

SUMMARY OF NEWS.  
FRANCE.  
OPENING OF THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.

The French Chambers were opened on the 9th ult., by the King in person. His Majesty was received by deliberative civility, but was not hailed with rapturous greeting. The following is the speech delivered on the occasion:

"Gentlemen Peers and Deputies,  
The affection and the sympathy of the French nation have sustained my courage. My heart, ever suffering from grief, but full of confidence in your devotedness in calling you myself together to resume the course of your labours, I wished to conclude to-day what my grief had compelled me to leave incomplete at the opening of your session. You have already achieved much for the security and future prosperity of France; I thank you in her name. Whatever may be our trials, I and my family will devote to her service whatever strength and life the Almighty shall grant us. Thanks to the maintenance of public order peace, the national prosperity, attested by the rapid increase in the public revenue, manifest itself beyond our most sanguine hopes. The solid empire of the laws is the best security for the well-being of all, as it is for the power of the state; and the conviction everywhere established, that the laws will be religiously executed, renders less frequent the enforcement of their penalties. I congratulate myself on our having obtained those happy results. I feel confident that our prosperity will pursue its course without either interruption or obstacle. My relations with foreign powers continue to be pacific and amicable. The good harmony prevailing amongst the Powers has strengthened the repose of the East, and procured in Syria for the Christian population the establishment of an administration conformable to their religious faith and their wishes. I deplore the disturbances which have recently agitated Spain. In my relations with the Spanish monarchy, my sole object has been to protect our legitimate interests, to preserve for Queen Isabella II. a faithful ally, and to testify for the rights of humanity that respect and protection which honour the name of France. By the occupation of the Marquesa Island I have secured to our navigators in those distant seas a protection and refuge of which the necessity has been long felt. Thanks to the persevering efforts of our brave army, our dominion in Algeria becomes everywhere stable and respected. The vigilance and regularity of the administration will complete the work so gloriously prosecuted by the courage of our soldiers. I have opened with several states negotiations which will have the effect of imparting to our agriculture, our commerce, and manufactures more active development, and to procure for our national interests additional facilities. Laws of finance, and various bills intended to introduce into our legislation and administration important improvements, shall be immediately presented to you. Gentlemen, the world is at peace! France is free, active, and happy! My object has been, and ever shall be, until my last breath, to secure those blessings for my country. It is with your constant and loyal co-operation that I have succeeded. You will aid me in maintaining and in consummating the work which we have commenced in common. This will be for all the most worthy recompense, and for me the only consolation that I can hereafter hope for."

The Queen entered the Hall a short time after the appearance of her husband. The presence of a mother, who was still suffering from the shock inflicted on her by the loss of a son, to whom she was fondly attached, affected the assembly, and on her appearance rose to exhibit their sympathy for her grief. The speech was freely read, and many passages of it were loudly applauded. The debate which the delivery of it occasioned, was distinguished by the usual ebullitions of unbridled French facility usually seen at their assemblies.

SPAIN.  
The regent has dissolved the Cortes, which strengthens the belief that the spirit of revolt had not been confined to Barcelona. The new Cortes are to meet in April, till which time the control of Government will remain with the regent and ministers. The following peremptory order has been issued by General Seoane, relative to the payment of the imposed upon the Catalans. "The Captain-General of the second district and general-in-chief of the army of Catalonia informs the constitutional Ayuntamiento, that he has received a list, comprising the names of only seven persons, who have come to pay their quota of the contribution of 6,000,000 reals. The result proves two things,—first, the constant practice of the city to despise and refuse to execute, since 1834, the decrees issued by the Cortes and the government; second, the bad grace with which the Ayuntamiento enforces the execution of the said decrees. Faithful to my mission, I order you to publish, early to-morrow morning, a bando, directing that, within a delay of five days, each tax-payer shall deposit his quota of the contribution in the municipal chest." The general proceeds to threaten that if his views are not met, he will build a number of soldiers on each defaulter, and take other measures more energetic against the members of the municipality themselves, should they continue to evince ill-will, and preserve in their passive resistance.

Subsequent accounts from Spain state that the captain-general had extended the payment of the contribution.  
Exporters, on making his entry into Madrid from Barcelona, was ordered to look thinner, and rather care-worn. He proceeded to the queen's palace, followed by the na-

tional militia of all arms. The queen and her sister, attended by the regent, and the principal officers of his suit, were loudly cheered, when they appeared at the balcony, by the soldiers.

