

England, &c.

LONDON.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Friday, April 9. Mr. Sykes presented a petition from the ship-owners of Hull, praying relief from distress. Mr. Herries said the petitioners desired to get rid of the boarding system, which was oppressive. There had been an increase of upwards of 500,000 tons of British shipping in the last four years, above those beginning with 1828, and the same amount onwards. This increase in foreign ships was so slight, that the whole increase might be said to be in favor of British shipping.

TIMBER—HALIFAX.

Mr. Wainwright wished to take that opportunity to put a question to the Right Honourable Gentleman opposite. He understood that parties had been in the practice of shipping timber from the Baltic to Halifax, or some other port in our North America Colonies, and then bringing it to this country, so as to evade the high duty upon the importation of foreign timber. He was given to understand that these cargoes of timber had been brought in that way in the course of the last year from Halifax to Ireland. The clause under which this was done was contained in the 10th of the King, by which it was enacted that timber might be imported duty-free, from our colonial possessions in North America to any part of the United Kingdom. The importers of timber from the Baltic, with a view to evade the high rate of duty, exported their cargoes in the first instance to our possessions in North America, and thence imported them here. By that means they effected a saving of 13s. He (Mr. Wainwright) was aware that there were several vessels about to sail for cargoes to the Baltic, and thence to proceed to Halifax, with a view to take advantage of this state of the law, and he therefore wished to know whether the Right Honourable Gentleman intended to make any provision to meet the case, in the Bill which he was about to introduce? Mr. HANCOCK said that there was certainly a defect in the clause to which the Hon. Member had alluded. It was intended only to allow the importation of timber, the produce of the United States, and which had been exchanged for some article of British Colonial produce at this reduced duty. He conceived that to comply with the law as it stood, they would have landed their cargoes at Halifax, and reloaded them again; and if the officers there had done their duty, such voyages would not be profitable. However, in order to prevent any further evasion of the law, he proposed to amend the clause, so that the timber should be landed at the place to which it was intended to be sent, and if the officers there had done their duty, such voyages would not be profitable. However, in order to prevent any further evasion of the law, he proposed to amend the clause, so that the timber should be landed at the place to which it was intended to be sent, and if the officers there had done their duty, such voyages would not be profitable.

The following is the latest bulletin of the King's health:—" Windsor Castle, April 24.—The King has passed two good nights, and continues better.—(Signed) H. HALFORD."

Trade.—We rejoice to say that the accounts from all the manufacturing and commercial districts of the country agree in representing that there is a very material improvement in trade.—Leeds Mercury.

The London Gazette of April 13, admits Austria to a participation of the British Colonial Trade, that power having complied with the requisition of the act of July 5th, 1825.

Mr. R. Grant's motion that leave be given to bring in a bill repealing the civil disabilities affecting British born subjects professing the Jewish religion, came up for discussion in the House of Commons on the 5th of April, and after a long debate, was adopted between twelve and one o'clock at night; yeas 115, noes 97. The announcement was received with loud cheers.

Arrangements are now making to form a railway between Liverpool and Birmingham, distance about 80 miles.

The Royal Yacht Club, in London, are said to be fitting out a squadron to witness the bombardment of Algiers.

The Liverpool Times says that a person has recently been in England, offering to introduce British goods into the United States, across the Canadian frontier, for a premium of five per cent, and that 150 tons of Yorkshire cloths have recently been despatched to Canada from London, to be introduced in this manner.

Finances of the East India Company.—The papers relating to India finances and trade, which have been submitted to Parliament, contain a great body of information concerning the government and trade of India, and contain a forcible idea of the magnitude of the interests with which the Legislature will have to deal in its discussions on the charter. The revenue of our Indian empire is now greater than that of any European state, except England and France. In 1827-8 it was £23,035,164; in 1828-9 it is estimated at £23,350,317; the interest on the debt about £2,000,000 yearly.

The two gold medals given annually by the King, to the Royal Society of Literature, have been awarded to Hallam and to Washington Irving.

