British News.

LONDON, August 9.

PROROGATION OF THE PARLIAMENT.—The Queen prorogued the Parliament in person to-day.—Her Majesty having taken her seat on the throne, the Commons were summoned, and the Speaker made a short address, compactly enumerating the chief deeds of the session. The Queen then gave the royal assent to a number of bills, and proceeded to deliver

"THE SPEECH."

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I rejoice that the state of public business enables me to release you from further attendance in Parliament.

In closing this laborious session I must express to you my warm acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourself to the consideration of many subjects deeply affecting the public welfare.

I have given my cordial assent to the bills which you presented to me for remitting the duties on many articles of import, and for removing restrictions on the free application of capital and skill to certain branches of our manufactures.

The reduction of taxation will necessarily cause an immediate loss of revenue; but I trust that its effect in stimulating commercial enterprise, and enlarging the means of consumption, will ultimately provide an ample compensation for any temporary sacrifice.

I have witnessed with peculiar satisfaction the unremitting attention which you have bestowed on the measures recommended by me to your consideration at the commencement of the session, for improving and extending the means of academical education in Ireland.

You may rely upon my determination to carry these measures into execution in the manner best calculated to inspire confidence in the institutions which have received your sanction, and to give effect to your earnest desire to promote the welfare of that part of my dominions.

From all Foreign Powers I continue to receive assurances of their friendly disposition towards this country.

The convention which I have recently concluded with the King of the French for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, will, I trust, by establishing a cordial and active co-operation between the two Powers, afford a better prospect than has hitherto existed of complete success in the attainment of an object for which this country has made so many sacrifices.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

I thank you for the liberality with which you have voted the supplies for the service of the current year.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

On your return to your several counties, duties will devolve upon you scarcely less important than those from which I now relieve you.

I feel assured that you will promote and confirm, by your influence and example, that spirit of loyalty and contentment which you will find generally prevalent throughout the country.

In the discharge of all the functions entrusted to you for the public welfare, you may confidently rely on my cordial support; and I implore the blessing of Divine Providence on our united efforts to encourage the industry and increase the comforts of my people, and to inculcate those religious and moral principles which are the surest foundation of our security and happiness.

The Lord Chancellor then declared the Parliament to stand prorogued till the 6th of October next, and the Queen left the house in the same order as when she entered, and returned to Buckingham Palace.

The Queen's Visit to Germany.—The royal *cortege* left Buckingham Palace shortly after four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, August 9th, and, passing through Pimlico and Vauxhall-bridge, proceeded at a rapid rate towards Woolwich, where the royal yacht and her consort, the Black Eagle, lay in readiness to convey the royal party to Antwerp. Her Majesty stepped on board at 20 minutes past 5 o'clock, and the royal yacht having let go her moorings dropped gallantly down the river, amidst the roaring of cannon, followed by the Black Eagle and Porcupine, Government steamers.

They remained at Sea Reach during the night, weighed anchor on Sunday morning, passed through the Nore at half-past four o'clock, and were seen 30 miles above Flushing about four o'clock on Sunday afternoon, and arrived off Antwerp, about a quarter to six on Sunday evening, amidst the customary salutes, and the royal party were immediately visited by the authorities, but did not land that night. Her Majesty had a very rough passage; and the rain fell so heavily as in a great measure to prevent her from being on deck during the voyage. Immediately on her arrival, her Majesty despatched letters announcing it to the King of the Belgians and the King of Prussia.

Her Majesty and the Prince were met at Malines by the King and Queen of the Belgians, who accompanied them as far as Verviers, where they took their leave. They were here joined by the Crown Prince of Prussia; and at Aix-la-Chapelle by the King of Prussia. Two hours were spent in the latter city in visiting the tomb of Charlemagne and other objects worthy of notice there. Cologne was reached about seven o'clock in the afternoon, and the Royal party immediately proceeded to the Palace of Bruhl, which stands about five or six miles on the road to Bonn. Great preparations were made by the people to do honour to the Queen and the Prince at all the towns along the route of their journey, and their reception was highly satisfactory.

COBLENTZ, August 15.

In my last I briefly announced the Queen's arrival at the Castle of Stolzenfels from Bruhl. Their Majesties left the palace shortly after one o'clock, by special train, for Bonn, and embarked there on board the Dusseldorf Company's steamboat the King.

At half-past four the Royal steamer, which had a number of flags, including those of Prussia and England, displayed, was descried from the heights of Ehrenbreitstein, opposite Coblentz, and a salute of artillery from the forts, which are of great strength and vast extent, took place, followed by a discharge of musketry, which poured out a continuous and unceasing roll from both banks of the river for upwards of an hour. The effect was extremely fine, every shot reverberating among the surrounding hills; and when it is stated that there were upwards of 400 pieces of cannon employed, and several regiments of infantry, some idea may be formed of the extensive scale on which the Royal welcome was given, and the astounding effect which was produced. The steamer proceeded very slow in front of Coblentz, in order to afford her Majesty a better opportunity of viewing the imposing scene, which on approaching the town presents a succession of wooded heights, vine-covered hills, and smiling corn fields, with picturesque-looking villas and cottages peeping out at every turn.—After leaving Coblentz the steamer went rapidly up the stream to Stolzenfels, where a large body of Prussian cavalry and infantry were assembled, and the same repetition of noisy demonstrations of respect and welcome took place.

