The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, MAY 7, 1850.

The steam ship *Canada*, Captain Harrison, with the English Mail of the 20th April, arrived at Halifax on Wednesday night, in 11 days and 8 hours from Liverpool. She brought out 103 passengers. The Mail arrived in this City on Friday afternoon.

Trade in the manufacturing districts was rather more satisfactory, and in some articles an advance in prices had taken place. In the woollen districts a fair amount of business is going forward.

The days of the Russell Ministry, it is clear, are drawing to a close, and it seems scarcely that problematical whether they will weather the session; the Ministry has been thrice defeated since Monday.

Her Majesty's accouchement, it is expected, will take place in about a fortnight.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.—The market remains depressed for the time of the year, mainly owing to the country districts being well supplied, and the large stock of yellow Pine on hand in the port, sufficient at least for eighteen months to come, at the present rate of consumption. Deals, notwithstanding a fair consumption, rule low in price, and are likely to do so under the present prospects. It is now ascertained that the import of Pine Timber has been overdone to some extent within the last few years, and that its extreme depression has gradually followed in the wake of the disastrous turn which railway affairs have taken in this country.

Barrel Flour at Liverpool has declined 6d. per barrel, and Indian Corn 6d. per quarter; nor indeed is there at present much appearance of any improvement whatever in the trade.

The Iron trade continues depressed, without disposition to sell at any material abatement in price. The following are the present quotations, delivered in Liverpool:—Merchant bar, £5 2s. 6d best rolled, £6 15s.; nailrod, £6; hoop, £7; sheet, £7 15s.; No. 1, Scotch pig, £2 15s.

The importations of Agricultural articles show diminution. In grain and flour, the contrast between this and the last year is remarkable—714 688 qrs. against 2,445 813 qrs. Cattle, salted provisions, cheese and butter have fallen off; potatoes have increased. The whole result is, however, extremely gratifying.

The general tone of commercial affairs remains without improvement. The markets for imported goods, both in Liverpool and London, still present, in the majority of instances, a drooping appearance, and where business has been transacted it was generally in favour of the buyer, who only purchases to meet immediate wants.

The "Niagara" arrived at Liverpool 16th ult. Her advices caused a farther advance in cotton of one farthing per pound. Sales of the week 61,000 bales.

Freights have slightly receded; but passengers are abundant at former rates.

THE NEW STEAM SHIP ASIA.—The last and greatest of the splendid fleet of steamers which carry the mails between Liverpool and America, the Asia, will arrive here from the Clyde on the 25th inst. The Asia, which is the last, is also the finest of this line, and will take her departure for the Western world in the course of the following month. Every triumph of mechanical skill and ingenuity lessens the distance between us and our enterprising cousins on the American continent.

It is the intention of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company henceforth to sail their ships upon the temperance principle. No spirits are to be served out except in cases of emergency. The wages are to be advanced by per month.

THE FLAG-LIST.—No less than five flag officers have died during the last quarter, four of whom were on the active list.

THE ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.—The Ordnance Estimates have been passed by the House of Commons, without a single deduction either as to the number of men, or as to the sum of money claimed for maintaining this branch of the service in a state of perfect efficiency.

The largest number of post letters ever delivered to one individual at a single delivery occurred on the morning of April the 8th, when the editor of the *Family Friend* received one thousand six hundred and eighteen pre-paid communications.

The Pope entered Rome on the 12th inst. at four o'clock in the afternoon. The telegraphic despatch announces that he was received with acclamations by all ranks of the people, vast numbers of whom went out to meet him. It is rumoured that His Holiness will shortly make a tour through his States.

On Saturday last, the Lady Franklin, Captain Penny, and the Sophia, Captain Stewart, sailed from Aberdeen, for the Arctic regions, in search of Sir John Franklin.

Capt. Wm. Geves, of the ship *Albatross* and Capt. Thomas Ferson, of the ship *Sir Edmund Head*, late of the *Tippoo Saib*, have passed examinations before the Board at Liverpool, and were found duly qualified for first class Masters' certificates.

INFLUX OF SHIPPING.—The large number of 129 vessels reported at the Custom-house on Saturday last as having arrived from foreign and distant parts with cargoes of general merchandise; and 56 vessels also reported on Monday as having arrived in the port of London from abroad. These numerous arrivals comprised some not only from almost every continental port of Europe, but also from the East and West Indies and South America, and some with various descriptions of merchandise from every quarter of the globe. The arrivals have lately, in consequence of the prevalence of easterly winds, been in a great measure limited to steamers from the continental states of Europe, with French, German, and other produce; and to vessels with grain, &c., from those and the adjoining states; this sudden influx of shipping from all parts of the world will have the effect of giving the required impetus to the import trade of this vast metropolitan port, and create a great deal of bustle at the docks and other places at the water-side.

