British News.

ADVANTAGES OF IRON COMPARED WITH WOOD STEAMERS.

1. The first cost of an iron vessel is from 15 to 20 per cent. less than a wood vessel.

2. The capacity of an iron vessel is much greater than a wood vessel of same dimensions, in consequence of the less space occupied by the material; and iron vessel of 430 tons would present about the same internal surface as a vessel of 500 tons built of wood.

3. The weight of an iron vessel is not more than two-thirds of that of a wood vessel of corresponding tonnage; hence the displacement of the iron vessel is much less; therefore the diminished power of her engines and comparative quantity of fuel required makes the combined displacement very much in favor of the iron steamer.

4. An iron steamer is of much greater durability without repairs necessary by the common wear and tear of wood steamers. It was stated before the House of Commons that an iron vessel had been worked for 36 years, and that an iron steamer had been constantly employed for 16 years, and at the expiration of that time, her bottom was examined and found free from oxidation, the outer scales and rust had disappeared, leaving the bottom perfectly smooth & clean. Now a wood vessel during that time would have required her copper to have been four times renewed, as often recalked, paid and painted, besides frequent and small repairs in replacing defective wood, and at the expiration of that time either condemned or thoroughly repaired, and if we add the value of the time required to effect such repairs, the economy of using iron steamers will be found enormous.

5. Perfect safety from fire is another of the great advantages to be realized by adopting iron steamers. The returns of steam vessels lost in one way or another, demonstrate that *a great proportion of these losses have arisen from fire.* It naturally follows that the premium of insurance would be much less for iron vessels than wood. The present custom is the use of wood beams and deck, but were it necessary for still further security, iron might be substituted with equal ease for both.

6. The danger of the vessels sinking by springing aleak, if not entirely obviated, is very much lessened. The facility of dividing an iron vessel's hold into departments by iron bulk-heads, which can be made as tight and as strong as a boiler, is very obvious; therefore if a leak takes place in any one division, that division may be filled as high as the outer surface of the water, and the vessel still comparatively secure. Moreover, a leak at sea on board an iron vessel may be much more easily discovered than it could possibly be on board wood vessels as it would not be hidden by a mass of timber. Another advantage would be perfect freedom from the smell of the engines room, which could not reach the cabins, and an entire absence of bilge water, so offensive on board all wood vessels. The plan of dividing the hold of wood vessels by means of partitions, will doubtless answer some good purpose, but where so intense a heat exists as in the interior of a steamer, the wood must and will draw, this, added to the working of a wood vessel, would render it absolutely impossible to make the bulk-heads tight.

7. The danger from lightning is very much diminished as the whole body of the vessel is a conductor of electricity. Lander's voyage to Africa in an iron steamer corroborates this fact, and I find the opinions of the most scientific men concur on this subject. The captain of a steam vessel who commanded a steamer on the Mississippi more than twenty years, told me that he never knew a steamer to be struck with lightning when her engine was at work.

8. In tropical climates there is a great advantage in iron steamers, as the internal temperature of the hold would be very much cooled by the surrounding water, which would greatly add to the health and comfort of those on board. This result was also experienced on board the iron steamer already referred to which went to Africa; another advantage which will be fully appreciated by those accustomed to voyage in tropical climates is the entire freedom from insects and other animals which overrun wood vessels, forming in frequent instances, a perfect barrier to all comfort.

9. Iron are less exposed to accidents than wood steamers, if the latter for instance touches the ground slightly and only to rub her copper, which is often the case, it is absolutely indispensable, in tropical climates, to have it immediately replaced, or otherwise a few weeks will be sufficient for the worms to destroy that part of the bottom so exposed. The expence attendant even on such slight repairs, particularly in the absence of the docks, would be immense. In an iron vessel, under the same circumstances, no difficulty would arise. Again, an iron vessel in striking a rock would very likely suffer an indentation in her bottom, but it would not pass through the iron, when a wood plank, under similar circumstances would, in all probability, be broken and rent. An iron vessel has been thrown on a ledge of rocks, and after beating on it for some time, was saved, it was found that the bottom was greatly bruised and indented, but still perfectly tight, and it was admitted by the spectators that a common wood vessel, under similar circumstances, would certainly have bilged and gone to pieces. The iron bottom presents a perfectly smooth surface, the heads of the rivets forming a plan with the plates.

10. It is, I believe, an understood principle, that superior buoyancy makes a superior sea boat, and its application is strong proof in favor of iron vessels for steam purposes. We have the united testimony of many persons who have witnessed the operation of iron steamers in heavy weather, as to their great safety and security. It has been urged by some that this very buoyancy rendered them unfit for high sea use. This argument naturally carries one back to about twenty-five years since, when it was considered indispensable, that a vessel of 300 tons should draw seventeen or eighteen feet of water, to enable her to hold a good wind and make her safe in a sea way. At present the American packet ships of 700 to 800 tons seldom draw, when in their best trim, more than thirteen feet of water.

