The Observer.

St. John, Tuesday, July 20, 1847.

FIRST JULY MAIL.

The steam ship *Britannia*, Capt. Harrison, with the first July mail, arrived at Halifax last Thursday evening, in a fine passage of eleven days from Liverpool. She brought out 97 passengers, among whom were His Honor Judge Parker, and Lady, the Rev. Dr. I. W. D. Gray, and Lady, Miss Gray, and Master Gray, of this City, Lord James Butler, J. B. Uniacke, Esq. of Halifax, Lt. Col. Willis and Lady, two Misses Willis, Mr. Duncan, &c., and 82 for Boston.

The mail was received in this city on Saturday afternoon, by express from Halifax.

The papers furnish intelligence of much interest. There had been a further decline in the price of flour of 7s. stg. per barrel, the latest quotations being 33s. 6d. with a still downward tendency, and other bread stuffs in proportion. The prospects of the growing crops still continued excellent in nearly all parts of the United Kingdom and the Continent.

The accounts from the manufacturing districts were more cheering, with a growing feeling of confidence, and money was more abundant. The timber markets are represented as being in a healthy but quiet state.

Her Majesty is about to make a visit to Scotland.

There had been some difficulties between the Chinese and British at Canton, arising out of repeated acts of piracy by the Chinese, and Sir John Davis, the Governor of Hong Kong, had resorted to active measures to obtain redress, the particulars of which, with an extensive summary of the general intelligence, is subjoined.

Liverpool, July 4.

State of Trade.—Since the departure of the Caledonia of the 19th ultimo, trade in general has assumed a more healthy appearance. Greater confidence exists in commercial circles—food is cheaper—money can be procured with greater facility, and hopes are entertained that, with the continuance of fine weather, and a renewed activity in the manufacturing districts, we shall again experience prosperity, and once more have plenty of food at cheap prices.

Corn Trade.—Since the 19th ult. the state of the Corn market has commanded general attention from all classes. During the week succeeding that date the weather was wet, subsequently it improved, and it is now warm and seasonable. The London and Liverpool markets accordingly have felt the effects, and a fall of from 10s. to 14s. per quarter on Wheat was established up to yesterday, when the market in London showed a further tendency to decline. From the highest point in the middle of May, the total fall cannot be estimated at less in Liverpool, than about 34s. per quarter; whilst American Flour which, at the middle of May, fetched here 48s. 6d. per barrel, it fell in June to 40s. 6d. per barrel, and at the present date, the same description of Flour will not realise more than 33s. 6d per barrel, with a general tendency to decline. The genial weather which now prevails cannot fail to bring forward the corn throughout the United Kingdom; and if it should continue a few weeks longer, there can be no doubt that the harvest will be more plentiful than for many years past. The accounts which have reached us from all the chief corn producing countries concur in the promise of general abundance. The doubts respecting the potato crop seem confined to the prospects of Ireland, whilst in Holland, Belgium, France, the north of Germany, Spain, and Portugal, no symptom of disease had manifested itself, but, on the contrary, the new potatoes were of sound quality, and has greatly declined in price.

Timber Market.—The Timber trade is in a healthy but quiet position. We may here remark that Quebec Deals are wanted; early arrivals of which will meet a good market. St. John' Spruce Planks have realized £10 10s. per standard on the quay, and Prince Edward's Island 2 1-4d. per foot of two inches.

Cotton.—There has been more animation in the Cotton market during the past fortnight than we have had occasion to record for some weeks back. This is no doubt caused in a great degree by the improvement observable in the state of trade in the manufacturing districts, the declining tendency of the grain markets, and the splendid weather, which is forcing forward the crops towards maturity. The sales for the week ending June 24, were 54,490 bales, and included 9800 on speculation and 5530 bales for export, at an advance of ⅛d. per lb.

The Rice market has declined; and although purchases to a fair extent have been made during the fortnight, prices have receded.

The Sugar market still continues in a depressed state. The intelligence which reached us by the West India mail of the promising prospects of the crops throughout the W. I. Colonies has further tended to keep prices low.

The Money market has improved gradually since the last steamer. Discounts are now freely obtained even out of the Bank at five per cent.

State of Trade in the Manufacturing Districts.—The various reports which have reached us from the manufacturing districts of England since the 16th ult. are of a more cheering and satisfactory character than we have published for some months past. At Manchester things are much improved; both goods and yarn are more sought after, and better prices paid. The extent of foreign orders is increasing, and a considerable improvement has taken place in the numbers of persons employed in mills. There are more buyers in the Rochdale flannel market, and a better feeling prevails. Accounts from Huddersfield state that fine goods of new patterns are in request, and low goods have found purchasers for next winter's trade. Considerable business has been done amongst the woolstaplers. Letters from Leeds inform us that there is an improving market there both in the Cloth-halls and warehouses. Light tweeds and fancy cloakings are in good demand, as well as the lower descriptions of cloth. The low woollen trade of Halifax is reviving, and prices have improved, there being a fair demand for the American market. At Bradford Piece-market the demand for goods suited for autumn is tolerably active, and the houses are doing a fair business. The state of the hosiery and lace trades at Nottingham is, we regret to say, in a very discouraging state, and hardly any prospect of an immediate improvement. At Leicester, however, there is a tendency towards a renewed trade, and some houses have partially set on their hands again.

