British News.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S LETTER.

The following address from Lord John Russell, dated at Edinburgh, 22nd November, appeared exclusively in the *Morning Chronicle* of Wednesday.

"TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

'Gentlemen—The present state of the country in regard to its supply of food cannot be viewed without apprehension. Forethought and bold precaution may avert any serious evils—indecision and procrastination may produce a state of suffering which it is frightful to contemplate.

'Three weeks ago, it was generally expected that Parliament would be immediately called together. The announcement that Ministers were prepared at that time to advise the Crown to summon Parliament, and to propose on their first meeting a suspension of the import-duties on corn, would have caused orders at once to be sent to various ports of Europe and America for the purchase and transmission of grain for the consumption of the United Kingdom. An order in Council dispensing with the law was neither necessary nor desirable. No party in Parliament would have made itself responsible for the obstruction of a measure so urgent and beneficial.

'The Queen's Ministers have met, and separated, without affording us any promise of such seasonable relief.

'It becomes us, therefore, the Queen's subjects, to consider how we can best avert, or at all events, mitigate, calamities of no ordinary magnitude.

'But I confess that on the general subject my views in the course of 20 years have undergone a great alteration. I used to be of the opinion that corn was an exception to the general rules of political economy; but observation and experience have convinced me that we ought to abstain from all interference with the supply of food. Neither a government nor a legislature can ever regulate the corn-market with the beneficial effects which the entire freedom of sale and purchase are sure of themselves to produce.

'I have for several years endeavoured to obtain a compromise on this subject. In 1839, I voted for a Committee of the whole House, with the view of supporting the substitution of a moderate fixed duty by the sliding scale. In 1841, I announced the intention of the then government of proposing a fixed duty of 8s. a-quarter. In the past session I proposed the imposition of some lower duty. These propositions were successively rejected. The present First Lord of the Treasury met them '39, 1840, and 1841, by eloquent panegyrics of [illegible]ting system—the plenty it had caused, the [illegible]piness it had diffused. He met the pro[illegible]r diminished protection in the same [illegible] he met the offer of securities for [illegible] 1817 and 1825—in the same [illegible] proposal to allow Man[illegible]ham to send Members [illegible]

[illegible]fied concessions [illegible]tance as those [illegible]rth while to [illegible] Trade [illegible]

rapid that President Polk will actually attempt in 1846 or 1847, what the ablest and unscrupulous statesmen of the democratic party pronounced to be a hopeless undertaking in 1845? If we are to believe the *Washington Union*, such is the case; and to be consistent with this announcement, the first step of the American Cabinet must be to declare that the treaty of 1827 is in two elve months to expire. Such a measure might least eventually to hostilities, but it would not amount in itself to a *casus belli*. Perfect y confident of the justice of the cause of England, and no less sect re of the superiority of her forces on the north-west coast of America, we should then await the result with composure—still most reluctant to endanger the peace of the world, but most read y and resolved to punish those who may presume to break it.—*Times.*

[From the London Times.]

A CONTRAST.—Not many weeks since the Eclair steamer anchored in Funchal roads.

The dread yellow flag drooped fr om her mast head. A strange and deadly sickness had swept off two-thirds of her officers and men. Her Captain and both her surgeons had perished. The wan, worn survivors, sought relief from the inhabitants of Madeira.

The Governor of the Island deemed it his painful duty to forbid any intercourse between the plague-ship and the shore. He sternly commanded the m to weigh their anchor and depart.

The scanty crew of the steamer, already insufficient to carry on the duty of the vessel, were daily becoming scanter under the attacks of the fever. The equinox was at hand. In this pitiable plight, without medical aid, they were on the point of being compelled to put to sea, and cross the Bay of Biscay.

There chanced, however, to be at Madeira, Sydney Bernard, an English surgeon. This man and seven seamen, volunteers from English merch antmen, came forward and offered their services in taking the Eclair home.

It is needless to waste words in praising their noble conduct—a more signal act of cool disinterested devotion is not on record.

The Eclair reached the Motherbank; the fever still raged between her decks. Ma ny had died on the passage from Madeira; the pilot wh o boarded her in the Channel died, and the heroic Sidney Bernard, having accomplished the humane task he had assigned himself, died also.

A merchant at York speculated boldly and successfully in Rail Roads. He bought in as low as he could, he sold out as high as he could, and when he made a permanent investment, he took the best care he could that the concern in which he had placed his capital should be well managed.

