

News Department.

From Papers by R. M. S. Canada, July 23.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, JULY 6.

THE REGIUM DONUM.—The House having resolved itself into a Committee of Supply upon the remaining Civil Service Estimates, upon the first vote of £38,745, for Nonconformist Seceding, and Protestant Dissenting ministers in Ireland.

Mr. Bright objected to the vote, contending that the Regium Donum to the Presbyterian ministers of Ireland, which was political in its origin, was altogether unnecessary and pernicious to that body, that it tended to stimulate to pious frauds, and had been described by Dr. Cadogan as "a burthen upon the state," the Presbyterians in the north of Ireland being well able, according to his calculation, to pay their own ministers.

Mr. Kirk charged the speech of Mr. Bright with errors and fallacies. He gave the history of the grant, which had been commenced in 1690, by King William, as a compensation for the loss of tithes, and Mr. Kirk attributed the attack upon it to the fact that the Presbyterian Church of Ireland was an outwork of the Established Church. He read statistical returns showing the high moral standard of the Irish Presbyterians, the result of the teaching of their clergy, whose efficiency it was impossible to maintain without this grant.

After a very long discussion, in which the amendment was supported by Mr. Hadfield and Mr. W. Fox, and opposed by Mr. Cairns, Mr. V. Scully, Lord Naas, Mr. Spooner, and Mr. Napier.

Lord J. Russell said, he did not wish to enter into the general question as to State assistance to religious bodies. He thought this vote might be defended on the grounds of contract, and the fair expectations of the Presbyterian body. It might be said that policy was manifestly against the support of these ministers by the State, but he should object to this view, thinking that it was exceedingly useful to the State, considering the moral condition of the Presbyterian population of Ireland, that the grant should be continued.

Mr. Bright proposed that the vote should be reduced by £356, for five new congregations, so as to equalise the amount with that of last year.

Upon a division the amendment was negatived by 149 to 62, and the vote was agreed to.

JULY 13.

BLOCKADE OF RUSSIAN PORTS.—Mr. Haubert asked the Lord President of the Council what was the actual state of the blockading operations undertaken by the British Government in the Black Sea, and whether the Government contemplated an immediate blockade of all the ports in the Black Sea and the Sea of Azof.

Lord J. Russell said that the mouths of the Danube were subject to a close blockade, but, as regarded the Black Sea and the Sea of Azof, no decision had as yet been come to.

Sir J. Graham said that orders had been transmitted to the admirals commanding in the White Sea to institute a strict blockade of the ports in that sea, from the first day of next August. No information had been received by him as to a reported decision of the Tribunal of Commerce of Hamburg, on subjects relating to the blockade of the Baltic. He had had no opportunity of asking the Earl of Clarendon if he had heard anything of the sort, but he believed it was impossible because the decision would have been unjust and contrary to the law of nations.

The following address has recently been forwarded through Lord Elgin to her Majesty:—

TO HER ROYAL MAJESTY VICTORIA, QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

Great Mother—We, Chiefs and Sachems of the Six Nations of Indians, residing on the Grand River in Canada West, being assembled at the Council Fire in General Council, take this opportunity of assuring your Majesty of our unalterable attachment to your Majesty.

Great Mother—We have heard that your Majesty is now at war with a powerful nation, and that your warriors, with those of the French as your allies, have gone on the war path. We are happy to hear of this alliance, and we feel that our great Queen Mother's cause must be just.

Great Mother—Your children of the Six Nations have always been faithful and active allies of your Crown, and the ancestors of your red children never failed to assist in the battles of your illustrious ancestors.

Great Mother—We now renew the offer of our services against any external or internal enemy that may dare to attack the portion of your dominions, and

we pray the Great Spirit to bless your warriors and those of your allies with victory.

Done in General Council at our General Council Fire, this 3rd day of June, 1854.

