The Observer.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 1847.

ENGLISH MAIL.—The second May mail, per steamer Hibernia, arrived in this city on Thursday morning last. The steamer brought out about one hundred passengers, including the Countess of Elgin, on her way to join her husband the Governor-General of British North America, at Montreal. Several members of her father's family, (the late Earl of Durham,) accompanied her Ladyship.

We subjoin a summary of the intelligence by the mail.

LIVERPOOL, May 19.—We have before us reports from almost every district of the country, which satisfy us that the improvement and prospect of a good harvest is almost universal. The wheat crop is at present too early to speak of; but we may say that no weather could be more favourable for it than the present. The price of wheat and flour is still on the advance, and there exists on the part of many persons a great fear of scarcity, it being impossible to estimate, with any degree of certainty, the stock in the hands of the farmers. As regards the continent, it was stated in the Chamber of Peers on the 15th instant, by the Minister of Commerce and Agriculture, that the prospects of the next harvest were extremely promising. The crops throughout Belgium are said to promise an abundant harvest. A correspondent of a London paper says:—"I have just traversed the whole of the central and upper districts of the Peninsula. I can affirm that for the last twenty years never was the aspect of the country, or the operations of the farmer, in a state so promising. From Egypt we learn that the corn harvest in both Upper and Middle Egypt had been got in, and was most abundant, the Viceroy estimates that there will be 4,300,000 hectolitres of corn for exportation in July, at the rise of the waters of the Nile."

LIVERPOOL CORN MARKET, May 18.—On the 4th inst. we quoted Canadian sweet flour at 40s. to 41s. per barrel, and United States sweet at 38s. to 40s. 6d. Our quotations to-day show a rise of 7s. 6d. to 8s. per quarter on the former, and 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. on the latter. The latest accounts from the Continental markets show that much scarcity prevails in several parts; but as the navigation was opened up, large supplies were expected to come down the rivers in a very short time, whereby the wants of the people of those countries would not only be supplied, but numerous cargoes would be transported to these kingdoms.

LONDON CORN MARKET.—Since the sailing of the Caledonia, on the 4th inst., a general reaction has taken place in the Grain markets, and prices have risen rapidly, and are now at such a figure as will place many articles of breadstuffs out of the reach of the poorer classes in this country. American Flour has been sold extensively at 50s. to 52s. per barrel, being 10s. more than it was worth about a fortnight ago.

The Cotton trade has suffered severely from the pressure which has prevailed in monetary circles. The transactions in this article during the fortnight have been small, and prices are now considerably below our last quotations.

Money and Trade.—The past fortnight has been one of much anxiety and great trial in commercial circles. Although, occasionally here and there, symptoms of an improved trade have manifested themselves, still, generally speaking, there has been a complete stand in business. This has been caused by the high price of provisions, the scarcity of money, and the prospects of further drains upon the resources of the country to meet the impending trials caused by the want of food in Ireland, and the scarcity of employment in the manufacturing districts.

There can be no doubt that the Bank of England is in a steadily improving position: the present amount of bullion held by the establishment is estimated, by very competent judges, to be ten millions, whilst the reserve of Bank Notes is nearly four millions.

The Manufacturing Districts.—The accounts from the manufacturing districts are of the most gloomy character, and little hope can yet be entertained of any decided or substantial improvement, at least until the price of provisions is lower, and the demand for manufactured goods increased. The short-time system, as it is termed, still prevails in many of the cotton and woollen districts, so that numbers of the operatives are nearly destitute of employment, and their means of subsistence, if not cut off, very seriously curtailed. The latest intelligence from Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds, &c., complain of the absence of demand for woollen and worsted goods. We trust that we have, if not entirely, at least very nearly, reached the climax of the depression which has visited the trade and commerce of this country.

MANCHESTER.—This has been one of the severest and most trying weeks experienced in Manchester for many years, and we are sorry to say that the prospects for the coming week are unrelieved by a single alleviating circumstance. The embarrassed state of the money market operates with undiminished force upon every department of our trade, inducing parties on all hands to adopt the most cautious policy, and for the present to confine their operations within the narrowest compass. The general gloom, arising from the state of our monetary affairs, has been increased by the failure of an American house, whose liabilities are reported to be considerable, and which will affect to some extent a few large firms in this town. Under the circumstances, scarcely any business can be effected.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.—In our last printed circular we made some observations on the embarrassments under which the trading interest were then suffering, occasioned by the Directors of the Bank of England having found it necessary to contract their accustomed amount of discounts, and by other capitalists following their example in becoming more stringent than usual in their accommodation to the public. The apprehension which thereby at first existed has greatly abated. Discounts are granted more freely and on easier terms. It is to be hoped that, as confidence and credit seem now being restored, the accustomed course of trade will not be long impeded. There does not appear to be any reduction during the last few weeks in the prices asked for the various descriptions of wood, yet the sales effected are on a very limited scale, and when made, have been at a shade under our last quotations; should, however, the commercial difficulties be prolonged, a depression in prices may be expected to follow. The demand for vessels to take emigrants to the colonies has in a great measure subsided. The tonnage cleared from hence for the timber ports, from 1st February to this time last year, is more by about one-third than that of this year. No vessels, timber laden, have arrived since the commencement of the month.—*Duncan & Ewing.*

