

LONDON.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, MAY 14.

WELLAND CANAL.—On the question of granting £50,000 for improving the water communication between Montreal and the other parts of Canada, Mr. Hume stated that England had nothing to do with this undertaking. Mr. Horton asserted that the completion of the undertaking was of the highest importance.

The Welland Canal was a commercial work; but that under consideration was for a distinct purpose, that of military defence. Mr. Hume rejoined that, at no distant day, Canada would separate itself from the mother country, and the produce of expending such sums might well be doubted. Mr. Huskisson said, that the gentlemen seemed to have forgotten that they had been called on at no very remote period to defend this country; the military defence of which was the subject of the present vote. Suppose the United States should again attack the Canadas, were we to allow these possessions, important in a commercial and political point of view, to be wrested from us without a struggle? For himself, he was not prepared to advise the Crown to abandon that country. If there was to be a renewal of war, was the committee prepared to tell the Crown, that no defence was to be made for the protection of a million of British subjects...but that they were to be left to their own resources or reduced to the necessity of placing themselves under the protection of the United States? Great difficulties were experienced during the last war, and, in consequence, commissioners had been appointed to report on the practicability of establishing a communication by water with the lakes, and their reports had been sanctioned by the highest military authorities in Great Britain, who have not hesitated to say that in the event of renewed hostilities, these canals would prove of the utmost moment in diminishing the difficulties of defence. He felt bound to declare that if this expense were not incurred, they must give up now and for ever all idea of defending the Canadas. There existed no doubt, that in the event of a renewed contest, the forces of the United States would take possession of the navigation of the St. Lawrence...the object of this appropriation was to prevent this manifest inconvenience.

The estimate was then voted.

GRAND SHIP CANAL.

The grand ship canal, to be made from London to Portsmouth, will have the support of the several Government offices, the East India company, the Bank of England, several other public establishments, and the commercial and shipping interests. The canal is to be 150 feet in width, and 30 in depth. The expense is estimated at £4,000,000; it will employ 20,000 workmen for four years.

TIMBER FROM NORTH AMERICA.

(FROM THE GLOBE.)

We insert a paper, printed by order of the House of Commons, containing the amount of duty levied on Canadian Timber, and the amount which would be levied on the same quantity if the rate of duty payable on Baltic Timber were paid upon it. The difference is about £1,200,000 a year. Now, as, notwithstanding the difference of duty, Canadian Timber, taking into account the inferiority of its quality, is nearly as dear as the Baltic Timber, this sum may be considered as sacrificed to the shipping interest, on a single item of the national commerce.

We do not recommend the equalization of the duties (though we have no doubt there are many methods by which a million or £1,200,000 would more effectually aid our maritime power;) but it is too much for the ship-owners to complain that their interests are neglected, when a present is made them of a sum equal to a fourth of the revenue of Ireland; or rather, when this sum is thrown away by the Treasury, that they may gain a per centage on it.

Amount of Duty paid in the United Kingdom on Timber, Deals, and other articles of Wood imported from the British Provinces in North America, in the year ended 5th January, 1825, £218,117 14 1
1826, 244,868 9 11
1827, 241,045 12 10

Amount of Duty which would have been received on the same articles, if they had been charged with the rates of Duty payable on similar articles imported from the Baltic, in the year ended 5th January, 1825, £1,444,140 16 0
1826, 1,653,947 10 11
1827, 1,519,636 1 1

WILLIAM IRVING,
Insp. Gen. of Imports and Exports.
Inspector-General's Office,
Custom-House, London,
28th March, 1827.

GREECE.

The Allgemeine Zeitung to the and inst., mentions a letter from Ratisbon, dated the 26th ult, which says "a courier from Constantinople has just passed through this city...dispatched by the English Ambassador in the Turkish capital to London, with the news that on the 19th of last month, the Turks were defeated by the Greeks, on the plains of Athens, with a very great loss, (10,000 killed are spoken of.) The Turks were successively driven from all their entrenchments, and forced to abandon all their artillery and baggage. The Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, despatched on the 5th May, a courier from Corfu, with the same news, who arrived here on his way to London, a few hours after the first." Other Journals, it is added, contain a statement which represents a great European power to have desired, that the Porte should be finally required to declare its intentions with respect to Greece by the middle of June; at the same time intimating, that "when this time is expired it will recall its Ambassador from Constantinople, and take those steps which, in former communications to the Cabinet, it had already announced for the case in question."

We find the following statement respecting Lord Cochrane...

The Austrian Observer says, that Lord Cochrane has declared to the Greek Government, that he would not bind himself to explain to it his plans of operation, or to communicate them to the officers under his command; only that in case of success or failure, he would send a report to the Government.

Paris, May 29.—Letters from Corfu, given by a Journal of Rome, announce that Ibrahim Pacha left Modon on the 20th ult., to make an incursion upon some villages of the Morea, opposite the isle of Zante. The number of the inhabitants killed in two days is said to be two thousand. Egyptian armed vessels kept along the coast whilst the troops chased the fugitives to the shore, where they were killed or made prisoners. Nevertheless some boats of the island picked up a

great number, who were conveyed to Zante, and from thence to Calamos.

