

thus to brave us.' For a few minutes Cromwell glanced on the bold speaker, as though astonished at the excess of his audacity had robbed him of the faculty of speech, then casting his hat on his disordered locks, he pulled it doggedly down upon his brows, and with a stride that made the whole house echo, advancing on the gentleman who was yet speaking. 'Come, sir,' he said, in a low hissing voice through his set teeth, gripping the while his dagger's hilt, as though he would have stabbed him on the spot, 'come, come, sir, I will put an end to your loud prating! Then turning his back suddenly on him whom he addressed, he paced to and fro in the hall, his whole face black with the blood which rushed to it as violently as though it would have burst from every pore and vein, his broad breast panting and heaving with emotion, and his entire aspect displaying the most ungovernable and tremendous passions. 'You are no parliament, I say,' he shouted at the pitch of his stentorian voice, 'you are no parliament, ho bring them in,—without there. Bring them in.' There was a sudden pause—a moment of unutterable terror,—for such was the expression painted upon the faces of the grave members of the long parliament. When years before, a king had dared to violate in a far less degree the privileges of that high assemblage, their own undaunted valour fired by a sense of right—a proud uncompromising feeling of their inborn worth—had well nigh armed those patriots to battle with such weapons as chance afforded them against the licensed cut throats of the sovereign. But as the door flew open, and Colonel Worsley entered with a guard of twenty musketeers, blank and base apprehensions sat on the pallid brows of three fourths of those present, nor did one man, of the whole number, offer to make the least resistance, to draw a sword, to raise a hand, or even to exchange a look with the strange person, who from so lately being their servant, or at least their equal, had then by one bold effort rendered himself their master—their unquestioned, undisputed master. 'This is not honest,' cried Sir Harry Vane at length, when he had rallied from the first surprise; 'it is against morality, and common honesty.' Words cannot picture, language of man cannot describe, the change that flashed across the speaking lineaments of Oliver. An instant—a short instant only, ere Vane addressed him, all had been virulent and active fury, lashed as it were by its own goadings into a state purely animal and uncontrollable. Now the fierce glare of anger instantly subsided, leaving the face for the moment as passionless and vacant as an infant's. But ere there was time—not for words—but for thought—the deepest sneer of scorn, of loathing unutterable undisguised contempt succeeded. 'Sir Harry Vane,' he replied, in a low stern whisper, which drove the blood curdling through his veins. 'O Sir Harry Vane, the Lord deliver me from Sir Harry Vane. Honesty and Sir Harry Vane. Morality and Harry Vane,—who, if he had so pleased, might have prevented this, who is a juggler—a mere hypocrite—and not common honesty himself! A parliament, I do profess, a precious parliament,—of drunkards!—knaves!—extortioners!—adulterers! Lo, there,' he added, pointing to Challenger, 'there sits a noted wine bibber—a very glutton and drunkard. There, casting his eyes towards Henry Marten and Sir Peter Wentworth, 'there are two most foul adulterers.' Then turning on heel, as if he had already said enough, and in a voice as quiet and untroubled as if he had not been in anywise excited, commanded them to clear the house. 'I,' exclaimed Lenthall boldly, for seeing that no violence was offered he had recovered his scared spirits. 'I am the speaker of this house, lawfully by its members chosen, and save by vote of those same members, or by actual force, I never quit its precincts while in life.' Then Harrison stepped slowly up the body of the long hall to the chair, attended by two musketeers; he laid his hand on Lenthall's shoulder, and prayed him to descend, and without farther words, he came down from his seat, and putting on his hat, departed from the house all crest fallen and astounded. Algernon Sydney followed him at once, though with a stately mien and bolder bearing, eighty more of the members moving with him towards the door. While there had seemed to be the slightest chance of any opposition to his will, Cromwell had stood in silence, with his arms folded on his breast, facing the speaker's chair with a dark scowl on his brow and his lips rigidly compressed; but now, when he perceived that all, without more words, were skulking away from the house, he once again addressed them. 'It is you,' he exclaimed, 'it is you, who have thrust this on me. Night and day have I prayed the Lord that he would slay me, rather than put me on the doing of this work.' 'Then, wherefore do it,' asked Allen bluntly, ere he left the house, 'if that be so grievous to you? There is yet time enough to undo that which has already been done—and as your conscience tells you, ill done my Lord Cromwell.' 'Conscience, ha, Conscience, Alderman,' retorted Oliver, 'and what did thine tell thee, when thou, as treasurer of the army, didst embezzle much more than one hundred thousand pounds to thine own uses. What sayest thou to that, good alderman. Ho, ho, methinks I have thee. Guards apprehend this peccator. Away with him, away with him I say,' and he scampered angrily upon the floor as to enforce his words, 'until he answer for his deep misdoings.' Sullen, humiliated, and undried, for

