OUR FISHERIES.

From the Boston Courier.

Messrs. Editors,—In the Courier of the 12th inst., I find the following paragraph copied from the National Intelligencer:

"THE FISHERIES.—The Halifax Colonist of September 20th says—"It is currently reported and generally believed through the city, that at the late conference held by the delegates of Canada, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, with the Executive Council of this Province, the propriety of granting to the United States an equal participation with our own people in the fisheries upon our coast was gravely considered and finally determined upon as a government measure.

"The rumour, should it turn out to be true, as it probably is, in connexion with the question concerning the establishment of reciprocity of intercourse between the United States and the British Northern possessions, it is perhaps of as much real consequence as any fact in our foreign intercourse that has come to light since the commencement of the administration of President Taylor."

Any opinion, or speculation, from gentlemen so well informed as the Editors of the Intelligencer, is worthy of the most respectful consideration. I have seldom had occasion to distrust their accuracy, or to dissent from their views on any measure of public policy. In the present case I feel impelled to say that, should the rumour above stated "prove to be true, as it probably is," the Intelligencer, in my judgement, attaches far too much importance to the consequences likely to result from "granting," as the Halifax Colonist says, "to the United States an equal participation with their own people in the fisheries," on the coast of Nova Scotia, and of the other maritime colonies of England, North and East of us.

To understand the nature and extent of our *present* rights of fishing on the coasts of British America, it may be necessary to state the manner in which we originally acquired them, and the changes to increase or diminish them that have been effected since their acquisition; since, by such a course, we can determine whether they are now ample or otherwise, and whether the colonial authorities can or cannot make farther and valuable concessions to us.

When the first Europeans visited our shores all Europe was Catholic, and for the season of Lent the pickled herring of Holland was the principal food. The abundance of fish of different kinds in American seas, as afforded both a variety and an additional supply, gave rise to an excitement on the subject of fish and fishing, hardly less intense than is observed at the present time, on matters which agitate the public mind, and create manias and speculations. Vessels wearing the flags of England, France, Spain, and Portugal, came to the newly discovered fishing grounds by hundreds, nearly a century before either of these powers succeeded in founding a single colony north of Mexico.

Newfoundland was the first possession acquired by England in this hemisphere, and she holds it at this hour under the discovery of Cabot, and the charter granted by Elizabeth to Sir Humphrey Gilbert. Quarrels about rights of fishing soon occurred. At that period of the colonization of Massachusetts, a company in England claimed, under a royal patent, every fishing ground between the Delaware and the St. Lawrence, and the attempt to exercise their charter privileges created an opposition which resounded throughout the kingdom. Indeed, this monopoly was one of the many of which the people complained in the time of Charles; one of the causes which, as other questions came up, sent that monarch to the block. But the friends of "free-fishing, with all its incidents" triumphed; and English fishermen covered every sea in America without hindrance, and without a demand for tribute money or "water-rent."

Spain, lured by the gold in regions which are now tempting our own people, abandoned the fishing grounds to her rivals. Portugal made the same relinquishments, and for similar objects. But England and France, in planting colonies in this hemisphere, while they sought the wealth of our seas, neither defined their boundaries, nor settled their respective maritime jurisdictions. Collisions, and finally long and bloody contests, ensued between them. They struggled for nearly a century and a half for the mastery of the New World, and as the students of our history well know, the fisheries were often the hinge on which hostilities turned. At the peace of 1763 England succeeded in wresting from France her remaining possessions, and thus became the sole mistress of every fishery between the Mississippi and the North Pole.

To the people of New England the fisheries were of inestimable value. In a word, they were the life-blood of their commerce, and thus continued during the entire period of their colonial vassalage. But for their exertions the Crown of England would never have acquired them. Molested by the French whenever their enterprise extended East of the Penobscot, in Maine; hunted from the fishing grounds by the cruisers of his Catholic Majesty, which were sent to our coast for the professed purpose of protecting his own subjects; the fishermen of the Northern colonies were ready to embark in any measures to drive away their Catholic rivals. And our annals show that from the time when Phipps—the first governor of Massachusetts under her second charter—importuned William and Mary, down to the accession of the First George, the monarchs of England were continually besought by the leading men of New England to dispossess France of the jurisdiction which she claimed and exercised on the American coasts.

