British News.

[*From the Liverpool Mail, Aug. 17.*]

It is rumoured that four or five sail of the line are to be immediately despatch'd to the coast of America, where they are to be joined by several other ships of war and armed steamers, and the object of this naval force is said to be to follow up and support the demand made by the British government, upon that of the United States, for the liberation of Mr. M'Leod. We have no means of ascertaining whether there is any foundation for this report. The latest papers from New-York throw no light upon the subject, further than that an American special messenger arrived by the *Great Western*, bringing *most important* despatches for the government of Washington.

We are inclined to believe, however, that the equipment of such a fleet, if it be not already prepared, for such a purpose, is exceedingly probable. The question involved by M'Leod's capture and long imprisonment cannot now be settled by any process of law in any of the courts of the United States. The lawyers have been allowed to exercise their skill upon it; and they have blundered and failed, as they usually do in all such cases. The matter, indeed, has become much more perplexed; and public opinion, in the northern sections of the republic, has been expressed so strongly, so violently, and with so much rancour and prejudice, that we see no way of effecting an adjustment but by means more convincing than arguments. In fact, public opinion is law in the United States, and what the citizens *will*, backed as it is by the ballot and universal suffrage, has far more force in practice than any statutory enactments of the representative chambers. The necessity, therefore, for an armed interference is, in our opinion, obvious and irresistible.

On the other side it is contended that M'Leod will be tried and acquitted, and that there will be an end of the dispute. Those persons who talk in this manner do not, we suspect, tax themselves overmuch with the trouble of thinking. Suppose M'Leod put upon his trial, and he refuses to plead to the indictment. Or, suppose he should plead by denying the right of the court to try him for an alleged offence committed in defence of his Sovereign and her dominions. These are obstacles, at the outset, of a very embarrassing nature. But let us concede, for the sake of argument, that M'Leod *is* tried and acquitted—what then? Is the difficulty removed—is the problem solved? The injustice of the American laws will be as glaring as ever, without even touching, far less settling, the major point at issue. An innocent man is acquitted! What a triumph to republican law! He was not hanged and tried afterwards—how *mild!* He was not Lynched—how *temperate!* He was not hanged at all—how *generous!*

But we take leave to inform those peaceful and judicial liberators, that whether M'Leod is hanged or liberated does not alter the case in the slightest degree. If tried at all, whatever may be the issue, the assumed right of the American government to try a British subject on such a charge, under such extraordinary circumstances, and with which the government have been made intimately acquainted, would be enforced, and insolently maintained, in defiance of the laws of all civilised nations. M'Leod may not have been on board the *Caroline* at all—he may not have been one of the party who seized and burnt her—and therefore his acquittal amounts to nothing. But the *Caroline* is admitted to have been destroyed by British subjects. Captain Drew is admitted, and stands confessed, to have been the leader of the attacking party; and will England submit to be told, will Europe sanction such a doctrine, that he, Captain Drew, is amenable to the laws of the United States—is liable to be apprehended and tried upon an indictment, charging him with the crime of murder, and, if found guilty, executed as a capital felon? This is the *dictum* of certain American jurists—this is the opinion of the *enlightened* Daniel Webster, the present secretary of state for foreign and other affairs—it is the legal opinion of Colonel Hackswagger, L.L.D., delivered at the bar of his hotel, in the city of Utica, and it is the decided and dispassionate opinion of nine-tenths of the most intelligent citizens on the face of the earth.

The people on this side of the Atlantic, however, claim the privilege of thinking for themselves and acting accordingly.—These notions of international law they consider to be not only singular but erroneous. The secretary's *dictum* they repudiate, and hold to be monstrous; and, as to the opinions of the free and enlightened citizens, they treat them with scorn and contempt. If, by the laws of the republic, or any of its departmental laws, framed for the evasion of justice, M'Leod can be put on his trial; then, by the same laws, Captain Drew can be hanged; and not he only, but all the courageous men who, at the peril of their lives, and in the service of ithoir country, boarded and burnt the Caroline.