Signed by "JOHN S. JOHNSON,
"And Forty-two Chiefs and Sachems
of the Six Nations.

THE BIBLE SOCIETY AND THE WAR.—Immediately after the declaration of war, the Society resolved to supply every British soldier and sailor, departing for the war, with a copy of the New Testament. They next resolved to do the same for every French soldier and sailor, and they extended their benefactions to the Turkish allies in the shape of an ample contingent of the Evangelists bound in cloth. They went even further, and have prepared a large supply of the Russian New Testament for the use of such prisoners as might hereafter come into the possession of the allied armies.

NEW MEASURE ON EDUCATION.—On Monday a minute by the Committee of Council on Education, dated the 28th ult., was given in a parliamentary paper, for a system of grants in aid of training schools. At the end of the first, second, and third years, a grant of merit is to be made to students of merit and to the treasurers of colleges. The scale is to come into operation for the year ending the 31st December 1855, but all colleges are to be at liberty, by application before the 1st September 1854, to give effect to it for the year now current.

It is now stated that the Queen and the royal family will take up their residence in Windsor Castle soon after the prorogation of Parliament, and that the annual visit to the Highlands will either be considerably shortened or entirely postponed. The reason assigned for this arrangement is the probably necessity of holding frequent privy councils during the progress of the war, and there are unequivocal symptoms at the castle that the arrival of the Court is there considered as no remote contingency.

UNITED STATES.

Upon the alleged pretence that the inhabitants of Greytown, on St. Juan del Norte, a settlement of Nicaragua, had committed "outrages upon the property and persons of citizens of the United States, after a manner only to be regarded as piratical," the U. S. Government despatched to that place the ship of war *Cyane*, Capt. Hollins, with instructions to demand satisfaction and the punishment of the offenders. Capt. Hollins arrived there on the 11th ult. and busied himself next day in making some clapnet displays of precaution and humanity. These effecting nothing, on the morning of the 12th, Capt. Hollins opened his batteries with shot and shell on the devoted town, and kept up the bombardment, with intermissions, although no resistance was offered, until the afternoon. The buildings were almost totally destroyed by the bombardment, but, says Capt. Hollins, in his despatch, "at four o'clock, p. m., a command under Lieut. Pickering and Fauntleroy was sent on shore with orders to complete the destruction of the town by fire."

Among the documents concerning this affair, which had been laid before Congress, is the correspondence between W. D. Jolly, commander of H. B. M. schooner *Bermuda*, and Capt. Hollins. The former, under date Greytown, July 12, enters his most solemn protest against the course which Hollins had intimated to him to intend to pursue towards Greytown. The inhabitants of the city, as well as the houses and property, he says, are entirely defenceless and quite at your mercy. I do therefore notify you, that such an act will be without precedent among civilized nations, and I beg to call your attention to the fact, that a large amount of property of British subjects, as well as others, which it is my duty to protect, will be destroyed, but as the force under my command is totally inadequate for this protection against the *Cyane*, I can only enter this my protest.

Capt. Hollins replies, (Jan'y 12.) "I am directed to enforce that reparation demanded by my Government. Be assured, I sympathize with you in the rescue of English subjects and property, under the circumstances, and regret exceedingly that the force under your command is not doubly equal to that of the *Cyane*."

P. E. ISLAND.

We regret to learn that the Hon. Donald Macdonald, of Tracadie, recently President of the Legislative Council of this Island, died suddenly, a few days since at Quebec, of Cholera, where he had gone on a visit to his friends.—*Hazard's Gazette*.

SYDNEY, CAPT. BRETTON.

