

POLITICAL EXTRACTS.

SPIRIT OF THE BRITISH JOURNALS.

LONDON DISPATCH. The result of Major Fancourt's motion, on Friday night, for abolishing military torture, inflicts an indelible stain our reformed Parliament, and affords a convincing proof that the House does not represent the feelings of the humane and enlightened People of England. * * * Yes, the reformed House of Commons could only muster NINETY-FOUR friends of humanity; and the Whig turn-coats—the men who, when out of office, were eternally writing and speaking against flogging soldiers and sailors—had a majority of one hundred and thirty-three in favor of their apostacy and of the perpetration of actual torture. What can equal the bitter degradation of victory in such a cause?—*March 16.*

BELL'S MESSENGER. (From a Correspondent.)—If the English Ministers fancy that they will soon be able to form an advantageous Commercial Treaty with this country, they are extremely mistaken. The southern departments of France and the principal seaports necessarily wish that trade should be perfectly free from all those shackles which cramp their energies: but look at the manufacturing districts—Rouen, for instance, the whole population of which, exceeding 100,000 inhabitants, is occupied just as Manchester is—the very towel with which I have just dried my hands, cost me in London eight pence, and here they ask exactly double the sum. Only allow British manufactured goods to enter France, and Rouen—excuse the vile pun—will go to ruin. The governing parties, both in England and France, have somehow contrived to render mankind as miserable as they well can; for instance, in England you have a superabundance of every thing, yet more than half the inhabitants are in a state of starvation; by your ingenuity and industry, notwithstanding almost insurmountable difficulties, you are able to manufacture good calico at a few pence a yard; but the poor of this land are obliged to go without shirts, because the Government will not permit your goods to enter the country. Bordeaux wine, the most wholesome beverage in existence—even the Temperance Society permits the use of this delicious juice—has, perhaps, been occasionally tasted by one Englishman in every ten thousand; and yet it could be imported into London and sold at a cheaper rate than that heavy, stupifying liquor, called Porter. It is in vain that Heaven spreads out its treasures—it is in vain that man exerts every nerve—the ruling powers say, 'Thou shalt crawl upon the earth!' I know what you will reply—'taxes, national credit &c.' Well, what is all that to me? My shoe—black has a large family, he works very hard, and is in want of a shirt—the French Ministers say, 'You may go without one.' The sweat of my brain produces me a small income—a bottle of Bordeaux would do me a great deal of good when I am a resident of your murky metropolis—but the Whigs and Tories both exclaim, 'You must drink porter, or gin and water!'

You have not an idea how happy the good people of Paris are, under the government of the Citizen King. It is true, some three or four dozen individuals, suspected of being Republicans, are every day dragged from their wives and children, and sent to the Conciergerie; but that is of no consequence to anybody except to themselves.—*Paris, March 12.*

METHODIST MAGAZINE FOR MARCH. Number of Anti-Slavery Petitions.—The following document is an analysis, just printed for the House of Commons, of the Petitions for the Abolition of Colonial Slavery presented to that House during the last Session; showing the number received from the various religious denominations, and the amount of signatures, compared with the number of other Petitions on the same subject:—

Denominations.	Petitions.	Signatures.
Baptists	188	26,287
—General	13	1,340
—Particular	49	6,742
Calvinistic Methodists	9	1,481
Calvinistic Nonconformists	1	100
Catholics	5	333
Countess of Huntingdon's chapels	4	507
Independents, or Congregationalists	205	25,080
New Connexion Methodists	27	3,965
Old Connexion General Baptists	1	80
New Independents, or Inghamites	3	350
Pædobaptists	1	208
Presbyterians	11	2,527
Primitive Methodists	13	1,770
Protestant Dissenters	295	26,776
Protestant Evangelical Dissenters	1	84
Relief Church	3	1,016
Society of Friends, or Quakers	15	933
Unitarians	4	425
United Associate Seceders	84	21,905
United Christians	1	119
Wesleyan Methodists	1,952	229,426
	2,826	352,404

Other Petitions	2,134	957,527
Total	5,020	1,809,331

COLONIAL.

NEW-BRUNSWICK.