Conversion of Jews.—On Wednesday last, twelve young men, of the Jewish persuasion, anxious to renounce the doctrines of their forefathers, were baptized at St. James's church, London. The ceremony was performed by the Bishop of London, after the Rector had gone through the morning service to the second lesson. During the whole of the ceremony, which was read in a most impressive manner by his lordship, the whole of the auditory, as well as the candidates themselves, were much affected. The scene was altogether of the most impressive description, and among those who stood as godfathers for the young men were Henry Drummond, Esq. and Simon, Esq., of Cambridge. The bishop had previously examined the candidates himself, and found them sufficiently instructed in the principles of the Christian religion.

CAUTION TO MASTERS OF VESSELS.—The barque Nile, which arrived at the Dock Yard, on Monday week, picked up on her voyage 26 tubs of spirits, two of which the crew contrived to empty—a fact of which the master gave information to the landing-writer; notwithstanding which, his vessel has been detained to await the decision of the Board of Customs. A recent act of Parliament prohibits any person whatsoever from picking up spirits found floating in the course of a voyage.—Plymouth Journal.

Temperance Societies are establishing in Ireland.

SCOTLAND. Emigration.—Sunday morning week, the brig Corsair left Glasgow harbour, and anchored in the stream, preparatory to sailing for Prince Edward's Island, whither she carries out 160 passengers, including 32 families, almost all of the Roman Catholic persuasion, under Mr. McDonnell, assistant clergyman in the Catholic chapel, Glasgow. The greater part of them are natives of that city and vicinity; but a few of them are natives of Ireland and the Western Isles. It is stated, that they have been promised, on their arrival at their destination, to receive grants of land from Mr. McDon-

nell, who is a native of the island, and said to possess large tracts of ground there, which he has let out to emigrants at 1s. an acre. Each family, averaging three or four children, is to receive 100 acres, and to be furnished with commodious farm steadings, a cow, a horse, and other stock, which, however, are to be repaid as soon as the emigrants have it in their power. Under these impressions they have set out with great spirits; and many of them have left very comfortable situations in this country, allured by the bright prospects held out to them by their spiritual guide. They are by no means the poorest part of the Catholic population, as all of them were able to pay their own passage, and the most needy had a surplus, while many of them have taken away considerable sums of money. One farmer, from Ireland, actually sold his patrimony, for which he obtained £700, and joined the expedition. The country is represented as moderately fertile.—Edinburgh paper.

EMIGRATION.—We mentioned last week, that about sixty individuals were about to leave the parishes of Methven, Monodry, and Ridgerton, for the United States; they were joined by an additional twenty from the same district, and the whole came into Perth on the market day, where they had appointed to meet and take farewell of their friends in this part of the country preparatory to their departure by the steam-boat for Dundee, on Saturday last. One of the emigrants, an infirm man of eighty-four, had to be carried into the boat, expressed little hope of reaching the promised land in life, but who could not be induced to remain in a country which was deserted by all his family and acquaintances. It is lamentable to witness the emigration of numbers of such a respectable and industrious class from a thinly peopled district, particularly as the avowed cause is the gradual absorption of small pendicles into large farms, and the high rent of land, whether in large or small portions. As some of the families go to join friends who had preceded them, and thence since the change, the whole party were in high spirits, and—so altered is the national character—seemed to leave their native land without a symptom of regret.—Perth Courier.

NEW GOVERNMENT IN ALGERIA.—The Messenger des Chambres assumes, as a point unquestionable, that the French Government, once master of Algeria, will never relinquish its grasp of that possession. "Little doubt can be entertained," says the journalist, "that France has an understanding on this subject with Great Britain, which, by means of the Ionian Islands, Gibraltar, and Malta, is as much a power of the Mediterranean as France herself." The Duke of Chartre is to embark with the fleet, and afterwards to reign over the new conquest, holding thus on the African coast a sovereignty for the benefit of France, which may be considered as a counterpoise to that held by Leopold in Greece, for the benefit of Great Britain. Certainly, if two regular governments should be established in Greece on the Barbary Coast, piracy will for ever be annihilated, and the Mediterranean may become an emporium of commerce, especially since Egypt, by its new institutions, and by its intercourse with European Governments, bids fair to make progressive steps in the arts of civilization.

FRANCE.—Several actions for libel have been decided against the editors of the liberal press. The editor of the Globe has been condemned to an imprisonment of 4 months and a fine of 2000 francs, for an article entitled "France and the Bourbons;" the editor of the National to imprisonment for three months and a fine of 1000 francs, for an article all tending to bring the Bourbons into contempt.

