The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, DECEMBER 30, 1851.

ENGLISH NEWS.—By the arrival of the Royal Mail Steamship *Canada* at Halifax, on Friday last, we have English dates to the 13th inst. She brought 32 passengers for Boston and two for Halifax. The hull of the Canada, when she arrived, was completely covered from stem to stern, with ice.

The English news is very scanty—the papers being chiefly filled with French and other continental intelligence.

Timber market less active, prices had given way a little in the face of large arrivals. Cotton—sales of the week 31,780 bales, at a decline of about 1-8d per lb. Flour and Wheat in less request, the former declined 6d. per barrel, the latter 1d. per 70 lbs. Tea—large arrivals had checked sales, and a decline had been submitted to. Sugar—a larger business done at a decline of 6d. per cwt.

There have arrived in London during the present year nearly 100 sail of wood-laden ship, more than last year. The excess of importation amounts to between 15 and 20 thousand tons.

A few gentlemen of Birmingham have remitted to M. Kossuth a present of about £1000 since his departure for the United States. It is said he left for the U. States with only £10 in his pocket.

Dr. Makellar is to be proposed as Moderator for the next General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland.

The congregation of the parish church of Stanley recently rose *en masse*, and left the church during the ceremony of the induction of a minister well known for his Puseyite principles.

It is generally stated that the Rev. Mr. M'Dougall, the senior missionary at Sarawak, will be appointed first Bishop of the proposed new diocese of Borneo, Sir James Brooke being strongly in favor of the appointment.

Her Majesty has been pleased to order, from local manufacturers, bonnets for the princesses and a hat for the youthful Prince Arthur, of Orkney straw plait.

Capt. Peel, R. N., son of the late Sir Robert Peel, has commissioned H. M. *Spartan*, 26—destination not stated.

The Submarine Telegraph.—It is stated that the public show an increasing disposition to avail themselves of the submarine telegraph. Messages, both from London and Liverpool, have been transmitted to Paris, Havre, Vienna, Trieste, Hamburgh, and Ostend, and in one instance a communication was forwarded to Cracow, to be despatched thence by mail to Odessa.

During the present year not less than 670 new houses have been erected at Preston.

The Crystal Palace will be thrown open gratuitously to the public on the 1st January, 1852.

Death of Priessnitz Founder of the Water Cure.—Priessnitz, the celebrated founder of hydropathy, died at Grafenburg, on the 29th ult., at the age of 52.

THE NAVIGATION LAWS.—No less than 74 new vessels, whose aggregate tonnage amounts to 32,000, are on the stocks in the building yards on the banks of the Wear. Four noble vessels, of an average approaching 700 tons, were launched on Saturday; others will be launched during the present springs.

The Late King of Hanover.—The *Weser Zeitung* states that Ernest Augustus, according to an arrangement made some years ago, will be buried in his uniform of an English field-marshal. The body, according to the same directions, if the physicians wish it, may be opened, but the head and breast are not to be injured. If the body is not opened, a vein of the neck is to be divided before burial.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE.—At a recent meeting of the Royal National Institution for the Preservation of Life from Shipwreck, held in London, it was announced that the Society's medals had been awarded to the coxswains of five Liverpool Life Boats, through whose instrumentality 1128 lives had been saved during the past ten years.

COLT'S REVOLVERS.—Lieut. Col. Inglis, of H. M. 32d Regt. (son of the late Bishop of Nova Scotia) about to leave England to rejoin his corps in India, with others, has obtained the sanction of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to receive samples for his own use, of Colonel Colt's Revolver Pistols from the American Department, Park.

On Tuesday Cardinal Wiseman laid the foundation stone of a new Roman Catholic church, in Westmoreland-terrace, Bayswater. The edifice is being built by subscription, upwards of £6000 having been contributed by two ladies, sisters, now deceased, and it is dedicated to St. Helen, the mother of Constantine, the first Christian emperor. The entire cost, including a convent and schools, will be about £16,000.

NEW CONVICT SETTLEMENT.—The project of establishing a new convict settlement at New Caledonia, in the Southern Archipelago, has for some time occupied the attention of her Majesty's Government, and active steps for the purpose are at this moment under consideration. The island is described by those who have visited it in whaling ships as presenting resources of a most valuable character, teeming with vegetation, and abounding in varieties of timber of the best description, suitable alike for shipbuilding and other useful purposes, whilst the climate is, at the same time, said to be delightfully salubrious, and the harbors already known, safe and capacious.

East India Tobacco.—The Lords of the Treasury have directed Mr. Cornewall Lewis to convey to the Commissioners of Customs, their lordships' authority, for permitting the importation of tobacco from the British possessions in the East Indies, in bales containing not less than one hundred weight each.

A Van Dieman's Land journal says that a waterfall, which has a clear fall of 600 feet, has been discovered in a rocky gorge of the Grey Mountain, at a distance of about twenty miles from Hobart Town.

