by Peter Dean's...10 for the Ward's Creek Road from Peter Fryer's upwards...15 for the Bridge near A. C. Evanson's...8 for the Negro Brook road. ...5 for the road from Moore's Bridge running southerly to the Lake...10 from the Main Post road to Albert County line, by way of Ketchum's. 10 from the Main Road, near Daniel Godard's to Geshen...7 from M'Anaspee's to Michael Martin's and Thomas Long's...5 for the road leading from Samuel Freeze's south east corner to Pollet River Lake...8 from John Carroll's to the road leading to Sidney Baxter's...7 from the north end of Sediquest Lake to M'Laren's Brook...5 to complete the Bridge near Thomas Taylor's...8 from Deforest's Lake to Campbelton...7 from John Patten's to Carson's...8 from Drummond's to Joloff's Mill... 15 to improve the road and repair the Bridges between Alexander Kilpatrick's and Daniel Sweeney's...10 to improve the road from Daniel Sweeney's to Palmer's field, on the Post road...10 to improve the road leading from the School House, Lakefield, by John Wright's, to the Church at Gondola Point...10 for the road from Colonel Wetmore's to the road near John Wright's.—10 to improve the road leading from the settlement of James Hill and others to the old Cumberland road. —10 to improve the road from William Dixon's to the Kirk; half of this to assist in improving the road from George Prince's.—10 to improve the road leading from Langstroth's towards Loch Lomond.—10 for road from Smith's Mill to the County line, towards Loch Lomond,—7 10s. for road from Benjamin Smith's to Jasper Beatties', thence towards the County line.—7 10s. for road leading from Salt Spring road, by J. C. Robertson's, to Jas. Chinnick's.—25 from Groom's bridge to Patecake road.—7 10s. from Hammond River to Dolan's.—7 10s. from Thornbush Hill to Darling's, by John Hill's.—10 to repair the Bridge near Floyd's Mill. —5 for the road from Joseph Tomlinson's to the west line of the Glebe Lot.—10 from Salt Spring to Patecake.—10 from the widow Conner's to Jas. Innis' farm.—10 from Lott Mercer's to Duncan Keer's, by George Coates'.—10 for the road from Patecake to William Yeoman's; one half to be expended between McVey's grant and Stevenson's, and the other half between Stevenson's and Yeoman's.—10 for the road from William Ross', to Michael Denarey's.—10 from the Campbelton road by Patrick Forestal's, to Daniel McNeal's and others.—10 to repair the Bridge at Rose's Mill.—10 to improve the Gutherie Road.—7 10s. from the Island of Woods to the Post Road.—10 from Jas. How's to Peter Parlee's.—15 to John Barnes to enable him to pay the balance due on South Stream bridge.—8 for the road from South Stream bridge to the County line, near Cother's.—8 for the road from M'Garrity's to James Upham's.—10 from the Salt Spring road to Upham Church.—10 for the road leading from Chambers' to the Lake Road, by Dunn's.—15 to complete the alteration in the Salt Spring Road between James Campbell's and Samuel Handlin's.—10 from the Salt Spring road to Campbelton.—7 10s. for the road from M'Makin's to the Meeting House.—7 10s. for repairing the Bridge over the Salmon Hole, near Ganter's.—10 for the road from Hammond River to the County line, by Braudus.—10 for the road from Ammon Fowler's to Evanson's Manor.—7 10s. for the road from Gregory's to the County line.—10 from Drummond's to William Scott's, by Hamilton's.—10 from Aaron Scott's to Michael M'Makin's.—10 from the widow Patten's, on the Shepody Road, to the Anderson Settlement.—15 for the road from the School House, near Walter Scovil's, to William Fowler's.—10 to assist the inhabitants to repair the Bridge across Noble's Brook.—15 for the road from Isaac Crawford's Brook to Mill Stream, and to repair the Bridge near James Scovil's.—10 for the road from Weeden Wetmore's to Walter Davis', Backfield.—15 from John Rieker's to B. Kiersted's, on the Base line, to Wm. Wetmore's.—8 from Belisle Bay to the extremity of the road in the Urquhart settlement.—5 from Robert Noble's to Uriah Hoffield's.—5 from Jenkin's Cove to Braman's.—10 to repair the Bridge on the road from Bull Moose Hill to Joseph Adams.—5 from David Muir's to David McKnight's.—5 from John Anderson's Corner to the road leading to Redstone's Mill. —5 from Anderson's to Ingraham's.—5 from Doctor Wilson's to John Foster's.—10 from the Kirk to the School House near Donald McLauchlan's, in the East Settlement.—10 from the Kirk to the School House in the West Scotch Settlement.—5 from Wm. H. Spragg's to the road near David Spragg's.—5 from Duffs Bridge, by Owen Monahan's, to Joseph Paris.—9 from Redstone's Mill to Matthew Smith's.—5 from Francis West's to the forks of the road near Charles Vincent's.—10 from James Cunningham's to David Muir's.—5 from the widow Guion's to Wesley Colpitt's.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