FREDERICTON WATCHMAN.—Central Bank of New-Brunswick.—The Capital Stock of the Central Bank, was all subscribed for in nine days and four hours, exclusive of holy days. The Book was opened by the subscription of the Chief Justice, and closed by the Provincial Secretary, and both these gentlemen are ready to increase the number of their shares. Since the filling up of the 600 shares, nearly 100 additional shares have been applied for, by persons (mostly capitalists, including two of the most wealthy men in this part of the Province) who have promised, in the order of priority in which they stand, to supply any deficiency that may occur in the subscriptions for the stock. One of the Stockholders has been offered, by a highly respectable gentleman, a premium of 5 per centum for his stock. 485 shares have been subscribed in Fredericton, 40 in Kingsclear, and 9 in Douglas, making 524 in the County of York. 48 were subscribed in Carleton, 4 in Sunbury, 4 in Kent, and 20 in the city of Saint John. The whole stock has been taken by 65 individuals.—Had the Capital Stock been £25,000 instead of £15,000 it could have been easily raised in Fredericton alone. Individuals are continually enquiring for information, as to the means they shall adopt to obtain Shares from the present Subscribers. If our St. John friends would only conclude to establish their Royal Bank in Fredericton, and be satisfied with a Branch in the Celestial City, we may save them the trouble, expense and anxiety attendant upon an application to England for money to make up the Capital.

The Weather.—For several weeks back, the weather has been uncommonly mild and delightful, and during the past week, as warm as at midsummer. On Thursday the ice broke from the shores, and on Friday the whole body moved slowly down the river, and scarcely a vestige of it now remains to remind us of the departed winter. We may therefore look for an early commencement of the spring business—in the mean time, our townsmen can enjoy the beautiful weather and fine walking, until those more important matters call up their attention.

At present, the prospects of the country, are more propitious and cheering than they have been for the last few years. The winter has been an unprecedentedly fine one for business of every kind; and the quantity of Timber which has been prepared for the market, is said far to exceed the original intentions, and most sanguine expectations of all who are engaged in this most important branch of Provincial Trade. The uncommon mildness of the spring, we trust, also presages a favorable agricultural season.—*April 15.*

Our readers are aware that the money which was refunded to the Town by the orders of the Colonial Secretary, is being appropriated to the improvement of the Streets. The work was given out by contract some months ago, and the Contractor has already commenced operations near the Church. We understand that the whole of King Street will be macademized, and four large and expensive Sewers be made, without at all referring to the Statute Labour, which will therefore be appropriated to the improvement of other parts of the Town.

Fire.—We are sorry to learn from our respected correspondent at Woodstock, the occurrence of the following melancholy accident there. "On Tuesday evening the first of April, the dwelling house occupied by Mr. Anthony Legasse, was consumed by Fire, with nearly all his household furniture, and such was the rapidity of the flames aided by a high wind at the time, that in spite of every exertion the fire was communicated to another house nearly adjoining, lately occupied by Mrs. Knight, which was also destroyed.

NOVA-SCOTIA.

HALIFAX RECORDER.—The Bench.—We perceive that His Honor the President, has appointed William Blowers Bliss, Esq. to be Judge of the Supreme Court, in the place of the late R. J. Uniacke, Esq. We expect that this appointment will give general satisfaction. Mr. Bliss, we believe, is distinguished for gentlemanly bearing, high talent, and extensive legal acquirements.

Public Meeting.—On Tuesday evening, a meeting was held in the Exchange Coffee House, according to Advertisement, to consider of a late prosecution of the Press in Ireland. The circumstance which elicited the meeting was the prosecution of Mr. Barrett, Editor of the Pilot, Dublin Newspaper, for publishing a letter of Mr. O'Connell to the people of Ireland. The letter had been published in England, but persons in power not wishing to run the risk of a London jury in a cause of libel, the Dublin Editor was made the scape goat. A jury, properly chosen, agreed to give Barrett up to the mercy of the Court, but recommended him to that mercy. The result however has been particularly severe; Barrett was sentenced to a confinement of six months, to pay £100 fine, to find large peace securities for a long period, and, to cap all, the Whig Secretary for Ireland, has revived an obsolete law, for the purpose of withholding stamps from the convicted party, and thus suppressing the publication of his paper. To express a sense of this oppression, and a sympathy with the victim, the meeting was convened.

At the appointed hour, a large number of persons had collected in the long room of the Exchange Coffee House, when M. Tobin, Senr. Esq. was called to the chair, L. O'C. Doyle, Esq. to the vice chair.