This, then, is the position in which the case stands. The British government have demanded, and of course still demand, the release of M'Leod, on the ground that he is not amenable to the laws of the United States for any act done by his Sovereign—that the capture of the Caroline was an act of this kind—and, consequently, they cannot permit M'Leod to suffer damage, or Captain Drew and his comrades to be exposed to arrest, inconvenience, or injury, for having discharged their duty, at an arduous juncture, in the service of the Crown. For, after all, what would the recognition of this assumed power on the part of the American government lead to? Captain Drew, it is true, may never set his foot upon the territory of the United States. He is one of these innumerable persons, perhaps, who prefers English security to American liberty—London manners to New-York habits—English taxes to American fraud, rapacity, and unceasing swindling under the cover of bankruptcy. All this is well enough as concerns the personal safety of Captain Drew, but it is not hard, it is not monstrous, it is not an outrage upon reason, justice, and common sense, that this officer should be held in regard for his active and efficient services by his countrymen, and on the other side the St. Lawrence be considered a felon and a murderer? He walks at home esteemed and honoured as he deserves to be—if he showed himself in the United States, he would be tried for his life, if not torn to pieces by a lawless, savage, and blood-thirsty mob. England does not protect criminals; it is only in the United States where such men are safe, and where they are honoured and respected. Witness for us the enthusiastic reception which the sanguinary rebels and outlaws of Canada—the disturbers of the public peace—met with from the assembled citizens of Maine. These rebels had, in the name of patriotism, involved hapless and helpless families in ruin—they had created a 'reign of terror'—they had visited the peaceful and well-disposed settlers of Upper Canada with fire and faggot—they had, with the assistance of congenial scoundrels, ravaged and plundered in all directions—and, after being beaten back, and compelled to flee from the Queen of England's territory, and seek shelter in the United States, they, ruffians and robbers as they were, were received with open arms by the *enlightened* citizens, who professed the deepest sympathy for them, aided them in every way, encouraged them in their crimes, feasted them, protected them, and applauded them.

We offer these remarks simply to show that England has a strong case against the United States upon other grounds than the cowardly and unjustifiable treatment of Mr. M'Leod. Her Majesty's government is bound, by every principle of honour, not only to demand and compel the release of that gentleman, but also to protect Captain Drew and his companions in arms, first, from the unjust stigma cast upon their characters, and secondly, from the consequences which may arise hereafter from the conduct of the American government. Just for a moment let us consider that this dispute is allowed to remain unadjusted—that, by some quibble worthy of a wooden-nutmeg merchant M'Leod is released, and the affair hushed up, no explanation and reparation asked or received on either side, who would, in such a case, have the hardihood, or the intenseness of loyalty bordering on madness, to defend the frontier of Her Majesty's dependency in Canada? Who would be insane enough to burn a piratical schr. or touch a fireship, smuggler, robber, or assassin, in what are called the United States' waters? Who, in such disgraceful circumstances, under the apprehension of criminal indictments, would give an hour's labour, or a minute's thought, upon the boundary question? Loyal men would feel ashamed, honest men would feel indignant, families and individuals would only consult the laws of self-protection; but the character, justice, and prowess of England would sink below zero in the estimation of the world; her subjects would unite their interests with the stronger power, the bold would become meek, the brave inactive, the just silent; and as we sank in the scale of nations we should become despicable, and loose our colonies and all that is worth preserving.

Having travelled over this, or nearly similar ground before, becoming more weary as we proceed—not in body but in spirit—and this caused by the disheartening policy of her Majesty's present ministers, now on the eve of being politically decapidated, we have only to express our earnest hope that prompt measures will be taken to coerce the unprincipled citizens of the United States into purer notions of justice; and to record also our sincere and deliberate conviction, that no time could be more happily chosen than the present for carrying these principles and views of sound policy into effect.—Whoover becomes prime minister, not after the retirement, but the expulsion of Lord Melbourne, will have a singular felicitous opportunity of settling the north-east boundary question:—of curbing the insolence of the Washington republic—of vindicating the integrity of the principles of British justice—and of conferring vast obligations upon our deproted brethren, who exist in a state of wild freedom not very creditable to our face, and far from being creditable to themselves.

LONDON, Aug. 5.—It is asked on all hands, "What can be the intentions of France in continuing to increase her military and naval forces?" It is well known that the resources of the French are nearly exhausted in recruiting the army and fitting out ships of war. The frightful expenditure is not incurred for mere idle display. Louis Philippe is too prudent a man to waste the means of the nation in any enterprise which has not for its object a profitable return, either in an accession of territory or some successful artifice of state craft. Nor can we believe that he meditates any act of aggression against any of the potentates of Europe. This would be leaping into the fire, and losing his life and his crown. Any attempt, on his part, to disturb the peace of the continent, or to interfere with the affairs of Spain, would lead to a reaction which would put an extinguisher upon his dynasty.

