quired in the two Railway Acts of last Session, and to report thereon by Bill; and that the same committee be also instructed to consider all Railway applications now before the House, or that may hereafter be made, and to report thereon by Bill or otherwise.

3d. *Resolved*, As the opinion of this committee, that the Message of His Excellency the Governor of the 6th February instant, on the subject of the Imperial copy Right Act, with the Despatches accompanying it, should be referred by the House to a select committee to report thereon by Bill or otherwise.

4th. *Resolved*, As the opinion of this committee, that the various Documents laid before the house on the 9th February instant, by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, relative to the River Saint John, should be referred by the House to the committee on Navigation appointed on the 29th January last.

5th. *Resolved*, As the opinion of this committee, that the Documents laid before the house by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on the 13th February instant, in answer to an Address, praying for certain information relative to a Grant of two thousand acres of Land made in 1845, to Samuel Proudfoot Hurd, Esquire, should be referred by the house to a select committee to report thereon; and that additional information should be sought for by the house from the Executive Government, relative to the grounds upon which the Minute of council of the 21st March, 1842, recognizing the claim of the said S. P. Hurd to said Grant was then made.

6th. *Resolved*, As the opinion of this committee, that the Message of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the 12th February instant, in answer to an Address of this house, relative to the defective organization of the court of Marriage and Divorce, should be referred by the house to a select committee to report thereon; and that the house should respectively seek further information from the Executive Government, as to whether any written communications have passed between the Government and the Master of the Rolls on the subject, and if so that they be prayed for, to be laid before the house.

The committee to whom were referred the Petition of Henry T. Partelow, praying remuneration for losses alleged to have been sustained by him on account of certain Lands granted to him having been previously granted, Report—

That in reference to the Petition presented to this House on the 5th instant, the Petitioner, so long ago as 1828, obtained a Grant of two hundred acres of Land in the Parish of Lancaster, in the county of St. John, having paid for the Survey and Patent; that several years afterwards being about to convey this Land for the consideration of one hundred and fifty pounds, it was discovered that the title had previously passed from the crown by virtue of an old Grant, under the Great Seal of Nova Scotia, of which, however, there existed no record in the crown Land Office of this Province; that the Assigns of the original Grantee is and has been for several years in actual possession, and that the Petitioner has derived no benefit for his Land Grant; under these circumstances, your committee consider it only just to refund the sum originally paid by the Petitioner, to compensate him for the expense of the Survey, and to remunerate him for interest on his disbursement up to the year 1836, at which time it appears that the land passed from under his control. They therefore recommend that the sum of forty five pounds be granted to him.

In reference to the Petition presented to the House on the 6th instant, your committee, on a full investigation of the case, cannot discover the existence of any legal obstacle preventing the Petitioner from availing himself of the Grant which is already passed to him, and are of opinion, that no parts of the Land described in the same is included in the Grant to Nathan Freeborn: they therefore cannot recommend that the prayer of the Petition be complied with.

Tuesday, 16th February, 1847.

Mr. Botsford, by leave presented a Petition from Rufus Cole, George Lawrence, John Thomson, and thirty two others, inhabitants of Sackville, in the county of Westmorland, praying aid to enable them to support a Courier between the Post Office at that place and the North Joggins, in the same Parish; which he read.

Mr. Barberie, by leave, presented a Petition from Frances M. Hunter, widow of the late Joseph Hunter, of Dalhousie, Land surveyor and Deputy commissioner of Lands and seizing officer, in the county of Restigouche, praying aid to assist her under her present distressed circumstances: which he read.

Mr. Connell, by leave, presented a Petition from the Justices of Peace for the county of Carlton, setting forth certain expenses that had been necessarily incurred by reason of their Gaol having been destroyed by fire, and praying relief in the premises; which he read. Petition received and referred to a select committee to report thereon.

Mr. Hayward, by leave, presented a Petition from Darby Gillan, a settler on the Nerepis Road, praying to be compensated for services performed in removing wind falls and breaking roads on the said Line; which he read. Petition received and referred to the committee appointed.

Mr. End, by leave, presented a Petition from Alexander Anderson, Tide Waiter at the Port of Bathurst, in the county of Gloucester, praying an increase of salary commensurate with the increased duties of his office; which he read. Referred to the committee of trade to report thereon.

Mr. Partelow, by leave, presented a Petition from the Rev. Alexander M'Leod Stavely, Minister of the Reformed Presbyterian church at the city of St. John, and the Rev. James R. Lawson, Minister of the same church at St. Martins, in the county of Saint John, praying for certain alterations in the existing Marriage Acts: which he read. Petition received and lie on the table.

Mr. Barberie, by leave, presented a Petition from Rose Harquoil, of Dalhousie, in the county of Restigouche, widow of the late John Harquoil, praying aid to assist her under the present distressed circumstances occasioned by the ravages of the Small Pox last summer, which carried off her Husband, and left her with a helpless family, without the means of procuring Seed Grain or Potatoes for the ensuing Season: which he read. Ordered that the said Petition be received and referred to the committee of supply.