Colonial Trade.—Lord Ashburton, in the House of Lords, on Thursday last, when moving for the correspondence between the Colonial Secretary and the Governor-General of Canada and the Governors of other Colonies, relative to the abolition of differential duties, reminded the House that when the reduction of protective duties, in 1845, was proposed, the manufacturers of Manchester were greatly alarmed, and memorialised the Government against it. He considered the experiment of "free trade," as it was called, now making in our colonies, to be highly serious, because, if they proved unsuccessful, as he believed they would, the mistake could not be corrected by the Colonial Legislatures with the same facility as we could remedy similar errors at home.—Lord Grey defended the free-trade measures by which the Colonial Legislatures were enabled to repeal the differential duties, and adopt, respectively in each colony the same principle to which the mother country had compelled them to submit.—Lord Stanley still contended that nothing would tend more to keep up a feeling of attachment and dependence on the part of our colonies, than for England to say to them—

'We are your natural customers; the connection between us never can be interrupted; it is the policy of the Legislature and of the Government to maintain that connexion; and by upholding it they will at once benefit the colonies, and increase the power of the mother country. He believed that no long time would elapse before British manufacturers would find that the recent legislative measures with reference to the colonies had worked most prejudicially and injuriously to their interests, by converting into neutral markets what were formerly protected markets; and he considered it was an unfortunate circumstance that the Government, not satisfied with leaving the colonies to take their own course, had felt it their duty to incite the colonial Legislatures to take steps for the reduction of the differential duties.'

British Shipping, Imports, and Exports.—Returns moved for by Sir H. Douglas, M.P., shows that in the year 1846, 7881 British vessels, of 1,224,214 tons, entered inwards, and that 8652 vessels, of 1,412,145 tons, cleared outwards. The number of foreign vessels that entered inwards amounted to 9720, of 1,414,738 tons, and the number of foreign vessels that cleared outwards to 11,602, of 1,559,721 tons. The number of British ships employed between the United Kingdom and the British colonies amounted in 1846 to about 6238, and the number of foreign vessels to an average of 62. The declared value of the British and Irish produce and manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to various foreign countries (including Scandinavia, the Hanse Towns, Prussia, Austria, France, Portugal, Rio de la Plata, Brazil, Mexico, and the United States) amounted, in 1839, to £22,237,550; in 1840, to £19,142,987; in 1841 to £22,478,376; in 1842, to £18,619,187; in 1843, to £20,226,460; in 1844, to £23,514,141; and in 1845, to £23,332,187. The declared value of the said produce, &c., exported to Russia, other parts of Germany, Holland, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Turkey, Greece, Syria and Palestine, Egypt, Tripoli, Barbary, Morocco, the North of Africa, Arabia, Sumatra, and Java, China, Cuba, the foreign West Indies, Guatemala, Chili, and Peru, amounted, in 1839, to £13,952,261; in 1840, to £14,505,136; in 1841, to £14,182,064; in 1842, to £14,940,170; in 1843, to £16,394,998; in 1844, to £18,114,355; and in 1845, to £19,520,371. The value of the British and Irish produce and manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the British Colonies amounted, in 1839, to £16,3[illegible]; in 1840, to £17,158,307; in 1841, to £15,274,153; in 1842, to £13,821,067; in 1843, to £15,638,251; in 1844, to £16,655,296; and in 1845, to £17,348,224.

London Corn Trade.—The accounts from abroad, combined with large imports and splendid weather, have placed our Grain trade in a very dull and declining position. Prices of all descriptions have tumbled down in all directions. On the 21st June, factors succeeded in raising the price of English Wheat 2s. per quarter: Foreign moved off slowly at our last quotations. Indian Corn was procurable at considerably reduced prices. On the 23rd little business was done, and the advance noted above was lost. In Indian Corn no transactions. On the 25th hardly any business was transacted, both holders and buyers acting cautiously; indeed, had the latter shown any disposition to operate, lower prices for every article would have been accepted. On the 28th with an increased supply there was a decreased demand; and though factors were willing to accept prices 6s. to 8s. per qr., and in some cases 10s. below those of that day week, they could not succeed in clearing the stands. Foreign Wheat was likewise very difficult of disposal; and we must reduce quotations of the latter quite as much as those of the former. The millers put down the top price of Flour to 70s. per sack, and American Flour was at least 2s. per brl. lower than on Monday last.

It is confidently stated that the session of Parliament will be brought to a close on or about the 23d of July, and that Parliament will be dissolved on the day after prorogation.

In the late debate on the Irish railway, Mr. Shiel took the earliest opportunity of pronouncing an eloquent and pathetic eulogy on the late Mr. O'Connell. Mr. Shiel closed his address amidst the general applause of the House.

By the explanation given in Parliament, with reference to the effect of the late suspension of the Navigation Laws, it appears that 136 vessels, or 8757 tons, have brought corn to London, which could not have brought it under the old system.

The King and Queen of the Belgians, attended by the Lady in Waiting on her Majesty, Major de Moerkerke, and Dr. Carswell, have arrived in England on a visit to the Queen and Prince Albert.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert dined with the Duke of Wellington at Apsley House, at the Waterloo banquet given this year. This annual dinner was attended by about seventy military heroes, the whole of them, with the single illustrious exception of Prince Albert, having been present at the battle of Waterloo. His Grace the Duke of Wellington was in excellent health and spirits.

The Steam-ship Great Britain.—Great hopes are entertained that this mighty vessel will be released from her present position in the Bay of Dundrum. There is reason to believe that she will be got off during one of the early tides in July, under the superintendence of Capt. Claxton, R.N.

