PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

FREDERICTON, March 30.

Several petitions presented against the repeal of the Liquor Law.

Several sums entered on the Supply Book.

Mr. Hatheway's Bill, regulating the driving of logs on small streams in York, passed.

Mr. Gray brought in a Bill further to amend the law: a Bill relating to Foreign Insurance Companies doing business by Agents.

Mr Kerr's Bill, to place several roads on the great road establishment, was lost in the Committee.

The House in committee on the Bill for Registration of Marriages &c., after a discussion of several hours, a motion to postpone for three months was lost, 15 to 19. Progress reported.

Mr. English moved for a Writ for the election of a Member for Carleton in the room of Mr. Beardsley, deceased.

Bill relating to St Stephen's Church property, and the bill relating to the public debt, St John, passed the Council. Also, the bill for the division of King's Ward, with an amendment making the first election for the new Ward to take place on the first Tuesday in May.

Mr. Kerr's Bill to provide for the settlement of paupers was committed, read, and progress reported.—*Tell. to the News Room.*

Thursday, March 31.—The Bill to empower the Catholic Corporation to sell certain lands, passed in Committee.

House in Supply—£100 was voted towards the erection of a Seamen's Hospital at Bathurst. Several sums recommended by the Emigrant Committee, among others £50 to Mr. McAvity, led to a long discussion, during which the conduct of the Emigrant Agent was spoken of. Mr. Johnson charged him with neglect of his duties. Messrs. Wilmot and Gray defended him, and denounced the Penny Papers. Mr. Wilmot said Mr. Perley preserved the interests of the Province in the Fisheries—said the statements in the *Freeman* and *News* about public officers, were, nine out of ten, base infamous lies.

Mr. Partelow drew attention to statements relative to Mr. Seely's bond, put down as an asset, and said that there was a note in the statement shewing it had been collected and the money in the hands of the late Attorney General; this was omitted in the report in the *Freeman*; he accused the *Freeman* of garbling reports for political purposes.

On motion of Mr. Partelow, the bill to renew the Bear and Wolves bounty Act was postponed for three month.

Saturday, April 2.—House adjourned till Monday—Committees sat all day yesterday—some sit again to-day.

It is said the Committee of Trade will recommend £700 for the Breakwater at Sand Point.—The Committee of Internal Navigation decline recommending a sum to cut a canal at Grimross neck.—*Tel. to News Room.*

Monday, March 28.

Mr. Kerr moves his resolution in supply for an appropriation to diffuse information in Great Britain on the resources of the Province.

Mr. Cutler.—I am pledged to all practicable and proper retrenchment. We have already incurred large expenses in the attempt to illustrate the facilities and resourses of New Brunswick, and these moneys have been mostly wasted.—Professor Johnston peregrinated the Province, reported on our great roads and bye-roads, bridges, geography and agriculture. He corresponded with every body, and afterwards wrote a book which was published at our cost. This transaction in the whole, cost the Province some £4000, and the most valuable information it contained was the way the natives cook geese. If the people of Britain wont believe the great Dr. Johnston, who will they believe?

Dr. Thompson—The Johnston report did us more harm than good. The best way is the quiet way. The less fuss and noise we make, the more confidence we exhibit in ourselves. Who would we send? A practical working man who would rather plough than talk, or some theorist who could do nothing else but talk. Newspapers and captains of vessels carry intelligence and command more confidence, than would be given to a hired lecturer. We have been already sufficiently humbugged, and have even humbugged ourselves. It is now high time either to keep our means or use our purposes.

Mr. Kerr.—My object has been misunderstood and misrepresented. I propose nothing extravagent or visionary. I do not ask for a large expenditure. Canada kept a person in Britain for some years, whose labours in presenting the claims of Canada as a field for emigration, were attended with great success, and turned the tide of a very valuable emigration to that Colony. In consequence of these evident advantages, Canada had now a person employed in the same work in Britain. A few years since, our own County of Northumberland sent an Agent to Britain at its own cost, and the same association has still a balance of £170 on hand. In Restigouche a steady flow of emigration has been procured in this way, and will unquestionably continue, because it has always been found that when the foundation is once laid by drawing emigrants to any portion of the Province, these by correspondence with their friends and relations preserve a continuous stream of immigration. They take the advantages of the locality known, and there is no danger of a want of settlers thereafter.

It cannot be denied that Professor Johnston's survey of the Province was very rapid and superficial, still his report contained valuable information, *but where is that Report?* lying in heaps, it is said, in the Emigrant Office at St. John. Great ignorance prevails in Britain as to the true capabilities of our country. A practical man who would go home and mingle with the laboring and emigrant classes, not one who would waste his time and money on champagne and dinner parties, who would truly and plainly state the real character of our soil, climate and trade, the easy terms upon which good lands can be procured, would do great service to the Province. I consider this a subject of great importance at this particular time, and in the present condition of our affairs with our great Railway works in immediate prospect. If we could once incline the stream of emigration towards us, it would continue to flow on without further exertion or expence. I only ask for the experiment, the sum of £500, and I am satisfied this would be repaid to us in an increased revenue in two years.