IRELAND.—The contributions to the Catholic University exceed £30,000.—The Customs duties received at Dublin for the past week exceed those of the corresponding period last year £2 300.—The next annual meeting and show of the R. I. Agricultural Society is to take place at Galway.—Cardinal Wiseman is to be the guest of the Limerick Constituency at a Dinner about to be given to their Representative, the Earl of Surrey.—It is said that the Roman Catholic hierarchy have decided not to celebrate a marriage between a Protestant woman and a Catholic man, unless the former consents to have the children brought up in the Catholic faith. Dr. Wiseman will, it is said, uphold the Catholics of England in a similar resolve. It is presumed that the vacancy in the Chancellorship of Dublin University, caused by the demise of the Duke of Hanover, will be filled by the Lord Lieutenant, who has long held the appointment of Vice-Chancellor.

PACIFICATION OF PARTS OF THE COUNTIES TYRONE AND ARMAGH.—At a Privy Council in Dublin Castle, at which his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant presided, the parishes of Clonfeacle, Muckno, in the barony of Cremorne, in the county of Monaghan, were proclaimed under the Crime and Outrage Act. In the above parishes lie the scene of the frightful murder of Mr. Thomas D. Bateson. The parishes of Derrynoose and Keady in the baronies of Tiranny and Armagh, county of Armagh, were also proclaimed.

A New Field for Irish Emigrants.—The Dublin Evening Mail says:—"The Spanish Government have, we are informed, conceded a grant of two hundred and fifty square miles of country on the banks of the Guadalquiver, in the Provinces of Andalusia and Estremadura, containing more than 160,000 acres of land, of the richest quality, to be colonized by Irish settlers, under the following conditions:—Exemption from taxation for 25 years. Admission of the furniture, clothing, and agricultural implements free of duty. Privilege of felling timber for building in the royal forests. Power to appoint their own municipal authorities. The district in question having been depopulated by the expulsion of the Moors, has never since been fully occupied.

PRIZE LIFE BOAT.—The Duke of Northumberland's offer of a prize of 100 guineas for the best model of a Life Boat, induced 280 competitors to present their claims; that designed and built by Mr. Jas. Beeching, of Yarmouth, carried off the palm. She has been successfully tried in Ramsgate Harbour against the Broadstairs life-boat and others. She was subsequently brought under a crane, and by means of tackle capsized with one hand on board; in fourteen seconds she relieved and righted herself without any inconvenience to the man more than a wet jacket. This life-boat has room for 40 to 50 souls, sails and rows admirably, and for efficiency and safety, is pronounced superior to anything yet invented.

A deputation of the Society of Friends have had an interview with Lord John Russell, and presented a memorial deprecating the Caffre war, recommending the restitution of land taken from the Caffres, and the adoption of just principles of intercourse.

The *Inverness Courier*, as an instance of manufacturing enterprise, mentions that a woolen-mill is about to be erected in the county of Sutherland, and fitted up with the improved machinery now in use, at the expense of the Duke of Sutherland.

Mr. Ralph Steel, at Newcastle, has invented a saw capable of sawing timber into any shape for ship's use, either ship knees or ship timber of any description. The saw, at the same time that it is capable of cutting timber to any given shape, can also be applied to cutting straight.

The first lighthouse ever erected in the Indies was lighted lately. It is built on a rock near Singapore called Pedra Bancha, and is a revolving light.

At Verona a lady, named Pedrazza, is sentenced to two years' in a dungeon, in irons, for having carried on a secret correspondence on political subjects.

Public prayers were offered, on the 23d ult., in church of Atocha, at Madrid, for the safe delivery of the Queen. Her Majesty had ordered 10,000 reals to be given to each of the two nurses who had come from Santander to suckle the royal infant, but were not accepted by the Queen.

It was reported in Berlin, on the 29th ult., that the Hungarian agent, Patocki, arrested in Rendsburg for attempting to seduce the Austrian soldiers of the garrison from their allegiance, had been shot by sentence of a court-martial.

The London *Times* cautions the capitalists of Europe against placing implicit reliance on American investments, and urges the fact that four half years' dividends of the New Orleans City Loan remain unpaid. "If the second city in importance in the United States," it asks, "can thus disregard its obligations, why not even New York, Philadelphia, and Boston? The latter city raised a considerable sum in London at the beginning of this year, but would this have been practicable if the case of New Orleans had been generally known?"

The *Bombay Guardian* says, "It is intimated that the ex-Raja of Coorg is about to proceed to England that he may give his daughter the advantages of a Christian education."

A serious Mussulman riot had occurred at Bombay: it was caused by the indiscretion of a Parsee Editor of an illustrated paper, who decidingly published a life and portrait of Mahomet. The riot was quelled by the police, but not before several persons were seriously wounded shops, plundered, and Parsee women violated. The amount of property plundered is variously estimated from £1,000 to £15,000.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Advices from the Cape to the 4th of Nov. state that a severe chastisement had been inflicted on the enemy by the force under the command of General Somerset. The Kaffirs in Fish River Bush district had been repulsed in several skirmishes. In the Water Kloof the enemy was beaten back after several hours hard fighting and their camp destroyed. The British loss amounted to 40 killed and wounded. The number of Kaffirs killed is estimated at from 400 to 500.