SCARCITY OF FOOD.—The following order has been issued by the Lord Steward of the Queen's household:—Her Majesty having taken into consideration the high price of provisions and especially bread stuffs, has been graciously pleased to command that from the date of this, 2nds only of flour shall be used in her Majesty's household, and that the daily allowance of bread shall be 1lb. per head to each person dieted in the palace.

DEATH OF THE EARL OF BESSBOROUGH.—An Extraordinary *Gazette* was published last evening, containing the following official announcement:—

"Dublin Castle, May 17th, 1847.

"Last night at the hour of eleven o'clock, died at her Majesty's Castle of Dublin, his Excellency John William, Earl of Bessborough, late Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland, to the infinite regret of all ranks of people." His Excellency the Earl of Bessborough was in the 66th year of his age.

MR. O'CONNELL.—We learn, says the Dublin Evening Post of the 17th of May, that Mr. O'Connell reached Genoa, on the 6th inst., after a fine, but somewhat tedious passage of 22 hours, and he may, perhaps, make a short stay in that city. The voyage was borne by him exceedingly well, and the accounts add, "that it has not checked the improvement already manifested, but the reverse. In fact, he is not only beyond comparison better, than when leaving England, but continues to recover rapidly."

The Lord Mayor of London gave a sumptuous dinner at the Egyptian Hall the other day to the Cabinet Ministers, their ladies, and a number of their supporters. The present festival was remarkable for two circumstances—the presence of Sir H. Smith, the hero of Aliwal, and the handsome, nay, grateful and enthusiastic terms in which Lord John Russell spoke of the kind and sympathising aid sent by the generous Americans to the distressed Irish in their hour of need.

The Duke of Bedford, brother of the Premier, it is thought will succeed Lord Bessborough in the Lord Lieutenantcy of Ireland. Lords Clanricarde, Clarendon and Morpeth have also been named for the office.

Sir Charles Napier, it seems, has been suddenly ordered to hoist his flag at Portsmouth and proceed to take the command of the Lisbon fleet.

THE 95TH OR SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS.—We understand that the Commander in Chief having expressed a particular desire to the Duke of Sutherland to raise 300 men for this regiment from his Grace's estates in the county of Sutherland, where it was originally embodied by his illustrious mother, his Grace not only agreed to afford every facility to the recruiting parties now in that county for obtaining the above quota during the ensuing summer, but has promised to present each man with a sum of £2, as an addition to the government bounty.

HIGHLAND RELIEF FUND.—*Splendid Contribution.*—A splendid first class American ship, the Morea, Captain Reed, arrived at the Broomielaw on Monday, with a cargo of meal, beans, bacon, &c., valued at 21,000 dollars, the contribution of the citizens of New England to the Highland Relief Fund.

Highland Destitution.—Mr. Broch, Treasurer to the Highland Relief Fund in Glasgow, has received a remittance of £3000 from the British Association, making in all from that society, for the Glasgow Committee, £31,000.

£3000 has been remitted from Calcutta for the benefit of the Scottish sufferers—to be followed by a further remittance.

The Duke of Argyle proposes to ship above 1000 persons from his estates in the Highlands to Canada.

Typhus fever is raging to an unprecedented extent in Dundee. The deaths in the Infirmary have amounted to the extraordinary average of forty in a day.

Effects of Living on One Kind of Food.—About sixty men, labourers on the railways in the course of formation in the country, are at present lying in the Royal Infirmary suffering from scurvy, which has been induced, we understand, by making coffee and buttered bread, of the best quality, their *sole* article of diet.

The Earl of Elgin is to have the green riband vacant by the death of the Duke of Argyll.

The British Government have taken steps to send out Sir J. Richardson with his overland expedition to the North Pole.

About £2,000 has been contributed in the small island of Guernsey, towards the relief of destitution in Ireland.

Lord Hardinge, feeling for the 'spiritual wants' of a distant part of the parish of Penshurst, in which he resides, has sent £1,000 towards building and endowing a church or chapel there.

OXFORD.—It was stated at a meeting of the Oxford Town Council on Friday, that upwards of 500 houses are to let in that city; and a most deplorable picture was given of the general state of trade in the place.

PRICE OF A COMMISSION.—Colonel Persse, of the 10th Lancers, who for fifty-two years served with such distinction in the Peninsula, America, and India, retired from the army last week, receiving eleven thousand guineas by the sale of his commission.

The House of Lords have crippled the Irish Poor Law Bill, through the influence of the Irish Landlords, who protest against the land being made to support the destitute.