Hon. J. H. Gray.—I quite agree in the opinions of the last speaker. We have used no exertion, have expended no money to publish information of our capabilities in Britain. Canada not only gathers information but circulates it, the name of that Province has in consequence become familiar as a household word, it is favorably and generally known. Our resources and facilities are quite as good as those of Canada, and this is a practical undertaking to publish them. Surely it will not be denied that it is desirable to obtain a supply of healthy emigrants; our present laboring population is even now insufficient, to the ordinary employments of the country, and a portion of this must be withdrawn to the Railroad. How is this supply of labor obtained? Surely not by folding our arms and doing nothing. Few know even where New Brunswick is to be found, or that there is such a country to find. We talk about giving away our lands to encourage settlement, but no one hears the offer. The expenditure of this money in this way would be profitable as a commercial investment, I trust it will be made.

Mr. Taylor.—As a proof of the advantages which may be expected, and which, indeed, have resulted from the circulation of such information as is proposed, I may mention that fifteen years ago the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia Land Company published similar information in the North of England, in consequence of which a fine class of settlers came out intending to occupy the Company's land. The Company, however, was at the time unable to do anything for them, and they were on the eve of leaving the Province; some exertions were made, and some escouragement and assistance was afforded to them. Twenty-three families located themselves at the Harvey settlement, and now their thrift and prosperity is known and praised throughout the Province. When I last visited their settlement I found 314 attendants at the Village Church. One of these settlers had but three York shillings in his pocket on landing, he is now worth over £2000, and has made it all in farming.

Mr. Boyd.—If £500 will suffice to make us favorably known it will be money well expended.

Mr. McPhelim.—The scheme might have been of service twenty years ago.

Resolution withdrawn, with leave to enter again.—*Head Quarters.*

Monday, April 4.—Mr. Partelow brought in the Report of the Committee on Trade. Report on 49 petitions. Reports of other Committees were brought in.

Mr. Botsford moved for a Writ for the election of a Member in the room of the late Mr. Crane.

Mr. Earle gave notice that he would move the consideration of the Orange Bill on Monday next.

In reply to Mr. Hatheway, Mr. Partelow stated that the returns of expenditure for improvements in St. John would be furnished this week.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the House was put in Committee on the Bill to repeal the duty on Hacmatac.—The debate lasted several hours—a motion, by Mr. Earle, to postpone it for three months was carried, 21 to 17.

The Election Bill was committed—read, and progress reported; by consent the consideration will be resumed to-morrew.

Attorney General stated he wished to move the House, at an early day, to the consideration of the Law Commission Report; found it could not be referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses. There was no resolution on the subject.

Mr. Cutler brought in a special report of the committee on accounts respecting mutilation. It states facts as ascertained by evidence, three leaves were cut out prior to its being laid before the House, one leaf at page 57 was certainly cut out afterwards without the knowledge or consent of the committee, when errors were detected—this was reprehensible, but the committee were constrained to believe it was done without any intention of fraud, epecially as they found it had been customary in former years to make serious alterations of figures in these accounts, without any objection from the House, though never mutilated before.

In reply, Mr. Partelow said, this was a balance sheet, no imputation was ever cast upon the Treasurer—the Treasurer's accounts was never before them. Mr. Kerr said the same. These both and Mr. Johnson spoke of discrepancies. Mr. Johnson spoke of an extraordinary report in Northumberland that he endeavoured to screen the Secretary.—A further report will be brought in by this committee.

The House was a short time in supply.

A grant to Arthur Ritchie to reimburse him an amount paid for certain lands, for which the Grant did not issue, was lost.

The bill to extend the Charter of the Arestook Boom Company, was lost in the Council.—*Tel. to News Room.*

The Observer.

St. John, Tuesday, April 5, 1853.

CITY ELECTIONS.—The election of Charter Officers is going forward in the several Wards of this City to-day, in the midst of a South East rain storm; and in some of the Wards is conducted with much spirit. In *King's*, (the present members having declined serving again,) the contest for election as Alderman is between Joseph Fairweather, Esq., and Lewis Burns, Esq. Mr. N. S. Demill, and Mr. G. F. Rouse are candidates for the Councillor's seat. In *Queen's*, (the present Alderman having resigned,) W. O. Smith, Esq., Mayor, is the only candidate for the office of Alderman; and Mr. G. V. Nowlin and Mr. John Smith, are candidates for that of Councillor. In *Duke's*, Isaac Woodward, Esq., has come forward, on requsition, for Alderman; Capt. J. Stephenson, and Mr. W. Hagarty, for Councillor. In *Sydney* ward there is no opposition to Alderman Vanhorne and Councillor McAvity.

In the Carleton Wards there is some competition for civic honors.—We trust the electors will make a wise and prudent selection, and will return men who will be an honor to the city, and who will have a keen eye to the public interests.