He was a clear-headed, energetic man. His gains were enormous. He is now an M. P., a large landed proprietor, and as for his possessions in railway shares, he and the Income Tax Commissioners can alone guess at their amount. —His name is George Hudson.

Many people have closely watched his operations in the share-market, and have imitated them. Many people have sought his advice and followed it, and many people by so doing have made much money, and hope to make more by the same means.

So, in order to convince their gratitude for past and future favors, the British public have got up a subscription to offer a testimonial to the most successful speculator of the day. In the list are to be seen the names of the noblest, the wisest, the fairest in the land—all, all unblushing worshippers of Mammon. £30,000 have already been collected for the Hudson testimonial, and money still pours in.

Alas, for Sidney Bernard, and the gallant volunteers of the Eclair; alas, for their widows and orphans.

No testimonial is proposed to record their daring humanity; no subscription is raised to provide for the families of the dead, and to reward the unselfish courage of the survivors.

Our nobility and gentry crowd forward in hundreds to do homage in purse and person to the railway king, but not a single individual has appeared desirous of awarding, or even noticing, the high deserts and melancholy fate of Sidney Bernard, and his companions in danger and death.

[illegible], we are a nation of shop-keepers.

TRAVELLERS.—On Tuesday the South- [illegible] to Guildford started with two very [illegible]ers—to wit, elephants—on their [illegible] anticipated they

Rivers and Lakes, offers perha[illegible] gy for the apparent difference but the time is now arrived whe[illegible] trate into the extensive tracts o[illegible] which still remains unoccupied at[illegible] these natural channels of convey[illegible] must conquer the obstacle to navig[illegible] by your climate, and be able to effe[illegible] of commodities with the United King[illegible] out the year, independently of foreign[illegible]

None of you who have reflected on [illegible] can fail to be aware that the growth an[illegible] of European settlements in America [illegible] depended on their intercourse with the [illegible] more densely peopled nations from wh[illegible] sprung. We have enjoyed over the abori[illegible] habitants of America, once possessors of th[illegible] country, the advantage of the sciences, the a[illegible] improvements in every branch of industry, in[illegible] the civilization of an older and more advanced of society, giving in exchange the surplus pro[illegible] of the vast territories which were at our dis[illegible] inviting occupation and cultivation by all those [illegible] are able and willing to conform to the divine di[illegible] "in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat brea[illegible]

But without facilities of exchanging the pro[illegible] of the soil, we should want one of the chief in[illegible] ments to its cultivation; the supplying ours[illegible] with such articles as we want, such articles th[illegible] soil does not produce, and which we can acqui[illegible] a much cheaper rate than we can provide the[illegible] our own labour.

A large part of our population is to a great[illegible] tent deprived of this advantage, for nearly one[illegible] the year, by our climate. But the experienc[illegible] the adjoining States, of the United Kingdom, of all European countries, proves that this di[illegible] vantage may be overcome, by a land conveya[illegible] which is cheap and more expeditious than [illegible] steam navigation.

This conveyance, which is now extending [illegible] Europe and America, and is proved by experie[illegible] to be cheap and profitable, is the application [illegible] steam-power to the conveyance of goods and [illegible] sengers by land, where the power of steam [illegible] wind cannot be applied for a similar purpose [illegible] water. All that is required for the steam rail[illegible] is a track, formed on ground as nearly level as [illegible] be found, and laid with bars of iron fashione[illegible] receive the wheels of a steam engine and its [illegible] of carriages. There is no want of ground in [illegible] tish America, nor of iron and coal, stone and w[illegible] Abundance of experienced and scientific men [illegible] be found to direct the work; and our unempl[illegible] labourers, at certain seasons of the year, wil[illegible] glad to find fair wages for their labour; and [illegible] emigrating surplus population of the British I[illegible] will abound, with a certain prospect of saving [illegible] ficient to enable them to settle upon tracts of c[illegible] vated land still unoccupied, and so become [illegible] stantial freeholders; sending forth, in comm[illegible] with the other inhabitants of the country, their [illegible] plus produce to the best markets at all season[illegible] the year, and receiving their returns in the shorte[illegible] time and at the cheapest rate.

Our fellow subjects on the other side of the [illegible] lantic, are willing to co-operate with us to [illegible] fullest extent, in effecting this good and benefi[illegible] object. They are interested, as well as we [illegible], in its completion, but they know that it cannot be satisfactorily accomplished without our hearty co-operation.

Shall we then remain with folded arms in the back ground? Shall we be deaf and blind to the experience of other countries, insensible to our own welfare and the welfare of those that are to come after us, as inhabitants of this vast country of British America?