Liverpool is overrun with Irish paupers. Some 200,000 are now in that City. The authorities have prohibited any more from landing.

In the English Towns opposite the Irish Coast hundreds are daily dying, of Fever, caused by infection from emigrants from Ireland.

The "America," the first of the new line of Cunard Steamships has been launched at Greenock. She is a remarkably fine ship of 1800 tons. The length of keel and fore rake is 251 feet, and breadth of beam thirty-eight feet.

The Chinese junk *Keying* is daily expected to arrive at Woolwich, from Hong-Kong. She is the first Chinese vessel ever bought to England, and is solely manned by Chinese sailors, and is to bring valuable presents from the Emperor to her Majesty and Prince Albert.

Early and good news of the Greenland seal fishery has arrived by an Aberdeen vessel, which has 9,000 seals for her own share. Five vessels are reported as having caught 31,000 seals. This will go far to make up for the loss of whales, who appear to have left the Greenland coast altogether, and retreated to the upper parts of Davis' Straits, whither they cannot be pursued, except at the expense of a long voyage.

Miss Martineau has arrived at Jerusalem.

On Wednesday, the London bakers again raised the price of Bread—the 4lb loaf, 4d., so that the best Bread is now sold at 5d. a pound, while Bread of an inferior quality is sold at the rate of 10½d. the 4lb. loaf.

The King of Denmark has granted a sum of £15,000 for the purpose of furnishing bread to the poor at a price below the market rate.

It has been proposed to import mandioc or cassava flour, from Brazil, with the view of using it as a substitute for wheaten or other meal.

The Free Trade Association of Belgium has called a meeting of the economists of all the world, at a general congress to be held at Brussels on the 16th of September next.

A bell weighing 4 tons 13 cwt. 2 qrs., being twice the size of the famous "Tom of Lincoln," has just been completed at the foundry of Messrs. Mears, Whitechapel, London, for the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Montreal.

The Hamburgh and Rotterdam steamers have brought over to Hull during the last few weeks, on the average, from 2000 to 3000 firkins of prime kiel butter. The Emerald Isle, on the 3rd instant, landed 900 firkins, and the Queen of Scotland, on the following day, 500.

The *Gazette* of Friday contains the appointment of Viscount Torrington to the government of Ceylon.

Professor Schonbein, the inventor of the gun cotton, has had the honour of Knighthood conferred upon him by the King of Sweden.

Mr. Barry, the architect, is said to have designed a pedestal forty feet high for the Wellington statue, which is to be erected in Hyde-park.

The Belgian journals state that malignant typhus fever is very prevalent in the province of Flanders.

The amnesty in Spain is to be extended to Espartero.

Iron and Wooden Ships.—A correspondent of the *Times* calls attention to the rapid breaking up of the *Tweed*, a wood-built ship, and contrasts it with the holding together for so many months of the *Great Britain*, an iron-built ship. He considers that had the *Tweed* been iron-built, every soul on board would have been saved.

The launch of the steamship Great Britain from the scene of her recent disaster in Dundrum Bay, is to be attempted next spring tides.

THE TIMES.—The *Times* of Wednesday week contains the astonishing number of two thousand and sixty-nine advertisements. If we are not mistaken, this is the greatest amount that has ever appeared in that wonderful paper.—*Edinburgh Advertiser.*

On the 4th of April, one of those dreadful fires which are the curse of Turkey, broke out in Bucharest, the capital of Wallachia. It was blowing a violent Southeast wind at the time, and the fire, after raging most intensely for twenty-four hours, ceased for want of fuel, having consumed in its progress upwards of two thousand houses and twenty-seven public establishments. The loss of property is immense, and has been variously estimated at £1,000,000 to £2,500,000—500 miserable houses are all that remain of the once flourishing Bucharest.—*London Herald.*

CANADA TRADE.—Some doubts having arisen in Canada, whether, under the recent suspension of the navigation laws, in regard to the employment of foreign vessels in the importation of grain and flour from the colonies, a foreign vessel can proceed to Canada and there load wheat or other grain or flour on the same footing as a British or colonial built ship, Mr. M'Gregor, of the Board of Trade, has been directed by Committees of Privy Council to intimate to those concerned that the act referred to declares—"That it shall and may be lawful for any person or persons to import into the United Kingdom for home use, from any country, in any ship or vessel, of any country, however navigated, any corn, maize, grain, flour, meal, rice, or potatoes, the produce of any country, anything in the Law of Navigation to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding," and that their lordships will recommend the Treasury to instruct the Custom house officers in Canada to admit, for that purpose, foreign vessels arriving in Canada from any port. Foreign vessels, he adds, can only clear out in ballast from a British port for Canada.

