But the snow became deeper, and the three horses worn out with fatigue, ill supplied the place of four fresh ones. On the right hand the wood thinned a little, opening into a kind of glade, in the centre of which was a frozen pond. As the travellers passed it, the pack of wolves appeared dashing up the valley, having as they had done at first; only now the jaws and heads of many were steeped with blood.

'We must let another go,' cried Erick, 'or they will be too much for us; but we take care what we are about. You and I, sir, will fire at once; and then do you, Peter,' he added, addressing the foremost post boy, 'cut the traces of your horses, jump down, and leap up here by me.'

This was done, and the pack were again drawn off. The remaining pair of horses strained their utmost, and all the travellers listened intently for any sign of the re appearance of their enemies—The baron spoke once or twice to Erick, but received no answer; he appeared quite taken up by his own thoughts. At length the carriage reached the top of a hill: and at the distance of apparently two miles before it, a clear steady light was to be seen.

'Thank God! there is Boliev!' cried Erick; 'now then, sir, I believe that you are safe.' As he spoke, the pack again was heard in the distance; and though the post light grew larger and brighter every moment, every moment the wolves gained on them, and in a few moments surrounded them.'

'It must come at last, my dear master,' said Erick. 'I have served you and your father those twenty years, and I never did better service than I now intend to do. If we all remain together we shall be all torn to pieces: I will get down, and with my pistols, I shall, I trust, be able to keep them at bay a few minutes. You press on with all speed: leave me here. I know you will take care of my wife and child.'

'No, Erick!' said the baroness: 'we will not allow this. We will all be saved, or all perish together. I could not bear to escape at the price of your blood.'

'No, indeed, Erick, said Helena.

The baron looked at his wife and child, and said nothing.

'God bless you, Erick, cried his master; God bless you, and He will bless you. If you perish, I will look on your wife as a sister, and bring up your child as one of my own.

'Thank you sir' said Erick firmly. 'Now God be with you all. Fire, sir two pistols at once!'—And while the baron fired, Erick leaped to the ground. On dashed the horses: the pack terrified for a moment, stood still and bayed. Almost immediately the travellers heard the report of a pistol: in about a minute after, of two, close together, but heard no more.

And now they are within a hundred yards of the strong, log-built inn: the pack are close behind them; the post boy cracks his whip; the baron fires; the whole party shout and as the carriage dashes up to the door, it opens, and a fresh blaze of light is poured into the road. The wolves turn: and the baron and his family are in safety.

Of Erick no trace was ever found. His pistols were discovered next morning, where he had been left; three discharged and one loaded. It is supposed that he had not time to fire it, before he was pulled down. I need not mention how nobly the baron fulfilled his promise to his wife an i child.

On this same spot now stands a cross, bearing on one side of its pedestal the name and story of Erick: on the other the legend—'*Greater love hath no man than this; that a man lay down his life for his friends.*'

And now, what are you to learn from this story? What but this? If there have been found those who were willing, for their friends' sake, to give up the dearest things they had, even their life, will you not be ashamed at your selfishness in being unwilling to give up the smallest trifle for those you love? It is all very well to read of the triumphs of the cross; but when will you show them! Not while you seek your own pleasures, not while you do your own will, not while self is uppermost in everything you take in hand. Thus, if you conquer, you will show your remembrance of greater love than of Erick; the one endured even to death for benefactors & friends, the other for offenders & enemies.

Communications.

FOR THE CHRONICLE.

THE CATHEDRAL QUESTION.

