

negotiations are still pending, this information cannot be given. Considerable progress has been made in the negotiations, which have been carried on in an amicable spirit between the two countries, and I hope that it will be speedily brought to an amicable termination." He (Sir R. Peel) could confirm the assurance of President Tyler respecting the amicable spirit in which the negotiations had been carried on; but he could not confirm his statement as to the progress of the negotiations, and to his hopes of an amicable termination. On the 5th of March, 1845, Mr. Polk made his inaugural address as President. Since that time we have received no communication from our Minister, who had only been able to communicate the message, but had not time to make any comment on it. The Government of President Polk had been very recently appointed, and no diplomatic communication, as far as he was informed, had taken place with it. He thought it highly probable that Mr. Pakenham would have continued with the present Government the negotiations which he had commenced with the last; but he had no information on the subject. He trusted that the negotiations would be renewed. At no very distant period they would know the result of them. He did not despair of their favourable termination, but if the proposals of the British Government should be rejected, and no proposals were made by the Government of the United States to which we could accede, he should not object, on the part of the Government, to lay on the table all the communications between the two Governments. He still hoped that an amicable and equitable adjustment of the claims of the two countries might be made. He must, however, express his deep regret that, while the negotiations were still pending, the President of the United States should, contrary to all usage, have referred to other contingencies than a friendly termination of them. Such an allusion was not likely to lead to such a result as the friends to the real interests of both countries desired. He regretted not only the allusion, but also the tone and temper in which it was made. As the subject had been brought under discussion, he felt it to be his duty, on the part of the Government, to state, in language the most temperate, but at the same time the most decisive, that they considered that we have a right to this territory of Oregon which is clear and unquestionable; that we desire an amicable adjustment of the differences between ourselves and the United States; but that, having exhausted every effort to obtain it, if our rights are invaded, we are resolved and prepared to maintain them.

A tremendous burst of cheers from all parts of the house followed this announcement.

## United States News.

### DREADFUL FIRE AT PITTSBURGH!

More than 1000 Buildings Destroyed. A correspondent of the New York True Sun, writing from Pittsburgh, under date of the 11th inst. says: "I sit down in haste to give you a few of the particulars of one of the most distressing calamities ever witnessed on this continent—the great New York fire of '35 not excepted. About 35 or 36 squares of our city, containing about 2,000 houses, are this morning a heap of smouldering ruins. The fire originated yesterday at noon in a small house on the corner of Second and Ferry streets. The wind was blowing almost a hurricane, and the flames spread with frightful rapidity. Before daylight one third of our city was laid in ashes. Such a scene, probably, was never before witnessed. Thousands of people were hurrying through the streets, blinded by smoke and dust, and endeavouring in their agony to save their effects, their children or friends. Many, it is feared, have perished in the flames. Goods and furniture were scarcely removed to a place of supposed safety, ere the devouring element was again upon them. The bridge over the Monongahela river, a quarter of a mile in length, is this morning a floating wreck. Our finest hotels and public buildings are prostrate with the earth. Thousands of poor wretches last night had no other canopy than the heavens. The scarcely green hills are covered in their whole extent with houseless and poverty stricken people. It makes the heart sick to contemplate the scene. The church yards are filled to repletion. Tomb stones were gladly sought as a shelter for the night. Churches are crowded with ragged children and heart-broken parents. The business portion of our city has suffered tremendously. Insurance offices are perfectly bankrupt. The Bank of Pittsburgh and Monongahela House, which were years in building, are masses of rubbish. The loss is estimated at many millions of dollars."

### SHIP NEWS.

Hull, April 2—sailed, Ladyrath and Lord Mulgrave, for Miramichi. Aberdeen, March 26—sailed, Albion, Halifax. Liverpool, April 10—entered for loading, Seraphine, Affleck, Miramichi. April 2—sailed, Ditto Bay Chaleur. April 3—sailed, Speculator, Miramichi. Halifax, April 21—cleared, Sibata, Watt, Miramichi; Mayflower, O'Brien, Bay Chaleur.

## Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, APRIL 29.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY IN CHATHAM.—Wednesday last being the Anniversary of the Tutelar Saint of "Merry England," a Royal salute was fired at noon; and at the close of the day, a number of persons, and those claiming descent from them, together with several guests, amounting in all to upwards of forty, dined together at Layton's Royal Hotel. John Wright, Esq., very ably filled the Chair, assisted by MICHAEL SAMUEL, Esq., as Vice-President.