[illegible] Government of the Home Dominions is [illegible] come to our aid. It is entrusted with this [illegible] all her Majesty's subjects, the de[illegible] sessions of the British Crown, [illegible] imperial authority [illegible] It is a duty which [illegible] navy expense to [illegible] an enormous [illegible] particular. [illegible], against [illegible] fifteen [illegible] only [illegible] with[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

☞ The St. John GRAMMAR SCHOOL was re-opened yesterday. We understand that an Assistant in the Boys' Department has been engaged, and that, in consequence, some additional Classical Pupils can be admitted.

DESPERATE ROBBERIES.—In the early part of last [illegible] some n e unn l robbers, (who appear of late fully determined to pay sacrilegious midnight [illegible] to all our Churches,) broke into Trinity [illegible] through a window, and after having ran[illegible] the vestry and other parts of the edifice, [illegible]d, not having discovered any thing suitable [illegible] booty.

[illegible]nesday night, the reformed Presbyterian [illegible] Lower Cove, was visited, by breaking [illegible] window, (the robbers not being able to [illegible]ock,) who broke open the library, &c., [illegible]ed for their labour being only a few [illegible]ers.

[illegible]ew's Church was the next place of wor[illegible] by these plunderers, who obtained en[illegible]rance by a window. They broke open the [illegible], but a few shillings belonging to the [illegible]ord, was all the money they obtained.

[illegible] Chapel in Portland has likewise [illegible] into.

[illegible]night the Mechanics' Institute was [illegible] the Committee Room, Library, and [illegible] the building ransacked, and we learn [illegible] taken from one of the rooms.

[illegible] high time that some effective mea[illegible] to put a stop to such disgraceful [illegible]es.

Watch House, or Police Office, will [illegible] be honoured with a nocturnal visit, [illegible] in testimony of their audacity and [illegible]

[illegible]WICE ICE CONCERT.—We under[illegible] all of our most influential citizens [illegible] an interest in the projected asso[illegible] have already been adopted to [illegible] information necessary to justify an [illegible] approaching General Assembly [illegible] incorporation. The combination will, [illegible] contribute to our local and maritime [illegible] wise.

[illegible] to learn that an article, which we [illegible] at abundance in the winter season [illegible] and so conveniently situated for [illegible] to be turned to good account. [illegible] exportation of dead meat, in a fresh [illegible] and with the contemplated export [illegible] Naval interest might reap important [illegible] is formed an important article of [illegible] on, to the East and West Indies, [illegible] ports of Europe, for several years [illegible] enterprise has been crowned with [illegible] ss.—[Ed. Observer.

[illegible]ARRANGEMENTS.—We learn that the [illegible] and the Rifles, now stationed at Hal[illegible] received orders to hold themselves in [illegible] think for this Province. Preparations [illegible] there to receive them.—*New Brun[illegible]*

[illegible] one of the 33d Regt. now stationed [illegible] Windsor, are expected soon to [illegible] Fredericton.

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1846.

The Boston Daily Advertiser of Wednesday last, furnishes the following late intelligence from Washington:—

FROM WASHINGTON.—Many letters from Washington speak of what was evidently a current rumor in that city—and perhaps little more than a rumor—that Mr. Calhoun and other influential persons were engaged in an attempt to place the Oregon question in a better position than that in which it was left by the last published accounts of the negotiation. A correspondent of the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, tells this story in the following words, which give the most definite summary which we have seen of the various rumors.

"Mr. Calhoun, seeking peace in the spirit of peace, has interposed his offices, with success, between the British Minister and Mr. Buchanan. The negotiation is not resumed, but, what amounts to the same thing, measures are taken for its renewal at a future time after hearing further from the British Government.

The prospect is, that the British Government will renew the negotiation on the basis of the 49th parallel of latitude.

Through Mr. Calhoun's address, conferences were held yesterday and to-day between the leading Whig and the leading Locofoco members of both Houses on the subject, at which the following conclusions were reached, viz:

1. That there should be no war until compromise and arbitration were exhausted.

2. That no rash measures should pass Congress.

3. That Mr. Douglass's Joint Resolutions, assigned for Tuesday, Jan. 6th, should be postponed."

The following extract from a letter of the same date in the Journal of Commerce, in part confirms the general statement:—

"Everything now looks pacific in this quarter. It is just found out that nobody wants war, and that there is no need of one. Mr. Calhoun, from the moment of his arrival here, has exerted himself to calm the agitated waters. He has counselled admirably, and is still engaged in promoting a good understanding between the British Minister and our Government. A number of conversations, all of the most pacific and friendly nature, have taken place between Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Pakenham.