BLISTER FOR THE MONTH.—*Railway Calls for April.*—The total amount of railway calls for the month of April, so far as they have at present been advertised, is £304,776, against £884,249 in the corresponding month of 1849, £2,759,795 in 1848, and £4,314,955 in 1847, for the same period. The total amount for the first four months of the present year is $4,559,982, against £9,444,922 for the corresponding period of 1849, £18,028,478 in 1848, and £15,373,749 in 1847.

CARDIGAN AGAIN.—Lieutenant-Colonel the Earl of Cardigan has placed Major Jones, of his regiment, under arrest. We shall learn, in a day or two, the particulars of this fresh exercise of authority. What a chapter might be written on the arrests in this regiment since it fell into the hands of its present commander!—*United Service Gaz.*

GOOD NEWS FOR THE HIGHLAND SOLDIER.—Under this head the *Stirling Observer* states that Mr. Hume, M. P., has expressed his willingness to bring before the House of Commons the propriety of abolishing the kilt in the army, upon the presentation of a petition, which is now in course of preparation, and which will be forwarded in a few days.

EMIGRATION OF DISTRESSED NEEDLEWOMEN.—It is the intention of the committee formed for the purpose of assisting the deserving and distressed needlewomen of the metropolis to send a further number to Port Phillip, by the Duke of Portland, now fitting up in the St. Katharine's Dock. The vessel, which is almost 500 tons register, will leave her berth on Saturday morning, and finally leave Gravesend on Monday. Preparations have been made for the accommodation of 63 young women, who are to go out under the charge of a matron appointed for the purpose. A second detachment of the emigrants selected by Mr. Sidney Herbert's committee departed yesterday by the ship Tory, bound to Port Adelaide and Sydney. The party consisted of about 30 young women, nearly all of the class of needle workers and stitchers. A third detachment is to leave early in the ensuing week. Upwards of 200 young women have been already selected.—*London Atlas, April 6*

A number of gentlemen, members of the London Stock Exchange, have subscribed £80, which has been sent to Caroline Arnold, as an acknowledgment of her moral courage in exposing the outrages committed on the female emigrants on board the barque Indian, and in overcoming the difficulty of getting the cause inquired into by the authorities of Australia.

NEW LONDON WEEKLY PAPER.—The Rev. E. R. Larken, the Rector of Burton, and brother-in-law of Lord Monson, has commenced a London weekly paper called *The Leader*. The rev. gentleman intends to advocate universal suffrage, vote by ballot, annual Parliaments, &c., &c.

PRESENTS FOR HER MAJESTY.—The Rosamond steam-vessel, which arrived at Plymouth from Tangier on Saturday, has landed some native African animals and birds, sent as presents from the Emperor of Morocco to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain. They consist of a lion, lioness, tiger, five gazelles, and two pair of ostriches. None of the animals are arrived at maturity. The ostriches, when erect, carry their heads nearly seven feet high. Two intelligent Arab keepers, who speak Spanish, have come to England in the Rosamond. They approach without fear the lion, lioness, and tiger, and these ferocious beasts allow their swarthy attendants to fondle them and to handle with impunity their formidable teeth and powerful jaws.

INCREASE OF SHIPPING.—There has, since New Year's Day, been an accession of forty-six ships, an increase of nearly 13,000 tons, to the port of Shields.

A new machine, capable of making 26,000 perfect bricks per hour, at the cost of about one guinea, has recently been exhibited by the Messrs. Harts, engineers, of London, and was highly approved of.

The number of masonic lodges of England is 747, of which some are distributed throughout the English counties, whilst others are in various parts of the world wherein large bodies of the English race reside.

The Late Sacrilege in the Westminster Family's Vault at Eccleston.—On the 18th ult. there came to Eccleston three well-dressed women, who inquired for the parish clerk, and told him that they had a great wish to see through the interior of the beautiful little church. The clerk complied with their wishes, and they seemed to admire it much, being very particular in their inquiries about the vault, and how it was opened, and if the coffins were highly decorated with silver plate, &c., to which the clerk gave them satisfactory answers. The ladies rewarded him for his trouble, and left. These ladies, it is supposed, were men in women's apparel; for, as we have described before, the church was broken open and the vault entered and completely ransacked. The coffins were all stripped of the plate and thrown in a heap. Some of the corpses were on their faces, some on their heads, and some on their feet. It is supposed the villains were in the vault three hours. The Marquis of Westminster has offered a hundred pounds reward.—*Chester Chronicle.*

IRELAND.—The *Limerick Chronicle* states that upwards of 5000 persons have left that district since January last to proceed to America, many of them of a superior class. Persons of good means are departing, leaving the streets crowded with idle beggars, who distress the inhabitants by perpetual importunities and petty thefts.

Several hundred emigrants left the city of Cork on Saturday, by the Nimrod and Albert steamers for Liverpool, to take passage for America. The deck of the former steamer was densly crowded with men, women, and children, the greater number of them comfortably attired.

