were founded on the principles of general fellowship and universal charity. (Applause.) And if in the course of their proceedings some mirthful moments were mixed up with them, he could only say with Shakspere "if sack and sugar be a sin God help the wicked!" (Great applause and laughter.) He was not one of those who could not bear retirement; but he had no taste for the indulgence of solitary dignity. (Applause.) He liked anything that brought him in healthful and friendly contact with his fellow men. (Renewed applause.) He liked to see and to mix with assemblies where, as in this, he could see around him friends whom he was glad to meet. (Applause.)—He concluded by tendering his thanks for the honour conferred on him; by expressing a determination to discharge faithfully the duties of his new office, and by drinking the health of every brother present. His Lordship resumed his seat amidst prolonged and enthusiastic applause.

Brother Trafford, the stipendiary magistrate of Salford, then addressed the assembly at some length in advocacy of the establishment of a school in that division for the education and maintenance of the daughters of poor or deceased masons. Matthew Dawes, Esq., Provincial Grand Senior Warden, also said a few words on the same subject, and the Noble Chairman promised the embryo institution his warmest patronage and support.

The Noble Chairman then proposed in an exceedingly complimentary speech, the "Health of Stephen Blair, Esq., the Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the western division of Lancashire"—a toast which was most cordially received.

Brother Blair, in acknowledging the compliment remarked that his lordship had alluded in the former part of the evening to the principles of freemasonry and as the meeting was honoured with the presence of a great number of ladies, he thought it a good opportunity to initiate them a little into those principles. (A laugh.) Genuine masonry disapproved and abhorred every immoral action; it enjoined its followers to be quiet and peaceable subjects, true to their Queen, just to their country, and faithful to its laws; to keep the sacred lamp of brotherly love well trimmed and burning; to let their meetings be distinguished by solemnity, love and unanimity; to exhibit that dignity of carriage and demeanour which becomes those who profess morality and good works; and to make in all their laws, the Word of God their sovereign guide. (Applause.)

The Noble Chairman said he did not know whether the ladies in the gallery were satisfied with the degree of initiation which his worthy brother had extended to them.—He, (Lord Ellesmere,) however could assure them that they had a correct exposition of the principles of the institution; but he understood, for their satisfaction, that there was nothing in the principles or practice of Freemasons incompatible with due submission to their wives.—(Loud applause and laughter.)—with that degree of submission which was necessary, and which he hoped existed in all well-regulated families. (Renewed cheers and laughter.) His lordship concluded by proposing "The Ladies."

The toast were drank with rapturous applause; and, it being half past nine o'clock, his lordship resigned the chair to Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Brother Blair, and retired. The ladies also withdrew, and all but masons being excluded, the following toasts were given with masonic honours:—"The past Deputy Provincial Grand Master of East Lancashire," (Brother Preston returned thanks:) "the past Provincial Grand Officers," "the present Provincial Grand Officers," "the Rev. Gilmour Robinson and the visiting brethren," "the Charitable Institutions," "the Provincial Grand Stewards," "the Committee of Management," &c., &c.

The Lodge was closed and the proceedings terminated about half past ten o'clock.

From latest British Papers.

NEW ZEALAND.

END OF THE WAR, AND PROCLAMATION OF PEACE.

[From the Launceston Examiner.]

The following is an extract from a letter received by a gentleman in Launceston, dated Hobart-town, Feb. 24:—"A vessel came from New Zealand last night bringing news of the cessation of hostilities at that place. It appears that the natives at Kawiti's pah had left their place of security and were engaged at prayers, when the English took possession of the pah without opposition. When the natives found themselves outwitted they took to the woods and the English pursued. After this skirmish Heki (I presume) imagined that this pah was not sufficiently secure, and wished Kawiti to admit him and his tribe into his stronghold. This Kawiti refused. The consequence was that Heki sent a very humble petition to Governor Grey, soliciting a pardon upon condition of his surrendering up himself, his lands ammunition, arms, and all worldly effects, and to allow him to proceed unmolested to some very remote part of the island, to remain for the rest of his life. The Governor has, I believe, signified his willingness to accede to these terms but does not wish to deprive him of all his lands, and so long as he continues peaceable he will enjoy all his privileges. Thus I believe ends the New Zealand war, unless there should be traitors in the camp. Kawiti, I understand, has now been taken prisoner.

Discovery in Liverpool of Women in Sailor's attire—singular freak on the part of two female servants from Hull.—On Monday, very considerable curiosity and interest were excited in the neighbourhood of Fenwick Street, in consequence of two female servants from Hull having been found dressed in sailors' attire, and having their sex discovered just as they were about to undergo an examination by a medical gentleman, preparatory to their going on board a man-of-war. The females who had in this instance taken it into their heads to ship as seamen in her Majesty's service, and who, but for their own confession, obtained from them in under the circumstances mentioned, would have carried their intention into effect, are two very fine young women, the one 17 and the other 18 years of age. Both are extremely well looking, intelligent, and about the middle stature. They can read and write well, and upon the subject of their freak they were exceedingly communicative, but apparently very sorry that they had been prevented from doing maritime service.