Still the question recurs—"What end has Louis Philippe in view by augmenting his army and navy?" We have some reasons for believing that the King of the French contemplates the vast design of conquering and civilising the whole of the northern hemisphere of Africa. He, like many others, envies the colonial possessions of England, and he fancies that it is in the power of France to rival us by foreign conquests, and acquire an extent of empire upon which the sun of France shall never set. He sees not only the vastness and magnificence of our Indian and other distant possessions, but he is aware of the enormous wealth which they have poured into the lap of England, the millions of tons of shipping which our trade with them employs, the nurseries which they are for our seamen, and the naval superiority which they contribute in maintaining for this country.

All this is true enough. England without her colonies—without her Indian and other possessions—would be put a fourth-rate power in Europe. With them she is the mistress of the ocean, and the arbiter of the world. The King of the French dreams that the way to similar renown and equally pre-eminent power is through the deserts of Africa. But is it wise to entertain ideas so very visionary? Would it not evince more prudence to consult his own experience? He has been carrying on a war of extermination in Africa for upwards of eleven years—a war somewhat like that waged by American bloodhounds against the Seminole Indians—and what has he gained? Hardly an inch of ground that he can call his own—not a corn field that is not hourly exposed to ravage, and which only is suffered to ripen and be reaped under the protection of guns and a fence of bayonets. Conquest by open violence and brute force never succeeds. A warlike race of people cannot be conciliated by pillage, hacking, hewing, and desolation. The peaceful industry of the husbandman cannot be pursued in a camp surrounded by rapacious soldiers; and unless the policy of France undergoes a complete change, the conquest of Africa is utterly impossible—the value of Algeria, as a French settlement, not worth a bucket of sand.

In short, the Citizen King has committed a fatal mistake. Instead of Africa being made contributory to the glory of France, it will be the grave of her bravest troops, and a perpetual monument of crazy ambition and a love of bloodshed.

Steam Navigation to South America.—The *London Journal of Commerce* states that Mr. Wm. Morgan, of the firm of Acraman, Morgan & Co. of Bristol, had succeeded in obtaining a grant of important advantages from the Brazilian Government, which will greatly facilitate the establishment of steam navigation from this country to all the Brazilian ports and to the river Plate. The following are the privileges granted for a period of fifteen years:—

"The Brazilian Government, in consideration of services to be performed by the projected company, such as conveying between the ports of the empire a small amount of tonnage, and a limited number of persons to Europe for instruction in arts, science, or trade, on payment of a moiety of the ordinary passage money, will pay to the company, during fifteen years, 6000 milreis for each monthly voyage, and have granted it the privileges of conveying goods and passengers from one to the other of the imperial ports, prompt despatch for the receiving and landing, without any impediment whatever, of their passengers and goods, the free importation of all articles necessary for the use and navigation of the steamers, and exemption, throughout the empire from the payment of all port charges and dues whatsoever."

In order to turn these privileges to the best account, it is proposed that a number of first rate steamers shall be built, to be commanded by lieutenants of the royal navy, and so constructed as to be equally available for peace or war, and their route and manner of sailing shall be arranged as follows:—

"The proposed plan is that steam vessels of a large size should depart at stated periods from a British port, to land and receive mails both outwards and homewards, at Madeira, Canaries, Cape de Verds, Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Santa Catharina, Monte Video, and Buenos Ayres.

"The mails for Maranham, Para and other ports on the coast, to be conveyed by the Brazilian steamers now on the spot.

"The Peninsula mails to be conveyed from Gibraltar and Lisbon, to Madeira, and vice versa—mails to the several settlements on the coast of Africa and for her Majesty's cruisers, to be conveyed to St. Vincent's in Cape de Verds, and return mails taken from thence.

"That six large steamers be built solely for this purpose, which would give a monthly mail, as under, reserving one boat in ordinary for emergencies.

"Conveyed outwards from a port in England to Madeira, Canaries, Caps de Verd Isles (whence a branch might be dispatched to the coast of Africa), Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Santa Catherina, Monte Video, Buenos Ayres. Returning to England via Monte Video, St. Catharina, Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Pernambuco, Cape de Verds, Canaries, Madeira.

"By the projected arrangements each vessel will have a period of four weeks at Buenos Ayres to refit, and six weeks in England for similar purposes."