The people of Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire bled on every battle-ground in Nova Scotia and Canada, to acquire the rights of fishing in the seas adjacent to these colonies. The daring enterprise of Pepperell against Louisbourg—the most important military achievement in our colonial history—the expedition to Port Royal, to Canseau, and even to the St. Lawrence, were projected, and some of them carried through, without the aid of British troops, by the fishermen and farmers of New England. It was in "New France" that our fathers acquired the skill and experience which enabled them to win their freedom. The drums that beat the alarm along the road to Lexington, and the guns that were fired on the heights of Charleston, belonged to men who had fought for the very fisheries—be it remembered—which our colonial neighbours, in the article placed at the head of these remarks, now so kindly offer to open up for our use.

I have thus rapidly traced the political history of the rights of fishing in the American seas, in order that such of your readers as have neither the leisure nor the inclination to investigate the subject may see the whole ground at a single glance.—We have ascertained that England acquired Newfoundland by the discovery of Cabot, and the prior possession of Gilbert; that at the instance, and with the aid, of New England, she conquered every other fishing ground which she claims on this continent. These facts ascertained, we may next enquire what part of the privileges which we helped her to obtain with our blood and treasure, were continued to us when we became a free people, and whether we have alienated any part of them since that period.

We held at first under the treaty of 1783; at present, under the convention of 1818. In concluding the treaty of '83, we stipulated for, and, after a long struggle on the part of our commissioners at Paris, obtained all the rights to take fish which we had enjoyed as British subjects; and could accordingly visit every bay, creek, harbor, and indentation of the coast, in British America, not assigned to France by the treaty of the same year with that power. But in drying and curing we were limited to the unsettled parts of Nova Scotia, the Magdalen Islands, and Labrador; and as fast as settlements were made at either place, we were to be compelled to make specific agreements with those who held or occupied the soil.—It should be distinctly understood, then, that, by this treaty, we had precisely what, in the article noted by the National Intelligencer, is "probably" to be offered us by the colonial delegates who lately met at Halifax—namely, "an equal participation with their own people in the fisheries upon their coast"; for it may be remarked, that the colonist cannot, as we could not, trespass upon the fishing grounds allotted to France by the treaty of '83, and recognised anew at the pacification in 1815, or "dry and cure" on lands belonging to individual fellow subjects, without leave.

If such were the nature and extent of our rights of catching, curing and drying fish, what portion of them have we surrendered? I answer, the open boat, or, as it is more frequently called, the "shore fishery" merely.

We retain every privilege under the convention of 1818, which we acquired at the peace of '83, except that by the former we relinquished the right to fish within three marine miles of the colonial shores. The consultations between Mr. Adams and Lord Bathurst commenced on the basis of requiring of us the renunciation of the shore fisheries, and of o others. On this ground the negociation proceeded, and on this ground it terminated. The colonists, it is true, have very recently attempted to show that our fishing grounds at a greater distance from the coast are limited, and consist only of those on the southern coasts of Newfoundland, between Cape Ray and the Rameau Islands, those on the Western and Northern coasts of Newfoundland from said Cape Ray to the Quirpo Islands, those at the Magdalen Islands, those between Mount Joly and the Straits of Belleisle, and so through these straits to an indefinite extent along the shores of Labrador. By this construction of the convention of 1818, it will be seen that we are to be excluded from the bays of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and other equally important seas.

My limits will not allow me to enter into an exposition of this pretension; but I aver, and challenge contradiction, that, from the opening conference with Lord Bathurst, in 1815, to the conclusion of the treaty in 1818, there is not a word on either side which warrants it, or affords a colorable pretext for presenting it. I repeat that, at the outside, we were asked to surrender only the shore fisheries; and can any one believe that, after a negociation commenced at Washington, transferred to England, and entrusted to such statesmen as Adams, Gallatin, and Rush, they surrendered, at the close of three years personal interviews and correspondence with the British ministers, more than was demanded of them in the beginning? A single fact more ought to put this pretension at rest forever. On the subject of our fisheries, the late ex-President was—as I think will be allowed—the best informed statesman that has participated in our public affairs since the time of his father.

Under circumstances highly interesting to his fame with this generation and with posterity,* he declared that the convention of 1818 "secures essentially and substantially all the rights acquired by the treaty of 1783;" and that "it has secured the whole coast of fishery of every part of the British dominions, excepting within three marine miles of the shores." Can anything be more definite, explicit and satisfactory than this? Who will say that Mr Adams was ignorant of the provisions of the document; or, understanding them recorded a deliberate falsehood with regard to them?

Our rights under the treaty of '83 were ample; and if, as Mr. Adams declared, we relinquished none of them save the privilege of fishing "within three marine miles of the shores," what new rights can we possibly obtain from our colonial neighbors, even with the assent of the British ministry?—What, indeed, but the only one which we relinquished—the open boat or shore fishery?