Since the above was written, we learn that W. O. Smith, Esq., and Isaac Woodward, Esq., have been elected without opposition. We congratulate our fellow citizens on having secured the services of two gentlemen so well qualified for a share in the direction of Civic affairs.

☞ FOUR o'clock.—Messrs. Fairweather and Demill have been elected Alderman and Councillor for *King's* Ward; Mr. Nowlin, Councillor for *Queen's*, Mr. Smith having resigned; and Mr. Hagerty, Councillor for *Duke's*, Captain Stephenson having resigned.

THE MARCO POLO.—Our celebrated New-Brunswick Clipper has just sailed from Liverpool, on her second voyage to the Australian port of Melbourne. She carries 648 passengers and £90,000 sterling in specie, and a bounteous store of provisions for the voyage, including vast quantities of *fresh* beef, live stock and poultry, 400 barrels of flour, 600 barrels of bread, and 350 tons of water. Her enterprising commander, Captain Forbes, is determined to use every effort to maintain the reputation of his noble ship; and heavy bets are depending in England, on the relative speed of the *Marco Polo*, the screw-steamer *Antelope*, and the ship *Earl of Charlemont*, all now on their way to the Australian continent.

GODEY'S LADY BOOK.—We have received from Mr. Godey, the April number of this popular Magazine, which invariably contains a choice variety of light reading and practical information, acceptable to the gentle sex, for whom it is designed. The present number is, as usual, embellished with several beautiful Engravings, and illustrative Woodcuts; and is altogether well calculated for the Drawing-room or Work-table.

☞ We have also received Harper's Magazine for April, which is replete, as usual, with highly interesting matter, and very numerous spirited wood cuts. It is for sale by Mr. B. O'Brien, Bookseller, King-street.

STEAMERS.—The Woodstock Sentinel states that the Messrs. Glazer have purchased the "Tarratine" from the Penobscot, and are in treaty for the "Huntress," to ply on the river St. John.

QUEBEC.—There are 30 ships now on the stocks in course of construction at Quebec, amounting to 32,440 tons, all of them under the special survey of Loyd's agent. The largest is 1600 tons, and twenty of them are of 1000 tons and upwards. There are also a number of smaller vessels, brigs, steamers, &c.

SHIPWRECKS ON THE ENGLISH COASTS.—Within the last three months between 300 and 400 wrecks have occurred on the coasts of the United Kingdom, and nearly 250 persons have lost their lives.

The steamship Sir John Harvey, late of the Halifax and Boston line, having been newly rigged as a sailing vessel, sailed from Boston last week, for Australia, where she is intended to be refitted as a propeller in the local trade of the colony.

The Attorney General has introduced a Bill to regulate Weights and Measures, which if it goes into operation, will effect an important change in the mode of selling and buying. Grain, Roots, Coals, Salt and such articles have long been sold by weight in other countries, to the great advantage of those who sell and particularly to those who buy.—*Freeman.*

With respect to the mutilation of Accounts, about which so much has been said, we have the authority of the *Head Quarters* for stating, that the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts "*will entirely exonerate the parties concerned from all intention of wrong.*" And we learn further, from good authority, that it was in making up the abstracts in the Audit Office that the mistakes occurred—the Treasurer's accounts are correct, as they always have been.—*Cour.*

NEW-BRUNSWICK SHIPS—GREAT PRICES.—The "Star of the East," 1219 tons (n. m.) 1630 (old)—to class 7 years—was sold in Liverpool, for the sum of £16,500. The Ship "Tasmania," 1196 (n. m.) 1204 (old)—to class 7 years—sold for £12,341.—St. John has reason to be proud of her Ships when they can command such prices as these.—*News.*

FROM AUSTRALIA.—We understand that letters have been received in town dated 10th Dec. from Melbourne; accounts from the mines are very gloomy, many of the passengers from St. John by the Epaminondas, the Revenue, and the Great Britain, are on their return to a land they are but too sorry to have left.—*Ib.*

INQUEST.—A Coroner's Inquest was held on Monday on the body of an infant male child found at the Old Battery, Lower Cove. The body when discovered was dressed in a white linen nightgown, with lace on the cuffs. The dress the Coroner directed to be washed. There was no *post mortem* examination ordered, as from the appearance of the body and the length of time it may have lain under the snow, the Coroner believed it would but be incurring a useless expense, as there was no evidence by which any person could be implicated. Verdict—'Found Dead.'—*Freeman.*

The elections of Church Officers in the several Parishes for the ensuing year took place on Monday last, (Easter Monday) according to Law. The following gentlemen were elected:

Trinity Church.—George D. Robinson and John V. Thurgar, Church Wardens; Robert Bayard, LeBaron Botsford, Charles Brown, Stephen K. Foster, John Hardenbrook, William G. Lawton, Charles J. Meyer, John McGrath, Edward Sears, William Seely, Levi H. Waterhouse, and Frederick A. Wiggins, Vestrymen.