On Wednesday last, the Legislative session, which commenced on the 28th of January, was brought to a close. The business throughout has been conducted with great harmony. During the last few days of the session several important matters were decided upon—Mr. Brown's Parish School Bill passed the Legislative Council without amendment, and received His Excellency's assent. In the Assembly, the superannuation allowance to Judge Botsford, was discussed and a resolution on the subject passed. His Honor's resignation, it appears, was conditional upon His receiving a retiring allowance of £300 sterling per annum, and as the Assembly object to the allowance, His Honor may again take his seat upon the bench.—The sum of £3000 has been placed at the disposal of the Executive to assist destitute Emigrants in settling in the Province during the coming season. The grants made last year for conveying Mails on several By-roads in the Province were continued, and some new grants made, among which we notice a grant of £10 in aid of individual subscription to run a Courier from St. John through the Caledonia, Hibernia, and Brown Hill Settlements, and to the Tynemouth Road in the County of St. John.—The sum of £200 has also been granted to bring the English Mails, from Halifax, by express.

On the 7th inst., the following Resolution was submitted by Mr. McLeod, and agreed to—

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to direct to be laid before the Law Officers of the Crown of this Province, copies of all the Bye Laws or Ordinances of the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty, or Common Council of the City of Saint John, which may be in force within that City, on the first day of June next, or which may be enacted or ordained after that period, for the purpose of obtaining the opinions of the said Law Officers on the legality or constitutionality of the said Bye Laws and Ordinances; and that His Excellency will also be pleased to cause copies of the said Bye Laws and Ordinances, as also the opinions of the said Law Officers thereon, to be laid before this House at the next meeting of the Legislature.

Ordered, That Mr. M'Leod, Mr. Gilbert, and Mr. Wark, be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency with the Address.

A Bill, providing for the erection of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, has been passed. It continues the former Commissioners—approves of the selection of the site at Carleton, and authorises the purchase of the land from the City. The size of the building is somewhat reduced from the original plan—the whole cost being limited to about £15,000

Removal of the Seat of Government.—On Tuesday, notices were given by the Hon. Mr. Botsford in the Legislative Council, and by Mr. Ritchie in the House of Assembly, that at the next session they should bring under the consideration of the Legislature the question of the removal of the Seat of Government from Fredericton to St. John.

The following is a copy of his Excellency's speech at the prorogation—

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

In bringing the Session to a close, I avail myself with much satisfaction, of the occasion, to congratulate you on the spirit with which you have applied yourselves to the Public business, and the measures which you have thus been enabled to accomplish.

"It is especially gratifying to me that you have concurred in the importance which I have attached to the introduction of an improved system in the management of the Parish Schools; and I hope that you will have reason to find that the powers which you have entrusted to the Executive Government, as a Board of Education, have been exercised in such a manner as effectually to realize the objects for which you have so liberally provided.

"The Acts you have passed for the removal of all fiscal restrictions on trade between these Colonies, and for the protection of English Copyright in Books, will, I doubt not, be productive of all the benefit to be expected from measures which evince your liberality and sense of justice.

"*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"I thank you for the Supplies which you have granted for the Public Service. The promptitude with which you came forward at the opening of the Session for the relief of our suffering fellow subjects in the United Kingdom, claims from me, in the name of Her Majesty, the warmest acknowledgments.

"The liberal encouragement you have given for the opening of Rail Roads, while it will facilitate the settlement of the Province, will secure to it a participation in the advantages which have elsewhere attended the introduction of these useful works.

"*Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

"*Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

"The measures to which I have alluded, and the general course of your proceedings throughout the Session, have manifested your desire to strengthen the bonds which unite you to the destinies of that great Country with which it has been your pride to be connected by such memorable associations; and I feel the utmost confidence, that in returning to your homes, you will continue to cultivate in the minds of Her Majesty's Loyal Subjects, a sense of the many blessings which that connection is calculated to secure to them."

THE CAPTURE OF VERA CRUZ.

[From the Boston Daily Advertiser.]

The news of the capture of the city of Vera Cruz, is confirmed by the New York papers received last evening, and those papers bring us some further particulars of the conquest. We already know that it was achieved with a very small force of artillery. General Scott had so thoroughly surrounded the city and castle by his forces, that so soon as his batteries opened upon the enemy, the reduction of the city seemed necessary, and that of the castle followed, as it must have done from the want of the means of support for its soldiers. This fortress, so often called impregnable, has thus been reduced by our army, with only "three long thirty two pounders, three sixty eights, four twenty fours, and ten mortars." The heaviest guns expected to be used did not arrive in time for the capture.