I have a perfect knowledge of the worth of the *inner* fishing-grounds of British America, and shall not utter a word in under-valuation of them. But I have respectfully to ask the "delegates" who met at Halifax, whether *they* or even the government, can conclude an engagement which shall dispose of the use of this fishery. The shore fishing-grounds appurtenant to lands owned by the British crown may be alienated by the sovereign authority of the realm, but those adjoining private property cannot be opened to the citizens of the United States without the owners consent. All, then, that can be conceded us, is the use of the crown-land fisheries in the British colonies, and the liberty to lease or hire private *shore* fisheries of individuals. This, as I understand the matter, is the whole of it. And what, as the duty on foreign fish now is, what is this "boon" worth? What, under a tariff decidedly protective to our fishing interest, would *such* privileges do, toward accomplishing the objects which the colonists have in view?

But enough for to-day. The political leaders in the colonies are principally of loyalist stock, possess much of Jonathan's own shrewdness, and know as well as he does, how and when "to throw a fub to a whale"; and I hope that those who now administer our affairs will fully consider, not only the rights which we already possess, but the value of those which it is possible for us to acquire before entertaining any proposition from the "delegates"—the self-constituted "delegates" who lately met at Halifax, from the various British colonies in our neighbourhood. S.

Framingham, Oct. 13, 1849.

*Controversy with Jonathan Russell.

THE BOLTON CLAIRVOYANTE AGAIN—SIR JOHN FRANKLIN'S EXPEDITION.

A correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*, stated to be an officer of rank in the Royal Navy, gives the following extraordinary account of revelations made concerning the safety of the Franklin expedition, by the female who has latterly become so celebrated as the Bolton *clairvoyante*. It is worthy of remark, that this statement was first made known on *the 29th ult.*, and it was not till the 3d *of Oct.* that the *Truelove* arrived from Davis' Straits with the news of the probable safety of the expedition:—

Being cast into a mesmeric state (says the writer), this woman asserted positively that Sir John Franklin was still alive, and now comparatively well. He has undergone great hardships, but has overcome them, and is in good hope of getting to England in nine months and a half, provided no unforseen accident occurs. The difference between the apparent time where he is and at Bolton is nearly six hours, indicating a difference of longitude of from 85 to 90 deg. And afterwards, when asked, being still in the mesmeric state, to endeavour to point on the map where he is, she put her finger on the north-west side of Hudson's Bay, which is not very far from this longitude—though the map being on a very small scale, and very inconveniently bound up in a volume of the *Penny Cyclopedia*, and required by her to be rested on her head, not held to her eyes, and thus reversed, no very precise indication could be so obtained.

As she is perfectly uninstructed, and unable to read or write, it seems scarcely possible to suppose that she can know anything of maps whatever, and further, the indication thus obtained, both of difference of time and her pointing on the map, took the bystanders quite by surprise. They had not the least idea of looking for Sir John in this direction. And yet, if his ships have been wrecked or abandoned on the west coast of Boothia, or towards Victoria Land, it is possible, though it may appear to us at present unlikely that he may have tried to return to the eastward inside of Boothia, which, when he departed, was supposed to be an island. And if he has succeeded in overcoming the very great difficulties which must have attended such a route, this is precisely the direction in which he would appear. And further, if he got this length too late in the season to save the Hudson Bay Company's autumn ship, his own impression would naturally be, that he would be detained till the ensuing spring, which would just make up the nine months specified before he expected to be in England; this period not having been given by the clairvoyante as a prophecy, but as the impression on his mind, with which she professed to have some mysterious means of communication.

It is true that she said that he had only three persons with him; but other parties of his men are following in the same direction, though some way separated from him. She saw also the shells (dead bodies) of others in different postures under the snow. And she described graphically enough the deer, wild cattle, wild men, and rough tangled forests that she passed in going to him, with an animal striped down the back and sides, which leaps very far, and may be the panther or wild cat.

She also professed to go and visit his ships, one of which she said was under water, with very thick timbers and the other above it. And an old letter being also possessed from Sir James Ross, she was sent to visit him too. For this purpose she said she had to go much farther. He is fast in the ice, and unable to turn his ship round, but intends returning to England when he can. She added that it was snowing heavily when she saw him; but he had not seen Sir John Franklin. The difference between his apparent time and that at Bolton was nearly eight hours, corresponding to 110 deg. to 115 deg. west; and when required subsequently to show the place on the map, she pointed to Bankes' Land almost at once, a position full of probability.

Sir James Ross, she says, is well but much annoyed at being stopped. Another ship is not far from him, and neither of these have sails set.—But there is a third ship much nearer, under sail, and coming apparently from their direction; her difference of time is only two hours and a half, corresponding to 35 deg. to 40 deg. west. [Can this be the transport sent last spring to renew their supplies?] She mentioned this ship first herself; only one person in the room knew that such a vessel had been sent, and in his interest for the principal persons concerned, he had not thought of the transport sent to their relief, till this third ship was mentioned.