St. James' Church.—William Wright and John M. Robinson, Church Wardens; John Kinnear, Thomas McAvity, Robert Pickthall, Joseph Solis, George Kee, John Coigley, John Holden, H. W. Frith, Robert W. Crookshank, Jun., Samuel Seeds, B. L. Peters, and James Stewart, Vestrymen.

The election for the Church Wardens and Vestrymen of St. John's Church, in the new Parish of St. Mark, will be held on the first Monday in May next.—*Church Witness.*

Mr. Kerr, from Northumberland, has attempted to place upon the Supply Book a grant of £500 for securing the services of an Emigrant Agent to Great Britain. Should this grant pass, Mr. Kerr will have accomplished a most important service for the country, and he will be entitled to the cordial thanks of the whole community. Should the suggestion of Mr. Kerr be adopted, and afterwards properly carried out, it will not only induce the immigration of farm servants on a large scale to this Province, but it will also without doubt be the means of bringing to our shores a numerous race of permanent settlers, who will through this agency escape the manifold evils of old country poverty, and at the same time promote the permanent settlement and consequent prosperity of this Province.—*Fred. Reporter.*

BANK OF UPPER CANADA.—It gives us pleasure to state, as an evidence of public confidence in the prosperity of the Bank of Upper Canada, that the undisposed balance of its new stock, amounting to £75,000, to complete its subscribed capital to the amount of £500,000, the limit of its present Charter, was all taken up last week by citizens of Toronto. We have no doubt that with an increasing dividend next July—which, we trust, the Bank will be in a position to give—the stock of this old and popular Bank will soon be at the same premium as most of our other well managed Banking Institutions.—*Toronto Patriot.*

The Stock of the Toronto and Hamilton Railway Company, which was reserved for Canada, has been all taken up, Stock-books being opened simultaneously in Toronto and Hamilton. The line will be constructed immediately—the greater part of the money coming from England.—*Quebec Gazette.*

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The estimate of the charges of defraying the public expenditure of the Island of Newfoundland for the year ending 31st December, 1853, is £19,532 16s. 8d.

The several fleets of sealing vessels had sailed for the icy-fields of their adventure.

We have no recollection of a season of such mild weather as the present. February is now gone, and has left neither frost or snow behind it; indeed we may say that for the past six or eight weeks, the temperature is such as we ordinarily experience in April or May.

From late English Papers.

LONDON, March 9th.—The Board of Trade Returns for 1852, just published, afford a satisfactory confirmation of our highest hopes, and, at the same time, a striking disproof of calculations that seemed the more correct because anticipating embarrassment. The increase upon the value of our total exports over those of 1851 (itself a year of unprecedented prosperity) is about £3,000,000. Our imports of several important articles—exclusive of gold—have considerably diminished, though there has been a large increase in the consumption per head of foreign and colonial commodities by our domestic population. It is the produce of our gold colonies that has at once disturbed and redressed the balance of trade. Of the £15,000,000 imported during the year, more than half has been sent back to Australia, and nearly a third has gone to the continent in payment for consignments hither. The most remarkable fact of the commercial year is, the unabated and even increased importation of Australian wool—57,100,215 lbs. against 52,181,269 lbs. in 1851. There is, also, an increase of 4,000,000 lbs. in the importation of wool from other parts. If, therefore, it be true that the gold fields now yield more sparingly than hitherto, and that the diggers are returning to the normal pursuits of industry, we may expect that our commercial relations will presently become more settled without becoming less prosperous.

The Board of Trade has returns of another sort to make, and their next periodical issue will display a frightful total—we mean, the returns of railway "accidents." On the eve of Mr. Cardwell's appointment to the Presidency of that Board, he was an involuntary and anguished witness of the Oxford Catastrophe. That is barely two months since, and the scene has been again and again repeated. Thrice within the past week have death and mutilation been dealed out wholesale upon the great lines of traffic, besides minor cases of killing, wounding, and frightening. One day, a ballast-train blocking the line, the engine of a passenger-train turns off the rails; two or three are taken up for dead; a dozen more are conveyed to the hospital instead of to their counting-houses; and the rest are sent about their avocations with aching bones and shattered nerves. But the next day, in another part of the country, and close to the scene of a recent "accident" that should have served as a warning memory, an express train starts late, hurries to make up for lost time, stumbles in turning a curve, and crushes its carriages and passengers into road-ways and ditches; where the mother lies groaning for hours beside her dead child, drivers and firemen literally smashed, a whole family destroyed or crippled for life, and solitary travellers more mutilated than soldiers storming a breach and falling in the gap. And yesterday, a locomotive standing quietly in its depot, "blows up," and its fragments, falling among a party of workmen at breakfast, four are killed and ten or twelve severely injured.