The New York Journal of Commerce of yesterday furnishes us with the following particulars:—

Col. Totten, bearer of dispatches, arrived at Washington on Saturday evening. A gentleman who accompanied him from Mobile, informs us that there is no truth in the report of Col. Harney's engaging a force of six to ten thousand Mexican cavalry outside of Vera Cruz. Col. Harney did, however, with two or three hundred dragoons, engage and put to route about twice that number of the enemy's cavalry. Gen. La Vega was not in command. In other respects the published statement is correct.

Our informant further says, that during the bombardment of Vera Cruz, between six and seven hundred lives were destroyed, principally of women and children, by the shells thrown into the city.—Two shells struck the roof of the government house, and penetrated to the cellar, where four or five women of the governor's household had taken refuge, all of whom were instantly killed.

The American loss in killed was but twelve, including officers and men—only one in a thousand.

The quantity of ammunition captured in the town and Castle was immense, greatly exceeding the expectations of our officers. The disposition was quite general among the soldiers who surrendered, to remain prisoners of war; but Gen. Scott required their parole and marched them all out, officers and men, being unable to provide them with subsistence as prisoners.

The line-of-battle ship Ohio arrived while the bombardment was in progress, and in the height of it, in broad daylight, moved majestically along, the stars and stripes flaunting in the breeze, within gunshot of the castle of San Juan, and not a shot was fired at her, greatly to the disappointment of her officers and crew, who were eager to participate in the fray, but could not fire without orders unless to repel an attack upon their ship.

Gen. Scott intended, two days after the capitulation, to move one division of his army into the interior, *en route* for the city of Mexico, and orders had been issued to that effect.

The Mexicans variously estimate their loss at from 500 to 1000 killed and wounded, but all agree that the loss among the soldiery is comparatively small, and the destruction among the women and children is very great.

Among their killed is Gen. Felix Valdez, an officer of some celebrity.

The number of rank and file prisoners had not been ascertained, but (reckoning on all previous accounts of the strength of the garrisons) cannot be estimated at less than 4,000 men—of which number, a considerable portion are supposed to be of their very best troops.

From a list, furnished by one of the Mexican commissioners, it is supposed the following officers were present in the city and castle, viz.: 5 generals, 18 colonels, 37 lieutenant colonels, 5 majors, 90 captains, and 180 lieutenants.

The following is the narrative of the brilliant achievement:

March 9—Disembarkation of troops commenced.

13th—Investment of the city completed.

18th—Trenches opened at night.

22d—City summoned to surrender; on refusal seven mortars opened a fire of bomb shells.

24th—Navy battery of three long 32 pounders and three 68 pounders, Paixhan guns, opened a fire in the morning—distance 700 yards.

25th—Another battery of four 24-pounders, and three mortars opened this day; the naval battery opened a breach in the walls of the city. The fire was very destructive to the town.

26th—*Early in the morning the enemy proposed for a surrender.*

Commissioners on the American side, Generals Worth and Pillow, and Col. Totten.

30th—Negotiations completed; *city and castle surrendered—Mexican troops marched out, and laid down their arms—American troops occupied the city and batteries of the town and castle. At noon on that day the American ensign was hoisted over both, and was saluted by our vessels*; the garrison, of about 4000 men, laying down their arms as prisoners of war, and being sent to their homes on parole, 5 generals, 60 superior officers, and 270 company officers, being amongst the prisoners.

The total loss of the American army, from the day of landing, March 9th, is sixty-five persons killed and wounded. Officers killed: Capt. John R. Vinton, 2d artillery; Capt. Alburtis, 2d infantry; Midshipman T. B. Shubrick; wounded, Lt. Col. Dickenson, of South Carolina volunteers, severely; Lieut. A. S. Baldwin, navy, slightly; Lieut. Delozin, 2d infantry, slightly; Lieut. Lewis Neill, 2d dragoons, severely. All the wounded are doing well.

Of the Mexicans the slaughter is said to have been immense.

The commanding General was stationed in the city, while his second in command held the Castle.

Their regular force was about 3000, and they had about the same number of irregulars.

In the attack on the town and Castle, only our smaller vessels, drawing not over nine feet, were available; but few shot and shells were thrown into the Castle, the attack being mainly upon the town.

None of the enemy's missiles struck our vessels, and midshipman Shubrick, who was killed, was serving over a battle on shore.

With the loss of the city, the hopes of the enemy fell, as they had not provisions enough in the castle to sustain a protracted siege.

The Surrender of the City and Castle of Vera Cruz.—The following are the terms of the articles of capitulation:—

1. The whole garrison, or garrisons to be surrendered to the arms of the United States, as prisoners of war, the 29th inst., at ten o'clock, A. M.; the garrison to be permitted to march out with all the honors of war, and to lay down their arms to such officers as may be appointed by the general in chief of the United States armies, and at a point to be agreed upon by the commissioners.

2. Mexican officers shall preserve their arms and private effects, including horse and horse furniture, and to be allowed regular and irregular officers, and also to rank and file, five days to retire to their respective homes, on parole, as hereinafter prescribed.