11. It has been urged against iron steamers that they are subject to extensive vibration by the action of the machinery. I was recently on board the Rainbow, (an iron steamer of 198 feet length, 25 feet beam, and nearly of 600 tons,) on an experimental trip, from Blackwall, Gravesend and back. We had the full benefit of the tide down, and accomplished the distance in 71 1-2 minutes, and allowing for a tide of 3 1-2 miles per hour, we made 15 1-2 miles per hour through the water, working at a pressure of less than four pounds, with two 90 horse engines. The very slight vibration was a subject of general remark.

12. Another argument against iron steamers is the difficulty of making them stiff. It seems very absurd, to say that an iron form cannot be rendered equally stiff and firm as one of wood. An iron steamer is less likely to bend or hog than a wood steamer. The pressure is on the edge downwards, and it would be scarcely possible to produce such an effect, unless the iron be broken, for the rivetted part may be considered equally strong, or even stronger than the plate.

13. The construction of iron vessels can only be rendered perfect by practice, time and experience. The drafts or models which I have seen, admit of many improvements, but as to their eventual general adoption I have no question. To many it appears such an innovation upon custom so long established, that it is condemned without cause or reason. I am perfectly persuaded that iron steam vessels can be navigated for one half the expense incurred at present in wood vessels. [illegible] opinions of the most practicable and scienti[illegible] the kingdom are universally in favor of [illegible] substitute for wood in the building of stea[illegible] account of its greater security, durability [illegible] ordinary economy.

Since the foregoing was [illegible] I have received a report from the Seine, respe[illegible] the iron steamer Anna Mont—that she was in capital condition, very fast, and performed her voyages to the satisfaction of the proprietors; she was built in the year 1817, has run 21 [illegible] no signs of corosion.

London, 18th [illegible] 1839.

London, Nov. 2.—Silver continues to be exported in great quantities, to purchase on the Continent bills on England, and so prevent the exportation of gold, but the exchanges nevertheless have a rather downward tendency, and the foreign corn offering in our markets is bought so freely for storing on speculation, that it is to be feared a further importation will be promoted, all-sufficient and bountiful as the late harvest has unquestionably been. The price of grain is, in fact, rising, and the weekly average price of wheat all over England, after touching 70s. on the 4th ult, and drooping to 65s. 6d. on the 18th, has again begun to advance, reaching 66s. 5d. on the 25th. If the speculators can obtain credit at the country banks, we shall see the country orders to buy in London increase, and the demand will produce a sort of scarcity. The duty now payable being 16s. 8d. per quarter, is sufficient to prevent importation; but it will fall rapidly, if the game of carrying away to the granary the grain supplied for consumption, should be carried much farther. In the money market there has been little change, except that loans are obtainable with less difficulty, owing to the stagnation in trade, and the diminished demand for money for *bona fide* commercial purposes.

The Paris papers of Oct. 30th have arrived by express, but bring no news of importance, except that the accounts received from several of the departments showed that the corn markets were again looking up.

The weather had become exceedingly inclement in Paris. It snowed, with a gale from the north east, throughout the whole of Wednesday.

The government plan in France is to create twelve new peers—a little batch, according to one of the papers, consisting of Messrs. Etienne, Beranger, Barbet, Persil, Gaillard de Kerbertin, Jules de Mornay, Cen. Teste, and M. Baude. This pitchforking of peers will reinforce the present administration, though, generally speaking, in France the upper house receives but little public consideration.

Lord Brougham with Mr. Leader, M. P. and Mr. Shafto, was thrown from a post carriage, in consequence of the breaking of an axletree, and the affright of the horses. The driver was dangerously wounded, but Lord Brougham and his party were not hurt. A report however was circulated, by means of a hoaxing letter in the name of Mr. Shafto, that Lord Brougham was dead. In proof that he was not dead, the following letter was published, which was despatched by him by express to the owner of the carriage immediately after the accident.

"Thomas Close, Saturday.

"Send immediately a post-chaise to bring us back. Your carriage is broken to pieces, and your driver is very much hurt. I never saw so scandalous a thing done by an innkeeper.

"BROUGHAM."

Irkutsk in Siberia was visited with an earthquake on the 29th of August. Eleven houses were thrown down, eight persons perished in the ruins, and 34 were seriously injured.

An explosion in the house of Mr. Harding, firework-maker, at Pimlico, London, took place Nov. 1st, causing the loss of seven lives.

The following is from the Morning Herald of Oct. 30:

Some surprise has been expressed at a statement which some of the "unlearned" have put forth today, announcing that the credit for two millions on the Bank of Paris, in favour of the Bank of England had been exhausted; and, as an evening contemporary has adopted the mistake, it may be as well to correct it by stating that the credit originally granted under certain guarantees has not been exhausted, but that it is understood it will be extended to the amount of the first proposition, namely, £4,000,000 sterling.

The shock of an earthquake was felt in Edinburgh, Sterling, and other places in Scotland, Oct. 21. It was accompanied with a rumbling noise, like distant thunder, and in some places caused considerable alarm.