In the House of Lords, on 15th March, the Earl of Malmesbury called attention to the dangerous mismanagement of Railways, and called for the appointment of a Commission of inquiry with the fullest powers, to see what would be done in the matter. Lord Stanley, of Alderly, said, no subject had engaged more of the attention of Government with which he was connected, than the important question of security in Railway travelling; but the whole subject was, and would be, most anxiously considered by a Committee of the House of Commons, composing as good and useful a body of men as any that could be appointed as a Commission.

In the Commons, in answer to a question put by Mr. Bass, with respect to the deficiency of silver coin, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated, that the demand for gold coin was so pressing that there was no chance of their being able to apply the Mint to silver coinage at present. Half a million of sovereigns per week are now being turned out, which is about twice the regular work of the Mint; and means are being taken to increase that suppiy to meet the demand for sovereigns. During January, however, £292,000 of silver coinage was struck.

CLERGY RESERVES.—The great debate of the session, and the severest trial of party strength, came off on Friday, on the second reading of the Clergy Reserves (Canada) Bill. We went down to the House prepared to witness all the signs of feverish excitement which we had witnessed on the Derby Budget. No such thing. Shortly after six o'clock, when Sir John Pakington rose to move that the bill be read a second time that day six months, the House was unusually thin, and so it remained till betwen ten and eleven o'clock. The truth is, that the chief interest taken in the matter was a party interest—and, by the majority, the discussion itself was regarded as a bore. The dining-rooms, the lobbies, the library, the smoking-room, were well tenanted—but the benches on both sides of the Speaker's chair were comparatively vacant. And yet it was a grand debate. Sir W. Molesworth's speech, delivered with considerable animation, was most masterly, showing an appreciation of great principles which we were not prepared to expect, and a knowledge of the history of the question which rendered his position impregnable. So, too, the Chancellor of the Exchequer poured out an eloquent torrent of words—skilfully arranged to make out his case, and to make out no more than his case. These were the two speeches of the evening. Of Sir J. Pakington's effort, the less that is said, perhaps, the better. But his manner was confident, and his airs rather those of a *parvenu* statesman. Mr. Napier assumed a position which no mortal, whatever his intellectual power, can sustain with credit. There would have been several other speakers to this question, but the whip had been rather severely applied. A division was determined on—and so, about one o'clock on Saturday morning, strangers were ordered to withdraw, the Speaker put the question, and the result was—For the bill, Ayes, 275; Noes, 192; majority for the motion, 83. This is decisive so far as votes go—but there will probably be much further discussion.

MERCANTILE MARINE.—The House of Commons resolved itself on Monday into committee for the purpose of hearing a Ministerial statement on this subject.

Mr. CARDWELL, after preliminary remarks upon the present prosperity of the shipping interest, measured by whatever test, distributed the subject under eight heads:—1. Lights. The Government thought that their control should be vested in some person whose situation in the Government would render him directly accountable to Parliament, so that the funds should be strictly applied to the purposes for which they were levied. 2. Passing tolls. A subject, he showed, embarrassed with difficulties, and which the Government proposed to subject to a careful inquiry. 3. Manning. The restriction which required that a British crew should consist of three parts British subjects the Government did not propose to maintain. 4. Volunteering in the Navy. This power, which was a safeguard to the seamen, an advantage to the navy, and not entirely an injury to the mercantile marine, the Government proposed only to modify. 5. Salvage to the Navy. On this head there was a grievance, which consisted in the lien upon the ship, entitling the salvors to detain it in a distant port; but the Admiralty had arrangements in preparation to provide a substitute for this claim. 6. Desertion. Upon this subject a bill would be introduced to remedy the inconveniences suffered by the desertion of crews, and the imperfection of the existing laws. 7. Consular fees. These fees were regulated by Act of Parliament, but some of them would be abandoned. 8. Pilotage. The Government proposed to amalgamate the two bodies—the Trinity House and Cinque Ports pilots—in the river Thames, and to place them under one control; to confer upon the Board of Trade, in extreme cases, the power of remedying the defects of local acts in the Mersey, and a mediatorial power in the Severn—the Board being invested, for these purposes, with authority to institute an inquiry into all bye-laws, regulations, rates, &c., with the aid of the able officers in the mercantile marine department of that board. It would be proposed to reduce the London pilotage 25 per cent.

The CHAIRMAN was directed to move the House for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to pilotage; and leave was accordingly given.

GREAT JUBILEE MEETING.—The first great public meeting, in connexion with the Jubilee of the British and Foreign Bible Society, was held on Tuesday at Exeter Hall, which was completely filled long before the hour specified for the commencement of the proceedings. The platform, which was also crowded, was devoted exclusively to the chief friends and supporters of the society. The Earl of Shaftesbury, as President of the Society, occupied the chair.—After several speeches nearly £10,000 were subscribed.

Yesterday, the Archbishop of Canterbury preached a sermon commemorative of the formation of the Bible Society, in Saint Paul's Cathedral. This, we believe, is the first time that the cause of this great Institution has been pleaded in a pulpit heretofore exclusively devoted, in matters of religious benevolence, to the advocacy of institutions avowedly connected with the Established Church, and limited to the promotion of its own objects.