3. Coincident with the surrender, as stipulated in article one, the Mexican flags of the various forts and stations shall be struck, saluted by their own batteries; and immediately thereafter, forts Santiago and Conception and the castle of S. Juan de Ulloa, occupied by the forces of the United States.

4. The rank and file of the regular portion of the prisoners to be disposed of, after surrender and parole, as their general-in-chief may desire, and their regular to be permitted to return to their homes.—The officers, in respect to all arms and descriptions of force, giving the usual parole, that the said rank and file, as well as themselves, shall not serve again until duly exchanged.

5. All the *materiel* of war, and all public property of every description found in the city, the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa and their dependencies, to belong to the United States; but the armament of the same (not injured or destroyed in the further prosecution of the actual war) may be considered as liable to be restored to Mexico by a definitive treaty of peace.

6. The sick and wounded Mexicans to be allowed to remain in the city, with such medical officers of the army as may be necessary to their care and treatment.

7. Absolute protection is solemnly guaranteed to persons in the city, and property, and it is clearly understood that no private building or property is to be taken or used by the forces of the United States, without previous arrangement with the owners, and for a fair equivalent.

8. Absolute freedom of religious worship and ceremonies is solemnly guaranteed.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Vera Cruz, March 29, 1847.

SIR: The flag of the United States of America floats triumphantly over the walls of this city, and the castle of San Juan de Ulloa.

Our troops have garrisoned both since 10 o'clock. It is now noon. Brigadier General Worth is in command of the two places.

Articles of capitulation were signed and exchanged at a late hour, night before the last. I enclose a copy of the document.

I have heretofore reported the principal incidents of the siege up to the 25th instant. Nothing of striking interest occurred till early in the morning of the next day, when I received overtures from General Landero, on whom Gen. Morales had devolved the principal command. A terrible storm of wind and sand made it difficult to communicate with the city, and impossible to refer to Commodore Perry. I was obliged to entertain the proposition alone, or to continue the fire upon a place that had shown a disposition to surrender; for the loss of a day, or perhaps several could not be permitted. The accompanying papers will show the proceedings and results.

The remaining details of the siege; the able co-operation of the United States squadron, successively under the command of Commodores Conner and Perry; the admirable conduct of the whole army—regulars and volunteers—I should be happy to dwell upon as they deserve; but the steamer Princeton, with Commodore Conner on board, is under way, and I have commenced organizing an advance into the interior. This may be delayed a few days, waiting the arrival of additional means of transportation. In the meantime, a joint operation, by land and water, will be made upon Alvarado. No lateral expedition, however, shall interfere with the grand movement towards the capital, the City of Mexico.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,

WINFIELD SCOTT.

Hon. W. L. MARCY, Secretary of War.

THE SURRENDER OF VERA CRUZ.—The Washington Union has the following information with regard to this event:—

We understand that the panic diffused among the Mexicans in the castle, lest they might experience the same disastrous fate which had fallen upon the city, principally contributed to its surrender. An awful panic has now spread over the people. The loss of the city and castle, combined with the last victory of less than 4,000 men over 20,000, at Buena Vista, has spread consternation over that infatuated nation.

General Scott had despatched a detachment to Alvarado, to collect mules, horses, and beeves. The inhabitants will probably be willing to furnish their animals for American gold, instead of having them taken from them by forcible contributions.

Two days after Colonel Totten left Vera Cruz the Gen. expected to send on his advance towards the capital.

One problem is, will there be any government at Mexico capable of making peace; for as the condition of things now stands in that city, there may be greater difficulty in finding an executive to treat for peace than for them to carry on the war. According to the last accounts received at Vera Cruz, the city was distracted by contending factions. It is difficult to understand in this hurly burly civil war, who constitutes the government, or whether they have any.

The official field return of the forces under General Scott on the 25th March, before Vera Cruz, shows an aggregate of 13,750—*one of the best disciplined and most gallant armies in the world!*

Head Quarters of the Army of the United States of America.—Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz, March 22, 1847.

THE undersigned, Major General Scott, general in-chief of the armies of the United States of America, in addition to the close blockade of the coast and port of Vera Cruz, previously established by the squadron under Commodore Conner, of the navy of said States, having now fully invested the said city with an overwhelming army, so as to render it impossible that its garrison should receive from without succor or reinforcement of any kind; and having caused to be established batteries, competent to the speedy reduction of the said city, he, the undersigned, deems it due to the courtesies of war, in like cases, as well as the rights of humanity, to summon his excellency, the governor and commander-in-chief of the city of Vera Cruz, to surrender the same to the arms of the United States of America, present before the place.

The undersigned, anxious to spare the beautiful city of Vera Cruz from the imminent hazard of demolition—its gallant defenders from a useless effusion of blood, and its peaceful inhabitants—women and children, inclusive—from the inevitable horrors of a triumphant assault, addresses this summons to the intelligence, the gallantry, and patriotism, no less than to the humanity of his excellency the governor and commander-in-chief of Vera Cruz.