She expressed great astonishment at finding the clocks differ so much, and said they should be sent to the watchmaker to put them right. She also described Sir James Ross as being stouter than Sir John Franklin, and in better case ("more squash" were her words). Sir John's cheeks, she said, are somewhat sunk through his fatigues, but his health is good, and he has now abundance to eat. Her description of his person is otherwise sufficiently near, and she specifically mentioned his being bald.

☞ PRICE OF THE CHRONICLE—12s. 6d. per annum, in advance; 15s. if not paid until the termination of a year.—FOR $10 IN ADVANCE, 5 copies will be sent *to one address* for one year; for $20 11 copies; and for $40, 24 copies.—Single Nos. may be had at the office, 1d each.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, NOVEMBER 9, 1849.

THE English Mail, 20th October, arrived here on Sunday evening. It was brought to Halifax in the *Hibernia*, steamer, after a passage of over 13 days, during the whole of which time she encountered boisterous weather.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.—A fortnight has elapsed since the investigation of the charges brought against Doctor George Peters had terminated, and the Report been laid before the Government; but the Public were kept in ignorance of the result until it appeared in a correspondence in the *Courier* of Saturday last, which we give in another column; and we think it would have been better had the information come first through a different channel.

If any thing could surprise us more than the opinion of the Lieutnant Governor and Mr. Chandler, it is the letter of Mr. W. H. Street, which appeared in the same newspaper. We, indeed, believe the opinion is given conscientiously,—though it does not decidedly condemn, it does not decidedly exculpate. In candidly speaking our sentiments, we must say, we altogether disagree with both; and that, after all, the opinion they have pronounced is only the opinion of individuals vested with no judicial authority; and it is not worth our pains to analyse the trite observations (we cannot call it reasoning) by which they support it. We affirm that nothing appears in evidence to invalidate, in the smallest degree, the testimony of Mrs. Cooper, and all the efforts of Dr. Peters to do so, only involved himself in the suspicion of greater delinquencies. The opinion of the Public, who are equally capable of judging in matters of fact, is already known, and is *very different* from the official document now before us. That may answer well enough *outside* the meridian of Saint John, but the Public *here* have seen and know too much to accord in the white-washing that document would seem to bestow on the *gallant* Doctor. The opinion of the Public is generally just, and their voice must ultimately be heard.

It is truly said, none are so blind as those who will not see. Mr Street's vision seems to have been, all at once, miraculously restored; but, alas! so strangely distorted, that, we fear, it leads him astray. With the conduct of his daughter-in-law, we have nothing to do. He is surely free to sanction it; and to entrust the virtue of any of his family to the keeping of Dr. Peters, if he thinks proper; but we assert the right and duty of every public journalist to look into the management of our public Institutions, and to uphold the moral character of this community.

It is well known that Dr. Peters was not a proper person ever to have been placed at the head of the Lunatic Asylum; and we venture to say, none of the Commissioners, if on oath, would dare to contradict us. His immediate removal from all connexion with it, is now imperatively called for. It is said that Mr. W. Jack, threatened to bring an action against Mr. Cooper for defamation, which, we apprehend, would have been the fairest way of finally putting the matter to rest; and it is not difficult to determine what would have been the verdict of twelve honest jurymen in such a case.—A threat of this sort is said to be held out by Mr. Street; and it is by no means certain that Sheriff Drury and Mr. Cooper may not yet commence an action against the Doctor on similar grounds.—Nothing can justify Dr. Peters in introducing the name of the former. It is condemned by all, as dastardly and base; and strongly resembles the last resource of some unclean animals when goaded or pursued, who scatter their filth on all around.

The new Commissioners are notified to meet this week; and we trust that, in appointing a resident Governor, and a consulting Physician, they will divest themselves of all partiality, and select gentlemen well known to the Public for irreproachable moral worth, and the highest professional talent.

AGRICULTURAL.—It is gratifying to find that the Agricultural interests of the country are beginning to find increased favour among the inhabitants.—A fair and Cattle show of a very creditable character has recently been held at Loch Lomond where specimen of carrots were shown, raised at the average of 1030 bushels to the acre; wheat 66 lbs. per bushel; oats 48 lbs; Buckwheat 56½ lbs.—An election of Office-bearers to the Agricultural Society subsequently took place, when the following gentlemen were elected:—John Jordan, Esquire, *President*; Robert Bowes, *Vice-President*; Robert Douglas, *Treasurer*; Robert Allan, *Secretary*.