FRANCE.

PROCLAMATION TO THE FRENCH PEOPLE.

Frenchmen—Our present situation cannot last much longer. Each day the situation of the country becomes worse. The Assembly, which ought to be the firmest supporters of order, has become a theatre of plots. The patriotism of its best hundred of its members could not arrest the general discrest of the people, it was forging arms for civil war. It attacked the power I had directly from the people; it encouraged every evil passion; it disturbed the repose of France. I have dissolved it, and make the whole people judge between me and it.

The Constitution as you know, had been violated with the object of weakening beforehand, the power you intrusted to me. Six million of votes were a striking protest against it, and yet I have faithfully exercised it. Provocations, calumnies, outrages, found me passive; but now that the fundamental part is no longer respected by those who incessantly invoke it, and the men who have already destroyed two monarchies, wish to tie up my hands in order to overthrow the Republic, my duty is to battle their perfidious projects; to maintain the Republic and to save the country, by appealing to the solemn judgments of the only sovereign I recognize in France, the People.

I then make a loyal appeal to the entire nation. And I say to you, if you wish to continue the state of disquietude, that degrades you and endangers the future, choose another person in my place, for I no longer wish for a place which is powerless for good, but which makes me responsible for acts which I cannot hinder, and chains me to the helm when I see the vessel rushing on the abyss. If, on the contrary, you have still confidence in me, give me the means of accomphishing the grand mission I hold from you.

That mission consists in closing the era of revolution, in satisfying the legitimate wants of the people, and in protecting them against subversive passions. It consists especially in creating institutions which survive men, and are the foundation on which something durable is based. Persuaded that the instability of power, from the preponderance of a single Assembly, are the permanent cause of trouble and discord, I submit to your suffrages the fundamental bases of a Constitution which the Assemblies will develope hereafter:

First—A responsible chief named for ten years. 2d, The Ministers dependent upon the Executive alone. 3d, A Council of State, formed of the most distinguished men, preparing the laws and maintaining the discussion before the Legislative corps. 4th, A Legislative corps discussing and voting the laws, to be elected by universal suffrage, without *Scrutin de Liste*, which falsifies the election. 5th, A Second Assembly, formed of all the illustrious persons of the nation—a preponderating guardine of the fundamental part of public liberty.

This system, created by the First Consul in the beginning of the present century, has already given to France repose and prosperity. It guarantees them still. Such is my profound conviction. If you partake it, declare so by your suffrages. If, on the contrary, you prefer a government without force, monarchical or republican, borrowed from some chimerical future, reply in the negative.

Thus, then, for the first time since 1848 you will vote with complete knowledge of the fact, and knowing for whom and for what you vote. I will summon a new Assembly, and lay down before it the mission I have received from you, but if you believe that the cause of which my name is the symbol—that is France, regenerated by the revolution of '89, and organized by the Emperor, is still yours,—proclaim it to be so by ratifying the power I demand of you; then France and Europe will be preserved from anarchy, obstacles will be removed, rivalries will have disappeared; for all will respect the will of the people, the decrees of Providence.

Palace of the Elysee, this 2d day of December.

LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE.

PARIS, Monday evening.—The following proclamation is addressed by Louis Napoleon to the French people:—Frenchmen,—Disturbances have disappeared. Whatever be the decision of the people, society is saved. The first part of my task is accomplished. The appeal to the nation to terminate the struggles of parties occasioned I know no serious risk to public tranquillity. I no longer possess your confidence, if your ns have changed, there is no need to cause prous blood to be shed. It suffices to depose in thm a contrary vote. I will always respect the dee of the people, but as long as the nation has spoken, I will recoil from no effort, from no sri-fice, to baffle the attempts of the rebellious. as task, for the rest, is rendered easy to me. by should the people rise against me? On one nd it has been seen how mad it was to contend agst an army united and disciplined, animated by nor and patriotism: on the other the tranquillitude of the people of Paris, the reprobation ith which they stigmatized the insurrection, shw for whom the capital pronounced. In these popus quarters where insurrection was first to enlists recruits, so quickly arming workmen, docile ts instigations,—anarchy, this time, has only en able to meet a profound repugnance for thes-testable excitations.

Let thanks be rendered for this to the intlligent and patriotic population of Paris! Let nat population persuade itself more and more thmy sole ambition is to secure the repose and prosrity of France! Let it continue to lend its conrence to authority, and soon the country wilbe able to accomplish in quiet the solemn act wch is to inaugurate a new era for the Republic.

(Signed) LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPART

The President also addressed a proclamatio to the army in which he entreats them to be prou of their mission, as to them he looks to save the ntry. He says, vote freely as citizens, but as soldiers do not forget that passive obedience to the orders of the Chief of the Government is he rigorous duty of the army, from the general dwn to the soldier, to be ready to repress all attepts against the free exercise of the sovereignty of he people.