Mr. Calhoun's next object was to gain time, to prevent any action on the part of the House or Senate, on the Oregon subject, till we can hear again from England.

To do this, he has used his efforts both with Whigs and Democrats, in both Houses, and has succeeded. Several conferences between members of both parties have accordingly taken place, and it was agreed that Mr. Douglass's bill should not be taken up on the day assigned for it, January 6th."

A correspondent of the New York Courier says:—

"I am gratified at being able to assure you and your readers that on the Oregon question Mr. Calhoun is where he has always been, and that he will on the first proper occasion address the Senate on the subject and in opposition to the proposed action contemplated by the House bill."

BIBLE SOCIETY.—We would beg leave to remind our readers, that, agreeably to advertisement, the Anniversary of the New-Brunswick Auxiliary Bible Society will be held To-morrow evening, (Wednesday) in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute. The chair will be taken by His Honor, Judge PARKER, the President of the Society, at 7 o'clock. A report will be read, detailing some of the interesting results of Bible dissemination. A number of Speeches will be delivered by various Clergymen of the City, and others, in support of Resolutions put into their hands. Two appropriate hymns will be sung, and it is expected that the singing will be conducted by Members of the Sacred Music Society. Also, a collection will be taken up in aid of the funds, which we hope will be liberal.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, M. H. PERLEY, Esq., lectured to an overflowing house on the Oregon Territory. With the aid of a transparent Map (a fellow to exhibit the extensive limits, long occupied by the Hudson's Bay Company in the prosecution of their Fur trade, described the Columbia River as the only high way to the North West Territory, and mentioned other interesting features of the Country, to the great satisfaction of his large and attentive audience. Next Friday evening, he will resume the subject, with the view of explaining the existing treaty between Great Britain and the United States, the claims of both countries, and the vast importance of the Navigation of the Columbia, with the possession of that part of the territory which lies to the north of it, to Great Britain. As the subject is a very exciting one at the present moment, we hope that every [illegible] which Mr. Perley will employ, while it will yield an insight [illegible] the territory that is justly [illegible], will be of a pacific and unwarlike character.

UPSETTING OF THE WESTERN COACH AT HALIFAX.—We regret to learn by the following paragraph from the Halifax *Guardian* of Friday last, that the Coach from Annapolis, in which were several gentlemen of this City, on their way to England, was upset last Wednesday evening, at Halifax, and that Mr. John Gillis, of this city, was severely injured by the accident. The Guardian says:—"On Wednesday evening the Western Stage upset while rounding the North-East corner of the Province Building, owing, it is believed, to too great a quantity of luggage being piled upon the top. No blame, we understand, is attributable to Hardy, the driver, two of whose ribs were fractured by the violence with which he was thrown from the box. One of the passengers, Mr. Gillis, from St. John, N. B. was also severely, and it was at first feared dangerously, injured, but though still suffering much, from general concussion of the system, we are happy to learn that he is so much better this morning as to warrant the belief on the part of his medical attendant, Dr. Parker, that he will be able to prosecute his original intention of proceeding to England, To-morrow, by the Steamer."

The coasting of sleds down our streets, where there is the least ascent, continues in full force and *virtue*, both day and night, and is practised not only by boys, but by "children of a larger growth" —the authority of public ordinances, magistrates, and police officers to the contrary notwithstanding. It is probable the practice will continue till some serious accidents occur, when possibly steps may be taken to quash the nuisance, of which, however, we have very great doubts, as many such accidents have heretofore been occasioned by this abominable practice, and no attempt has been made by the authorities to put the law in force and to rid our streets of the dangerous and unjustifiable nuisance.

COLLECTIONS FOR THE POOR.

Contributions at Union Street Church, for the Poor,	£9 11 2
In the Baptist Chapel, (Germain Street, on New Year's Evening,	9 10 0
In St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday morning last,	16 0 0
In the Free Presbyterian Church, on Sunday afternoon,	10 7 9
In the Reformed Presbyterian Church, on Sunday afternoon,	6 4
In St. Stephen's Church, on Sunday evening last,	4 11 0
	54 6 3
Amount collected in Churches on Christmas day, as published last week,	159 16 4
TOTAL,	£213 2 7

A Bazaar was held in Halifax on Tuesday last, by the ladies of St. Andrew's Church, for the benefit of the Sabbath School and the Female Benevolent Society connected with that Church, the proceeds of which amounted to £230.