UNITED STATES.

FREE BLACKS IN LOUISIANA.—We have before us the bill passed at the recent session of the Louisiana Legislature, which provides for the expulsion of free persons of color. It contains 17 sections, the purport of which is, that all free negroes, mulattoes, &c. and other free persons of color, who have come into the State since the 1st of Jan. 1825, in violation of the Act passed on the 14th of April 1827, or who may hereafter come into the State, shall be ordered to leave the same within 60 days, under penalty of one year's imprisonment at hard labor; and unless they depart in 30 days after the expiration of their sentence, the penalty shall be increased to imprisonment for life. An exception is made in favor of those holding property, on which they actually pay State taxes,—so far as to allow them one year before departure, on condition of giving security for their good behaviour, and that they will depart when the year has expired. Free persons of color who shall come into the State as seamen, &c. attached to any vessel, and who shall not depart with said vessel, provided she is destined for an outward voyage, or if not, who shall remain in the State longer than 15 days, are made liable to the same penalties as above provided. Free persons who shall knowingly bring or cause to be brought into the State, any free person of color, and shall hold him as a slave or offer to sell him as a slave, are made subject to a penalty of \$1000 for each offence, over and above the damages which may be recovered. Persons emancipating slaves are required to give bonds of \$1000 for each person so emancipated, conditioned on the permanent removal of the same from the State, within one month after the act of emancipation.

This law received the signature of the acting governor on the 16th of March; and of course, the sixty days granted for the departure of the persons mentioned, have nearly expired. The effect will be to drive them into other States. And what then? Will the other States consent to entertain an extra share of that species of population which is already a burden to them all? or will they follow the example of Louisiana, and expel them from their coasts? Perhaps neither. For there is one other alternative which will secure the double object of relieving us from the swarms of free blacks which surround us, and at the same time confer an immeasurable benefit

upon themselves. It is the simple project introduced into Congress by Mr. Mercer, of appropriating a certain sum per head from the national treasury, not exceeding \$50,000 per annum in the aggregate, for every free person of colour who shall be transported to Africa by the American Colonization Society. As the expense of transportation would not exceed \$20 per head, \$50,000 would remove from among us 2500 persons per annum. And as the country became sensible of the benefits resulting from this course, the appropriation might, without the least inconvenience to the treasury, be so far increased as to rid us entirely of our free black population. Louisiana, surely, after the steps she has taken, cannot refuse her consent to such an appropriation.—New-York paper.

LAKE ERIE.—It is peculiarly gratifying to notice the annual increase of business upon the waters of Lake Erie. The lake navigation commenced this spring much earlier than usual, and it has already assumed a degree of importance and activity, unequalled by that of any former period. Beside the numerous Schooners that constantly crowd our wharves waiting their several turns to load or unload, seven fine Steam-Boats have full and profitable employment. One of these Boats now leaves our harbour every morning, crowded with freight and passengers, destined to the fertile regions of the west. It is impossible to reflect on the almost incredible increase of business upon Lake Erie, for the last five, or six years, without indulging in what to some may appear extravagant anticipation of the future.

The map of the entire Globe does not present another sheet of water so strikingly peculiar as that of Lake Erie. It literally commands the navigable waters of North America. From the South, a Steam-boat has already ascended the Allegany to Warren, and a trifling improvement of the Chautauque outlet will enable Steam-boats from New-Orleans to approach within eight miles of Portland harbour. From the north, the vessels of Lake Ontario have already visited Lake Erie, through the Welland Canal and river. The same spirit of enterprise that produced the Welland Canal, it is believed, will soon be able to overcome the natural impediments to the navigation of the St. Lawrence, and open an easy and uninterrupted communication from Lake Erie, through Lake Ontario, to Montreal and Quebec. The ease with which a canal of sufficient capacity to pass Steam-boats, can be opened between Lake Michigan and the navigable waters of the Mississippi, is well known. This enterprise has been long agitated and will it be believed soon be accomplished. But this will not be the only channel of intercourse between Lake Erie and the Gulf of Mexico. From the southern shores of Lake Erie, the Ohio and Pennsylvania canals will open a communication through the Ohio river to the Mississippi.

