From latest English Papers by last Mail.

(From the Liverpool Mail, Aug 23.)

We are anxious to learn what part the governments of England and France will take in the proposed annexation of Texas to the United States of America.

We are not of those who would dispute the right of a nation, or an united people, to choose their own form of government, or to prefer the protection of one neighbouring power before another. Still there are limits to the rule well known to the erudite in internal law.

For instance the people and territory of Belgium were incorporated with the kingdom of Holland, by the great treaty of Vienna, concluded at the termination of the French war. Under the treaty, King William was recognised as the sovereign of the United Netherlands. In 1830, however, or thereabouts, the people of Belgium revolted, and raised the standard of independence. This independence was instantly recognished by France, then, also, in a transition and revolutionary state. It was nearly at the same time recognised by the government of England, then in the hands of the whigs.

Now, it strikes us that Texas, in 1845, is precisely in the position that Belgium was in 1830. The former is, at this moment, what the latter was fifteen years ago—a revolted province. Mexico, the mother country, has not yet consented to the separation. Holland, the mother country, in the other case, had not assented to the separation, when the independence of Belgium was recognised by England and France. What these two last named powers did for Belgium, they have also done for for Texas. They have, *de facto*, recognised the independence of the latter.

Let us, then, pursue the parallel a little farther. Suppose, for instance that Belgium, having shaken off the Dutch yoke, had proposed to incorporate herself with, and annex herself to, her powerful neighbour France. Would England, or any other of the monarchies of Europe, have sanctioned that alliance? Would they have allowed France to increase her power, and extend her dominion by a peaceful compact, after all the money that had been spent, and the blood shed, and the desolation, pain, and woe inflicted upon the human race, for the sole object of checking the ambition of Napoleon, confining France within her legitimate limits, and securing for her a firm, safe, and constitutional government? It is not probable. It would have been an act of suicide. It would have made their professions of twenty years a mere mockery, and their principles the essence of hypocrisy and fraud.

Is it not apparent, then, that the governments of England and France stand in the same relation to Texas, as those of England and the northern powers of Europe stood in relation to Belgium? To recognise the independence of Texas is one thing; to permit the cession of the Texan territory to an overgrown, and grasping, and the unscrupulous republic, like that the United States, is quite a different thing. Mexico is weak enough, with a revolted province on her northern frontier; but that weakness would be rendered more dangerous and pitiable, if her revolutionary citizens were armed with the protection of a greater and overawing republic. It may be the policy of France, in the distribution of her favours, to give a preference to the United States, on the rule that what the republics gain we lose.

This, of course, is not English policy. The object of America is to monopolise, as much as she possibly can, the cultivation of cotton. She has also other views. Slavery in the south is shrouded by the blasts from the north. There is a hollow sound coming over the billows of the Atlantic, and a still, small voice in the states of New England.—Black men are permitted to walk on the shady side of the Broadway in New York. They are free men too, by some inflexitious accident, which the cotton planter cannot understand. Hence the necessity of more slave influence in the Senate of Washington, more anti emancipation votes in Congress, more resisting power to the approaching revolution.

If the government of England should unhappily give a tacit consent, or no consent at all, but an unmeaning growl to the annexation schemes, she hersell to the charge of supressing slavery with one hand, and encouraging it with the other. The interest of the manufacturers of this country are decidedly in favour of the independence of Texas. Policy challenges the economy of the proposed union. The less we are dependent upon any one country for the supply of that important staple, cotton, the better for ourselves. The soil of Texas is fertile, and its agricultural products for manufacturing purposes are inexhaustible. In an independent position, her trade, her supplies, her consumption, would be invaluable to this country. Bound to us by favourable treaties and liberally encouraged, she might, under our protective friendship, be placed in a meditatorial condition; and availing herself of her locality, she might become the schoolmistress of America, and the parochial beadle of the United States. She would be a cooling draught to England between two fires. Annex her to the latter republic, and she would be for ever swamped—a convenient bog, in which would be submerged the principle of liberty, light, and truth.

But there is another point. Who are the men in Texas, who call themselves a convention of people, and who, in the idle and absurd name of the people with all the pomp and circumstance of unblushing quackery, give their solemn and profound assent to this act of annexation? We believe, and we have reason to believe, for their names are published, that they number about fifty individuals—good men and wise they may be—but refugees, nevertheless, from the United States, from England, Holland, Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and other countries. These conventionalists each represents his five hundred square miles. Who the electors are, we have yet to learn. These fifty odd men seem to call the Texan territory their own. By what right it would be difficult to explain. The lands they hold, or have apportioned amongst themselves, they certainly have never purchased, or, if purchased, have never paid for, and never intend to do. In these immaculate days, it would be, perhaps, deemed illiberal if we were to call them robbers. The poor Indians have a name for it, which we do not choose to translate. These men call themselves a republic—and independent republic—but pray where are the citizens who constitute a republic?

