

thus a second article of food be brought into general use, adding variety, as well as quantity, to the amount of human subsistence. The Lord Lieutenant, it appears, has just appointed Mr. Curry a commissioner to the Fishery Board.—This gentleman has long discharged the duties of Secretary to the Linen Board of Ireland.—His new office has no emolument annexed to it; but from the general character ascribed to Mr. Curry, it is not supposed that he will neglect any means, which intelligence, activity, or humanity, can suggest, for rendering his appointment a serviceable one to the poorer classes of his countrymen.—*Times*.

TRADE.—A letter from Manchester (July 1,) says, that 100,000 operatives, in that neighbourhood, are out of employ.—In that town there are 2500 families, averaging each 5 persons, supported by the Poor Rates.—July 19th. At Blackburn, the distress is unmitigated.—The number of bankruptcies for the half year ending June 1825, was 480—in 1825, during the same period, 1827.—A meeting of several thousands of the working classes was held at Manchester, on the 15th, ult. to adopt measures for their relief—the military was called in and the meeting was dispersed.

LIVERPOOL, July 21.—The conditions and prospects of the mercantile and manufacturing classes have seldom been so gloomy and unpromising as at present;—with one solitary exception, all appears to be stagnation and despondency.

In this condition of things, Sir James Graham, of Netherby, a gentleman of great respectability and talent, has put forth a pamphlet, recommending a direct tax upon the funds; a project which, although it may yet become inevitable, can never be resorted to without a dereliction of natural faith, and the principles of justice.

The new Parliament has been prorogued to the 24th, Aug.—The widow of Lord Erskine is said to be begging in the streets of London.—In the metropolis there was never a period when so many robberies were committed in shops as at this time.—A great fire broke out on the 11th, ult. at Drury Lane. Several houses were burned—one life lost, and considerable property destroyed.—Dr. Gooch is appointed Librarian to the King in the room of the Bishop of

Landaff.—Capt. Pechell of H. M. ship Sybelle, has succeeded in dislodging a most atrocious nest of pirates on the southern side of the Island of Candia. A most desperate action was maintained. Mr. Knox, midshipman, and 12 men were killed in the boats. Lt. Gordon, & Lt. Tupper, were wounded, the latter since dead. Messrs. Edmondstone and Leet, midshipmen, with 29 seamen were also wounded; five of the latter afterwards expired.—The Duke of Saxe Weimar has arrived in England.

It is understood the Editors of the "JOHN BULL" have separated. Mr. Cooper, the author of all the playful satire of that celebrated Journal has set up another paper under the title of "Cooper's John Bull."

133 New members have been returned to Parliament. It is said there is now a majority of 41 for Catholic emancipation.

It will be somewhat interesting to the admirers of *Woodstock*, (the late Novel by the "Great unknown,") to be informed, that the heroine Alice Lee, lies interred in the parish church of Manningford Bruce, in Wiltz.

SCOTLAND.—Sir Walter Scott has been appointed King's printer for Scotland. A paragraph in a Liverpool paper says he is not the author of the *Waverly Novels*.—The Stirling bank has failed.

INDEPENDENCE OF SOUTH AMERICA.

Extract of a letter of the 8th June from Madrid:—"The solicitations of France to induce our Government to recognise the Spanish part of St. Domingo are positive, nor is it less positive that England is trying to thwart this negotiation. The object of France in urging this recognition is to obtain of Spain the payment of part of the large sums which she owes her. Now England has no objection to the recognition, but to the appropriation of the money given as an indemnity in payment of the debt to France, alleging that she (England) has a prior claim, the debt of Spain to her being of longer standing. England and France therefore are agreed upon the recognition in question, and upon the other point an active correspondence is at this moment carrying on between the Court of St. James, and that of the Tuilleries.

CUSTOM-HOUSE SALARIES.—We are extremely sorry to perceive that the late Custom-House arrangements, which, most unquestionably, were intended for the relief of the Colonial Trade, are exciting much irritated feeling in the West India Islands. The Legislature of Barbadoes have addressed a letter to Earl Bathurst which is published in the Kingston Chronicle (Jam.) of the 22nd ult. and received in our files per the late arrivals, complaining of their imposition in strong terms. In the same paper the Editor remarks,—"By the present system we believe no fee is paid by foreign vessels to the Customs, at that an American arriving with a cargo of flour, and finding

the market low, may land her cargo, bond, and warehouse it, and leave the port without being subject to any port dues. The consignee afterwards reships the flour for some port on the Spanish Main in a British vessel, which of course pays no duty, and the only expense thus incurred here by the American, is the mere wharfage of the cargo. Surely the salaries of Custom House officers ought principally to be levied on the shipping; and if the Island is to pay those salaries, our Legislature ought to be invested with the right of levying a tax to meet such contingency. We believe a duty of 2s. 3d. per ton, would pay the whole of the salaries of the Custom-house officers, and which would not amount to what they formerly paid in fees. The Barbadoes Legislature impute this new measure to an error of the Treasury, and consequently hope it will be immediately annulled, as soon as their representation reaches His Majesty's Government. Should that not prove the case, our Assembly no doubt will at its meeting, forward a firm but temperate remonstrance against such an unconstitutional infringement of our local rights—and should that not have the desired effect, they may withhold from the pay of the troops as much as will cover the salaries of these Officers, which we learn amounts to £25,000 sterling per annum."