The King's County Fair and Exhibition, held on the 23d ult. was of a very extensive character, and near seventy premiums were awarded. Abundance of vegetables and dairy produce were brought forward, and live stock, farming implements and the productions of the loom were in great plenty. The exhibition altogether was of that creditable character that might be expected from the famous Agricultural County of Kings.—A ploughing match was held on the 24th and four prizes awarded among five competitors.

MONEY LOST.—On Wednesday morning a gentleman on his way from the Saint John Hotel to the steamer Maid of Erin, (lying at the North market wharf,) dropped his pocket book, containing £450 in Nova Scotia Bank bills. Fifty pounds reward was immediately offered by the owner for the restoration of the property, but it has not been recovered.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.—At the Annual Meeting on the 1st inst., the following gentlemen were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year.—Adam Jack, President; Robert Jardine, Vice President; Alexander Jardine, Treasurer; William Thompson, Secretary; James Macfarlane, John M. Walker, and W. W. Emslie, Committee of Charity.

LAUNCHED, on Monday, from the building-yard of Mr. James Smith, of this City, a splendid ship called the "*Tippoo Saib*," of 1062 tons.—She is built of hacmatac, pitch pine, oak and locust, and is considered to be the best iron-kneed ship that ever was launched in the Province. As for model and workmanship, she needs no further recommendation than is stated by competent judges, that she is the best her builder and enterprising owner has yet constructed. We are informed that Mr. Smith built her expressly for his own use, and intends her to run between Liverpool and the East Indies.—*New-Brunr.*

BOAT RACE AGAINST TIME.—The four oared Gig, with her rowers, which recently won the match at Halifax, came to this city on Wednesday last, for the purpose of rowing a mile on the river opposite Fredericton, against time. The distance was carefully measured by Mr. Inches of the Crown Land Department, previous to their coming up, but the state of the weather prevented the match coming off until Saturday last at one o'clock On that day His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Lady Head, and a large concourse of spectators assembled on the bank of the river about half past twelve o'clock, and at one the word was given and the Gig started in beautiful style. The rowers were carefully timed by several gentlemen on the ground, and the distance of a mile was accomplished, with apparent ease, in 6 minutes and 23 seconds. The style of rowing was beautiful, and every body seemed pleased with the match.—*Head Quarters.*

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

St. John, N. B., 26th Oct. 1849.

Hon. J. R. PARTELOW, *Provincial Secretary.*

SIR—I have the honour to address you as the official organ of communication with the Provincial Government, on the subject of the recent investigation made, by order of His Excellency, upon charges instituted against Dr. Peters, the Medical Officer in charge of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum.

My daughter-in law, Mrs. Bruce Street, is one of the unfortunate inmates of the Institution, and her husband's absence from this Province renders it my duty to act in her behalf, in a case where the greatest insult has been offered to herself, and an unprecedented affront put upon all her friends and connexions, whose knowledge of it is obtained through the publication of the testimony in the *Freeman* newspaper; and it was with great surprise that I thus discovered, for the first time, that the investigation was permitted to be public, and that a newspaper reporter was permitted to take notes, and publish the vile dispositions of the woman Cooper, prior to Mr. Chandler's report, and the action of the Government promulgated thereon.

Under these circumstances, I feel constrained to ask the Government to give publicity to its credence, or the opposite, of the woman Cooper's testimony, in as far as it applies to Mrs. Bruce Street, and thereby place her friends in a position to take such action as the case may require.

It is only now that I am informed the charges in the particulars to which I refer were in writing, and in the possession of the Government, and a public investigation is permitted to take place without myself or any other of Mrs. Bruce Street's friends having opportunity to procure counsel to to attend on her behalf, and otherwise take measures to refute the foul aspersions.

I never had even a suspicion of Mrs. Bruce Street's name being associated with the charges against Dr. Peters, or I should have attended the investigation, and could have produced testimony strongly refutative of that which has gone forth to the public.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant.

W. H. STREET.

Secretary's Office, Fredericton, 30th Oct. 1849.

SIR—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 26 h inst., in respect to the late investigation of the charges made by George Cooper against Dr. Peters, as Physician and Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, I am directed by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to forward the inclosed copy of a letter addressed to the Chairman of that Institution, relative to the result of the investigation, and His Excellency's opinion in reference thereto, for your information, and to be used by you in any way that may seem proper.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
J. R. PARTELOW.

WM. H. STREET, Esq., &c., Saint John.

Secretary's Office, Fredericton, 29th Oct. 1849.