For these reasons alone, we earnestly contend that England cannot with honour consent to this mercenary and unjustifiable annexation. It may have been a dream—the charm of young life, when fancy was unrestrained, and hope smiled; but we believed that England was the champion of the distressed and the injured all over the world. She, we were told, sent her thunder to avenge crime. She took part with the weak against the strong and the lawless, and in her pride of equity threw her gauntlet in the face of the oppressor. It was a dream, we suspect; for whatever history may tell, we have had no proofs or confirmation of the fact in our time.—The United States lay claim to the whole of the American continent, from Terra del Fuego to the North Pole, and we suppose they must have it all. In dealing with England, the most vigorous and successful speculators are those who have nothing to lose; money and credit in such cases being hindrances. If Texas is annexed to the United States, we cannot see, on the same grounds, any formidable reason why Ireland should not be so. The Popish priests would like it, because the ignorance of America is sympathetic with her notions of civil and religious liberty. The United States, we are glad to say, is working double tides to gain a respectable and creditable reputation; and there are hopes that the "drab coloured population" of Philadelphia will ultimately pay their debts. But for a quiet and reflecting man to think that a pecuniary easiness is to be caused by the capture of the Texan territory, is a matter that produces, and must produce, painful ideas. Our last word is, that if Lord Aberdeen assents to the dictum of Sir Robert Peel, that Texas must be surrendered to the United States, we shall, as Canning said cover the union jack with crape, and hide our sorrows and tears in chambers dim, or in old and unhrageous bowers, known only to the owl and the bat.

STATE OF TRADE.

MANCHESTER.—We have had a dull week in our cloth market, with the exception of the best printing cloth, for which there is an improved demand. Shirtings, domestics, and finer qualities of printing fabrics are very dull, and are to be had on rather easier terms. Spinners continue to realise full prices, and in some instances improved ones. The demand, &c. is likely to continue.

BRADFORD, Aug. 21.—The demand was pretty active to-day for some kinds of worsted articles, especially those on which to try the new mode of dyeing upon.—Merinos also were in request; Orleans not so brisk; Coburgs steady. Yarns: This article is without change for the better; no life in the trade. Wool much too high for present rates.—In wool no change

THE ARMY.

ROYAL ARTILLERY.—Mr. James Pilson, late a Company Serjeant in the Royal Artillery, who was discharged in July last, has been awarded by the Master General of the Ordnance, a silver medal and gratuity for his long services and good conduct. Mr. Pilson entered the service in 1805, and has served in the West Indies, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and in Canada. He was one of the little band who accompanied Major Pringle in the long and arduous march from Nova Scotia to Canada, in the winter of 1837-8, during the Canadian revolt.

The Master-general having approved of a new pattern shako and plume for the officers of the Royal Artillery, the second lieutenant appointed and such other officers as may require new caps, are to provide themselves with the new pattern. The Master general desires that the new cap may be taken into wear when the Regiment puts on the clothing for 1846.

WOOLWICH, AUGUST 25.

Major Anderson's and Captain Stanway's companies, 1st battalion, assembled at 5 o'clock, p m., on the guard mounting parade, in heavy marching order, for the commandant's inspection. His Lordship after minutely inspecting the men and their appointments expressed himself highly pleased with their clean and soldier-like appearance, and then in the most flattering manner addressed them in the following terms:—"Soldiers, I hope you will long maintain the high character you leave the Garrison with, as reports from the home stations you have served at have been most satisfactory. You are going to one of the best Colonial stations we possess and a place where I have enjoyed many a happy day. I wish you every success and a good passage."

AUGUST 27.

Major Anderson's company, 70 strong, under the command of second Captain DeWinton, with Lieutenant Moubray, and second Lieutenant Travers, and Captain Stanway's company, 70 strong under the command of the gallant captain, with First Lieutenant Green, First Lieutenant Phillips, and second Lieutenant Barstow, marched to the Royal Arsenal, accompanied by the excellent band of the regiment, and embarked at 6 o'clock p.m., in the Barretto junior, transport ship, for a passage to Halifax, Nova Scotia. Captain Stanway being the senior officer on board will assume the command of the whole until their arrival at Nova Scotia, when one of the companies will proceed to St. John, New Brunswick.—*Woolwich Gazette.*

INFANTRY.—It having been represented to the Commander-in chief that the colored stripes in the sash or girdle at present worn by the serjeants of Infantry are liable to fade or become unsightly when exposed to wet, or to the influence of the sun in hot climates, his Grace has been pleased to direct that the serjeants sash be henceforth manufactured of the national crimson colour throughout, instead as for the whole army (including Rifle corps) and that the breadth be reduced to two and a half inches. A pattern has accordingly been sealed and lodged at the office of military boards for the regulation of future supplies.

THE NAVY.