ST. PETER'S CANAL.—The Hon. Mr. McLeod, and Captain Barry, returned from their visit to St. Peter's,

last Monday; and the result of the deliberations of the Commissioners who were present and examined the site of the proposed Canal, in presence of Captain Barry, may be gathered from an advertisement [To employ labourers at 4s. per day from 1st September they finding their own tools.] which appears in another column of to-day's paper. Beyond this, little is known; but it appears to us highly probable that the work will not be proceeded with at present, (later than will be necessary to prepare the ground for a Marine Railway, should such be considered hereafter as more feasible, or more economical, whilst it would accord as much accommodation as the locality is likely to require, from the fact, as would appear from rumour now general in the quarter, that without a Lugbeat Canal at St. Peter's would be but little used by shipping.—*News*, Aug. 5.

THE FRENCH SHIP OF WAR, "CONSTITUTION," a Frigate of 36 guns, and bearing the pennant of Commodore Bellouze, commandant of the French Naval Station of St. Pierre and Miquelon, arrived in our waters on Tuesday last, and will remain here until early next week. The Commodore was waited upon on his arrival by several of our public men, and received the mark of respect thus paid to an Officer of our gallant and noble ally, the French, in the present European War, by giving them a courteous and affable reception.—*Id.*

We understand that the Brigantine "*Deer Moulton*," Master, of and from Quebec bound to Cork, timber laden, arrived here on Thursday last, in a leaky state, having thrown overboard part of her deck load.—Her cargo will require to be partially discharged to enable the ship to undergo repairs.—*Id.*

YARMOUTH, N. S.

CHOLERA AT PUNBICO.—The schr. *Sarah*, Capt. W. Larkin, arrived at Punbico on Saturday last, 5 days from Boston; her crew consisted of 4 men (including the master), and she had two female passengers. On the second day out, one of the men died, and another while the vessel was entering Punbico harbour—one of the females has since died—and the Captain is now sick, and attended by two Doctors.—The vessel is owned by Messrs. F. & D. Larkin.—These particulars we obtained yesterday from J. P. Miller, Esq.—*Herald*.

The *Boston Courier* says that orders were received in that city by telegraph, from the agents of the Pictou Mines, to discontinue sending vessels there for coal, for the space of one month. There were 13,000 tons of shipping waiting for coal on the 18th ult.

We understand a large number of vessels are at Sydney, C. B., awaiting cargoes of coal.—*Id.*

During the severe thunder storm yesterday morning, the electric fluid struck the new house of Mr. Oliver Haley near St. John's town, shattering some of the boards and splitting a beam. The house is uninhabited and unoccupied.—*Id.*

LIVERPOOL, N. S.

Capt. J. C. Richards informs us that nearly all the Labrador fishermen belonging to La Hare, have arrived home with full fares.—That a boat belonging to schr. Clear, Shanko master, of La Hare, was captured at the Labrador, and melancholy to relate one man, Jas. Lohman, was drowned. A boy clung to the bottom of the boat, and was picked up next morning in a very exhausted state. Capt. R. also reports that one of the returned Labrador-men states, that an officer of one of H. M. cruisers informed him, that there were two privateers hovering about, and supposed to be bound to the fishing ground to annoy and destroy the British fishermen. Can this be true?—*Transcript*.

The storm which occurred on last Sunday morning, we are sorry to hear, caused considerable damage to town two cows were killed; three of Mr. West's family were stunned and completely paralyzed for a short time.—*Liverpool Transcript*, Aug. 2.

A dreadful thunder storm passed over Port Melroy on the 5th ult. The house of Mr. William Colton was struck by lightning, the electric fluid entered the chimney at the top of the house, bursting in several places, and throwing the bricks and furniture in every direction, causing considerable damage. Mr. C. was sitting near the chimney at the time, but received no other injury than being stunned, (as also were the master of the premises,) by the shock.—*Sun*.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

A Telegraphic despatch at Merchants' News Office in this city, under date of August 7, reports the arrival at New York on Saturday evening last, of the S. M. S. "*Atlantic*," with Liverpool dates to the 1st ult. Subjoined is a copy of this despatch:—No War News of any interest received since the sailing of the R. M. S. "*Canada*." Consuls quoted at 92½.