

SUMMARY OF NEWS

What is the Oregon Territory?—It would be no difficult task to compile from the materials which are already before the public a statement of the claims of this country to the Oregon territory, unanswerably strong in itself, and infinitely more conclusive than any arguments which can be adduced on the other side. The coast was visited by British naval officers at various periods from Drake to Vancouver; whilst the alleged discoveries of the Americans were merely the expeditions of private merchantmen. But mere discovery, or taking possession by proclamation, is of little avail, unless it be followed by occupation. The Americans have never held any position on the Columbia, save the fort of Astoria, which they long ago abandoned; whilst, on our side, to repeat the position we laid down some months ago in dealing with this subject, the occupation by the North-West Company, and subsequently by the Hudson's Bay Company, recognised by the Legislative and Executive power of Great Britain, is a full and sufficient occupation of the territory according to the law of nations, and therefore absolute as against the adverse claim of any other nation, save and except the concurrent right admitted by the treaty of 1790 with Spain, and now transferred to the United States. To these arguments might be added others derived from the French claim to the country extending from the Lake of Woods to the Pacific Ocean, which is admitted to have been ceded in 1763, together with the promise of Canada; whilst, on the contrary, the American attempt to stretch the limits of the Louisiana beyond the Rocky Mountains has been utterly confuted.

SECESSION FROM THE PROTESTANT TO THE ROMAN FAITH.—The Church and State Gazette announces more seceders to the Roman Catholic Faith: they are—the Rev. F. W. Fisher, late Fellow of University College, Oxford; the Rev. W. U. Richards, M. A. Exeter College; Mr. John James Calman, B. A., Worcester College; Mr. E. W. Wemyss, M. A., Fellow of Magdalene College, Oxford; three, if not four, clergymen of the Church of England, and a young gentleman from Littlemore, and Mr. T. Wood, a barrister, and member of Mr. Richard's congregation at Margaret Chapel. The Rev. Mr. Collins does not yet join the Church of Rome, but remains in lay communion; and he is expected to do so, as Dr. Pusey will, in like manner, abstain from entering the Romish priesthood, but will become a lay member of it.

Christianity in China.—In speaking of the religious tolerance in China, effected by the treaty between France and China, the "Journal des Debats" quotes the following expressions of Keying on the subject.

"The religion of your noble empire encourages men to do that which is just and right, and to abstain from doing what is wrong. It is a true religion; it inspires men with noble sentiments. I will therefore urge the Emperor to permit the Chinese of this nation who choose to do so, to adopt it without being punished as criminals. He said, moreover, for 200 years, that Christianity was prohibited in China, the true Christians were persecuted as enemies, but there were among them many persons who under the mask of the religion, did much harm; they corrupted the women, deceived the sick, and did many kinds of wickednesses; that was the reason why Christianity was forbidden in the empire."

New Signal Lights for preventing Collisions at Sea.—Admiral Sir Charles Ogle, the commander-in-chief at Portsmouth, has received directions from the Admiralty to have a report made on the practicability of establishing a short code of night signals, for the general use of steamers and sailing vessels, and a system invented by a person of the name of Mr. B. It appears to be very simple, and very powerful.

Common Aerial Light.—These powerful reflections of light through glass lenses, which are the colours of the rainbow, are very simple in construction, and very powerful in effect. They are the invention of a man from St. Anne, (district of Gaspe) named Thos. Allison, who has just arrived here, reports two wrecks at Cape Chat, the crew of one was saved, but sad to relate, of the other vessel, not one is left to tell the tale. Several of their bodies have been

well known. The purchase of Louisiana was justified by the necessity of the case; the free navigation of the Mississippi being deemed essential to the prosperity of our Western country. We know not on what principle the Rio del Norte, and so to the Pacific Ocean, is to be justified. We surely do not need these territories; their people have never consented to be transferred to us; and the mass of them are unqualified to discharge intelligently and safely the duties of citizens of a Republic like ours. If it were not a settled fact that Abstractionists, Nullifiers, sticklers for State Rights, "the Resolutions of '98," and all that, would stretch the Constitution to cover any act they deemed expedient, we might ask. Where is the constitutional power to run the people of the United States in debt for such purposes? but that would be a waste of breath. There is never any lack of power to do whatever is calculated to strengthen certain interests.