SCHLOSS STOLZENFELDS, Aug. 16.

The departure of her Majesty Queen Victoria and his Royal Highness Prince Albert for Mayence took place this day at half-past 12 o'clock, *en route* for Cobourg and Gotha. Her Majesty, it is expected, will reach that place at seven o'clock this evening, and will alight at the Hotel del' Europe.

The Weather and the Crops.—A most decided and important change has within the last two days taken place in the weather, and which from the gradual rising of the barometer, promises to be permanent. Yesterday morning the sky was beautiful and clear, with only a few light clouds, accompanied with a warm and gentle breeze from WSW., but towards the middle of the day the sky became somewhat heavy and overcast threatening rain, but as the day advanced the clouds dispersed, and the atmosphere became serene and beautiful, the sky being almost cloudless, with every appearance of its continuing so.—*Liverpool, Aug. 18.*

The Late Fires at Quebec.—Royal Letter.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to issue her royal letter to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, authorising them to promote, within their respective provinces, contributions in aid of the fund now raising in this country for the sufferers by the late calamitous fires at Quebec. It appears that the appeal made to the public by the committee formed to promote the laudable object has not been attended with that success which, from the urgent necessities of the case, might have been expected.

The Condemned Pirates.—On Wednesday a special messenger arrived at the gaol with a further respite for the condemned pirates until the 20th of November. This step has been taken to afford the learned judges an opportunity of fully considering the points of law raised on the trial during the approaching Michaelmas term.—*Western Luminary.*

Accident to the Crown.—As her Majesty was quitting the House of Lords, after proroguing Parliament, on Saturday, the Duke of Argyle, who bore the crown upon the velvet cushion during the ceremony, stumbled, and the crown was consequently precipitated to the floor. A number of the jewels fell out of it, and it was otherwise much injured. On the accident being made known to her Majesty, she expressed only her concern that his grace should have met with the slight accident.

Grand Concerts.—The Musical Society of Wurzburgh, known by the name of the Harmonic, will give three *monstre* concerts during the present month, at which 1,300 vocalists and 700 instrumentalists will assist. The King of Bavaria has consented to honour the performances with his presence, and it is supposed that her Majesty of England with Prince Albert will be present.—*Musical World.*

Our Glorious River.—At an early hour on Tuesday morning, the Mersey offered a rich treat to the lovers of marine scenery. The river, which had been for the previous week tempest-tost and turbid, presented a calm and sunny appearance, whilst upwards of 150 sail of vessels dropped down the Rock and Victoria Channel out to sea.

Wednesday was the birth day of the Queen Dowager, when her Majesty attained her 53d year.

The Lords of the Treasury are about to adopt a new plan for disposing of their Sycee silver, valued at 2,000,000 dollars, as they intend to offer it by public tender.

During the time the 87th Regiment lay in Edinburgh Castle upwards of seventy soldiers deserted.

The Ordnance department have reported in favour of the electric gun.

Lever has resigned the editorial chair of the *Dublin University Magazine.*

Electric telegraphs are to be established on all the railways throughout France.

The dome of St. Peter's, at Rome, is in so dangerous a state that iron arches have been erected to prevent its fall.

The Anti-Maynooth Association of London is £732 14s. 11d. in debt, a fact which reminds us of the old saying about "much cry and little wool."

The *Gazette*, of Friday, announces that the Queen has appointed the Right Hon. Sir Robert Peel, Bart., the Right Hon. Henry Goulburn, James Milnes Gaskell, Esq., William Forbes Mackenzie, Esq., and William Cripps, Esq., to be commissioners for executing the offices of Treasurer of the Exchequer of Great Britain and Lord High Treasurer of Ireland.

Mr. Fitzroy Kelly had a special audience of the Queen on Friday; and, having kissed hands upon his appointment to the office of Solicitor-General, received the honour of knighthood.

The late Mr. Adolphus.—It is somewhat remarkable that so many of our great lawyers die without leaving a will; as is the case with this distinguished barrister, whose personal effects have been administered under £5,000.

Matrimony Cigars.—A tobacconist, who entered into the holy bonds of matrimony at a church in Becontree Hundred, in this county, a short time since, presented the clerk, immediately after the ceremony, with a gratuity of "Havannahs," and inquired of him whether he thought the minister would condescend to accept the like gratuity. The clerk replied in the affirmative, when a similar offering was made to the minister, who received it evidently much surprised at this somewhat singular and unprecedented presentation.—*Essex Herald.*

Alfred Greenwood, the young man who was struck blind whilst indulging in some blasphemies during a thunder storm at Nottingham, the other day, has since recovered his sight, and has become a convert to the Church of Rome.