Messrs. Durant,—It is now, I believe, pretty well understood, that circumstances have caused the suspension of the works commenced in Fredericton, for the erection of a Cathedral. The extraordinary conduct of certain individuals in that community, (originally subscribers to and earnest promoters of the project,) which has caused dissension among the subscribing parties, created most unexpected and unjustifiable obstacles, and placed our revered Prelate in the dilemma, of either stopping the works, or incurring the risk and annoyance of litigation, has produced this event. I cannot regret the *result*, tho' I lament and deprecate the conduct which has caused it. His Lordship, the Bishop of Fredericton, rightly avowing that he came to this Diocese to preach the Gospel, and not to involve himself in litigation, has yielded to the force of untoward circumstances, and suspended the further progress of the building; and as far as *Fredericton* is concerned, I devoutly hope that such suspension may be permanent. On the other hand, I do most earnestly hope, for the sake of the best interests of the Church in this Province, as well as for the especial benefit of our own very numerous population, thousands of whom are now wholly destitute of Church accommodation, that the Churchmen of St. John, casting aside all unworthy feelings or prejudices, will unanimously seize the present opportunity of procuring the erection of the Cathedral in, and the transfer of the Episcopal See of the Province to, this large and populous city: the *only* locality, indeed, in New Brunswick, which is in all respects suitable for the purpose. I have had much conversation on this subject, with many of our citizens, amongst whom I find various opinions, considerable misapprehension, and some prejudice; but I am confident, that a calm and rational exposition of the true nature of the case, a candid and plain statement of facts, reasons and arguments, would speedily satisfy every reasonable mind, remove all doubt, misapprehension and erroneous feeling, produce conviction of the expediency and necessity of the project, and create a general and hearty desire to promote its execution. If some of our most influential and leading citizens would take the initiative, and cause a *general meeting of the Churchmen of St. John* to be convened, I am satisfied that such information could be laid before them, and such reasons adduced, as would have the desired effect. The subject is too extensive to be well embraced in a newspaper article; but a personal detail and discussion in a general assembly, would be far more efficient and satisfactory to all parties. There are many of our citizens, who would gladly unite in aiding the design, were it once put on foot by leading men; and only yesterday one of our mercantile gentlemen declared to me, that he would instantly subscribe £50, were a subscription list sent round. There are some persons, who seem frightened at the idea of a *Cathedral*, while at the same time they unhesitatingly admit, that our great population absolutely requires a *Free Church*; and would willingly promote the building of the latter, while they cannot see the necessity of the former.—But they forget, or do not perceive, that the two may *essentially be the same thing*, that *both may be combined in the same building*, and that *the expense of the one need be no more* than the reasonable cost of erecting the *other*, of a sufficient size, durable material and suitable architecture. The word "*Cathedral*" seems to convey to the minds of such persons, the idea of one of those immense and costly piles so denominated in the Old Country; so enormous indeed in size, that only a small portion of the vast building is ever used for Divine Service. But this is wholly an erroneous idea. The projected Cathedral for this Diocese is *only of the dimensions* of a good sized *English Parish Church*; its form, size and architecture are *expressly adapted from such a parish church*; and when built, the *whole* structure (and not a mere *portion*, as in English Cathedrals,) would be fitted up and used for the celebration of Divine Service, and would, I am confident, be found none too large for the numerous population of residents and strangers, constantly to be found in St. John, *destitute of Church accommodation*.—Now, the necessity of a *Free Church* in this city, to enable those of our communion who are thus unprovided for, to partake freely of the religious services and ordinances of our Church, to enjoy the privilege of worshipping their Creator and Redeemer in their own and established mode, to share in the preaching of the word and in all the blessings of the Gospel, as communicated by the apostolical ministrations of the Church of England, is *generally admitted*. What, then, is there, to prevent the members of our Communion, from subscribing and forming a fund, *to erect such a Free Church*, of such a moderate size as I have already mentioned, and of such durable materials and legitimate style of ecclesiastical architecture, as shall be a permanent benefit to present and succeeding ages, a lasting monument of the religious liberality of our community, and a distinguished ornament to our city? Let such a project be commenced; let us determine to build the long desired and urgently needed Free Church; let us apply to our revered Bishop to *adopt it as his Cathedral Church*, and to bestow upon it the funds placed in his Lordship's hands for such a purpose, by the generous contributors in England; and I have no doubt whatever, that such adoption and sanction will readily be accorded, and we shall then speedily have in St. John a noble and beautiful Free Church and Cathedral, in one building, of *no more than a reasonable and appropriate size, especially adapted to the pressing wants of our community and communion*, and established as a nucleus from which incalculable benefit to our Church throughout the Province, shall radiate. The superior importance and utility of establishing the Provincial Episcopal See in St. John, rather than in any other part of the Province, are too manifest to require elucidation; reflecting minds, anxious for promoting the spiritual interests of the people at large in the most facile and beneficial manner, will instantly perceive them. The fixing the site at Fredericton was an error on the part of the Government at home, arising from insufficient local knowledge; and *can easily be remedied on proper steps being taken*. Our two Churches in St. John are confessedly utterly inadequate to the wants of the community; the erection of a Cathedral Free Church, therefore, would only supply a pressing need, *and in no respect interfere with our present Churches or Clergy*; there will always be an ample number of Churchmen among us (setting aside feelings of *personal attachment*) anxious to possess and retain *Pews* in those churches; and who will therefore fully maintain the present condition of their congregations and funds. Hence, nothing need be feared on that score; while, on the other hand, the *personal ministrations* and *preaching* of so truly pious, zealous and sincere a Minister of the Gospel, as our present revered and beloved Bishop, cannot be otherwise than productive of a vast amount of spiritual good in this extensive and populous community. I fear, Mr. Editor, I have trespassed rather lengthily on your space; but, as I before observed, the subject is susceptible of much greater developement. I will now only notice a prejudicial objection, which I have sometimes heard alleged; and which, I am sure, emanating as it does merely from *personal sensibility*, requires but a little information, and a slight degree of good sense, self control, and mental regulation, utterly to remove. "It is sometimes urged, that inasmuch as the proffers of the Citizens of St. John, with regard to the erection of the Cathedral in this City, were not adopted and complied with by the Bishop, on his Lordship's first arrival in this Province, somewhat of a slight has been passed upon them, and therefore they are unwilling to come forward a second time. Now nothing is more unfounded than this misapprehension; and I cannot believe, that after due information and calm reflection, the minds of any sincere Churchmen will retain so mistaken and unworthy an idea. The facts simply are, that upon the erroneous supposition that the seat of Government in this Province must necessarily be its Metropolitan and most important locality, her Majesty's government at home caused the See of this Province, in accordance with ancient and general usage, to be styled the "Bishopric of Fredericton," and the patent of his Lordship the Bishop was made out accordingly. That patent also constituted Christ Church at Fredericton, *ipso facto*, the *Cathedral Church* of the Province, until his Lordship had determined on a site for a larger and better building; and in compliance with the tenor of his patent and with the evident intentions of her Majesty's government, his Lordship felt himself in duty bound to proceed at once to Fredericton, on arriving in New Brunswick, and also, that he was virtually precluded from entering into any engagements with regard to the erection of the Cathedral or the permanent establishment of the See, until he had ascertained the circumstances and dispositions of the community, from whose town his title was derived. It is well known, that on his Lordship's arrival in Fredericton, the most strenuous, unanimous, and apparently sincere and cordial efforts were made, by all denominations (for reasons perhaps, in some degree, more *politically* than religiously influential,) to secure the erection of the Cathedral in Fredericton; a subscription was got up, resolutions passed and engagements entered into, and measures so far apparently put upon a solid basis, that his Lordship felt himself compelled to accept the offers of the Frederictonians, and to proceed to establish his See and Cathedral Church in that sequestered Departmental locality: as no substantial reason could be assigned to the Government at home, for a desire to remove the See to any other part of the Province, when the inhabitants of the titular town or city had with such apparent cordiality manifested their determination, to carry out the design and intention of the Episcopal Patent.—It will be seen at once, that our revered Prelate could consistently pursue no other course than that which he adopted; how far his own confiding candour and reliance have been disappointed, and how far the sincerity and cordiality of the Frederictonians has been maintained, we must judge from circumstances. For *ourselves*, we may be assured, from a consideration of these simple facts, that no slight was passed on the citizens of St. John, by the non-acceptance of their first generous offers and advances, that the course of events has altogether been the result of inevitable and natural circumstances; and that, now that so excellent an opportunity of renewing our efforts presents itself, we shall display wisdom, good feeling, and sincerely christian-like disposition, in making another and vigorous effort to effect the desired object; and I feel convinced that there will be little difficulty in attaining that object, if proper measures be adopted. In conclusion, I beg to observe, (for the removal of misapprehension,) that the foregoing observations have been penned, simply with a desire to promote, what I sincerely feel to be a most important, a most desirable project, for the interests of religion and of our Church in this Province; that they are, therefore, merely the sentiments and convictions of a humble individual, based however, upon previous acquaintance with the facts and circumstances alluded to; but written without consultation with or authority from any other person or persons; and involving therefore the responsibility of none but an individual

