

And, if this be true in the abstract, it is so much more under the particular commercial restrictions which we have imposed upon our colonies, and which we still propose to continue, (however we may reduce the amount or modify the apportionment of them) in favor of British produce. The argument for a reciprocity of advantages in this respect cannot be resisted, without leaving serious and solid grounds for colonial dissatisfaction. We impose differential duties upon the importation into the colonies of all foreign articles whatever, with only one or two special exceptions. Can we maintain this, and at the same time contend for a narrower principle of encouragement, or for the principle of no encouragement at all, to colonial importations into Great Britain? Are we, as Sir Robert Peel says, to lay down this law to our colonies—'You shall import British articles upon terms more favorable to us than foreigners do, but we will charge you the same duties on your goods that we charge foreigners?' Surely this would be heavy injustice, more especially when we look at the actual consequences to colonial industry of those importations of British produce which we have required them to encourage. 'Take the case of India,' said Sir Robert Peel:—'You have ruined the cotton manufacture of India by the importation of our own. You insist upon India receiving it upon most favorable terms to yourself. If India attempted to get a revenue by subjecting your cotton manufactures to a duty, you would take means to prevent it. But you contend that your cotton manufactures shall be introduced into India with great advantage, as compared with the manufactures of other states, but that the produce of India shall be subject to all the duties to which the produce of foreign states is subject.'

Upon this branch of the subject we will make only one further observation, which is, that, in the state of things under which we live (taxation being an inevitable evil) no one dreams of objecting to the differential system when applied to our own domestic produce. Nobody contends that, when it is necessary to raise a revenue from butter, the same duty should be laid upon the butter of Buckinghamshire, or Norfolk, as on that of France. Why not? Because common sense and common justice recognise the distinction between an impost upon foreign goods for purposes of prohibition, as against the foreigner, and an exemption in favour of our own people. The former is *pro tanto* an invasion of those natural arrangements which Providence has ordained to bind together the whole human race; the latter is a realization of the equally natural and equally providential law which distinguishes the human race into different nations and governments. If ministers were now proposing to lay new burthens upon foreign for the protection of colonial articles, none would oppose them more strenuously than ourselves; but, when they give merely a preference to the colonist in a general remission of duties already existing, we recognize it as an act of sound policy, which must have a beneficial effect in the colonies, and will be regarded by all foreign nations as reasonable and just.

UNITED STATES.

Boston Merc. Journal.

Emigrants.—The brig *Openongo*, has arrived at Fall River, from Pictou, N. S., with 43 passengers, men, women, and children (all Scotch) from the Mines of Pictou, bound to Pennsylvania, to seek employment in the Mines there. Another vessel is on the way with fifty more, bound to the same place.

The Earthquake at St. Domingo. Capt. Higgins of brig *Jos. Atkins*, which arrived at this port yesterday morning from Jeremie, 19th ult. informs Messrs. Topliff that the earthquake of the 7th was severe at Jeremie, but no damage was sustained.

Capt. Higgins also states that the destruction of the town of Cape Haytien was complete, only two buildings remained standing. The earthquake happening on a market day, great numbers of persons were in the city from the country, together with mules, &c., so that the loss of life was greater. It was estimated that nearly 4000 persons perished, besides great numbers of mules and other animals, and such was the stench arising from such a mass of dead bodies, that no person could long remain in the place.

Captain H. also states that Port au Plait was entirely destroyed, though but few lives were lost, and that the mountain in the rear of St. Marc was rent asunder, so that teams passed through the aperture.

Port au Prince, May 12, P.M.—Just before despatching this letter,

news has reached us that only one person has been saved,—a Mr Duputy—all the others being either drowned by the sea, or crushed to death. The cape itself is one mass of ruins.

Cape Haytien, formerly called Cape Francois, and afterwards Cape Henry, was under the reign of Christophe, the capital of his kingdom. It was a better built town than Port au Prince, and of about equal population. It is situated directly north of Port au Prince, about 100 miles distant.