We do not see why a Republic should buy Foreign territory while it has ten times as much already as it can improve for a century to come. California may be cheap at Ten or even Twenty Millions of Dollars; but do we want it? Suppose we could buy the whole earth at the same rate; ought we to do it? To what end? And out of whose pockets would the purchase money come? For whose especial benefit would it be paid?

But between buying provinces and fighting for them, the choice is so immeasurably great and important that we shall be happy to see our differences with Mexico amicably and satisfactorily settled on any reasonable terms. If, therefore, it shall hereafter transpire that Mr. Sillit has been selling up purchases from Mexico her claims to Texas and all this side of the Rio del Norte, with California and all North of the Gulf of that name, for any sum not exceeding \$2,000,000, we shall decidedly and heartily advocate the ratification of the Treaty. The consideration, large as it may seem, will fall short of the cost of one year's actual hostilities, to say nothing of the infinite miseries and crimes of War.

And now, gentlemen, extenders of the area of Freedom! two words for you. You have gone in it seems, for the acquisition of California. We hear that said country is chargeable with heavy British mortgages, and that England is intent on acquiring it. Now if we are in for a race with her for California, let it be a good natured one. If we win, we keep; so if we lose, let us not complain of "cheating all round the board," and get in a passion with our ill fortune. Our attempt justifies Great Britain's so far that we cannot object to it.

Renowned Appointment.—The Montreal Gazette states, that a gentleman in London, having access to good information, writes to it from London, under date of the 16th, to the following effect:

"We are all anxious to have some authentic information relative to Lord Metcalfe, as many rumours have been current as to his bad state of health. From what I collect, the Government has not thought of any successor to his lordship, even should he not remain with you beyond the opening of the navigation. It is however surmised that Lord Clarendon, our late ambassador at Madrid will be sent to you."

The Gazette adds: "We give this as we receive it, as a rumour, the value of which we know nothing. Lord Clarendon is a nobleman of great political experience, and of high talents and reputation. Though never a violent party man, he is a decided Whig in British Politics. His services at Madrid were continued after the accession of Sir Robert Peel to office. His personal influence with the Spanish Constitutional Party was very great."

Lord Clarendon's appointment would be a highly popular one, with the liberal party; we only fear it is too good news to be true.

Quebec Dec. 22.—We are sorry to have to record the loss of two more of our outward bound vessels, one of them supposed to be the bark Montreal, Capt. Douglas, which sailed hence on the morning of the 25th Nov., with the loss of her crew and passengers.

The following is an extract of a letter received here yesterday from Mr. Charles Campbell, dated—Montreal, 15th Dec. 1845.

"A man from St. Anne, (district of Gaspe) named Thos. Allison, who has just arrived here, reports two wrecks at Cape Chat, the crew of one was saved, but sad to relate, of the other vessel, not one is left to tell the tale. Several of their bodies have been

wreck to prevent her being plundered. Capt. M. states that his men have been dreadfully frost-bitten, and one, he fears, will lose his life.—Gazette.

"The Gazette of the 24th publishes a list of thirty nine vessels which sailed from or for the port of Quebec, and were lost since the opening of the navigation to that port in 1845. The particulars of most of them have already been published."

Dec. 26.—The following is an extract of a letter received here yesterday, by Messrs. Tetu & Co. dated River Ouelle, 23d Dec. 1845:—"A boat, from Green Island, with fifteen men on board, got fast in the ice, and every soul on board perished. It is also reported that fifteen men have been found frozen to death on Red Island."

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Standard.

Mr. Editor.—I observe in the St. John Courier, that "Jack Frost, with his usual industry, has been searching for reasons why the contemplated Rail Road from Quebec, should not terminate at St. Andrews. Had the circumstance of the inner harbour of St. Andrews being frozen over not been of recent occurrence, it would not have been regarded as anything extraordinary in the public prints.—Four times in thirty-five years, and once in the course of that time, was a boat prevented from going to Robbinston for a whole day, by floating ice. "Pray, wd. Jack" be so kind as to inform us, how can Halifax harbor have been frozen over in at times?—New-York and Boston harbor have been repeatedly frozen over, yea, early every winter, as Baltimore, have in some seasons been frozen over, yet important lines of Rail Road terminate at most of them. Poor Jack, is pretty well known in different parts of this province; his cold heart—grate mind, and bawling tongue, render him an object only to be guarded against more ever he is known.