The steam ship *Washington* had arrived at Southampton from Bremen, on her return trip, performing the passage from Bremen to Southampton in forty six hours. She was to leave for New York on the 10th inst. She has brought about sixty passengers from Bremen, most of whom go on to New York. Amongst them are six nuns.

Considerable failures have taken place in Paris and Lyons, owing chiefly to large speculations in corn; and the extensive sugar refining house of the Marquis Forbin, Janson, & Co. of Marseilles, has stopped payment. Their liabilities amount to 11,500,000f., about £460,000.

Messrs. Sewell & Co., of London, in the sugar trade, have also stopped payment. Messrs. Clayton & Co., of Preston, bankers, have also stopped payment, and another inconsiderable failure in Wood-street, London, has transpired.

It is reported that about 50,000 sovereigns will be exported to America by the Britannia.

Free Trade.—Mr. Cobden is at Venice, and expresses himself surprised at the immense progress the principle of Free-Trade has made in Italy. The enthusiastic manifestations of which he was the object at Naples, Rome, Florence, Bologna, and Leghorn, were repeated in Piedmont. At Genoa, Vercell, and Novarros, Mr. Cobden was received with the liveliest demonstrations of sympathy.

Pension to Father Mathew.—Her Majesty has granted a pension of £300 a year to the Rev. Theobald Mathew. Lord John Russell, in communicating the fact to the rev. gentleman, stated that the pension was conferred upon him in consideration of the sacrifices he had made for the promotion of the morals, and the services he had rendered to the poorer classes—indeed, of all classes of his countrymen.

The late Thomas Hood.—It will be remembered that last year Lord John Russell was precluded by the terms of the Pension List Act from granting a pension to the children of this witty poet, but held out a promise that during the present month, the wishes of the public might be realised. The noble lord has redeemed his promise, and has recommended the Queen to grant a pension of £100 a-year upon the children of this unfortunate author.

We are happy to say that the Court of Directors of the East India Company have granted a pension of £1000 per annum to Major Gen. Sir George Pollock, G.C.B., in consideration of his eminent services in India, especially, while commanding the forces during the second invasion of Affghanistan.

Mandioco Flour.—A small parcel of 114 bags of this article has been recently imported from Pernambuco.

Caledonian Canal.—The navigation of the Caledonian Canal is now open to vessels, with their standing masts; by adopting which passage mariners will save the circumnavigation of Great Britain. The completion of this truly national undertaking is of great importance.

The Sarah Sands.—This steamer, which left Liverpool on the 15th ult. for New York, has put into Cove with machinery damaged, after running about 500 miles on her course. The captain confidently expects to sail again on Saturday.

Captain Mathews, so long and honourably known as the commander of the steam-ship Great Western, assumes the command of the ship Catherine, which is about to sail from London for Aden and Bombay.

In France, the fall of the Guizot ministry was hourly expected, in consequence of charges of corruption against several of that minister's colleagues.

Death of Admiral the Hon. Sir Robert Stopford, G. C. B.—This officer has just died, at Richmond, at the advanced age of eighty, after a service in the royal navy of a period close upon seventy years. Latterly the gallant officer has been best known as Governor of Greenwich Hospital. Sir R. Stopford was a member of the noble house of Courtown, and was born in 1768. He was a midshipman in Rodney's action, 12th April, 1782, and commanded in 1839-40 the Mediterranean fleet at the memorable bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre.

The French Embassy.—Count St. Aulaire has arrived in London for the purpose of taking formal leave of her Majesty previous to his vacating his post as ambassador to this court. We understand that the Duke de Broglie, the successor of the Count de St. Aulaire, will arrive this day or to-morrow from France to enter on his diplomatic functions as ambassador.

Three individuals have been taken into custody at Glasgow who were caught sprinkling a potato field with vitriol, in order to produce blackness of the stems and leaves, to create a panic and raise the price of grain.

Mr. Daniell, the African traveller, has reached England, after escaping all the vicissitudes of a comparatively unknown country in south-western Africa. He has had several attacks of fever, and escaped death under various guises. He has, however, reaped a rich ethnological collection, which he intends immediately to lay before the Ethnological Society.

The Switzerland, American line of packet ship, has arrived at Spithead. Amongst her passengers were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, the celebrated tragedians, who landed at the Quebec, and proceeded thence to their seat at Key Dell, near Portsmouth.

Liverpool Timber Market.—The arrivals from British America consist of 8 vessels, 3435 tons. The demand from the country has been but limited.—*American Pine Timber:* The cargo of St. John Pine, which arrived, has been yarded,—by auction. 50 logs were sold at 18d. and by private 50 of smaller average at 16½d. Of Quebec no sales of cargoes are reported; a few choice and long logs were sold by auction at 18d, and a remnant of small sized, about 9000 feet, at 14¼d. per foot.—*Red Pine:* There are no sales to report.—*Spars:* A few were sold at 15½d. and some Halifax at 16d. per foot.—*Quebec Deals:* Some small parcels of middling Yellow were sold by auction at £6 10s. and £10 7s. 6d. per standard, and a parcel of Spruce at £10 6s. 8d. per standard.—*New Brunswick & Nova Scotia Fir Planks & Boards:* A small parcel of Halifax Planks and Boards was sold at 2¾d. and a cargo from Nova Scotia at 2½d. per foot. A cargo of St. John has been sold at £10 10s. per standard. Two other large cargoes have arrived, and are not yet sold, one is advertised for auction on Friday, 2d July.—*Staves:* There is not much doing in Quebec standard; a small parcel has been sold at £45 per standard. A parcel of good quality United States Pipe Staves was sold at £50 per M., and several parcels of United States W. O. Puncheon at from £8 to £12 per M., and a parcel of R. and W. Oak (mixed) at £9 per M.—*Lathwood:* Halifax with cargo was sold at 30s. and St. John and Quebec, from the yard, at £4 10s. per fathom.—*Chaloner and Fleming.*

Ireland.—Besides the enormous loan of eight millions already granted to the Irish people, the Government have now come forward with a proposition to advance about £600,000 to three of the railway undertakings in Ireland, which have paid up half their capital. The proposition was carried in the Commons by a large majority.