Lake Erie, therefore, may be regarded as a great central reservoir, from which open in all directions the most extensive channels of inland navigation to be found in the world; enabling vessels of the lake to traverse the whole interior of the country, to visit the Atlantic at the north or in the south, and collect the products, the luxuries, and wealth, of every clime and country.—Buffalo Journal.

Two ladies after retiring to rest in New York recently, found a young man in their room.—On raising an alarm he ran, taking with him their bed clothes.

COLONIAL.

From the Halifax Royal Gazette, June 2. Rear-Admiral Sir CHARLES OGLE, has been relieved in the command of this Station, by Vice Admiral Coxe, who arrived at Bermuda, in His Majesty's Ship Winchester, on the 16th ult.

We have great pleasure in publishing an Address of the Inhabitants of Bermuda, to the Rear-Admiral, conveyed previous to his departure from that Island.—It contains an honorable and a just acknowledgment of the earnest and anxious solicitude at all times evinced by the excellent Officer to discharge most faithfully every duty connected with his high station. The inhabitants of this Province, we are quite confident, consider him deserving of every compliment which can be paid to him. The small number of Ships under his command have been kept actively employed on the coasts of Nova-Scotia and Newfoundland, in the St. Lawrence and Bay of Fundy, affording protection and assistance to the Commercial Interest in every quarter; and in determining, with great precision, the latitude and longitude of all the most important Points and Headlands—so important to Navigation. With the Legislatures of these Colonies he has exerted his influence in obtaining Appropriations for the erection of Light Houses in the Bay of Fundy and the St. Lawrence, which will greatly tend to the security of Shipping. He has also given his aid in placing the Pilotage of this Port under proper regulations, which must be attended with most beneficial consequences.—It is short he has fully fulfilled all his obligations to His Majesty's Government, and done every thing in his power to promote the prosperity of these Colonies.

From Nelson's Quebec Gazette, May 20. Mr. RONALD McDONALD, formerly Professor of English at the Quebec Seminary, and lately teacher at Riviere de Loup, (District of Three Rivers) is the gentleman appointed by His Excellency the Administrator in Chief, to learn the method of instructing the Deaf and Dumb, under the vote of the Legislature for that purpose. Mr. McDONALD left Montreal on Monday on his way to Hartford in the United States; the institution there having been selected in consequence of the system being taught in the English and French languages, and being that of the celebrated Abbe Sicard. Mr. McDONALD has received permission to visit the institution at New-York and Philadelphia, before settling himself at Hartford, where it is understood a residence of at least a year and uninterrupted application will be required to qualify him for the superintendance of a similar institution to be established in Lower-Canada. Those only who have witnessed the wonderful progress made by the Deaf and Dumb, under proper tuition, in all the branches of education, and even the distinguished eminence to which they have often attained in particular branches, can form an idea of the advantages of such an institution. In Canada the number of unfortunate individuals so situated is very considerable; the established proportion in other countries is about one in every 1000 souls. Education makes them useful instead of burthensome.

The Unicorn, the first arrival of the season, sailed from Quebec on Saturday morning for Liverpool, having a freight of 1,100 barrels ashes and 2,300 barrels of flour, despatched by the house of H.G. Forsyth & Co.

inland navigation, either by canals or railroads, and in the month of September in that year, when I published my second essay "on canals and inland navigation," wheat was at half a dollar a bushel, and the Burlington cut had not been commenced under the superintendency of Mr. Hall, now of Nova-Scotia. Very different, however, is the present state of the Province, and greatly improved are its prospects.—The Burlington Canal has been so far completed as to admit schooners and steamboats, drawing nine feet of water, into the bosom of the Lake in its rear; the Desjardins' Canal is in steady progress; the Rideau Canal, a vast chain of inland navigation, carried through 100 miles of new country, between Kingston, on Lake Ontario, and the great River Ottawa, above Montreal, will be completed next year; and the Erie and Ontario junction Canal, otherwise named the Welland, is now nearly ready to be opened permanently to the commerce of the vast country on both sides of the valley of the St. Lawrence. This is assuredly a cheering prospect to the Canadian. Instead of 1s. 10s. to 2s. 6s. per bushel for the superior wheat of this fertile Province, paid too often to the farmer in goods at double their value, we now find the miller and the merchant eagerly purchasing grain at 5s., and (in some places) even at 6s. currency, per 60 lbs. In 1824, there was to be found but one solitary steam-boat, the Frontena, on the British side of the Lake, which made sometimes two, often three and rarely four trips in the month between Kingston and Fort George—now there are some 8 or 10 light steamers, plying in every direction in quest of freight and passengers at moderate rates, and a considerable steam-boat proprietor is so much encouraged by the present aspect of affairs, that he has now on the stocks a steam ship on a new and elegant model, the estimated cost of which is £15,000.—Colonial Advocate.