Mr. Hannington, by leave, presented a Petition from Wm. C. Smith, Esquire, and fifty two others, inhabitants of Shediac, in the county of Westmorland, praying aid towards rebuilding the Public Wharf at that place, which was destroyed by a violent gale in November last; which he read. Petition received and lie on the table.

Wednesday, February 17, 1847.

On motion of Mr. Connell, the House went into committee of the whole on a Bill to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the county of Carleton to levy an assessment for the erection of a new Gaol in the said county, and to pay off the contingent and other county Expences.

Mr. Steves, by leave, presented a Petition from George Rodgers, George Hamilton, and fourteen others, Merchants, ship-owners, and ship-masters, of the county of Albert, praying that measures may be had for the erection of a Light House at Apple River Harbour, in the Province of Nova Scotia; which he read. Ordered, that the said Petition be received and referred to the committee on Light Houses to report thereon.

Mr. Ritchie, by leave, presented a Petition from Thomas Caffry, Daniel Pettingell, John M'Wyaney, and fourteen others, Freeholders, and inhabitants at Maces Bay, in the Parish of Pennfield, in the county of Charlotte, praying that a certain portion of the county of Charlotte may be united to the city and county of Saint John, for the reasons therein set forth; which he read. Ordered, that the said Petition be received and lie on the table.

Mr. Carman moved for leave to bring in a Bill to establish the Road leading from the Post office in Chatham through part of the Parish of Nelson, opposite to Beaubear's Point, a part of one of the Great Roads of the Province.

Leave granted.

On motion of Mr. Hannington, the House went into a committee of the whole on a Bill to establish the Road leading from Shediac to the Nova Scotia Line, via Shemogue, Bay de Verte, and Jolicure, as one of the Great Roads of the Province. The chairman reported, that the committee had the Bill referred to them under their consideration and agreed to the same.

On motion of Mr. Brown, Ordered, that the House do on Monday next, the 22nd day of February instant, resolve itself into a committee of the whole on a bill to establish and regulate the Registry of the electors of Members to serve in the General Assembly of this Province.

Mr. Steves, by leave, presented a Petition from Isaac Turner, of the Parish of Harvey, in the county of Albert, setting forth, that in consequence of a fraud practised upon him he took legal proceedings by indictment to bring the parties to Justice and praying, for the reasons set forth in his Petition, to be reimbursed the expenses of that Prosecution; which he read. Petition received and referred to a select committee to report thereon.

Mr. Read, by leave presented a Petition from the Right Reverend William Dollard, Roman catholic Bishop of New Brunswick, praying for a return of Duties paid on certain articles imported during the last summer for the use of the poor and destitute Churches in the Province: which he read. Ordered, that the said Petition be received and referred to the committee of trade to report thereon.

Mr. Wark moved for leave to bring in a Bill to establish the Road from the head of Richibucto River to the Bend of Petitcodiac, one of the Great Roads of communication.

Thursday, 18th February, 1847.

Mr. Read, by leave, presented a Petition from Francis Elliot, of Newcastle, in the county of Northumberland, the contractor for building the Bridge over Bathurst Bason, in the county of Gloucester, praying that a Grant may pass for the payment of the balance due on the contract; which he read. Ordered, that the said Petition be received and referred to the committee appointed to take into consideration the sums required for the improvement of the Roads throughout the Province to report thereon.

Mr. Taylor moved for leave to bring in a Bill to authorize her Majesty's Justices of Peace for the county of York to levy an assessment to pay off the Debt due on the new Gaol recently erected in the said county. Leave granted. The said Bill being brought in was read a first time.

Mr. Taylor moved for leave to bring in bill to authorize her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of York to levy an assessment for the payment of the officers of the said county. Leave granted. The said bill being brought in was read a first time.

Mr. Taylor moved for leave to bring in a Bill to authorize Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the county of York to levy an assessment to pay off the county Debt. Leave granted. The said bill being brought in was read a first time.

Mr. Brown moved for leave to bring in a Bill to amend and extend the Provisions of an Act, intituled "An Act to incorporate the St. Andrews and Quebec Railroad company." Leave granted.—The said bill being brought in was read a first time.

Mr. Boyd, by leave, presented a Petition from Francis Hibbard, the occupier of a saw mill on the Popologan River, in the Parish of Pennfield, in the county of Charlotte, praying that a Lease or Licence may be granted to him for a period of five years to lumber on Lands in the vicinity of his Mill, for the reasons set forth in his Petition; which he read.—Ordered, that the said Petition be received and referred to the committee appointed to take into consideration all matters affecting the Lumbering Interests of the Province, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. Barberie, Ordered, that the Order of the Day made on Wednesday the third day of February instant, for taking into consideration the several matters contained in the Petition of Bartholomew R. Fitzgerald, Esquire, complaining of the undue election and return of James Boyd, Esquire, as a Member for the county of Charlotte, be enlarged until ——— the ——— day of February instant, at the hour of twelve o'clock at noon of the same day, then to stand as the order of the Day for the House to proceed thereon.