The Quebec papers enumerate the names of thirty-nine vessels bound from or to that port, which have been wrecked during the last summer and autumn, many of them with loss of lives.

EXTRAORDINARY DISPATCH!—Mr. Bradley, the Contractor for the conveyance of the St. John and Fredericton Mails, performed the journey between the two cities this day, *via* the Nerepis Road, in *seven hours*; having left Fredericton this morning at 7 o'clock, and at 2 P. M. he was driving his stage up King-Street in St. John. This beats the *Steamers* by the *river*, in the summer!

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT JAMAICA.—We learn from Jamaica, that the Lord Bishop of that section, recently delivered his primary charge to not less than seventy five clergymen of the established church at Spanishtown, the greatest number ever assembled in any British colonial possession upon such occasions. Connected with the established church at Jamaica, there are now seventy-six churches and chapels of ease, offering accommodation to fifty-one thousand persons. Of these buildings his lordship said—"I have consecrated five while thirteen more are waiting the rite at my hands. In the parish churches and in most of the chappels, divine service is performed twice on every Sunday, and once at least in the week."

HALIFAX, January 2.

Disastrous Fire.—On Wednesday morning, soon Barrington-street, occupied as a Workshop by James Stewart, Carpenter, which speedily communicated to the adjoining tenement, owned and partly occupied by Mrs. Murphy, and thence to the Furniture Warehouse and extensive work-shops owned and occupied by Messrs. Thomson & Eson, all of which were consumed, the adjacent buildings, on each side, being with difficulty saved by the strenous and united exertions of the Fire Wardens, the Engine, Fire, and Axe Companies, the Military and Civilians—exertions which were above all praise. Messrs. Thomson & Eson are insured, we understand, to the extent of £400 on their stock, and £200 on their premises, but will be considerable sufferers notwithstanding. Mrs. Murphy's loss is covered to the extent of £300; and Mr. Barry, who kept a shop in the ground flor of the premises owned by Mrs. M. has insurance effected to the amount of £150. Mr. Stewart, we fear, is uninsured. Providentially the weather at the time when this calamity occurred, was perfectly calm, otherwise, from the combustible nature of the stock in the burning buildings, it is impossible to say how far the conflagration might have extended.—*Guardian.*

MASONIC FESTIVAL.—On the 27th ultimo the Brethren of Albion Lodge of Freemasons, in this City, celebrated the Festival of Saint John the Evangelist, by a Dinner at the St. John Hotel. The viands were furnished by the Messrs. Scammell, in their usual excellent style, and the company separated at an early hour, highly delighted with the evening's entertainment.

The pleasure of this Festival was much enhanced by the circumstance, that the Officers of the Lodge wore, for the first time, the splendid set of new Jewels, which had been presented by their late W. M., Brother OLIVER GOODSTREE. More than ordinary interest attaches to this costly gift, from the fact of the articles having been manufactured in Hong Kong by a native Silversmith, under Brother Goldsmith's directions, and sent all the way from thence by Mail; and could Mr. G. have witnessed the scene at the table when his health was proposed, he might have formed some idea of the estimation in which he is held by the Brethren of Albion Lodge.—*Com.*

ST. JOHN'S LODGE also celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, by dining together on Saturday evening last, at the Hibernian Hotel. The repast was provided in Mr. Newbery's best style, and the company enjoyed themselves with much brotherly hilarity and good feeling during the evening.—*Ib.*

MILITIA BALL.—The Uniform Left Flank and Rifle Companies, attached to the City Light Infantry Battalion, gave a Ball at the St. John Hotel last Tuesday evening. The saloon of the Hotel was elegantly decorated for the occasion, and a large and happy party occupied the floor till an early hour next morning, dancing to the pleasant music of Mr. Morrison's excellent Quadrille Band.—*Ib.*

The Methodist congregation of Fredericton have imported a Bell for their Chapel, which was cast by the Messrs. Mears, of London, and cost about £100, currency. It was used, for the first time, in calling together the congregation on Wednesday evening, to usher in the New-Year by prayer.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—We regret to learn that Mr. John Hardy, of the Ragged Islands, was killed on Saturday afternoon, the 26th ult., by being caught in the machinery of his mill. Mr. H. was a deacon of the Baptist Church, and a man very generally esteemed. His remains were interred on Tuesday, and were followed to the grave by his sorrowing friends and neighbours. He has left a wife and ten children.—*Yarmouth.*

[From the New-York Albion, Dec. 27.]