At present there is no indication of an united national Irish party being created out of the divided and exhausted fragments of the Repeal Association. The country is still a prey to famine and pestilence, and many years must elapse before she can recover herself. The conflicting statements circulated respecting the prospects of the potato crop, render it still difficult to give any positive opinion on the subject; but the decided tone adopted by Lord John Russell on the subject in the House of Commons, has left an unfavourable impression on the public mind. Whilst, however, it is our duty to point out the declaration of the chief Minister of the crown respecting the apprehended loss on the potato crop, it is right to add that the opinion expressed by his lordship is at variance with many reports which have reached us from respectable sources from all parts of the United Kingdom on this important subject.

Remains of Mr. O'Connell.—We perceive that final arrangements are made for the conveyance of the remains of Mr. O'Connell to their native and last home. The Dublin Cemetery Committee had undertaken the expense; but the Oriental steam-packet outdid them in liberality, and have undertaken the conveyance of the corpse home, free of all charges whatever. The steamer which will bear the remains will have reached Genoa about the 27th ult., thence it will proceed to Leghorn and Civita Vecchia, and return to England *via* Genoa and Gibraltar. The day of arrival at Southampton is fixed for the 17th of July. The steamer selected is the Queen, on whose deck a mourning canopy will be erected. The 20th of July will be about the day of arrival in Dublin.

New Roman Catholic Bishop of Cork.—With reference to our previous statement respecting this bishopric, it is now reported that Father Mathew, who was first on the list forwarded to the Pope by the Cork clergy, has been passed over, and the Rev. W. Delany, P.P. of Bandon, has been appointed bishop by the Court of Rome.

Immense Arrival of Provisions at Cork.—The largest fleet of vessels ever seen in Cove, all laden with breadstuffs, are now lying there. During Monday and Tuesday, 67 vessels arrived corn-freighted. Since Friday last, over 200 ships with maize, wheat, barley, &c., have arrived in our harbour. On Wednesday, 35 vessels, similarly freighted, arrived. Many others are hourly expected. Good marketable Indian corn now selling from £12 to £12 10s. per ton. Cove is crowded with vessels, and those vessels are crowded with what *was* corn. We have already intimated that, through their long detention at Gibraltar, the corn in many of them had heated, and would, consequently, be useless.—*Cork Constitution.*

The Crops in Ireland.—After a careful examination of the detailed statements in the Dublin and Irish provincial papers, the conclusion we have come to is, that the potato crop is, up to this, safe, and that it is probable it will continue so; all the other products of the harvest promise to be early, good, and abundant.

The port of Limerick is making rapid advances in commercial importance. In 1844-1845, the shipping which used the harbour numbered 585, and their tonnage was 72,686 tons. In 1846-1847, the number increased to 993, and the tonnage to 141,391; being an increase of 68,705 tons.

We regret to observe that that inexhaustible source of wealth, the Deep Sea Fisheries of Ireland, is still neglected by capitalists. A Joint Stock Company has been suggested, the subscriptions of which would be limited to £120! for the operations of the first half year. If confidence could be created in Ireland, instead of £120 half a million of money might be beneficially employed in this national undertaking with a certainty of a brilliant result.

China.—The Overland Mail from India has brought the intelligence of two serious conflicts in the Chinese Seas—the one between the English and the Chinese; the other between the French squadron and the Cochin Chinese, in the Bay of Touran. It would appear that Sir John Davis, the governor of Hong Kong, having ineffectually endeavoured to procure redress for the piratical acts of the Chinese, and for the numerous insults which are continually offered to the English residents in China, and having failed in procuring the fulfilment of the treaty of Nankin, which stipulated for the admission of foreigners into the city of Canton, resolved to strike some blow which should compel the Chinese authorities to listen to reason. Accordingly, having made his arrangements, Sir John Davis, accompanied by General D'Aguilar, with about 1000 men of all arms, embarked on board her Majesty's ships Vulture and Espiegle, the Hon. Company's steamer Pluto, and the Corsair, with one or two small vessels for the conveyance of artillery and troops,—the whole naval forces being under the command of Captain Macdougall, the senior officer on the station. With this expedition Sir John Davis entered the Bocca Tigris at 9 a.m. of the 2nd April, surprised the Anunghoy forts, as well as those on the Islands of North and South Wantong, and carried them on both sides of the river in a few minutes. The guns, amounting to 450, were spiked, and all the arms and ammunition collected instantly destroyed. Having thus secured a communication with Hong Kong, the expedition advanced up the river, and reached Whampoa late in the afternoon. All the troops were transferred on board such vessels as could proceed up the river. Sir John reached the barrier, formed of stakes, and extending across the river, at 9 a.m. on the 3rd April, and forced a passage. The forts at Whampoa and Wookingtap fired round-shot and grape at the division under Colonel Brereton, but by his judicious management he avoided their effects; and being effectually supported by the guns of the Pluto, the gallant Colonel took possession of those forts, spiked the guns, amounting to 200 more, and destroyed all the ammunition and magazines. The river being now cleared of impediments, the expedition advanced up to Canton, and here the strong fort called French Folly was eventually demolished like those lower down the river, and the guns spiked—making a total of 870 guns disabled since the preceding morning. These vigorous proceedings reduced Keying to reason. After some further Chinese procrastination, Keying was compelled to wait humiliatingly upon the Governor, who received him at the British Consulate. After a long conference, Keying solicited time for consideration before he acceded to the terms dictated at the point of the bayonet by Sir John Davis. On the 6th, general orders were issued to commence the attack on the city of Canton, but between eight and nine o'clock, it was notified that Keying had yielded to the terms of Sir J. Davis, just in time to save the city, and the assault was countermanded. A Government notification was immediately issued, of which the following are briefly the heads:—