[illegible] has got her lower masts in and the tops over, and the rigging is being fitted. This vessel was built in 1764, and consequently she is now 61 years of age, and yet her timbers are all in the most perfect state, and she is the admiration of all the naval officers who have seen her since she was razeed from a 74 to a 50 gun ship. A highly qualified and experienced naval officer stated that he would prefer her under the present form to any modern vessel in the navy, as she sits beautiful on the water, and has ample room to work her guns on the broadsides, as well as fore and aft. Her stern is rounded and very agreeable to the eye, and on the lower deck has four port-holes for guns of large calibre. Mr. Lang, master ship builder, has introduced a great improvement in the form of the port hole coverings on her broadsides, by making them in two pieces instead of one, formerly used, which renders them equally strong, although only half the weight when it is requisite to move them. The Grampus when finished as a fifty gun frigate, will possess every quality, in the opinion of qualified judges, that is requisite in a man-of-war, without any of the doubtful qualities which have recently been the subject of so much discussion.—*Ib.*

GALLANT CAPTURE OF A PIRATE SLAVER.—NINE MEN KILLED AND FOURTEEN WOUNDED.

We merely alluded yesterday (Aug 26th) to a report which had reached us from the coast of Africa, of a most gallant and successful engagement on the west coast between the boats of one of her Majesty's ships and a large pirate slaver. We have received from a correspondent of St. Thomas's, by the same ship, a confirmation of the report, with the following interesting particulars:—It is with sincere pride that we record the exploit, which for chivalrous gallantry has hardly been surpassed during the most stirring period of the late war, and which must satisfy those detractors of our brave seamen who insist that the navy has lost much of the spirit that was wont to animate it, how utterly groundless such a belief really is.

The boats engaged in the affair belonged to the Pantaloon, 16, sloop, Commander Edmund Wilson. The prize is a remarkably fine vessel of about 450 tons, polacre, rigged, with immense sails. She is of great celebrity on the coast, is armed with four 12-pounders, and had a mixed crew composed chiefly of Spaniards, amounting to about 50; and was equipped for any villanous service, whether slave dealing or piracy.

The Pantaloon had been baffled in her chase of this vessel, supposed to be a slaver, for two or three days; and it appears, from what our correspondent has stated, the pirate, after leading the Pantaloon away to St. Thomas, and outsailing her, doubled on the crusier, and then ran to Lagos; but Captain Wilson was too old an officer on the coast to be so taken in, and on the morning of the 26th of May the sloop and the stranger caught sight of each other about two miles distant, off Lagos, becalmed. The pirate hoisted no colours, and the captain of the Pantaloon, desirous of renewing his attentions, sent the cutter and two whale boats under the command of the First Lieutenant, Mr. Lewis de Prevost, with the master, Mr. J. Crout, and the boatswain, Mr. Pasco, with Marines and seamen amounting to about 36 altogether, to make a more intimate acquaintance with the stranger, taking especial care, however, to be fully prepared for a warm reception.

The pirate gave the boats an indication of what they were to expect, as they neared, by opening on them a heavy fire of round shot, grape, and cannister, in such a spirited style, that after returning the complement by a volley of musketry, the boats prepared for hard work. Animated by the show of resistance, each boat now emulated the other in reaching the enemy, the pirate continuing a sharp fire as they advanced, the marines as briskly using their muskets. In half an hour from the discharge of the first gun from the pirate, the boats of the Pantaloon were alongside, Lieutenant Prevost and Mr. Pasco on the starboard, and Mr. Crout in the cutter on the port side. The pirate crew sheltering themselves as much as possible, nevertheless, continued to fire guns, loading them with all sorts of missiles—bullets, nails, lead, &c., and amidst a shower of these our brave sailors dashed on board.

Lieutenant Prevost and his party in the two boats, notwithstanding their hot reception, were soon on the deck of the prize. The master boarded on the port bow, and despite the formidable resistance and danger, followed by one of his boat's crew, actually attempted to enter the port as they were firing the gun from it. He succeeded in getting through, but his seconder was knocked overboard by the discharge; the gallant fellow, however, nothing daunted, was in an instant up the side again, taking part with the master, who was engaged in a single encounter with one or two of the rascals. Having gained the deck after a most determined resistance, they now encountered the pirates hand to hand, when the cutlass and bayonet did the remainder of the work. Lieutenant Prevost finally succeeded in capturing the vessel, but the pirates fought desperately, and it was not until seven of their number lay dead on the deck and seven or eight more were severely wounded that they ran below or yielded.

It may naturally be supposed that in such a hard and close struggle the gallant boats' crews did not escape unharmed. We are sorry to say that a fine able seaman named Henry Jackson, was killed, and a private of the Royal Marines was so severely wounded that he died a short time after. The master was severely wounded; Pasco, boatswain, was slightly wounded; as were also four others, Carrick, the captain's coxswain; Soughton, a quartermaster; Harmer, an able seamen; and a marine named Fremantle. An able seaman, named Jones, was severely wounded.

The affair has excited a great sensation on the coast, and the men of war are loud in their congratulations on the success of the Pantaloon. The general feeling among the squadron is admiration of the gallantry displayed, coupled, however, with ardent wishes for such an opportunity of distinction.—*Standard.*

SUMMARY.