IRELAND.—The accounts from Ireland are very awful. The Dublin Correspondent of the Morning Chronicle says:—"There have been further mandatory proceedings and processions in various parts of the country, and the Military and Police have been in general requisition to keep this spirit of insubordination in check. The reports of the progress of pestilence are quite disheartening, and, notwithstanding all the imports of food, and the immense extent of relief in food and money, great destitution still prevails, and the markets are advancing. All accounts concur to show that the mortality is still very considerable. According to some calculations, the population has been already diminished to the extent of nearly 1,000,000, from death and emigration. But I should suppose that this estimate, for which there can be nothing like certain or accurate data, is very greatly exaggerated.

"The pestilence is very destructive in some parts of Ulster. In Fermanagh the mortality is frightful. In Schoill it is decreasing. In the Cork workhouses the deaths, last week, were 95—an increase of 12 over the preceding week.

"The Kerry Examiner says,—'The Catholic Clergy of this County have been obliged to suspend their usual Monthly Conferences in consequence of their inability to attend, owing to the heavy duties that devolve on them in their respective parishes in these times of Famine and Death.'"

The emigrants who have left Londonderry for America and Canada since the commencement of the season amount to 5000, and it is said that 3500 have left that port to proceed by Liverpool and Glasgow. It is calculated that 8000 more will have left before September.

The number of horned cattle exported from Ireland to Liverpool between 1st Jan. and 26th April last has exceeded that expected in the same period of 1846, by 5,581. The excess in sheep was 2,000, but in pigs there has been the enormous decrease of 100,138.

CONTINUED AMERICAN MUNIFICENCE.—On Sunday morning, the American brig Overman, Capt. Mix, from Newark, New Jersey, arrived in our harbor, after a passage of fifteen days, with donations of provisions and clothing from the citizens of New Jersey to the destitute of Ireland.—*Cork Examiner.*

Father Matthew is likely to be appointed Roman Catholic Bishop of Cork.

The following Address of the June Grand Jury, to JAMES WHITE, Esquire, the late venerable and greatly respected and esteemed High Sheriff for this City and County, with Mr. W's. reply thereto, have been handed to us for insertion, which we have much pleasure in complying with.

TO JAMES WHITE, ESQUIRE,

Late High Sheriff for the City and County of Saint John.

SIR,—The Grand Jury for the City and County of Saint John, on this their first meeting since your retirement from public life, beg to express their high esteem and approbation for the manner in which you have for many years discharged the duties connected with the very responsible office of High Sheriff for this City and County.

And now that you have withdrawn into private life, the Jury beg to express the high regard which they have at all times entertained for you, not only in your official capacity, but as a Gentleman, respected and beloved by your fellow citizens; and, that you may yet be spared to enjoy many years of comfort and happiness in the bosom of your family, is the sincere wish of,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble servants.

[On behalf of the Jurors.]

JAMES ROBERTSON, *Foreman.*

Grand Jury Room, 3d June, 1847.

[MR. WHITE'S REPLY.]

GENTLEMEN,—On retiring from an important public office held by me for thirty-one years, it is most gratifying to me to find that my discharge of its various duties during that period, and my personal intercourse with my fellow citizens during life, have won for me the warmest expressions of respect and esteem from all classes of the community.

For the very kind manner in which you, Gentlemen, as the Grand Jury of this City and County, have been pleased to speak of my past life, and for your wishes for the comfort and happiness of my remaining years, I offer you my warmest thanks.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, accept, one and all, my heartfelt wishes for your prosperity and happiness in every relation of life.

J. WHITE.

To the Foreman and Gentlemen of the Grand Jury of the City and County of Saint John.

3d June, 1847.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor returned to Head Quarters on Thursday morning last, in the steamer St. John. "We understand (says the Courier) that the principal object of His Excellency's visit was to inquire into the general health of the City, with a view to alleviate as much as possible the suffering which at present exists among the Immigrants at the Quarantine Station. Upon a requisition from His Worship the Mayor, His Excellency immediately ordered a supply of tents and camp bedsteads to be forwarded to Partridge Island, which are now in use there.

Two additional Medical Gentlemen—Dr. W. S. Harding and Dr. Collins—have been engaged at a salary of £50 each per month, to assist the Medical officer in charge of the Station, Dr. G. J. Harding; and the most praiseworthy exertions appear to be making by the authorities in ministering to the necessities of the many unfortunate strangers who have approached our shores this season, afflicted with disease and death."

A number of emigrant vessels still remain at quarantine; several having been released have come up into the harbour.

The steamer *New Brunswick*, repaired and much improved, has recommenced her trips on the river, as a day-boat, to and from Fredericton. She is now owned in this city—The *Reindeer* is plying between Fredericton and Woodstock.

Seven or eight vessels from the United States, bringing flour and bread stuffs, have arrived at this port within the last week. The prices remain at about $12 for superfine flour, rye $9, corn meal $7.