Two frightful murders have been committed in the county of Clare. Mr. Arthur O' Donnell was returning from the house of his herdsman, when a party of ruffians met him and killed him with a hatchet. He was a quiet, inoffensive gentleman. The herdsman of Mr. Scalan went out to look after some sheep, when a party of ruffians met him and cut his throat.

DREADFUL ACCIDENT IN FRANCE—*Three Hundred Lives Lost.*—The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* writes as follows on Wednesday:

"A frightful catastrophe has occurred at Angers, which was lately the scene of tumult and disorganisation. The third battalion of the 11th regiment, were marching across the suspension bridge which leads into the town; the staff had reached the left pier, close to the chateau, when suddenly the chains were heard to crash, and with a sudden swerve and oscillation the bridge broke down, and upwards of 600 men, armed with bayonets and sabres, were plunged into the river, swollen to twice its usual size by the recent heavy rains. The harrowing scene which followed surpassed all description. An eye-witness of the horrible occurrence, who came post to Paris with the news, has just recounted to me the horrors of the scene. The chains of the left pier continued to hold, and the remainder of the regiment, including the last file of the Voltigeurs, sprung with distraction to the pier and clung to the chains, which happily did not fail. The rain was falling in torrents, and the swollen and muddy stream, which rushes by "black Angers," as our King John called this city, carried away with it scores and scores of struggling soldiers.

"Meantime, as the troops had their bayonets fixed, several of the men inflicted frightful wounds on their sinking comrades, until at last the river became completely ensanguined from the blood which streamed from their wounds, thus unconsciously inflicted. As the rain still continued to pour, the occurrence was not witnessed by many persons; but the alarm was quickly given, and all the boatmen and fishermen of the Loire and Maine came up with drags, &c., and several dying and half-drowned men were saved from a watery grave. You may perhaps remember that Black Angers stands on a slip of land forming an angle, or delta, at which the Lower Maine joins the Loire, some distance below the town. During heavy rains the stream becomes swollen into a 'revolutionary torrent,' as it was called by Carrier, in the good old days of the Noyades. Unhappily, the water was in this state at this dreadful moment; and never since the same waters closed over the corpses of the murdered priests and children at Nantes, in '93, have they witnessed so hideous a scene.

"There were five companies, of 117 men each, marching over the bridge, exclusive of the regimental band, and the many groups of laughing children and women, who are ever to be seen greeting the arrival of a new regiment. These were all precipitated into the dark and angry waters, and upwards of 300 are known to have perished. About twenty corpses have been picked up, and several wounded men have been dragged ashore still alive. Amongst them is the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, who is, however, in a dangerous state."

In the Assembly, on Wednesday evening, General d'Hautpoul stated the iron bridge at Angers had broken down while four companies of the 11th Legers were passing, and that 300 had been drowned. He added, "The government, on its side, intends to submit to your deliberation a project of law, with a view to allay the grief of some disconsolate mothers." ("Immediately," cried several members.)—M. Leon Faucher said that he was sure of being the interpreter of the sentiments of the Assembly in declaring that it shared the emotion of the Minister of War.

PARIS, THURSDAY.—The President of the Republic, accompanied by the Minister of War, left Paris to-day to be present at the funeral of the soldiers who perished at Angiers by the fall of the suspension-bridge. He will distribute rewards to those who exerted themselves to save the sufferers The total loss of the battalion is 282.

The Overland Mail brings dates from Bombay to the 16th of March, and from Hong Kong to the 27th of February. On the frontiers at Peshawur, Sir Colin Campbell has made some trouble with the predatory hordes on the hills, and in the direction of Kohat there seems to have been a good deal of fighting in the passes of the hills, and our men have returned without having done much towards preventing the future incursions of the enemy. In a dangerous defile, of thirteen miles in length, our troops suffered considerably from the constant fire of the marauding men. Two European officers and 150 privates were killed. The whole of the rest of India is tranquil, but the dominions of the Nizam are fast verging to some financial and political crisis. Everything appears quiet in the various Chinese ports.

We learn, by way of Egypt, that Mr. Layard and his party are carrying on their successful excavations at Nimrod and Ninevah; and a vast number of copper vessels, beautifully engraved; and fine slabs, illustrative of the rule, conquests, domestic life, and arts of the ancients, are daily brought to light.

According to advices from Jerusalem, dated January 28th, her Royal Highness the Princess Marianne of Holland, who set out on the 17th of the same month from Jaffa, had arrived on the 19th in perfect health, with the whole of her suite at Jerusalem. Upon her journey, her Royal Highness the Princess Marianne had been received with very great distinction by all the authorities, and in the Holy City the Pasha and others had afforded to her Royal Highness a reception, to a certain extent, of a religious character.

STEAM.—Mr. Whitney's fine steamers Commodore and Fairy Queen, now go twice a week to Portland, connecting there with Railroad to Boston, &c. They also go once a week to Windsor, and once to Digby and Annapolis.

The Herald, also, makes two trips a week to Dorchester and the Bend, at a cheap rate of fare.