The *Leeds Mercury* says it is no uncommon thing for 100 000 railway shares to be sold in one day in the share markets in Leeds.

It is calculated that the price of land and houses in the vicinity of railway termini throughout England has advanced 100 per cent.

The amount subscribed for new lines this year in sums above £2.000 is in Manchester upwards of £6.000,000, and to Liverpool upwards of £5,000,000.

After raising £600,000 or £700,000 for churches, the Free Church people of Scotland determined recently to have a college and 20 individuals instantly put down their names for £1,000 each for the purpose. Since then they have commenced a subscription to build parsonages for their ministers, and in a few weeks £40,000 or £50,000 has been raised for that purpose.

The Prince de Berghes, who defrauded the Parisian Jockey Club, has been sentenced to three years imprisonment, with a fine of 100 francs. The prince has appealed against the sentence.

Mr Scott Murray, who a few months ago embraced the Roman Catholic faith, is erecting a Catholic church at Great Marlow, at his sole expense. The architect is Mr. Pugin. The cost is estimated at £3.500.

BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.—A case of this description was tried at the assizes, in the city of Cork, on Friday, in which a young lady, named Henrietta Little, aged about twenty-six, sued a widower, named George Newenham, of the ripe age of fifty-three, for damages laid at £5,000. The sum of £500 was paid into court. The promise was fully made out, and the breach defended on the ground that the defendant, on looking into his affairs, had discovered that his property was not sufficient to maintain the lady, and some other incumbrances (consisting of another lady and five children) in the style they had been used to. The jury after a long inquiry, found for the plaintiff, damage £700, and costs.

BELFAST ELECTION.—On Wednesday, Lord John L. Chichester, brother of the Marquis of Donegal, was elected for this borough without opposition.

The Emperor of Austria, on the advice of Prince Metternich, is about to endow the Protestant clergy in the German states.

At Wombwell, near Barnsley, the other day, one of the servants of Mr. Swift took up a gun, levelled it at her fellow servant in a joke, not knowing it was loaded, pulled the trigger and shot her dead.

The *United Service Gazette* says, "We believe it has been decided upon that each port shall have two old 74's, mounted with 50 guns each, and a frigate mounting 30 guns, to be kept in constant readiness, on the screw principle."

Col. Lascelles, of the Grenadier Guards, on Monday afternoon, was thrown from his horse, in Bath-street, Grosvenor square, London, and his left eye was forced from the socket, by his head coming in contact with the curb stone.

Mr. Bailey's colossal statute of his late Royal highness the Duke of Sussex, is to be placed in Freemasons' Hall, is nearly completed, and is pronounced an excellent likeness of the deceased Prince.

The *Times* express, with the result of the Sunderland election consumed in actual railway travelling 7 hours and 27 minutes, and returning with the printed account 7 hours 54 minutes. The distribution of the *Times* having in that short interval, been effected over nearly the whole of England.

A new Tom Thumb, the 'Emperor Tom Thumb,' has arisen in Somersetshire. It will shortly make his debut before the public. He is sixteen years of age, is but two feet nine inches high, and has not grown a bit for nine years. He dances, fences, and sings.

The ships composing the experimental squadron were passed August 25, 30 leagues S. W. of Scilly, standing S W. The old French ship, the Canopus, has beaten all the other vessels in the experimental squadron.

The condemned pirates have been further respited until the 25th of November, in order to afford the judges an opportunity of fully considering the points of law raised on the trial.

The East India Company are building two splendid war steamers of 1,440 tons each.

A new frigate, the Clorinde, of 46 guns was launched on the 13th at Cherbourg.

The *Universal Prussian Gazette* states, from Berlin, 9th inst., that a decree has been published containing the conditions under which the body of Lutherans who have seperated themselves from the Evangelical Church are permitted to form religious communities. The authorization of the state will be necessary for this purpose, and they will be submitted to a particular consistory.

In the diocese of Chester, as many as 170 churches have been built within the last ten years, and there are now in progress *nearly one hundred more!*

The Rev. Doctor Joseph Wolf has taken up his residence at Malines, and has accepted the chaplaincy of the English Protestant chapel there, where he will perform divine service every Sunday.

By an order in Council, the Queen has approved of the recommendation of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for founding eighteen additional fellowships in the University of Durham, of the value of £120 a-year.

IRISH INTELLIGENCE.—Government have finally determined upon establishing one of the provincial colleges at Cork.

The *Times* has sent its own "commissioner" into Ireland to report upon the condition of the country.

O'Connellis alternating the exercise of his beagles with the light amusement of preparing *fourteen new acts of parliament*, with which he is to floor both Whigs and Tories. The old boy will be the death of us!

A private soldier of the 67th regiment, now lying at Potobella Barracks, has charged himself with being the murderer of Eliza Grimwood, whose death caused such a sensation in London some years ago.