LAYMAN.

St. John, June 1, 1846.

British News.

By the English Mail.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

In the Commons, on Friday evening, the protracted debate on the first reading of the Protection to Life (Ireland) Bill, was brought to a close, when on a division, the members were—For the first reading, 248; against it, 125; majority in favour of ministers, 149. The repeal members, however, will still continue their hostility to the bill, and will strenuously oppose it at every stage.

In the Lords, on Monday, some resolutions respecting railways proposed by Lord Brougham, were ordered to be printed. The Railway Deposits Bill passed through committee, and the report of the Railway Companies Dissolution Bill was received.

In the Commons, Sir Robert Peel proposed the grant of £3,000 per annum to Viscount Hardinge, and of £2,000 to Lord Gough, and their two next succeeding heirs male; but if the East India Company made suitable provision for them, then the pensions to commence with their respective heirs. Mr. Hogg announced the intention of the company to bestow £5,000 a year on Viscount Hardinge, and £2,000 year on Lord Gough, for their respective lives.—The votes were unanimously agreed to, after several members had expressed the hope that Sir H. Smith and Sir C. Napier would also be rewarded 'or their eminent services in India. The order of the day having been read for the House resolving itself into committee on the Corn Importation Bill, Lord G. Bentinck opposed the Speaker leaving the chair, but no division took place, and the House went into committee on the bill. On the first clause having been proposed, Lord G. Bentinck moved that the chairman report progress, and the committee divided thereupon, when there appeared—For reporting progress, 85; against it, 181; majority, 96. Mr. P. Bennett immediately proposed another motion to the same effect, and the committee again divided, the members being—For reporting progress, 55; against it, 166; majority, 111. It was ultimately arranged that the committee should proceed with the clauses of the bill on Tuesday evening; that Lord G. Bentinck should propose his motion relative to Canada on Thursday; that the report of the Corn Bill should be brought up on Friday; and that the third reading of the bill should be proposed on Monday.