"1. At the fixed period of two years from this day, the 6th of April, the city of Canton shall be opened to British subjects.

"2. Her Majesty's subjects shall be at liberty to roam for exercise or amusement in the neighbouring country without molestation, returning the same day, as at Shanghai, and any persons molesting them shall be severely punished.

"3. The aggressors on the two seamen in October last, and on Colonel Chesney and others at Fuhshan on the 12th of March, shall be made examples of."

A space on the Honan side of the river for the erection of warehouses, &c.; a site for a new church; and other minor arrangements, including the keeping the river front before the factories clear of boats, were provided for.

After agreeing to these terms, Keying still evaded their fulfilment, and it was only after further demonstrations of strength and resolution on the part of Sir John Davis, by threatening the city, and by actually razing a house to the ground, whence a stone had been hurled against an English officer, that Keying reluctantly consented at last to punish the Fuhshan rioters within the factories. The populace at Canton appeared still highly exasperated against the English, and no workmen could be found to erect the walls and buildings agreed upon. The main body of the troops were removed down the river on the 8th, a company of the 18th and a few Sappers being left at Canton until the improvements are carried out, and to keep the populace in check. The opinion generally prevails that the terms of the new agreement are not of such paramount importance as to justify the serious steps taken by Sir John Davis. The delay of two years before the city of Canton shall be opened to British subjects is generally complained of, as an evasion and violation of the treaty of Nankin. Great alarm prevailed at Canton by the last accounts, and the merchants were removing their property under the apprehension of violence from the Chinese.

In India, the distressing state of the dominions of the Nizam rendered it probable that the Indian Government would interfere for the purpose of restoring order.

The French missionaries in Cochin China having for many years past excited perpetually recurring disputes with the nation, the government at length interfered, threw the missionaries into prison, and upon releasing them sent them to Singapore. The French ships of war La Gloire and La Victorieuse sailed into the bay of Touran to obtain redress, and laid an embargo on five corvettes. The French allege that a conspiracy was formed on shore to assassinate the French at a conference which was sought to be arranged between the parties. An explanation was demanded by the French, when the following day war junks were seen working into the bay; and the result was, the French ships opened their fire, which was returned by the forts, the five corvettes, and the war junks. The artillery of the natives effected little damage, but in seventy minutes one of the corvettes was burned, another blown up, and a third sunk. The remaining two were afterwards captured and set on fire. The natives, perceiving the destruction of the corvettes, desisted from firing from the forts and junks, and the French withdrew from the bay. It is stated that the Cochin Chinese lost upwards of 1000 men, while the French had only one killed and another wounded. The actual origin of the dispute appears involved in some obscurity.

Italy.—Pope Pius IX., on the 15th ult. gave audience to the son of the Liberator of Ireland, and made a eulogy of Daniel O'Connell in terms which must have excited the gratitude and admiration of the young member for Dundalk. According to what has been stated, at the moment at which the visitor rose, after having kissed the feet of the holy father, the Pope said to him:—"Since I am deprived of the happiness so long desired of embracing the hero of Christianity, let me, at least, have the consolation of embracing his son!" And, at the same time the holy father pressed him twice to his heart.

On the 12th ult., the Government of Florence issued a proclamation interdicting all popular meetings for the purpose of manifesting approbation or disapprobation, or for making petitions or demands, whatever may be the object, or whoever may be the persons addressed, whether public or private, and declaring that those who call the meetings shall be imprisoned for terms not less than ten days nor more than two months; and that those who attend the meetings shall undergo one-half of that punishment. By a decree, dated the 14th ult., the Grand Duke grants a general pardon to all persons accused of being implicated in the political offences lately committed at Pisa and its environs. All prosecutions already instituted are stopped, and the prisoners set at liberty.

Greece and Turkey.—The Porte has accepted the proposition of Prince Metternich for settling the difference between Greece and Turkey. The Grand Vizier's letter has been handed to the English Minister, and by him forwarded to Vienna. The difference is regarded as settled. M. Mussurus will return to Athens, but will not, it is thought, long remain there.

Cape of Good Hope.—There was no news from the frontier of any consequence. The troops were still advancing, but the Kafirs took the precaution of keeping beyond gun range. The cattle also had been kept out of reach, but some few had fallen into the hands of the troops.

Sir Henry Pottinger was actively engaged with the arrangement of affairs on the frontier, though no decided event had occurred. The new Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Henry Young, had also reached the Cape. The intelligence from the interior continues, on the whole, to be of a satisfactory description.