Amongst the last noticeable events in the appointment of Mr. Corbellis, a Roman Catholic barrister, to the new office of Chancery Taxing Master, worth £1,000 a year.

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The meeting on Monday was scantily attended. Mr. O'Reilly, the chairman, hinted at what he deemed to be the great danger of the present crisis. The government were now trying to draw away some of their young men by the lure of place and office. The new colleges would supply tempting situations to young men of literary talents, and in Maynooth itself an effort would be made to bias the minds of the rising generation of the Catholic priesthood. There was a peril in these regards which they must prepare against. Already he feared that some wavering individuals had been drawn away from them. On a future day he would speak out more openly, and denounce in the strongest terms all flinchers from their sacred cause. Mr. John O'Connell informed the meeting that conformably with the advice of his father, they had prepared another address to the Catholics of the north of Ireland on the subject of the Orange meetings. They might be sneered at and traduced for still endeavouring to conciliate men who had given so little encouragement to their overtures, but they would never desist from the blessed work of conciliation, nor ever omit doing anything which had a tendency to promote it. The same honourable M.P. adverted to a letter which he had received from the Right Rev. Dr. Cantwell, which he deemed particularly valuable, as showing how repugnant the infidel Colleges Bill was to the feelings of their prelates, or at least of some of them. He moved a vote of thanks to this admirable bishop for his excellent letter. The vote was of course agreed to. Mr. Ray read a letter from Mr. Smith O'Brien in favour of the registration of repealers, and also a long report from a special committee on the subject of trade and manufactures. Mr. Steele in making some observations on this subject claimed to have been the original propounder of the great work now going on upon the Shannon. Captain Broderick read a letter on the subject of Ribbonism in Cavan, and having first denounced that system, proceeded then to denounce the police, and the government for encouraging policemen to get up fictitious charges, by rewarding those who brought forward the greatest numbers of prosecutions. The gallant captain indulged in a long harangue *de omnibus rebus*. Amongst other Irish grievances of which he complained, he adverted to the fact that no part of the clothing or accoutrements of the army were of Irish manufacture. This he attributed to the vicious system by which the colonels of regiments are given the ordering of these matters, and permitted to derive a large perquisite from it. He concluded by announcing that the repeal registry in the city was progressing most favourably, and that on that day's registration they had a majority of fourteen. The rent for the week was declared to be £205 13s 7d.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Private letters from Alexandria of the 8th instant, state that the Duke de Montpensier had returned to that city from his journey to Upper Egypt, and was to sail in a day or two for Smyrna and Constantinople.

We learn from Constantinople of the 30th ult., that intelligence had been received there from the Caucasus, announcing that the Russians had undertaken a new campaign in the interior of Daghestan. After a vigorous resistance at the entrance of a defile, the mountaineers withdrew to the interior, and the Russians seized on the defile. Considerable loss was sustained on both sides. There have been insurrections in the part of Circassia which is under subjection; and near Anapa a Russian division was obliged to retreat.

A correspondent in Tripoli writes, on the 2d instant, that the expedition against Tunis was no longer talked of, and that the idea of it had, perhaps, never been seriously entertained by the Ottoman government. The French steamer Cocyte, and the brig-of-war Messager, still remained at Tripoli.

FRANCE.

A letter published in the *Courier Français*, states that fresh attempts at incendiarism had been made at Toulon, and among several bunches of matches found in different parts of the arsenal, one had been placed under a frigate which is now upon the stocks. The *Reforme*, a republican print, in alluding to the recent fires at Toulon and Algiers, does not scruple to repeat its foul insinuation, that they were the work of emissaries of the British government, and calls upon the French nation to entertain a legitimate distrust of all professions of friendship emanating from this side of the channel.