The undersigned is not accurately informed whether both the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa be under the command of his excellency, or whether each place has its independent commander; but the undersigned, moved by the considerations adverted to above, may be willing to stipulate that if the city should, by capitulation, be garrisoned by a part of his troops, no missile shall be fired from within the city, or from its bastions or walls, upon the castle, unless the castle should previously fire upon the city.

The undersigned has the honour to tender to his distinguished opponent, his excellency, the governor and commander-in-chief of Vera Cruz, the assurance of the high respect and consideration of the undersigned. WINFIELD SCOTT.

[Translation.]

The undersigned, commanding general of the free and sovereign State of Vera Cruz, has informed himself of the contents of this note which Major General Scott, general-in-chief of the forces of the United States, has addressed to him under date of today, demanding the surrender of this place, and castle of Ulloa; and, in answer, has to say, that the above named fortress, as well as this place, depend on his authority; and it being his principal duty, in order to prove himself worthy of the confidence placed in him by the government of the nation, to defend both points at all cost, to effect which he counts upon the necessary elements, and will make it good to the last; therefore his excellency can commence his operations of war in the manner which he may consider most advantageous.

The undersigned has the honor to return to the general-in-chief of the forces of the United States the demonstration of esteem he may be pleased to honor him with. God and liberty!

VERA CRUZ, March 22, 1847. JUAN MORALES.

To Major General SCOTT, general-in-chief of the forces of the United States, situated in sight of this place.

[Translation.]

VERA CRUZ, March 24, 1847.

The undersigned, consuls of different foreign powers near the Republic of Mexico, moved by the feeling of humanity excited in their hearts by the frightful results of the bombardment of the city of Vera Cruz, during yesterday and the day before, have the honour of addressing, collectively, General Scott, Commander-in-chief of the army of the United States of the North, to pray him to suspend his hostilities, and to grant a reasonable truce, sufficient to enable their respective compatriots to leave the place with their women and children, as well as the Mexican women and children.

The request of the undersigned appears to them, too, conformable to the existing laws of civilization, and they have too high an opinion of the principles and sentiments of General Scott, not to be full of confidence in the success of this request. They pray him to have the goodness to send back his answer to the *parlementaire*, who is the bearer of this, and to accept the assurances of their respectful consideration.

T. GIFFORD,
Consul de sa Majeste Britannique.
A. GLOTIN,
Le Consul de sa Majeste le Roi des Francais.
PHILIPE G. DE ESCALANTE,
El Consul de Espana.
HENRI D'OLEIRE,
Consul de S. M. le Roi de Prusse.

On the above, Gen. Scott, in his dispatch to the Secretary of War at Washington, remarks—

"I enclose a copy of a memorial received last night, signed by the Consuls of Great Britain, France, Spain and Prussia, within Vera Cruz, asking me to grant a truce to enable the neutrals, together with Mexican women and children, to withdraw from the scene of havoc about them. I shall reply, the moment that an opportunity may be taken.

"I had distinctly admonished them—particularly the French and Spanish Consuls—and, of course, through these two, the other consuls—of the dangers that have followed: That although at that date, I had already refused to allow any person whatever to pass the line of investment, either way, yet the blockade had been left open to the consuls and other neutrals to pass out to their respective ships of war up to the 22d inst.; and I shall enclose to the memorialists a copy of my summons to the Governor, to show that I had fully considered the impending hardships and distresses of the place, including those of women and children, before one gun had been fired in that direction."

"The intercourse between neutral ships of war and the city was stopped at the last mentioned date by Commodore Perry, with my concurrence, which I placed on the ground that that intercourse could not fail to give to the enemy moral aid and comfort."

The next accounts from Vera Cruz will probably bring intelligence of the capture of Alvarado, where considerable fortifications have been erected by the Mexicans. An attack was to be made upon it by Gen. Quitman on the 30th ult. It is important to have possession of it as the country about it is an agricultural one, and will open the market to our troops.—*N. Y. Jour. Com.*