they had lost already the respect of honest men of all denominations, the members of that parliament, which had dethroned and slain a powerful monarch—destroyed the constitution, and disenthralled the people of a mighty nation—vanquished all foreign foes, and raised their country from a secondary to a first rate power in Europe, now sneaked away to find a miserable refuge in the despised obscurity of private life,—deserted by the people in their turn, whom they had first deserted at the dictates of a depraved and poor ambition. When all had gone forth from the hall, the worker of this mighty revolution fixed his eyes upon the mace, which lay on the board before the speaker's chair. 'What shall we do,' he said, 'with the fool's bauble? Here, carry it away,' and at that word, a private of the guard bore off that ancient emblem of the people's delegated power, on which, not to preserve his soul, Charles Stuart would have dared lay a finger of offence—and bore it off at the first bidding of the simple citizen of a small English borough, raised by his own strange sagacity and the indomitable firmness of his simple will to a far loftier station than the proudest despot of the east. Cromwell then snatched the instrument of dissolution from the trembling fingers of the clerk; ordered the great doors to be locked, and girt by his devoted guard, returned to his own palace at Whitehall, in all save name a king.

## BRITISH JOURNALS.

From the London Times.

### STATE OF THE REVENUE.

The return of the quarter's revenue is a melancholy illustration of Swift's remark, that, 'in the arithmetic of the customs two and two do not always make four; they sometimes make only one.' The great financial measures of the last session, which was to cover the additional charge for Canada, and the deficit of the Post-office, was a further duty of 5 per cent. upon all articles before paying duty in the departments of the customs and excise. The result is now before the country, and it is material to show, in figures, what it should have been, had that measure been based in a sound calculation of consequences, and what it is. In the quarter ending October, 1839, the total clear receipt was in round numbers:

Customs,	£5,780,000
Excise,	4,120,000
Making a total of	9,900,000
5 per cent. on this would be	450,000
Requiring in order to equal the Revenue of Oct. 1839, a total of—	£10,395,000

Taking now the actual produce of the revenue for these two departments in the quarter ending October, 1840, the account stands thus:—

Customs,	£5,660,000
Excise,	3,916,000
Total,	£9,576,000

and the deficiency therefore, keeping up the comparison between the two October quarters, and giving the benefit of the additional 5 per cent. to the last, is about £820,000 on the quarter; and there occurs an actual deficiency, leaving that additional five per cent. entirely out of the question, of £324,000 in the two departments of the Customs and Excise.

The other items in the present account are comparatively of little importance. What the Chancellor of the Exchequer is to obtain from the new survey and addition to the assessed taxes, will not appear until the returns for the January quarter are made. In the stamps there has been a trifling improvement quite unimportant either way. The Post-office does not look well, but some progress at least seems to be making, and we are not disposed to deal rigidly with a measure which was only faulty in being commenced too early, and which is conferring and will confer an immense benefit on all classes of the community. At the present rate of production, the Post-office will still yield a revenue to the country of about half a million annually. With this deficiency, however, added to the others already described, and taking the ministerial estimates of the year as the basis of the account, the quarterly return, compared with the corresponding period of 1839, may fairly be said to present a falling off of not less than one million one hundred thousand pounds.