The London Correspondent of the Courier, says—"You will regret to hear that His Honor Judge Parker does not go out by this Steamer. A slight re-appearance of symptoms which gave uneasiness in America, has induced him to defer crossing the Atlantic at present, and his passage is now taken in the Steamer of 4th July. His Honor, however, looks very well, and is in good spirits; it is to be hoped that a prolonged stay in England, now that the fine weather is just commencing, will effect a complete cure."

SEIZURE.—The Custom House officers seized on Saturday last, at or near Chance Harbour, 26 barrels of American rum.

Lieutenant General Sir Benjamin D'Urban, the new Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Canada, and suite, arrived at Montreal on the 24th ult. in the barque Douglas, from London.

THE NEW STEAMER ADMIRAL.—The splendid new American Steamer 'Admiral,' commanded by Capt. Rogers, (late of the Portland,) arrived at Eastport on Friday last, on her first trip from Boston, performing the passage in 19 hours, although she had the whole ebb tide against her, and came round Campo Bello. The passengers were all much delighted with her performance, as also with the whole arrangements of the boat, and the strict attention to the comfort of travellers.

The editor of the New York Tribune, who was on board the 'Admiral' when she made a trial trip in that harbour, has written the following description of her:—"Her hull is built of the very best materials and is fastened in the strongest manner. She is 200 feet long, 32 feet beam, and 11 feet 6 in depth of hold, measuring about 650 tons. Her engine is 400 horse power, the cylinder 43 inches, with 11 ft. stroke; she has a weight-beam above, cranks, and water wheels. She carries three of Langley's life boats, capable of sustaining 300 persons, in addition to two large quarter boats; she also has a fire engine of great power, with 300 feet of hose attached to it. Her accommodations for passengers are commodious and elegant, having been arranged under the personal supervision of her owner. Although strength and security have been the principal objects held in view, the result of this trial trip leaves no room to doubt that her speed will be all that can be desired. She is to be commanded by Capt. Thomas Rogers, and we are certain will become a favorite boat with the Eastern public.

At a meeting of the Passengers on board the steamer ADMIRAL, on her first trip from Boston to Eastport, June 4, 1847—Lieut. Colonel Simpson, of Montreal, in the chair—the following Resolutions were passed:—

1. Proposed by the Rev. J. C. Gallaway, and seconded by William Boardman, Esq.

That the Passengers feel reluctant to disembark from this admirable vessel without recording their sentiments in respect to her general merits, and peculiar adaptation to her proposed route; in the style in which the vessel is fitted up, in the studious attention to the comfort of Passengers, in strength and speed, she is worthy of the highest commendation, and well deserving of the patronage of the public.

2. Proposed by I. D. Andrews, Esq., and seconded by Hon. S. C. Foster.

That the best thanks of the Public are due to the Proprietor, Mr. Cunningham, for his liberal spirit in constructing so fine a steamer as the "Admiral" to run on the route between Boston, Eastport and St. John, and that it is the opinion of this meeting that the "Admiral" is justly entitled to every confidence as a safe and speedy conveyance.

3. Proposed by I. A. Wiggins, Esq., and seconded by H. Selby Hayward, Esq.

That while this meeting expresses its great satisfaction of the steamer Admiral, that feeling is greatly enhanced by the fact of her being commanded by Captain Rogers, who, from his long experience on this route, has gained the entire confidence of the public, and from his kind and gentlemanly conduct has won the esteem of all who have had the pleasure to sail with him.

4. Resolved that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Boston, Saint John, and Eastport newspapers.

J. W. SIMPSON, Chairman.

GEO. YOUNG, Sec'y. to the Meeting.

The Admiral is to leave Boston for St. John on Thursday next.

ORDINATION.—On the 30th May, (Trinity Sunday,) the Rev. William N. Hoyer St. Bee's College, England; the Rev. Joseph Elwell; and the Rev. Richard Simonds A. B., King's College, Windsor, N. S., were admitted to the order of Priests, by the Lord Bishop of Fredericton, in St. Anne's Chapel. And Mr. William H. Develer, A. B., of King's College, Fredericton, was ordained a Deacon.

INFANTICIDE.—A Coroner's Inquest was held in this City on the 21st ult. on the body of a new born male infant, which appeared to have come to its death by blows inflicted by some person or persons unknown. The Royal Gazette contains a Proclamation of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, offering a reward of £50 for such information as will lead to the conviction of the offender or offenders.

We understand that Thursday, the 24th instant, is the day appointed for laying the Corner Stone of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, and that Albion Lodge, No. 535, of Freemasons, have been collected to assist His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in performing the ceremonies on the occasion. That lodge has also, we learn, been requested to invite all the other Masonic Lodges in the Province, who may be disposed to attend; and the day appointed being one usually honored by the craft, we may expect the most splendid and numerous assemblage of the Brotherhood that has ever been witnessed in this Province. It is expected that the Hon. and Right Worshipful Alexander Keith, of Halifax, Provincial Grand Master, will be present on the occasion, by special invitation from his Masonic Brethren in Saint John.—[Courier.