They are both the daughters of small farmers, and their parents are still living. The name of the girl aged 18 is Harriet Palmer. She was born at a place called Barton, in Lincolnshire, and is the eldest of six children. She has latterly been living cook at the Blue Bell Inn, situated in the market place of that town, and at the inn, a situation she only held about a month before she first assumed the male attire.

The name of the other girl is Caroline Sarah Abbey. She was born in Yorkshire, and has thirteen brothers and sisters. She went to service at an early age, and, after being in a variety of places, went to Hull, and was immediately engaged as bar maid at the Blue Bell Inn.

There, though previously strangers to each other, they speedily formed a strong attachment for each other, and concocted their plans in a fortnight after meeting. Caroline seems to have first suggested to Harriet that it would be a capital hit upon their parts if they left their places, dressed themselves in sailor's clothes, went off to Liverpool, and shipped as apprentices or seamen, they cared not in what capacity, in what vessel, or to what part of the world they might be bound. Harriet listened to the tale, and concurred heartily in the plot. Their sweethearts were sailors, and had sent home glowing accounts from distant lands of the scenes they had witnessed; and the girls, inspired with a love of following their career, seem to have some idea floating in their minds that, by going to sea, they would sooner or later fall in with their friends abroad.

Acting, then, as tonsors for each other, their beautiful locks and ringlets were cut off, and having doffed their female attire, they put on that of the masculine sex, and, having paid 13s. each for their fare, set off on Thursday by railway to Manchester. On reaching Manchester, their funds became so low that they were compelled to walk to Liverpool. On Thursday night they slept at Warrington, and at eleven o'clock on Friday morning they arrived in Liverpool, being constantly in the company of sailors, eating and drinking and sleeping in the same room with them. They applied at several shipping offices for situations, and the captain of one of the merchant vessels in the Prince's Dock offered to take Caroline on board at once, but she refused to go, as she would be seperated from Harriet. They visited the Sailor's Home several times, and at length a young man, whom they accidentally met, advised them to enter themselves as apprentices on board a man-of-war. They repaired with this view to the Naval Office in Water Street, on Monday morning, and the captain immediately accepted them, subject to the approval of the examining surgeon, Mr. Craig. The captain said they were strapping lads, and that they would answer admirably. On being taken to Mr. Craig's surgery, they took off their coats, vests, caps, and shoes and then announced to the surgeon's infinite astonishment, that they were not what they seemed to be, boys. They urged him strongly, however, to pass over that insuperable obstacle, and to let them serve her Majesty, but, of course, he was unable to comply with their request.

From the surgeon's they were taken to Mr. Dowling's office, and subsequently to the parish office, where they received the kindest treatment from Mr. Gray and Mr. Rowlands, the overseers. They were lodged at a respectable house; and on Tuesday morning were clothed once more in female attire, and sent back to Hull.—*Eng. Paper.*

THE OVERLAND MAIL.—INDIA AND CHINA.—The express in anticipation of the Overland Mail reached London on Saturday morning. The dates are—from Bombay, May 12; Calcutta, May 3; Madras, May 8; Ceylon, May 11; and Hong Kong April 25.

A disturbance had occurred at Lahore, on the 21st April. A guard had been set to prevent admission to one of the main streets, to facilitate the entrance of some ordnance stores. A drove of cattle endeavoured to force their way, when a couple of cows were wounded by the artillerymen on duty. An uproar immediately ensued; stones and brickbats flew in all directions; one man is said to have been killed, and several severely injured; and the shops throughout the city were shut up as if a general rising had been expected. Matters soon resumed tranquility; the leaders in the affray were taken up, and the ringleader is said to have been arrested.

Above a hundred pieces of artillery are said to have been discovered concealed in various parts of the town.

Two forts near our frontier on the Jullundur Doab side had refused to surrender; and one of these, Kote Kangra, is considered by the natives to be impregnable. The garrison, however, is not to be numerous, nor the armament heavy; provisions had been laid in for a seige of long duration. It is not easy to understand the feeling by which the governor of the garrison is actuated to resistance, unless it be that chivalry of which the middle ages supply Europeans examples, that a strong hold such as this should be maintained till captured, that nothing but superior force can address its surrender. Our political agent had sent a messenger in the name of the British Government, while Runjeet Singh sent another on the part of Sikhs, requiring the place to be given up without delay. The reception and reply vouchsafed to the messengers respectively were as pithy and unmistakeable as might be. The first had his face blackened, and both were unceremoniously turned out. The governor of the fortress declined giving a written reply but stated that he considered Runjeet Singh a dog, held by the Maharajah in contempt, and would not open the gates until Runjeet Singh himself (who died in 1839) came to demand admittance; that he defied the British, and would give them a reply when they showed themselves in the pass. No sympathy with the warlike spirit is manifested amongst the people around. A strong and well appointed force of 6000 men had been despatched for the reduction of their stronghold.