PORTUGAL.  
The Portuguese proposals for a new tariff were delivered to Lord Howard de Warden, on the 16th ult.; but the further alterations offered to Great Britain were so slight, and coupled with such condition, that there is no chance of their being accepted by the British Government; which will no doubt consider them as the ultimatum of Portugal, and their rejection, therefore, will be tantamount to breaking off the negotiation for a tariff-convention for the present. The commercial accounts are very gloomy, and if that that is stated to be true, the country is on the eve of bankruptcy. The poorer classes are enduring intense suffering both at Lisbon and Oporto. England, it seems, offered to Portugal a reduction on her wines of every description from 5s 6d to 3s imperial gallon, or 45 1-2 per cent.; a reduction on brandy from 22s 6d to 14s per imperial gallon, or 40 per cent.; a reduction on oil to a nominal duty, and on fruit to a statistical duty; thus excluding none of the staple articles of Portugal, the principle of reduction being universal, and averaging 50 per cent.

TURKEY.  
The Syrian question had been settled according to the wishes of the Five Powers, on the terms set forth in a note to their representatives by the Reis Effendi.

"The Sublime Porte hereby informs the representatives of the Five Powers, that it is willing to make a trial in Syria of the following administrative system: the faculty of electing a Christian Kaimakam, to be charged with the administrative government of the Christian populations, shall be accorded to the Maronites; and the faculty of electing a Muslim Kaimakam, to govern the remaining populations, (of the Lebanon), shall be accorded to the Druses; but to the exclusion of the Emir Beshair, and of all members of the Sheik family. So soon as proper dispositions can be made, the Ottoman garrisons under the orders of His Excellency Omar Pasha shall be withdrawn from Betedon, and other places of the Mountains; and the safe keeping and tranquillity of those districts confided to the respective chiefs, subordinate, in case of need, to his Excellency the Pasha Said."

It had been definitively settled, that Russia and Great Britain should mediate between Turkey and Persia a conference to be held at Erzeroum.

Mr. Stephenson, junior secretary to the Premier, will succeed Mr. Drummond as chief private secretary, and Mr. Arbuthnot of the Treasury will supply the place of Mr. Stephenson. The funeral of the late Mr. Drummond took place on Tuesday morning, and was strictly private. The deceased was buried at Charlton, near Woolwich. In this church also repose the remains of the late Spencer Percival.

The British Queen Steamer.—The *Publicist* of Brussels states, that the British Queen steamer was severely damaged in her last voyage that it will cost a considerable sum to repair her. "It is said," remarks the above journal, that in case the Chambers will not grant a sum sufficient to repair her, the Ministry intends selling her in her present state."

Sir Robert Peel, in the House of Commons last night, was dressed in deep mourning, in respect to the memory of the late unfortunate Mr. Drummond.

Lord Seaton is said to have been appointed Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands in succession to Sir Howard Douglas.

A remarkable circumstance occurred in Liverpool, and which looks like the commencement of a new era in our mercantile navy, no less than three large iron-plate ships having sailed on the same tide. The first of these composed exclusively of iron and cast metal the first kind ever introduced into Ireland, are about to be constructed in Carrysfort-avenue, near Blackrock. The cost of each is estimated at £1200.

UNITED STATES.  
Death of Com. Hull.—We regret to learn by the Philadelphia paper that the gallant Commodore Hull died in that city on Monday the 13th inst., at half past five o'clock. He had been ill for several days.

Southwark Abduction Case.—The *Abductor Shot Dead by the Brother of the Young Lady*.—The affair, involving the suspected abduction of a young lady of Southwark which has created so much excitement in that district, and caused so much talk and speculation all over the city, since Monday last has had an awful termination.

Hutchinson Heberton, the individual who was alleged to have abducted the young lady, last evening fell by the hand of the brother of the latter—having been shot dead by him in a close carriage, in which he was being privately conveyed out of the city by a friend on board the steam ferry boat John Fitch.

The occurrence took place just as the boat, which had left Market Street Wharf about six o'clock, was coming into the slip at Camden.

We forbear at present saying more of the matter than to give briefly the particulars. The name of the brother who committed this deed is Hall W. Mercer, clerk in the store of Carson & Newbell, South Wharves. He had been pursuing the *raze* Heberton for two or three days. He proposed to fight him but could not bring him to the field. He then determined to revenge summarily the outrage upon the fair fame of his family, and receiving intelligence of Heberton's intended flight to New Jersey, he laid his plans.

A carriage was hired by a legal friend of Heberton, which was driven all about town. Then it drew up to the lawyer's door. Heberton got in. The blinds were closed. The carriage drove down to the ferry boat John Fitch.