The Duke of Leinster, (who, it is understood, is to have the Garter vacant by the death of the Duke of Bedford,) is constructing, after his own design, an additional wing to his splendid seat, Carton House, which is to be completed in the spring of the ensuing year, when his Grace's heir, the Marquis of Kildare, will come of age, and a series of brilliant fetes take place in honor of the event.

The late Duke of Bedford's rent-roll was estimated at £250,000 per annum. His Grace received £4,000 per annum, as ground landlord of Drury Lane and Covent Garden Theatres, and £12,000 per annum, as proprietor of Covent Garden market.

According to the Leipsic Gazette, Prince Puckler Muskau has been left sole heir and legatee of the late Lady Hester Stanhope, and is about to dispose of her property.

AFRICA.—The most distressing accounts have been received in france of the state of the health of the army in Africa. Private letters from Stora, dated the 22d ult., states that the Duke of Orleans, seeing the immense number of sick lying without any accommodation at Phillippeville, had freighted several merchant vessels to convey part of them to Algiers, and which were towed to their destination by three steamers. The sick thus embarked amounted to upwards of 600. The mortality of Phillippeville had averaged between 13 and 14 per day.

The expedition which the Duke of Orleans was to undertake had the double pretext of opening the land road, through Setif, between Constantine and Algiers, and to avenge the death of Colonel Salomon, Governor of Bougeia, who was lately murdered by the Kabyles. Two columns of 4,000 men each were to march simultaneously from Constantine and Bougeia, and to form a junction at the marabout near which the Colonel was killed. "It was the intention of the French to give no quarter to the tribe on whose territory the crime had been committed, and to raise on the spot a monument to perpetuate among the natives," who were previously to be massacred to a man, "the recollection of the signal vengeance they had taken on that perjured tribe." Abd-el-Kader, according to accounts from Otan of the 14th, had lately passed in the neighborhood of that city and was then encamped with some troops on the banks of the Harba.

FROM INDIA.—The Generose steamer arrived at Malta on the 20th, from Alexandria, which place she left on the 13th, with the Indian mail, (from Bombay on the 13th or 18th September,) and arrived at Suez on the 6th of October. These despatches stated that the British army, which marched from Candahar in four divisions, on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of May, and the 3d of June, arrived on the 16th of July at Mooker, four days' march from Ghizny. Up to the 20th it encountered no other obstacle than a troop belonging to a rebel tribe, which it repulsed with ease. On the 20th, the army was concentrated at Nanee, distant twelve miles from Ghizny. On the morning of the 21st, the army marched for the latter place. When within gun-shot it was received by a lively cannonade and a well sustained fire of musketry, to which the British artillery returned a few guns, after which the army bivouacked. On the 22d the place was reconnoitered, and the preparations for assaulting it were ordered. At midnight the artillery changed its position, and was followed at a short interval by the infantry. A few minutes before 3 o'clock in the morning the gates were blown in by the engineers. The trumpets sounded the charge, and the artillery opened a terrible fire, under the cover of which the infantry forced an entrance through the gates, in spite of the most strenuous resistance; and at 5 o'clock in the morning the colors of her Majesty's 13th and 17th regiments floated on the towers of the citadel of Ghizny.

Thus, in less than three hours, one of the strongest places in Asia, defended by a garrison of 3,500 of the bravest of the Affghans, and commanded by a son of the ex-King of Cabul, fell in the power of the British. 500 men of the garrison were killed. The remaining 3,000 were made prisoners together with their commander. The loss of our troops was only 191 men *hors du combat.* Intelligence of this brilliant feat having reached Cabul, Dost Mahomed sallied forth at the head of 1,300 (query 13,000?) but the demoralizing effect produced by the fall of Ghizny was such that Dost Mahomed was, a few minutes afterwards, abandoned by all his soldiers, and compelled to fly with only 300 men, abandoning the artillery, a ammunition, baggage, &c. The English army immediately advanced on Cabul, without meeting the slightest resistance. On the 4th of August, an envoy of the Sebah Sujah, escorted by 150 British soldiers, under the command of Major Cureton (?), took possession of the city, into which the Sebah Sujah made his solemn entry on the 7th of August, accompanied by the British Minister, the General commanding the Army, and a numerous staff.

Two new expeditions were contemplated and in preparation—the one against Saudpore, the other against Kurnail. The success of the British army in Afghanistan, the preparations for attacking the two cities just mentioned, and the recent deposition of the Rajah of Sattara, will render more manageable and mild the most untractable enemies.

RUSSIA AND CIRCASSIA.—The war in Circassia appears to be going on gloriously for the cause of freedom, the Russians having been defeated in an action with the loss of 12,000 men. The address of the Emperor Nicholas to General Grabbe, the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Caucasus, "confesses," as the Commerce, a French journal observes, "a struggle much more animated than the Russian Government desired up to the present time to avow."—The same paper publishes a letter dated St. Petersburg the 12th ult., which states that the same General Grabbe, having besieged the Circassian fortress of Akulko for three months, at length ordered up from the Black Sea the 20th and 21st divisions of infantry, a large body of cavalry, and four batteries of artillery, and with them assaulted the place. The besieged made a most gallant defence, and repulsed the assailants four times.