He concludes—"Soldiers, I do not speak toou of the recollections attached to my name. Tey are engraved on your hearts. We are unitedby indissoluble ties. Your history is mine. Thre is between us in the past a community of glorynd misfortune. There shall be in the future a cmunity of sentiments and resolutions for the repse and grandeur of France.

The Minister of War has made an addresito the Generals of the army. The soldiers ardto vote for the election of a President within foyeight hours after its receipt. Yes or no, is simly to be replied to the following proposition: he French people wish the maintenance of the autority of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, and entrusts him with the powers necessary to frame a contitution on the basis mentioned in his proclamatn of the 2d inst.

FRANCE.—French affairs continued to be he great subject of attention, but there were no fsh incidents of much importance. The vote of he army so far was reported as 65,000 in favour of Louis Napoleon, and 3,500 against him. No less than five more departments had been placed in a state of siege, but serious disturbances were few and of limited extent. The total number of rrests is stated at 1900. M. Thiers was again irrested and sent to the frontier. Many of he members of the Mountain have fled the country. Girardin has resigned the editorship of *La Presse*, and is said to be going to the United States. In the Pinivre, the Socialists, during a short ascendancy, had burned registers and archives, and destroyed much property. Count De Chambord, Henry the Fifth, had an interview with Prince Schwartzenberg, at Vienna, but was told that Louis Napoleon must receive the countenance of all Monarchical Cabinets. Seventy-three newspapers had to be suspended through France. A letter from Jerome Buonaparte to the President advising moderation, and a genuine appeal to the people, was published. Several legions of the National Guards were disarmed for exhibiting disaffection.

On the President's appearance in the streets on Tuesday, he was received without any enthusiasm. Vive la Republique was the only cry uttered by the people.

A considerable number of arrests were made but there are no means of ascertaining to what extent. They are probably few, as few names are given.

Among those arrested are Gens. Changarnier, Cavaign c. Bedeau, Lamoriciere, Leflo; Col. Cyris. M. Baze. Thiers, Roger, Colonel, Eight journals had been suspended, among them the *Evenement*.

General Oudinot, late commander of the army of Paris, is among the deputies arrested. Count Mole was not arrested, but has written a letter expressing his regret that he had not been.

It is reported that the Government has resolved to bring the generals now in custody at Ham to trial before a Court Martial, on charge of attempting to induce the soldiers of the army from their duty.

There had been a rumor at Paris on the 8th that 25,000,000 of francs had been taken out of the bank, which report was contradicted by the Governor of the bank.

A present of 8 horses from the Sultan, to the President, arrived at Marseilles on the 9th inst.

The Departments of the Geiss, the Var, and the Lotet Garonne, are declared in a state of siege.

The *Moniteur* announces the loss of the army to be one officer, and 24 privates killed; and 17 officers, 167 privates wounded.

Several distinguished members of the Legitimist and Orleanist parties sent in their adhesion to the Government.

On the appearance of a statement in a London Journal that the Prince DeJoinville and the Duke D'Aumale were about to place themselves at the head of a movement in France, a meeting of the Orleanist party was held, at which it was unanimously resolved to write to the Prince and declare they would not support any attempt to keep up a civil war.

M. de Lamartine still continues so ill that he will be unable to take any part in politics during the winter.

ANECDOTE OF THE FRENCH PRESIDENT.—The President of the Republic gave a dinner, on Wednesday, to the persons decorated with the legion of honour on account of their services at the Great Exhibition. After dinner, a servant handed to M. Charriere, the surgical instrument maker, a small case containing a cross wrought in gold, presented by his workmen as a token of their respect. It was shown to the President, who expressed his approval of it, closed the case, and laid it down by the side of his plate for a time. It was, however, returned to M. Charriere, who also placed it beside him; but, on its being opened at the request of a person who wished to inspect it, it was found that the President had placed his cross of the legion of honor, richly set with diamonds, in the case, and that he had decorated himself with the cross presented by the workmen to M. Charriere. The discovery produced great enthusiasm, and M. Charriere declared that the diamond cross was much too costly for him to wear; therefore, with the permission of the President, he would have it placed in a frame, and hung up in the factory in honour of his workmen, and he invited the President and all present to a *fete* he would give to inaugurate it. The invitation was accepted.

PRUSSIA.—The *coup* of the French President has met with much approval in the diplomatic and official circles; as soon as the change of Government in France is officially announced it will be recognised.

Between Tuesday week and the following Thursday no less than 200 persons, many of them influential merchants, were forced, at a moment's notice, to quit Vienna and the Austrian dominions, because they were *suspected* of having speculated to raise the price of silver. No excuse was listened to in any case.

RAILWAY MEETING.

A Public Meeting of the inhabitants of the City and County of St. John was held, pursuant to requisition to the High Sheriff, on Friday last. The meeting was duly called to order, for the purpose of communicating the sentiments of the said inhabitants to their Representatives in the General Assembly, on the question of an Inter-Colonial Railroad from Halifax to Quebec.