The River steamers have all commenced their trips between St. John and Fredericton, and one of them to Woodstock.

Mr. Hatheway's new steamer for the River was launched at Fredericton last week. She is said to be a very fine looking boat, and is named the "*Anna Augusta.*"

FIRE AT COCAIGNE.—On the 25th April last, the Dwelling House belonging to Doctor Theal, of Amherst, and occupied by the Rev. Mr. Weeks, Curate of Cocaigne, was wholly consumed, with the furniture and contents, save about one hundred volumes from Mr. Weeks' Library.

TENTH LECTURE ON THE EVIDENCES OF CHRISTIANITY.—Last Thursday evening, according to previous announcement, the Rev. HENRY DANIEL, Wesleyan Minister, delivered the Tenth of the Course of Lectures on Infidelity, in the Centenary Church, in this City, to a large and attentive congregation. The subject under consideration was "The *Character* of CHRIST, and his *Apostles*."—The discourse was admirably calculated to remove the ground-work of Infidelity, by completely prostrating the arguments usually adduced in its support, and proving, beyond successful contradiction, the paramount claims of the Christian Religion (as evinced in the character, life, and doctrines of its Divine Author, and his Apostles,) to our most implicit faith and confidence. We anticipate much benefit from the circulation of this excellent Lecture, on its being issued from the press.

To-morrow evening, (Wednesday,) the Rev. Mr. ROBINSON will deliver a Lecture in the Brussels Street Chapel, on "*Providence, an Interpreter of Revelation.*" The Service will commence at 8 o'clock.

This will be the concluding Lecture of the series now in the course of being delivered on the Evidences of Christianity.

☞ We are requested to mention, for the information of immigrants and others, intending to proceed from these lower Provinces to Canada West during the current season, that the CANADA COMPANY'S "*Catechism of Information for Emigrants to Upper Canada.*" and other statistical papers on the subject, can always be had *gratuitously* at the office of G. BLATCH, Esq., Barrister at Law, in this City; who will also give information respecting an arrangement lately effected, for conveying Emigrants to Canada West, from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, at a *remarkably low rate.*

The new steam ship "*City of Glasgow,*" Captain Mathews, arrived at New York on Thursday or Friday last, from the Clyde, with a full complement of passengers, six of whom are for this City. She being the first steamer that has ever left the Clyde with passengers and goods for America, her departure, on the 10th April, excited an immense deal of interest at Glasgow and Greenock, and she was cheered by thousands of spectators.

The American Mail steamer *Atlantic* left New York on Saturday, 27th ult., for Liverpool, with a full cargo and 127 passengers. "The accommodations of this vessel, (says a New York paper,) are palatial. Her halls, cabins, and state-rooms, are of unprecedented splendour, and she cannot fail to make a great impression on her arrival at Liverpool. Nothing that now floats is her equal."

Seventy sailing vessels arrived at St. John's N. F., up to the 25th April, with an aggregate of 200,000 Seals. This is said to be above the average of former seasons.

There had been very heavy falls of snow in Newfoundland in April. The Speaker of the Assembly returning from his parliamentary duties to his residence in the country, accompanied by his servant, missed his way and came very near perishing, being obliged to abandon his horse and sleigh, which became completely embedded in the soft snow. The "lifeless remains of poor Bucephalus," says the newspaper chronicler of this event "were found in the same spot on the succeeding morning."

COMMON COUNCIL.—A meeting of the Council was held yesterday afternoon, when the preliminary arrangements for the election of the Mayor were made. The Common Clerk read a letter from his Honor the Recorder, giving his opinion on two points connected with the election. The first was, that the Mayor should have only one vote as Mayor, and could not vote as Alderman; and secondly, that a majority of the members present was necessary to the election of Mayor. The Board afterwards decided the vote should be open, and not by ballot.

Alderman Needham moved a Resolution that the Steam Ferry Boats be leased, and that the parties leasing the Boats should make payments monthly into the hands of the Chamberlain. He had no doubt, he said, that an income of £1000 or £1200 might accrue annually to the benefit of the City by this arrangement. The Resolution was carried, and a Committee of five was appointed to make the arrangements for leasing these Boats.

Alderman Needham moved that all colored persons be allowed to take out their freedoms for the sum of £2, to which Alderman Smith moved as an amendment, that all colored persons who were born in the City, be allowed to take out their freedom on payment of 20s. 6d. This amendment was adopted by Alderman Needham; to which Alderman Vanhorne moved, that the Board adjourn, which was carried: Aldermen Needham, Smith and Harding alone opposing the motion for adjournment. Alderman Needham also made some stringent remarks on the impurity of charging certain parties the sum of £6 for their freedom, which he characterised as an outrage and an extortion, and said he would shortly move that it be reduced one half.—[New-Runs. this morning.