In the meantime Mercer had taken a position on board the boat, behind a coal-box.—There he remained unobserved until the boat neared the Camden Ferry. He then stepped forward, presented a revolting pistol, and discharged four of its barrels into the carriage. The first ball entered Heberton's body just under the left shoulder, blade passing through the blinds of the carriage. The second penetrated the body, the third and fourth the door of the vehicle.

Heberton was conveyed, as soon as the boat reached the shore, to Cake's tavern, where he breathed his last in about ten minutes. Mercer was immediately taken into custody. When the New York boat came over, about 11 o'clock last night, the coroner's inquest was investigating the matter at Cake's tavern, and Mercer was still in custody at the tavern, and in a terrible state of excitement.—*Philadelphia Times*.

Reported Revolution in St. Domingo.—The Second Edition of the New York Express of last Saturday evening, has the following:—By the brig Wm. Nelson, Capt. Morris, from Port Au Prince, which sailed the 2d; we hear that a revolution had broken out on the south side of the island, and become alarming. The inhabitants were shipping off their coffee and valuables with great haste.

The accounts are contradictory as to the extent of the revolt.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.  
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.  
Tuesday, February 14th.

On motion of Mr. Partelow.—That the House proceed to the Order of the Day to go into Committee of the whole House in consideration of the Message of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the 11th instant, and which was laid before the House yesterday, communicating a Report from the Treasurer with the Estimate of the Revenue for the present year, calculated upon a Scale of Duties recommended to be levied.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee, on the Message referred to them under their consideration, the following was moved:

Resolved, As the opinion of this Committee, That all aids and supplies, and aids to Her Majesty in Parliament, are the sole gift of the Commons; and all Bills for the granting of any such aids and supplies ought to begin with the Commons; also all Bills imposing charges and burthens upon the people; and that it is the undoubted and sole right of the Commons to direct, limit and appoint in such Bills the ends, purposes, conditions, limitations and qualifications of such grants, charges and burthens; and further

Resolved, That the House should therefore view any recommendation for laying Duties upon the people from any other, as an interference with its acknowledged rights and privileges.

To expunge the whole of the second clause in the original Resolution, after the words "further Resolved," and substitute the following:—  
"The House should always resist any interference from any other Branch of the Legislature, with regard to the mode of levying all Duties for the purposes of Revenue, and the objects thereof, yet it will always give due consideration to any suggestion of the Lieutenant Governor in relation to the Provincial Revenue."

And upon the question for adopting the amendment, the Committee divided as follows:

YEAS.—The Hon. Mr. Simonds, Messrs. Mr. Fisher, Alexander, Williston, Barker, Connell, Body, Hill, Rankin.  
NAYS.—The Hon. Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Mr. Brown, Wilnot, Wark, S. Earle, J. Earle, Freeze, Burns, Hazen, Jordan, Hamilton, Barberie, Scoullar, Botsford, End, Taylor, Allen, Smith, Stewart, Palmer, Gilbert.

Whereupon it was decided in the negative.

The question was then taken upon the original Resolution, when the Committee again divided as follows:

YEAS.—The Hon. Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Mr. Allen, Brown, Wark, S. Earle, J. Earle, Wilnot, Freeze, Gilbert, Burns, Hazen, Jordan, Partelow, Hamilton, Barberie, Botsford, Smith, Scoullar, Stewart, Taylor, End, NAYS.—The Hon. Mr. Simonds, Messrs. Mr. Palmer, Alexander, Williston, Barker, Connell, Fisher, Hill, Boyd, Rankin.

And it was thereupon carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That the Report be accepted, and the Resolution as passed in the Committee adopted by the House.

Mr. Fisher presented a Petition from Benjamin Wolhaupter, John A. Beckwith, Joseph Gaynor, John F. Taylor and 132 others, inhabitants of Fredericton and its vicinity, praying an amendment in the Law relating to Bankruptcy; which he read.

On motion of Mr. Fisher.—Resolved, That the subject matter of the foregoing Petition from Benjamin Wolhaupter, John A. Beckwith, Joseph Gaynor, John F. Taylor and others, praying for an amendment in the Law relating to Bankruptcy, be referred to a Select Committee to report thereon by Bill or otherwise.

Ordered, That Mr. Fisher, Mr. Partelow, Mr. Hazen, Mr. End and Mr. Hill do compose the said Committee.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from Thomas Moses, Deputy Treasurer at West Isles,

in the County of Charlotte, praying for an increase of salary, for the reasons therein set forth; which Petition was received.