Such threats we think are premature, as we have reason to believe that the late arrangements are only temporary; and that the British Government, with that watchful solicitude which she has manifested towards the interest of her dependencies, will, after a short experience, re-model them into a more acceptable form.

CANADA LAND COMPANY.

A meeting of the shareholders of this company, which has received the sanction of Government, was convened yesterday afternoon at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, for the purpose of receiving the report, and of arranging matters for the further prosecution of the company.

The chair was taken at two o'clock precisely, by Mr. Chas. Bosanquet, who having stated the objects of the meeting,

Mr. Galt, the secretary, proceeded to read the report. It stated among other things, that in consequence of the directors not having been able, as was intended, to make a purchase of the Clergy Reserves, they had entered into an arrangement for purchasing with the consent of the shareholders, a tract of land in Upper Canada, consisting of not less than one million acres, and that, taking into consideration the fact, that the company would have to pay much less than if the Church lands had been bought, the directors were fully convinced that the company would prosper. It therefore remained with the shareholders, whether the company should be carried on with the new arrangements, or whether it should be abandoned altogether! If the former proposition were adapted, it was intended to pay the dissentients (amounting to one-tenth of the whole number of subscribers) the sum of £10 on each share in their possession.

On the question that the report be received,

Mr. Carruthers, a shareholder, wished to know whether the directors had the power of altering in the least degree, the manner of purchasing land in Canada, which, he understood, was fully provided for by the deed of settlement; and whether the fact of paying £10 per share to each dissentient, did not in law dissolve the company.

The Chairman stated, that the directors wished to have the concurrence of the shareholders, whether the company should be carried on under the new regulations, viz.

that of purchasing the Crown Lands, not being able to obtain the Church Lands, on much better terms than if the original purchases had been completed. If the shareholders were of opinion that the new arrangements were not so good as the old ones, it would only remain for him and the directors to proceed to-morrow morning to Lord Bathurst and say that the company would not enter into any purchase, unless the Clergy Reserves were included in it. For his own part, he thought that ultimately the company would be benefitted by the new arrangement.

Mr. Wilson wished to know how the old company was to be got rid of, and a new one formed, without hurting the interests of parties who had been original subscribers, and who had sold a portion of their shares.

Mr. W. Williams said, it was impossible for the directors to take into consideration any thing done out of doors.

A long discussion here arose as to the legality of the proceedings of the directors, in entering into arrangements for the purchase of land not specified in the original prospectus.

Mr. Freshfield, the solicitor to the company, was of opinion that the directors were fully authorized in what they had done.

After some further conversation, Mr. Carruthers proposed that the deed, correspondence, papers, &c. should be submitted to Mr. Shadwell and Mr. Horne, for the purpose of having their opinion whether the directors had the power of altering the mode of the purchase of land. It having been seconded, was negative.

The Chairman then moved that the report be received, and it was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then moved resolutions to the effect that when the charter should have been obtained, £10 on each share should be paid to the dissentients (1,095 in number): that the directors be empowered to conclude the arrangements entered into for the purchase of the Crown Lands; and that notwithstanding the payment of the dissentients, there would be no occasion for any further call on the share holders for at least one or two years.

These resolutions having been carried, thanks were voted to the Chairman and Directors, when the meeting adjourned.—*Brit. Press*.

POST-OFFICE.—A case of some interest, relative to the postage of mercantile accounts, has been decided by Mr. Freeling. A Manchester house received a letter from Ireland, containing, inclosed, a draft upon a banker, for which they were charged treble postage. The return of the overcharge was refused at the post-office, on the ground that the sheet of paper in which the draft had been inclosed, contained, not only a letter, but a statement of account betwixt the two houses. The account was written at the top of the sheet, and under it a letter, commencing thus:—"Gentlemen,—We are in receipt of yours of the 25th ultimo, and now hand you a statement of your account, as it appears on the face of our ledger, by which you will perceive," &c. They, however, applied to the General Post-office, and were answered, that the account in question was not a merchant's account within the meaning of the act; and that one rate of postage should, therefore, be returned.

The Irish Spiritual Peer in the next Session of Parliament will be the Archbishop of Cashel, and the Bishops of Clogher, Kilmaloo, and Kilmere.

The King has appointed W. H. Bathurst, Esq. Page of Honour to His Majesty in Ordinance, Vice Lord F. Paulet, promoted in the army.