☞ The Common Council met this day, at 12 o'clock, for the purpose of electing a MAYOR from among the Members of the Board, as provided by the amended Charter. The Candidates were the present Mayor, R. D. Wilmot, Esq., (Alderman of Guy's Ward,) and Alderman Harding. On taking the question, the Council divided equal, 6 to 6—For Mr. Wilmot; Aldermen Cougle and Wilmot, Councillors Fairweather, McAvity, Little-hale, and Beatteay. For Mr. Harding; Aldermen Needham, Smith, Harding, and Vanhorne, and Councillors Nowlin and Hagarty.—Consequently there was no choice, and after several unsuccessful attempts being made, and the transaction of some other business, the Council adjourned.

At the Annual Meeting of the Members of the ST JOHN SAVINGS' BANK, holden on Tuesday the 30th April last, the following Gentlemen were chosen Trustees of that Institution for the ensuing year:—

The Hon. WARD CHIPMAN,

John Ward,	W. J. Ritchie,
R. F. Hazen,	Thomas Merritt,
R. W. Crookshank,	C. C. Stewart,
F. A. Wiggins,	L. H. Deveber,
James Kelly,	John Duncan,
John Wishart,	Robertson Bayard.

And the Trustees have since re-appointed the Hon. WARD CHIPMAN President of the Institution.

Statement of the Affairs of the Saint John Savings' Bank on the 31st December, 1849.

LIABILITIES.

Due to 1691 Depositors,	£37,889 3 2	
Excess of Interest,	2038 17 8	
		£39 928 0 10

ASSETS.

Invested in Provincial Securities,	£34 652 15 10	
Do in other Public Securities,	4 350 0 0	
Interest due on Investments,	866 13 6	
Cash,	54 11 6	
		39 923 0 10
Deposited in 1849,		£12 233 4 10
Withdrawn in do.		£9 099 15 9

D. JORDAN, CASHIER.

MAYOR'S COURT.—B. L. Peters, Esq., has been appointed a Commissioner for taking Special Bail, in this Court.

RAIN.—Last night and to-day we have had some fine showers, being almost the first this Spring.—They will be of immense service to the country, in causing the grass to shoot forth, and thereby provide pasture for the cattle after so long a winter and backward spring—and relieve Farmers and others from the heavy tax of purchasing hay at the present high rate.

COMMON COUNCIL.—In Common Council, on the 29th ult., upon reading a Petition from H. Gilbert, Esq and 162 others, against any alteration in the present arrangement for the pay and support of the Police Force, the Board rescinded a previous resolution contemplating a reduction of this establishment. The usual order was passed for the payment of the monthly wages of the men up to 21st instant being £140 6s 4d.

A resolution was passed requesting the Police Magistrate to station one of his men, night and day, in Smyth Street, between Union and North Slips.

The Chamberlain was directed to lay before the Council, monthly, the returns and accounts of the Police Magistrate.

The Harbour Master was directed to commence immediate prosecutions against all parties concerned in casting saw dust and slabs into the Harbour and Slips.—*Courier.*

FIRE IN PORTLAND.—About one o'clock on Wednesday last a fire broke out in the house belonging to Mr. John Weeks in Portland, which in a short time communicated to the adjoining house, belonging to John Pollok, Esq., and occupied by Mr. John M. Campbell, and thence to two houses owned by Mr. Connolly, all of which were consumed. A very strong wind was blowing at the time, which involved a large neighbourhood in imminant danger. The Methodist Chapel was saved with great difficulty, being on fire several times. The Engine Companies deserve the greatest credit for the energy displayed and the strenuous exertions put forth to stop the progress of the conflagration. It is reported that there was no insurance on the buildings destroyed. The fire originated from a spark from a chimney opposite, and spread with great rapidity.—*Chris. Visitor.*

SERIOUS FIRE.—We regret to learn that on the night of Monday the 29th ult., a Barn belonging to Mr. Walter Davis, of Bellisle, King's County, was burned to the ground, together with fourteen head of cattle and a horse. The fire is supposed to have been caused by a hogshead of lime igniting, which was in the barn, and had got wet by the rain.—*N. Brunswicker.*

A Schooner in proceeding through the Falls on Thursday afternoon (says the Chronicle) was driven by the force of the current against Split Rock, and the crew being unable to extricate her, as the tide fell she became a wreck.

GOLD! GOLD!! GOLD!!!—A Gold Mine, we hear, has been found in Shelburne, at a distance of only a few miles from the famous old town, and all the people of the neighbourhood are highly elated with hopes of realising immense fortunes, with "quick despatch" when the snow disappears this spring. Every one is making preparations for the "diggins," and if success crown the anticipations of the richness of our auriferous region, that have been excited, California will no longer be such a famous place as it is for those who want to see "the Elephant." Cannot some of our Shelburne friends favour us with an account of what has been done, or is doing, about the discovery.—*Halifax Recorder.*

BERMUDA.—The construction of the causeway from Long Bird Island to the Main and St. George, at an expense of £2,416, is exciting a good deal of attention.

An interesting ceremony, the laying of a corner stone for the Bermuda Mechanics' Institute, took place at Hamilton, on Thursday the 9th of April.