Touching the merits of the Oregon controversy, we find public opinion in England, as expressed in the public journals, very unanimous. No argument will convince the British people that England has no rights on the northwest coast of America. The briefest survey of the map of that part of the world would dissipate such a delusion. Let a Briton but cast his eye there, and he will see that the greater part of the names of the various points, headlands, &c., are given by his own navigators; and amongst the most prominent, is that of Nootka Sound. Nootka Sound! the very articulation of the name excites the feelings of every one; it is deeply engraven on the mind of every man, woman, and child, throughout the three kingdoms, as being the place for which England made a resolute stand against the usurpations of Spain. And yet we are told by the President, that England has no rights there—that she is a usurper and must be driven away from it, for that it belongs to America! Why the youngest schoolboy knows that Captain Cook was there before the United States were a nation, and that Drake was on the coast, and gave it the name of *New Albion*, before the United States showed even the sprout or germ of a British colony. It is this demand for the whole—this denial to England of any right—this imputation on her honesty for claiming what is not her own, that has startled and offended the British people.

In former disputes, the United States have generally had the benefit of a strong American party; what that party was in the war of the Revolution we all know; its powerful influence in opposing the measures of the King and Lord North, the whole history of that struggle bears testimony to. So, too, in the war of 1812, and the hostile commercial acts that preceded it, the power of the whig opposition was in array against the government; but in the present case the people seem united to an extent that we have never before witnessed, except in the case of McLeod, when, it is well known, that the temper of the nation was thoroughly roused, but at last happily allayed by his trial and acquittal. The London *Times*, seeing this state of the public mind, and participating in the feeling of resentment engendered by Mr. Polk's Messages and some of the public journals of this country, has recently put forth the following view of the case. It cannot fail, from its calmness, and from the large circulation of that print and its prodigious influence, to have a powerful effect upon the national mind:

"It cannot be too often repeated that the question has been brought into its present embarrassing and threatening condition by the United States' government, and not by Great Britain. It would have been easy for the negotiators and Ministers of this country at former periods to have put forward a case for the establishment of the exclusive sovereignty of England over the whole country, founded on discovery and occupation, and at least equal to any claim which American statesmen can maintain. But nothing of the kind has been done by us—Throwing aside all the superior and earlier grounds of sovereignty which we might have urged, and disclaiming that very sovereignty which we might have asserted, we have taken our stand upon the treaty of 1790, and from first to last we have demanded and exercised no more than the right of joint occupancy which that treaty secured to ourselves in common with the Spaniards. The Americans, who have now succeeded by the treaty of 1819 to this right of Spain, endeavour to make more of it than Spain herself could ever have made. They seek, by dint of introducing fresh, irrelevant, and contestible evidence, to build an original claim of their own to exclusive sovereignty over the country upon this acknowledged right of joint occupancy between England and Spain; and the first use they make is our expulsion from a country we have held, with one exception, for fifty years, and which we only seek to continue to hold on the same terms. Such attempts, especially when they are encouraged by vehement declarations on the part of the President of the Republic, amount to a positive invasion on our existing territorial right. Their object is to deprive us of something we actually possess and have long possessed; and thus far the whole character of the transaction is offensive on the part of the United States, and defensive on that of England. We can scarcely regret the extreme moderation of the conduct of former British Governments in this negotiation (though we hold it to have been before what the facts of the case would have justified), when we perceive the strength it will now lend, in the eyes of the world. If we are unreasonable, the world will comprehend and acknowledge that we are not sacrificing the peace of the globe to the acquisition of a sterile territory—that we are not even denying the right of the Americans to form settlements in that territory, since we admit their joint occupancy—but that we are defending the great and fundamental right of occupation by British subjects under the faith of a treaty and the protection of the Crown; and that such a right is in every part of the globe equally inviolable.