The Earthquake which made such destructive ravages at Cape Haytien on the 7th ult., was felt also at Mayaguez, and Guayanilla, in Porto Rico. A shock lasting two or three seconds was also felt on the same day at St. Martinsville, Louisiana, and Opelousas.

From the *New York Express*.

Earthquake at Ponce, P.R.—We are indebted to Capt. York, of the schooner *Independance*, from Ponce, for the following account of the shock felt at that place on the 7th instant. Captain York states, he was sitting with a friend, when they suddenly felt a dizziness and excessive faintness, and upon attempting to walk found themselves acting like persons intoxicated. His companion then observed that the House rocked. They went out of doors and saw that the house rocked at least two feet. So great was the motion of the earth, that the casks of sugar and molasses on the beach rolled round, making great havoc.

The inhabitants were filled with the greatest terror, and all rushed into the middle of the street, and falling on their knees, repeated all the prayers of the Catholic service, and crying each on his patron saint to save them from their peril upon any terms the saint required. The shock was then felt at 3 P. M. of the 7th instant, and lasted about three minutes.

N. Y. Journal of Commerce.

The Administration.—There is a fair prospect that the present national administration will acquire the distinguished honor of bringing difficulties with England to a satisfactory adjustment.

The Extensive Printing and Book Establishment of Harper & Brothers, 82, Cliff street was discovered to be on fire on Wednesday morning last, but by great exertions the firemen were enabled to confine the ravages of the flames to the third and fourth stories of the building; the lower stories suffered by the water thrown in.—Damage to the establishment estimated at \$75,000. Insurance \$50,000.

A disgraceful riot took place at New Orleans on the 20th May, growing out of the great depreciation of the Municipality notes, which were at discount of nearly one third.

The American Tariff.—The commercial community is at the present moment laboring under a state of paralysis, superinduced by the uncertainty which still hangs over the probable action of Congress upon the Tariff.

Boston Daily Advertiser.

The Boundary Negotiation.—The preliminary arrangements are now made, for entering upon the negotiation for a settlement of the boundary controversy, under favorable auspices. The negotiating parties, if they cannot agree upon what the true boundary is, are authorized to determine what it ought to be, for the mutual convenience of the parties. The commissioners of Maine and Massa-

chusetts, representing State Legislatures, which have hitherto denied the authority of the General Government to negotiate for the establishment of a new boundary, by a cession of any territory embraced within the limits defined by treaty, are now authorized to agree, on the part of these States, to the establishment of such a line, on obtaining for their respective States, a satisfactory equivalent for such territory as may be ceded, either in other territory, or in the grant of privileges or advantages of any other nature. It has been intimated that one of the equivalents which may perhaps be obtained, for each portion of territory as may be ceded to Great Britain, is a right of navigation of the St. John, from where it leaves the United States territory to its mouth. One of the equivalents which Great Britain will probably readily grant is the strip of land along the northerly border of Vermont, which has been from the settlement of that State within her jurisdiction, and in actual possession and occupation of her citizens, but lying north of the forty fifth degree of latitude, is not within the limits conceded to that State by treaty. A similar concession of a small strip of territory is also desired along the frontier of New York. There are other modes by which the United States might be adequately indemnified for the cession of that tract of territory lying within the limits of the United States as defined by treaty, which is necessary to facilitate the communication between the two neighbouring British Provinces. Should the equivalent so obtained insure to the benefit of the United States, rather than to that of the State which would suffer the loss of territory, it may be presumed that the United States would make compensation to the State of Maine and Massachusetts, which are joint proprietors of the soil, in other territory situated elsewhere.

It may be apprehended that difficulties may arise in the negotiation, from the terms in which the action of the commissioners of Maine is restricted in the resolutions from which they derived their authority. We refer to that provision which requires the unanimous consent of the four commissioners to give validity to their act. At first view it might seem hardly reasonable to expect the unanimous concurrence of four men chosen as these commissioners are, in any proposition for a compromise of this question, likely to be proposed by the other party. Yet when it is considered that for a single member of the commission to defeat by his dissent, any arrangement satisfactory to all the other parties, would be to assume a very high degree of responsibility, which might involve consequences of a very serious nature; it will be found that there are strong reasons for anticipating unanimity of action on this question.

