in Spain, which engages my anxious and undiminished attention.

"Differences which have arisen have occasioned the retirement of my minister from the Court of Teheran. I indulge, however, the hope of learning that a satisfactory adjustment of these differences will allow of the re-establishment of my relations with Persia upon their former footing of friendship.

"Events connected with the same differences have induced the Governor General of India to take measures for protecting British interests in that quarter of the world, and to enter into engagements, the fulfilment of which may render military operations necessary. For this purpose such preparations have been made as may be sufficient to resist aggression from any quarter, and to maintain the integrity of my eastern dominions.

"The reform and amendment of the municipal corporations of Ireland are essential to the interests of that part of our dominions.

"I have directed full information upon all these matters to be laid before you, and I recommend the present state of these Provinces to your serious consideration. I rely upon you to support my firm determination to maintain the authority of my Crown, and I trust that your wisdom will adopt such measures as will secure to those parts of my Empire the benefit of internal tranquillity, and the full advantages of their own great national resources.

"I have observed with pain the persevering efforts which have been made in some parts of the country to excite my subjects to disobedience and resistance to the law, and to recommend dangerous and illegal practices. For the counteraction of all such designs I depend upon the efficacy of the law, which it will be my duty to enforce, upon the good sense and right disposition of my people, upon their attachment to the principles of justice, and their abhorrence of violence and disorder.

"I confidently commit all these great interests to your wisdom, and I implore Almighty God to assist and prosper your counsels."

Boston, Feb. 16.

ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE.—Letters from Martinique dated Jan 15th, say that the Earthquake which has already been announced as having occurred on the night of Jan. 11, with such frightful effect, was repeated on the nights of the 12th and 13th, and greatly increased the damage. The whole island was injured more or less, and Fort Royal more especially. In that city eighty houses were thrown down, including the Government House, Hospital, Treasury, Churches, and other large edifices. Not a house escaped injury more or less. Six hundred persons were killed; and the rest who were able had fled to the low ground. In Gaudaloupe and St. Lucia great damage had been done. Two schooners had arrived at Martinique from Gaudaloupe laden with wounded persons, seeking for hospitals; but the inhabitants were compelled to turn them away, as they had more than their hands full of their own wounded.

Quebec, February 15.

UPPER Canada papers to the 8th, make no mention of any further visits, either projected or made, by the brigands.

The weather to-day is extremely mild, the thermometer having risen to near the freezing point. A few days of this kind of weather would make a mighty inroad on the dominions of hoary-headed winter.

Kingston.

EXECUTION.—Lyman L. Lewis, alias Leech, one of the Prescott Brigands, was hanged in this place on Monday morning last, agreeably to his sentence.

Four deserters from the United States Army made their appearance in town yesterday morning. They wore their uniform, and came direct from Sacketts Harbour.

THE Gazette of Wednesday laid before the public intelligence of much importance, received from New Brunswick—the determination of the State of Maine to attempt to wrest, by force, from the possession of Great Britain, the territory claimed by the United States as its North Eastern Boundary.—A force of 10,000 has been ordered to be raised for this purpose, and the sum of \$300,000 voted by the Legislature for their support.

The American papers, since received, state that a portion of the force above named are organized at Bangor, and that a body of 500 men were to proceed immediately to the Orostock.—The Governor of Massachusetts has very properly declined any interference in the matter, leaving it to the General Government, to whom it constitutionally belongs, to settle.

We can see no other effect these hostile proceedings on the part of Maine can have, than to increase the difficulties which already exist to an amicable settlement of the question; for she may rest assured, that, whatever Great Britain may be disposed to do by amicable negotiation, she never will allow one inch of the disputed territory to be wrested from her.—*Journal*

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Monday, Feb. 25.

Mr. Forrester reported from the Committee on Public Expenditures.

Mr. A. Archibald and Mr. Dickson asked leave to present petitions from Overseers of the Poor for the towns of Truro and Pictou respectively—which was not granted.

Mr. Lewis presented a Bill for the better regulation of Dogs.

Mr. Desbarres obtained special leave to present