SIR—I am directed by his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to transmit to you, for the information of the Commissioners of the Lunatic Asylum, a copy of Mr. Chandler's report on the complaints preferred by Mr. George Cooper, against Dr. G. P. Peters, together with a copy of the notes of evidence taken on the Inquiry.

The Commissioners will observe that Mr. Chandler reports on the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, and 6th charges to be not even colourably sustained by the evidence.

With respect to the 5th and 7th charges. Mr. Chandler says, "the only witness in support of these charges was Mrs. Cooper, the wife of Mr. George Cooper, the person who preferred the charges." The other further witness called by Mr. Cooper expressly denied all knowledge of the fact alledged.

That Cooper and his wife came forward in the character of discharged servants is irrelevant to the truth of the charges; but the Lieutenant Governor is decidedly of opinion that little value can be attached to the evidence of any woman who admits that she herself sought for, accepted, and retained a situation under Dr. Peters, after he had made a deliberate attempt to violate her person.—It will be observed, moreover, that she admits that she did not mention this attempt to her husband until long afterwards.

The greatest suspicion too attaches to the description of the injuries received by Mrs. Cooper—injuries the reality and violence of which might have been sustained by calling, as witnesses, the medical men whom she consulted at the time.

The direct testimony given by her to an act of illicit intercourse between Dr. Peters and one of his female patients is rendered valueless by its production as an afterthought, and by the allegation that she did not mention it before, from motives of delicacy, when the influence of any such motives on her mind at her first examination is completely negatived by the nature of the evidence there given without any unnecessary scruples.

After fully weighing, therefore, all these matters, His Excellency concurs in the opinion expressed by Mr. Chandler, that the 5th and 7th charges also are not sustained.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. R. PARTELOW.

JOHN WARD, Esq., Chairman of the Commissioners of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum.

[From the Fredericton Head Quarters.]

It is with pleasure that we publish the following Address to Judge Botsford, with his Reply, which were delivered on Monday morning at the Law Library, in the presence of a large number of our most respectable Citizens. Respect to such a man is due wherever he is known. If the just and generous feelings of our people had found Representatives in the House of Assembly, some allusions in this Address truly discretitable to this country would not have occurred:—

To the Honourable William Botsford late one of the Justices of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick

We, the undersigned, inhabitants of the city of Fredericton, avail ourselves of the opportunity afforded by your presence among us, to express the feelings with which your high and honourable character is regarded in this community.

Congratulatory addresses to the present possessors of office and power, might be attributed to questionable motives; but your retirement from public life will have absolved us from all such suspicion. The conviction that respect and honor are due to moral excellence, could alone have induced the avowal of our veneration for yourself.

When, Sir, other sentiments and principles of action prevailed in the dependencies of the great Country, for love and duty to which the loyal and devoted band with which you came to this Province sacrificed so much, it could not have arisen as matter of humiliation to those who honoured such a character as yours, that the consciousness of having done his duty in the various and responsible station to which he had been called throughout a long life, should be the patriots sole reward.

While, however, it has been thought fit, by those with whom now rests the remuneration or neglect of public merits, to disavow the claims of one of the most deserving servants of the Crown, we may be allowed to acknowledge our responsibility to manifest respect and gratitude for those whose talents, energies, and lives have been spent in promoting the good of our common Country.

The son of a Loyalist—the zealous promoter in early life of all that by well directed effort could advance a young and feeble Colony—the respected member of an honourable profession—long the Speaker of our Provincial Assembly, as also a valued member of our Legislative Council—a Judge, upright and merciful, and ever as a Christian the friend of humanity. You, Sir, now receive the sincere acknowledgement of our just regard and admiration.

For yourself and family we hope many and happy years of life in a Country of which you must be ever remembered as one of the best and earliest friends.

[REPLY.]

GENTLEMEN,—

Permit me to return you my most cordial thanks, for this expression of your kind wishes towards me

The assurance that in my retirement I carried with me the esteem and regards of those among whom I have passed many years of public life, is most grateful to my feelings.

I will not dissemble that owing to some circumstances I have been led, to distrust the acts of my public life, that they were not such as to have entitled me to the approbation of my Sovereign, or the approval of my fellow subjects in this Province.

Under this impression I need not to assure you, Gentlemen, that your favorable opinion of my conduct in the execution of the various duties attached to the several Offices I have had the honor to hold; is more to be prized, than any pecuniary reward.

Next to the faithful performance of my official duties, was my devotion to the prosperity, and welfare of this, my adopted country.

I have seen with much gratification the population of your City, rise from a few hundreds, to thousands.

It has always been my opinion, that situated on the bank of your noble river—at the head of ship navigation—and surrounded by almost fertile Country, Fredericton would rise into importance.