STEAM TUG BOAT.—On Thursday last, a small steamboat, belonging to Mr. James Whitney of this City, which has been fitted up with the engine formerly used in the steamer Novelty, made a trial trip in our harbour and bay. The performance exceeded general expectation. She went out of the harbour as far as Mahogany Island, against a strong head wind and rough sea, and, rounding Partridge Island to the Eastward, returned at a rapid rate up the harbour. She appeared to work well, and judging from her first performance, she bids fair to be an excellent Tug Boat, the hull being small, and the engine very powerful.—[Ib.

A race between the steamers *Oregon* and *Vanderbilt* took place at New York on the 1st inst. The boats started from opposite Castle Garden at 11 o'clock, and ran to Croton Point, (Sing Sing,) on the Hudson River, and back, a distance of 72 miles, in three hours and nineteen minutes—the Oregon beating by two and a half minutes or about a mile. The Oregon got out of coal, and burnt all the moveable wood about her. The Hudson River all the way up to Terry Town and Yonkers was lined with thousands of spectators. The speed was at the rate of 2 minutes 77 10-10ths per mile.

The Miramichi Gleaner of Tuesday last says—'No vessel with passengers has yet arrived in our port, but some are daily expected.'

The fine new steamship Washington, the first American Atlantic steamer, left New York on Tuesday last, for Southampton and Bremen, with 142 passengers.

Doctor Gesner, in his capacity of "Indian Commissioner," is on a tour through Nova Scotia, making inquiries into the condition of the Micmacs, and distributing relief.

Among the passengers by the steam ship Hibernia, were the Countess of Elgin, on her way to join her husband, His Excellency the Governor General of these Provinces. Her Ladyship was accompanied by Lady E. Bruce, Lady Alice Lambton, and the Earl of Durham. Immediately on the arrival of the Hibernia, His Excellency Sir John Harvey waited on the Countess, on board the steamer, and tendered her Ladyship the hospitalities of Government House during the period of her brief detention in this port.—*Halifax Guardian.*

FLOUR AND BREAD TOO HIGH.—Our merchants have raised the price of flour and meal to a higher notch this week, than it has been for any period within the last thirty years. The Bakers too have determined to profit by the panic, and doubled the price of bread. So far as we can learn from the prospects of the ensuing harvest, as well as the amount of flour and grain in market, in the States, the price of flour must quickly fall. In one week of the past month the receipts of flour at Albany by canal, was 145,093 barrels, and of wheat 25,700 bushels. Where, then, can be the foundation of fears of a failure of supply from the States?—*Halifax Recorder.*

More Passengers and more Disease.—The brig *John Begg*, which arrived last evening, brought 97 passengers from Galway.—It is reported that six deaths occurred on the passage, and six are now sick on board with fever.—*Halifax Post, June 4th.*

The potatoe shoots that have come up in this neighbourhood lately are looking vigorous and promise well. The grass is also springing up in every direction and looks promising—full as forward as it was at this period last year.—[Yarmouth N. S. Courier.

QUEBEC, May 28.—There are thirty-five emigrant vessels at the Quarantine station, and the number of emigrants amount to several thousands, many of them sick and a number dead. It is stated that there are already fifty orphans at the station, for whom it is to be hoped the Government will speedily provide an asylum.—*Gazette.*

On board one vessel 70 deaths are said to have occurred on the passage, out of 500 passengers.

The Provincial authorities are doing all in their power to alleviate the sufferings of the sick. Accommodation has been provided for 10,000 persons at the Quarantine station, and a fever hospital is to be erected.

The number of emigrants arrived at Quebec to the 27th May, this season, was, 5566—being 210 more than to the same period last year.—Vessels this year 160—being 169 less than to 27th May, 1846.

QUEBEC, May 26.—There used to be an outcry against the Lumber Trade, on account of the demoralization of the persons engaged in cutting and bringing out the timber to the place of shipment. The same complaints existed against the Fur trade, and may be made against every branch of trade or business. The lumberers and raftsmen are chiefly from the country parts of Lower Canada. Many thousands of them are employed in different parts of the country during the winter and spring, and they lead a life of much exposure to physical as well as moral injury; but they earn high wages, and if a proper use is made of them, they afford the means of their settling on new land or improving existing settlements, while the trade affords a home market to the agriculturists generally.—*Gazette.*

Montreal and Portland Railway.—We are glad to announce to our readers that ground has been broken at St. Hyacinthe, for the commencement of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railway at that place. This event took place on Monday last, in the grounds immediately adjoining the College, and was hailed with many manifestations of joy by the inhabitants, and especially by the students. *Montreal Herald.*

The Quebec Gazette states that Captain Boxer, R. N., Port-Master at Quebec, was about to visit Red Island in the St. Lawrence, for the purpose of selecting a site for a light house to be erected there.