An Irish Roman Catholic priest has projected, with the favour of the Mexican Government, the establishment of an Irish colony on the Bay of San Francisco, California.

Her Majesty, it is said, has signified her intention of presenting Lord Glenlyon's body of Highlanders with a set of colours, as a mark of her Majesty's regard for their enthusiastic loyalty, and in token of her gracious remembrance of the reception which she received on her visit to the Highlands.

On Monday, evening Mr. C. Green, the veteran aeronaut, made his 307th ascent, in the "Albion" balloon, from the gardens of the Royal Albert Saloon, for the benefit of Mr. Brading, the proprietor, who, with Mrs. Brading, were the companions of Mr. Green in his aerial voyage. They landed safely the same night near Woolwich Common.

An English company has just made a proposition to the Papal government for deepening the Tiber. It demands neither payment nor indemnity, hoping to repay itself by the monuments of antiquity which it expects to find in the bed of the river. If the pontifical government accede to this offer, it is thought at Rome that the company will have an excellent bargain.

An unmarried woman, named Marie Mallet, died a short time since at Thenezay (Deux Sevres), at the advanced age of 115. She was born in 1730 at Pouzauges, and from her youth has followed the business of a dressmaker, which she did not relinquish until she had attained her 110th year. During her life she has had 45 appentices, the greater number of whom have preceded her to the tomb. She had by her industry acquired a small income, which maintained her in comfort, when she could no longer work. A sister of the deceased died about a year since, in her 100th year.

New Line of Steamers from Liverpool to Constantinople.—A new line of steamers is about to be established between this port and Constantinople, which will greatly facilitate the extensive and increasing trade of England and the Levant. Three large and handsome steamers are building or about to be built for this line, one of which, named the Levantine, will be ready in about two months; and until they are completed the line will be worked by steamers temporarily engaged for the purpose.

PORTSMOUTH, August 17.

THE EXPERIMENTAL SQUADRON.—Letters from the Kestrel brigantine, Commodore the Earl of Yarborough, have been received at Portsmouth from Gibraltar, where she arrived on the 1st inst. from Lisbon, after delivering despatches from the experimental squadron. In the Straits the Kestrel fell in with the Hibernia, 100, Captain Richards, flag of Vice-Admiral Sir William Parker, Bart., successor to Vice-Admiral Sir E. Owen in the chief command in the Mediterranean, and ran into Gibraltar with her. She also exchanged numbers with the Resistance, troop ship, Commander Patey, with the 48th regiment on board, bound to the Cape.

The Kestrel beat all the members of the experimental squadron upon every point of sailing as long as she was with them. She reports the Canopus, 84, to have beaten the other ships of the squadron.

Mr. Fincham, master shipwright of this dockyard, has recommended to the Admiralty the conversion of one of the old 74's into a block ship with screw propeller, and we believe the plan of providing block ships for each port will be shortly adopted, each port having two 74's mounting 50 guns each, and a frigate mounting 30 guns, fitted up with the screw, and ready for service in any emergency; an additional proposition, and one we hope to see speedily carried into effect.

Liverpool Timber Markets, Aug. 19.—The arrivals from British North America since the 1st inst. sum up to 30 vessels,—28,839 tons, of which 21,809 tons are from Quebec. The pressure on the market has consequently been very great, and prices for Square Timber have given way.

THE ARMY.—Lieutenant-Colonel Mackay, of the 82d Regiment, at Toronto, Canada, after a period of forty years in the corps, is about to retire from the Army, having received a lucrative civil appointment as chief superintendent of the Toronto fire brigade.

Chinese Ransom Money.—A fresh instalment of the Chinese ransom-money, which was brought to England by the Cambria, arrived in London on the 4th inst. The whole of the ransom, consisting of 2,000,000 dollars which was deposited in 500 boxes, and weighed about 62 hundred weight, was conveyed by the South-western Railway, under a military guard. On its arrival it was placed in ten waggons, each drawn by four horses, and taken to the Mint. There is another portion of Sycee silver expected, which will be the last of the ransom.

Lady Noel Byron, who some time since appropriated a considerable space of ground to allotments near Hinckley, states that, so pleased are the poor with their bits of ground, and so punctual is the payment of rent, that out of £7000 of rental not £10 is unpaid.

One of the official assignees at the Bankruptcy Court, London, has lately declared two dividends upon an estate, the first being to the amount of eleven-sixteenths of a penny in the pound, and the second a farthing and half farthing in the pound.

Sweden at present possesses forty-three steamboats, of which seven are of iron, of 1,936 horses' power, the largest being 120 and the smallest of six horses' power. Finland has eight, of which two regularly ply between Abo and Stockholm.

The town of Sittingbourne, in Kent, a few years past, had two respectable inns, which together used sixty pair of post horses: the largest, the Rose, is now shut up, and the other uses only three pairs of horses and two postboys; formerly thirty-five coaches went through the town, now only one. These are the effects of railways.