In the Lords, on Tuesday, the Earl of Ripon moved the address in answer to her Majesty's message respecting the pensions proposed to be bestowed on Viscount Hardinge and Lord Gough. Agreed to. Lord Carew then moved for copies of a correspondence between Lord Heytesbury and himself, respecting the appointment of the office of *custos rotulorum* of the county of Wexford. Agreed to.—The Railway Companies' Dissolution Bill was read a third time, and the house adjourned.

In the Commons, the Corn Importation Bill was the chief business of the evening. The house having resolved itself into committee, Lord G. Bentinck moved the omission of "oats" from the schedule of duties, being of opinion that the admission of foreign oats duty free would be a serious injury to the Irish Agriculturists. The Chancellor of the Exchequer explained to the noble lord that the effect of his amendment would be to admit foreign oats without the payment of even the duty of 1s.—Lord G. Bentinck therefore withdrew his amendment; but in order not to be defeated by a point of form, he moved the omission of the clause altogether. The gallery was cleared for a division, but none took place, the amendment having been withdrawn. The whole of the clauses and schedules then passed through committee, the house resumed; and the report was ordered to be received on Friday. The Custom Duties Bill also passed through committee, Lord G. Bentinck intimating that he would reserve his opposition to a future stage.

In the Commons, on Wednesday, the order of the day for going into committee on the Roman Catholic Relief Bill was then read. On the question that the Speaker do leave the chair, Mr. Colquhoun observed that though he had no objection to those clauses in this bill which removed the penalties attached to Roman Catholics who failed to attend the Protestant church, or who kept schools in the kingdom, he most object to those clauses which made important alterations in the fundamental principles of the constitution, and most especially to that clause which, if it did not repeal, made a most startling change in the oath of supremacy—to the clause which repealed the statute of Elizabeth prohibiting the introduction of Papal bulls and rescripts into England—to that clause which repealed part of the Emancipation Act of 1829, and allowed Roman Catholic archbishops and bishops to assume the titles of their sees. He moved that the house resolve itself into committee that day six months. Sir James Graham asked Mr. Watson to postpone the further progress of his bill until the house had had time to see and consider the bill which the ministers had passing through the Lords. Mr. Watson declined, as the bills were essentially different. Sir Robert Peel voted against the further progress of the present measure, in order to record dissent from Mr. Watson's course of proceeding.—Mr. Colquhoun's amendment was negatived by a majority of 110 over 67 voices. The house then went into committee, and, on the motion of Mr. Watson, all the clauses, except those which repealed certain provisions of the Emancipation Act of 1829, were struck out of the bill. Mr. Watson then moved that the chairman report progress, and ask leave to sit again, in order to have the bill reprinted and the registration clauses added. This motion was eventually carried, but not until a smart skirmish had taken place between Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Law, and Mr. Newdegate, who exchanged some sharp recrimination with one another. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then brought up the Annuity Bills of Lord Hardinge and Lord Gough. They were read a first and ordered to be read a second time on Friday next.

WEEKLY STEAM COMMUNICATION WITH AMERICA.—The London Morning Herald, of May 7, says: "We are enabled to make an announcement regarding the conveyance of Mails by steam between this country and America, which will be hailed with gratification by the whole community. The Government have entered into a further contract with the British and North American Royal Mail Company, the effect of which is to secure a WEEKLY communication by steam between Liverpool and United States of America. A steamer of great size and power will be dispatched direct from Liverpool to New York every alternate Saturday during eight months of the year. These trips are to be performed as additional voyages, and irrespective of the fortnightly voyages to Halifax and Boston; as the latter service will continue just as at present, with the alteration of sailing from Liverpool as well as from Boston always on Saturdays, instead of a fixed day of the month as at present. The steamers from New York will also take their departures always on Saturday. By this arrangement there will be a steamer from Liverpool to America every Saturday, and from the American side also every Saturday, the only difference being that Boston and New York will alternately be the ports of departure. At present we are not enabled to state the precise time when these weekly sailings will commence, but no doubt we may look for the alteration to come into play as soon as the required number of ships can be got ready to undertake such a vast service."

Willmer & Smith's European Times adds—"We may state that, instead of only one voyage, as heretofore, during the winter season, there will be a vessel from each side every fortnight during the four winter months."

HER MAJESTY'S ACCOUCHEMENT.—The near approach of an interesting event, to which the public look forward with intense interest, may perhaps be inferred from the fact that the messengers of the Home office have received directions to be in attendance, night and day, on and after last Monday, so that the fact of the Queen's indisposition may be communicated without loss of time to the Cabinet Ministers.

SIR MOSES MONTEFIORE'S MISSION TO RUSSIA.—A recent *Jewish Chronicle* informs us that a letter dated St. Petersburg, 19th April, has been received from Sir Moses to the following effect:—I have the pleasure to inform you that, with the blessing of God I have had the opportunity of pleading the cause of our brethren in this empire, before its mighty monarch. On Thursday, I was honoured with an audience by the Emperor, was most graciously received, and all my statements listened to most patiently.—His Majesty said, I should have the satisfaction of taking with me his assurance, and the assurances of his ministers, that he was most desirous for the improvement of my co-religionists in his empire, and that object engaged his attention at present. His Majesty intimated a desire that I should visit my brethren in those towns in which they were the most numerous, and he would put me in communication with his minister." Another letter from Sir Moses states that the Emperor has consented to the emigration of 10,000 Jews from Kursen to Palestine, or some other settlement which Sir Moses may fix upon.