Contemplated Royal Alliances.—Rumour has for a length of time affianced his Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge to a young and amiable German Princess, a near relative of her Majesty Queen Adelaide. The report has within the last few days been revived in the court circles with increased confidence; but in a shape which has not yet assumed a degree of authenticity which would justify us in naming the Princess alluded to. Prince George, it is well known, has been much esteemed by the Dowager Queen, and no doubt her Majesty feels a strong inclination to see her favourite nephew allied to a branch of her illustrious house.—*Observer of Sunday.*

Sporting in Russia.—The immense shoals of salmon which literally swarm in almost all the rivers, would appear almost incredible to those who have not been eye-witnesses of their numbers. They are to be found in such countless multitudes that great quantities of them are left on dry land by the sudden receding of the waters, where they remain to rot; and at certain periods of the year the rivers seem so perfectly choked with them in some places, that they may be speared or netted by those who are fond of this sport, until it absolutely becomes wearisome. They not only form one of the principal articles of the diet of the inhabitants of the north of Russia, but likewise are the only species of food given to their dogs, of which great numbers are kept for the purpos of sledging. Bears and other beasts of prey—to say nothing of birds—almost entirely subsist upon them for a great portion of the year, and during the period when they are in the greatest profusion, Bruen who is a great amateur of fish, becomes so dainty that he will only condescend to eat the head and back. His evening meal consists of these portions of twelve or fifteen fine salmon. Trout and other fine species of fish are likewise to be found in vast abundance in all the rivers and lakes.—*Sporting Magazine.*

Earthquake in Scotland.—Courie: We have been much alarmed during the whole of last week by earthquakes. No fewer than thirty shocks were felt; but on Friday, between two and three o'clock in the afternoon, a tremendous one took place, which brought the whole inhabitants of the village to the street, and put a stop to all work for some time. A few stones fell from the gable of a house; part of a stone dyke in the neighbourhood came down also. The wind was blowing hard at the time, the day dark and gloomy, and even cold.—Chief: On the afternoon of Friday last, about half past two o'clock, this place, was visited by two fearful shocks of earthquake, in close succession to each other. It was attended with a grave hollow sound. The motion of the earth was from east to west. Every house in town shook severely, and furniture was heard to crack. Nearly all the inhabitants, in the greatest alarm, rushed to the street. It is thought that one of those shocks was as powerful as the one felt here Oct. 23rd, 1839. A man was knocked down in his own room by the falling of the ceiling. At Dunira and St. Fillans, it was severely felt. We are happy to state, however, that we have not heard of any serious accident having occurred.—*Stirling Advertiser.*

LIMERICK, August 14.

The 74th Regt. in Canada, (Depot in this garrison,) is complete, and recruiting has ceased. The 74th is 50 over establishment, made up of 76 volunteers from Regiments in Canada, and a draft of 170 from the Depot.

An inquest was holden at Banagher, on the body of Daniel Ford, 37th Foot, in charge of the battery who, whilst labouring under temporary derangment of mind, destroyed himself, by placing the muzzel of his loaded firelock to his mouth, and discharging the contents, which caused instantaneous death.

Paymaster South is the only officer in the 20th Regiment, who has been serving in the corps exactly twenty years since.

Capt. Needham, Lieut. Harvey, and 50 of the Royal Artillery proceed to Portsmouth immediately, where they will embark on board the Athol troopship for Jamaica to complete the companies on that station, which have suffered much by mortality.

The Royal Canadian Regiment is being equipped and clothed as a Rifle corps.

The commission of Lieu. Courtenay, of the 1st Royals, who was on board the unfortunate *President*, was cancelled in the Military Gazette of Tuesday, he was promoted to a Lieutenancy on the 16th April last.

The Ann' Moore, of this port, has just returned from North America, with a full cargo of Canadian Wheat, for account of the respected owner, James Bannatyne, Esq. The seasonable importation will be disposed of in the Limerick market, and must prove a welcome supply, as there has not been a bag of wheat brought in by the farmers for the last two months, and it will obviate the necessity of importing any more Foreign Wheat for Millers' use. There are 350 tons on board, of a superior grain, and though a most lucrative market is just now open at Liverpool for this cargo, the very respectable importer with a commendable feeling, which his fellow-citizens at such a crisis will appreciate, prefer disposing of it here.

Several artisans from the city with their families, embarked for America, in the Governor which dropped down the river, 7th inst.

Communications.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

Mr. Editor.—In your editorial of 13th instant, in reference to public schools, you seem unacquainted with the fact that each County in New Brunswick can boast of its properly constituted and duly qualified "Board of Education," consequently schoolmasters are not employed by the Trustees of schools

But what avails the Boards of Education, so long as the unfortunate Teacher receives for his twelve months' services a sum not greater than that received by the common labourer for his services during the same period. Moreover, it happens too frequently that the Master's stipulated salary is rather badly paid, especially if he have a family, inasmuch as he is thereby necessitated to take from his employers, clothing and provisions at an exorbitant price.