THE NEW STEAM BOAT.—We have obtained the following information respecting Mr. John Hamilton's new boat, from a gentleman who lately left Prescott—it may be depended on. The Steam-boat now on the stocks in Prescott is to be built of a tonnage between 550 and 600 tons; her engines are to be of 80 horse power each; her length is to be 150 feet and her width 54 feet; it is expected that she will draw 10 feet of water when loaded; and about 9 feet when light. The expense is estimated at £15,000.—We are told, that her model is exceedingly handsome, and that when afloat she will make four trips a week between York, Niagara and Prescott, that is, two trips each way. Her engine is in a state of great forwardness.—Bennett and Henderson of Montreal are the makers. Mr. Hamilton intends that she shall make the passage between York and Kingston in 14 hours, which is ten less than the usual length of the voyage by steam between these ports.—Tb.

We have seen a calculation in which this year's export of wheat and flour from the Gore and Home Districts is estimated as equal to 250,000 bushels wheat, yielding to the growers and millers at least \$250,000.—Tb.

We are credibly informed that it is in contemplation to establish a religious newspaper in connexion with the Presbyterian Church in this province. The utility of such a paper to the Presbyterian interests in this province is sufficiently obvious when we take into consideration the powerful effects produced by papers of this description both here and in the United States, in the promulgation of the particular religious creeds to which they are devoted. The number, wealth, and respectability of the Presbyterians in this colony, we should think, would warrant the success of a paper, conducted on fair and liberal principles.—Brookville Recorder.

From the Bermuda Royal Gazette, May 11. We have in our present number, the painful duty of recording an event which, we believe, is unparalleled in the history of Bermuda, the condemnation of no fewer than five persons to death, at one Session of the Court of Justice. The sensation which such an occurrence creates can only be fully estimated by those who are familiar with the feelings and habits of this Colony,—who recollect the extreme rarity of atrocious offences here; where we believe there have been but two executions, within the last thirty years; and the consequent reluctance with which our Courts and Juries are at any time constrained, we may say, in doing a fellow creature to death. When the necessity however does arise, feeling must give way to duty, and the guilty must be taught, even by the sad spectacle of ignominious death, that the laws of the Country and the peace of society are not to be violated with impunity. Our readers will find in another column the details of these distressing cases. They have all arisen among the convicts transported hither from England, to labor upon the Public Works, at the Naval Yard; and among whom, latterly, disturbances of a violent nature have so frequently occurred as to create very serious apprehensions. From what was said by several of those who were tried in Court, it appears a notice had got abroad among them, that they could not be tried for any offence committed in Bermuda, without being discharged from their former sentence, under which they were transported. This atrocious idea was confirmed by the circumstance of Parker and Diamond, two whose offences were committed so long ago as 1828 and 1829, not being sooner brought to trial, in consequence as we understand, of the deficiency of some documentary evidence required from England, and which had only been recently obtained. Having daily opportunities of witnessing their own strength and numbers, we need not say what dangerous results were likely to proceed from such an expectation of impunity; altho' counteracted by the most vigilance and firmness of the officers of the establishment. We believe it was very generally considered by those best acquainted with their condition, that nothing would eradicate this mistake from the minds of the convicts, until some example was made among them.—We do hope, and trust, that the fate of these convicts will have a salutary effect upon the minds of the others—and teach them that here, as well as in England, their excesses will be controlled.—Their offences were the commission of Assault on officers of the several convict ships. On Thursday, His Excellency the Governor called a Meeting of the Privy Council.—Three of the youngest of the culprits, Simonds, Carny, and Carr, had their sentence commuted into transportation for life to New South Wales, and were sent to England for that purpose in H. M. Ship Tyne, which sailed on Friday.—Parker and Diamond were ordered for execution; and were to have been removed from the Hamilton Gaol, to Ireland Island yesterday morning, for that purpose.—They are to suffer the last penalty of the Law, on an embankment in the Naval Yard, near the scene of their offence, and within sight of the Convicts on board the Bicentenary, Commodore, Antelope, and Waymouth.