The Ranee had been dangerously ill, consequent on the administration of drugs to produce abortion. She was at one time reported dead, but the rumour was without foundation.

The country was extremely healthy and pleasant and the troops in good condition. The climate in our new dominions is said to surpass in agreeableness and salubrity anything India can boast of.

The country was tranquil from end to end, except the disturbance amongst the Rhoonds of Goloondah to suppress which troops were being despatched from the neighbouring stations of the Madras presidency. The cause would appear to be the interference of our agent for the suppression of human sacrifices, this season carried to a greater extent than usual. Cholera and a scarcity of water and food were making and havoc over the country, which could only be relieved by a speedy and abundant fall of rain.

The Governor General and Commander in Chief of India were still at Simlah. The Governor of Bombay did not intend starting for Poonah till after the first fall of rain.

Increasing distress was visible among the population in the Provinces, by reason of the severe drought, and it appeared certain that both the Madras and Kurssall indigo crops of 1846-7 must prove failures to a great extent, the season for recovery being past. Such of the new growth as might be expected to reach the market had not come in, and but very little of the old crop was still on hand; unusual dulness, therefore prevailed, and prices, although the same as quoted upon former arrivals, were little more than nominal.

In cotton scarcely anything had been effected at Calcutta, on account of the depressing intelligence from Europe and China. For consumption in the presidency, this article fetched prices ranging from 43rs. to 44rs. per candy.

The transactions in sugar were active, but chiefly in qualities of an inferior description.

Considerable tightness still checked the money market at Madras, and rendered business of almost every nature very heavy.

Exchange had risen to 1s. 11¼d. for six months bills; 1s. 11½d. for three months bills; and 1s. 11d. for thirty days bills.

The accounts from Hong Kong give an account of a meeting between Sir John Davis and Keying, at the Bogue, on the 3d of April. The greatest secrecy has been observed on both sides, before, at, and subsequent to the conference, nothing having been announced on the subject, and all the officials having been kept in ignorance that such a meeting was to take place.

The bankruptcy formerly mentioned of the principal native broker at Shanghae has been followed by that of the only other one who ever commanded any share of the misplaced confidence alike of Chinese and foreigners. The last called himself Kingwo since he became a man of importance, though he was not long ago the servant of a British merchant here, when he acquired a smattering of English, which was probably his chief recommendation with his employers. These men, Alum, who has absconded, and Kingwo were trusted unlimitedly, and the extent of loss that will be sustained through their failure has not yet been ascertained. As about a sixth part of the silk from Singhae, and a certain proportion of the teas, have been on native account, there is here so much security against loss. It is said that it will fall chiefly upon the Chinese traders, who may be induced in future to the distant but more secure markets of Canton.

The Cleopatra, a French man of war, arrived at Macao on the 23th March, having on board a white elephant, of the very rare species still worshipped by natives of certain islands of the Indian ocean; also a black tiger with stripes, and a red lynx, all obtained at the Peninsula of Malacca, and destined for the Royal Menagerie of Paris.

At Canton trade partakes largely of the general flatness. The prospects of the Shanghae market induce holders to force sales, while a great scarcity of money prevails at both places, usyee being quoted at 10 per cent. premium, and so much as 15 per cent. having been paid at Shanghae to meet duties.

Of raw silk there has been exported to England from Shanghae and Canton, since the 1st July, 15,000 bales.

The following is a statement of teas exported during ten months, from 30th June, 1844, to 30th April, 1845, compared with the amount at the corresponding period of this year:—

Total black and green	1845	46,991,217
Do. Do.	1846	49,441,354
Excess in 10 months of 1845-6		2,450,137

The despatches in anticipation of the Mail above referred to were received in London on Tuesday night. The dates are eight days later from Bombay and two's days later from Calcutta.

The Punjaub was tranquil; the fort of Kote Kangra was expected to surrender without an actual resort to arms.

In Western India the sufferings occasioned by the scanty fall of rain throughout the two previous years were likely to be relieved by an early monsoon—signs of the near approach of which had become apparent ten days earlier than usual.

The pressure in the money market at Bombay continued severe, though the pinch was somewhat less tight than formerly, and the want of confidence was even more heavily felt than the scarcity of cash. No further bankruptcies of any note had occurred.

Cholera was committing ravages in the Bombay presidency. One fourth of the men of the 23d Native Infantry had in a few weeks been cut off by it; and many of the villagers of the Concan were depopulated or deserted.

The weather in the Jullundur Doab was peculiarly fine, and the troops in the highest health.

There has, it is said, been an attempt at a counter revolution in Burmah, for the purpose of restoring Tharawaddie to the throne. The friends of the ex king, however, appear to have lost heart when the time for action arrived. The new government is still spoken well of—at all events by the Maulmain newspaper.