The following toasts were given, from the Chair, on which the usual honors were bestowed.

The Queen—God bless Her.

Prince Albert. Song—Here's a Health to Merry England's Prince.

The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family. Home Sweet Home.

The Day and all who Honor it. In the Days when we went Gipsying.

The Memory of St. Andrew & St. Patrick. Lord Metcalfe and the Canadas. Old English Gentleman.

Sir Wm. Colebrooke our Lieutenant Governor. Lord Falkland and Nova Scotia.

The Army and Navy. Lady Colebrooke and the fair Daughters of New Brunswick.

Our Guests. Auld Lang Syne.

A number of Volunteer Toasts were also given during the evening, among them were—the Agricultural Society of Northumberland; Sir Robert Peel; and the rest of Her Majesty's Ministers; the Duke of the United States; the Press, &c. Several of these were introduced with appropriate remarks, and others elicited replies.

During the whole evening the greatest harmony and good feeling prevailed, nothing having occurred to damp the ardour, or to mar the cheerfulness that existed to the close.

The saying is proverbial that an Englishman is fond of the good things of this world; the landlord, therefore, who is himself a native of 'Albion's Isle,' took especial care that his countrymen should not be disappointed on this head, for no pains were spared to gratify the tastes and palates of the company. Many thanks are due to the gentlemen who interested themselves in getting up the dinner, and when another year has rolled away, we trust they will again remember the day, and cause it to be "duly honored."

EUROPEAN NEWS.—The Royal Mail Steamer Caledonia, with the first April mail, arrived at Halifax on the morning of Sunday, the 20th instant, in a passage of 14 1/2 days. She was detained 36 hours to take out the debate which took place in both Houses of Parliament, on the subject of the Oregon Territory, and the Inaugural Address of President Polk. They were broached in both Houses, by the opposition, and all parties it appears, are determined to maintain, at all hazards, the rightful possession of that territory. The steamer brought out Sir George Simpson, long connected with the Hudson Bay Company, and intimately conversant with the Oregon territory, as a special messenger from the British Government to our Ambassador at Washington.

From the London Times of the 5th instant, we have copied a condensed report of the speeches of Lord John Russell, and Sir Robert, as well as a long editorial article on this important subject, which engrossed a large share of public attention when the steamer left.

The intelligence respecting the trade and commerce of the mother country, is of a highly cheering nature. The financial measures of the ministry, which were

previously announced, are all carried, without any material alteration, and appears to have given general satisfaction.

We have devoted a large space to extracts, which embrace all the news of consequence the British papers furnish.

ITEMS OF BRITISH NEWS.—The following paragraphs are copied from a letter published in the Halifax and St. John papers. It is dated Royal Exchange, London, April 5.

"By the way, there is an interesting article on the progress of the sugar trade of the United States, in Simmonds' Colonial Magazine for this month. This publication continues to devote a considerable space to the discussion of topics connected with North America, and therefore deserves the public support which we believe it continues to receive. In the April number there are papers on the Gaspe Company and the North American Fisheries, and on the proposed railroad from Montreal to Boston. Mr. Philip Vibert, a gentleman of considerable experience in every way fitted for the office, has been appointed resident Manager for the district by the Gaspe Company, and goes out in about a month to assume the duties of his office.

"Mr Wm. Stevens, of New Brunswick, is home endeavouring to organize a company to work and carry out, on a commensurate scale, the mines which he has recently leased from the Provincial Government. It appears that he has already shipped to this country considerable quantities of manganese and copper. There is not a doubt but that the newly formed Gaspe Company would have entered into some definite arrangement with him, but that they were debarred by their charter from entering into any other speculation than those originally contemplated in their prospectus."

NEW STEAM PROJECT.—The Pictou Chronicle states, that Captain Douglas will take home the Unicorn, and that he intends to be out again by the 1st of June, with an Iron Steamer, to run between Pictou and Quebec, touching at Miramichi, Charlottetown, and Gaspé. As this will be a great accommodation to the public, we trust the report may prove correct, and that the undertaking may prove profitable to the projectors.

THE GREAT WESTERN.—This steamer arrived at New York, on the morning of the 16th inst., after a very boisterous passage of seventeen days and a half.

FIRE.—We have to-day the unpleasant duty to report three very disastrous fires—one of which occurred at Pittsburgh, in the United States, when upwards of 1000 houses were totally destroyed. The second in the town of London, in Canada, on the 13th inst., which consumed nearly half the buildings in the place; the third in the township Verulam, District of Colbourne, Canada, on the 22nd ult., where the dwelling of a farmer named John Bentley, was consumed by fire, and Mrs. B. with six of her children perished in the flames.