Fresh rumours are afloat of the proposed modification of the cabinet, but there seems to be no fear that Marshal Soult will resign the post for which he is so eminently fitted, so long as health and strength are spared him. The Prince and Princess of Salerno, the parents of the Duchess d'Aumale, were expected at the Chateau d'Eu.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN TOULON ARSENAL.—Toulon, August 1.—This morning, at 11 o'clock, the drums beat to arms, the cannon roared the tocsin alarmed the inhabitants, who, anxious to learn the disasters that had fallen on them, flew from all directions towards the port. The sight there was grand and awfully majestic; the arsenal was one sheet of fire. Admiral Baudin, the mayor, and all the civil and military authorities, were soon on the spot, and with great difficulty the rapid progress of the flames was in a measure arrested. The fire broke out in several distinct and seperate parts—in the great covered shed, filled with wood, which had been placed there more than 20 years back, and at other piles placed at some distance. At the same time an immense pile of oak, on the other side of the canal was also on fire. All the offices are destroyed. Fortunately a strong wind E.S.E., saved the vessels on the stocks; the steam sawing mills are also preserved. The loss is, however, immense. It is now 7 p.m. The fire still continues, but with little force, and I am in hopes no further damage will be done. Fifteen persons were seriously injured and have been conveyed to the hospital. It is almost certain that the galley slaves are the authors of the fire.—Several of them have made their escape. August 2, seven p.m.—The fire continued with more or less intensity until two o'clock to day, when after great exertion it was got under. The loss sustained by the Government is immense, and may without exaggeration be estimated at a million and a half pounds sterling. This sum, although enormous, would be of comparative trifling consequence, but the loss in seasoned wood is irreparable. The greater portion of the wood burnt is Sicilian oak of the finest quality, and has been twenty and thirty years in the arsenal. I can hardly describe the consternation which reigns in this place. The inhabitants and workmen consider that it will be impossible, at least for many years, to build ships at Toulon unless Government should think proper to send timber from other dockyards. Fortunately no ships were injured, although serious apprehensions were entertained this morning from the sparks of the great shed. Every precaution was taken to preserve the vessels on the stocks; steamboats were ready to tow them into the harbor, and 20 fire-engines worked by 600 seamen were prepared to play on them. Large bodies of men are now employed in clearing away the ruins. This morning, the steamer Etna, Captain Laville, entered this port, with despatches from Tunis, which place she quitted on the 26th ult. I learnt from one of the officers that a body of Turkish troops had landed at Tripoli, and that great preparations were making at Tunis to defend the place. The Bey had ordered a frigate to be got ready for conveying despatches. At the departure of the Etna, the French ship of the line, Neptune, and the steamer Levoisier, were lying in the harbor. The Cocteye, and Messenger, which left Toulon on the 2nd, with sealed orders, have, I am confidently informed, gone to Tripoli. Orders have been received from Paris to prepare for immediate service two steamers of 450 horse power each, and another of the same force is to be manned and armed.—*Galignani.*

SPAIN.

Our accounts from Madrid are of the 13th. Several officers belonging to the garrison of that city had been dismissed from their corps, and had received passports for different towns in the provinces, to which they had been directed to repair. Great difference of opinion appears to prevail in regard to the restitution of the property of the secular clergy. The *Heraldo* denounces the measure with much vehemence. The accounts from Catalonia state that the excitement in that province had been much increased by the dismissal of General Concha. It appears that he had all along opposed Narvaez's orders to ballot for recruits in the district of Barcelona, on the ground that such a course would be a breach of the compact entered into by the government with the inhabitants of that city, who had contracted to pay a large sum of money, in order that they might be exempted from the conscription. Should Narvaez persist in calling upon the Barcelonian recruits, some serious disturbances may be expected.

GERMANY.

The "religious" excitement in Germany continues unabated, and rather than other wise increases in its fervour. Ronge, indeed, seems like another Luther, tho' without his deep spirituality of mind.

THE CAPE.

We have advices from the Cape of Good Hope to the 6th June. The Boers beyond the boundary of the Orange River had shown no further disposition to resist the colonial authorities, and Sir P. Maitland had proceded to Colesberg to satisfy himself in person as to the merits of their complaints, in order to prevent the recurrence of an outbreak. His Excellency had received an address from that horse, by which he had restored his authority to prevent him from moving for a few days, but it was not expected to lead to any more serious result.

AUSTRALIA.

We have intelligence from Hobart Town, to the 30th of April. The tenor of the letters from Sydney is of the most cheerful and gratifying description, and we infer from them that the colony will now again make steady advances towards prosperity. During the month of April alone, the exports from Sydney to London were to the amount of £2.000,000, and comprised the most valuable products, viz.. wool, tallow, sperm oil, &c. To the felicitous discovery of the results of boiling down sheep and cattle, the colony is said to be mainly indebted for its reviving prospects.

As a proof of the progress of these colonies, the exports from Sydney during the month of April amounted to upwards of £200,000 in value, in the articles of wool, oil, tallow, and hides, exclusive of other minor commodities. The progress of boiling down the carcasses of cattle and sheep is now much better understood, and is so rapidly extending that it will soon remove all complaint of want of markets for their surplus stock, which multiplies on their hands with a degree of rapidity unknown in the old settled countries of Europe. Notwithstanding distance, there is every appearance of the Australian group becoming successful rivals with Russia, for tallow, in the market of the mother country. The banks seem now to be acting with prudence and caution with their credits, and the result is shown in an increased degree of confidence and self-reliance on the part of the majority of the settlers.

Communications.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

Sir—In looking over your paper of the 19th inst. I observe under the head of City Affairs, sundry documents relating to the recent fire, the state of the fire apparatus, and the position of the Common Council, in reference to the Trustees of Corporation property, the Legislature, and the Saint John Water Company. Now, sir, as I am one of the interested in the matters referred to in those documents, and as such, have a right—an equal right with others to express an opinion upon them, and as I moreover affect to think as I ought, and to speak as I think, perhaps you will open your columns for a brief exposition of my sentiments upon the important matters brought so prominently before the public by their publication. With respect to the inefficiency of the fire apparatus, no doubt appears to be entertained; nor is a question raised as to the utility of the Water Company's works on occasions of fire. Neither do I imagine that there can be a second opinion as to the expediency of adopting the recommendation of His Worship the Mayor to use all possible despatch in causing them to be made suitable for extensive service in case of need. Hereupon arises a question of moment, however, and one which calls for an expression of public opinion upon it. It is in my view but justice to the Common Council in the present crisis, either to sustain them in the course they have taken, or else unmistakingly to intimate to them that they are over-jealous of the public rights, to the injury of their constituents.