The rot had affected the early potatoe crop; the loss would be more severely felt, owing to a greater quantity being planted in view of the increasing demand in the United States.

The 42d Royal Highlanders have been reduced from two battalions of 1200 men to 1000 rank and file, and consolidated into one Regiment of ten companies. The Head Quarters have been removed to St. George. The Bermuda press speaks in the highest terms of the good conduct of the 42d since they have been lying at that station; not a single instance of crime having occurred during three years.

A Prussian Ship had arrived at Bermuda with a cargo of coals from Newport, Wales, for the Steam Packet Company—being the first arrival of a Foreign vessel at that port under the operation of the New Navigation Laws. The freight of the coal in this instance was *sixteen shillings* per ton The price heretofore paid to British vessels from the same port had been 18s. to 20s. per ton; but British vessels have since been engaged at *fifteen* shillings.

JAMAICA.—The Jamaica *Journal* states that the *Wellesley*, 72, towed up by the *Vixen* from Port Royal to Kingston, is the first ship of the line that has visited the latter port within the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

Santa Anna left Jamaica for Carthagena, 20th ult.

The Disastrous Storm at New Providence.—The Bahama Legislature has passed a bill granting compensation to persons whose property was destroyed or injured by the disastrous storm which occurred at New Providence and also to those who were personally injured thereby.—[This storm is noticed in our first page.]

The Montreal papers state that a Mr. Rochon, has just returned to Laprairie, Canada, who left that place for the West fifteen years ago. He was in Oregon, and afterwards in California during the first year of the gold discovery, and has acquired a large fortune, (about $300,000) chiefly by land speculations. He built thirteen houses in different parts of California. His principal establishments were at Monterey and Puebla San Jose. At the latter place he erected the buildings which are now occupied by the Government, at a rent of $48,000 per annum. The city authorities have recently purchased those buildings of him, doubtless for a very large sum. Mr. Rochon came from California to Canada in 35 days, via Panama and New York.—Mr. Rochon is accompanied by his wife, a native of Kentucky, and their child, three years old, born in California.—He now intends settling in Canada

A bill has been passed by the New York Legislature, which provides that any Telegraph Operator, Messenger or Agent, who shall wilfully divulge the contents of any communication entrusted to him, or who shall wilfully neglect to deliver the same, shall be judged guilty of a misdemeanour, and be liable to imprisonment, not more than three months and fine, not exceeding five hundred dollars, in discretion of the court.—*Quebec Gazette.*

Her Majesty Queen Victoria has presented the sum of twenty-five pounds sterling, towards the enlargement of St. Peter's Church, Brockville; Miss Burdett Coutts has also sent fifty pounds to the same object.—*Ib.*

The Bytown *Packet* furnishes a description of a magnificent new organ just completed for the Roman Catholic Cathedral at Bytown, by Mr. Casavant. It contains 1,663 pipes, 48 full stops, each having 5 octaves complete, and 3 finger boards—the great organ, the positive and the swell. Mr. Casavant is a native of Montreal.

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN is being sought for by the following vessels:—

In Davis's Straits, the North Star; in Behring Straits, the Herald, Plover, Enterprise, and the Investigator.

Going to Jones's Sound and Wellington Channel—the Lady Franklin and Sophia.

Going to Cape Walker, Banks's Island, and Melville—Island the Resolute, Assistance, Pioneer, Intrepid, and the Felix, with the old Arctic veteran, Sir John Ross. The foregoing are all British ships.

The following is the American expedition:—Lady Franklin, Captain Dellaven, and Rescue, Captain Griffin, going to the point of danger, where Sir John Franklin is to be found living, and to convey him to England under the Yankee flag.—*N. Y. paper.*

EUROPEAN NOBLESSE IN NEW YORK.—During the last few days, several specimens of the nobility of England and of the Continent have been in this city—some of them have departed and some are still here, courted by all the fashionables, and are preparing for a tour, South and West. Among those, was the Countess of Merlin, well known for her literary qualifications and the distinguished position she held in France, as the leader of the *ton* in the literary circles of Paris. She arrived from Havana, of which she is a native, on her return to Europe.

But the most important visiter in the way of foreign nobility, is the young Earl of Durham, a fine young fellow about twenty years of age, with an income of £70,000—or $350,000.—He has been sojourning for some time during the last winter with his brother-in-law, Lord Elgin, Governor of Canada. He will leave town in a few days, for Washington, intending to measure the dimensions of the White House, and to see the distinguished people of that region.—*New York Paper.*

NEW YORK, April 29.—Steam tow boat Princeton, today, run down the long boat of the Swedish sloop-of-war Najaden, containing eight men, all of whom are supposed to have been drowned.

The building formerly occupied by the Chemical Bank in Broadway, now in course of being altered and added to Barnum's Museum, fell in this morning with a frightful crash, burying five men under the ruins, who were rescued and carried to the hospital, one killed.