On motion of Dr. R. Bayard, seconded by Walker Tisdale, Esq., the High Sheriff was called to the Chair; and on motion of Dr. R. Bayard, seconded by W. Jack, Esq., W. R. M. Burtis, Esq., was appointed Secretary.

The following Resolutions were passed unanimously.

Moved by Dr. Robert Bayard, seconded by Henry Chubb, Esq:—

"That this meeting considers that a Railroad undertaken commensurately with the means of the Province, and passing through districts promising the most traffic, and the least expenditure for construction, is indispensably requisite for the improvement and prosperity of New-Brunswick."

Moved by Wm. Wright, Esq., seconded by Robertson Bayard, Esq.—

"*Resolved*,—That no line of Railway whatever should be undertaken which does not hold out a reasonable prospect of remuneration."

Moved by William Jack, Esq., seconded by Leveret H. DeVeber, Esq.—

"*Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this meeting that the route of a Railroad from Halifax to Quebec, through the Valley of the St. John, presents the best prospect of advantages, both as respects remuneration and general convenience, and that no other route should be entertained by the Legislature."

Moved by Mr. James Macfarlane, seconded by Dr. Robert Bayard—

"That it is the opinion of this meeting that Mr. Howe's Railway scheme, by which, as it is understood, the people of this Province will be called upon, at their own risk, to construct 217 miles of the Halifax and Quebec Railway, by way of the North Shore, presents no reasonable prospect of paying a fair rate of interest on the investment required, nor of affording, either directly or indirectly, any adequate benefit to the inhabitants of this Province generally; and further that it is the opinion of this meeting that Railroads in this Province should not be undertaken by the Government."

Moved by John V. Thurgar, Esq., seconded by Thomas Beer, Esq.—

"*Resolved*,—That in the opinion of this meeting any Representative of the City or County of St. John, who shall advocate the construction of the Halifax and Quebec Railroad by way of the North Shore, will in so doing be acting adversely to the general interests of the Province."

Moved by S. R. Thomson, Esq., seconded by Walker Tisdale, Esq.—

"*Resolved*,—That the Resolutions of this meeting be published, and that such Counties throughout the Province as concur in the sentiments expressed therein, be requested to co-operate with us."

Moved by Mr. Thomas McHenry, seconded by Nelson De Veber, Esq.—

"*Resolved*.—That a copy of the Resolutions of this meeting be given to the Representatives of our City and County, as the expression of the wishes of this meeting relative to the line of Railway to be advocated by them in the House of Assembly, and that the Secretary be requested to forward such copy to each of them."

On motion of Wm. Wright, Esq., the Chairman left the chair, and Walker Tisdale, Esq., was called thereto, when a Resolution, expressing the thanks of the meeting to the Chairman and Secretary, was passed by acclamation.

W. R. M. BURTIS, *Secretary*.

The foregoing Resolutions were ably supported by the movers and seconders, who were unanimously in favour of the route through the valley of the St. John, in preference to that by the way of the North Shore; they also expressed themselves as being opposed to the construction of railroads by the Government, but that they should be built and managed by private Companies.—The meeting was large, respectable, and chiefly composed of an influential class of citizens.

The Fredericton *Reporter*, in noticing the late Railroad meeting in this City, says:—

"Although we have strong reason to apprehend that the Executive, owing to local interests, will be divided on this subject; we yet think it one which will admit of little or no debate. The construction of a Railroad all the way from Halifax to Quebec, a distance of 630 miles, and of one from the intersection of the St. Andrew's line—say 280 miles—are very different undertakings, as the would not seem of the Province in the latter case way from St. John or Fredericton to Halifax all the the northeast shore which might be adopted by the inhabitants of that important section of the Province. We hope the example set in St. John will be promptly followed in every Parish in the Province."

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, according to request, Rev. Mr. Wishart delivered again his lecture on "The Female Sex." The audience was respectable, and larger than the state of our streets could have led us to expect. After an exordium of some length, the Lecturer divided his subject into three heads:—What the Ladies had done.—What they had not done—And what he conceived might or should be done to elevate *woman* to a position nearer to *man*. Under the first head he introduced to our notice those departments of Literature, and even of Science, in which woman had distinguished herself, not to getting the inferior occupations of housewifery and needle work. Under the second, he noticed several departments on which woman could not enter, without infringing the law of her sex, and others into which woman might enter with honour to herself. Under the third head, he exposed some of the *artificial* traits of society, which, it would be well to let fall into disuse, and especially many of the extravagances which attend what is usually called a young Lady's *coming out*. The Lecture was well received by the audience.

Next Monday evening, Mr. Hinton, lately from England, will lecture on "Insanity."

Kossuth arrived in Philadelphia on Wednesday last, and was received in that city with, if possible, greater honors than even at New York. He was to arrive at Baltimore on Friday, and at Washington on Monday, (yesterday.)