Baboo Matty Lall Laul had proposed to the Dharma Sabha, a society of Orthodox Hindoos, to petition government for some enactment in favour of the re marriage of Hindoo widows. It appears that his proposal caused a great stir in the meeting, and was loudly exclaimed against which is not to be wondered at, when it is remembered that the society was originally established to oppose the abolition of Suttee. Matty Lall some time ago offered 10,000 rupees to any Hindoo who would marry a widow. The prize has never been claimed.

The wet dock committee at Calcutta, appointed some two or three years ago, has at length laid its report before government. It recommends the construction of docks a little below the fort. Of course we shall soon hear of a joint stock company being formed in England for carrying out this or some similar plan.

Trade, except perhaps in respect to sugar, continues nearly as dull as per last advices. Prospects of indigo crop very bad, in consequence of the want of rain.

In Calcutta, on the 6th, there were fires in three or four different places; one of them is said to have destroyed eleven hundred houses; another destroyed a vast number of native tenements and two lives.

The Rajah of Ladwa, one of the chiefs of the protected states who first turned traitor against us, has been captured. He had for some time been concealing himself amongst the shrines and sacred villages near Lahore, where his person was secured. He has been sent within our frontier as a prisoner. It is likely he may be punished by the permanent forfeiture of all his dominions—he himself remaining a prisoner in our hands. The Queen appears to have recovered from her indisposition.

The rates of exchange at Calcutta are 2s 1d. to 2s 1½d first rate paper, ten months' date on England. On China as low as Rs. 260 to Rs. 262 per 100 dollars. Money market tight.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—We have Cape of Good Hope papers to the 26th of April. The Lieutenant Governor had marched troops into the Caffre country without the least opposition. No arrangement had been come to with the refractory chiefs. There is a return of the revenue, by which it appears that for the year, ending the 5th of January, the increase was £50,601,988, against £51,235,538 for the year previous.

Rains had fallen in the interior, much to the benefit of the cattle and the pasturage.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP MUTINE.—We have been informed, by our correspondent, in Simon's bay of the arrival (on the 24th ult) of Her Majesty's sloop Mutine, Commander Crawford, R. N., after an unprecendented successful cruise in the Mozambique. Since the capture of the bark Diana (which vessel arrived here in charge of Lieutenant Meade in December last) Mutine has taken three other prizes, one of them a large ship of 500 tons, now on her way to the Cape, in charge of that highly meritorious and deserving officer Mr. T. T. Furneux mate; whose zeal and ability Commander Crawford has before had occasion to extol. What gives greater eclat to the capture of the the vessel is that, she had escaped from Her Majesty's ship Hecate, the two Portuguese men of war, and their boats but after a most exciting chase of nearly seven hour and a half, the Mutine (although at starting the slaver was 14 miles to windward) came, in glorious style, up with and captured her. Her name is the Amelia, without papers or colours. This makes the 10th prize taken by this beautiful vessel in the short space of only twelve months, she having arrived on this station on the 14 of March 1845, only. So great, indeed, has been her success, that the only executive officer on board on her arrival here was the commander; all the lieutenants and other officers being away in prizes. The seamen-like zeal and ability of this officer have thus been conspicuously displayed—the whole responsibility of the navigation, as well as the other duties of the ship devolving on him. We had almost forgotten to state that the Mutine was accompanied in by a vessel with slaves on board, captured on her way to Zanibar from the river Mozamba, where the slaves had been purchased. On the night previous to the Mutine's entering Simon's bay, she passed several large vessel lying to off the bank, the gale being too heavy for them to run, and on the 20th in lat. 32 8 South, and long. 30 31 East, she spoke of the brig William, of Halifax, from Calcutta to Demerara, out 68 days, all well.—*Cape of Good Hope Gazette.*

RIO PLATA.—The adherents of General Rosas, on the banks of the River Parana lose no opportunity of evincing their hostility to the British. The following is from the private letter of an officer of Her Majesty's steam sloop Alecto, Commander F. W. Austen, at present employed there:—"On the 10th of February we had a short but rather sharp skirmish with a flying battery of artillery. They brought down four guns to some embrasures made in a sandbank, which completely screened their gunners from sight; and from this position they kept up a rapid and well directed fire upon us.—Though we were soon past them they struck us several times. We returned their fire with our guns and rockets, with what result we could not ascertain. The affair only lasted about 25 minutes but in that time we had five men wounded, two of them severely. A few days after this we were fired at again by a party of cavalry, who for two hours continued to assemble inland and fire musketry at us on every opportunity. On the occasion we happily had no casualties, though we were struck more than once; but the enemy appeared to suffer considerable from our shells and rockets, which were thrown with great precision. One rocket after passing through and setting fire to a tent, burst among a party of the enemy, dismounting several of them and in the end we completely dispersed them. On the 10th of April the Alecto was proceeding up the river with supplies for the squadron and was expecting to be again attacked by the same battery which a day or to before had fired upon Her Majesty's ship Philomel, Captain Sullivan, in coming down.