The American case is in every respect the opposite of our own, it is a pure aggression; it acknowledges no concurrent right in its rival; it seeks only to drive out the men who have held the country for half a century; and as if an arrogant presumption could supply the place of real confidence, it refuses to submit these claims to the test of arbitration. We are not much surprised at the pertinacity with which the last proposal has been rejected, for a slight degree of investigation would satisfy any impartial judge that in the course of the last thirty years the whole question has been shifted, until it has assumed a shape never dreamt of in 1814. At Ghent, in that year, and in the subsequent negotiations of 1818, 1824, and 1826, the northern boundary of the United States was considered by the American plenipotentiary to run along the 49° parallel of latitude. The question then pending between Great Britain and the United States, as is repeatedly stated on both sides in the course of those transactions, related to the territory *south of that parallel*, that is, between latitude 49° and latitude 42°; the Americans claimed the whole of it, the English proposed to divide it. But as to the northern tract of the same region, extending from latitude 49° to latitude 54° 40', no discussion whatever took place; and until very recently no one called in question the exclusive right of Great Britain to that region, to which certainly no Spanish settlers or navigators had any claims whatever. This claim, therefore, extending from the frontier of Mexico to that of Russia, and excluding us from the coast of the Pacific altogether and the Straits of Fuca, is a novelty. It was probably originally set forward to facilitate the acquisition of the portion which the Cabinet of Washington did claim; but recent publications have confounded the whole tract together, and we are now gravely told by the organ of the American Government, that Mr. Polk is prepared to declare in the most unequivocal terms the absolute right of the United States to the whole Oregon territory down to the Russian line."

If the government of the United States deem the peace of the two countries of any value; or if any desire be yet entertained to arrive at an amicable settlement of this question, the less the "exclusive" claim be pressed the better.

TEXAS AN AMERICAN STATE.—The President, it is understood, has signed the joint resolution for the admission of Texas, and forwarded a copy of it by a private messenger to the capital of Texas.—Two months will probably see Texas sinking her identity as an independent nation into a single State of this Union, with representatives upon the floor of Congress.—*Baltimore American.*

BUSTLE IN OREGON.—The Hudson Bay Company sent out for three hundred Canadian settlers last spring; they have a hundred Sandwich Islanders in their employ, and a settlement of emigrants from Red River, Canada, has been formed under the auspices of the Company's agent.

The Hudson's Bay Company has a settlement about 700 miles north of St. Peter's, the population of which amounts to about 600 persons. In consequence of the execution of a Chippewa Indian at this settlement, for the murder of a white man, the Chippewas has resolved to commence hostilities against the settlers.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—No Genesee flour to be had under $5 75; small lots sold at that, but for large lots it has been refused; 300 bls. Indiana sold at 5 75.—900 bls. Flour were engaged to sail this day for Liverpool.

Make Ready.—We unde[illegible] been received by the Ori[illegible] a rigid inspection of the st[illegible] various mag[illegible]nes—and th[illegible] now being held upon this [illegible] barrel of which is carefu[illegible] *Times.*

The N. Y. Herald's co[illegible] Col. Benton intends to bri[illegible] nization of an army of two[illegible] and the authorization of a [illegible] to prepare for any contingen[illegible] of the Oregon question."

QUEBEC, Dec. 22.—We [illegible]cord the loss of two more [illegible] vessels, one of them suppo[illegible] treal, Capt. Douglas, whic[illegible] morning of the 26th Nov., [illegible] and passengers.

The following is an ext[illegible] here yesterday from Mr. C[illegible]

"*M*[illegible]

"A man from Ste. An[illegible] named Thos. Allison, wh[illegible] reports two wrecks at Ca[illegible] was saved, but, sad to rel[illegible] not one is left to tell the [illegible] bodies have been washed [illegible] a woman and a child. [illegible] which is torn, are the three [illegible]—MON.

"He further reports a [illegible] wrecked about six miles [illegible] her crew seen at all, and [illegible] go, as none was seen."

A letter has been recei[illegible] the ship Wm. Bayard, by [illegible] Co., informing them of the [illegible] went ashore on the 6th in [illegible] and will be a total wreck. [illegible] crew had got up to Meti[illegible] his men have been drea[illegible] he fears, will lose his life.

Dec. 29.—The followin[illegible] received here yesterday, [illegible] the River Quelle, 23d De[illegible] Green Island, with fifteen [illegible] in the ice, and every soul [illegible] also reported that fifteen [illegible] frozen to death on Red R[illegible]

Passengers in the ship *Re*[illegible] ed on Wednesday 31st ult.: [illegible] J. B. Street.

MAR[illegible]

On Sunday, 28th ult., by [illegible] tor, Captain Jacob Brewer, [illegible] this Port, to Miss Eliza War[illegible]

On Wednesday morning, [illegible] ry Fotherby, Merchant, to Ma[illegible] Melick, all of this City.