Ultimately, however, General Galafieief, at the head of the 20th division, penetrated by a breach into the town; a dreadful conflict ensued, which continued until between 11 and 12 o'clock at night, when, feeling themselves overmatched, the heroic remains of the garrison evacuated the town under the cover of the darkness, leaving behind them of their number 562 dead and 122 wounded, the principal part of whom were recognized as deserters from the Russian army. The loss of the Russians amounted to 5550 men killed and wounded. Just at the moment when the Russians entered the fortress of Akulko, Schamadi, the chief of the Circassian tribe of Tschetschenzes, arrived to the relief of the place, but being too late for that object, he threw himself on the Russian cavalry, overthrew them, and took from them twelve field pieces, which, however, after spiking them, he was obliged to abandon. The total loss of the Russians was not less than 12,000 men. It would be therefore impossible for them to resume warlike operations before the arrival of reinforcements.

UNITED STATES AND PRUSSIA.—The Frankfort Journal states that "Mr. Wheaton, agent of the United States of America at the congress of the German Customs Union, has been more successful in his mission than Dr. Browning, having succeeded in obtaining a considerable reduction in the import duties on one of the principal productions of his country (cotton, we suppose.) Among the motives of the Prussian Government for granting this favor to the United States, was the large exchange of products which has of late taken place between Prussia and North America, which latter takes a great quantity of wool, glass, &c. from the Prussian states."

THE BANK OF HAMBURG.

This bank was established in the year 1619, upon the plan of that of Amsterdam. It is better conducted than any banking institution of Europe. Its direction is superior to that of Amsterdam; its affairs are subject to a greater public scrutiny; a larger number of citizens taking part in them, and the frequent removal of directors, and the responsibility to which they are subject, prevent abuses which might otherwise occur.

The credit of the bank has ever been well sustained; nor did the annexation of Hamburg to the French Empire, under Napoleon, affect that credit. At the recapture of the town from the Russians in 1813, Marshal Davoust seized the specie deposited in the bank, which amounted to 7,489,343 marcs banco, or 2,500,000 dollars, in round numbers. The restitution of this treasure constitutes at this day a claim of Hamburg upon the Allied Powers.

The bank formerly received nothing in deposite but specie rix dollars, species-thaler. It now receives gold and silver ingots. A mare of find silver, when deposited, is reckoned at 27 marcs 10 shillings banco; but when drawn out of bank, it is reckoned at 21 marcs 12 shillings banco. The difference of two shillings thus becomes the profit of the bank, which is less than a half per cent.

A loan bank is a branch of the great bank. Citizens receive loans from this bank, upon pledges of gold, silver and jewels, at the rate of 2 per cent per annum. As long as the borrower pays the interest, his pledges remain in the bank, but he must renew his loan every three months. All pledges forfeited to the bank, under its regulations, which may give a greater value than the claim of the bank, goes to the benefit of the poor.

The bank is governed by two of the counsellors, two of the treasurers, two of the chief magistrates of the city, and five bank directors, one of whom goes out every year. Its annual accounts are examined by a commission of six magistrates and two delegates from the board of commerce, who, finding the accounts in proper order, give a proper discharge to the retiring director, relieving him from further responsibility.

The chests of the bank, which are kept locked, have five different locks; and each director keeps one key, so that they cannot be opened but in the presence of all the directors.—*Globe.*

THE SLAVE TRADE.—*Another Capture.*—Late on Sunday night the clipper built schooner Catharine, arrived at quarantine from Sierra Leone, in charge of Mr. Dundas, of Her Britannic Majesty's Brig Dolphin, Lieutenant Edward Holland. The Catharine is a Baltimore built vessel, and is owned in that city by Allen & Henderson. She was captured by Lieutenant Holland on the 13th August off Cape St. Pauls. She had been about one month from Havana, was bound to the coast, and had in her outward cargo, and consequently no slaves. But her slave deck, and all the necessary implements for the slave trade, were on board, and when seized those in her admitted that they were going after a cargo of negroes. The annexed was found in possession of the Captain, Frederic Adolphe Peterson, once a Dane, but now an American by naturalization.

"Extract from the instructions of the agents in Havana, to Captain Peterson of the slaver Catharine:

"The main thing for you to do on this voyage is to be ready in case you are boarded by a man of war, to show your log book, which must be regularly kept from the time you leave here; your ship's papers, your charter party for the voyage, your ship's roll, and instructions: and you are, in that event, to take all command with your American sailors, according to your roll; all the others are to be passengers: you do not commit yourself, and always stick to the same story. When the vessel is discharged, you must at once cut your register in two pieces—one piece you must enclose, direct and send to Messrs. Thomas Wilson & Co., Baltimore; the other piece you will bring with you, and give to me when you return here. You must be very particular about that, and do not let anything pass after the cargo is out, before you cut the register in two pieces, and be careful to keep them separate; throw one piece overboard if you are obliged to, by being boarded by a man of war."