SUMMARY.

Muriate of ammonia applied with salvia to a corn that has been pained a little, will remove it entirely.

From Sunday May 31, to Sunday June 7, upwards of 65,000 persons bathed in the Serpentine river, Hyde park.

Prince Waldemar of Prussia, who was present at the Sikh war, arrived with his suite on the 4th inst. at Trieste. He was to proceed immediately to Berlin.

The value of the produce of the Cornwall copper mines is £1,500,000 per annum, and the amount of wages paid £500,000.

The poor-rates in England were, in 1803, £5,348,205; in 1818, at their highest, being £9,320,000; while in 1844, they amounted to £6,848,717. In 1838, they were only £5,186,389.

The lord mayor, at a dinner given to the French Ambassador, proposed the health of the three consuls. The toast was repeated by the toast-master as the "Health of the Three per Cent. Consols.—Hip, hip, hip, hurrah."

Mr. Cuthill, the florist of Camberwell, has been very successful this season in the cultivation of strawberries, many weighing an ounce each, and some of them five inches in circumference. The plants stand up like a little bush above the ground.

To preserve meat in hot weather wipe the meat gently and lightly with a clean cloth, then dust over every part with pure oaten meal. The meal imparts a sweet flavour to the meat. It must be all wiped away before the meat is put down either to be boiled or roasted.

On Wednesday evening, the annual dinner in aid of the Asylum for Aged Freemasons took place at the Freemasons' Hall. The funds in hand available were announced as about £3,800, and the subscriptions for the evening, £367 8s.

The Italian Scientific Congress, which, since 1839, has been held annually, is to take place this year at Genoa. The city of Genoa has just voted the sum of six thousand francs to defray the expenses of the experiments in physics and other sciences which are to take place during the session.

Conversion of two Dissenting Preachers.—At his ordination, on Trinity Sunday, the Lord Bishop of Chichester admitted into the Holy Order of Deacons, Mr. George Rees and Mr. Wm. Edwards, the former of whom has been a Dissenting preacher at Worthing and the latter following the same occupation at Brighton.

Nearly half of the French army can neither read nor write, viz. 124 134, out of 252,383 men.

The romantic Miss Smith, whose interesting letters to Earl Fortescue exited such sensation a short time ago, has had to pay the sum of £1,563 in law expenses.

M. Piesto, a physician at Rio Janeiro, has, it is said, succeeded in curing several lepers by the cautious employment of guano internally and externally.

The German papers announce that the Emperors of Russia and Austria and the King of Prussia are to meet at Vienna in September next.

There is no truth in a statement that has been copied into the papers, that Lord Gough succeeds to the property of the late Mr. Bunbury, M. P. About £300 a year falls to the gallant general by the death of his relative.

A few days since the Secretary to the Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest received a £500 bank note; the worthy Samaritan simply giving the signature of 'Stratford.'

The diamonds brought over by Ibrahim Pasha are of enormous value; some of them are as large as the half of a hazel nut. The state robes of scarlet and gold are gorgeous, and the hilt of the scymitar is ornamented with jewels of great value.

Joseph Mortimer, the pretended American merchant, has been committed to Newgate for trial for two cases of fraud on Mrs. Loyer, and for marrying Mrs. Wright when he had a former wife, Mrs. Langhorn, alive. It appears the prisoner hastened the death of his first wife by his cruelty to her on board ship.

Church Building Society——A meeting of this society was held at their Chambers, in St. Martin's place, on Monday, the Lord Bishop of Winchester in the chair. Grants were made in aid of the erection of churches in eight new district parishes, recently constituted, and endowed by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and seven sums of money voted for enlarging and extending churches.—These grants amount to the sum of £3,435, and they will secure additional church room for 6,308 persons, including 4,848 seats, in parishes whose aggregate population is 261,600 souls, with church accommodation for less than one-eighth of that number, the free sittings being only in the proportion of one seat for twenty three persons. Grants were made for the enlargement or alteration of seven parish churches.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—Reports from all parts of the country speaks strongly on the beneficial effect which the recent warm weather, and occasional showers of rain, have had on the growing crops, both of grain and grass. The hay harvest has commenced with every prospect of a large and well got crop being obtained. The wheat flourishes the more on account of the great heat and dryness, and will form heavy grain instead of running to straw. At present however the appearance of the spring corn is inferior to that of the wheat. Potatoes are doing well, but the weather is too dry for turnips.