Extract of a private letter, dated Leghorn, the 16th May :—"Letters of a recent date from Greece, contain nothing positive upon the deliverance of the Acropolis; but they confirm the intelligence of the Count de Capo d'Istria being appointed President of the Nation and the Executive Power, for seven years. Until the Count can come to assume these functions, a Regency consisting of three members, will be at the head of the Government. The son of Mavromicelis, a deputy of Continental Greece, and an Ipsariot, are to form this regency. The assembly has likewise confirmed General Karaiskaki in his command, and has sent letters to congratulate him on his late success."

The following article is from the Courier de Lemn :—"Lord Cochrane, upon entering Navarin, found six Turkish vessels, four of which he captured, and afterwards seeing another which came from Alexandria, laden with provisions for Ibrahim Pacha, he took possession of it immediately."

Extract of a mercantile letter dated Constantinople, May 10 :—"Lord Cochrane was in the vicinity of Peros, and had purchased 40 Greek vessels, which he was furnishing with rockets and other instruments of destruction. It was asserted that this armament would be ready on the 15th May, and that Lord Cochrane would then sail for Tenedos, to wait for the Turkish fleet. Meantime Capt. Hastings has taken, in the Gulf of Selo, six Turkish vessels laden with ammunition, and has burned 4 others. He thus has placed the Seraskier, who depended on these supplies, in a very embarrassing situation. All these accounts have considerably irritated the Sultan and the Divan."

"On the other hand, it is said that a Tatar is gone to the Dardanelles with orders to the fleet not to quit the Hellespont. After several meetings of the council of State the Porte is said to have caused Mr. Stratford Canning to be asked if it was at war with England, since its troops had to combat fewer Greeks than English? Every thing appears to announce a crisis, which must lead to a decisive result on the question of the affairs of Greece."

FROM THE NOVASCOTIAN.**AMERICA.**

The following is the article to which we alluded in our last.

Mr. Canning, as Premier.—At the present crisis of affairs it is peculiarly interesting to know the sentiments which intelligent Americans entertain of Mr. Canning's elevation at the head of the Ministry. The Quarterly Review, published in Philadelphia in July last, contains the review of a work published by an American citizen, giving a view of the "political system" of that Government. The author in the progress of his illustrations happens to express a favourable opinion of Mr. Canning, and to dwell with a lively complacency upon the liberality of his foreign politics—especially as regards the Confederate Republic. The Reviewer in touching upon the point throws distrust upon the author's penetration, and furnishes the following comparative view between Mr. Canning and his predecessor Lord Castlereagh:—

"We have had occasion more than once to observe upon the tenderness of the author's sentiments towards Mr. Canning, and the facility with which he appears to have yielded his entire confidence to the declarations of that ingenious politician, when he had done this country the honour of a

civil speech. It strikes us, that the author has erred as widely from the true line in his views of Lord Castlereagh's character, as in his unqualified commendation of Mr. Canning. No one can deny to the latter the possession of ample and a lofty personal character. But it must not be forgotten, at the same time—at least by writers of other countries—that Mr. Canning is exclusively and avowedly a British statesman, and that he takes care to manifest his devotion to what he considers the peculiar interests of England, on all occasions, legitimate and illegitimate, and his contempt or aversion for the institutions or policy of other countries, by pungent satire and bold egotistical bravadoes. Our state papers teem with evidence of his actual feelings towards this country, more conclusive, we think, than a set speech at a Liverpool dinner. The flippancy of the tone of some of his diplomatic letters, and the poorly disguised sneer in others, should, it seems to us, serve to moderate the anxiety of an American writer to domesticate him among our well-wishers. On the other hand; Lord Castlereagh, whatever were his faults, was not justly chargeable with rudeness towards foreign nations. The suavity of his address, and the general mildness of his tone, gained friends every where for his country. Towards the United States, especially, he was always amicable and obliging; and we believe, few of our diplomatic agents had occasion to complain of his spirit or manner. He professed, it is true, no extraordinary attachment to liberal institutions, but then he never outraged them by heartless witticisms. As a statesman he possessed some eminent qualifications. In the House of Commons he was an excellent manager, and occasionally treated the political situation and history of Europe with almost unrivalled ability. Until lately, Mr. Canning has made a point of avowing, on all occasions, that he did no more than tread in the footsteps of his predecessor. The merits of Lord Castlereagh are, we think, greatly underrated by the author of "America." Certainly the allusion to the mode of his death is in the last degree unseemly. We are greatly mistaken, too, if it be not found hereafter, that this country has gained nothing by the elevation of the present premier."

Stability of the Union.—We have before ventured to hint that the stability of the American government was not quite so firm as its best friends would wish the world to believe. The author of the same work, to which we have alluded above, expresses his entire belief in its growing power and strength; but the American Reviewer, with a keener perception of the truth, and in the spirit of wisdom which deceives not, expresses a different opinion. The following passage is evidently dictated from the terror of threatening evils :—

"We consider him generally right, in supposing that the foundations of the government are laid sufficiently wide and strong to admit of the pressure which an increasing population and extended territory are yearly laying upon them. When he denies however, that there are any dangers to be apprehended from an opposition by the state sovereignties to measures of the general government, and professes to regard the federal judiciary as a sufficient stay and barrier of its legitimate powers, we must be permitted to enter our caveat against too strong a reliance upon its support. It is our deliberate opinion, that the union of the states, in its existing form, has much more to apprehend from the state governments than from any encroachment by the confederation. It would lead us too far from our subject, and engross too many of the pages allotted to