The question being taken thereon, the House divided Yeas 12. Nays 15. And it being thereupon decided in the negative.

It being the time appointed for taking into consideration the Petition of Bartholomew R. Fitzgerald, Esquire, complaining of the undue election and return of James Boyd, Esquire, as a Member of the county of Charlotte, and praying that the same may be inquired into:—

The sergeant at arms was directed to call the Members to their places, and he being returned the House was counted, when twenty-seven Members were found to be in attendance. Ordered, thereupon, that the parties be heard at the Bar.

Whereupon the Petitioner appeared by George J. Thomson Esq. as his counsel, and Richard M. Andrews, Esq., appeared as counsel on behalf of the sitting Member, and the doors being then locked—

The Order of the Day for the hearing of the several matters set forth in the said Petition was read; and the drawing of the committee, and appointment of the Nominees to try the matters, as set forth in the said Petition, were proceeded in and perfected, as it is directed by the Act regulating controverted Elections and returns of Members to serve in the General Assembly.

The doors being then opened, the lists, as drawn were delivered to the counsel for the respective parties, with the Nominees added thereto; and the same being struck, a reduced list of the Members drawn with the Nominees so added, was then handed in, when the following appeared as Members of the committee:—Robert D. Wilmot, Alexander Rankin, Thomas Baillie, John Smith, David Wark, Esquires.

Nominees:—William J. Ritchie, Esq., Nominee for the Petitioner; John R. Partelow, Esquire, Nominee for the sitting Member; who being called to the Clerk's table, were there duly sworn well and truly to try the several matters of the said Petition referred to them, and a true judgment give thereon according to the evidence. The counsel were then ordered to withdraw.

On motion of Mr. Barberie, Ordered, that the said committee do meet forthwith in the committee Room on the left of the Room leading into the Library, and proceed with the investigation of the matters alleged in the said Petition; and that lists of the committee sworn, together with copies of this order, be delivered to the respective counsel.

Pine and Spruce TIMBER, and
RAILWAY SLEEPERS.

PARTIES desirous of Contracting to deliver a quantity of PINE and SPRUCE TIMBER in the Months of May and June next, of specific dimensions; Also—100,000 Hackmatac RAILWAY SLEEPERS, to be delivered in April, May, June, July, and August next—will please apply to either of the Subscribers for terms and particulars.

Jan. 22. THOMAS CORAM. NATHANIEL HICKS.

SALT & COAL.

1000 BAGS Liverpool SALT, and 120 chaldrons best ORREL COAL, on board ship *Orbit*, at North slip. For sale low while landing.

Jan. 1. J. & S. FAIRWEATHER.

BOATS FOR SALE.

ONE each of the undermentioned Boats are offered for sale on reasonable terms by the subscriber, Lower Cove, viz:—
42 feet GIG BOAT; 18 feet do.; 16 feet do.;
22 do. LONG BOAT; 19 feet do.;
20 do. PINNACE; 20 do. QUARTER BOAT;
16 do. YAWL; 17 feet ditto; 20 do. Qr. Boat.
These BOATS are all Copper Fastened, and built by the subscriber of the very best materials.

Dec. 24. FRANCIS MARVEN.

ACCOMODATION SLED,
For Passengers and Freight, between St. John & Fredericton.

THE Subscriber has commenced running a Sled between St. John and Fredericton by the ice; leaving St. John every THURSDAY, and FREDERICTON every MONDAY.

Orders left at the Commercial Hotel, St. John, or at FRADSHAW'S Hotel, FREDERICTON, will receive attention.

Jan. 15. N. D. VAIL.

☞ Blanks, Handbills, and Job Printing of all kinds, executed at the Chronicle Office at lowest prices.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, FEBRUARY 26, 1847.

The February Mail from England arrived here on Monday night at 11 o'clock, by the Eastern coach from Halifax, it having been due since noon of that day. The steamer had a full compliment of passengers; and it is stated that so great was the number of applicants for passages to America, that many were left behind. A memorial has in consequence been addressed to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, requesting them to forward a supplementary packet on the 19th of February and March respectively.

The distress in Ireland continues to an alarming extent; and the inhabitants of the seaport towns of England, trading with Ireland, are becoming alarmed at the enormous influx of paupers from Ireland. Between the 13th and 25th of January, 10,724 passengers from Ireland, came to Liverpool in a state of destitution,—of these 6368 were men, 2533 women, and 1833 children. The number of Irish poor receiving relief from the town of Liverpool alone, on the first day above named, was over 13,000, while on the latter day it had increased to 26,000. A memorial has been forwarded to Parliament by the Mayor and Magistrates of the Borough setting forth the facts of the case, and that in addition to their own heavy poor rates, they are willing to do all in their power to mitigate the sufferings of the Irish poor; yet they earnestly hope that Parliament will not separate without enacting a law, by which in future the people of Ireland, like the people of England, will be compelled to make provision for the wants of their own poor.

