

From the Halifax Gazette, May 24.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

The packet ship *South America* arrived below at an early hour this morning, having sailed from Liverpool on her regular day, the 16th April. By her the Editors of the *New York Daily Express* have received their files of Liverpool papers to the 17th, and London to the 16th ult. inclusive; together with the latest shipping and commercial intelligence.

The anxiety which has prevailed in England amongst the commercial and monetary interests with regard to the difficulties in which many eminent houses in the American trade have been placed, has not materially abated. Nothing of an official character has yet transpired relative to the determination on the part of the Bank of England with regard to the application of the Liverpool and Manchester deputation; but we have reason, says the *London Morning Herald*, to believe that it has been for the present decidedly in the negative. Such has been the anxiety in Liverpool for the arrival of the American packets, that a steamer had been ordered out from Liverpool to meet them.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Commons April 15, Lord Palmerston, in answer to a question from Mr Melean, whether the negotiations about the Vison were concluded, said that he had no official information on the subject.

Lord J. Russell moved that the house resolve itself into a Committee on the Canadian Resolutions, upon which so much has already been said in the house.

Mr Roebuck proposed a plan which he thought would pacify the Canadians—to abolish the legislative council, and create an "executive" council, to be composed of the Attorney and Solicitor General and ten Councillors, to be chosen by the Governor. They might revise and make amendments in bills passed by the House of Assembly; but were to have no power of rejection. The bills were then to be sent to the Governor, who might give or withhold his assent. The object was to concentrate the responsibility in the Governor—to get some known person to whom he could point and say, "That is the man who has done this." He also proposed that the House of Assembly of each Province should choose five delegates to constitute a General Assembly, and that there should be a permanent civil list to include the governor, the judges, and ten of the executive council. If this plan were adopted the Canadians would be satisfied.

Lord J. Russell declared that he must persevere in the resolutions;—he could not forego the principle on which they were founded.

An animated, and rather extraordinary debate ensued, in which Lord Stanley, in particular led the way. He was followed by Mr Ward and Mr Robinson.

Mr Leader thought that the ministerial resolutions were too severe to pacify the Canadians, but too weak to coerce them. He strongly supported Mr Roebuck's plan.

Mr Roebuck, in reply, said that if the resolutions proposed by the Government were passed, non-intercourse between Canada and England would be the consequence. If his plan were adopted, peace and good will would be established in the colony.

Lord J. Russell repeated that he should persevere in the resolutions, as he considered it his duty so to do, notwithstanding threats that had been used. What the people of Canada had asked it was impossible to grant, in the present connection of the two countries; but the resolutions he had proposed he believed would be of great benefit to Canada, and would give satisfaction.

R. Peel opposed Mr Roebuck's plan, and supported the ministerial resolutions, as likely to attain the purposes desired in the colony.

The committee eventually divided on the original question—the numbers were, ayes, 269 noes, 46—majority, 223.

The further consideration of the resolutions was then adjourned.

DISTRESS IN THE HIGHLANDS.—We have much pleasure in having to announce that his Majesty has been pleased to present £100 in aid of the funds for relief of the present destitution in the Highlands and Islands.

THE WEEK.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 31, 1837.

OUR latest advices from England are to the 17th ult. Commercial distress had begun to press heavily on all classes; and it is much to be feared that the accounts which were then on the way from America, would greatly increase the embarrassment.

In the United States, all is panic, terror, and confusion. The banks, generally, have refused to discount in specie, while the Government have ordered that no payments be received at the Public Offices but in specie.

Thousands of Merchants who were, a few months ago, in affluence, are now reduced to poverty. Extracts, illustrative of the true state of things, will be found in another part of our paper.

INTEMPERANCE.—It becomes our imperative duty to direct public attention to the operation of the Licence Law of last Session of our Legislature. The alterations, which have been made to gratify the clamors of a few avaricious and unchristian men, have set open the floodgates of Intemperance afresh upon the Community, at a time when the friends of humanity had begun to hope that their efforts would ultimately be crowned with success, and the inebriating torrent rolled back to the ocean, or apothecary's shop, and prohibited from domestic use as a common beverage.