This is a serious state of things for a country threatened with war; and the mere so, as the Treasury journals, in fearful anticipation of what the nation may say of them and of their masters, have evinced a disposition to misrepresent and to conceal, which is peculiarly reprehensible in the present situation of public affairs. We are treated, for example, with some unintelligible nonsense about 'bills' received in payment for revenue and not yet carried to account; and disadvantages arising from the last quarter having ended on a Sunday, which prevented the excise collectors from commencing their 'rounds' till a week later, and causing a loss, therefore, of 'seven days to the quarter's collections;' as if these things had never happened before, and as if they did not always find their level, taking one quarter with another! The fact, too, is carefully kept out of sight that Parliament did in July last make an addition of 5 per cent. to the old customs and excise duties. We readily agree, and have often expressed the opinion as well as observed the practice, that party feeling should never enter into a discus-

sion of the state of the national resources; but what respect can be entertained for men who cannot present a fair and honest account, and who do all in their power to garble and distort it when presented to the public view? They shut out the sympathy and regard of all true patriots, who must feel the inutility of an attempt to help those dealers in false pretences and deceit out of their difficulties.

We purposely abstain from any analysis of the yearly account now presented. A new state of things with respect to taxation has arisen since this period of last year, and until it has spread itself over the whole four quarters, the comparison can serve no purpose but that of misleading. It may be left as an additional aid in that line to the misleading Treasury journals.

A further consideration, of the very highest general importance, arises out of the result thus communicated, of the experiment of an increase in the duties of customs and excise. It is a truth admitted in all sound reasoning on the subject, and there is a point in taxation on articles of consumption which cannot be passed without lessening instead of adding to the total product, and if this shall prove to be the case with the measure of the last session, then will the Treasury be placed in the predicament of having thrown impediments in the way of commerce, without adding a shilling, and even with actual loss, to the revenue of the country. Undoubtedly this is a conclusion not to be adopted on the trial of one quarter only; but if it should be found, on the assembling of parliament, that there is no change for the better, then must some other form of taxation without delay be resorted to. Does any one doubt, notwithstanding all these circumstances, if the misfortune of a war should befall this country, that her resources to meet it are ample, abundant? Let him reflect on what England has done since this century begun, and that she is now far richer and more powerful than then. We only want better and wiser heads to develop and to guide those resources.

From the United Service Gazette.

### A FIRE AT WOOLWICH DOCKYARD.

The most strenuous exertions have been made by the authorities to stifle its being made public, that at this momentous and critical period the destructive element had been kindled in this most important naval arsenal, being the absolute vitals of that branch of the maritime service, and the only government steam depot. Since the agitation produced in the minds of the people by the exposures and simultaneous efforts of the public press to obtain proper supplies of that necessary munition of naval warfare—good sound British oak and other timber—the sheds and other buildings are better stored with that inflammable article. The conflagration that might have ensued but for the zealous exertions of the police might have produced consequences most disastrous in their result than those of the other dockyard fires that have taken place. Lord Minto has been down to investigate into the state of the affair. The gallant Captain Superintendent of the yard, Capt. Phipps Hornby, C. B., was absent on leave, but in his absence his lordship issued the most stringent orders on the occasion. Two powerful engines have been placed with hose and gear on board the splendid first rate man of war Trafalgar, 120 guns; on the stocks, other engines have been placed contiguous to her, and the other vessels building, viz., the Boscawen, 70 guns, the Amphion and Waterloo frigates, two brigs of war, and every morsel of chips, it is ordered shall be cleared out of the yard immediately. In the early part of the week a very large supply of lathern hose for the service of the fire engines was received into the yard from the contractors. The mast pond has been flooded. A police constable has been placed at intervals, in addition to those already stationed. The force have orders to take any workmen into custody that attempt to wander out of the precise locality appertaining to their employ. Engines have been placed with hosts of fire buckets, around the bason, and the strictest orders have been issued that no stranger is to be permitted to go round or into the yard without a police constable, so that necessarily very few persons will be admitted, since the extra duties will diminish the strength of the force. Free and unrestrained admission of visitors would scarce allow of their being employed in watching, with the utmost vigilance, the numerous gangs of contract men that are constantly going in and out of the yard to the works, at all hours of the day and night. The 'mystery' that shrouds the ignition—whether accidental or of an incendiary nature—it proved to be of some consequence, by the visit of the first Lord of the Admiralty, the gre took place at midnight, and was soon extinguished.