O'Connell is in London, having gone over to demand payment of £50,000,000, which he alleges to be due by England to Ireland!—The repeal star is fast setting—the rent of the latest week being announced as £15 16s 2d.

Flour has fallen 4s per barrel upon the advanced prices, and other bread stuffs in proportion.—The Timber market remains in the same position as at former advices.

Between the 18th and 25th January, the following quantities of provisions were imported into Liverpool:—113,576 barrels flour, 20,209 barrels corn meal; 122,558 bushels, 16,207 sacks, 10,076 bags, 100 barrels indian corn; 60,292 bushels, 2866 sacks, 574 bags wheat; 5,056 bushels, 250 bags of barley; 250 bags buckwheat; 674 sacks rye; 728 barrels, 181 boxes bread; 927 kegs, 118 tubs butter, 6367 boxes, 1036 casks cheese; 911 tierces, 498 casks, 357 bags rice; 4500 quarters, 166 barrels, 456 bags beans; 2750 quarters, 285 bags, 57 casks peas; 1756 barrels beef and pork; 260 bbls hams; 400 packages onions; 8196 kegs, 617 bbls lard; 60 packages bacon.—This enormous influx of provisions has been going on for some time, and in relation to the matter a Liverpool paper remarks—"The quantity is truly astounding, and it must be evident to every one, that if these enormous supplies were allowed to come fairly into play, it would be impossible for the present market prices to be maintained. But what is the fact? We learn from yesterday's corn market return, that the number of barrels of flour upon which duty was paid during the week ending the 19th instant, was *fifty three!* We may therefore repeat our question of last week—Where does it all go? And the answer must be, that instead of going into consumption at a moderate, or rather at a handsome profit, to the relief of the general distress, it goes into the hands of speculators, who expect in the end to realize exorbitant and usurious returns. But a day of reckoning may come, and there are significant intimations that it is not far off. In the Liverpool Corn Exchange yesterday, wheat and barley each declined 2d to 3d per bushel, and flour 1s 6d to 2s per barrel and sack. Our accounts from Ireland show that the markets there were giving way; and from Scotland we have similar reports, the effect there being attributed to intelligence from London anticipating 'a crisis at no distant day, when the crash will tell fearfully on large holders.'"

REFORMATION IN DUBLIN.—The good work goes on most prosperously in Dublin. We have now the gratification to announce that in St. Audeon's, on Sunday, eleven persons were added to the church. Mr. Scott announced that he should receive another class of persons on the first Sunday in march next. One of the young men, who was intended for the Romish priesthood, and who is nearly allied to a distinguished and noble family in the south of Ireland, has addressed a letter to his friends, in which he assigns a few of his reasons for the vital step he has taken. No doubt, many of his relatives will follow his good example.—*Dublin Ev. Her.*

BANK CIRCULATION.—The Bank of England return for the week to Saturday last gives the notes issued at £28,258,260, a decrease on the previous return of £183,770. The notes reserved were to the amount of £8,227,085, a decrease of £586,590. The active circulation, therefore, exhibits an increase of about £400,000. The bullion in both departments amounted to £14,951,572, a decrease of £115,119. It must be remembered that the dividend payments only commenced this week, and, consequently, we may assume that the amounts sent away to the United States and the continent begin to tell upon the Bank coffers. The Rest had increased by £22,451; the public deposits were less by £350,600, and the other deposits larger by £207,787. The seven day and other bills were increased by £13,611, and the other securities by 416,915. The exports of the precious metals from London during the week were 42,000 oz. of silver coin to Belgium. The Foreign Exchanges were heavy again on Friday afternoon. Amsterdam was lower, as also Hamburg and Frankfort, but Paris seemed a little firmer.