A large meeting was held in London a few days ago, in connection with the London Missionary Society, for the purpose of raising a fund to send several Missionaries and a printer to Madagascar, where there is said to be a good opening at present for the promulgation of Christianity, the reigning Prince being in favour of the Missionary cause. £2,300 was subscribed; and the required sum (£5000) was expected soon to be raised.

The royal accouchement is expected to take place in April.

The widows of Messrs. Salmond and Brodie, Masters on board the ill-fated steam frigate *Birkenhead*, have each been granted by the Queen a special pension of £60. Mrs. Whyam, widow of the Chief Engineer of the same ship, has been granted a pension of £50. The sister of Lieut. W. H. Brady, who perished in the *Amazon*, R.W. I. M. Steamer, has been granted by the Queen a pension of £50.

APPEARANCE OF A SUNKEN WRECK.—The plate in the *Queen Victoria's* cabin has been saved by a diver; but the man protests that nothing in the world could induce him to go down a second time, as the scene in the cabin was the most horrible he had ever witnessed. He thought he had entered a wax-work exhibition, the corpses never having moved from their positions since the vessel went down. There were some eighteen or twenty persons in the cabin, one and all of whom seemed to be holding conversation with each other; and the general appearance of the whole scene was so lifelike that he was almost inclined to believe that some were yet living.—*London paper.*

THE MINT AND THE SUPPLY OF COIN.—Great inconvenience has of late been experienced from the want of a sufficient supply of coinage, and particularly of silver and copper. The demand for gold coin, notwithstanding the enormous amount coined last year (8,749,000*l.*), continues as great as ever, and the whole strength of the Mint requires to be devoted to it. Till a comparatively recent time, the largest amount of gold coin which it was considered could be turned out by the Mint was 250,000*l.* a week; at the present moment the quantity coined has risen to about 520,000*l.* a week; and yet, such is the demand, that even that quantity appears to be insufficient to supply it. In the month of January, during a short cessation of the pressure for gold coinage, a quantity of silver equal to 92,000*l.* was coined, being equal to one-half of the entire silver coinage of 1852, and being more than the entire silver coinage of 1851, which was 87,868*l.* In the midst of this pressure for gold and silver coin, the manufacture of copper coin seems to have been impossible at the Mint, while the demand has been, and still continues to be, extremely great. It is now understood, that the Mint authorities, in order to supply the want, are about to enter into a contract with private persons for the manufacture of so large a quantity of this coin as will effectually meet the demand.—*Economist.*

Explosion of a Railway Engine and Loss of Life.—A terrible accident occurred yesterday morning at Longsight, near Manchester, by the explosion of a railway locomotive belonging to the London and North Western Railway Company. Longsight is a depot for engines. The engines in question was in a large shed with other locomotives, and the steam was up. About nine o'clock, the boiler burst with a terrific explosion, which was heard for miles, tearing the part over the fire-box into three separate pieces, hurling each to a distance of six or seven yards, destroying five of the pillars supporting the structure, and blowing off and tearing away upwards of 1,500 square feet of the slated roof. In this shed from 60 to 80 workmen were at breakfast, dispersed in groups about all parts of it, and hence a shocking loss of life, four men being killed on the instant, in addition to some ten or a dozen carried away, more or less severely hurt.

Three executions took place at Mantua on the 3d instant. The names of the victims were Count Speri, of Brescia, a very young man; Count Montamarra, of Verona; and the Arch-priest Mitrete, of Rovere, aged seventy. Some twenty have been condemned to imprisonment with irons, for terms varying from ten to twenty years; and upwards of a hundred remain in prison.

The German Governments became much alarmed by the outbreak at Milan. To Hungary, Bohemia, Austria Proper, and Italy—countries in which we have had to report conspiracies and arrests—are now to be added Bavaria and Baden. At Munich, Bamberg, Nuremberg, extrardinary precautionary measures have been adopted. Cartridges have been distributed to the soldiers; the posts have been reinforced, and the streets patrolled by light horse. At Lindau, in one night, all the houses in which Bavarian officers were lodged were marked with a red cross. Precautions were immediately taken.

According to accounts from Pesth, of the 1st, Noslopy, chief of the guerillas, and three of his accomplices—one of whom is the tutor of Kossuth's children—were to be executed on the 3rd.

A "Congress of Sovereigns," the *Augsburg Gazette* announces, will take place at Berlin on the 30th instant. The first conference will include the Emperors of Austria and Russia and the King of Prussia. Early in April they will ask the concurrence of the Germanic Confederation, the King of Holland, the King of Belgium, and other sovereigns, in reference to Italy.

Dr. Overweg, one of the enterprising travellers employed in determining the boundaries of Lake Tchad, in central Africa, died at Kuka on the 27th of September. He was only thirty years old. His grave is beside the great central lake which he was the first to navigate.