That it may become, as I have no doubt it will, one of the great and flourishing Cities of British America, you have, Gentlemen, my most fervent wishes. I thank for your kind wishes for my happiness and that of my family, and be assured that they will ever be gratefully remembered by them, and by myself.

WILLIAM BOTSFORD.

SAFETY OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN, AND HIS EXPEDITION.

The highly interesting intelligence received by the *Niagara* from England, of the probable safety of the long-lost navigator, Sir John Franklin, and his expedition, is confirmed by an arrival at New London, U. S.

This news will send a thrill of joy to all parts of the civilized world.

INTERESTING, AND PROBABLY HIGHLY IMPORTANT NEWS FROM SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

(*From the New London Chronicle, Oct. 18*).

Capt. Chaple, of the bark McLellan, of this port from Davis' Straits, whose arrival we announced yesterday morning furnishes information which will at least be read with interest in the United States, and, indeed, in every part of the world.—About the 1st. of August, while the McLellon lay in Pond's Bay, an indentation of Baffin's Bay, in latitude 74. lon. 72. the natives of the coast came on board the Chieftain, an English whaleman, and gave information by signs that two large ships were then lying in Prince Regent's Inlet, and had been there for in the ice for four seasons; and being asked with regard to those on board, whether they were dead or alive, they replied in the same manner that the crews were not "asleep" (that is not dead) but were all well. This information was considered by the Englishman and by Capt. Chapel, as indicating that the ships of Sir John Franklin were clearly meant.

The Englishman landed at Cape Hay, some distance from Pond's Bay, a quantity of coal and provisions, with which his ship was furnished by the British Government for the use of the long missing ships, if they should chance to come there as they would be obliged to do on their return to England. This is certainly the latest news from that quarter, and there is a possibility, perhaps a probabillity, that the commander of the unfortunate expedition and his crew are still alive. Heaven send that it may be so!

The McLellan and her gallant officers and crew have reached home almost by a mirracle—at any rate, have done so under circumstances that entitle them to the highest credit.

On the 12th of June, the bark got "nipped" in the ice, and only escaped destruction by the almost super-human exertions and good conduct of her men. She was so severly injured that she leaked so as to be kept afloat only by the incessant work of nearly all hands at the pumps, and by means of two large metallic pumps obtained by Capt. C. from the wrecks of the English ships crushed and totally lost just ahead of him. The leak was, however, partially remedied by thrombed sails under the bow, though she obtained to leak badly until her arrival home, and was only kept above water by continual and unceasing labor at the pumps, till she reached the dock, which, indeed, is still obliged to be continued as she lies at the wharf. The two English ships Superior and Lady Jane, mentioned yesterday, were both lost very near the McLellan. Two of the crew of the lost ships arrived in her. They are natives of the Shetland Islands.

On the 30th of August, the McLellan lost a man named Joseph Schnider, of New York, who fell from the mizzen top-mast-head, and lived but twenty minutes, being shockingly mangled in the head and limbs. He was twenty one years of age.

It is due to Captain Chapel, his gallant officers and ship's company, again to say that their conduct in bringing home their vessel, is deserving of more than common praise, and even with their exertions, it could not have been done, but for the staunch and enduring qualities of the ship. The skill and perseverance of the officers and men were objects of admiration to the Englishmen who witnessed them.

LAND SLIDE.—The Quebec Chronicle of 23 November says—Yesterday forenoon the two story brick house occupied as a dwelling house and as a ship-chandlery, and belonging to Messrs. D. & D. Maguire, at Spencer Cove, was thrown down by part of the Cape behind it having given way. One or two persons were considerably injured, but fortunately none were killed, although there were several persons in the house at the time the accident occurred.

FEMALES GOING TO CALIFORNIA.—One of the healthiest signs connected with the vast emigration to California, is the number of the softer sex who are leaving the Atlantic for that distant region. Their absence must certainly be severely felt, when, as we are informed, a number of men form a circle and with joined hands, dance round an old lady's bonnet. A female hat with a female's head in it is quite a curiosity at the placers, if letter writers from that interesting region are to be credited.—(*N. Y. Herald.*)

☞ Snow, six inches deep, is on the mountains between Wheeling and Cumberland

☞ The population of Maryland is set down at 510,000. The public debt, in 1848, was $12,780,000; interest, $699,000. The average tax, per head, $1,35.

☞ The thermometer at Albany, on the first instant, stood at 19 degrees.