Kossuth has been invited by the City Council of Boston, to visit that city, as a public guest, but owing to the uncertainty of his stay in America, and numerous prior engagements, he has declined for the present, but promises to comply with the invitation, if possible. He has accepted an invitation to visit Cincinnati. He proposes to remain in the United States during January.

The receipts of Kossuth's lecture in the "Plymouth Church," (Rev. Mr. Beecher's) at Brooklyn, at $5 a ticket, was thought to be about $12,000. The lecture was principally on the subject of religious liberty in Hungary, giving a minute and interesting history of the subject, going as far back as the reformation. He was listened to with the utmost attention, and closed amidst great applause.

COMMON COUNCIL.—The Council met on yesterday and took several Bills into consideration—the most important of which were—one to empower the Common Council and Trustees conjointly to sell certain portions of the lands on the Eastern side of the Harbour, and appropriate the proceeds towards the liquidation of the City debt; and another—to facilitate the negotiation of a loan for paying off the debt, or rather consolidating it, borrowing at 3 to 4 per cent. on the City credit, guaranteed by the Province, and so effecting a large annual saving.

One most important motion was carried with difficulty—that for appointing a Committee to confer with the Trustees relative to the appointment, by Legislative Enactment, of Commissioners for the settlement of the suit in Chancery, now pending between the Corporation and the people of Carleton.—*Freeman*.

FIRE.—On Sunday morning, soon after 5 o'clock, the City was alarmed by the cry of fire, and very soon after the sky was brilliantly illuminated with a strong blaze from Union-street. The fire broke out in the Coach and Sleigh manufactory of Mr. James E. Masters, which was wholly consumed, with a blacksmith shop, and a barn in the rear owned by Mr. Daniel Jones. The house owned and occupied by T. P. Marter, Esq., to the eastward, was so greatly damaged by the fire as to be rendered of no value; and the out-buildings attached to it were also greatly injured.

Mr. Masters, we regret to say, has lost a valuable stock of sleighs and carriages, with all his tools and implements, and a large quantity of expensive materials, upon which there was no insurance. Several carriages left on his premises for repair, and for storage during the winter, were wholly consumed, which will entail a heavy loss upon their owners. One of the hackmen has lost a valuable coach. The loss of Mr. Marter will also be considerable, there being insurance to the extent of £150 only on his property.

The different Fire Companies were early on the ground, and the supply of water from the fireplugs being amply sufficient for the most efficient service. The fire came with great fierceness owing to the quantity of combustible matter all about the Coach Factory; yet although the premises were closely hemmed in on all sides by wooden buildings, the fire was not allowed to spread. But for the energy and activity of the Fire Companies, this might have proved a most extensive and disastrous conflagration.

The Fire Police were also early in attendance, and having placed their chains across Union-street, prevented idlers and improper persons from interfering with the Firemen, who thus had full opportunity of displaying their abilities.—*New-Brunswicker*.

FIRE AT WASHINGTON.—Early on Wednesday morning last, 24th inst., the Wing of the Capitol at Washington, containing the extensive and valuable Library of Congress was discovered to be on fire, and before the flames could be subdued, that portion of the immense edifice, with its valuable contents, was almost entirely destroyed. Not a her part of the building was injured, save the blackened appearance caused by the heat and smoke.

It is conjectured that 40,000 volumes were destroyed, as were also the marble busts of Washington, Jefferson, Lafayette, Taylor, and others.—The portraits of several ex-Presidents, various old paintings, and collections of coins, medals and curiosities were likewise consumed.

The estimated value of the books, which it is thought can be replaced, is $250,000. The damage to the Capitol is $40,000.

The entire library contained upwards of 60 000 volumes. The books in an adjoining room, numbering 20,000 volumes, including the law library, were saved.

Among the few articles saved from the flames is the original Declaration of Independence.

INQUESTS.—An inquest was held before W. O. Smith and W. H. Needham, Esquires, on the 26th inst., on view of the body of Edward Martin, a mason, a native of Halifax, N. S., who accidentally fell from the Rock of Peters' Wharf into Johnston's slip, on Wednesday afternoon. From the evidence it appeared that deceased struck his head against a scow in falling, and then fell into the water, from which he was immediately taken out dead. Verdict accordingly.—Also on view of the body of James Nelson, seaman, on board the brig *Zeno* which arrived from Pointepeace, on Tuesday last, at which place he had shipped a few days since. From the evidence it appeared that he with the cook of the vessel had made a strong fire on going to bed on Thursday night, and shut the forecastle door. He was found dead at four o'clock from suffocation. The cook was taken out alive, but quite insensible, is now partially recovered and will no doubt be restored to health. Verdict of the jury—Died from suffocation.—*Freeman*.

On Saturday last, while the Pilot Schooner *Challenge* was coming up the harbour, an apprentice, belonging to Dublin, named John Ryan, was knocked overboard by the mainsail, and drowned.