February 15.  
On motion of Mr. Brown.—That the House proceed to the Order of the Day to go into Committee of the whole House on the Report from the Select Committee, for taking into consideration the subject of the Finances of the Province, and which was submitted to the House on the 13th instant, as also the several Documents communicated by command of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor upon the same subject.

The Chairman reported, that the Committee having the subject referred to them under their consideration had passed one Resolution, and he having read the same handed it in at the Clerk's Table where it was again read, and is as follows:

Whereas in the present unexampled crisis in the affairs of this Province, arising from the extreme difficulty of collecting the outstanding dues, and from the unprecedented decrease of the Revenue of the last year, an amount of money is necessary to be immediately raised to meet the existing demands against the Province; therefore

Resolved, That in order to discharge the present debt and to sustain the public credit, it is highly indispensable that the House should negotiate a Loan; and further Resolved, That the subject should be referred to a Select Committee to report thereon by Bill or otherwise.

Ordered, That the Report be accepted, and the Resolution reported from the Committee adopted by the House.

On motion Mr. Partelow.—Resolved, That a Select Committee be appointed to prepare a Bill for carrying out the object recommended in the foregoing Resolution.

Ordered, That Mr. Partelow, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Brown, Mr. End, Mr. Wilnot, Mr. Hazen and Mr. Burns, do compose the said Committee.

Thursday 16th Feb.

The Bill to amend an Act, intitled "An Act to incorporate the St. Stephen's Marine Insurance Company" passed the House and was taken to the Council by Mr. Hill.

A Bill to repeal "An Act to encourage the destroying of Wolves," and "An Act to grant a Bounty on the destruction of Bears in this Province," and to make other provisions in lieu thereof, passed the House and was taken to the Council by Mr. Connell.

February 17.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from John Arbuckle, Alexander Dunn, Thomas Robinson and 192 others, inhabitants of the Parish of St. James, in the County of Charlotte, praying that an Act may pass to impose a Tax on Wilderness Land; which was received.

Mr. Hill presented a Petition from Nehemiah Marks, Esq. and 46 others, Merchants and Inhabitants of St. Stephen, in the County of Charlotte, praying for an alteration in the value of the Coins now established as a legal tender in the Province; which was received.

February 20.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition from the Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte, praying aid to enable them to pay off the Debts due from the said County; which was received.

Extracts from the Report of the Committee on Public Accounts.

Mr. Partelow, from the Select Committee appointed on the 16th instant to take under consideration various Accounts connected with the Queen's Casual Revenue, submitted a Report; and he having read the same handed it in at the Clerk's Table, where it was again read, and is as follows:—  
"The Select Committee to whom were referred the several Accounts and Documents relating to the Receipts and Expenditure of the Queen's Casual Revenue, including the Accounts of the Crown Land Office, the Civil List, and other disbursements on account of that Revenue, laid before the House by order of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on the 13th inst. having attended to the duty devolved upon them, submit the following Report:

"No. 1. Is an account of Salaries of the Clerks and others on the Ordinary and Extra Indoor Establishment of the Crown Land Office for the year 1842, and presents the following Persons at the Salaries opposite their names:—  
Robert Gowan, Accountant, £250 0 0  
W. B. Phair, Junior, Assistant do. 60 0 0  
Andrew Inches, Draftsman, 250 0 0  
Anthony Lockwood, Jun. Assistant, 150 0 0  
Timothy O'Connor, ditto, 180 0 0  
John Wilkinson, Compiler, 220 0 0  
John Grant, ditto, 220 0 0  
Jacob Ellegood, Clerk, 55 0 0  
Thomas Smeade, Messenger, 50 0 0  
£1,435 0 0

"This amount, in the opinion of your Committee, is entirely too large, and may be reduced by dispensing with the services of some of the Officers charged thereon;—and the Committee therefore recommend that an Address should be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying an immediate enquiry into the practicability of effecting such reduction.

"No. 2. Is an Abstract of the Receipts & Expenditure of the Casual and Territorial Revenues of the Province for the year 1843.

Your Committee observe, among other objectionable charges contained in Account No. 2, the following, to which they call the attention of the House, and respecting which, enquiry should be made:—  
Paid John Grant for expenses of himself and staff while employed in the Bay Verte Canal Survey, £220 0 0  
John Wilkinson, while exploring certain parts of the Boundary Line, 95 0 0  
Jacob Allan, Clerk Hire and other Expenses

of his Office to 30th Sept. 1841, 57 5 1  
J. Allan, Clerk Hire, and Boatmen from 1st May, to 30th Sept.— 76 9 9—133 14 10  
ber, 1842, 76 9 9—133 14 10  
Attorney General; for Stationary, 10 0 0  
Dr. Gesner, advanced to him per authority, on file, (towards surveying Tobique River and Valley,) 75 0 0  
£533 14 10

"It will be observed, with reference to the amounts paid as above to Messrs. Grant and Wilkinson, (£315) that by Account No. 1, both these Officers received their full annual Salaries for services in the Crown Land Department amounting to £440.