DREADFUL COALPIT ACCIDENT AT BARNSLEY.—A fearful coalpit accident, attended with the loss of nearly 80 lives, took place on the afternoon of yesterday week, at the Great Ardsley Main, or Oaks Colliery, near Barnsley. About three o'clock, several persons near the mouth of the pit were alarmed by a terrific explosion from the shaft, which was followed by an eruption of smoke, timber, coal, stone, &c., resembling the eruption of a volcano. Two or three of the men were removing the covers from the pit-mouth at the time. It seems that there had been no previous indication of danger up to the very moment of the explosion. The pit was considered to be in an ordinary state of safety, with the exception of one bank on the west side of a broad gate, which was between an upper and lower seam, and about 17 feet in length. The men were instructed to use great caution in passing that part of the pit with lights. The parties who were in the immediate neighbourhood of this place have perished. None remain to give an account of the origin of the accident, which is believed to have occurred on the spot. The explosion was so of violent a character that it blew up the landing at the mouth of the pit, and shot up stones, &c., to the height of 30 or 40 yards. Immediately after the explosion, Mr. George Wilson, one of the managing proprietors, along with several men went down into the pit, to ascertain the state of the case, and to render the sufferers such aid as might be within human reach. Unhappily, the time of the explosion was when the full force of men and boys, to the number of about 100, were working in the pit. Mr. Wilson was accompanied by George Armitage, the under ground steward; Joseph Littlewood, foreman; and several men. In descending the pit they heard groans and cries of distress from the sufferers in all directions; and on reaching the bottom, some of the men who had gathered round the shaft, assailed them with acclamations of gratitude. Several of the men still living were found to be severely wounded by the concussion they had sustained during the explosion. Others were in a state of insensibility, 23 were drawn out of the pit alive in a short period, and, about an hour afterwards three others. The melancholy search was continued, and before 12 at night, 41 others were taken out dead. Being convinced that all who had not been found must be dead, and the state of the pit being such as to render it very unsafe to continue the search, Mr. Wilson and his associates re-ascended the shaft. Measures were then taken for ventilating the pit, but this was rendered difficult by the fact that the explosion had broken down the separating wall between the down-cast and the up-cast shafts. Armitage and Littlewood had left the pit about a quarter of an hour before the explosion, and reported in the office that it was perfectly healthy. The pit is the property of Messrs. Firth, Barber and Co., and has been worked four or five years. It is 282 yards deep. Between 30 and 40 of the bodies of the sufferers yet remain in the pit.—*Liverpool paper.*

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1847.

The first April English Mail, which it was fully expected would be received here last evening, had not arrived at Halifax on Saturday afternoon, the steamer being then out 13 days.—Our Provincial Legislature have granted £200 for the purpose of bringing the English Mails from Halifax to this city, by Express, but the necessary arrangements may not be made in time to affect the present mail. It probably will not arrive here before Friday.

The ship *Washington Irving*, arrived at Boston from Liverpool, furnishes dates to the 21st March, three days later than received by arrivals at this port.

In the House of Commons, Lord John Russell had highly eulogised the people of the United States for their liberal contributions towards the people of Ireland and Scotland.

Amer can sweet free flour in Liverpool, on the 19th, was quoted at 40s. to 41s. The sales for the three previous days had been 30,000 barrels. Indian corn was 1s. to 2s. lower. Money was becoming more scarce in consequence of the amount of specie exported for breadstuffs. Trade in the manufacturing districts generally was dull.

Cotton had declined a farthing per lb., and sales were much reduced.

The distress in Ireland is spoken of as still increasing, although large amounts of bread-stuffs were constantly arriving. Emigration was sought as a means of relief by immense numbers, and by a class of society better than those who had before been induced to avail themselves of it,—the farmers and others possessing small capital.

The Highlanders are being driven by famine to the Lowlands.

BUSINESS IN LIVERPOOL.—The Liverpool Mail of the 20th March, says:—

"Business was excessively dull in the early part of the week, the scarcity of money, the advices from America, the favourable weather for agricultural operations, and the depressed state of the manufacturing districts, all having a tendency to limit the demand for the leading staples, and to keep down prices. On Wednesday there was a slight improvement, which again manifested itself yesterday, and a general confidence is entertained that, all circumstances taken together, trade will be found to be in a really more healthy condition, and with much better prospects than at the same period last year. Immense quantities of provisions, of all descriptions, are on their way hither from America, and will continue to pour in upon us for some time."

On Sunday evening the 14th, in Athlone, 28 houses were destroyed by fire.

Her Majesty has excluded eloping brides from the Court Drawing Rooms.

A thorough reconciliation is said to have taken place between the governments of Great Britain and France. The coolness it will be recollected was caused by the Spanish marriages.

The Civil War continues in Portugal. Four English vessels, laden with wine, were captured as they left Oporto.

The French Government has introduced a Bill into the Chamber of Deputies, for granting ten millions of francs (£417,000.) in aid of the public charitable institutions, in consequence of the prevailing destitution.

The Prince de Polignac, who, as prime minister of Charles the X. was regarded as the originator of those arbitrary measures which caused the expulsion of that monarch from France, and the elevation of Louis Philippe to the the throne, died recently at Paris, after a long and painful illness.

The Tiber, a large iron steamer, belonging to the Oriental and Peninsular Steamship Company, and valued at $150,000, was totally lost near Lisbon on the 20th Feb.

STATISTICS OF ALGERIA.—According to the returns published by the *Moniteur Algerien*, the European population of the regency of Algiers amounted, on the first of January, 1847, to 125,038 inhabitants, of whom 47,275 were French, 31,522 Spanish, 9,440 Anglo-Maltese and English, 3,175 Italian, 5,336 German, &c.