Our intelligent Boards of Education were established with the view to prevent improper and incompetent persons obtaining license to "teach the young idea how to shoot." Has their appointment been followed by the anticipated result? Certainly not. Individuals too illiterate.—too ignorant of the art of teaching, to be allowed to take charge of a public school, are permitted now, as formerly, to become the licensed *stranglers of the youthful mind.*

Do any inquire why such persons are suffered to become the teachers of our youth? The answer is at hand. The learned gentlemen who compose the Boards of Education are convinced the school master's salary is not sufficient to induce properly educated candidates to offer themselves as teachers; hence the recommending for licence, persons not at all qualified to teach an English school.

A better description of teachers than we have at present will never be found conducting our schools until the Teachers salary shall have been considerably increased. Believe me, I can hardly look upon a New Brunswick Parish school master without the mingled emotions of pity and contempt; I cannot but regard him either as an abominably indolent, or a singularly unfortunate creature. If he possess talents sufficient to qualify him to keep a school, he has been unfortunate. If he be too illiterate to discharge aright the duties of his sacred office, he is a lazy fellow, and ought to be compelled to exchange the pen for the axe and the hoe.

Independently of the above remarks, I would seriously ask in the name of reason and common sense, what avails the sum of thirteen or fourteen thousand pounds (public money) appropriated annually to the maintaining of parish schools, *seeing the Trustees of schools are invested with little or no power.* True, indeed, the Trustees can "divide their respective parishes into as many districts as they think necessary from time to time;" but they cannot compel (nor always persuade) the inhabitants of a district to build a School House, keep it in repair, furnish fuel, provide books, &c. &c.

No, the Trustees cannot even employ a Teacher without the concurrence of the proprietors of the School, who, in most instances, seem to have "agreed to disagree." In these and other similar facts, which might be adduced, may be found the cause of the dilapidation of many school houses, whose unpainted, decayed shingles, and broken windows, bespeak the discomfort of some thirty or forty children within, who are seen often to shiver with cold from the want of sufficient fuel, and are heard frequently to exclaim, "Oh I cannot write the ink is frozen in my pen."

The Teacher applies to his employers, (to the Trustees who have no authority he need not apply) he particularizes his own and his pupils sufferings, he entreats—he remonstrates—he threatens—he implores, but all in vain.—he is silenced by the repulsive exclamation "what is every body's business is nobody's business."

Is any person inclined to question the authenticity of the foregoing statements; if so, let him visit all the Schools in any one County—let him but visit, three months hence the Parish of Saint Martins, and he will probably find that five or six schools will then have been suspended in the said Parish, because of the irreparableness of the wretched hovels in which those schools have been hitherto kept—oh! tell it not in New-Brunswick—publish it not in the streets of Saint John, lest the enemies of Education triumph.

Sir, I feel too deeply interested in the moral, intellectual, and religious improvements of the youth of our Province, not to respond to your expressed hope that "His Excellency, our present intelligent Governor, is destined to be the instrument" of effecting the needed renovation in our primary schools;—schools which will never be other than a nuisance, until they be maintained by Assesment.

Yours, &c. SIMEON.

☞NOTICE.

THE undersigned, Assignees of the Estate of H. J. & D. Mackay, notify all parties indebted to the said Firm, to pay the amounts of their several Accounts to the undersigned, or to George Murray, Jun. who *only* is duly authorised to receive the same; and all parties having claims on the aforesaid H. J. & D. Mackay, are requested to furnish their accounts forthwith to

THOMAS PEARSON CRANE,
JOHN McGRATH.

St. John, 22d August, 1841.

☞NOTICE

IS hereby given, that the Estate and Effects of Hugh Mackay, James Mackay, and Daniel Mackay, trading under the Firm of "H. J. & D. Mackay," have been assigned to the Subscribers in trust for the purposes expressed in the Deed of Assignment,—All Creditors of the said H. J. and D. Mackay, wishing to derive any benefit under the said Deed of Assignment, are requested to call at the Counting House of the Subscribers and execute the said Deed before the seventeenth day of November next, and all persons indebted to the said Firm are requested to make immediate payment to

THOMAS PEARSON CRANE.
JOHN McGRATH.

St. John, 17th August, 1841.

☞Notice.

ALL Persons having any legal demands against the Estate of Rev. S. R. Clarke, late of Gage Town, Queen's County, deceased, are hereby notified to hand in their claims for adjustment, and all persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment forthwith to either of the Executors.