THE MILITARY.—STRANGE CASE.—A circumstance of a singular character has transpired at Bury within the last few days, which causes considerable interest amongst the respectable inhabitants in that neighbourhood. They will be gleaned from the following statements given in evidence. On Wednesday last, at the Police-station, Bury, before Richard Walker, Esq., M. P., and Abraham Wood, Esq., magistrates, a respectable looking individual, who appeared about thirty years of age, named Frederick Mundell, lately a lieutenant in the 69th regiment of foot, was brought up under a warrant, on a charge of using bad language to Major William Blackburn, of the same regiment, now stationed at Bury barracks, a gentleman apparently about forty years of age. The prisoner, who had been apprehended on Monday evening at Rugby, sold his commission in September last, and had, it is stated, been on the "spree" in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and other counties, since that time. It appears that on Saturday last he called at the Bury barracks, and requested to see Major Blackburn. The request was communicated to the major, but he refused to see him. The same day Mr. Blackburn went to the police, and afterwards to Mr. Walker, magistrate, and requested to have a warrant against Mr Mundell, saying that about seven months ago he had some words with him at Leeds, arising out of his having reprimanded him for his conduct in the army; upon which Mr. Mundell said he would have satisfaction. Mr. Walker declined to grant a warrant, and he then applied to Mr. Grundy, another magistrate, but also without success. On Sunday morning, Mundell again made his appearance at the barracks, and, meeting with Mr. Hollis, the quarter master, told him he wanted to see his old friend the major. He was again refused, on which he said it was a pity Mr. Blackburn was afraid to see him, as they had been in the regiment together upwards of ten years and he had travelled above 1,500 miles on the railway to have some conversation with him. The lieutenant appeared agitated, and left the barracks.—Constable Hunt, stationed at Bury, said that on Saturday last he went to Manchester by railway, in a first class carriage; the prisoner was also in the same carriage. They entered into conversation on various things; and, on arriving at Manchester, they went to the Brunswick Hotel, where they dined together, each paying his own expenses. Whilst having their glasses together, the prisoner said he had been to Bury barracks, intending to horsewhip the major, or have some revenge. In cross examination by the prisoner, the police-officer admitted that he was in plain clothes, and represented himself as being a Mr. Smith, the son of a cotton spinner at Dewsbury, who employed 33 agents.—Major Blackburn having been sworn said, that from what the policeman had stated and other circumstances that had transpired while the prisoner was in the army, he was afraid that Mr. Mundell would do him some bodily harm. The prisoner was ordered to be bound himself in 200*l.*, and find two sureties of 100*l.* each, to keep the peace for two years. He said he was a stranger, and had no friends in this part of the country. In default of sureties he was committed to prison until bail could be procured.—*Manchester Guardian.*

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The Repealers had their weekly gathering on Monday, as usual. All was dull and stale, but not quite so unprofitable as usual—the rent amounting to £119. £5 of this sum comes from the islands of Arran, where the people, they say, are dying like rotten sheep. This does not require a word of comment.

A NEW ERA IN STEAM NAVIGATION.—In previous numbers of this journal we have drawn attention to the inventions of Mr. Stephen R. Parkhurst of New York, for which he has obtained patents in England, and other parts of Europe, and also in America. Yesterday we were shown, by a practical engineer, the design of a steam engine, invented also by this gentleman, the construction of which is so simple, so powerful, and so direct that several engineers and machinists assert that it will supersede the present steam-engines, both on land and water. For the turning of the steam-ship propellers this engine is admirably adapted; its action is direct upon each shaft of the propeller, leaving the entire hold of the vessel free of the bulky machinery which now fills so much valuable space in steamers—the boilers and coal occupying but a small space of the hold of the ship. Several features will distinguish Mr. Parkhurst's "Steam-ship Propeller and Direct Marine Steam engine," amongst which, economy of time, of fuel, and other items, will form a large saving in the present expenditure of steam navigation. It is proposed to bring these important inventions immediately into operation in this country, for which a company is now forming, with a view of testing, upon a large and practical scale their utility. In company, a few evenings since, with a party of nautical gentlemen of New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, it was asserted that, before long, steam ships would leave Liverpool daily, running alternately to New York, Boston, and Philadelphia. And why not? There are now already, upon a rough calculation at least from three to four hundred vessels leaving Liverpool annually for the above-mentioned ports; and by the application of Mr. Parkhurst's inventions they can readily be converted into steam-ships at a comparatively small expense.

OUR STEAM NAVY.—There are 156 steamers afloat, of which 43 are not yet completed—27 of which are for paddles, and 16, with an aggregate power of 6644 horses, or an average of 415¼ horse power each vessel, for screws. The Terrible and Fervent, each 1842 tons, are the largest steamers in the navy. They are both paddle steamers, and, with the Retribution, 1640 tons, have engines of 800 horse power each. The Simoon is a screw steamer with the greatest power, 780 horses; the Vulcan (screw), has 700 horse power; the Euphrates and Tergament 620 horse power each; the Dauntless 580 horse power; the Greenock, 510 horse power, and many more have 400, 300, 200, and 100 horse power.

Relief Funds for the starving Irish and Scotch.—The metropolitan committee, composed of the Lord Mayor and about twenty private gentleman, is called the British Association for the relief of extreme distress in the remote parishes of Ireland and Scotland. To this committee the subscriptions of her Majesty, the Royal family, and most of the nobility, are entrusted. The total amount advertised last Thursday was a trifle short of £100,000. Steamers have been gratuitously placed at the disposal of the committee, both by the Admiralty, by the City of Dublin Company, and by the Peninsular and Oriental Company. The use of North Western, Great Western, and Southampton Railways has been handsomely offered for the free transmission of supplies to Liverpool, Bristol, and Southampton. Government have lent them a depot at Cork, and vessels are being despatched to Cork Bantry, Dingle, Kinsale, Westport, &c. The provisions are under the charge of a naval officer empowered to give them, or to sell them to relief committees, at his discretion.