From the Report made by the committee of the Common Council, it would appear that the Board have been long sensible of the defective state of the fire department, and so early as last winter applied to the Legislature to pass a law enabling them to procure the necessary means to remedy the defect. Strange to say, although the propriety of the application was expressly admitted, the powers sought, were, by a species of truckling legislation, known only to the independent representatives of a New Brunswick constituency, effectually withheld.—The House of Assembly in effect say—Your request is proper, and your case is urgent; so urgent in fact, that it presents us with a fair opportunity of serving our friends behind the curtain; so pay £300 per annum to the Saint John Water Company—a very respectable company we do assure you sirs, and you may then put your hands into your pockets for your own purposes.—I pronounce this to have been a gratuitously wicked piece of legislation; a daring attempt at legalized robbery. Who made the House of Assembly arbitrators between the City of Saint John and the Water Company? Nay, when were there any matters for submission to them. The city is under no obligation, legal or moral, to make good the losses of that company. They have introduced, 'tis true, that which has been of incalculable benefit to it, and in so far they present a fair claim to support by *individuals*; but if I am not mistaken, private emolument was the inducement to engage in the work, and if 100 per cent. on the capital invested had been the annual dividend, the stockholders alone would have enjoyed it. They no doubt anticipated success in the enterprise, as do the Gas Company at present, and they as doubtlessly imagined that they were receiving a favor at the hands of the Corporation, when they obtained permission to lay down their pipes, at all events they must have conceived that by p'acing the water at the public service in cases of fire, they were granting no more than a compensation for the inconvenience caused to the citizens by opening the streets in laying down their apparatus. Be this as it may, we hear of no complaint until failure stares them in the face, when they resort to every shift to get the stock off their hands, and among others is that of which I have been writing. The Corporation were placed in a strait by the action of the Legislature. On the one hand there were necessities to be provided for of no ordinary importance; on the other there was the ignominy of submitting to injustice:—there was the terrible cry of retrenchment that had been knelled into their ears for months back, and they dare not, if they would, desert the sacred trust reposed in them by the citizens. In refusing the conditions annexed to the powers conferred by 8th Vict. Cap. 68, they acted wisely and well, and in applying to the Trustees of Corporation property for the necessary money for the improvement of the fire department, they took the only course which, in my opinion was left them, short of an appeal to the bounty of the public. The answer of the Trustees was not such as might have been expected. It was hasty and haughty, and betokens, to say the least of it, an extreme and unpardonable oversight of popular rights. It enjoins that which was the cause of their appointment—the avoidable expenditure of money, and imputes a fault to the Corporate Body for not having done already that which they, if their conduct was consistent, would be the first to censure. They will not give £250 of the public funds to repair the engines, hose, &c., and yet they say go to the owners of this same fund for that and £300 more to give as a bonus to the Water Company.

It must not be inferred from what I have written, that I would have the Company's interests altogether disregarded; on the contrary, my sympathies go with their work, which was an enterprising undertaking, and as far as is compatible with prudence and practice I would relieve them, and with a view to that I would offer a suggestion or two.

It is evident that an abundant supply of Water *to every part of the city*, is highly desirable and of great public concernment; that independently of other considerations, protection to a part is safety to the whole. It follows that every district should be supplied, and if supplied, each one should contribute towards paying the expense, and that in proportion to relative interests. It follows moreover, that the Corporation, who are the conservators of the public safety, would be justified in introducing such a supply of water, and in making a general rate to pay for it. If they have not the power to tax specifically for such a purpose at present, it could without doubt be easily obtained. As the company's works are suitable for this purpose, I think there could be no reasonable objection to their being taken off their hands at a reasonable price.

Now for a few words about the contemplated appeal to the public for voluntary contribution.—I perfectly agree with the Trustees, that a direct tax is much the more preferable mode of procedure. The objection to the voluntary system is, that to use a significant phrase, it admits of "shirking;" it is driving the "willing horse," while the even more able bodied escapes his share of labour. Tax, and then each man pays for what he gets, and enjoys only so much as he has paid for. But the present exigency admits of no delay: cannot £250 be obtained on loan to the corporation until the next sitting of the Legislature, when as the "injustice and illegality" of the former act, as it would seem, "are apparent to its members," a new one may be obtained to authorise an assessment to pay it.