AUSTRALIA.—The advices from Australia are nearly a month later than were before received. They show that there was no material abatement of the yield of the mines, though the reception of gold at Sydney had been diminished by accidental causes. The following amounts were brought to Melbourne in the last six months:—

July,	297,941	ounces.
August,	268,676	"
September,	211,814	"
October,	318,511	"
November,	349,185	"
December, (from 1st to 25th)	185,526	"
	1,661,653	ounces.

Amounting to over $30,000,000.

Emigrants from Ragged Schools.—A lad who had been a scholar in the Wapping Ragged School, and who emigrated to Port Philip in 1850, has just sent his aged mother the sum of fifty pounds, having been "a little successful" at the diggings.

By the Overland Mail advices from Bombay to Feb. 12, were received. There was further news from Burmah, but nothing of a very specific or authentic character. A Bombay account contains the following statement:—

No authentic particulars have been received regarding the revolution at Ava. All that is certainly known is, that the late King of Ava is dead, that the succession to the throne is disputed, and that several of the chiefs and members of the Royal family who were commanding troops in the lower provinces have abandoned their further defence, and marched to Ava to take part in the great struggle for power.—One of the competitors for the throne is about to open negotiations with General Godwin, and has despatched an English prisoner from Ava for the purpose.—General Godwin and the Commissioner have proceeded to Meaday to meet him, and it is reported that Colonel Handscomb, of the 40th, with three others, are to proceed thence on an embassy to Ava. Very contradictory accounts are still prevalent regarding the particulars of the revolution at Ava. According to the most received version it would appear that the famine price of rice, occasioned by the British occupation of the lower provinces, having rendered the King, (who was the soul of the war party,) extremely obnoxious to the inhabitants of his capital, the Prime Minister, who was also a member of the Royal family, placed himself at the head of the mal-contents, assassinated the King, and assumed the ensigns of Sovereignty after imprisoning or otherwise disposing of the late King's brother.

A new question, in which several European powers were interested, had arisen in the affairs of Turkey, soon after the departure from Constantinople of Count Leininger, the Austrian Minister, whose demands in regard to Montenegro appear have been fully conceded. A Russian Minister, Prince Menschikoff, arrived, with certain demands embarrassing to the Porte, relating to religious questions, respecting the Latin and Greek churches, and the right of visiting the Holy Shrines, in which the different European powers make conflicting claims. It does not appear, however, that the Russian Ambassador comes in a military character, or makes any peremptory demands, and the question will probably be one of conference with the Ambassadors of the other powers. It can hardly be apprehended that at this day a national quarrel can arise out of such a question. A Paris letter says:—

"Lord Stratford de Redcliffe (the British Minister, on his way to Constantinople,) has seen and conversed with M. de Lacour, preparatory to his starting for Constantinople. It was believed that the instructions of M. de Lacour were to the effect that no concession should be made to Russia in the affair of the Holy Shrines, and that he was to maintain what had been done by his predecessor. If any such idea existed, it no longer exists. M. de Lacour is not to do anything that may displease Russia, for with that pewer, as with Austria, it is the policy of the government to remain for the present on good terms."

A letter from Constantinople reports that the Porte has resolved to refer the question of the Holy Shrines to the arbitration of Prussia.

Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, the British Ambassador to Constantinople, was received in Paris by the Emperor and the Empress, in the apartments of the latter.

On Thursday last, the Emperor entertained Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and several of our countrymen at dinner at the Palace of the Tuileries. Besides Lord Stratford de Redcliffe there were present Lord Pevensey, his Lordship's Secretary, Sir William and Lady Knighton, Sir Robert and Lady Keith Arbuthnot, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Barrington, the Hon. Mrs. Dudlap Ward, Mr. Allec, and several others. The Emperor had a long private interview with Lord Stratford.

The Emperor of France has taken one hundred tickets for the ball to be given for the benefit of the British Charitable Fund.

Accounts from Paris to the 14th, represent that the Pope hesitated, and would probably decline, contrary to his personal inclination, the invitation of the French Emperor, to come to Paris to assist in his coronation, and that at any rate the visit would be postponed from May to June. A later report of the 15th, asserts that the Emperor had succeeded in obtaining the consent of the Pope to visit Paris in May next, to perform the Imperial coronation, Austria and Russia having relaxed their opposition.

A decree by the Emperor of the French has been issued, appointing the opening of the Exhibition of Industry of all Nations for the first of May, 1855, and directs its close in the September following. The postponement is made for the purpose of giving the Exhibition a more world-wide character.

Extensive preparations are making for the Imperial coronation, which will take place on the 10th of May, at the Cathedral of Notre Dame.

M Lamartine is seriously indisposed, and it is said he has an invincible repugnance to certain medicines ordered by his physician, of which sulphate of quinine is one.

The Emperor of Austria attended a Te Deum in celebration of his recovery, in the Cathedral of Vienna, on the 12th. He was received with great enthusiasm.