N. HUBBARD, *Burton.*
L. H. DEVEBER, *St. John.*

Gage Town, 18th August, 1841.

PER ELIZABETH BENTLY:

1 CHAIN CABLE, 90 fathoms, 1 5-16 inch; 1 do. do. 90 fathoms, 1¼ inch; 1 do. ditto 90 fathoms, 1 inch; 1 do. do. 60 fathoms, 1 5-16 inch; 1 do. do. 60 fathoms, ⅞ inch; 1 do. do. 60 fathoms, ¾ inch; 1 do. do. 60 fathoms, ⅝ inch; 9 Iron stocked ANCHORS, from 5 cwt. to 13½ cwt. And will be sold at cost and charges, on application to

JOHN ROBERTSON.

August 20.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, SEPT. 10, 1841.

In the absence of later intelligence, we have this week continued our extracts from papers received by the last English Packet. The next Mail, which is now six days out, will most probably bring us important political intelligence.

Movement of Troops.—We learn that two companies of the 69th Regiment are to proceed from Fredericton, where there is a want of barrack accommodation, to occupy the vacant stations at Grand Falls and Madawaska.

We also observe that two companies of United States Troops are to proceed to the Disputed Territory, one company to Fort Fairfield, the other to Fish River—their place to be supplied at Houlton by four additional companies from Bangor.

In reply to Alderman Salter's communication in the last Courier, we beg to inform him and the public that we have the best of information respecting his participation in the stopping of persons going to Portland during the late fire. We ourselves saw several persons requesting Alderman Salter to allow them to pass, but he would not.—After being told by the Military that we could not pass without permission of the Magistrate, we ourselves applied to Alderman Salter to allow us to pass, stating at the same time that we wished to collect information regarding the fire, for our paper on the following day, but he would not permit it. Alderman Salter seems to question *our common sense and veracity*; now if any thing more were necessary than the evidence of our own *senses*, we can produce others who were stopped by him in the same manner, and we should not have made the assertion, had we not been witnesses to the transaction, or with the fullest conviction of the truth.

We question very much the *common sense* of the Alderman's statement, that "the Military were placed and had their duty assigned them by other persons," and he "unfortunately happening to be passing at the time was requested, in the absence of any other Magistrate, to remain *as referee.*" As Referee for what? To discriminate who should pass and who should not? In that case Alderman Salter's *common sense* should have told him that in all civilised countries persons connected with the press are admitted where the public generally are not; and on all occasions when a public report is expected through the newspapers. And surely such a useful body of men as the Fire Clubs, who always wear and are known by their badges, should have been permitted to pass and lend their useful aid on that as they always have done on similar occasions.

Mr. John Wiggins Smith, of this City, has, we are pleased to say, received the appointment of Accountant of the Branch of the Bank of British North America, at Halifax, Nova Scotia. Mr. Smith is a young man well known and esteemed in this community, and has all the abilities necessary to entitle him to hold so respectable and responsible a situation.—*Herald.*

☞ The Amaranth for September made its appearance yesterday. The number of contributors to its pages appears to be unceasing, which is a favourable indication of the estimation in which it continues to be held. The number before us contains eight original pieces in prose and poetry, among which is a sketch by Mrs B——n of Long Creek.—*Courier.*

We are informed that His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, in order to facilitate the settlement of the Province by emigrants and others, has caused Plans of all the Surveyed Lands in the different Counties to be prepared for the purpose of being deposited in public places in every County for reference and general information; thereby affording great facility to applicants for Lands in the Country.—*Ib.*

Sad Accident.—Between 8 and 9 o'clock on Thursday morning last, as Mr. Pengilly, cabinet maker, was heating a quantity of varnish in a corked tin can, in the kitchen of his dwelling house in Wentworth street, the varnish becoming, it is supposed, overheated, exploded with great violence, dreadfully burning the face, arms, neck, &c. of Mr. and Mrs. Pengilly and their infant child of about two months old, who all happened to be in the kitchen at the time. Mrs. P. is much the most severely burnt, but she bears her suffering with the greatest fortitude and composure. The accident was the work of an instant, and so astounded were the unfortunate persons that they scarcely knew their own situation or the extent of their injury for a few moments. An alarm being instantly given, the neighbours rushed to their assistance, and several physicians were speedily in attendance to administer medical relief to their lacerated bodies. Ardent hopes are entertained that they will all recover, though at present the situation of some of the parties is considered rather precarious. They have the sympathies of all who are acquainted with their unhappy case.—*Observer.*

HEAD QUARTERS, Fredericton,
6th September, 1841.