Mauritius.—The sugar crop will amount to 120,000,000 lbs.

Consecration.—On Thursday the 8th inst. the Lord Bishop of Fredericton consecrated a new Church at Dipper Harbour, Parish of Lancaster, in this County, which received the name of St. Thomas. His Lordship was accompanied on the occasion by the Rev. J. W. Disbrow, Rector of Loch Lomond, and the Rev. T. W. Robertson, officiating Minister of the Parish of Lancaster, who is deserving of great praise for his exertions in getting three Churches erected in the Parish, which but a short time ago was without a Minister of the Established Church. The Church is beautifully situated, and is neatly finished and trimmed. The seats are all free.—13 persons were confirmed.

At Montreal, on the 8th inst., the thermometer rose to 96 deg. in the shade.

St. Andrews and Quebec Railway.—The London Board of Directors of this Company comprises the following eminent and influential names:

The Rt. Hon. the Earl Fitzwilliam, *President.*

Directors—Rt. Hon. the Lord Ashburton, John Milligan Laws, the Hon. George Pemberton, (formerly of Quebec.) Wm. D. Puget, George Burge, Esq., with power to add to their number.

The St. Andrews Standard says—"We congratulate this community, and the Province generally, on the marked success of the Delegation to England, which ensures the construction of the Railway to Woodstock, and eventually to the Grand Falls. The Engineers and others of the Company are expected from England with Capt. Robinson, and on their arrival, the construction of the Railway will forthwith commence."

Lady Colebrooke feeling too unwell to proceed on her intended trip to Boston, in H. M. Brig *Daring*, her Ladyship and attendants landed on Tuesday evening.—The Daring sailed on a cruize in the Bay, on Wednesday morning.

Last evening, at the Mechanics' Institute, the Rev. Dr. Burns gave a full and highly interesting statement of the principles, position, and prospects of the Free Church of Scotland. The audience, which was large and respectable, manifested the greatest interest in the statements made by the Rev. gentleman, and the eloquent language and pleasing style in which they were set forth.

We learn that there are strong prospects of immediate measures being taken for the organization of a Free Scotch Church in this city. A provisional committee is to be appointed, and other preliminary arrangements entered into for carrying out the object.

We also understand that Dr. Burns thinks it not improbable that his brother, the Rev. Dr. George Burns, the first, and for fourteen years the Minister of St. Andrews Church in this city, may be induced to visit St. John for a short time, for the purpose of organizing and establishing the Free Church. A visit from the Doctor would be highly gratifying to many of his former flock, as well as to the citizens generally of all denominations, by whom he was much respected.

On Sunday, Dr. Burns preached three eloquent sermons in the Mechanics' Institute, to large and deeply attentive congregations.

Quarantine.—The brig Trafalgar, from Cork, which arrived at the Quarantine ground on Thursday, embarked 126 passengers. Twelve died on the passage, and two more soon after her arrival. Thirty of the passengers and three seamen are now ill with fever.

Much praise is due to the Right Rev. Dr. Dollard, Roman Catholic Bishop of this Province, for his strict attention to the spiritual wants of the sick,—not only does he send a Clergyman daily to visit the Station, but his Lordship occasionally attends to the duty personally.

A Chinese Junk! said to have been bound to London, but lost her way, arrived at New York on Friday the 9th instant. She is named the Keying, and had a passage of two hundred and twelve days from Canton—touching at St. Helena on the 23d of April. She has on board a host of Chinese curiosities. Her crew consists of 40 Chinamen, and 20 Europeans.

The Keying was towed up to the city from quarantine, on Tuesday last, and was moored to the pier at Castle Garden, where she is to be exhibited. She was decorated in a splendid manner with Chinese flags and emblems, and in coming up the bay saluted the vessels in the harbour. The Keying is a great "curiosity shop," and will be visited by the million.

On Sunday the 11th inst a Sermon was preached at Sand Point, Carleton, by the Rev. Mr. Irvine, on the occasion of the violent death of the late Mr. White, when a collection was made in aid of the distressed widow and her ten fatherless children. Other benevolent individuals who may be inclined to aid the distressed, are informed that subscriptions for the relief of this truly afflicted family will be received at the News Room and several public places in the City, where subscription papers have been left.—*Courier.*

New Vessels.—A splendid ship, of 838 tons, named the *Infanta*, built and owned by Mr. John Haws, was launched from his Yard in Portland on the 8th inst. She is in every respect a superior vessel.

On Wednesday, was launched from the building yard of Mr. John Fisher, Lower Cove, a substantial and well built ship of 750 tons, named the *Forfarshire*, owned by Mr. James Walker, jun. of this City.

On Thursday, was launched from the Building Yard of Messrs. Owens & Duncan, Portland, a splendid ship of 1450 tons burthen, named the *Forest Monarch*. She is constructed of the best materials, and is, we believe, the largest vessel ever built in this Province. The Forest Monarch is owned by her enterprising builders.

A fine first class ship, of 750 tons, named the *Gipsey*, built at Wilmot, N. S. by Messrs. Hilyard & F. Smith, jr., was towed into our harbour on the 12th inst. by the steamer Maid of Erin. She has been purchased by Messrs. W. & R. Wright, of this City.

The Maid of Erin also towed into the harbour, on Wednesday last, a fine copper fastened ship of about 500 tons, built at Quaco, by the Messrs. Fownes, for R. D. Wilmot, Esq. of this City.

