

bate. The whole project is anti-constitutional, and never was asked for by any Colony.

INDEPENDENCE, is a pleasing word! but it is not so pleasing as it used to be, since we have seen the Independence of the South American States, Texas and St. Domingo. We are perhaps better prepared for self-government than the people of these countries, still there are elements of discord in the North American Provinces, that contending leaders might rouse into civil war; something like that which has afflicted the finest countries under the sun for thirty years.

Even the Independence of the United States of America is losing its charms. There is more intelligence in the mass of the population of that country, more experience in the practice of free Government, than in any other in America; yet what are they not threatened with? disunion; the separation of the South, the North, and the West, which would assuredly, at one time or other bring them into hostile collision. We say nothing of the general weakness of law and order, perceptible in many parts of the country. Philadelphia and Nauvoo are melancholy examples.

But Independence is nonsense when applied to Canada, a country of a million and a half of souls; bordering for more than a thousand miles on the settled frontiers of a country wielding the resources of twenty millions, who have stood at nothing in their ambition for acquiring territory and power; who have robbed the Indians, and have selected a man as a candidate for the Presidency, because he promises to rob Mexico and accept the renunciation of independence of a country solemnly recognised by the United States.

There is no independence for the inhabitants of Canada but as BRITISH SUBJECTS, members of one of the greatest and most powerful Empires in the world, and legally entitled to its freedom and protection. Our duty, our honour, and our interests, all combine in our continuing British subjects. Yet there are men amongst us, perhaps friends of "annexation," who can calmly talk of abandoning the whole; and there are men, on the other side of the water, who seem to forget the spirit and the maxims by which England has been raised from a little Island, once the province of a foreign power, to be the centre of the most powerful nation on the face of the earth.

Tune cede malis, sed contra audentior ito!

Nova-Scotia,

Halifax Morning Herald, Sept. 30.

LATE FROM JAMAICA.—A City Destroyed by an Earthquake.—By the schooner Francis Thomas, at New Orleans, on the 18th ult., files of Jamaica papers to the 15th ultimo are received. The long continued drought had been temporarily interrupted by showers of rain, but the dry weather was still complained of. The news from the home government of the contemplated alteration in the sugar duties, gave great dissatisfaction. The Dispatch of the 10th ult., states that letters from St. Juan Nicaragua give accounts of an awful earthquake. The city of Nicaragua lies in ruins, only one house to be seen. The churches and plantations in that quarter are also destroyed. No mention is made of any lives being lost. The visitation, says the Dispatch, must have taken place some time in the end of June. The British blockade of the port of St. Juan, is still continued.

Halifax Morning Post.

MUSIC.—There are perhaps but few communities in the whole universe, more highly favoured than Halifax in their opportunities for enjoying the Divine recreation of Music. In this Garrison, from time to time, are stationed the most efficient Bands of Music in the British Army, and we have enjoyed this inestimable advantage for so long a period that we can scarcely appreciate the privilege; and although there is musical talent among us of no mean order, (witness our Harmonic Society and the lesser societies that in the various places of Worship in city, chaunt the praises of the King of Heaven and Earth,) yet until very lately scarcely an effort had been made towards improvement. The praiseworthy efforts of some leading musicians, (who as a natural consequence of practising their Heaven born art,) are strongly tinged with Philanthropy, have lately given a vast impetus to the love of Music in this community. We are not only proud of the proficiency of our various Societies, but are delighted

beyond measure that the votaries of Apollo have extended this great desideratum to the young, and are forming classes for instruction in their "forceful art," to these the future men and women of Halifax. It is an example that may be imitated with incalculable benefit thro' the length and breadth of the Province. The most eminent of the earth have given their opinion in favour of making Music a part of the elementary education of the youth of both sexes, as a powerful auxiliary in ameliorating the condition of the Human family and elevating the moral sentiments of our species.

Every thing about Halifax encourages the cultivation of music—the clear air—the fine scenery, with a splendid ocean view—the taste of our citizens—exhibited even in the measured tramp of our city urchins in company with every military display.

The two splendid Bands, at present forming our garrison music, are perhaps unrivalled, and we are delighted to observe that they are returning again to the good old airs—the songs and melodies that were sung to us in our cradles by the lips of those we loved—songs identified with the homes of our Fathers, whether they be the sweet songs of auld Scotia, the wild notes of green Erin, the warlike strains of Cambria, or the pathetic ballads of Albion's Isles. These are the tunes that we love—the minstrels that find a response in the bosoms of us all—the notes that awaken old associations—and that make every fibre in the frame vibrate with pleasure, as if meeting an old friend, who had been lost to us for years, but whose every lineament was deeply engraved on our very hearts.