"That Jacob Allan has received his Salary in full to the amount of £250, independently of the above amount of £133 14 10; and that the amount advanced Dr. Gesner, £75, must have been connected with a Topographical and Geological Survey, not authorized by the Legislature, and not for any Survey of vacant Crown Lands.

"The Committee have also to observe, besides the Indoor Expenses for Officers and Clerks in the Crown Land Department, amounting to £1,435, as particularized in Account No. 1, £426 18 10 have been expended in Stationary, Printing and other expenses of that Department for the past year, making in all £1,861 18 10.

February 21.

Mr. Boyd presented a Petition from the Commissioners of the Alms House and Poor for the Parish of St. Andrews, setting forth, that in addition to the claims already submitted to the House for relief afforded to Emigrants, there are others remaining chargeable which are not set out in their former Petition; and praying further aid toward the support of those set forth in the present application; which was received and referred to the Committee appointed on the 1st instant, to take Petitions of a like prayer under consideration.

Mr. Boyd presented a Petition from Schuyler P. Frink, of the Parish of St. Stephen, in the County of Charlotte, setting forth, that in the year 1835, he had purchased a large tract of land from the Crown, and paid the first instalment thereon, and praying the first instalment consideration either in money or land, equal to the amount so paid on the purchase; which was received and referred to Committee of 4th inst.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition of like prayer from Joseph Moore, of the Parish of St. David, which was referred to same Committee.

February 22.

Mr. Hill presented from James Gillis and John Grimmer, of St. Stephen, praying to be refunded a sum paid under the Act to provide for regular supply of Seamen for new Ships, the said Act having been disallowed by Her Majesty; which was not received.

Mr. Brown presented a Petition of a like prayer from the Hon. James Allan of St. Andrews, which was not received.

Thursday, February 23.

Mr. Burns, by leave, presented a Petition from John Keir, Parks, and Heggin, W. G. Lawton and 45 others, of the City of Saint John, Merchants, praying that no increased Duty be imposed on British Goods imported into the Province, and also that no reduction be made in the Duties now levied on Foreign Manufactures; which he read. Referred to the Committee of Trade.

Mr. Brown, by leave, presented a Petition from Aseneth Moore, praying compensation for teaching a School in the Parish of Saint David, in the County of Charlotte, for a period of six months ending in December, 1842; which received and referred to the Schools Petitions to report thereon.

Mr. Thompson, by leave, presented a Petition from Anna S. Armstrong, praying compensation for teaching a School at Saint George, in the County of Charlotte, for six months ending in July, 1842; which was referred to the Committee, on School Petitions.

Mr. Taylor brought in a Bill relating to trespass by Horses, Swine and Neat Cattle in the Parish of Fredericton, which was read a first time.

Mr. Brown brought in a Bill to authorize the Justices of the Peace in the several Counties of this Province to make regulations for the Markets, which was read a first time.

Mr. Hazen moved for leave to bring in a Bill to grant a Patent to James B. Toldery for the application of Electro Magnetic power to Clocks and Time Pieces.

PRIVILEGES OF COLONIAL ASSEMBLIES.

Perhaps the most important article of news received by the Packet, in the decision pronounced by Mr. Baron Parke, on behalf of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in the case of Kiley vs. Carson, which our readers will recollect, sprung out of proceedings adopted by Dr. Kiley against Mr. Carson, Speaker of the Newfoundland Assembly, caused by an arrest and commitment for an alleged breach of privilege of the House.

This decision takes from Colonial Assemblies what they have long arrogated—the power of arrest, and the right of bringing a man before their bar, on a complaint by one of their members of contempt committed beyond its precincts. It will have the effect of adding greatly to the dignity of Colonial Legislatures—for members will be careful not to use language that may subject them to legal responsibility, or bring them in personal collision with those whom they might have supposed they were privileged to slander. The liberty of the press is also better secured—the Sergeant-at-arms being made by this decision quite a harmless personage in an Editorial view. We shall publish the grounds of the decision more fully next week. The *John Bull*, concluding a comment upon it, says:—"Thus from the