CAPTURE OF VERA CRUZ.—In preceding columns we have given some particulars of the bombardment and capture of Vera Cruz, by the American forces, under General Scott. The city did not make any formidable resistance, and the famed castle of San Juan D'Ulloa capitulated almost without firing a shot!

General Scott intended to follow up his successes, by marching the main body of his army to the beautiful city of Mexico, the capital of the nation, distant about 180 miles from Vera Cruz, the climate of which is said to be highly salubrious. The General and his Officers will then "revel in the renowned Halls of Montezuma," as boastingly predicted a year or two ago.

NEW STEAMER.—The beautiful steamer built at the yard of Mr. Hugh Irvine, Courtenay Bay, in the rear of this city, was launched on last Saturday forenoon, in the presence of a concourse of spectators. She is principally owned by Messrs. Thomas Barlow & Co. Mr. I. Merritt, and Capt. Akerly, and is named the "*Saint John*." The proprietors have spared neither pains or expense to render her in every respect a superior boat; she is modelled and planned in the style of the New York river steamers, and her appearance is much more attractive than any of her predecessors in our waters. Her cost is stated to be about £8000—the engine, which was manufactured at Messrs. T. Barlow & Co.'s (Phœnix) Foundry in this city, costing nearly half the amount.—It is expected that she will be propelled at the rate of about sixteen miles an hour, and perform the passage to Fredericton and back again in a day. She is to be commanded by Capt. Wylie, long known as the popular commander of the Steamer New-Brunswick, and we learn will commence her trips on the river on or about the first of May.—We wish her enterprising owners the most abundant success.

The Concert of the Philharmonic Society, at the Mechanics' Institute, on Thursday evening last, was numerously attended, and the performances, both Instrumental and Vocal, were of the first order, and called forth the repeated plaudits of the audience. We trust the Society may be induced to favor the public with another of their pleasing Concerts ere long.

The weather continues unusually cold and backward. On Saturday night and Sunday morning we had a snow storm. On Sunday night there was hard frost, and a slight frost last night. Large quantities of snow and ice yet remain in places shaded from the sun. The season is at least a fortnight later than it was at the corresponding period last year. The rivers yet remain closed with ice.

The dwelling house of Mr. Sherwood, British Consul at Eastport, was destroyed by fire at an early hour on Sunday morning last, together with a large portion of the furniture, clothing, &c.

A splendid new ship, called the *Levant*, of 790 tons, was launched on Wednesday last, from the building yard of Mr. James Briggs, Portland.

The fine ship Themis, of this port, cleared at New-Orleans on the 31st ult. with one of the largest and most valuable cargoes that has left that port for several years past. The freight list amounted to £2032 sterling.

The following notice of Mr. ROBERT SEARS' Present to the QUEEN, appears in the "London Patriot" of the 22d February. It must be read with interest by the Publisher's numerous friends in the United States, and more especially by those residing in his native Province of New Brunswick:—

AMERICAN PRESENT TO THE QUEEN.—Many in this country will be interested in learning that a present of Books from America has recently been made to our Most Gracious Queen, by an eminent Publisher in New-York. These works are "The History of the Bible," "Description of Great Britain and Ireland," "Information for the People," &c. &c. They are profusely illustrated with fine engravings on wood, printed in imperial octavo, sumptuously bound in fine Turkey red morocco, and very elegantly gilded—exhibiting admirable specimens of the progress that is being made in typographical and artistical skill in the United States. The present was sent from America to the care of the Rev. Thomas Timpson, by whom it was forwarded to the Right Honorable Sir George Grey, Bart., the Home Secretary, for presentation to the QUEEN. —Sir George, in a polite letter, has assured Mr. Timpson that he has complied with his request, and that Her Majesty had graciously accepted the volumes. There was written in each—"Presented to Her Most Gracious Majesty, VICTORIA, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, with the utmost respect, by the compiler and publisher, Robert Sears, New-York, January 1, 1847."—Reflecting on this gratifying fact, we remember that this vast Republic of the New World possesses our language, laws, literature, and religion, and our blood flowing in their veins, every true Patriot and Christian must feel delighted, and pray that a perfect cordiality and everlasting peace may be enjoyed between the two great nations,—that this enterprise may be mutually beneficial, and the means of universal good to all the nations upon earth, especially in the diffusing of the Gospel."