About the same time the side wall of the bonded warehouse, in Water Street, adjoining the ruins of the recent fire, gave way, and thirteen workmen were buried in the ruins. Six were taken out badly injured, and two dead bodies. The mangled remains of the dead presented a shocking spectacle.

CAPTURE OF AN AMERICAN SLAVER.—Arrived at St. Helena, the American brig "Lucy Ann," of Boston—captured on 20th Feb., 1850, in latitude 7 26 S., and longitude 12 26 E. Eleven person in the crew, thirty passengers, and 547 slaves, viz: 441 males and 106 females. Captured by H. B. M. steam sloop Rattler, Capt. Cumming.

At the time of the capture, the "Lucy Ann" was commanded by John Hamilton. He, with the crew, were permitted to go on shore on the coast.

There are now also at St. Helena, the following named American vessels, condemned for being in the slave trade;—Bark Ann D. Robinson; bark Pilot of Boston; bark Chester (formerly a whaler.)

CHAPAPOTE.—A cargo of Chapapote, 400,000 pounds, has been received at New York, from Cardenas, Cuba. It is a bituminous substance, abounding it that part of the Island, and it is supposed that it will be used for the manufacture of Gas.

Father Matthew was presented with seven hundred and fifty dollars, by a number of gentlemen friendly to the cause of Temperance, in New Orleans, on the 15th ult., in token of their respect for the man and the cause.

A gentleman of Andover, recently deceased, has left $60,000 for the purpose of founding and endowing a high school for boys and girls in that city.

A Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy has, by the death of a relative in England, come into the possession of £15 000 per annum.

The amount of duties paid by three British (Cunard) steamers that arrived at Boston during the quarter just closed, was $616,869 25, averaging $203,656 42 each.

THE CHOLERA AT HAVANA.—*Havana, April 22.*—The anxiety of the Government in relation to cholera seemes to be deepening, and every arrangement that Police power can bring to bear, has been put in requisition for treatment and care of the poor, and the general security. Hospitals, surgeons and commissions of surveilance and relief have been assigned to every "*barrio*" (ward) so that no portion of the community can escape immediate attention and care. The disease seems to have stopped a little more among the shipping in port, but it has exhibited its malignity most freely with the soldiery.

The exports of Cuba this year are estimated at 56,000,000, to $40,000,000.

CALIFORNIA.—Mr. King says that the only coal made use of in California is that sent from England and the United States, and the demand, it is supposed, will be, for the year 1850, 200,000 tons. Coal is delivered from England at 25 dollars a ton. The coal costs at Vancouve 21 dollars a ton to get out of the mines, owing to the expense of labour and the inconvenience of mining.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

BRITISH RE-PRINTS from the Press of LEONARD SCOTT & Co., New York.

LITERATURE FOR THE MONTH.

Blackwood's Magazine.—We have the four numbers of Blackwood, beginning with the current year, and should have noticed them much sooner had not circumstances which it is unnecessary to mention, prevented us. Christopher North holds out well, and for some time past has been figuring "*under canvass*," not screened under the darkness of the "*Noctes Ambrosianæ*," but openly reconnoitering under the less suspicious designation of "*Dies Boreales.*" We cannot draw attention to all the articles contained in the numbers before us, as we shall do hereafter; we prefer, in introducing the notice of Blackwood to our readers, rather to give them an idea of the structure, style, and price of the Magazine.

Blackwood is the oldest Magazine in the world; the latest number issued being no less than No. 414, and, strange to say, amid all the Political and Ecclesiastical Revolutions of Europe, all the alterations of Whiggism and Torvism, and Conservatism and Radicalism—amid all the Old Kirkism and Free Kirkism of Scotland—the Tractarianism and Evangelicism of the Church of England,—Blackwood still retains its footing, takes an occasional fling at each and all of them, and jogs on with all the impertinence and independence of some rollicking young laird, who knocks a country bumpkin down and knocks down a few pounds for the fun of the thing, and in politics, is and has been a high Conservative periodical; in this respect it agrees with the "London Quarterly." It embraces the general topics of Modern Literature. Its reviews are able, judicious, and sometimes very severe; especially when John Wilson, (Christopher North,) after one of his "Noctes Ambrosianæ," spends an hour in reading such a book as "Boswell's Life of Johnson," or Robert Montgomery's "Satan," the wretched author may be on the look-out for the forth coming No. of Blackwood. None of our British Monthlies has worn so long and so well as Blackwood. As a purveyor of British Literature, and Commodities, also, some of the more facetious and amusing productions of that great oddity, Professor Wilson, who is the able Editor—a man much better fitted to conduct a Monthly Magazine than a Moral Philosophy Chair. We have frequently enjoyed the privilege and the fun of listening to his extempore performances, or even to put his portly and handsome person in decent trim. We may have said too much; we shall leave Christopher, not in his shooting jacket, but in his Rostrum, and wander back to the Prince-street publication. Blackwood is, perhaps, the most popular Magazine now in circulation in Britain; and the re-print, from the Press of Messrs. Leonard Scott & Co., is rapidly increasing in circulation. It is beautifully got up, being an exact *fac simile* of the British edition, wrapped in the same sooty brown covering, and exhibiting even the same old gentleman with the beard and night-cap, surrounded by a wreath of Scotch thistles; indeed, were it not that the reader's eye is arrested by "New York: Leonard Scott & Co., 79, Fulton-street," he would instantly, on taking up the Magazine, imagine it to be the British edition. The No. for April contains an able written article on "Ministerial Measures." This is the leading political article, and it closes with "Christopher under Canvass, No. 6."