MILITARY CHARITY.—It is pleasing to mention that among the many subscriptions got up for the relief of the poor in Ireland, the small detachment of the 69th Foot stationed here (about sixty or seventy men) have subscribed 38s., which, like the widow's mite, is much to them, their pay being only thirteen pence per diem, out of which they pay for messing, clothing, &c., leaving but a very small balance to gratify the feeling of benevolence as done in this instance.

IRELAND.—A social revolution is palpably and rapidly going forward in Ireland, and the question as to how it will end must very soon absorb public attention. It never was more necessary than it is now for Englishmen to understand the actual condition of the sister country, and yet there is a peculiar danger of their being misled at the present time, from the nature of the intelligence which every post furnishes. Symptoms of social disorganization are unhappily frequent and increasing. Outrages upon life and property, the purchase of arms by the peasantry (though the accounts of this are plainly much exaggerated), fraudulent abuses of the system of public works, a vast expenditure of money, and a ruinous neglect of those agricultural operations on which the supply of food for next year depends,—these, and other evidences of wilful, wanton, and fatuitous disregard of the conditions of public safety on the part of the Irish people, so crowd upon us and so excite our indignation, that we are in danger of forgetting the primary cause of so much evil. But we shall commit a deplorable error, if we do really forget what is in the background of that frightful picture, of which the most prominent and vivid features are the crimes and disorders of a comparatively few. Behind and beyond the crimes and the abuses lies the terrible fact of real and shocking destitution. In spite of public works, relief committees, and poor houses, numbers are slowly dying of hunger. In the west and south-west of Ireland famine is doing its terrible work. A single post informs us of eight inquests in one county upon persons who died for want of food. The existence of such distress, so soon after a harvest, confirms the most unfavourable estimates as to the extent of that destruction of food which has actually taken place. The nature and inevitable consequences of that calamity have as yet been very insufficiently considered, or we should have been better prepared for the alarming turn which matters are now taking in Ireland.—*Morning Chronicle.*

The New House of Lords.—It was generally expected that their Lordships would meet in their new house on the assembling of Parliament, but it is now ascertained that the decorations and embellishments, which are of the most magnificent description, cannot be completed in sufficient time. Consequently the Peers will for a short period continue to sit in the present house.

The most remarkable circumstance attending the opening of Parliament was the reception given by the populace of the metropolis to the Duke of WELLINGTON. Unlike the "greasy rogues" who infested the Capitol in the days of CORIOLANUS, the London mob appears to possess a sound discretion and a most undoubted judgment. Englishmen naturally give "honour to whom honour is due," and when the Duke of WELLINGTON appeared in the midst of the immense crowds which thronged every step of procession, from Buckingham Palace to St. Stephen's riding on horseback, attended by a single groom, instead of the welkin being rent by shouts of exultation at the presence of the greatest conqueror of modern times, the populace maintained a deep and condemnatory silence. Many a head was out-stretched to catch a glimpse of "the hero of a hundred fights;" but no voice cried "God bless him." That speaking silence must have struck a deeper reproach to the heart of the Duke, for his participation in the Peel treachery of last Session, than the most powerful reproaches or the most cutting sarcasm.

IMPORTANT TO THE COLONIES.

LIVERPOOL, February 4.

COLONIAL CENTRALISATION.—There are strong grounds for believing that ministers contemplate extensive changes in the government of the colonies. We are informed that the following may be taken as part, at least, of the plans now under consideration:—That all the possessions in North America shall be placed under one head, namely, a viceroy, with Quebec for the seat of government. The governors of the different provinces to be located at Toronto, Fredericton, Halifax, St. John, and Charlotte Town. That the like system of centralisation is to be extended to the West India Islands, the viceroy to reside in Jamaica, and each island to have its own governor. Each province and island respectively, to have its own legislature for strictly local purposes, and have the privilege of sending representatives to general legislative assemblies in Quebec or Jamaica, or in our imperial parliament. It is thought, should these changes be carried out, that Prince George of Cambridge will be appointed to the viceroyalty of British North America.—*Weekly Times.*

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT.—We make the following extracts from a leading article in the 'Morning Chronicle,' which may be presumed to speak officially on the subject:—"We understand that Lord Grey has sent dispatches to the Governors of colonies and dependencies who have held their appointments for six years or more, informing them that he will observe the rule which was laid down by Sir G. Murray, when Secretary of State for the Colonies, viz.—that six years shall be the duration of a governor's appointment. His lordship, it is said, he also intimated that the successors of such governors will be forthwith appointed, and may be appointed within three months from the receipt of the despatches.—This very vigorous measure is a sufficient proof, that the head of the Colonial Office has no disposition to slumber at his post.—The appointment of new governors to certain of our colonies at the present time will no doubt, greatly contribute to the carrying out of Lord Grey's plans of colonial reform but this motive would not justify the adoption of the principle on which he is about to act, if it were on general grounds open to objection. Of course it does by means follows that because a colonial governor holds his appointment for six years he is then to quit the public service. On the contrary, we must presume that a governor who has proved himself efficient will rather find the change an occasion for promotion, a system of wise and honest administration, which would hold out to all colonial governors a prospect of this kind, would be found in the highest degree efficacious in developing the almost boundless resources of our colonial empires."