The experimental squadron will consist of the following ships:—The St. Vincent, 120 guns; Trafalgar, 120; Queen, 110; Rodney, 92; Albion, 80; Cumpus, 84; Superb, 80; Vanguard, 80; Raleigh, 50; with the steamers Terrible, 20; Retribution, 10; Gladiator, 8; Cyclops, 6; Devastation, 6; Scourge, 2; and Rattler, 5.

The Isle of Skye has, it is said, furnished for the public service, within the last forty years twenty one lieutenant generals and major generals, forty five lieutenant colonels, six hundred majors, captains and subalterns, ten thousand foot soldiers, one hundred and twenty pipers, four governors of British colonies, one governor general, one adjutant general, one chief baron of England, and one judge of the supreme court of Scotland.

From the examination of the holes in the roof of the carriage in which Louis Philippe was riding, when he was fired at by Locomote, the escape of the King appears to have been little less than miraculous. The balls must have passed within less than an inch of his head.

Intelligence has been received at Constantinople from Tiflis, *via* Odessa, stating that the Circassian leader, Schamyl, at the head of 40,000 men, had attacked the Russian troops, and driven them back with great slaughter from the position which they occupied on the Caucasian frontier.

The Australian papers give appalling details of the capture and murder of several crews of English vessels by the savage inhabitants of the new Hebridian group. These ferocious beings are cannibals, and it appears that they cooked and ate the bodies of their unfortunate victims.

A rumour is afloat that there is to be an immediate consolidation of the Board of Excise and the Board of Stamps and Taxes, so as to leave only one revenue board for customs of foreign duties and one for inland duties. It is even said that Sir Robt. Peel intends to make this arrangement part of his forthcoming budget.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP GLADIATOR.—On Saturday morning, this splendid new steam frigate, built by the Surveyor of the Navy, left her moorings off Woolwich, and proceeded round the Nore lights, to test her engines, and try her speed—her gallant commander, Captain Robb, having invited on board a select party of ladies and gentlemen, to enjoy the excursion. As a model of naval architecture, it must be admitted the Gladiator displays great fertility of genius, and immense practical skill, on the part of Sir William Symonds. Indeed, for nicety of adjustment in all those details upon which at once beauty and power depend, we believe few rivals to this admirable vessel will be found in her Majestys navy; while the machinery is so perfect, its movements so smooth and noiseless that, and for when the revolutions were nineteen per minute, one scarcely knew the ship was under way, but for the rapid progress she made through the waters. The Gladiator is of 1190 tons, and is fitted with engines by Messrs Miller & Ravenhill, of 430 horse power, and carries a complement of 175 men. She stows 340 tons of coals, 63 tons of water, and had on board during the above trip four months provisions of every kind (with room for another month's,) four months' slop clothing, twelve months' stores, besides sixteen tanks and a quantity of other stores, for conveyance to Portsmouth Dockyard. The armament is as follows:—Bow pivot gun, one 56 pounder of 87 cwt; forward beam guns, two 68 pounders of 65 cwt.; aft beam guns, two 84 pounders (ten inch,) 87 cwt.; quarter deck, two 32-pound carronades, 17 cwt.; stern pivot gun, one 56 pounder 87 cwt.; for paddle box boats, two 24 pound carronades, 13 cwt.; pinnace, one 12 pound carronade, 6 cwt.; brass field piece, one 6 pound gun, 5 cwt. The engines worked admirably, there being no occasion, in the course of the trip, to stop for "hot bearings" as usually is the case with new machinery. The rate of speed by the patent log was 10½ knots, and by the common log, 11 knots two tenths per hour. The Gladiator is well rigged, beautifully clean, and in excellent order, which is the more creditable to her officers, as she is still 40 short of her complement and wants petty officers and able seamen. Captain Robb had provided an excellent dinner and elegant dessert, with abundance of champagne, claret, madeira, and other wines, of which his friends partook. On reaching Greenhithe the Gladiator, anchored, and the party of ladies and gentlemen, who were delighted with the trip and the kind attentions of Captain Robb and the other officers of his ship, left in one of the Gravesend steamers for London, the band playing "Rule Britannia."—*Times.*