LITERATURE FOR THE QUARTER.

Along with the latest issue of Blackwood, we have that of the *London Quarterly*, the *Edinburgh Review*, and the *North British*. The first of these being No. 172. This is the leading Conservative journal of England, and one of the largest Reviews of the nineteenth century. There are few readers unacquainted with the fearful slashing it gave Mr. Macaulay, on the issue of his last work, the History of England; and this is a fair specimen of the talent by which it is sustained.

The *Edinburgh Review*, established by the late Lord Jeffrey, (then Mr. Jeffrey,) Rev. Sidney Smith, and Lord Brougham, who met, as Sidney Smith says, in a small garret in Edinburgh and devised the scheme of establishing a periodical, with a view of reforming the abuses of the Game Laws, Man Traps, the Court of Chancery, &c., &c. In such able hands, the Review could not fail to succeed.

The North British.—This periodical was started after the big disruption in the Church of Scotland, chiefly through the influence of the late lamented Dr. Chalmers, in whose hands the Editorship remained until his death, though he was joined in the work by his son-in-law, the Rev. Dr. Hanna, its present Editor, and Sir David Brewster, with Dr. Candlish, and some of the ablest clerical talent in Scotland. It is not extreme in its views, either in political or ecclesiastical affairs, but the immense talent which it has enlisted, has given it a place among the very best and ablest Quarterlies of the day. Its chief value consists in its judicious, talented, and powerful articles on the Theological Literature of the day; on this account it is a *sine qua non* to every clergyman of every denomination, inasmuch as it gives a fair, honest, and faithful view of Continental and British Theology. It is the advocate of pure Evangelism in all the Churches of Britain and America. The last number contains nine ably written articles, embracing all the varieties of subject which it professes to treat—Political, Biographical, Scientific and Theological. Each number of the British edition contains some 500 pages octavo; but the journal suffers very little in beauty and elegance from the alterations to which the American Press subjects the original. With the other Quarterlies, the North British is compressed into some 150 or 200 pages, double columned, type large, and execution neat, with coloured wrappers.

These Reprints, as already stated, are from the press of Leonard Scott & Co., New York. These enterprising gentlemen deserve great credit for their spirited undertaking, in giving to the American public the Literature of Great Britain immediately on its arrival by the steamers, and at a rate which renders it accessible to every one who is disposed to read. It requires a small fortune to place a man in Great Britain in annual receipt of those periodicals. The Re-prints before us could not be had in Great Britain for less than seven pounds sterling per annum, while Messrs. Leonard Scott & Co. will forward them immediately on their issue from the press, to any part of the Union, or to any part of the British Colonies, for $10, or £2 sterling.

The terms of publication have been fixed so low that sion of all the Quarterlies on the present scale put in process a year.

Blackwood, or any one of the British Quarterlies, may be had for three dollars per annum. Blackwood may be had for three dollars, or 1s. 3d. per No. Blackwood, and any one of the Quarterlies $5. Blackwood and any two, $7. All the Quarterlies, $9. Blackwood and the four Reviews, $10 per annum.

These Reviews have been sustained by the aristocracy of European mind—by such men as Jeffrey, Brougham, McIntosh, Sidney Smith, Bentham, Southey, Scott, Lockhart, Wilson, Cobden, Bulwer, Sir David Brewster, and Dr. Chalmers. The ablest Politicians, the most profound Philosophers, and the most eminent Theologians of the day, are pouring their vast researches into these channels, and while their opinions are thus silently and secretly moving through the different grades and orders of society, they are exercising irresistable influence upon the public mind, and giving a tone to the Pulpit, the Bar, and the Senate-house.

The Reviewers of an age are evidently the Reformers of the age; they stand in a medium position, between the ephemeral and popular influence of the daily or weekly sheet and the more durable and ponderous authorship of large treatises which are piled on the shelves of our public Libraries, and frequently left unstudied and unread, either falling still-born from the press, or allowed to remain as monuments of worth or monuments of folly, and if appealed to or consulted, only as standards of reference.

Our penny sheets in St. John are sometimes loud in their calls for "Reform." If the pulse of the Province beat through these channels, why is there an effort to establish a Medical, a Monthly or a Quarterly, into which all the talent of the Province might be thrown, and in which all the great questions likely to affect the present condition and future prospects of the British possessions in the West might be discussed. R.

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