EUROPEAN CORN TRADE.

LONDON.—The buoyancy which has prevailed in the markets for some time past has disappeared. Sales are only to a limited extent, and prices are on the decline. This welcome state of things began to show itself on the 18th ultimo, when the previous currency for Wheat and Flour could hardly be supported. The announcement made in Parliament on the evening of the 19th, that all foreign Grain would be admitted free of duty, caused the trade to be very flat and a general disinclination to purchase. On the 22nd, Wheat was in moderate demand at previous currency. Last week the market was much more dull, and continued in that position on the 25th and 27th. On the 29th, Wheat declined 1s to 2s per quarter, the market closing heavily.—Flour, as a matter of course, was only in a limited demand, and prices have receded from our last quotations some 2s per barrel. There was a good show of English Wheat, fresh up for the market held on the 1st inst., the condition of which was rather inferior, and business commenced languidly, indeed hardly a sale was made until one of the leading factors submitted to a decline of 4s to 5s. per quarter; this reduction was, however not generally submitted to, and a considerable quantity remained unsold. Foreign wheat was held at prices barely 1s to 2s per quarter lower, but the transactions was restricted. The top price of Flour of town manufacture remains the same, but ship samples, and American receded 1s to 2s per sack and barrel.—There is little alteration in Indian Corn, the quantity on show being very limited. The proceedings at Mark-lane, yesterday, Feb. 3, were very unimportant; few sales either of Wheat or Flour were effected, but no change worthy of notice took place in prices, although they are reported as having a continued declining tendency.

LIVERPOOL.—During the last eight or ten days we have had enormous arrivals of Grain, and Grain produce, from the United States and ports of British North America; besides which, several quantities of Wheat and Indian Corn have been received from the Continent of Europe. In our markets here, on the 22nd ult., we had but a moderate business transacted in Wheat, and could not vary the quotations stated in our last. Free Flour also moved off slowly without alteration in value, and with less inquiry for bonded parcels, prices rather declined. Indian corn and Egyptian Beans rather exceed our late currency; of the former some large sales were made, and the market is again pretty nearly bare. As a whole, there was only a limited amount of transactions, little done upon speculation, and scarcely any thing reported in floating cargoes of any description. The business done during the week ending January 29, was firm, and at rather improving rates, but upon that day the sales of wheat proceeded rather slowly; at the same time, although the principal holders were mostly firm, a decline of 2d per 70lb was in several instances conceded. Irish Flour extremely scarce, out of English a tolerable supply, which moved sparingly at our last quotations; of American some farther parcels were taken at 40s 6d, and there were buyers upon a large scale at 40s; but superior brands of Western in granary, being held steadily at 41s per barrel, the operations at that price were limited. In Oats and Oatmeal no variation. Indian Corn not being disposed of so freely as of late, was slightly depressed in value. The general depression of the trade became fully visible at the market held on Tuesday last. Influenced by the recent enactments of the Legislature, the London and provincial markets through the country being depressed, produced at our Corn Exchange a declining tendency regarding most articles of the trade, and all descriptions of Wheat upon a limited demand, receded 4d to 6d per 70lb. below the rates of that day week, although several holders refused to comply with this abatement. Of English or Irish Flour scarcely any appeared for sale to day; but with a large show of American, loosed from bond, the market opened heavily, and lower prices were accepted than importers were afterwards disposed to concede; the trade thus closed rather more firmly than it commenced, at a decline of 2s 6d per barrel from the currency of Tuesday last.—Indian Corn, being taken off sparingly, was 1s to 2s per quarter lower than on that day se'nnight.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION, as it has been termed by the Legislature, appears to have given much uneasiness to some of our Representatives—arising we opine from certain internal gripings, the offspring of disappointed ambition. We are free to acknowledge that we did not "book" Mr. Hill, for the honour to which he has been called, yet are we as free to acknowledge that Madam Rumour, had given us reason to fear that it might have had a much more disastrous issue. In the speech of the Hon. R. Hazen, on his announcement to the Assembly, of the filling up of the Council, it is reported he admitted that Responsible Government did exist, in so far as that the Governor knew that his Council *must* have the confidence of the House. Now with the greatest respect for the opinions, and unflinching consistency of that hon. Gentleman, we are at issue with him on that point. We cannot subscribe to the opinion that His Excellency thinks it imperative on him as the Queen's Representative so to frame a Council, as to meet the capricious and factious views of the popular body, especially as the lower House have so tenaciously held on to the Initiation of the Money Grants; and this is a point which the advocates of Responsible Government carefully keep out of sight, when refering to Lord Metcalfe's Reply to the Council of Gore. There (in Canada) the Government Initiate the Money Grants, and have consequently the Responsible system. Here the People's Representatives Initiate, and consequently have not the Responsible system. We are explicit on this point, as many of the advocates of this novel and absurd system, by misrepresentation, impose upon the uninitiated.—Our new member, Mr. Ritchie, we fear has enlisted himself under the banners of the Radical party; we should be sorry if it so turns out. That gentleman received at the election the support of all parties, and as the child of our hope, we trust he may not by association with erring-headed factionists become contaminated, and thereby blast his present unspotted reputation. This opinion is grounded on his reply to the speech of the Hon. R. Hazen, when he announced the completion of the Executive Council. Mr. R. there warns the Hon. Gentleman not to bring on this Province political anarchy, similar to that now experienced in Nova Scotia, and proceeds by telling him that if such a state of things are produced here, it will be by his conduct, and that the sin will lie at his door. We would in the best and most friendly spirit towards Mr. Ritchie, and in consideration of his being as yet in his noviciate in legislative matters, *warn him*, lest he, in his opposition to Government, should widen a breach which it is the duty of all loyal subjects to assist in closing. Mr. Ritchie must be aware that the troubles to which he points in Nova Scotia have not been engendered by the Government, but have been brought about by the designs of a few of unbounded and licentious ambition, who under the guise of Patriotism, have been disseminating disaffection, and who recently in the madness of disappointment and despair, have in the person of their leader, Joe Howe, thrown off the mask, and in the language of brazen face Rebellion, stood forth disclosed to a wondering world. The same spirit, though thank heaven, on a very small scale, is at work in this Province, and even in our Hall of Legislation, bridled and restrained as it necessarily must be for appearance sake, yet of so pestiferous a nature, that like the fabled 'Upas' poisons, all that comes within the focus of its baneful influence. We trust Mr. Ritchie, as well as all other of the new members of the Assembly, will studiously avoid the odious contact, and act upon the broad and unparalleled principles of the British Constitution and British connection. It is said that a little leak will sink a great ship—how careful then should be a Representative of the People to avoid even the appearance of evil.—Mr. D. Wilmot, too, in his place in the House, appears not to be the same Mr. Wilmot he was on the Hustings; there he was all promise and projection—but now, forsooth, "a change has come over the spirit of his dream"—he appears to think that the People's Representatives have nothing to do but wait for the Executive to propose, that they may cavil. He remarked that the House had nothing to do, because the Council was not yet completed. Did that gentleman not know that the council then existing, was the same council, with which the late House did business, and that they were legally constituted.—We want our Representatives to go on with the business of the country under all circumstances, and not go in search of causes of delay; as we hold that one willing operative is more effective than ten captious obstructives. This gentleman is yet young in the business—we shall therefore deal tenderly with him until we find him transgressing beyond the bounds of sufferance. We shall carefully watch the proceedings of the house as it proceeds, and continue to remark as occasion may require.