How infinitely more stirring to the heart are such airs as "The Blue Bells of Scotland," "The Exile of Erin," and "The Last Rose of Summer," than the foreign airs, however splendid, which we occasionally hear? What a delicious treat to listen to the Band of the Royals, or that of the Rifle Brigade, rekindling past joys by some happy old tune, or melting the soul to tenderness with some pathetic strain.

United States News.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

The Helderburg Indians.—Almost every Northern mail brings us the account of some new outrage by these men. It is evident that they are numerous, well organized for violence and crime, resolute to do evil, and in condition, as they are ready, to despise all the ordinary means of upholding the law. They have already, in more than one instance, been guilty of robbery, of violence to person, of treason; they have meditated murder, and their whole organization is a conspiracy. Is nothing to be done in vindication of the laws? Are these men to carry their point in defiance of sheriffs and of possees—of the judiciary and the Executive? If not, it is high time that measures were in progress to bring them within the controlling influence of rightful power and authority. Every day, every hour of impunity, adds to the danger and the mischief. But a little longer and we shall hear of their having done murder as well as threatened it.

Their organization is said to extend over a territory of twenty four miles square, and to comprise a population of several thousands. It is supposed that about two thousand have provided themselves with Indian masks, and that they have abundant supplies of cannon and military stores, in preparation for a desperate and deadly resistance. A fearful state of things.

A writer in the Boston Transcript says that he was present at a muster, or parade, of about a hundred and fifty of these men, last week, at Lebanon Springs—a powerful set of men, well mounted, and most of them armed with rifles or carbines. Their appearances were very formidable, and their disguises were so well adjusted that not an individual could be recognized. Their conduct on this occasion was peaceable. They muster every Saturday, and visit different points of the manor. The week previous they were within five miles of Albany.

The United States Government Oregon Expedition.—The St. Louis Missourian contains the following particulars of Lieut. Fremont's expedition which has just returned to that city from the far West:—the party, it will be remembered left this city on the 13th of May, 1843—very nearly fifteen months ago—and by the latter part of that month they had passed the western boundary of Missouri and launched out into the Prairies.— Leaving the frontier in the beginning of

June and travelling along the line of the Kansas river, the party reached the rocky Mountains early in July, and occupied that month in exploring the heads of the Arkansas. At the close of the month they crossed the mountains, and continuing their way to the westward, had reached the Great Salt Lake in the beginning of September. No human being had ever before visited the Island of this celebrated Lake—a few weeks were spent in exploring its unknown waters, and in surveying the adjacent country. The latter part of this month found them at Fort Hall, where the winter set in early with a severe storm on the 19th. Pursuing their way on the Oregon road, they reached the Falls of the Columbia early in the month of November. Leaving his party here, Mr. Fremont proceeded by water to Fort Vancouver, where he arrived at the commencement of the rainy season. On the 25th of November, in a snow storm, they left the "Falls" on their homeward route, intending to return by way of the Klamet and Mary's Lake. No interruption in the form of difficulties occurred to impede their march until they had passed the Klamet End of January their animals feet had become so much worn by the ice and rocks that they were scarcely able to travel; and provisions had begun to fail, as the country had been found destitute of game—the Indians subsisting on fish, or roots and seeds. They were now between the 33rd and 36th degrees parallel, immediately under the snowy range of California. Mr. Fremont determined to attempt to cross this, and to force a way to the settlement on the bay of San Francisco. The mountain is here one hundred and fifty miles broad, and on its Lake, in the middle of December, when their course to the southward and eastward was barred by parallel ranges of snow and volcanic mountains, in the valleys of which they were forced constantly to the southward, making little or no easting. They travelled this way along the eastern base of the great California mountains, whose peaks rise seventeen thousand feet above the sea, encountering many bands of Indians of a very wild character, and some of whom had never before seen a white man. Towards the upper regions, the snow was from five to twenty feet deep. They were occupied nearly a month in crossing it, finally succeeded, and early in March exchanged the snow of mid winter for the verdure of perpetual spring, in the valley of the river Sacramento. The party were cordially received and hospitably entertained, at his residence near the Bay of San Francisco, by John A. Sutter, Esq., Prefect of the frontier of California.—Here they remained some time to recruit; and at the end of March resumed their homeward journey. They proceeded several degrees to the Southward to recross the mountains, and passing over the California deserts by the Spanish Trace, reached Bent's Fort, by way of the head waters of the Arkansas on the first day of July, and the frontier of Missouri on the last of the same month.

New York Sun, Sept. 28.