THE SLAVE TRADE IN SOUTH AMERICA.—A letter from her Majesty's ship Grampus, Captain H. Byam Martin, dated at Bahia, 15th April, says:—"The slave trade is in vigorous operation along the whole coast of Brazil, and I am sorry to say the measures taken by the European powers at so great a cost, and such loss of human life, are treated with great contempt by the man-mongers in Bahai, which is the place where a great many slavers are fitted out. Our cruisers have not been so successful as could be wished, for more than three thousand ill-fated, wretched Africans have been landed during the last three months, by which the owners have cleared £60,000. These victims of avarice are hurried off to the sugar estates, that by means of their unpaid and severely exacted labour the Brazilians may manufacture cheap sugar."

COLONIAL.

From the Hamilton Gazette.

The following petition to Her Majesty from the Board of Trade of Hamilton, Upper Canada, was forwarded by the steamer on the 16th May. The answer which follows was received yesterday.—The answer is very explicit, and leaves no hope of arresting the withdrawal of protection to Canadian products. The strong and pointed reference in the petition, to an inability to pay the loan of £1,500,000, under the altered circumstance of the country, is passed over *subsidentio*.

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY:

The Petition of the Board of Trade of the Town of Hamilton, most humbly sheweth—

That great alarm has been occasioned in your Majesty's Province of Canada, as well as in your Majesty's other possessions in North America, by the measures recently brought before the British Parliament by your Majesty's Government, proposing the reduction and abandonment within a short period of the protection now afforded us on our staple articles of export. That these provinces are the nearest Colonies that can supply the mother country with corn and timber, and in return take British manufactured goods to an extent greater according to our population, than any other Colony, and four times greater than any other foreign country. That should free trade in corn supersede the protection now affording to the great staple of our export, we should be no longer in a situation to continue as importers of British manufactured goods to an extent worthy of consideration, and the attention of the Colonists must unavoidably be directed to the encouragement and extension of domestic manufactures. That encouraged by the protection afforded us in the British market, and the benevolent intentions of your Majesty towards the Colony, as expressed in the determination to regard Canada as an integral portion of the Empire, and in her intercourse with the mother country to place her in the position of an English county, we have been induced to borrow on the credit of Great Britain a loan of one million and a half sterling, to improve and complete our internal communications, which, should this protection be withdrawn, will be comparatively valueless, the means by which we hoped to liquidate the principal and interest being diverted into other channels. That in addition to the above, your petitioners would beg to present to your Majesty's notice the following facts:—That the trade to the Colonies employs a most numerous and important portion of the British Mercantile Marine. That we suffer considerable natural disadvantages, owing to our distance from the mother country, and to our ports being from their northerly situation, closed to an export and import trade for nearly six months of the year. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your Majesty to continue to this colony the protection afforded, for at least such a modification thereof as may still enable us to compete with European growers of corn in the British markets, and thereby enable us to to import and consume British manufactured goods——or that should the measure lately introduced by your Majesty's Ministers become law, your Majesty will be graciously pleased to extend to this Colony such relief as may enable us to sustain the disastrous consequences which we apprehend will follow the adoption of the policy now advocated by your Majesty's Government. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

ANSWER.

(Copy) Civil Secretary's Office,
Montreal, 23rd June, 1846.

SIR,—I am directed by the Governor General to inform you, that the petition to the Queen, from the Board of Trade of Hamilton, respecting the proposed change in the Corn and Timber duties, has been laid before Her Majesty, by the Secretary of State, and that her Majesty was pleased to receive it very graciously; but much as the Secretary of State regrets his inability to advise the Queen to assent to a request referred by a body of Her Majesty's Subjects, possessing such, and so many claims on the favourable regard of their Sovereign,—he has been precluded from advising her Majesty to assent to the prayer of the petition, that the measures now before the Imperial Parliament relating to corn and timbers may not become law. The assent to it would be (as the petitioners will not fail to perceive) not merely to reject the recommendations addressed by Her Majesty to Parliament at the commencement of the present session, but would be to contravene all the votes heretofore passed in pursuance of that recommendation by both Houses of Parliament.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
(Signed) H. COTTON.
In absence of Civil Secretary.

The President of the
Board of Trade, Hamilton.

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THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, JULY 24, 1846.

Various interesting extracts from English papers received by last Mail will be found in our columns.

From Mexico there is little of consequence; General Taylor's army is still at Matamoras, with an advance guard at Reynosa, from which place he would not proceed until large supplies of forage and provisions were collected at the depots for the use of the army. In the mean time the administration of Paredes, the Mexican President, is said to be near a close steady, in which event, there is no doubt but Santa Anna would reassume the Government. His return would possibly lead to an adjustment of difficulties with the United States.

LORD STANLEY'S PROTEST AGAINST THE CORN BILL.

The following is the Protest of Lord Stanley against the Corn Bill which was laid on the table of the House of Lords:

DISSENTIENT,—

1. Because the repeal of the Corn Laws will greatly increase the dependence of this country upon foreign countries for its supply of food, and will thereby expose it to dangers against which former statesmen have thought it essential to take legislative precautions.