It is feared that two men, named McWilliams and Power, were drowned in the Falls on Monday evening, when they left the Mills at Union Point, in a boat, to render assistance to a scow, and have not since been heard of.—*Courier*.

NEW VESSELS.—A fine large Ship of 1125 tons N. M., was launched on Wednesday last, from the yard of Messrs. Storms & Johnston, the Dandies, in Portland. She is a finely modelled and well built vessel. Another handsome and substantial built vessel, called the *Fastnet*, was launched the same day, from the yard of Messrs. McLauchlan & Sackville, the Builders, at Carleton. She measures 1150 tons N. M., and 1114 tons O. M., is owned by the builders, and intended for the Australian trade, having a complete second deck for carrying passengers, and a large poop of 117 tons. She is built and finished in the most thorough style, and will no doubt sustain the credit of her builders.

We noticed last week the launch of that beautiful ship, the *Falcon* built for Messrs. Gibbs, Bright, & Co., of Liverpool, by the Messrs Olive, of Carleton, and intended also for the Australian trade. She measures 1106 tons N. M. Her after Cabin is now fitting up in the most elegant style, with berths and other conveniences suitable for first class passengers. On the deck is a round house from the forecastle joining on to the poop, which is intended to be fitted up as a Cabin for second class passengers, while the third class passengers will be accommodated between decks. An inspection of this noble vessel, now lying at Pettingill's Slip, will well repay the trouble. She will be taken home by Capt. Leighton, formerly of the *Themis*.—*Cour.*

Destruction of the Artillery Barracks, and Ordnance Stores at Quebec, by Fire!

QUEBEC, Dec. 26.—The Royal Artillery Barracks and Ordnance Stores in Arsenal street are burnt down. The fire was discovered about half-past three o'clock this morning, by the sentry at the lower gate of the Artillery Barracks, and shortly afterwards the flames burst out from one of the men's rooms opposite the guard room. The fire originated between the roof of No. 9 and floor of No. 5, and there was no getting at it sufficiently soon to arrest its progress. The most the men living in the rooms could do was to endeavour to save their effects, in which they but partially succeeded. Capt. Franklin's company are reported to have lost all besides what they had on their backs. Water could not be got—the well was dry,—the thermometer 24 below zero, and the engines were consequently useless. In this extremity, Col. Higgins ordered that part of the officers' quarters by which the fire was to be blown up, direction was arrested. But they communicated to the extensive Ordnance Stores in Arsenal street, which in a few minutes were hopelessly on fire. To save as much of the ordnance property as possible, a gap was made near the centre of the building by gunpowder, which it is hoped will arrest the progress of the flames.

The loss must be heavy—some say over £200,000. The houses opposite suffered considerably by the concussions.

Postscript.—We learn that the Ordnance Building is now altogether on fire.

COLD WEATHER.—The mercury yesterday morning in this place stood at 24½° below Zero.—*Woodstock Sentinel*, 23d.

To-day, at 6 a. m., the Thermometer stood at 18 below the cypher.—*Fredericton Reporter, Friday*.

The weather is unusually severe and uninterruptedly cold. A very severe December throughout. Thermometer 6 below zero yesterday morning.—*Halifax Recorder*, 27th.

The Thermometer, in this City, on Friday morning last, at 6 o'clock, stood at 15 degrees below zero.

Her Majesty's Brig *Persian*, 12, Com. Mitchell, at Grenada, 13th Oct.; left Halifax, 20th Sept.; on 20th, in lat. 34 N. lon. 59 W., blowing strong from the southward during the day, the same night shifted to S. W., blowing a gale, with thunder, lightning, and rain, the lightning bursting over the ship, and apparently descending the foremast, for a time created a panic in the ship. In the morning it was discovered that the electric fluid had thrown the lightning conductor of the foreroyal-mast out of its place. She arrived at Antigua on the 1st of Oct., and at Grenada, 12th.

THE ROYAL HIGHLANDERS.—The *United Service Gazette* of the 22d ult. publishes the following gratifying General Order issued by his Excellency Sir John Harvey after the half yearly inspection of the gallant 42nd last Autumn:—"General Order, Head Quarters, Halifax, 29th Oct., 1851.—Sir John Harvey has great pleasure in recording his sense of the admirable condition in which the Service Companies of the 42nd Royal Highlanders were produced for his inspection yesterday. The pride of belonging to such a corps must, as it ever has done, produce a state of discipline and an *Esprit du Corps* which must ever sustain it in the highest rank in the British Service."—I. Bazalgette, Deputy Quartermaster General.