From the same, May 18. PARKER AND DIAMOND.—These unfortunate individuals suffered the last and penalty of the law, on Ireland Island, on Wednesday last.

It is with pleasure we learn, that a number of the most respectable inhabitants of the Turks Islands, have

resolved themselves into a Society, for the suppression of the use of ardent Spirits, so destructive to the health and morals of that little Community. A Meeting took place on the 20th April, when the Officers were elected for the present year.

Arrived.—Saturday last, H. M. S. Winchester, Capt. AUSTIN, from Nassau, bearing the Flag of Vice Admiral E. G. COLBOYS. The North American States are now united, and Admiral Colboys has the Command.—The Winchester sailed from England on the 13th Feb., and arrived at Barbadoes 15th March, at Jamaica 25th, and sailed from the latter place for Nassau, on the 6th April. The Flag of Vice Admiral Colboys, has been removed for the present from the Winchester to the Rose. The former vessel sails first fair wind for Jamaica. At Nassau on the 4th inst., H. M. S. Barham, bearing the Flag of Vice Admiral Fleming, Blom, Sparrowhawk, Hyacinth and Gradshepper.

The North Star, Capt. Sir C. PAGET, may be heavily expected from England, in the Havana.

The Blanche, with Commodore FANQUHAN, may be looked for in June.

H. M. S. Sparrowhawk, captured on the 10th April, off St. Jago de Cuba, a Spanish Vessel with 108 Slaves on board, and sent her late Havana for adjudication.

From the New-York Atlas, May 29. BAHAMA.—NASSAU, N. P. papers to the 12th inst. inform us that His Excellency Sir James Carmichael Smith, Governor of the Islands, has dismissed from office the Hon. John Lewis, an Assistant Judge, Robert Descombe, Esq. William Van, Esq. and John Anderson, Esq. for ordering corporal punishment to be inflicted upon eight women, runaway slaves, which His Excellency pronounces a "disgrace to humanity." The dismissed Judge and Magistrate have published a vindication of the sentences they passed, in which they state the women were exceeding unruly before the Court.

The Preliminary of Sir James C. Smyth, Gov. of the Bahamas, on the subject of the punishment of certain slaves belonging to the estate of Lord Rolle at Exuma, have reached us since the notice on another page was put in type; and from them we gather reasons for the suppression of Judge Lewis, and the removal of the magistrates named, that they had directed by summary process five of the men to be publicly flogged, with 50 lashes each, and one boy and eight women to receive each 30 lashes in the work-house, two of the women having infangas at the breast, and one approaching that state; but that according to an existing law of the islands, for the terms of which they think responsible—that the slaves were runaway of bad character, or within his knowledge, been applied to the back of man, woman or child among us; they affirm that they acted in the present case according to an existing law of the islands, for the terms of which they think responsible—that the slaves were runaway of bad character in all respects—that there was no evidence of the offence of inhumanity, &c. now alleged against them; and Mr. Anderson declares that in the 48 years in which he has been a planter, owning a large number of slaves, not the weight of a pack-thread has ever by his direction, or within his knowledge, been applied to the back of man, woman or child among us; they affirm that they acted in the present case according to an existing law of the islands, for the terms of which they think responsible—that the slaves were runaway of bad character in all respects—that there was no evidence of the offence of inhumanity, &c. now alleged against them; and Mr. Anderson declares that in the 48 years in which he has been a planter, owning a large number of slaves, not the weight of a pack-thread has ever by his direction, or within his knowledge, been applied to the back of man, woman or child among us; they affirm that they acted in the present case according to an existing law of the islands, for the terms of which they think responsible—that the slaves were runaway of bad character in all respects—that there was no evidence of the offence of inhumanity, &c. now alleged against them; 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