The last thing I shall notice is the extraordinary letter of the Chief Magistrate to Aldermen Porter and Van Horne. It is an unfortunate letter, as it invites the public attention to the "antagonist position" of the writer to the Corporation, of which he is the head. Its style is strikingly splenetic, sufficiently so to lead to the irresistible conviction that there is some private influence at work there, jarring with public duty. We are informed in parenthesis that "unfortunate disputes have arisen and *will continue to arise*" between the Corporation and the Water Company. Ah! is it so? Is this to be comforted into a threat? for the language is emphatic; and is the poor unfortunate beggarly city indeed to be terrified into submission by its *wealthy* neighbour the Water Company? Alack a day! How are the mighty fallen and the weak puffed up! What a glorious prospect is opened out to the former as the price of slavery—the loan of five whole hundred pounds:—think of that in present, (quere, where is the money to come from?) and in future the dispersion of difficulties like the mists of morning. Altogether, this document is worthy of preservation, as it is strongly corroborative of the maxim "no man can serve two masters."

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THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, SEPT. 26, 1845.

THE first September English Mail arrived at Halifax in the steamer *Britannia*, from Liverpool, on Wednesday 17th instant, having had a boisterous passage of 13 days. Messrs Daniel, Gilchrist, Smellie, Fox, Walker, and Waugh, of this city, with Mr. J. A. Pierce, of Miramichi,—L. J. Papineau, Esq., late Speaker of the House of Assembly of Lower Canada, who has been an exile in consequence of his participation in the Canada rebellion in 1837, with 75 others for Boston, also came passengers.

Accounts from nearly all parts of England, Scotland, and also from France, state that a favourable change had taken place in the weather, and that consequently the crops were likely to be got in good condition, though we regret to perceive that a blight has fallen among the Potatoes, both in England and on the continent, similar to that which has affected them nearly the whole of this continent.

The state of Ireland continues good, there being an active demand particularly for woollen stuffs.

Various extracts from the latest papers will be found in our columns.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDER.

FREDERICTON, 22d September, 1845.

COMMANDING officers of Battalions are requested, in making their Inspection Returns for the present year, to state the number of Officers, non Commissioned Officers, and Men enrolled, and number actually called out and effective; the number and state of the Arms and Accoutrements, and the number of the Troops and Companies that are in Uniform.

Captain William Hutchison, of the Saint John Light Infantry, and Lieutenant John Wannamaker, of the 3d Battalion, King's County Militia, are allowed to retire from Militia service with their respective Rank.

By Command,
GEO SHORE, *A. G. M.*

STEAMER REINDEER.—We have witnessed a short experimental trip which this steamer made in the river opposite the town, and saw enough to convince us that when her machinery is in proper order she will be a fast boat. There is no longer a doubt, that the new principle discovered by Mr. Tibbets has completely succeeded.—*Head Quarters.*

We learn that Mr. S. Rowe, the eminent statuary of Exeter, has received orders to execute all the fine stone carving for the new Cathedral about to be erected at Fredericton New Brunswick. The high reputation which Mr. Rowe has obtained for his workmanship leaves no reason to doubt that the new Cathedral will be greatly enriched by his skill.—*Dorset Chronicle.*

THE WAR.—What have become of it? Where are the ten thousand Mexican troops within eight days march, of whom old Gen. Gaines had authentic information? Where are the codfish privateers on the Banks of Newfoundland, of which the *Herald* gave solemn warning? Where are the privateers, which being clustered at Havana, were to pounce like locusts upon our commerce? Where are all the other alarming things of which we have heard? All gone, with the long, low, black schooner, to the tomb of the U. State Bank. The glory of the warrior, the politician, the financier, and the newsmonger, are all buried in one common grave. General Gaines is certainly to be pitied. His last vision of glory has faded away, and the N. Orleans volunteers who were to have had a grand summer excursion at the expence of Uncle Sam,—all their fun is over, and instead of Yankee soldiers, Gen. Taylor calls for Irish laborers. If the Mexicans will fortify the Rio del Norte, and the Americans the Nueces, the disputed territory may for the present be left to the gallinippers.—*Journal of Commerce.*

entered—the *Rose*, by Mr Melville; *Jane*, by Mr. W. Hare; *Aurora Borealis*, by Mr. S. E. Gerow; and the *Fire Fly*, by Mr. R. James. This race caused much excitement, and was taken by the *Rose*, which performed the distance in 58 minutes, beating the others 10 minutes.

The third Race was the four oared Gigs by Amateurs.—Prize £6.—The course being from the starting line round a boat moored between the Beacon and Partridge Island, thence up the Harbour to a boat moored off Rankin's Wharf, and thence to the place of starting. Four boats started—the *Leander*, entered by Mr. John Simonds; *Nereid*, entered by the Amateur Boat Club; *Blonde*, entered by Mr. W. C. Hare; and the *Atalanta*, entered by Captain Thomas Reed.—the *Atalanta* taking the race with ease, performing the distance in 34 minutes, and beating the *Blonde* by 2 minutes.

The fourth Race was the six oared Gigs.—Prize £6.—Course as before. The *Venture*, a Sand Point boat, ent