THE RELIEF FUND.—The monies collected in this city and county, for the sufferers in Ireland and Scotland, will be forwarded by the English Mail to-morrow. The returns at noon this day are not all made, but the amount will be about £1500.—Of this, King's Ward contributed £246 15s 4d; Queen's, £214 18s 2d; Duke's, £30 19s 1d; Sydney, £41. St. Malachi's church, £102; Trinity, £42 12s; St. George, (Carleton,) £3 4s 6d; St. Luke's, £11 9s 3d; Mr. Irvine's church, £30 10s; Mr. Staveley's £16. The Parish of Portland £100 11s 2d. The amount collected at the Temperance Ball is also paid into the general fund. The committee met yesterday and resolved to send £100 to Scotland, and the balance to Ireland through the hands of the Lord Lieutenant.—In addition to the above £100, the Scotch charitable societies have remitted, we learn, about £300 to Scotland.

About £50 will be collected at Sussex Vale; and a considerable amount may be *expected* from the CITY of Fredericton—the seat of Government.

We understand that Mr. Foulis is preparing an apparatus with which he intends to exhibit and explain the action of the Electric Telegraph, in a Lecture to be given in the Mechanics' Institute in a few days. This will no doubt prove a most acceptable treat, and be duly appreciated, as much interest is now generally felt on this important subject.

PRAISEWORTHY.—The detachment of the 14th Regiment, now stationed at Charlotte Town, P. E. Island, have contributed one day's pay towards the suffering poor in Ireland.

Will the Members of our House of Assembly do likewise?

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.—The Assembly are now applying themselves to business in earnest.—We have brought our notices of their doings down to the debate of Monday last, but want of space has obliged us to give a mere notice of what we considered the most important subjects before the House. The debate on the Registry Bill terminated in its defeat by a large majority. Yesterday there was a great deal of routine business done, and although the House adjourned early, the Journal will be a lengthy one. The Charlotte County scrutiny has closed, and Mr. Boyd keeps his seat; the following is the Report of the committee:—

"The select Committee appointed to take into consideration the Petition of Bartholomew R Fitzgerald, against the Return of James Boyd, Esq., as a member for the County of Charlotte, having considered the allegations in the said Petition, and having heard Counsel as well on behalf of the Peti-