THE EARL OF ELGIN.—We have great pleasure in copying the following article, from our contemporary the *Gazette*:—

"It is with the greatest pleasure we learn that her Majesty has been pleased to confer upon his Excellency the Governor General, one of the highest honorary distinctions within the gift of the Crown, one most emphatically appurtenant to it, as 'the fountain of honor.' The Order of the Thistle is to Scotland what the Order of the Garter is to England, and that of St. Patrick to Ireland—the peculiar national rank of equestrian nobility. In Scotland there are sixteen Knights of the Order, bearing the national emblem; in Ireland, twenty nobles are of "the Illustrious Order" of St. Patrick; and the highest class of English, or rather British nobility, with whom crowned heads are proud to mingle, twenty-four wear the riband which ancient custom honoured, and which more doubtful tradition ascribes to "the Garter" of the paramour of the greatest of the Plantagenets. But, whatever be the origin, these high and heroic distinctions are consecrated in the minds and hearts of all men who love their "father-land." It is, therefore, with pleasure we learn that her Majesty has been pleased to confer upon his Excellency the Earl of Elgin such a mark of her highest favour. The recent death of his Grace the Duke of Argyle having left a vacancy in the list of the Knights of the Thistle, it will be filled up by the election of the Earls of Elgin and Kincardine,—an honour deserved by his Excellency's past and successful labours in another great colony, and an earnest of hope and confidence as respects his administration in this."—*Montreal Herald.*

A New Era in Navigation.—A three-masted schooner, called the New Brunswick, has recently been loaded with 18,000 bushels of wheat at Chicago, on Lake Michigan, in the State of Illinois, *and cleared for Liverpool!* She will reach the ocean by the way of the Welland Canal and the St. Lawrence. This is the first clearance of the kind ever made in the great inland waters of North America for a port in Europe, and certainly constitutes a new era in the history of navigation.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of this society was held at Exeter-hall on the 5th of May. The Marquis of Cholmondeley presided, and there were present, the Bishops of Winchester, Chester, and Cashel; the Bishop elect of Australia; Lords Glenelg and Teignmouth; Sir R. H. Inglis, Sir T. D. Acland, and Sir C. E. Smith. From the report it appeared that the receipts for the year were £117,440 9s. 1d., being an increase of £16,134 14s. 3d. over 1845-6, and nearly £6000 more than any preceding year. The receipts for Bibles and Testaments during the year were £16,436 1s. 5d., and the total sum appropriable to the general purposes of the society was £50,004 7s. 10d., including £30,851 11s. 11d. from auxiliary societies. The issues during the year were 1,419,283 volumes,—viz., 1,109,224 at home, and 310,059 from the depots abroad. The total issues of the society have been 19,741,710 volumes. The expenditure during the year was £128,525 5s. 3d., being £26,749 more than the previous year, and, with one exception, the largest expenditure in any one year. The engagements exceed £43,000.—[London paper.

BERMUDA.—Some attention has been recently paid to growing mulberry trees, and to the rearing of silk-worms, for which the climate of Bermuda appears well adapted.

Several plantations of coffee have been established in the Sandwich Islands, and the quality of the produce is said to be good.

A Civil Hint.—The King of Holland has strongly recommended the Emperor of Japan to throw open his country to Europhans, as as not to run the risk of being bombarded into civilization, like the Chinese.

PURE WATER FROM SEA WATER.—It is said that Mr. Crosse, of electricity notoriety, has succeeded in obtaining pure water from sea-water by means of some process of electricity, and that he is in London explaining it to the Admiralty.

SHIP FEVER.—The Albany Statesman of Wednesday, says:—"We learn that there are no less than sixty patients now in the hospital of our Alms House, sick with the ship fever. We understand it proves fatal in a large proportion of cases."

SYDNEY, C. B., May 28.

DEATH BY STARVATION!—On Monday last, a girl having died at Mira, a Coroner's Inquest was held on the body, which returned a verdict of '*death by starvation.*' More deaths will take place, it is said, unless a supply of food be shortly received. At the present moment, we understand, there is not a barrel of flour to be had, at any price, in the town of Sydney or in this neighbourhood.—*Spectator.*

CHINA.—The *Chinese Depository* gives an account, which could hardly be credited were there not positive proofs of the density of the population of the Chinese Empire. According to the above journal, published by the American missionaries, a civil war, or rather feud, took place between the two neighbouring departments of Chang Chao and Tseven Chao, in the province of Gokien, in which 21,515 houses and 668 huts were pillaged and burnt to the ground, and 130,638 persons killed or wounded. It appears that wars of this kind are of frequent occurrence in the interior of this country, without the government attempting or caring to interfere.

PROVISIONS AND CROPS.