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—At length the dull and murky weather, which, for the last few months, has cast a universal gloom over the face of nature, has changed, and we are now enjoying the more congenial and alluring sunshine of May, which is working wonders in assisting the operations of the husbandman and horticulturist. The delightful weather of the last ten days has given the country quite a different aspect; "its budding honours spring to view" with increased beauty every day, in all directions, allaying the fears of the agriculturist, and inspiring him with a well grounded hope that his labour has not been in vain; but, although the present prospect of things in general is one of so pleasing a character, still the continued unfavourable weather which we have of late experienced has left behind it traces which it is feared cannot be erased, however auspicious the future seasons may prove. The crops of wheat and barley in many places are looking far from well, the incessant rain, followed so immediately by the glowing heat of the May day sun, having caused Dame Nature—if we may be allowed the expression—to overstep her own modesty, for so rapid has been the progress of vegetation that the wheat and barley in some fields while yet but a few inches above the ground, are shooting into ear, and the cast must consequently be very deficient. On the heavy lands the warm weather has almost baked the soil, and the appearance of the crops is decidedly unfavourable, but on the lighter lands they look better; gentle showers at intervals would materially benefit all. Beans are looking very well, and a good crop is expected. The sharp frost which occurred a few weeks ago gave had a very prejudicial effect upon the potatoes, and great quantities have been rendered useless. The fruit trees are suffering very much in many places from the blight; the frosty weather has effectually nipped the cherry and early pear trees, but the latter sort of pears, together with the apple blossom, are looking well. The lesser fruits such as gooseberries and currants are getting on well; the latter are particularly plentiful.—*Worcester Journal.*

FATAL EXPERIMENT IN HANGING.—On Monday morning, Mr. W. Carter held an inquest at the Sea Lion Tavern, Wootton street, Cornwall road Lambeth, on the body of Charles Copeman, aged fourteen years. Thomas Copeman, a shoemaker residing in Bates's buildings, Lambeth, deposed that the deceased was his son. On Thursday last, about noon, witness left home for a short time, and on returning in an hour afterwards, he found deceased hanging to the top rail of the bedstead, suspended by a long leather strap; life was quite extinct. The deceased was of a cheerful disposition, and of sound mind. The deceased was continually speaking of public executions, and frequently trying the effects of hanging, which he took great fancy to ever since he witnessed the execution of the man Tapping at Newgate. Witness was of opinion that deceased was trying an experiment in the way of play. Sarah Copeman, a sister to the deceased, stated that while they were residing in Elott's court, Old Bailey, the deceased called the children up stairs into the bedroom, and said, "Now I will show you how poor Tapping died." Deceased then got upon the foot of the bedstead, and pulled a large white nightcap over his head, after which he clasped his hands together, as if in the act of praying. He would then bow three times, jump off the bedstead, and pretend to die. Verdict, "That the deceased did destroy his own life by hanging himself; but whether it was the result of an accident in trying an experiment, or otherwise, they had not sufficient proof."—*Daily News.*

Lord Harris has been appointed Lieutenant Governor of the island of Trinidad.

It is stated that Ibrahim Pasha intends to visit London, and that he would leave Paris for England in about a fortnight, and return through Holland and Belgium.

Upwards of 15,000 soldiers are now employed on the works of the barrage of the Nile. It is in contemplation to erect town on the spot to be called Mehemet Ali, which is intended shall rival Cairo in importance.

Accounts from Weimar state that the grand duke is about to restore and embellish the celebrated Castle of Wartzburg, in Thuringia, to which so many interesting memorials of the private life of Luther are attached.

There is now in the possession of a gentleman in Cambridge a shoe which formerly belonged to the celebrated giant O'Brien. It measures 15 inches long, and 5½ inches in breadth.

It is currently reported that Commodore Sir Charles Napier, K. C. B., has a promise of an opportunity to hoist his flag on his promotion to the rank of Rear Admiral. Captain Napier, his step son becoming his flag captain.

Louis Philippe has sent an autograph letter to Sir Robert Peel, expressing his Majesty's acknowledgements for the kind and handsome manner in which the right hon. baronet proposed the toast of his Majesty's health at the late civic banquet given by the Lord Mayor of London.

Three young natives of China have just arrived in Scotland. They have been placed under the care of the Independent clergymen of Hunsley, to be trained for the ministry and sent out as missionaries.

☞ Blanks, Handbills, and Job Printing of all kinds, executed at the Chronicle Office at lowest prices.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, JUNE 5, 1846.

English dates to 19th ult. were received in this city by the mail on Monday. It arrived at Halifax on Saturday last in 11 days from Liverpool, per steamer Hibernia, and this city in 13 days. The steamer also arrived in Boston quite unexpectedly in the same time.—Late London papers announce the intention of the British authorities to dispatch a mail *weekly* to this continent during eight months of the year, and in the winter season two mails per month.

The Corn Bill passed its third reading in the House of Commons, by a majority of 98—and had received its first reading in a thin meeting of the House of Lords, with only one dissenting voice—the Duke of Richmond.