Unusual Drought—Sickness in the Country.—The present drought is severer than any we have had in a number of years. It extends over Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Maine. The Morris Canal is dried up, and great difficulty is found in navigating the Delaware and Easton Canal. The coal trade is suffering in consequence of the low water. Coal cannot be forwarded at present, several hundred coal boats being already aground on the canals. We fear the price will be affected if the drought should continue much longer. On some roads in New Jersey and Pennsylvania the clouds of dust raised by the wagons can be seen at a distance of miles. The water is so scarce that the birds and wild fowl have taken to the larger rivers. There is much sickness, principally fever, in the country. The city air is now purer and healthier than that of the country, and our friends should return as rapidly as possible. In some parts of the country the air feels as though it came from a furnace.

From Mexico—Invasion of Taxes.—The New Orleans Republican of 16th instant publishes intelligence from Vera Cruz to the 24th August, received by the U. S. ship Falmouth, at Pensacola. The news lately inserted in this paper of 10,000 men having marched from Mexico on Taxes, is confirmed. The route these troops have taken is rather a long one, and it is believed they will not enter on an active campaign until late in the Autumn. The provinces through which they go will be obliged to main-

tain them, and perhaps they will acquire some volunteers as they go along. Steamer and other vessels are expected to convey troops from Tampico in October, to Galveston, which will be invaded and blockaded. Mr. Shannon, our Minister to Mexico, received an unusually warm greeting at Vera Cruz. We learn that there is not much sickness at Vera Cruz, and we believe that the same impunity from Yellow Fever that has been enjoyed in New Orleans, has been experienced all through the Southern Atlantic sea board, with the exception of Galveston.

The British squadron cruising against the slave trade, on the West coast of Africa, consists of Madagascar, Ringdove, Wasp, Albatross, Alteri, Spy, Ferret, Sappho, Rapid, Sea Lark, and two steamers, Penelope and Hydra, two or three other men of war about the Cape and Saint Helena.

Presbytery of Cincinnati.—The Rev. W. Graham was tried for the heresy of defending slavery. The discussion lasted three days, and the presbytery voted that the pamphlet of Wm. Graham does contain sundry great and dangerous errors, demanding their deliberate attention, and that this whole case be referred to the Synod, for their final adjudication.

SHIP NEWS.

St. John's, N. F., Sept. 17.—The schr. Speculation, Wood, of P. E. Island, Theophilus Wood, master, from Miramichi, with a cargo of deals, bound to this port, sprung a leak on the 4th instant, off St. Peter's, and notwithstanding every exertion on the part of the crew to keep the vessel free she became waterlogged on the 9th, when falling in with some fishing boats the vessel was towed into Trepassay. The master and crew arrived here yesterday.

By the Honourable James Carter, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Supreme Court for the Province of New Brunswick.

To all whom it may concern, Greeting:

Notice is hereby given, That upon the application of Richard Hutchison, of Newcastle, in the County of Northumberland, Merchant, on behalf of himself and John Pollock, Arthur Pollock, Allan Gilmour, Robert Rankin, and Alexander Rankin, his Co-partners in trade, trading under the style and firm of Gilmour, Rankin and Company, to me duly made according to the form of the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided, I have directed all the Estate of William M. Master, late of the Parish of Nelson, in the said County of Northumberland, Lumberer, (which said William M. Master hath departed from and without the limits of this Province, or concealing himself within the same with intent and design to defraud the said R. Hutchison and his Co-partners, and the other Creditors of the said William M. Master, if any such there be, of their just dues, or else to avoid being arrested by the ordinary process of the Law, as it is alleged against him,) to be seized and attached; and that unless the said William M. Master do return and discharge his said debt or debts within three months from the publication hereof, all the Estate, as well real as personal, of the said William M. Master, within this Province, will be sold for the payment and satisfaction of the Creditors of the said William M. Master. Dated at Newcastle this twelfth day of September, 1844.

J. CARTER.

STREET and DAVIDSON, Attorneys for Pet. Creditors.

Card.

The Subscriber begs to return his sincere thanks to the inhabitants of Miramichi generally, for their liberal patronage and support in his business while residing in Newcastle, and would now inform the public that he has turned his attention particularly to the Manufacture of Implements of Husbandry and Farming Utensils, and will keep constantly on hand a supply of all articles of that description, of the best quality and most improved kind, which he offers for sale at low rates, and would therefore solicit a continuance of public patronage, particularly as he conceives that the manufacture of such articles should be encouraged in the Country. Orders from all parts of the County will receive prompt attention, on timely notice being given.

R. RODERICK M'KENZIE.

Newcastle, Miramichi, Sept. 16, 1844.

A NARRATIVE of Facts and Circumstances connected with the

NORTHUMBERLAND ELECTION, which took place in the winter of 1843, to which are appended some remarks relative to THE HIGH SHERIFF AND OTHER DIGNITARIES.

AN ADDRESS TO THE BENCH from the whole of which may be gathered the state of political feeling and morale in that unhappy County.

By John Hea.

A PAMPHLET, of which the above is the title, has been printed, and is ready for distribution by the Author.