Sir Edward Lees has retired from the Post office, Edinburgh. He is succeeded by F. Abbott, Esq., from the Secretary's Office, London.

It is said that the long-expected improvement in the pay of Masters will shortly be announced by the Admiralty.

Lord William Hervey has been appointed minister plenipotentiary from the Queen of England to the court of France, during the absence on leave of Lord Cowley.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Andrew Clarke, Esq., late a lieutenant-colonel in the army, to be governor and commander-in-chief in and over the territory of Western Australia and of its dependencies.

The King of Holland embarked in the Dutch steamer Cyclops, at Woolwich, on Friday afternoon, for his own country, with the usual honours, and arrived at the Hague on Saturday.

Mehemet Ali has subscribed 2500 florins towards the relief of the sufferers by the fire at Smyrna.

"This is the Way the Money Goes."—In the year 1843 eight million one thousand four hundred and forty-nine pounds one shilling and fourpence, were spent by the people of this kingdom in tobacco! a tolerably round sum to "end in smoke." If the weed had been worked into pigtail rather more than half an inch thick, it would have formed a line 99,476 miles long—enough to go nearly four times round the world!—*English paper.*

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—At the weekly meeting of this body, on Monday, Dr. Murray of London presided. A letter from Mr. O'Connell, urging the appointment of repeal wardens in every parish and a most active attention to the registry, was read. The object is, that none but candidates who are not only repealers, but members of the association, shall be returned to parliament for any forough or county in Ireland. The principal orators of the day were Mr. John O'Connell, and Captain Broderick, both of whom vehemently denounced the system of American slavery. Amongst the contributions *were £110 from Newfoundland. The week's rent* was announced to be £377 8s .3d.

REPEAL.—The weekly meeting of the Repeal Association was held on Monday, and was (as usual in the absence of Mr O'Connell) thin and dull. The rent for the week was £337. Mr. James Rose Cleland, a magistrate and deputy lieutenant of the county of Down, has resigned both offices in consequence of the dismissal of Mr. Watson.

Dismissal of a Repeal Magistrate.—Jas. Power, Esq., M. P., has been superseded by the Lord Chancellor in the commission of the peace for the county of Wexford. The cause assigned is said to be his having attended the recent repeal demonstration and dinner at Wexford.

Ministers have acted with great vigour and promptitude in Ireland by dismissing Mr. Watson from the Deputy lieutenancy of a county for attending an Orange meeting, and publicly recommending the re-establishment of a society under the ban of the law. They seem determined to administer even-handed justice to Orangemen and Repealers. The great Orange meeting held in Enniskillen, on Tuesday, was a failure, and the repeal agitation is falling away in interest and revenue.

The "Orange demonstration" took place in Enniskillen on Tuesday, when about 10,000 persons marched in procession, and passed resolutions against Repeal and Popery Tom Steele attended, but was cautioned to be quiet, and obliged to keep within doors. Lord Loftus presided, and the Marchioness of Enniskillen and other ladies were present.

The *Dublin Statesman* announces that Mr. James Rose Cleland, a venerable gentleman in his 80th year, has resigned into the hands of the Lord-Lieutenant his offices of justice of the peace and deputy-lieutenant of the county Down.

Archbishop Crolly is reported to have spoken strongly in favour of the contemplated new colleges.

The Duke of Leinster has sent £50 to the widow Ridler, whose husband (sub-constable Ridler) was shot near Ballina, on the estate of John Joseph Henry, Esq., last month.

The grand jury of the county Kerry have presented a memorial to Sir Robert Peel, requesting the selection of one of the harbours on that coast as a North American packet station.

The Customs receipts of Dublin have now attained an amount that places it in the third rank of importance as a commercial depot—it being only exceeded by London and Liverpool.

In 1822, the Belfast carrying trade was disposed of by a single steamer of 50 horse-power, plying once a week, and there was no steam communication with any port but Glasgow. Belfast now sends out 26 steamers.

Since we last noticed the increase of mills at Belfast, the foundation of three others have been laid. One of them will be among the largest in town. In addition to this, in the neighbourhood of the rising fabrics, preparations are in progress for building two or three streets of new houses. Three steam mills have been finished this year alone.—*Banner of Ulster.*

The brig *Nora Creina*, sailed from Wexford for Newfoundland last week with a cargo of 1300 barrels of flour manufactured in that city.

Two men were lately tried at Kilkenny for manufacturing base coin *whilst prisoners in the jail*, and both convicted. It seems that notwithstanding the *vigilance* of the *governor*, they carried on their process pretty extensively, and contributed to put much of the process into circulation.

Mr. Serjeant Murphy has signified his intention of vacating his seat for Cork at the commencement of the next session of parliament.

Mr. Theobald McKenna, a Roman Catholic barrister, is expected to succeed Mr. Pennefather as chief clerk in the Secretary's office. The situation is one of importance, and the salary £800 per annum.