Militia General Order.

The Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief has been pleased to make the following promotions, &c., in the 2d Battalion King's County Militia:—

Lieutenant John Burgess, to be Captain vice John M'Lean.

Ensign Samuel Ketchum, to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Harison, superceded.

Jacob Hall, Gent., to be Ensign, vice Samuel Ketchum, promoted.

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

The 30th and 76th Regiments may be expected here from Bermuda, in the course of the Autumn, to relieve the 8th and 37th, which will return to Europe.

The 52d Regiment may be expected at the same time in New Brunswick from the West Indies, to relieve the 36th Regiment, which will also return to Europe.—*Halifax Royal Gazette.*

A Vile Hoax. The New York papers publish what purports to be a letter found in a bottle in the Atlantic, and written on an iceberg by one of the passengers in the steam-packet President. The letter was first published in the St. Thomas Times: it is evidently a hoax, perpetrated by some heartless scoundrel—and its re-publication can subserve no useful purpose.—*Boston Mercantile Journal.*

At a Meeting of Magistrates for the City and County of Saint John, holden at the Mayor's Office in the City of Saint John, on Thursday, 2d September, 1841—

Present—Hon. William Black, *Mayor*; Henry Porter, B. L. Peters, Thomas Harding, R. Salter, W. H. Street, N. Merritt, R. Payne, H. Gilbert, and J. T. Hanford, Esquires, *Justices of the Peace.*

A complaint made to Major Cairnes of Her Majesty's 36th Regiment, by the Members of the Protection Fire Club, against Lieutenant Thistlethwyate, and consequent proceedings taken thereon by Major Cairnes, were submitted along with a letter from the Major addressed to His Worship the Mayor.

It was resolved, that, while they advert to the irregularity on the part of the Members of the Protection Fire Club, in addressing any complaint (they might feel themselves warranted in making) to the Military rather than to the Civil authority, and no specific complaint having been made by any individual or individuals, to any of the Magistrates, for any act at the recent Fire in the Parish of Portland—the Magistrates, either collectively or individually, do not possess the requisite information, or any complaint, by which an official investigation of the facts set forth in the communication from the Fire Club to Major Cairnes, can be instituted.

Thereupon it was unanimously resolved, that no charge having come before any of the Magistrates, Major Cairnes and the Officers and men of Her Majesty's 36th Regiment are fully entitled to the acknowledgment already made for their valuable services at the recent Fire in Portland, by the Magistrates resident in that Parish, in which testimonial the Magistrates and Alderman now present do fully concur—while they deeply regret that the course uniformly pursued on every previous like calamitous occasion, of the Commanding Officer placing the Military in Garrison at the disposal of the Magistrates for protecting property and aiding to extinguish fires, should, by the intemperate conduct of a few individuals, and the indiscretion of some Editors of Newspapers, appear to the public as unthankfully received, and serious charges made criminating the conduct of an individual, offensive alike to the Commanding Officer and the Military, and in direct opposition to the feelings of the Magistrates.

And further resolved, that His Worship the Mayor do furnish Major Cairnes with a copy of the foregoing, and also cause the same to be inserted in the Public Newspapers.

(Signed) WILLIAM BLACK.
Chairman.

At a Special Meeting of the Protection Fire Club, held at the *St. John Hotel*, on Monday 30th August, 1841, the following Resolution was passed:

"Whereas at the Conflagration which took place at Portland on the afternoon of Thursday last the 26th inst. a wanton and malicious insult was offered to some of the Members of this Club by one of the Officers of Her Majesty's 36th Regt., whose name we understand to be 'Thistlethwayte' in his attempting to force them from the place where they had stationed themselves, ordering the soldiers under his command, first, to knock any man down who did not obey, and subsequently ordering them to charge Bayonets upon said Members of this Club.

"Therefore Resolved—That a Committee be appointed to communicate with Major Cairnes, the Commanding Officer of the 36th Regt. with reference to this matter, and to take such further steps to expose the conduct of said Officer, as they may deem necessary."

The Committee having resolved to address Major Cairnes, the following is a copy of the Letter:

[COPY.]

Saint John, N. B., August 31st, 1841.

Sir,—We beg to hand you inclosed Copy of a Resolution passed at a special meeting of the Protection Fire Club held last evening, and would take the liberty of stating to you more fully the cause of our grievance.

The Protection Fire Club is composed exclusively of trust worthy persons, whose chief duty is to remove property from the scene of danger, and who have invariably had the privilege of acting to the best of their skill without any other authority than that of their own officers.