EASTERN TOURISTS.—The Ceylon journal, the *Colombo Observer*, of the 15th October, says that "India is looking up as a resort of aristocratic tourists and statesmen in search of information. * * Earl Grosvenor spent one vacation here. Lord Stanley and Mr. Stuart Wortley are likely to spend another. The heir of the house of Derby, and supposed aspirant to the reversion of the Colonial-office, is still in Ceylon, detained by the serious illness of his relative, Captain Hornby. This delay has given Lord Stanley an opportunity of witnessing an Oriental entertainment, in the shape of a dinner given to his Excellency the Governor by the Tamil gentlemen of Colombo. The banquet was served in a temporary edifice erected amidst a grove of cocoa nut trees; and the effect of a thousand lamps gleaming through the graceful stems of the trees, and revealing their starlike leaves, conjured up visions of scenes of fairy enchantment such as the author of the "Arabian Nights" delighted to revel in. Those who have not visited India can scarcely conceive the beauty of those graceful bamboo arches festooned with the delicate young leaves of the cocoa-nut palm, and hung with golden fruits and brilliant flowers. Lord Stanley's was the speech of the evening; the next best, and scarcely inferior to it in point of excellence, was that of the Rev. G. Mutukisna, an educated native of Jaffna.

FROM JAPAN.—The Hamburg brig Rose, on a trip from Singapore to San Francisco, met with a severe typhoon, was disabled and obliged to put back into the nearest port for repairs. This happened to be one of the Islands of Japan.—Captain Anderson states that the name of the village is Nipakin, and this visit of a foreign vessel is believed to be the first ever made to that place. Of this however, it would be impossible to state with accuracy.

No sooner had Capt. Anderson dropped anchor than his vessel was surrounded by three hundred Japanese boats, which guard was kept up, with alternate relief until she sailed from the harbour. After some little difficulty he was allowed to go singly on shore, when an escort of sixty men conducted him with great watchfulness a short distance through the principal street. On landing he found all the marts and public places closed, although while leaving his vessel he had seen extensive market places thrown open, and an appearance of animated trade going on. Everything presented a blank wall to him, and he was not permitted to gratify his curiosity in the slightest particular. Yet he was treated with great respect and kindness, and furnished with sixty men to prosecute repairs on his vessel.

The population of Nipaking he estimates at 25,000 souls. A very large police force was constantly on duty, and during his stay three or four thousand from a neighbouring island (probably sent for by the authorities of Nipaking) arrived, who kept a diligent watch on the strangers. In their treatment of them they were reserved and courteous, and evidently desired to hasten him from their shores.

When his vessel was ready for sea, they accepted a trifling amount of goods in payment for labor, and without pushing investigations further he left the place.

Nipaking is represented to be a safe and convenient harbour, and the city presented a business like appearance.

UNITED STATES.

KOSSUTH AND THE NEW YORK BAR.—The New York papers of Saturday give us the history of the homage of the New York Bar to Kossuth on the preceding evening. This celebration took place at the Metropolitan [formerly Tripler] Hall, which was specially arranged and decorated for the occasion, and lighted by four rows of burners, one above another, to the number of six hundred jets. Seats were provided upon the stage for the Committee of the Bar, for Kossuth and his suite, and for other guests of distinction. The front seats of the parquette were reserved for members of the bar, who were present to the number, it is said, of at least seven hundred. After the company was assembled, Chief Justice Jones, the President of the evening, retired to the ante-room and returned with Kossuth, who was greeted by the company with "a perfect storm of applause." He was introduced to them as their distinguished guest, the illustrious Louis Kossuth, the great civilian of his native land. Edward Sandford, Esq., on the part of the bar, then made an address to Kossuth, expressing their respect for his talents and attainments, and their admiration of his ardor and enthusiasm in the cause of his country. He alluded in terms of high eulogy to the history of his public life, and said that they beheld in him a personification of the great principle that forms the corner stone of our Constitution, the right of self-government.

M. Kossuth began his speech, after alluding very briefly to the profession, by some remarks upon codification, for which, he said, he had no friendship, because it "arrests progress," and fetters the development of intelligence, and of new principles of justice. He said that it is the privilege of American lawyers to be free from the restraints of written codes, and that it is their duty to develope such principles as are necessary to establish justice, not only in relation to private affairs, but in the laws which regulate the mutual duties of nations to each other. He exhorts them to become the champions of true principles, so that the American people may become the regenerators of international public law.

Kossuth remarked—

"Let the cause of my country, this eternal object of my feelings and of my thoughts, of sorrows and my hopes, become the opportunity to the restoration of true and just international law. Mankind is come to the eleventh hour, and its destinies. One hour of delay more, and its fate may nations of your people,—so tender, generous, inflexible, and so kind,—than to mourn heartsick, so nations, its beloved brethren in hopeless murdered plause."] humanity. [Ap-

It cannot but excite surprise, th of seven hundred lawyers, including an Assembly nent legal talents of the State, both the most judiciary and at the Bar, should have consented to listen to such an argument (as Kossuth) upon the duties of the government and people of the United States, without the slightest movement, except of a single individual, to make a reply. And what is still more astonishing is, that in such an Assembly, when a learned judge (Judge Duer) in the most respectful and courteous terms, accompanied with the highest compliments to the talents and character of the author of this argument, attempted to express his dissent from his reasoning, he was hissed down, and forbidden to proceed.—*Boston Daily Advertiser*.

Kossuth met a large assembly of ladies