The same steamer also towed into port on Saturday, a first class ship, named the *India*, of 750 tons, built at St. Mary's Bay, N. S. by Mr. J. W. Doane, for Mr. James Robertson, of this City. She is to be commanded by Capt. John Thomson.

A handsome new Brig, named the *Alcedo*, built by Mr. Young, at Wilmot, N. S. for Mr. O. V. Troop, of this city, was towed into port on Friday by the steamer Saxe Gotha. She is constructed of excellent materials, in the most substantial manner.

Rioting.—We regret to state that party feeling is now carried to such a height in this Province, that the return of the 12th of July is annually made the occasion for a display of lawless disorder truly disgraceful to those who take part in it. Last Monday the Orange Societies met at a building in Portland and some of the members of the Mechanics' Band who had been in attendance, in returning to the City in the evening were attacked at York Point, and several of them were severely beaten, and had their instruments broken. This led to further disturbance during the night, and the use of fire arms. Some of the houses at York Point bear marks of frequent discharges of these deadly weapons, in the streets in that densely populated part of the City.—Several persons who were engaged in the affray, received pistol-shot wounds, but we are not aware that any of them have proved fatal. One person was severely wounded in the leg.

His Worship the Mayor being sent for, about one o'clock on Tuesday morning, he sent a requisition to Major Blake, Commandant, who ordered out a detachment of the 33d Regiment, but they did not succeed in apprehending any of the rioters, who all fled on the approach of the military.—*Courier.*

At *Fredericton*, the Orange Society met in the long room in Mr. Marsh's building, opposite the Barrack Gate; and a fight, as usual, took place in the neighbourhood.—Capt. Walker, of the 33d Regt. courageously interfered and saved a man's life, but received some severe bruises in the face from the mob. Another man had his leg broken, and at night a third was fired at and wounded with slugs, and is since dead. His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and His Honor Judge Street and several of the Magistrates, went among the rioters, and used their endeavours to persuade them to disperse.

We learn from the Fredericton Reporter of Friday, that the whole of Thursday was occupied by the Coroner, Henry Fisher, jr. Esq., and a Jury, in holding an inquest on the body of the deceased. At one o'clock, on Friday, the jury returned the following verdict:—

"The Jury are of opinion that the deceased, Thomas Welch, came to his death by means of a shot fired from some description of fire-arms, by some person or persons unknown. That there is reason to suspect that the fatal shot was fired from the house of William Armstrong, situate in Carleton Street."

While the Inquest was sitting in one end of the Court, the Magistrates were employed in the other taking depositions and issuing Warrants in cases connected with the late riots. In fact, the whole Town seems to be converted into one great Court of Enquiry; and among the respectable part of all denominations, there is only one desire manifested—namely, to uphold the power of the Law, and guard the quiet of the City. A large number of Special Constables walk the streets by night, and the place seems as peaceful as ever.—*Reporter.*

Armstrong, who is said to be an extremely quiet and inoffensive man, had previously been taken into custody.

Armstrong has been acquitted by the Coroner's Jury.

From *Woodstock*, the reports are of a still more serious nature. It is said that the Orangemen, who had attended Divine service on Monday, were attacked by the Catholic party on their return, and fired at, but, being prepared, returned the fire. Rumour states that several were killed and a number wounded; the accounts, however, are very conflicting, and not to be relied on.

The Fredericton Reporter of Friday furnishes the following:—

Accounts from Woodstock are, up to the present moment, highly contradictory; for while some affirm that no lives have been lost on the 12th, there are others who affirm, we fear with a greater degree of truth, that five at least have fallen victims to their folly. Add to the above, that 70 persons are now close prisoners in the Village, and the whole affair will be owned truly deplorable. On Wednesday, an Officer, Sergeant, and nine rank and file, left here for Woodstock; but whether to preserve the peace there, or to bring down the prisoners—there being no jail in Woodstock,—we cannot say. In the mean time, it is stated, we hope on dubious authority, that a number of [illegible] French and Indians are showing signs of insubordination. An express arrived at Government House yesterday from Woodstock, but we have not precisely ascertained the nature of the information of which he was the bearer.

A large pleasure party of ladies and gentlemen, under the auspices of the St. John Young Men's Total Abstinence Society, left this City this morning, in the steamer *St. John*, on a visit to Fredericton, and are to return to-morrow. They are accompanied by one of the City Amateur Bands.

The *News* states, that arrangements are in progress for running a line of steamers twice a week from this city to Portland, and that the *Maid of Erin* and the American steamer *John Marshall* are to form the line.

Miramichi Quarantine Report.—Dr. Thomson, Health Officer, reports that there were 302 passengers and seamen in the Lazaretto on Middle Island, last Tuesday morning—26 seamen and 30 passengers labouring under disease, 12 cases in a hopeless state, and 72 placed on quarantine of observation. Capt. Thain was improving fast.

Presbytery of Miramichi.—We understand that the Presbytery of Miramichi, at their last meeting held at Campbelton, Restigouche, on Thursday the 1st of July, ordained the Rev. Dempster Wallace, Preacher of the Gospel, authorizing him to perform all the offices of the sacred ministry, as Missionary within the bounds of the Presbytery of Miramichi.

The Rev. Wm. Henderson, A. M., preached a very suitable and impressive discourse on the occasion to a crowded and most attentive audience.