These instructions are only a beginning of the developments that will shortly take place. The papers found on board the Catharine were signed and certified by either Trist, the American Consul or his assistant, Mr. Smyth, the Vice Consul at Havanna. All these papers fell into the hands of Lieutenant Holland, and are now in this city. After the Catharine was captured, 24 of her crew were landed on the coast, and the balance, 4 in number, consisting of one Spaniard, one American, and two Englishmen, who had cut their country for their country's good, were brought here in the C. to be used as witnesses when the case is tried. The American is now in prison.

This is the fifth seizure that the English have made of American-Hispano slavers since last February, that have been sent to this country. They have captured several others, but being so mixed up with the Spaniards, they have either been condemned or set free again. Early in the month of August, Lieutenant Holland captured the schooner Jack Wilding, sailing under the American flag in British waters. She was manned by a Spanish crew but commanded by an American. Having been seized under peculiar circumstances however she was condemned and confiscated at Sierra Leone. There was found on board of her doubloons to the value of nearly $20,000, which was to buy slaves with.—*New York paper.*

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, DEC. 6, 1839.

Steamer "British Queen."—We regret to find by the New-York papers, that serious complaints were made against the accommodations, &c., of this splendid Boat, by a large number of the passengers which arrived in her in the last voyage from London. The British Queen left Portsmouth Nov. 4th, and arrived at New-York on the evening of the 23d., bringing London papers to the 3d of November. The papers contain a variety of interesting intelligence from various parts of the habitable globe.

The Imperial Parliament was prorogued to the 13th of the present month.

AFRICA.—The French army under the command of the Duke of Orleans, stationed in Africa, are suffering greatly from sickness; the mortality at one station had averaged between 13 and 14 pr day.

INDIA.—Despatches from Sir John Keane, were received in London on the 30th October, announcing the success of the British forces in that quarter; some particulars will be found in a preceding column.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY.—The election terminated in favour of James Boyd, Esq., giving him a majority of 207 votes.

PUBLIC DEFAULTER.—Mr. James Campbell, Deputy Treasurer at Saint Andrews, has decamped from the Province, being a defaulter to the amount of £2,000. It is stated, that the Province is well secured by good Bondsmen for double the amount said to be deficient.

Extract of a Letter, dated
Fredericton, Dec. 2, 1839.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.]

Dear Sir—"I have just been informed from good authority that the Americans have three distinct Fortifications or Breastworks, capable of containing 1000 men, erected at the mouth of the Fish River, and a large force daily expected to man them. I believe this information was sent to a gentleman residing here by a person stationed at Tamisquata Lake; the plans of the Fortifications, &c. were taken and sent to this place, and subsequently shown to my informant, I suppose that the Governor has also received the same information.—It is well known that the Americans have an excellent winter Road through to the St. John at Fish River, and that Governor Fairfield is pledged to take further possession this winter. In the meantime poor John Bull is gulled by promises and fair speeches, &c. to believe that the American Government is acting with perfect sincerity and good faith."

Our readers will observe by the above extract, that the people of the State of Maine, have not been altogether idle during the past summer; nor is it probable, they will be so this winter: possession of territory appears to be their aim, and they bid very fairly for securing themselves either peaceably or by force.

We expect that Sir John Harvey, being in possession of those facts, has with his usual promptitude forwarded accounts of these proceedings on the part of Maine to the British Government, and in the mean time will take very active measures to repel any further advance of the military forces of the wily State of Maine.

LAUNCHED, on Tuesday last, from the Building Yard of Mr. Benjamin Appleby, at Hampton, a beautiful copper fastened brig, named the *Eglington*, of 180 tons register. We understand the Eglington is a very superior vessel of her class, and reflects great credit on Mr. Appleby. She is owned by Mr. James Malcolm of this city.

FESTIVAL OF ST. ANDREW.

On Saturday evening last, the Members of SAINT ANDREW'S SOCIETY, with their Guests, celebrated the Anniversary of Scotia's Tutelar Saint, by dining together at the St. John Hotel. The Honorable JOHN ROBERTSON, President of the Society, presided, ably supported by THOMAS NISBET, Esq., Vice President. Among the public Guests were Mr. FEATHERSTONHAUGH, one of the Boundary Commissioners, and Son, and Major BROOKES, 69th Regt.—The excellent Band of the 69th, was in attendance, and performed many beautiful airs.—The Dinner was prepared by Mr. Stockwell, and did him much credit. The Company was numerous, the Wines good, and all enjoyed themselves with great conviviality till a little before the "mark hour o' midnight," when the last toast was given from the Chair—"Deoch an Doras."—The party then separated, much pleased with the Evening's entertainment. The following are the Toasts from the Chair:—