THE NEW MAYOR.—On Thursday last our City exhibited quite an unusual and lively scene, owing to the preparations made by the friends of John R. Partelow, Esq. to give expression to their feelings on the occasion of his return to the City from his Legislative duties at Fredericton. Bands of Music paraded the streets on the Eastern side of the Harbour during the afternoon, and one of them proceeded across the Ferry to Carleton. The Aldermen on the Western side of the Harbour, Messrs. Bond and Coram, with the Carleton Band, met the Mail stage at the Yorkshire Tavern, on the Fredericton road, where they had a coach in readiness for Mr Partelow, in which he was conveyed to the Ferry Boat, accompanied by a large concourse of people, the Band playing lively airs. On reaching his residence in Queen's Square, about eight o'clock in the evening, a salute was fired from the Square, and Bonfires lighted in several parts of the City. Mr. P. addressed his Carleton friends in an appropriate speech on his reaching the Ferry Landing, and afterwards, from his own door, made a suitable address to the large concourse who had assembled to greet him on his arrival.—*Courier.*

CITY AFFAIRS.—At a meeting of the Common Council on Wednesday last, Dr. G. J. Harding was re-appointed Health Officer, to reside at Partridge Island, and Mr. Jas. Gerow, Jr., was re-appointed Collector of Taxes. There were six applications for the latter office.—The first was from Mr. Keans, offering to collect the Taxes for 3 per cent; the second was from Mr. James Williams, for 3 per cent; the next was from Mr. Gerow, offering to perform the duty for 2½ per cent; the next was from Mr. James Stewart, for 1½ per cent., also one from Mr. Thomas Raymond and one from Mr. John O'Donnelly.—*Ib.*

COMMON COUNCIL.—Yesterday, L. Donaldson, Esq., took his leave of the Common Council.—His Worship addressed the Board at some length, recapitulating the various measures which he had perfected during the period of holding office.

To-day, the new Mayor, John R. Partelow, Esq., will be sworn in.—*New Bruns.*

The city governments of New York and Philadelphia have resolved upon an illumination in Honor of the recent victories in Mexico.

NARROW ESCAPE.—On Saturday evening, a young man belonging to the ship Coronation, lying at the Long Wharf, fell overboard from that vessel, and was picked up off the Market Wharf, through the exertions of the American Consul and a son of Mr. McDonagh. The poor fellow was nearly exhausted.—*N. Bruns.*

FREDERICTON.—The ensuing Spring will doubtless be a backward one; for there is much snow in the woods, and the ice on the river is yet stronger than it was a month previous to this date last year. Yesterday we had a warm rain, but the wind changed to the northward during the evening, bringing the usual accompaniment of cold. We have little expectation that the navigation will be open on the first of May.—*Reporter.*

NEWFOUNDLAND SEAL FISHERY.—Capt. Fraser, of schr. Jane Sprott, from St. John's, N. F., arrived at Halifax, reports the Sealers returning to that port, with full cargoes, some of them only out 12 days.—Saw five going in, full, on the 6th inst. About 25,000 seals.

VICE ADMIRAL SIR F. W. AUSTIN.—Yesterday at noon, Vice Admiral Sir Francis W. Austin, the Commander- in chief, struck his flag from the "Vindictive," and soon after hoisted it on board the Vesuvius steamer, Commander Austin (son of the Admiral,) and proceeded to sea. It is said that Sir Francis will proceed to St. Jago de Cuba, Havana, and the Gulf, and return to this port in a few weeks.—*Jamaica Morning Journal, March 11.*

The House of Assembly of Barbados have passed a vote for granting £2,000 sterling, towards the relief of the sufferers in Ireland and Scotland.

Gerrit Smith, of Peterborough, has contributed two thousand dollars for the relief of Ireland. This is believed to be the largest donation yet made in the United States by a single individual.

The Eighteen Million Loan, for enabling the President more energetically to prosecute the war against Mexico, was all taken at Washington on the 12th inst. at one eighth to two per cent premium. One house, Corcoran & Riggs, took twelve million. The whole sum bid was fifty-eight million dollars.

GALE.—A severe gale occurred at Vera Cruz, Sacrificios, &c. on the 26th ult. Nearly thirty American brigs and schooners, laden with Government stores, were driven ashore at Sacrificios, several of which, with their cargoes, would be totally lost.

A large number of emigrants have recently arrived at New York and other American ports, from Ireland. On board of some of the ships there were from twelve to twenty deaths on the passage.

It is said that Gen. Tom Thumb has purchased a beautiful country seat in Connecticut, to which he will positively retire after making a brief visit to the principal cities of the Union.

Colonel Clay, killed at the recent battle of Buena Vista, was a son of the Hon. Henry Clay, of Kentucky.

GOLD.—The ship Cornelia, from Liverpool, brings 30,000 sovereigns.—[N. Y. Jour. Com.

RELIEF FOR IRELAND AND SCOTLAND.—The Treasurer of the General Relief Fund in this city continues to receive daily large sums for the assistance of the starving in Ireland and Scotland. The Relief Committee have chartered the ship Morea, and she will sail next week, from this port, for Scotland, with a cargo of bread stuffs, &c.—*Boston Daily Advertiser.*

The Bark Tartar, which was chartered by the Relief Committee of Boston, and sailed from that port on the 7th inst., for Ireland, with a cargo of bread stuffs, valued at $28,000, has put back in distress, having encountered a severe gale on the 8th, on George's Bank, by which her cargo was shifted, a leak caused in her upper works, and her pumps choked.

A dreadful explosion occurred on the 14th inst. in Dupont's