For the Standard.

Mr. Editor.—In the St. John papers several communications, the writs of which are endeavouring to throw in the eyes of the public, by arguing, that if the duty was taken off flour, it would ruin the mill owners. This statement is erroneous, as I shall show by facts which have come under my own observation. I am a practical miller myself. I can see it appear, that it is impossible to manufacture, while the flour and grain come to the same market. Now, suppose the St. John miller purchases at New York 5 bushels of wheat, at 5s. per bushel; and the flour trader, at the same time, purchases in the same market, 100 bushels flour at 85 per bushel, pays 1s. 3d. freight—say 2d. for profit, carting and storing; he then sells the flour at 55.75. The miller finds 5 bushels of wheat, and sells at 5s. per bushel; then they have the same profit on their 5s. I will now show the miller makes his profit—5 bushels of wheat at 61 lbs. per bushel, make 305 lbs.; this gives the miller 104 lbs. of coarse flour 4 bran, worth 10s.; take 2s. 6d. for grain, and this leaves him 7s. 6d. clear profit. The flour trader, provided there is no duty on either wheat or flour.

Were there no duty, but wheat imported into this Province, the mill owners would pocket from 4 dollars each bushel of flour. I know to have been done already. With respect to money being sent out of the country, but, it may as well go out for that article. The only difference would be, that the mill owners would make a fortune; the public would not be benefited anything. The mill owners can make a profit on a barrel, while they can make a profit on a bushel. By these remarks, you will much oblige.

AN OLD MILLER.

Jan. 2, 1846.

—We regret to learn of a loss.

cause of Masonry, and to the Lodge. There was a grand Banquet in the evening, at which many persons unconnected with the Craft were present.—Id.

A most extraordinary project is on foot at Niagara. It is to establish at the Falls a "City of Peace," with internal government, and, as a neutral ground, exempt from invasion in time of war. Petitions have been addressed to the Provisional Government, and to the President of the United States.—Montreal Gazette.

THE STANDARD.

St. Andrews, Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1846.

Charlotte County Bank.
Hon. Harris Hatten, President.
Director next week—George D. Street.
T. B. Wilson, Esq., Solicitor.

Discount Day—TUESDAY.
Hours of Business, from 10 to 2.

Bills and Notes for Discount must be lodged with the Cashier, on or before Monday, otherwise they must lie over until next week.

Saint Stephen's Bank.
Commissioners—R. M. Andrews, R. Walton, C. A. Babcock, Thos. Turner, John Bailey.

St. Andrews Steam Mill and Manufacturing Company.
R. M. Andrews, Esq., President.
Director this week—J. W. Chandler.

Saint Stephen's Bank.
G. D. Knox Esq., President.

Director next week—Wm. Potter.
Discount Day—SATURDAY.

Hours of business, from 10 to 1.
Bills and Notes for Discount must be lodged with the Cashier, on or before Friday, otherwise they must remain in his hands until the following discount day.

LATEST DATES

Liverpool, Dec. 5; Montreal, Dec. 29.
London, Dec. 3; Quebec, Dec. 31.
Edinburgh, Dec. 1; Halifax, Jan. 1.
Paris, Dec. 1; New York, Jan. 1.
Toronto, Dec. 19; Boston, Jan. 2.

SAINT ANDREWS AND QUEBEC RAIL ROAD.

We are pleased to find, that the gentlemen in the parishes of St. Stephen and St. David, have called a public meeting, which was held at the former place on Tuesday last, for the purpose of promoting the object of the "St. Andrews and Quebec Rail-Road Association." No doubt we will be furnished with a copy of the proceedings, which we shall have much pleasure in publishing.

We also understand, that a similar meeting will shortly take place at St. George for the same purpose.

Our correspondent P's communication is a sufficient reply to "Jack Frost," without further comment.