Baptist Association.—The annual meeting of the Ministers and Messengers from the Baptist Churches in this Province took place at Jacksontown, County of Carleton, on the 5th instant, and was continued for three days. Upwards of forty Ministers were present, but of the seventy-one Churches composing the body, only fifty-one were represented in the Association. The Rev. S. Robinson, of Saint John, presided as Moderator. A resolution was passed for dividing the Association into two—the Eastern and Western. The dividing line to commence at the harbour of St. [illegible], run up the river St. John to the mouth [illegible] seg, thence up the Grand Lake and Salmon River, thence to Restigouche. The Churches comprised in the districts lying between this line and the Province of Nova Scotia, to form the Eastern Association, and those to the Westward of the line, including the Churches in the City of St. John and its immediate vicinity, to compose the Western Association. The former to meet at Moncton on the third Monday after the 20th June, and the latter at St. George on the first Monday in September, 1848.

The Association also resolved to support Missionaries for a year at the Grand Falls and the Bay Chaleur, and also to send a Missionary to aid the Rev. R. E. Burpe, in his labours in foreign lands, so soon as a competent person can be obtained.—On the last day of the Association, the Rev. Mr. Reed, late a Minister of the Independent Church, was publicly recognised and installed into the Ministry of the Baptist Church.

From the Yarmouth (N.S.) Herald, July 12.

Congregational Union.—A number of Clergymen and lay members of the Congregational or Independent order, deputed from various Churches of this Province and New-Brunswick, are holding their annual denominational Session at the Meeting House in Chebogue. We have been present during some of their discussions, and have been pleased with the objects they contemplate, and the spirit and temper of their proceedings. They are connected with the same denomination with which the names of John Owen, John Howe, Dr. Watts, Rowland Hill, John Angel James, Dr. Harris, and Dr. Campbell are identified. These men are stars of the first magnitude in the Protestant Church, and form a constellation that will in ages to come, illuminate the progress of many a Christian pilgrim in "the highway of holiness."

We have read a pamphlet containing their principles, order, and discipline, and were particularly pleased with the following:—

"They believe it is the duty of all Christians to render the honour, tribute, and obedience which are due to the powers that be; at the same time, they believe that religion lies beyond the legitimate range of all human legislation; that no obedience is due to the magistrate in things religious; and that all state patronage and support rendered to one or more denominations is spiritual injury to those communities themselves, and a civil wrong to the rest of the inhabitants."

This principle was beautifully exemplified, or rather illustrated, by the course they pursued on Friday evening while passing resolutions in reference to a Collegiate Institution which they are about to establish in Liverpool. They distinctly repudiated the idea of receiving one farthing from the Provincial Chest to assist them in the undertaking, and denounced all state endowments, for any denominational object, whether educational or otherwise, as incompatible with Bible authority and Christian independence. Mrs. Gorham, of Liverpool, (N.S.) has given the munificent sum of £1000 to erect a suitable building; and they adopted measures for its immediate erection. Several of the Congregational Clergymen now present we have heard preach, and must say that they possess pulpit talent of a highly respectable order.

The Late Dr. Chalmers.—It will, we are sure, afford pleasure to all our readers to learn that the Queen, on the advice of Lord John Russell, has settled on Mrs. Dr. Chalmers and her family, a pension, on the Civil List, of £200 a-year.

Another Enterprise of Cunard's.—The Britannia brings intelligence of the Hon. S. Cunard having entered into an engagement with the Government to establish a line of steam packets between this port and Bermuda.—*Halifax Recorder.*

Electric Telegraph.—There are over 1500 miles finished in America and in operation; and other 5000 miles are under contract, and will be finished before a twelvemonth.

Quebec, July 7.—H. M. troop-ship Apollo, from Portsmouth via Halifax, with drafts, arrived at Grosse Isle on Sunday, where she landed her sick—having the small pox on board—and came into port this afternoon.

We are sorry to learn that Capt. Heitland, Royal Artillery, died of small pox on the 30th ult and was interred on Hare Island.

The Rev. Mr. Montminy, cure of St. Gervais, died this morning. He had been employed at the Quarantine Station, where he contracted the disease.

The number of deaths at Grosse Isle for the week ending Saturday, July 3, was 144; discharged, 331; in hospital 1,817. Forty-two bodies (chiefly children) were brought on shore and buried on the island, during the same period.

July 12.—At Grosse Isle, the sickness has been somewhat less and the deaths not so numerous; but in the different towns where passengers have been landed, on their way to the interior, the hospitals have been filled, and scenes the most appalling are of daily occurrence. In Montreal, particularly, wretchedness almost beyond belief has been, through the medium of the press, brought to light; and this too in the face of all that has been done to afford relief—the expense already incurred for the immigrants this year having exceeded £20,000.

Montreal.—Two Catholic Priests, the Rev. Mr. Morgan and the Rev. L. Richard, of St. Sulpice, have died in this City, of fever; seven or eight others are stated to be dangerously ill; and the Superior of the Montreal Seminary, is said to have contracted the disease.

The Montreal Pilot presents the following sad picture of suffering and death:—

"There are at the present moment 43 nuns sick from exposure, fatigue, and the attacks of the disease. All the Grey Nuns in attendance, two of the Sisters of Charity, five physicians, and eight students, now lie sick: to which gloomy and sickening record we must add the number of 1536 persons, of all ages and sexes, lingering on beds of corruption and wretchedness, in many cases without an attendant to afford a drop of water or even attend to those decent formalities which the sad solemnities of death require."

And still the Immigrants are coming by thousands. The Emigrant Agent at Quebec has received lists of emigrants who sailed between the 1st and 19th June, to the number of 9000.