## Colonial.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Halifax Guardian, Nov. 4.

The Elections for the next General Assembly, commenced yesterday in this Town, and will no doubt engage the attention of the constituency of Nova-Scotia for the greater part of the present month, occasioning for a short season, almost an entire interruption to the ordinary business of the Colony. The state of the Poll will be found in the annexed abstract.

The Candidates for the County, are—B. Murdoch, Esq. who was proposed by T. Boggs, Esq. Hon. Joseph Howe, who was proposed by Mr. Conrad West; Wm. Annand, Esq. who was proposed by Mr. A. Reid.—For the Town—Alex. Keith, Esq. who was proposed by J. E. Fairbanks, Esq. James McNab, Esq. who was proposed by Hugh Bell, Esq. Thos. Forrester, Esq. who was proposed by Mr. Joseph Jennings.

Halifax Times, Nov. 3.

We have much pleasure in stating, that Sir Colin Campbell and family arrived at Liverpool in the Britannia steamer, all well and in excellent spirits.

CANADA.

Quebec Gazette, Oct. 28.

There was a hard frost on the night of the 27th instant. The thermometer was down to 20. The ground remains frozen, some ploughing was however done yesterday. The season has been extraordinary, and we may have an early winter; say snow on the ground from 1st Nov. to continue till May.

It has been snowing since 11 o'clock this morning, but the temperature is moderate.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

P. E. I. Colonial Herald, Oct. 31.

The Miramichi Gleaner of Tuesday states, that next week the Cape Breton will make her last trip for the season. Our readers are generally aware that the contract between her owners and the Government of this Island, for the conveyance of the mails, will then expire. As it is not anticipated that the contract will be renewed, conjecture is afloat as to how the mails are to be conveyed next year. Unless something is speedily decided upon, we shall have to fall back upon the old system of employing sailing packets. This would be not a little mortifying, after having so long enjoyed the advantages derived from steam intercourse with the neighbouring ports; but we do not despair that something may be done, even yet, for securing its continuance. Nothing, that we are aware of, has yet resulted from the public meeting that was held here to consider the matter.

## SCHEDIASMA.

MIRAMICHI:  
TUESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 10, 1840.

ARRIVAL OF THE MAIL.

The Courier with the Southern Mail arrived here on Friday night, at 10 o'clock.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

THE Steam Packet Britannia, with the second October Mail, arrived at Halifax at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of Sunday the 1st inst., in a passage of 11 days and 21 hours, being detained off the harbour one day. She had 67 passengers, 37 of whom proceeded in her to Boston.

By this arrival, we obtained files of London papers to the 19th inst. They furnish little news of interest. Another attempt had been made on the life of Louis Philippe, the King of the French. This is the sixth attempt which has been made to assassinate him. It appears that an attempt has been made to fire Woolwich Dock yard. The papers furnish but little information on this affair, as it appears the authorities had used great exertions to prevent the particulars being made public.

Prince Louis Napoleon had been tried by the Peers of France, and condemned to perpetual imprisonment in a fortress.

THE GREAT LIBEL CASE.

THE trial of the proprietor of the Saint Chronicle, for an alleged libel on his Excellency Sir John Harvey, was commenced at Fredericton on Thursday the 29th ult., and occupied the Court until 2 o'clock on the Saturday following. At 5 o'clock the Jury returned a verdict of 'Not Guilty.'

This verdict is just such a one as might have been expected from a jury composed of intelligent British subjects, jealous of their liberties; and we have to congratulate the public as well as the proprietors of the Chronicle, on the result of the trial.

We expressed our regret at the time, that Sir John Harvey had consented to this prosecution; and his defeat, after the very great care taken to give the parties as little chance of escape as possible, and the arbitrary mode of proceeding, by ex-officio, places his Excellency and his advisers, in no enviable position. We never could look on this affair in any other light, than a prosecution instituted to gratify the feelings of a certain party.

We learn that much credit is due the gentlemen who conducted the defence.