ELOPEMENT NEAR DUBLIN.—An elopement took place a few days since under rather strange circumstances. A wealthy and respectable gentleman residing at C——, about a mile or two from town, had a fair and lovely daughter and an only child. Some short time since a second cousin of the young lady, whom she had never seen before, came from L——, in England, to visit Mr. D——. He had only stopped a few days in the house when what some of the poets has called "young affection" grew up between the young people, and the next morning there were two vacant places at the breakfast table of Mr. D——. The garden and pleasure-grounds were searched in vain, and it occurred to the father of the fair "runaway" that it was likely the cabin of a steam-packet was the place to find the pair. Having adopted the resolution of searching in the place stated, he proceeded to Kingstown, but was just "in time to be too late," as the "happy couple"—no doubt the father thought they were not at all happy—had taken their departure in the morning mail steamer for Liverpool, whither he hied after them by the next conveyance; but previous to his arrival the knot was tied. It is said that, after a good deal of discussion, a reconciliation took place; and the "happy man" having some property of his own, the lady's father was induced to come down heavy with the *tin*, and so the affairs terminated.—*Dublin Freeman.*

FRANCE.—The Paris papers of Tuesday state that the King, Queen, and Royal Family, to the number of ten, left Neuilly on Monday for the Chateau d'Eu, where they are to remain for a couple of months.

A supplement of the *Semaphore* of Marseilles mentions that a destructive fire broke out in the dockyard at Toulon on the 1st of August, which destroyed timber to the value of a million sterling, but the shipping and buildings were saved. Several lives were lost. The fire is said to be the act of an incendiary.

The town of Nantes was visited on the 31st ult. by a cloud of those winged insects which live scarcely a day, called ephemeræ. The gardens and the ground were covered as if after a fall of snow. The inhabitants of the Ile Fayjau were compelled to keep their windows closed to exclude their unwelcome visitors.

During the last month, the consumption of meat in Paris was 5,615 oxen, 1,585 cows, 8,289 calves, and 36,931 sheep, being 494 oxen and 1. 608 sheep less, and 300 cows and 1,093 calves more than in the month of July, 1844.

NEW SOUTH WALES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Sydney papers to the 18th of April allude to the state of affairs in New Zealand. A meeting had been held to raise subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers, and the Governor had despatched about 200 more troops and two steamers for the protection of the settlers. Business affairs remain in a quiet condition. The domestic markets appear to be abundantly supplied with goods, and prices are low.

A letter dated Auckland, March 22, says:—"I have just heard additional news from the Bay of Islands. The chief Neue (or Thomas Walker) Repa, and many others, have already marched over from Hokianga (two days' journey) to the Bay of Islands with 800 men, cut down a flagstaff Heke had put up, and are going to set to work with the cudgels for us. Napur (or Noble) joins them in a few days with about 1,200 or 2,000 men, and Heke will be either shot or taken prisoner."

THE OBSERVER.

ST. JOHN, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1845.

The second August English Mail arrived in this City on Thursday morning last. Parliament was prorogued on the 9th August. On the same day Her Majesty and Prince Albert embarked for the Continent, and arrived at Antwerp on the following day, whence they immediately proceeded on a visit to the King of Prussia. They were received at every stage of their journey, by the greatest demonstrations of respect. Some particulars of Her Majesty's progress, and numerous other articles of intelligence, are given in preceding columns.

The prospect of good crops throughout the United Kingdom was much better than at the departure of the previous mail.

Parliament has sanctioned the construction of 2,000 miles of new railways in England and Scotland, and 500 miles in Ireland. The capital authorised to be raised in shares for the purpose amounts to £31,680,000, exclusive of £6,800,000 required for the Irish lines, making in all £38,480,000. By this the country will be enriched, and multitudes benefitted both at present and permanently. At the same time the demand for money, when the calls for these works come to be made, will be sufficient to put a check upon all idle and foolish schemes. The expected revenue from these new lines considerably exceeds £2,000,000, sterling, per annum.

Parliament has granted the sum of £150,000 to defray, in 1844, the expense of constructing harbours of refuge, and an enlarged packet harbour at Holyhead.

Her Majesty has been pleased to appoint Sir James Emerson Tennent, Knt., to be colonial secretary for the Island of Ceylon.

On the 8th ult., the Hon. Louis M'Lane delivered his credentials to her Majesty as Ambassador from the United States, and the Hon. Edward Everett had his audience of leave.

The personal property of the late Sir William Follett has been sworn under £160,000.

The personal property of the late Mr. Somes, of London, ship-owner, has been sworn under £300,000.

ARRIVAL OF ADMIRAL AUSTEN.—Last evening, Her Majesty's steam ship *Vesuvius*, Com. O'Callaghan, having on board Vice-Admiral Sir Francis Austen, K. C. B., Commander-in-Chief on the North American and West Indian station, arrived at this port, quite unexpectedly, from Halifax. As the Vesuvius came up the harbour, a salute of 15 guns was fired by the Royal Artillery, from the Lower Cove battery, and a guard of honour proceeded to meet Sir Francis, but he did not land last evening.