2. Because there is no security nor probability that other nations will take similar steps; and this country will therefore not only be exposed to the risks of failure of supply consequent on a state of war, but will also be exclusively subject to an unlimited influx of corn in times of abundance, and to sudden checks whenever short crops shall reduce the ordinary supply from the exporting countries, or their governments shall deem it necessary to take precautionary measures for their own protection, thus causing rapid and disastrous fluctuations in the markets of this country.

3. Because under a system of protection the agriculture of this country has more than kept pace with the increasing demand of its increasing population; and because it is to be apprehended that the removal of protection may throw some lands out of cultivation, and check in others the progress of improvement which has led to this satisfactory result.

4. Because it is unjust to withdraw protection from the landed interests of this country, while that interest remains subject to exclusive burdens imposed for purposes of general and not of special advantage.

5. Because the loss to be sustained by the repeal of the corn laws will fall most heavily on the least wealthy portion of the landed proprietors, will press immediately and severely on the tenant-farmers and through them, with ruinous consequences, on the agricultural labourers.

6. Because indirectly, but not less certainly, injurious consequences will result to the manufacturing interest, and especially to the artisans and mechanics, from competition with the agricultural labourers thrown out of employment, but primarily from the loss of the home market, caused by the inability of the producers of grain and those dependent on them, to consume manufactured goods to the same extent as heretofore.

7. Because the same cause will produce similar evil results to the tradesmen, retail dealers, and others in country towns, not themselves engaged in agricultural pursuits, but mainly dependent for their subsistence on their dealings with those who are so engaged.

8. Because the effect of a repeal of the corn laws will be especially injurious to Ireland, by lowering the value of her principal exports, and by still further reducing the demand for labour, the want of which is among the principal evils of her social condition.

9. Because a free trade in corn will cause a large and unnecessary diminution of annual income, thus impairing the revenue of the country, at the same time that it cripples the resources of those classes on whom the weight of local taxation now mainly falls.

10. Because a general reduction of prices, consequent on a reduction of the price of corn, will tend unduly to raise the monied interest at the expense of all others, and to aggravate the pressure of the national burdens.

11. Because the removal of differential duties in favour of Canadian corn is at variance with the legislative encouragement held out to that colony by Parliament, on the faith of which the colonists have laid out large sums upon the improvement of their internal navigation; and because the removal of protection will divert the traffic of the interior from the St. Lawrence and the British ports of Montreal and Quebec, to the foreign port of New York; thus throwing out of employment a large amount of British shipping, severing that commercial interests of Canada from those of the parent country, and connecting those interests most intimately with the United States of America.

12. Because the adoption of a similar system with regard to other articles of commerce will tend to sever the strongest bond of union between this country and her colonies, will deprive the British merchant of that which is now his most certain market, and sap the foundation of that colonial system, to which, commercially and politically, this country owes much of its present greatness.

ACCIDENT TO A MAIL STEAMER.—The Royal Mail steamer *Britannia*, with her Boston passengers on board, for England, ran past Halifax harbour about 20 miles, in a dense fog on Friday night last, and struck upon rocks off Jedore Head. She subsequently got to Halifax, and workmen were immediately set about repairing the damage. It is said that some of the passengers would remain for the next steamer in consequence of this disaster.

The boilers of the steamer *New Brunswick* became leaky while on her passage from Fredericton to this city on Wednesday last; in consequence of which the boat became unmanageable and went ashore near Oromocto. Every effort was made, to stop the leak, but without success; and at our latest accounts she was still ashore. We understand the New Brunswick had a large party on board coming to St. John for the purpose of witnessing the boat race.

We learn from a correspondent, that the 12th of July was duly celebrated at Springfield, Kings County, by the loyal Orange Lodges nos. 22, 23 and 33 meeting together on the Monday following and walking in procession. An excellent address was delivered to the members by one of the brethren, and appropriate ceremonies gone through with. After the exercises of the day, part of the members dined together at Spragg's Inn, and another portion at White's, head of Belleisle, when the usual toasts were drank, and many patriotic songs sung on the occasion. The day was spent, as was the evening also, in the utmost harmony, and in such a manner as well became true and loyal subjects of Victoria.

PEDESTRIANISM.—On the 15th of the present month, Wm. Eaton, a native of Northamptonshire, England, was to commence at the Caledonia Springs, Canada, the herculean feat of walking 1000 miles in 1000 successive hours, that is, a mile in each hour during the time. Mr. Eaton is in the 77th year of his age, and in consequence, ten to one has been bet against him. His friends however, back him up to the amount of five hundred guineas. The trial will of course continue nearly 42 days.

NEW VESSELS.—On the 10th inst., a new brig of 200 tons, called the *Native*, built at Otonocto, by Mr. Wm. Dow, for W. Hughston, Esq. of this city, was towed through the Falls by the steamer Fredericton.—On the 13th inst. a new barque named the *Euphemia*, owned by John Wishart, Esq. was towed into our harbour from Quaco, by the steamer Saint Gothn.—On the 14th inst. the steamer Maid of Erin, arrived from St. Mary's Bay, N. S. with three new vessels in tow, viz. a barque for Mr. J. Adam; the brig *John Wilson*, owned by Mr. Jas Robertson; and brigantine *Lannen*, for Messrs. R. & A. Grier.