The latest accounts from Pittsburgh state that 1,800 buildings were consumed, which occupied 25 squares. Several attempts were made by some fiends, in human shape, to set fire to the remaining part of the city. They were however, fortunately discovered in time to prevent them doing much damage.

THE SEASON.—The weather continues very unfavourable. The ice still holds fast—in a state which precludes the possibility of having communication with the opposite shore. A few hours of rain, or a fine warm day, we think, would break it up. All the rivers to the Southward, we understand, are open.

The Fredericton Courier informs us that the Southwest ice is broken up, as far as Nelson.

TOWNSHIP OF PICTOU.—A contest for the representation of this Township, has been avoided by both parties agreeing to return Mr Blackadar, the former candidate having withdrawn.

THE BRITISH MAIL.—To the attention of the Hon. John Montgomery, who came passenger in the Caledonia, we were kindly put in possession on the morning of Friday, of London papers to the 5th instant. Our mail was forwarded

to meet the Fredericton Courier, who did not arrive until late yesterday afternoon. This is a sad disappointment to our Merchants and the community generally. The cause of the detention, was owing to the mail not getting up to Fredericton until Friday night. The Courier could not cross the river until noon the next day, and then with much risk and difficulty.

ST. JOHN.—We copy the following paragraph from the Courier of Saturday last.

"Our River Navigation has again opened. The Steamer Meteor was to start from Indian Town this morning for Fredericton, and the Fredericton is to follow this evening, and the New Brunswick on Monday morning.—This Spring the ice has been almost entirely removed by the heat of the sun no rain of consequence having fallen. Yesterday and this morning we have had a cool North East wind, and there is now a prospect of rain which is much wanted to assist farming operations, and remove the great quantity of snow yet remaining in the woods. Such a continuance of warm and bright sunshine as we have experienced since the commencement of April, is we believe, unprecedented in this Province."

MIRAMICHI, 24th April, 1845.

Sir,—Your favor of the 23rd instant I have received, with a copy of the Resolutions passed at a Public Meeting on the 21st inst., convened by the High Sheriff of the County, at the instance of a large number of highly respectable Freeholders, from both sides of the River. The sentiments contained in these Resolutions are very gratifying, and convince me that my earnest desire and humble efforts to promote the good of the Country, and of this County in particular, have not been lost sight of by the inhabitants of this section of the Province. Please communicate this reply to the Gentlemen composing the Committee.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

ALEX. RANKIN.

To Mr Niel McLean, Secretary to the Meeting.

MIRAMICHI, 24th April, 1845.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 23rd instant, enclosing me a copy of the Proceedings and Resolutions of a Public Meeting of the Freeholders of this County, held on the 21st instant, convened by the High Sheriff, on the Requisition of a large number of most respectable and influential members of this community; and in reply, I beg to say that the proceedings of this Meeting cannot but be highly gratifying to my feelings. My great and first object as a Public Man, Sir, has always been to deserve well of my fellow subjects, and especially of the high-minded, straight forward, and loyal Freeholders of this County; and although, Sir, I have fallen far short of my wishes in this respect, yet this striking and unanimous expression of approbation of the conduct of the Representatives of this County, embodied in Resolutions passed (as I am credibly informed) at one of the largest public meetings almost ever held in this County, composed of Freeholders, too, from almost every section thereof, and held at a time when the state of the travelling was such as afforded every facility to Friend and Foe to attend, and of which, I believe, the fullest notice was given, is peculiarly gratifying to my feelings, inasmuch as it convinces me that my efforts to promote the true interests of the Province, and of this County in particular, have been appreciated by those whose good opinion I am proud to possess. You will do me the favor to communicate this reply to the Gentlemen composing the Committee, and with my thanks for your trouble in forwarding to me the Resolutions in question, I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. A. STREET.

To Mr Niel McLean, Secretary to the meeting.

PASSENGERS IN THE CALEDONIA.—The Hon. John Montgomery, and A. Ritchie, Esquire, of Restigouche, and Mr L. Des-Brisay, of Richibucto.

To make room for the European news, we have been compelled to omit a number of advertisements, and some interesting Colonial matter.

### Deaths.

At Portland, (State of Maine) on the 10th of April, Mr. Levi Lockhart, in the 63d year of his age, a native of Newport, N. S.