At nine o'clock this morning, the Admiral landed at Reed's Point, and immediately proceeded to Indian Town, to embark on board the steamer *New-Brunswick*, for Fredericton, on a visit to His Excellency Sir William Colebrooke, Lieutenant Governor of this Province. Sir Francis is accompanied by two of his daughters, his private Secretary, &c.

We learn that the digging for the foundation of the Cathedral was commenced on the Church Green, at Fredericton, on Monday the 1st instant, in accordance with the plan adopted by His Lordship the Bishop. The Executive Council has appropriated the ground for the purpose.

SINGULAR DISCOVERY.—On Friday morning last, the skeleton of a human body was accidentally discovered in the woods, in the Parish of Simonds, about 2 or 3 miles from this city. In consequence of fragments of a Soldier's Coat and Cap being found in a state of decomposition, in the immediate vicinity, (of which the buttons of the Coat, and brasses of the cap are in good preservation, and bear the number 63,) and also a Soldier's stock, marked "J. Nowlan, L.I.;" it is thought to have been the remains of a Soldier belonging to the 63th Regt., who thus perished, perhaps in an attempt to desert.

On Saturday morning, Henry Porter and Robert Keltie, Esquires, Justices of the Peace, (in the absence of the Coroner,) went to the place and made such investigation as circumstances would allow. But in the total absence of any evidence further to elucidate the cause of the death of the party, a permissive warrant was given for the interment of the remains, without holding an Inquest.

The bones were utterly bare and bleached, and from their general appearance, must have lain in that situation 4 or 5 years.—The 69th Regt. arrived in this Province during the "*Boundary War*," in 1839, and left this City for Halifax in July, 1842.

AGRICULTURE.—We have seen a specimen of WHEAT, grown this season on the Farm of Noah Disbrow, Esq. at Loch Lomond, which affords a most favourable testimony to the congeniality of our soil and climate for the production of the "Staff of life." Altho' the *ear* (in the specimen sent us,) is small, yet the *grain* is full-bodied, firm and sweet, and of good colour; while, happily, it is also entirely free from weevil or rot. We congratulate Mr. Disbrow on this successful experiment, (and especially, as the summer of 1845 has by no means been a brilliant one); as it satisfactorily proves, that there is no physical impediment to the raising and ripening of wheat, in ordinary seasons, in this section of the Province; and we hope it will be the means of stimulating our farmers in general to the cultivation of this most important and valuable article of food. There can be no reason why we should continue to send out of the country so large an amount of Cash, in purchase of one of the first necessaries of life, when we can and ought to raise it in abundance on our own soil.

On Sunday last, we were visited with a most violent and sudden gale of wind and rain; which lasted with great fury, from about noon on that day, during the remainder of the day, and great part of the ensuing night. Great havoc was effected by the gale in the gardens of this city and vicinity; but we have not heard of any other damage resulting from the furious "elemental strife."—We think it highly probable, however, that we shall yet have to record disasters among the coasting craft in the bay.

THE DECK LOAD LAW.—The Act passed by the Imperial Parliament for continuing the restrictions relative to vessels from the Colonies carrying Deck Loads between the 1st september and 1st May, was received at the Custom House in this City on Thursday last. The Law is now made perpetual.

RESTIGOUCHE COUNTY.—The Supreme Court was opened at Dalhousie, on Tuesday, by His Honor Judge Parker, and in two hours afterwards it was closed; only one case came before the Jury, and that was dismissed.—Certainly law is at a discount in Restigouche.—[Miramichi Gleaner.

The Halifax Recorder, on the subject of the Rail Road from that city to Quebec, says—"Dr. Gesner is commissioned, we understand, to explore the site of the line from the County of Cumberland through New-Brunswick, and has proceeded thither to perform the duty assigned to him."

We have seen the Prospectus of a Rail Road proposed to be constructed between Saint John and Fredericton, to be connected at the latter place with one to the Grand Falls, which is in course of preparation in this City, and is to be published in a few days. It is expected that the line will be extended from this City, (by Steamboat, via Annapolis,) to Halifax. The undertaking will doubtless be patronised by men of capital, in the Provinces, as it will be by many eminent capitalists in Britain. —*Courier.*

The Question settled.—Our readers will remember that a discussion of considerable length appeared in our columns, a few weeks since, upon the question whether a Magistrate's decision in a suit for seaman's wages under the Merchant Seamen's Act, 7 & 8 Vic. c. 112, was or was not *final*. We understand that the question was lately brought before His Honor the Chief Justice, on an application for a writ of *certiorari*; but His Honor refused to allow the writ, and decided that unless the Magistrate exceeded his jurisdiction, his decision was *final*, and that, however wrong it might be, there was no appeal.—*Ib.*