LOSS OF THE "WM. WALKER."

With Crew and Passengers?

It becomes our painful duty to record another melancholy disaster connected with this place.

The Schooner Wm. Walker, owned by Capt. Peter Smith of this Town, and commanded by Capt. Samuel Cook, left Boston on the evening of the 11th December, for St. Andrews, with a full cargo, for sundry persons:—on the 13th a portion of a wreck and a bundle of "manilla hemp" entangled with it, was discovered on Fisherman's Island and Ledge near Moosepecca light house, State of Maine; which, from the description given by the wreck master, warranted the sad conclusion, that it must be the Wm. Walker. Capt. Smith and one of the owners of the cargo, repaired to the spot, and we regret to add, found their worst fears confirmed. The crew consisted of S. T. Cook, master, Wm. Johnson, son of Mrs. W. Cox, late of this place, Isaiah Hewitt a native of Nova Scotia, James Cronan, son of Mjchl. Cronan of this Town. Some passengers were on board—the only names known are Martin Healy and Ann Hynds both of this town. We condole with the relations and friends of the deceased, and distress.

Flour.—The news by the last steamer from England has had a prodigious effect on the Flour markets along the seaboard; to New York and Philadelphia there has been a fall of from 1 1/2 to \$2 per barrel.

THE KIRK SABBATH SCHOOL.—The children attending this Sabbath school assembled at 10 o'clock on the first day of the New Year, and altho the weather was intensely cold, about 100 were present. After suitable devotional services, the scholars were examined by the Superintendent in presence of the teachers and visitors. There was no formal preparation of the children in the lessons of Scripture, Catechisms and Psalm of which they were minutely examined; yet the reading and recitation were correct, and the answers which they gave to the meaning of phrases and passages, plainly showed that the memory and understanding are duly cultivated—that the diligence of the teachers is great—and the capacities and scriptural attainments of the scholars very extensive. While all who saw them were much delighted with their conduct and proficiency, the youth evinced by their happy countenances and freedom of answer, that religious instruction when properly conducted is more a pleasure than a task. The average attendance of young people connected with this Institution at present, is from 125 to 130. Much praise is due to the Teachers for their regularity and self-denying labours of love, and we doubt not but they will find in their happy experience that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and he who watereth shall be watered himself.

The library is in an efficient state compared with former years, but not equal to the wants and wishes of the scholars for general religious instruction; but this defect will, we are confident, be amply supplied when made known to the friends of youth and sound religious principles in St. Andrews.—Com.

The regular monthly meeting of the Total Abstinence Society took place at the Town Hall, on Monday Evening last. There was a large and respectable attendance, and some appropriate and forcible remarks were made by various members of the Society in favour of its objects. Much credit is due to those members who assisted by several ladies, added much to the interest of the meeting, by singing a number of Temperance Songs. The ranks of the Totalitarians were augmented by a number of dames and the New Year has commenced under circumstances eminently calculated to encourage the hearts and strengthen the hands of those who have enlisted in the good cause of Temperance.

We notice by the Royal Gazette, that the bill introduced by Mr. Boyd last session of the Assembly, entitled "a bill to reform duties in certain cases," had received the Royal assent on the 20th Nov. last. Vessels arriving at or departing from this County, are now relieved from paying export duty, and light and barge money.

The Masonic Fraternity of "St. Marks Lodge," in this Town celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist by luncheon together at these Lodge Rooms. The repast was excellent and the company separated about 7 o'clock much pleased with the entertainment.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
A is received, and will be inserted in our next. We would feel obliged to our correspondents, to send us clean copies, written in a plain hand; as we have some letters now on our table, which we cannot decipher, consequently they remain unpublished. Will our friends N. Y. Z., take this hint.

Suicide.—We regret to record a melancholy case of suicide, supposed to have happened on Sunday evening or Monday morning last. We are informed that there was no evidence, to fix the exact time when the dreadful act was committed. There can be little doubt that the deed was perpetrated while the unfortunate man labored under temporary insanity. The following is the result of the coroner's inquest:

Inquest was held on Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock, at the residence of Mr. Fisher, junior, Esq. on the body of Francis Wilkie Lecain, found in his

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