ABD-EL-KADER A WIT.—On one occasion Abd-el-Kader, when in France, was priding himself upon what he said few could boast on so short a residence in Paris, namely, having seen the end of one government and the beginning of another, and he quaintly added, "We have had the same constitution from the days of Mahomet; but then we are barbarians." Upon another occasion, while visiting a library, he was introduced to a Professor of Arabic, who spoke to him in the Arabic of the Institute. After listening some minutes with most profound gravity, he directed his interpreter to inform the Professor that he did not understand French sufficiently to understand what was spoken!

THE TELEGRAPH IN INDIA.—India is to be provided with more than 3,000 miles of electric telegraph, to be erected by the government. The construction will differ materially from the English mode. Dr. O'Shaughnessy, Deputy Assay-Master of the Calcutta Mint, has tried an experiment with eighty-two miles of telegraph on the plan invented by him, and with entire success. The winds of India would snap wires and wooden posts, and there are other objections to them; their place will be supplied by iron rods three-eights of an inch in diameter, supported on bamboos; the bamboos yield a little in hurricanes, and then resume their erect position, and no isolation is required for the iron rods. Dr. O'Shaughnessy has simplified the battery and other machinery. The section already completed has been a paying speculation. It is intended that the Presidencies and the Punjaub shall be connected by the telegraph. The Court of Directors gave orders, four months back, for the preparation in England of the materials required.

DEPARTURE OF DR. LAYARD FOR THE EAST.—Dr. Layard has just issued an address to his constituents, the electors of Aylesbury, announcing his immediate departure for Constantinople, with her Majesty's ambassador, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. This is not the first time that Dr. Layard has been associated with Lord Stratford de Redcliffe in Eastern Diplomatic service. He was attached to the embassy at Constantinople when he resolved to attempt the recovery of Assyrian remains, and accomplished the task which has made his name celebrated, under the auspices of Sir Stratford Canning.—*Daily News.*

The Doctor's new book, entitled "Discoveries in the Ruins of Nineveh and Babylon," is just issued, and is described as very interesting. The *Athenæum* says, "However high may have been the anticipations of the public, they will be amply realized in this production—the subject matter of which is full of most valuable and suggestive materials.

A Child Starved by its Parents—Bristol has just been the scene of a very horrible crime—the starvation of a child by its father and step-mother, John and Eliza Cornish. It was a perfect skeleton; although ten years old the corpse only weighed *twenty-seven* pounds. All the muscular form had vanished, and the skin clung closely to the bones. The step-mother beat as well as starved the child. Its sister was nearly as badly used. The pair, especially the woman, were extremely cruel. The woman's own children were plump. Evidence satisfactorily brought the crime home to the parents, and a jury found a verdict of "Wilful Murder." A mob hooted and groaned at the criminals.

CHINA.—All accounts agree as to the rapid and successful progress of the rebels, who were close to Han-kow-chin, one of the largest markets for trade in the empire. Their object was to advance and capture Nankin, which was at a distance of 650 miles. Other towns had fallen into the hands of the rebels.

CALIFORNIA.—*The Richest Yet.*—We learn by the Republican that considerably excitement exists amongst the miners in regard to the digging, near Curtisville. It is said that three Mexicans took out $30,000 in three days. A gentleman, upon whose word reliance can be placed, had the curiosity, while passing through the camp, to stop and examine the hole from which such an immense amount was taken. While there he saw three lumps picked out, the largest being "as big as a brick." This intelligence has of course considerably inflamed the minds of our neighbors, and hundreds have already left these parts.

The El Dorado *News* says that "gold dust continues to pour into Placerville, in unprecedented quantities; 70 000 ounces per week may be set down and safely relied upon as a fair average purchased by the regular dealers in gold dust, and the coming season bids fair to be one of unprecedented prosperity."

AGRICULTURE IN THE MOUNTAINS.—The *State Journal* learns, by a communication to a friend, written from Penn Valley, Nevada, that the ranch of Mr. John Montgomery in that Valley, produced $16,000 in agricultural articles. Mr. M. raised 100 tons of hay, worth $5,000. From six acres of land he raised $4,000 worth of cabbages; from half an acre, $2,000 worth of tomatoes; melons worth $1,000 were also grown, as also $2,000 worth of barley.—In addition, cucumbers, squashes, carrots, beets, &c., were produced for home consumption. These have been the sales, after feeding the requisite stock to work the land, and saving seed for another year.—This, it will be recollected, is the produce of a single farm, in the mountains of mining region of the State. After this exhibit who doubts the resources of California?

EARTHQUAKES IN CALIFORNIA.—Since November 21st, 1852, there have been 32 shocks of earthquakes within the limits of this State. The effects of these continued shocks have been confined principally to the Southern section of California, and have therefore excited but little attention, although entitled to much more than has been elicited.

OREGON.—The Columbian states that the ship Norman Morrison arrived at Victoria, Vancouver's Island, on the 16th January, in 140 days from London, with 160 passengers, comprising some 25 families. Good health had been enjoyed by all on board, and fine weather had attended the vessel throughout her passage. This will