THE OREGON QUESTION.—Attention for some time past has been sufficiently fixed on the Oregon Question by the proceedings in Congress. The doings there have concentrated the gaze of all who take an interest in the world's peace. Now the scene is to be shifted—we are going to contribute our fuel to materials already so inflammatory. It is reported that twenty gunners two sergeants, two corporals, two bombardiers, under the command of Capt Blackwood, are to be despatched by the British Government, in their War Steamer the Terrible, to Oregon, early next month; the vessel is to take an adequate supply of guns and stores; and 3000 excavators are to be sent to the same destination with all possible speed. This force and these men are professedly sent to the Hudson Bay Company's territory, but it would be useless to shut our eyes to the fact that the bare announcement of such an expedition, while the territory in question forms the subject of negociation between the two Governments, is calculated to produce no small excitement in America, amongst the parties who have been striving so zealously to fan the smouldering embers into a blaze.—[European Times.

The Steamer *Great Britain* reached New York on Friday morning last, having been 20 days on the passage from Liverpool. Her detention at sea is accounted for in the following extract from the ship's log:—

"Left Coburg dock, Liverpool, at 9.55 A.M. on the 9th of May, came north of Ireland, and to the time of clearing the land, at 4 A.M. of the 10th, the ship averaged 11 knots or nautical miles per hour, part of the time under canvas; then met a strong westerly wind and cross sea.

Broke the guard of the after air pump on the 13th and have been altogether six days without steam—sailing with the screw disconnected. The new rig answered well, marking nine and a half knots at times—close hauled—and eleven and three quarters a point or two free. This only for a short time, as the wind very soon hauled round against us. Since the temporary guard has been working, we have gone at less than half speed. The passage, therefore, under the circumstances, has been excellent.

I find the Belgic keels have lessened the rolling materially.

Crossed the banks in latitude 45, and saw no ice. Rounded Nantucket Shoals soon after daylight on the 28th, and passed Sandy Hook at 9.15 A.M. 29th, making the passage in 20 days."

Strawberries.—We understand that a handful of ripe strawberries were gathered in a field of David Palmer, Esq., Grand Lake, on Sunday last, 31st May. Such a circumstance we learn, has not occurred in the Province, within the memory of the "oldest inhabitant."

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday night last Lieut. Winterbottom, of the Royal Artillery, who has for some time been stationed in this Garrison, disappeared from the deck of the ship Sir Robert Peel, lying at Partridge Island, and it is feared that he has met a watery grave. Lieut. W. took passage in this vessel for England and it appears that in the evening he went on board the steamer Herald, for Eastport, at anchor near by on account of the thick fog which prevailed at the time, and returned to this ship about 12 o'clock that night. After changing some portions of his dress, he went on deck for the purpose of smoking, and was not missed until the next morning, when search was made for him in vain. We learn that his cap was found in the main top, and it is presumed that he may have ventured aloft and thus slipped into the sea. Lieut. W. was only about 19 years of age, and was a young man of much promise.—*New Brunswicker.*

SAILORS SNUG HARBOUR.—GENEROUS OFFER.—We observe by the Courier of Saturday that Benjamin Smith, Esquire, has very generously offered to give a five acre Lot on the Western side of the Harbour, valued at one thousand dollars, for the purpose of erecting a place of refuge for old and indigent seamen, or else one hundred pounds per annum during his natural life provided a suitable building be erected for this purpose. We feel confident that other generous individuals will not be backward in such a benevolent project, and trust ere long refuge will be provided in this city for the aged mariner, where he may rest his shattered and weather beaten form after "a life on the ocean wave."—*Ib.*

We have much pleasure in publishing the following address to the Hon. William B. Kinnear, late Recorder of this city, on his retirement from that office, to assume the duties of Solicitor General of this Province:—

Saint John, 18th May, 1846.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in forwarding the enclosed document, which was voted, unanimously, by the Common Council—and, at this separation, it gratifies me to be able to state, that in both the periods during which we have together held the respective offices of Mayor and Recorder of St. John, you have on every occasion evinced the most devoted attention and zeal, to promote the interest of this community.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
L. DONALDSON, *Mayor.*

Hon. W. B. KINNEAR, *Solicitor General, Fredericton.*

To the Honorable William B. Kinnear.

SIR,—It having pleased our most Gracious Sovereign to confer upon you the office of Solicitor General of this Province, which has caused you to relinquish the situation of Recorder of this City—the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Saint John, in Common Council convened, have to congratulate you on your Professional advancement, at the same time, they feel it is due to you, to express their approbation of the zealous manner in which the various duties which have devolved upon you as Recorder for the last sixteen years, and of the uniform kindness and attention which have at all times been shewn by you to the Committees and individual members of the Board in any conferences connected with the affairs of the City.

And in taking leave of you they have to offer their best wishes for your future health, prosperity and happiness.

L. DONALDSON, *Mayor.*
JAS. PETERS, Jun., *C. Clk.*

Fredericton, 19th May, 1846.

SIR,—The announcement, in your letter of the 18th instant, of the unanimous passage by the Common Council of the document accompanying the same, could only be rendered more gratifying by the manner in which you had the kindness to make the communication.