OHIO WHEAT REGION.—The Massillon Gazette, of the 20th ult., says:—

The business of our village was never more brisk than for the last few days. The strings of teams crowding every street to its utmost capacity, gives ample evidence of the productive resources of the country, and the business enterprise of our citizens. The quantities of Wheat daily cleared from waggons are enormous—far exceeding anything heretofore known in this market. The warehouses are groaning under their immense loads, with no prospect of immediate relief, as the quantities received exceed the shipments, though every effort is made to ship it off as fast as possible. Below will be found a table giving the total amounts received during the past week:—

Friday, 14th,	. .	26,311 bushels.
Saturday 15th,	. .	22,000 do.
Monday 17th,	. .	25,000 do.
Tuesday 18th,	. .	30,100 do.
Wednesday 19th,	. .	23,000 do.
Total in five days,		126,411 bushels.

ENCOURAGING.—Flour is retailed at Boston at $10 a barrel, but it is very encouraging, says the Post, to learn that the crops of wheat promise well in the ground almost every where.

Fourteen vessels cleared from Baltimore, last week, for European ports, with an aggregate freight of 21,579 barrels flour, 3291 brls. corn meal, 29,270 bushels corn, &c.

The quantity of flour forwarded East from Rochester, N. Y., this season, to the 15th May, was 68,992 barrels, an increase of 16,009 barrels over the same period last year.

NEW-YORK, May 31.—The receipts of flour down the river this week were 171,249 bbls.

FREIGHTS.—The New York Express says that two dollars is now paid for the freight of a barrel of flour from Detroit to that city, and a dollar from Buffalo, and everything in proportion. And even at these enormously high rates not half the produce at Buffalo and other points can, for want of capacity in the Canal, be brought to market.

BREADSTUFFS AND PROVISIONS.—There arrived in the City yesterday, 26,512 barrels of flour, 10,439 bushels of wheat, 26,492 of corn, and 574 barrels of provisions, including packed and smoked beef and pork, beside quantities of potatoes, apples, butter, cheese, &c.—*N. York Tribune, May 28.*

It is estimated that the surface planted with corn this year in the State of New Jersey, exceeds that of last year by 100,000 acres, which ought to yield three or four million bushels.

Weather and Crops.—We were visited by a few quite refreshing showers on Sunday night and yesterday. The fields now present a most beautiful appearance; wheat, rye, corn, oats, potatoes, &c., are springing from the earth as it were by magic. All fears and apprehension of a failure of crops in our section must disappear, and the minds of the poor as well as the rich, are brightening up.—*Lehigh (Pa.) Register.*

The Wheat Crop in Michigan.—We hear no complaints about the wheat prospect in this section. Everything looks promising throughout this and the neighboring counties. Indeed, the papers throughout the State, that say any thing on the subject speak well of the prospects.—*Michigan paper.*

WHEAT.—The wheat fields in Western Wisconsin look fine, while those at the South have suffered severely. There is no better or safer land for wheat than the country here and extending above us 600 or 700 miles.—*Galena Gazette.*

NEW YORK, June 3.—Flour—As soon as the tidings by the Hibernia were received speculation was up. Operators went into the market, and purchased all they could lay hands on, and from 20 to 30,000 bbls. changed hands at $9 to 9.25. Holders then went up to 9.50, at which some sales were made. Corn Meal at $6.

GRAIN.—Large sales of Western wheat have been sold at 2.25. 10,000 bushels yellow Corn, $1,25. Rye is held at $1.50.

RICE.—There is none in first hands. Holders have put up the price to $3 50.

The Famine at Madeira.—Accounts have been received at New Bedford of the death of many hundreds of the inhabitants of Madeira by starvation. Flour was sold as high as $27 per barrel, but most of the inhabitants were unable to purchase it. There had been no potatoes on the island for two years on account of the rot.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDER.

FREDERICTON, 31st May, 1847.

The General Inspection of the several Battalions of Militia of the Province for the present year, will be conducted by their respective Commanding Officers at such times and places as they may appoint.

All Persons liable to serve in the Militia are required to attend. By Command,

GEO. SHORE, A. G. M.

The barque Lady Constable, with 419 passengers, from Liverpool, arrived at Charlotte Town, (P. E. I.) on the 21st May. There were 25 deaths on the passage, and 8 died after the ship arrived. The sick were sent to the hospital fitted up for emigrants.

ROYAL ARTILLERY.—Captain Ormsby's Company arrived on Friday last, from Halifax, via Windsor, by the Steamer Saxe Gotha, to relieve Captain Dick's Company, which proceeded to Windsor on Saturday night in the Steamer Herald, *en route* for Halifax.

Messrs. Bainbridge, Brown, S. W. Cork, A. Scott, and G. W. Worrell, who were passengers in the mail steamer Hibernia to Halifax, also arrived in the Saxe Gotha.

The Rev. Mr. Gallaway and Lady, of this City, came passengers in the Steamer Herald from the United States, on Saturday.

Passengers in the steam Ship Britannia, from Halifax for Liverpool, sailed 3d instant.—Mrs. Parker, Lt. Col. Whinyates, Lady, 4 children and maid servant, Messrs. McCully and Crozier