It is expected that the commissioners of the two States will be assembled at Washington with very little delay; and that they will proceed immediately in the negotiation. We doubt not it will soon be determined whether the question can be settled by compromise, or whether it must be suffered to take the dilatory, expensive, and uncertain course of another arbitration.

Boston Nation, June 4.

Earthquake in Louisiana.—The Saint Martinsville Creole states, that on Sunday morning last, the 7th inst. at about three o'clock, p. m. an earthquake, which lasted two or three seconds, was felt in this parish. A respectable inhabitant of Catahoula,

who was angling at that time in company with some ladies, on the banks of the lake, told us that so soon as the shock was felt, they were all struck by a kind of giddiness, and that one of the ladies fell down in a swoon. He also assured us that the lake rose during the space of some minutes, to more than six feet. Some inhabitants along the banks of the Bayou Teche, affirm the unaccountable elevation of that river at about the same time. We suppose that this extraordinary ascension of the waters was but the result of the commotion caused by the phenomenon. One of our friends who arrived from Opelousas yesterday, told us that the shock was also felt in that part of the country. From the declaration of the oldest inhabitants of this parish, this would be a second earthquake felt in Attakapas.

Wesleyan Seminary Burnt.—The well-known Methodist Seminary at Lima, in Livingston county, 20 miles southward of Rochester, was chiefly destroyed by fire this morning before daylight. The fire was discovered about 3 o'clock this morning, issuing from the cupola. The whole roof of the main building fell in—but the east wing was chiefly saved, and the west one would probably be saved also.

About four hundred students were attending the seminary, which is in high repute.

Destructive Fire in Connecticut.—We learn from Mr Leonard, that a very extensive fire occurred at Granville, a manufacturing village near Norwich, Thursday forenoon, in the extensive cotton factory of Mr Green. The loss is estimated at one hundred thousand dollars, insured for seventy thousand dollars.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

Scotland.—Fires in the Moors.—Stainburn Moor.—On Sunday evening the hearth on Rington and Stainburn Moors took fire, and spread with great rapidity over many acres of land. Happily, no material damage was sustained except by the game with which these moors abound, and whose nests must have suffered to a considerable extent.—*Tyne Mercury.*

Burning of Innerkip Moor.—On the evening of Saturday se'night, the moor of Innerkip took fire, and blazed for a distance of two miles with great fury, destroying young plantations, and everything else on the surface of the soil. The flames were not got under till Sunday afternoon. The loss is considerable, and a large quantity of game perished.—*Dumfries Courier.*

The Fire in Lochar Moss.—This fire continued to smoulder and smoke for some days after Friday week, on the night of which it flamed at once so fierce and beautiful. The conflagration is supposed to have extended over more than a hundred acres, but it is not believed that the moss will suffer any damage in consequence. The debris, or ashes left after the fire, have very much the appearance of red paint, which is probably owing to the large quantities of oxide of iron abounding in the moss.

Glasgow.—The Unemployed.—A body of unemployed working, amounting to nearly 100, walkmen three deep have been parading several of the principal streets. A few of their number who had been selected waited upon the shopkeepers on each side of the streets through which they passed, to solicit subscriptions in behalf of their destitute brethren, but we have not learned the amount collected. The slow pace at which they moved along, the haggard features, and the tattered clothes, all bespoke the most abject poverty, and could not fail to command the commiseration of their fellow townmen. Not the slightest symptom of disorder was manifested, and all passed over in the most peaceable manner.

Navy Contract.—The contract for supplying the navy with canvas this year has been obtained, with the exception of a small portion, which goes to Kirkcaldy, by manufacturers in Dundee. The value of the work is estimated at between £50,000 and £60,000.

The Alexandria correspondent of the *Semaphore de Marseilles* writes, date