LAUNCHED, on Saturday last, from the Building Yard of William Olive, Esq., Carleton, a fine brig of 236 tons, O. M., called the *Egremont*. She is of a beautiful model, is copper fastened, and is allowed by competent judges to be one of the prettiest vessels ever built at this port. The E. is owned by Messrs. Mortimer & Shives, of this city.

Relief of the Newfoundland sufferers.—It is with great pleasure we inform our readers that the committee employed in collecting money in this city, for the relief of the sufferers by the fire in St. Johns, Newfoundland, have been able to remit by yesterday's mail a draft to His Excellency Sir John Harvey for three hundred pounds currency. This, for Fredericton, we consider a very handsome sum, and the gentlemen composing the committee deserve very great credit for the pains and trouble they have taken in soliciting and collecting subscriptions. It is, perhaps, hardly fair, when all have done so well, to particularize the efforts of any single individual; but the industry and perseverance of James Taylor, Esq., M P P, in this good work has attracted the attention and merited the praise of his neighbours. Yesterday morning when the committee found they were about ten pounds short of the three hundred, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Watts went out, and in the course of an hour came back with enough to make up the even sum. This subscription we consider creditable to our citizens.—*Head Quarters.*

DOWNING STREET, June 24.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Major General Sir John Harvey, Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Military Order of the Bath, to be lieutenant governor of the Province of Nova Scotia.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint James Macaulay Higginson, Esquire, to be governor and commander in chief of the Islands of Antigua, Montserrat & Barbuda, St. Christopher, Nevis, Anguilla, the Virgin Islands and Dominica.

THE CROPS.—We learn from different parts of the Province that the crops look exceedingly well, and give great promise of an abundant harvest. We have not heard that the rot has made its appearance at all among the potatoes this season, and trust that in future the disease will be unknown in New-Brunswick. The Woolstock Telegraph of last Saturday says—We have had charming weather for some time back. The crops have a most promising appearance. Grass, in general, is heavy. Should the weather continue favourable for haying, harvesting, &c., our farmers will be able to house the fruits of the soil in such profusion as to preclude the necessity of sending out of the country for bread-stuffs, as they have been obliged to do several years back. True, wheat has not been so abundantly sown as on former years, owing to the fear of the Weevil, yet excellent substitutes will have been raised in abundance should the season permit of their coming to maturity.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY, at its last meeting, unanimously resolved to adjourn until Tuesday the 6th of October next. This Society, at present, numbers about five-and-twenty, and several gentlemen, encouraged by the very liberal loan of some of its music and instruments, are qualifying themselves to unite with it, in the autumn; so that, probably, it will soon number forty. The Library and stock of the Society are extensive and valuable; the funds in a very flourishing state; the expenses to individual members extremely moderate; and the private practice and proceedings, hitherto, have been sustained in an improving and highly creditable manner.

Mrs. Underwood, Mr. Ricks, (Band Master of H. M. 33d Regt.) and Mr. Steven have already most handsomely assisted at its well-attended Public Concerts; and most of the other Professors of Music in the City have recently expressed much interest in its welfare, and kindly volunteered their services upon similar future occasions.—[New Brunswicker.

SEIZURE.—On Monday night last, the Officers of H. M. Customs made a seizure of twenty-four barrels of American Rum and one case of Clocks, at Harbour by Chance, which was being landed from a large open boat.

IMPORTANT, IF TRUE.—Capt. Brown, of the schooner Spitfire, from Key West, states that a fishing smack arrived at Key West, on the 7th instant, from Havana. The captain of which reported that the British Mail steamer had just arrived at that port, from Tampico, bringing the intelligence of the capture of Tampico by the U S. sloop of war St. Marys, the day before she sailed.

FROM RIO JANEIRO.—Advices to the 10th of June have been received from Rio Janeiro. The Rio Journals have later news from the La Plata.—Another decree has been issued by Rosas, in relation to the intervention of the British and French forces, as follows:—

ART 1st.—Commanders, officers or privates of the English and French vessels of war, that may be taken in any ports or bays of this province, having entered there for the purposes of injuring national or foreign vessels, either for the sake of destruction or capture, shall be punished as murderers and incendiaries, according to the statutes of the law.

Art. 2—Commanders of ports and on coast duty in this Province, and all others holding authority, who may capture any persons embarking in the manner heretofore spoken of, shall immediately proceed to punish them as soon as taken.

Extract of a Letter dated Montevideo, 20th May:—The Blockading Squadron is very rigid since the capture of the English brig Ringdove, and the news of the brig Hanover having left the Salado.—The latter class of business has now its quietus, as two lighters were taken last week, laden with iron hoops and tobacco,