If I have been deserving of the approbation you have expressed, I cannot avoid observing that my exertions have been constantly stimulated by your example, in which most untiring energy and persevering exertions for the public good have always been displayed.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
W. B. KINNEAR.

L. DONALDSON, Esquire, *Mayor, &c.*

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of Saint John, in Common Council.

GENTLEMEN,—It has afforded me the greatest satisfaction to receive the congratulations which you have so kindly conveyed to me on my professional advancement to the Office of Solicitor General of this Province.

The expression of your appropriation of the manner in which, for so long a period, I executed the various duties of Recorder of St. John, has been no less kind and gratifying.

I have peculiar pleasure in the consideration that, after having laboured with you in my native city, during years of mingled prosperity and gloom, I leave you at a time when depression is fast giving way under an energetic and wise course of management; and that I am succeeded by a Gentleman in whose legal advice and assistance you are entitled to place unbounded confidence.

To His Worship the Mayor, the Aldermen, and the Assistant Aldermen, composing your Council, and to the learned Gentleman sitting at the Board with you, whose valuable assistance both you and I have so uniformly experienced, I beg, in conclusion, to tender my sincere thanks for all your kindness, and to express my best wishes for your prosperity as a Corporation, and for the health and happiness of every member of the Board.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,
Your very obedient servant,
W. B. KINNEAR.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER TRADE.—The proposed reduction in the duties on foreign timber will again be brought under the consideration of the House of Commons in the course of the present week.

The disagreement between the masters and their workmen connected with building, although it has been in some measure mitigated, continues to operate unfavourable on the Timber market; for the last few days however, more confidence seems to be gaining ground by the trade, under the hope that an adjustment of the misunderstanding, which has now lasted for nearly eight weeks, is not far off, because when that shall arrive, a considerable demand will take place.

On the 14th inst. 631 logs St. John Yellow pine, of fair size and quality, were put up by auction, at 18d per foot, but no offer was made; also 220 logs St. John birch—no offer was made; 1660 pieces of John spruce deals, were offered, of which 500 were sold, at 2 7-16d. per foot, and the remainder at 2½d pr ft. For spruce Deals there is an improved demand; good qualities may now be quoted at 2¾d per foot. No alterations to notice in other descriptions.

Mexico and the United States.

The steamship Alabama, Captain Windle, arrived at New Orleans on the night of the 21st ultimo, from Brazos Santiago, having left the Brazos at 8 o'clock on the afternoon of Tuesday, the 19th ult. Official news had been received at Point Isabel of the capture by our army of the town Barita, a small town situated on the banks of the Rio Grande, on the Mexican side, without opposition, or without any Mexicans having made their appearance. One account says it was captured by Col. Wilson, with four companies of regulars and three of Alabama volunteers. Another account states that a body of marines from the fleet anticipated the arrival of Col. Wilson at Barita, by marching upon the Mexicans, who immediately evacuated the post, and that the inhabitants of the town hailed the marines, and forthwith sent them fresh beef and other provisions.

Soon after the decisive repulse of the Mexicans, on the 8th and 9th, General Taylor, finding that the enemy had entirely disappeared, and left the communication between his encampment and Point Isabel unobstructed, collected the baggage and plunder which they had left, and returned to his depot at Point Isabel, having previously sent word to General Ampudia that he had permission to send over 200 men to bury his dead.

On the 14th ult., Gen. Taylor left Point Isabel, with two hundred and fifty wagon loads of supplies, and had arrived safe with them at the camp of Fort Brown. He was to cross the Rio Grande, for the purpose of taking Matamoras, on Monday morning. Having heard cannonading at the Point, it was the universal opinion there that the Mexicans had evacuated the town. Colonel Smith's command was on their way, and had commenced their line of march on the island of Boca Chica, to cross the Rio Grande at the mouth, and advance up the river on the Mexican side.

It has been ascertained with certainty that the number of the killed and wounded of the enemy during the battles of the 8th and 9th largely exceeded a thousand, while the killed and wounded of our army numbered but 156. The wounded officers were doing well. Two privates have died of their wounds since the the James L. Day left.

The frigate Raritan and the steam frigate Mississippi had left the mouth of the Rio Grande, the former it was supposed, for Vera Cruz.

[*From the New Orleans Bee, Extra, May 17.*]

We conversed with several Mexican prisoners on board the Harney, who stated that the Mexican forces did not amount to more than 3,000 or 4,000 and were under the command of Arista.

They further confirmed the news received previously of the attack on the Mexican camp on the 1st, but denied the burning of Matamoros. It appears that the attack was made only on the other side of the Rio Grande with a small battery which could have no effect on Gen. Taylor's camp. Their batteries were soon silenced.

We have the following verbal intelligence from one of the Dragoons of the U. S. Army.

Gen. Taylor's army was composed only of those men which were under his orders; no others having yet arrived.

The Mexicans retreated in confusion to the other side of the Rio Grande, and that he was among those who pursued them up the river. Several Mexicans were drowned in attemp