MAIL ROBBER ARRESTED BY TELEGRAPH.—A package of $2,500 put into the post-office by the Bank of Troy Ohio, for Louisville, having failed, and information of the disappointment having been communicated, suspicion rested upon young Fahrman, a clerk in the post-office, who left Troy a few days before for Columbus.—Through a telegraphic dispatch he was arrested and $2,400 of the money found on him.

☞ The New York Mirror says Mr. George Vandenhoff has written a play, which will be produced during the winter.

LIVERPOOL, Oct. 20.—Business affairs during the course of the last week have been steady. In Grain a fair business is going forward at the advance which holders were enable to obtain in the early part of the week. For foreign and colonial produce a fair demand prevails, and although there are not large transactions going forward, there is not any perceptible change.

The Hungarian refugees were still at Widdin, ready to set out for the destination that they may receive.

The Hungarian refugees at Widdon, from the serjeants downwards, are said to be amnestied, in consequence of which the greatest part of them return to Hungary.

The Porte is said to have appointed the Isle of Candia as the residence of the refugee Magyars.

Bem declared that it was his vocation to fight against Russia, and that he would turn to any quarter where he could fill that vocation. He made a public profession of the various tenets of Mohammedan faith, received the name of Amurath, and was immediately raised to the dignity of a Pasha of three tails.

Bem and Dembinski, and several other chiefs, have not only embraced Islamism, but have entered the Turkish army.

Several artillery officers of the Turkish army have arrived in Belgium to establish measures for and extensive manufactory of arms in Turkey.

Letters from Constantinople state, that the Sultan reviewed 60,000 men at San Stefano on the 2nd ult. Sir Stratford Canning and Gen. Aupick were present. An aid-de-camp of the Emperor of Russia has arrived in Paris, and had an interview with M. De Tocqueville. It is stated that his instructions are to the effect that the Emperor of Russia will consider the entrance of a French fleet into the Dardanelles as tantamount to a declaration of war.

PERJURY AT DOLLY'S BRAE.—The manifest perjury at the late Dolly's Brae investigation has appalled the honest men of all parties. A very intelligent observer who was present at the Castlewellan investigation, had his attention arrested by a proceeding adopted by each Romanist witness immediately on being sworn. And as he continued to watch, his conjecture was confirmed by an induction absolutely universal; no witness on that side—no not even the priest—presented an exception. *Each Papist, after he was sworn, spat on the ground; the priest himself expectorated as distinctly as his flock.* This, it is true, may have been accidental. The uniform coincidence, however, is at least curious. It is, however, quite possible that the wretched peasant may believe that the obligation of his oath and the taint of perjury were thus carried away—"*lustralibus salivis expiata.*" Here at least is some new matter for reflection, or, at all events, for conjecture, as respects the genius and character of Irish popery.—On the fact our readers may altogether rely.—*Dublin Herald.*

Admiral Sir Edward W. C. R. Owen, G. C. B., died at his seat, near Bagshot, in his 83d year.

The new Two Shilling Piece.—We are informed by a gentleman from London, that the government have stopped the issue of the new coin, in consequence of the strong popular feeling manifested at the absence on it of recognition of the supreme sovereignty of God in the letters "D. G. F." hitherto imprinted on our whole coinage. The coin is to be re-issued with the letters added.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"TRUE BLUE" is received. The length of the article furnished by him, precludes its insertion in the present number.

"VOX" is also received, and will be inserted in our next publication.

Married.

On Wednesday last, at St. Malachy's Church, by the Very Rev. James Dunphy, V. G., Mr. Henry Doherty, of New York, to Miss Eliza Loughrey, of this City.

On Thursday evening, by the Rev. Samuel Robinson, Mr. Amos Poles, of this City, to Miss Eliza, eldest daughter of Mr. George Burns, of Wilmot, N. S.

On Sunday evening, by the Rev. S. Robinson, Mr. William Logan, to Miss Elizabeth, fifth daughter of Mr. Joseph Stackhouse, all of the parish of Portland.

On the 25th ult., at Sussex, (K. C.), by the Rev. T. McGhee, Rector, Mr. Richard Burgess, of Studholm, to Ruth, daughter of Mr. Gilead Secord, of the former place.

At the Cathedral, Fredericton, on the 27th ult., by the Rev. Archdeacon Coster, Mr. Abner Seeley, of Burton, to Amelia C., daughter of John A. Beckwith, Esq., of Fredericton.

On the 26th ult., by the Rev. John M. Brooke, Mr. George McKillope, to Miss Margaret Jane Selfridge, both of the parish of Blissville, and County of Sunbury.

At Kingsclear, on the 20th ult., by the Rev. Samuel Elder, Mr. John Richards, Merchant, of Fredericton, to Mehetable Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles Long, of the former place.