The Day and all who honor it.—*Highland March;* and *Blue Bonnets.*

SAINT ANDREW—Emulation of his virtues is the best test of respect to his memory.—*Sons of Scotia.*

The QUEEN and the Royal Family.—*God save the Queen.*

The Constitution of England, Ireland, and Scotland.—*Rule Brittannia.*

The Army and Navy of Great Britain.—*How merrily we live; Hearts of Oak.*

Sir JOHN HARVEY and the Province of New-Brunswick.—*March; Speed the Plough.*

The President then rose and observed,—

The next Toast which I have to propose, is one intimately connected with the last, which was received with so much enthusiasm, and one in which we all feel deeply interested—I allude to the settlement of the Boundary Question. You are all no doubt aware that a Commission was recently appointed by Her Majesty's Government for the purpose of obtaining satisfactory information upon this hitherto perplexing question. In the integrity and ability of the Gentlemen composing that Commission we have the fullest confidence, and I feel much pleasure in the opportunity afforded us upon this occasion of numbering amongst the public guests who have honored us this evening with their company, two Gentlemen connected with this Commission.—With these preliminary remarks, I beg to propose:

The Boundary Question.—An early, amicable and equitable settlement thereof, according to the true intent and meaning of the Treaty of 1783, without any compromise of the honor or integrity of the two Great Nations.—[Immense and continued cheering.]

Mr. FEATHERSTONHAUGH then rose and said,—

Mr. President.—The allusion which you have made to me in the Toast which has just been so warmly received, and the distinguished manner in which you have been pleased to receive me at your Festival, may appear to give you and the gentlemen present some claim upon me for a passing notice of the official duties in which I have for some time been engaged.—Considering how much you are interested in the results, I cannot in courtesy disappoint so reasonable an expectation, and I rise to make some observations, intending nevertheless to limit them by that severe reserve imposed upon me, as respects some essential particulars, by the duty I owe to Her Majesty's Government.—(Great applause.) I feel conscious, Gentlemen that you cannot but respond to that sentiment, and that you would not esteem me the less if I preserved inviolate a trust which requires to be guarded in the most sacred manner. With this limitation, Gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to address you.

You are all familiar with the history of this Boundary Question, and it must have excited in you, as it has in many others, great surprise that notwithstanding the case has for so many years past been under the consideration of so many able men on both sides, and that it has been referred, with all the evidence they had collected, to one of the most enlightened and honest Sovereigns in Europe, for a decision, by mutual consent, still the parties have not been able to agree, nor the Sovereign Arbiter to come to a conclusion consistent with the rule laid down in the second article of the Treaty of 1783. Of the able men I have alluded to, two belonged to this Province—one of them the late Judge CHIPMAN, an acute man with high intellectual powers; the other, the present worthy CHIEF JUSTICE, his Son, who is justly revered amongst you for his clear judgment and extensive acquirements. On the side of the United States there have also been some eminent men employed.—I believe I do not transcend my duty when I state that after a long and careful study of the history of the case, and an examination made with diligence and energy, of the physical geography of the Territory in dispute, at all the points essential to investigation, it is my conviction that the failure to bring this grave matter to a final issue is to be entirely attributed to defective information and a fatal embarrassment occasioned by the requirements of the second article of the Treaty of Ghent.—The cardinal rules, Gentlemen, for the pursuit of truth in all matters of science, and in all matters connected with the progressive improvement of mankind, is to go *from the known to the unknown.* But this rule in the second article of the Treaty of Ghent is reversed; we are required to go from the unknown to the known. The second article directs the Boundary betwixt the two Countries to begin at the *North-West Angle of Nova-Scotia*, a point which never had any existence and which never was established or set apart by any survey, either of a direct or indirect kind. Its position depends upon the previous ascertainment of two lines, and the point of coincidence between them would, when established, be the point where the North West Angle would be, and that where the Treaty directs the Boundary to begin. But since neither of those two lines have yet been ascertained, and the point of departure of only one of them agreed upon, it is evident that the North West Angle of Nova-Scotia, which is to be an effect or result proceeding from causes, the inherent power of which we are yet ignorant of, is to this moment a nonentity, and must remain so until the precise direction of the two lines before spoken of is mutually agreed upon and established. This is a sufficient reason why all attempts to bring the dispute to a happy termination hitherto have failed, the words of the Treaty directing us to begin at the end, instead of the beginning, and to pursue the enquiries from the unknown to the known. Gentlemen, I do not wish to conceal from you who are so much interested in the matter, that the investigations in which I have been of late engaged, have produced results which ought to influence Governments that desire no territorial acquisitions at the expense of Justice and the reverence due to Treaties, as I am persuaded is the case with the two Governments now negotiating on this important subject. The defective information it is hoped and believed can be supplied. I say this much because rumour is being busy about the declared intentions of the State of Maine to proceed in taking possession of the whole territory in dispute, without awaiting the peaceful proceedings now in progress betwixt the Federal Government and that of Her Majesty. I do not believe in these rumours. The State of Maine sets too high a value upon the peace now happily subsisting betwixt the two Countries, and will, I have no doubt, await the constitutional action of their National Government.