On Thursday, 1st instant, [illegible] yes, of the Parish of Greenw[illegible] Ann Flewelling, of same pla[illegible]

On Wednesday, 31st ult., [illegible] Mr. John Cameron, to Mar[illegible] Mr. Peter Margison, all of th[illegible]

On Wednesday the 31st [illegible] Studholme, Mr. John C. [illegible] Maurice, both of the Parish [illegible]

At St. Martin's, on the 1[illegible] Capt. Benjamin Wisher, [illegible] to Charlotte W., youngest da[illegible] of the former place.

In the Parish of Studholme, [illegible] H. N. Arnold, Mr. David Ma[illegible] ter of the late Mr. Thomas P[illegible]

In the Parish of Sussex, on [illegible] Mr. James Hagerty, to Miss [illegible]

At St. Stephen, on the 2[illegible] James G. Stevens, Esq., to M[illegible] of St. Stephen.

On Tuesday last, of Co[illegible] Keough, aged 37 years.

On Thursday evening, [illegible] she bore with exemplary [illegible] Divine will, Elizabeth, wife [illegible] ton, of this port, and late of [illegible]

On Friday morning, at his [illegible] street, Edward Morris, elde[illegible] of this City, aged six years [illegible]

On Saturday morning, A[illegible] John O'Toole, merchant, of [illegible]

On Monday morning, of [illegible] illness, which he bore with [illegible] Nelson Coles, of Portland, in [illegible] meet to take place on Wed[illegible] father's residence, in Portland [illegible] when friends are respectfully [illegible]

PORT OF ST. [illegible]

ARR[illegible]

Tuesday—Barque Everton, [illegible] H. Andrews, flour, wheat [illegible] Cuttnesse-shire, Herlop, Bel[illegible] last.

Steam-ship Robert Rankin, [illegible] G. Woodward, passenger[illegible]

Wednesday—Schooner Su[illegible] & R Reed, wheat and [illegible]

Friday—Barque British Q[illegible] ballast.

Miramichi, Boyd, Plymouth [illegible]

Brig Antelope, Clark, Hob[illegible]

Saturday—Barque Wolfe, [illegible] —R. Rankin & Co. mer[illegible]

Sunday—Brigt. Tory, Kel[illegible] ballast.

Adelaide, Black, New Edin[illegible]

CL[illegible]

Dec. 30th—Barque Harp[illegible] deals—John Mackay; Bri[illegible] deals—John Kirk.

31st—Ship Effingham, [illegible] deals—Wm. Howard.

Jan. 2d—Ship St. Martin [illegible] deals—D. & T. Vaughan a[illegible] shal Bennett, Walters, Liv[illegible]

3d—Ship Effingham, [illegible] deals—C. McLauchlan; B[illegible] deals—S. Wiggins & Son; [illegible] plaster—L. H. Waterhous[illegible]

5th—Ship Courtenay, [illegible] deals—R. Rankin & Co; [illegible] Dublin, timber and deal[illegible] ca, Pickance, Greenock; [illegible] Brigt. Germ, Shackford, [illegible]

The ship Saint Andrew, [illegible] near Machias, has been co[illegible] her cargo of coals.

Schr. Eleanor Jane, Ro[illegible] On 25th, in a heavy N. [illegible] cover board 50 or 60 bags [illegible]

Br. brig Ready Rhyme, [illegible] was in contact night of 26[illegible] ship Cambridge, from Liv[illegible] boom, fore topmast and [illegible] yard, &c.

Br. barque Lord Lyne[illegible] N. B. 11 days, for London [illegible] 41, 43, long 65, 32, by the [illegible] Liverpool The L. L. was [illegible] zen masts, and maintopm[illegible] crew, 32 in number, half [illegible] living in the long boat; [illegible] Lord Lyndoch cleared f[illegible] don.]

Brig Yucatan, from St. [illegible] plaster and laths, went a[illegible] site Port Penn, previous [illegible] been made to go to her [illegible] ceed on account of the h[illegible]

Cleared at Baltimore, [illegible] St. John.—At New York [illegible] pool.

Put into Margaret's B[illegible] Patterson, of Newcastle, [illegible] John—short of provision[illegible]

MISSIONA[illegible]

THE Annual Gen[illegible] *Reformed Presb*[illegible] will be held in the M[illegible] on Tuesday Evening, [illegible] Six o'clock.

Several Ministers [illegible] address the Meeting, [illegible] to assist the Society i[illegible]

The attendance [illegible] quested.

FO[illegible]

THAT we[illegible] extensive[illegible] South [illegible] owned a[illegible] not, Esquire.

This Property is n[illegible] City, for prospect, sc[illegible] and, altogether, a mo[illegible] —Apply at the Offic[illegible]

Dec. 23.