NEW INVENTION.—We have much pleasure in learning from the Honorable Captain OWEN, of Her Majesty's steamer *Columbia*, that Mr. JAMES URQUHART, the Chief Engineer of that vessel, has recently at Campo Bello constructed a very ingenious and highly useful Self Registering Tide Guage, for the purpose of showing the corresponding heights of tide and the time by a Clock. For this addition to Nautical science, Her Majesty's Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have honored Mr. Urquhart with a Medal, in token of their especial approbation of his ingenuity and zeal, and have given directions for the immediate construction of several of those instruments for her Majesty's service.—*Chronicle.*

A VIEW OF KING'S SQUARE.—We saw last week a pretty view of King's Square, lately taken by Mr. GEORGE N. SMITH, Artist, in water-colours. It includes the Square, the Roman Catholic Chapel, Free Presbyterian Church, National School, &c. and reflects great credit on the gentleman whose pencil has produced it. We learn it is intended for Mr. Sears, of New York, for his private collection.—*Herald.*

ACCIDENTS.—On the night of Tuesday last, Mr. Matthew Mitchell, with his son Robert, and another boy were unfortunately drowned when fishing outside the harbour. It is supposed they were overtaken by a sudden squall, and either driven on shore or swamped before reaching it; as the boat has since been found on the rocks at Partridge Island. Mr. Mitchell was a man of steady habits and love an excellent character. He has left a wife and large family to lament his untimely loss.

On Tuesday morning last, Mr. James H. Travis, son of Jas. Travis, Esq., of Indian Town, was unfortunately drowned at that place, by falling into the public slip. Scarcely ten minutes had elapsed from the time of his being seen on the wharf, until his lifeless body was taken from the water.

On the night of the 17th August, from on board the schr. *Maria*, near Partridge Island, George Ritch, a native of Stromness, Orkney, Scotland, aged 32 years. He has left a wife and mother to lament his loss.—[Courier,

The Governor of the State of New-York has declared Delaware County in a state of insurrection, equivalent to placing it under martial law, in consequence of Anti-Rent disturbances.

Mr. Norman and Mr. Cunningham, a deputation from the Gaspe Company; Mr. Charles Simonds, deputed by the Executive Government of New Brunswick to make explanations upon the subject of extending further rights of fishing to the Americans; and Mr. G. R. Young, member of the Assembly of Nova Scotia, had an interview with Lord Stanley, on Saturday, at the Colonial-office. —*Colonial Gazette.*

The Fisheries.—We are happy to learn, by a private letter, that the application of the American Minister, for leave to trespass on our Fisheries, will be rejected by Her Majesty's Government.—*Halifax Chronicle.*

THE BISHOP OF FREDERICTON.—The friends of the missionary cause who contributed to the erection of a Cathedral Church at Fredericton, on the occasion of Bishop Medley's sailing from this port a few weeks ago, will be rejoiced to hear that their benevolent exertions have been well appreciated in the colony, and have called forth a corresponding exertion of Christian liberality on the part of the colonists there. The following is an extract from a letter lately received from that bishop, dated 26th June, 1845:—"All hitherto, I bless God, has been most favourable. The addresses from St. John were very gratifying, but at Fredericton the state of things is perfectly astonishing. In a population of 4,000, I had an address presented to me signed by 1,000 persons,—300 of them Roman Catholics, and some Wesleyans and Baptists and Presbyterians,—in short, by every respectable householder. Not only this, but the dissenters are full of my cathedral, and some of them have given £50 each towards it. At the first meeting £3,100 was subscribed in Fredericton, and to-night brings me news of £1,000 more. If you ask how or why this is, I answer I cannot tell—it is God's doing, not mine. Wherever I go, kindness and blessing await me. Of course troubles will come in due season; but let us bless God for the sunshine, and enjoy it while we can."—*Liverpool Standard, August 16.*

Extensive Robbery of Tea.—Scarcely has the surprise excited by the pillage of St. Mary's Church subsided, before the town is again startled by the news of another desperate robbery. This week it has been discovered that a large quantity of Tea had been abstracted from the warehouse of Messrs. Charman & Co. The number of chests and boxes stolen amounts to nearly a hundred, of the choicest sorts of Tea. It is supposed the Tea was conveyed from the Warehouse on Brown's wharf, through a window belonging to another store adjoining, and thence despatched to Truro. For some months past no Tea could be sold at Truro, unless such as was supplied by a small retail shop; no person from the neighbourhood would buy any other, as it was the best and cheapest that could be had; nor could any trader sell it so cheaply, even if he would give it at prime cost. At length, however, Messrs. Charman & Co. discovered their stock was silently but rapidly diminishing, and from their search into the cause it appears that a system of robbery has been carried on for several months, by three men who were arrested and imprisoned on Thursday.—*Halifax Recorder.*

CANADA.—By an Act to make provision for a Geological Survey of the Province, [8th Victoria, chap. 16.] two thousand pounds is to be annually applied for five years, to the above purpose. Mr. Logan, the gentleman employed in the survey, is at present up the Ottawa, accompanied by Mr. McNaughton, Surveyor. We understand that an abundance of iron ore has been found in the Township of Hull.—*Bytown Gazette.*

KINGSTON, Jam., Aug. 5.—Business dull. Market well supplied with American goods. Flour $7 to $7,50. All other articles dull at present and not much doing.