Let us on our part, by our patience, shew our confidence in the justice of our cause, and in the sincere endeavours of the two governments to bring the dispute to an adjustment that neither side may be ashamed to ratify. Let all take example from the gallant and wise person at the head of your Government, His Excellency Major General Sir JOHN HARVEY, who, whilst he pays the strictest deference to the rights of others, is vigilant to protect those committed to his care, and whose solicitude for the happiness of all under his Government is most singularly paternal, as I have had many occasions of observing.—Mr. F. made some observations on the fertility of the soil and great beauty of the country he had traversed, and finished by giving as a Toast—"LADY HARVEY, and the honored family of the Lieutenant Governor."

Our Sister Colonies, and their Loyal Inhabitants, who never turn their backs upon friend or foe.—*The Campbells are coming.*

His Worship the Mayor and Corporation of the City of St. John.—*The Deil among the Tailors.*

Our Benevolent cotemporaries, the Societies of St. George and St. Patrick.—*Roast Beef; St. Patrick's Day.*

The Commandant, and Garrison of St. John.—*March*

Lady HARVEY and the Fair Daughters of New-Brunswick.—*Flowers of Edinburgh; Kelvin Grove.*

The Parochial Schools of Scotland.—*My native Highland Home.*

The Rev. Mr. Mc'Gregor, returned thanks in the following words:—

Mr. President.—Although the toast which you have now proposed appears to be a very unpretending one, yet as I deem the subject of it very important, I rise to trouble you with a few remarks in reply to it, which I hope you and the members of this society will kindly indulge me in hearing.

It certainly gives me very great pleasure to meet with such a respectable and numerous assembly of my fellow Countrymen on this side of the Atlantic, in a place where little more than fifty years ago there was scarcely a human habitation. This undoubtedly shews the march of improvement, and marks the current of the tide of civilization—but I ask how many of those intelligent gentlemen whom I see around me and who may be considered the pioneers of civilization in this Western world, have received their early education in the unpretending parish schools of our native land, which secure to the humblest and poorest classes of the community the advantages of a sound and religious education? I may state for myself, at least, that had there been no Institutions of that kind in existence, I would, in all probability never have received the education which under Providence I have received, and I doubt not but many in this respectable assembly could tell a similar tale.

What is it then which causes Scotsmen when they emigrate into distant countries to look back to the land of their Forefathers with a feeling of just and honourable praise? It is not simply that they can look back with patriotic exultation upon the illuminated page of its history, exhibiting as it does the tale of many a well fought field, equal in important consequences to those of Marathon, or Salamis, or Thermopylæ, and from which freedom's battle fought and won was bequeathed from bleeding sire to son. It is not merely that they can point to its literary glory and recount names which would do honour to the literature of any nation—such as those of Buchanan, Robertson, Blair, Scott and Burns. Nor is it merely that they can point to its scientific laurels, and name a Napier, a Playfair, a Leslie and many others—but it is that they can look back upon it as a country of moral glory and religious worth, which exhibits every where the pleasing spectacle of a peasantry uniformly intelligent, peaceful, industrious and virtuous—a peasantry upon which the eyes of statesmen of other nations are unusely fixed at the present moment. But it is to the existence of her Parish schools, unpretending as they are, that Scotland owes in a great measure the intelligence, the industry and moral virtue of her peasants. I need scarcely say also that these institutions are regarded by the inhabitants of other countries as models upon which their own Legislators may form similar ones for their benefit.

Upon the whole, sir, not to detain you at this late hour of the evening—I would only say farther in your presence, and in presence of this respectable Society, that wherever it may be my lot in my future life to dwell, whether in this or any other of the rising Colonies of the British Empire—or in short in any other nation under Heaven—whether regarding the spiritual and moral interests of their inhabitants, or those considerations of true political economy which should ever influence the minds of their Governors, I could desire to see no greater, no better boon conferred upon them, than that which is enjoyed in our native Country—the boon of having a Parish Church in every Parish, and planted beside it a small moderately endowed Parish School.

Wallace, and Bruce, and other illustrious names who are identified with the Civil and Religious Liberties of Scotland.—*Scots wha hae.*

Major Brookes and the Gallant 69th.—*69th Quick Step.*

Major Brookes returned thanks.

The Lind o' Cakes—
Where'er we go,
Whatever realms we see,
Our hearts untravelled
Fondly turn to thee.
—*My Heart's in the Highlands; Bannocks o' Barley Meal.*

Our next merry meeting.—*Fife Hunt; Cameronian Rant.*

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
FREDERICTON, 3d December, 1839.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, That the Collector of Her Majesty's Customs for the Port of Saint John, has appointed and approved of the Market House Cellars, situate in the Market Square in the City of Saint John, for the Warehousing and securing of all Goods for the purposes of the Act 3d & 4th William 4th, Cap. 59.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to appoint the following Gentlemen to be *Masters Extraordinary* in the Court of Chancery.