On the afternoon in question about half past 5 o'clock several of the Members of said Club, wearing the mark of designation, viz. "*Fire Hats*" after being busily engaged repairs to that part of the street in Portland, nearly opposite the residence of John Pollok, Esq. for the purpose of resting a few moments, when they were accosted by one of your officers, whose name we understand to be Thistlewaite—who ordered them in a very peremptory manner to "*be off*"—they remonstrated, when he called one of the Sergeants (Herbert) with a number of the Sentries, to "*clear these people back,*" and ordered any man who refused to be *knocked down*; whereupon the said Sergeant endeavoured to do so, by striking one of the Members of this Club; subsequently the said officer finding they still remonstrated ordered his men to "charge."

The interference of one of the Magistrates (Mr. Payne) here put a stop to further proceedings.

As British subjects and Citizens of St. John, we beg to say that we have at all times entertained the highest esteem for the services rendered by the Military on various occasions in cases of Fire, and we regret exceedingly that such an unfortunate occurrence should have taken place. Yet in justice to ourselves, and ignorant of what representations may have been made to you, we deem it necessary and proper to state the facts as they really are.

Whether he was authorised by the rules of her Majesty's service in adopting such high handed measures is a matter we leave with you and shall be happy to furnish any farther information or explanation which you may require.

We are, Sir,
Your most obedient Servants,

(Signed) GEORGE THOMAS, President.
JAMES ROBERTSON,
THOMAS HANFORD,
WM. M'AVITY,
} Committee.

To Major Cairnes, Commanding 36th Regt. St. John.

[REPLY.]

St. John, N. B. 1st Sept. 1841.

Gentlemen,—I am directed by Major Cairnes, Commanding 36th Regt. to acknowledge the receipt of your Communication of yesterday, and in reply, beg leave to inform you that he has forwarded the same to the Magistrate mentioned therein.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servant
JOHN PRATT,
Lieut and Adj. 36th Regt.

To the Committee of the Protection Fire Club.
St. John Hotel.

And at a regular meeting of the Protection Fire Club, held at the Saint John Hotel on Monday the 6th September, 1841—it was

Unanimously Resolved—That in order to disabuse the Public mind of any unjust imputation that may be cast upon the Members of the Protection Fire Club, relative to their conduct at the late disastrous Fire in the Village of Portland, it is only necessary to state, that this Club has now been in operation nearly six years; that they have always been present at all Fires which have taken place during that space of time, rendering all the assistance in their power to preserve the property of their fellow citizens from fire:—that on the occasion of the recent fire in Portland, and after having been actively and successfully employed for some hours in saving property, the Members then and there acting under the orders of their Chief Officer, were grossly, and without the least shadow of provocation, insulted and illtreated by an officer of H. M. 36th Regt. who, ordered the men under his command to charge bayonets at the Members of the Club, and whose language towards them was disgraceful as that of a gentleman, and such as ill becomes an officer of Her Majesty's Service.

Deeply as they regret that any collision should have occurred, they however, feel themselves called upon to vindicate their proceedings, from the charge which has appeared against them in the public newspapers, and are prepared to substantiate by witnesses of respectability and high standing in this community, the truth of their statements.

And further unanimously Resolved, That the above resolution with the letter addressed by the Club to Major Cairnes, and his reply thereto, be published in the City papers.

Mr. Editor.—At a meeting of the Common Council on the 26th ult. it was stated by Alderman Sandall "that in case of a fire the men (meaning the men of the fire department) could not be found, and fine fellows as they were, generally skulked out of the way; he knew that many of them had all the privileges of Engine men, without doing any work. He had himself seen them come up to the Engines at fires, and stand there without offering assistance." In consideration of which, at a monthly meeting of Engine No. 4, it was unanimously resolved, that the above language was uncalled for, insulting, and untrue, and is deserving the censure of the fire department, and that this Resolution be printed in the City papers. Had this been the first insult offered by the Common Council to the Fire Department, it might have been passed over in silence, but not long since, Alderman Peters could not find a competent person, or one of sufficient weight, to fill the office of Chief Engineer. Truly it is a pay that not one could be found, out of nearly 400 firemen, Query—Who is the competent person to weigh them? It was also stated by the Common Clerk, (who has no voice at that board,) that the Firemen received too many privileges for the work they performed.—Would the learned Clerk be content to perform the duties of the City Court for the like privileges. We think not.

Do the members of the Common Council imagine that the members of the Fire Department are devoid of feeling? and was there no one at that board to support the integrity of the Firemen, and