The Railroad from Kingston to Spanishtown and Angels is very soon to be opened. It is laid down on the most solid and magnificent style, and large prices are offered for shares. The Engineers have arrived to commence the northern Railroad, and the ground is also being surveyed for the Jamaica South Midland Railway connecting Wortey's Bay, a distance of about 150 miles. There are two more Railways to be undertaken. The capital of the five in England is about £2,500,000 stg.

FROM THE PACIFIC.—Gen. Castilla, President of Peru, has convened the general Congress, which is now in session, and it is understood that full satisfaction has been made to Admiral Seymour, for outrage committed upon British property by the revolutionary Peruvians lately in arms against Gen. Castilla.

A British fleet is said to be on his way to Oregon, to protect British property and settlers at Astoria, and from the language used by the officers of the British Squadron here, we are led to believe that the report is correct.

We have had intelligence from Tahiti to the 1st ult. The French retain the Islands, and there is not the most remote prospect that they will ever give them up. The loss to our whaling interests is very serious, as the French authorities prohibit traffic with the natives, and there is no other port for obtaining supplies in that vicinity. An American merchant vessel has been despatched to the Fejee Islands with arms and ammunition for the natives, to enable them to fortify themselves and maintain their independance against an expected attack from the French or English.—[Cor. N. Y. Sun.

WASHINGTON, August 21.

"I am enabled from a conversation of a member of the Cabinet, to state to you the views of the Government on our present relations with Mexico.

"*There will be no war with Mexico.* The loan of $15,000,000, asked for by that government of their Congress will be a failure. That failure will be made the ground of not declaring war.

"Thus far the Mexican government has exhibited no preparation or ability to carry on a war, but has only manifested itself desirous to declare war.—Without discussing the probability of such a step on the part of the Mexican government, I will at once state the policy and results, as understood by Mr. Polk. The interest of France and England would immediately bring them forward as mediators—Mexico and this country would be brought into negociation—Mexico will claim Texas—this country will deny the claim, but admit the rights of Mexico to territory on this side of the Rio del Norte, and negociate for and purchase this territory, in order that the Rio del Norte shall be the boundary line of the two nations; and this country will agree to pay to Mexico a sum of money for this territory, sufficient to cover the value of all Texas."

The refusal by the authorities of Yucatan to join the Mexican Government in a war against the United States, is an important fact, that cannot fail to exercise a political influence on current events. It shows at least that the feeling of hostility, which is so clamorous against this country at the capital, does not extend to the remote Departments. The province of Yucatan has ever been distinguished for its liberal notions. It fought against Santa Ana, and resisted the establishment of Centralism successfully. And for some time past, its position has been one of almost entire independance of the General Government. The event is no doubt within the recollection of our readers, that during the revolution which broke out there several years ago, Yucatan formed an alliance with Texas, and cooperated with the Texan fleet, under Commodore Moore, in waging war upon Mexico. The population, we are told, are superior as a great mass to the rest of the Mexicans.—[N. Or. paper.

Miraculous Escape.—Bulkleigh Salterton has been the scene of a most thrilling incident. Six infant children, on Wednesday morning, got into a boat on the beach, and a mischievous boy shoved it off. The boat drifted away to sea before the children were missed. Terrible was the agony of the mothers when they knew it. Daylight returned, and still no tidings of the helpless children. A Plymouth trawler, fishing yesterday morning, saw something floating at a distance; he bore down to it, and discovered it to be a boat, and in the bottom the six children, all cuddled in like a nest of birds, fast asleep. Five of these children were under five years of age, the sixth is but nine years old.—*Western (England) Times.*

Letters from Nimeguen and Heusden state that a singular phenomenon has been observed for some days past, which gives the farmers some uneasiness; the *potatoes* die in the course of one night, without their being able to discover the cause. When the field is once infected all the plants wither and are dried up in a few hours.—*English paper.*

The *Medical Times* describes the case of a farmer, who died after several days extreme suffering from hemorrhage, vomiting, &c., occasioned by his accidentally getting a small quantity of guano dust into his throat.

When the King and Queen of the French, and all their family, are lodged in the Tuilleries, with their respective attendants, there are no less than 1,500 persons!

The late Duke of Kent was the son of a king, the brother of three kings, and father of a queen, but never a king himself.

From the Sandwich Islands.—Advices from the Sandwich Islands to May 16, have been received at New York. Twenty-six of the citizens of the United States who were made prisoners in Canada, and sent to Van Diemen's Land, had arrived at Honolulu, in the whale ship Steiglitz, on their return to the United States.

Mars, Saturn, and Venus.