A. K. Smedes Wetmore, Andrew Barbarie, William Chandler, Alexander Campbell, and Christopher Milner, Jr. Esquires.

BYE ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

William Sinklar in the room of Frederick Phillips, deceased, to expend the following sums granted for Bye Roads in Sunbury, viz:

£50 from William Dow's to the Rushagonis.
£20 from John M. Wilmot's farm to Wm. Dow's.

The Receiver General acknowledges the receipt of *Fifteen pounds* from the Priest at Madawaska, being a conscientious restitution on the part of one of the inhabitants of that settlement of duties on Timber clandestinely passed.

Fredericton, December 2, 1839.

UNION OF THE PROVINCES.

There appears to be very little doubt but this is to be the great leading measure which will occupy the earliest attention of the Legislature of this Province, at the approaching Session;—yes, a Union is to be the grand panacea which is to heal all our diseases. The Governor General, it will be observed, has already broached the subject in the Special Council of the Sister Province. In union is strength, and in many points of view the joining together of these Provinces, which ought never, perhaps, to have been separated, would be a most desirable object—and indeed, from all that we can learn, but for the reluctance felt at the prospect of being in any way associated with the discontented and rebellious French Canadians, the measure would be generally popular in Upper Canada—and it cannot be denied, that without proper and salutary checks, in reference to these misguided people, a Union might turn out a dangerous and ruinous affair; and we are satisfied that without some safeguards of this kind the Parliament will oppose the project. It is to be hoped, however, that a Bill may be introduced, with provisions sufficiently guarded to obviate all apprehensions of this kind. We feel convinced that the Legislature will be disposed to do every thing consistent with their duty to the country, to meet the views of the Governor General and the Home Government, and we indulge in the hope that the leading measures which may be suggested by His Excellency, will be of such a character as to admit of a cordial reception by the Parliament.—*Kingston Chronicle.*

We understand it is intended to raise a corps of Volunteer Infantry in this city, for service during the ensuing winter. It is to consist of between four and five hundred men formed into six companies, with the usual proportion of officers and sergeants, and to be under the command of Lieut. Colonel the Hon. James Hope, of the Coldstream Guards, who rendered the Queen's Volunteers, of last winter so efficient and well disciplined a corps. We also learn that it is not the present intention of Government to raise any other corps of Volunteers, in Quebec.—*Quebec Gazette.*

We see that Mr. Simeon Marchessault, one of the Bermuda exiles, who figured at the camp of St. Charles, and was taken prisoner at Moore's Corner, after having been some time at St. Charles, has made his appearance at Montreal, and presented a petition to the Governor General to obtain permission to remain in the country. He was however politely escorted to the frontier on Monday last, by the Montreal Police; under a "*lettre de cachet,*" we suppose. Perhaps Mr. M. would have done well as well, to ask leave before he came in.—*Ib.*

NEW-YORK, Nov. 28.

Dreadful Death from Spontaneous Combustion.—An unfortunate being, residing in a miserable abode in Eldridge street, was yesterday burned to death, it is supposed by *spontaneous combustion.* Between 12 and 1 o'clock the neighbours were alarmed by volumes of smoke issuing from the windows of the victim's apartment. On rushing in they discovered the woman lying in her bed enveloped in flames, the bed partially consumed and still burning. With great difficulty the fire was extinguished, and the woman conveyed to the Hospital, where at about 5 o'clock last evening she died. No cause for the fire can be given. The woman was discovered lying in bed—herself and the centre of the bed in flames—but no traces of how the fire was communicated could be distinguished. It is therefore presumed that the miserable woman lost her life by that well attested, but very rare occurrence, spontaneous combustion.

The name of the burned woman did not transpire, as it was unknown to those who conveyed her to the Hospital, and she herself was speechless from the extent of her sufferings. An inquest was held on the body, and the jury returned a verdict that the deceased unknown woman was burned to death.

We regret to announce the death of Saml. Ward, of the firm of Prime, Ward, King & Co. Mr. Ward was but fifty four years of age.

MARRIED.

In Portland, on Wednesday evening, by the Rev. Enoch Wood, Mr. Thomas Mackey, to Miss Sarah Hastings.

On the 25th ult., by the Rev. William Andrew, Mr. William Anderson, to Miss Martha McKee, both of this city.

On the 28th ult. by the same Mr. John Henderson, to Miss Mary Jane Smyth, both of the Parish of Simonds.

On the 28th ult., by the Rev. Mr. Smallwood, Mr. Alexander Porter of the Parish of Douglas, York County, to Miss Mary Ann Campbell, of this city.

On Monday evening, in the Parish of Portland, by the Rev. David Harris, Baptist Minister, Mr. Daniel McAllister, of St. David's, County of Charlotte, to Miss Rachel Rigby, of the Parish of Portland.

At Kingston, (K. C.) on the 28th ult. by the Rev. Elias Scovil, Mr