All the beneficial acts of the last Session, even though they were ten times their admitted amount, could not compensate for this one pernicious measure. Indeed we cannot see what right, human or divine, the Legislature of this or any other country, have, to make laws for licenseing the sale of a *known poison*. With the same degree of moral rectitude, might they legalize murder and arson; and in the present state of society, the latter measure would be infinitely the better of the two. But let the friends of Temperance not be discouraged; their Cause is righteous, and must finally triumph.

We may venture to assert that before fifty years more have elapsed, the legislation we have brought under review, will be considered as the best proof of the barbarity and ignorance of the present age.

Since the new Law came into operation, an increased amount of dissipation has been manifest in this place: about, two weeks ago, within one mile of this Town, we passed on the highway, no less than *five* individuals proceeding to the country, quite drunk, and an Indian was lying on the road-side insensible. This waste too, it

should be recollected, is at a time when the yeomanry of the country have been under the necessity to call upon the Legislature for seed, and bread to their families.

We admit that the best remedy for this evil lies with the people themselves, who could if they chose, by one simultaneous act of abstemiousness, render the vender of the commodity a bankrupt, and the interference of the Legislature unnecessary. But as they do not choose to exercise this right, the legislature would best consult the political and moral good of the people, by prohibiting the importation and use of ardent spirits altogether; and they would, by so doing, deserve the lasting gratitude of the community at large.

Extracts on this subject, from provincial papers, were put in type, but unavoidably omitted this week. They will be inserted in our next paper.

TRAVELLER'S MEMORANDA.

Arrivals during the past week.

At the Royal Oak—Rev. Mr Shreeves, Rev. Mr Livate, Mrs. Jamieson, and Messrs McQueen, Davidson, Lawson, McKinnon, J. Smith, and Davison.

At Mr Harper's—Mr and Mrs Laidlaw, Mr McLean, Miss McCurly, Mr Christy, and Mr Beamish.

MARRIED.

At Wallace, on the 19 inst., by the Rev. Chas. Elliot, Mr Alexander McLean, to Miss Mary Ross, both of that place.

DIED.

At the Middle River, on the 12th inst., after a painful illness, which he bore with patience and resignation, Mr William Crocket, in the 69th year of his age, leaving a wife and eight children.

SHIP NEWS.

CUSTOM-HOUSE—PICTOU.

ENTERED.

Wednesday, May 24,—Brig *Sears*, Nichols, Salem—tobacco, segars, snuff.

Thursday,—Brig *Britannia*, Gilchrist, Cardiff—iron and chains; Billow, Curtis, Boston—ballast; sch'r *Hibernia*, Neil, P. E. Island—ballast; Gracious, O'Brien, Halifax—general cargo; Despatch, —, P. E. Island—ballast.

Friday,—Sch'r *Elizabeth*, Simpson, Mag. Islands—herrings; brig *Mary*, Henderson, Liverpool—salt, &c.; sch'r *Mary Ann*, Graham, Miramichi—pork.

Saturday,—Brig *Sparkler*, Boyles, New York—ballast; sch'r *John*, Longapee, Mag. Islands—herrings; Margaret, Landres, do.—do.; Mary, Taylor, Newfld., do.; Lively, Vigneau, C. Breton—ballast; Partridge, Petipas, Anichat—do.; Sarah, Mattital, Tatamagouche—ballast; Catherine, Buckler, do.—do.; Sarah, Mullins, do.—do.

Monday,—Sch'r *Sarah*, Fourgeron, Ma. Islands—herrings.

Tuesday,—Sch'r *Isabella*, Kennedy, Bathurst—empty barrels.

CLEARED.

24th,—Sch'r *Albion*, Belfontaine, Boston—coal; Uniacke, Landres, Mag. Islands—salt; Olive Branch, Bouche, do.—do.

25th,—Sch'r *Proxy*, Hatch, Philadelphia—coal.

26th,—Brig *Pavo*, Harden, New York—coal; sch'r *Marion*, Godfrey, Boston—do.

27th,—Brig *Joseph*, Smith, Boston—coal; Pandora, Sheppard, Providence—coal; sch'r *Restigouche*, Harbon, Restigouche—corn meal; *Garland*, Wittleton, do.—ballast; Nancy Given, Davison, New York—coal, and 98 passengers (!)

29th,—Sch'r *Fourgeron*, Mag. Islands—bread.

29th—Bar. *Isabella*, Auld, Greenock—timber.