Mr. Tobin opened the business of the evening with some judicious and very appropriate remarks. He recited and com-

mented on the peculiarities of the case of Mr. Barrett, and remarked that the meeting should bear strongly in mind, that while expressing sympathy with that gentleman, they did not mean to oppose the laws of the land, or to evince the least spark of insubordination. Mr. Tobin repeatedly alluded to the privileges and honours which attached to British subjects; and these parts of his address were as loudly applauded, as other parts, which might seem of a more popular character.

Mr. L. O'C. Doyle next addressed the meeting, dwelling with much energy on the case under consideration. He concluded by moving the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Meeting regards the recent suppression of the Pilot Newspaper as an act of hostility to Ireland, such as no previous administration has ever hazarded.

Mr. Joseph Howe seconded this resolution, and addressed the meeting in an eloquent speech, which elicited strong expressions of applause.

The next resolution was **Resolved,** That the late Secretary of Ireland, the present Secretary for the Colonies, the Right Hon. E. G. Stanley, has as little title to the confidence of Irishmen in this Province, as he possesses to that of Irishmen at home.

This being moved was seconded by Mr. E. Ward, with appropriate remarks.

Mr. E. Kenny then moved the following **Resolved,** That the gratitude of the 'Friends of Ireland' is due to Daniel O'Connell, Esq. and that the triumph of Richard Lalor Shiel, Esq. over the base attempt perpetrated upon his character, makes him dearer to his countrymen.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to receive such subscriptions as may be offered them in aid of Richard Barrett, Esq.

Resolved, That the opinions and feelings of this meeting, with the sum collected, be transmitted to Richard Barrett, Esq. Mr. L. O'C. Doyle, at the suggestion of the chairman, added and moved the following

Resolved, That this meeting duly appreciates the blessings of a Free Press, conducted on principles of impartiality and independence, and looks to it, as the sentinel and safeguard of their rights and liberties.

The addresses were listened to with the utmost order, and each of the resolutions passed by acclamation.

When the routine business had been concluded, a committee was appointed, and collection commenced, in conformity with one of the resolutions. Many persons handed over their names and cash, and, we understand, before the meeting dispersed £40 had been subscribed and partly collected.

Such exhibitions of public spirit, if properly conducted, do good far beyond the individual case which may be the immediate object. They rouse the public mind from its tendency to stagnate; they declare to spirited individuals that corresponding emotions are felt in similar breasts all over the world; they tell the man of power that his 'fantastic tricks' not only make 'angels weep,' but make men hiss, and that the victim of his partisan spite will have his degradation and suffering turned into triumph and reward, by his commiserating brethren. They also hand from father to son those sentiments and feelings which distinguish the British character, and which are a better support to rational liberty, and a stronger opposition to power-blinded despotism, than a million of armed men could be.

HALIFAX ROYAL GAZETTE.—Prorogation of the Legislature.—At two o'clock this day His Honor the President proceeded in the usual State to the Council Chamber, and, being seated, commanded the attendance of the House of Assembly.—Mr. Speaker and the Members attended accordingly, when His Honor was pleased to give his Assent to a number of Bills, and afterwards to close the Session with the following

SPEECH:

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

As the public business is now brought to a close, I have great pleasure in releasing you from your Legislative Labours, and enabling you to return to your private avocations.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly. I thank you, in His Majesty's name, for the Supplies you have granted for the Public Service for the present year.

It would have afforded me great gratification if the important business which it became my duty to bring under your consideration, in obedience to His Majesty's commands, had been satisfactorily arranged; and I cannot but express my regret that subjects of such deep interest remain unadjusted at the close of this long Session.

I am aware that much of your valuable time has been devoted to reviewing the state of the Provincial Currency, and I sincerely hope that the measures which have been adopted will prove beneficial to the public.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council, Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

The expected arrival of Lieutenant-General Sir Colin Campbell, whose appointment to the Government of this Province I have already announced to you, will shortly remove me from the Station I now fill. In this last act which is to terminate the Legislative intercourse between us, I cannot forbear acknowledging the great satisfaction and advantage which I have derived from the cordial co-operation at all times afforded to me by both Branches of the Legislature, in promoting the public welfare, and from the courtesy and good feeling which I have personally experienced from all of you, during my temporary Administration of the Government.

GENERAL POST-OFFICE.

HALIFAX, 9th APRIL, 1834.

The Deputy-Post-Master-General feels it to be a duty he owes to the Department under his charge, and to himself, to give publicity to the following Letter from the Right Hon. the