

## Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:  
CHATHAM, SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1845.

**THE GREAT BRITAIN.**—The New York papers state that this steamer had the largest mail ever taken out to that city,—her letter money amounted to nearly \$3,000.

**THE SEASON.**—The Weather still continues unusually cold, and large quantities of snow still remain in the woods. Wednesday last was an exception, the wind blew from the Southwest, and the heat was excessive. On Thursday and Friday it was cold and chilly, and some rain fell. It is satisfactory to perceive the extensive preparations which are being made to put the cleared land under crop—wheat appears to be the favourite grain.

Within the last two days we have had the satisfaction of seeing the arrival of seventeen square rigged vessels, two only, had previously arrived.

**POLITICS OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.**—As nothing officially has appeared, respecting the Despatch which it has been reported the Lieutenant Governor has received from the Colonial Secretary, disapproving of the appointment of Mr Reade to the office of Provincial Secretary, we give below all the information the Colonial papers contain on this subject.

If the version of the affair, given by the editor of the Loyalist, be correct, two important questions, (as far as this Province is concerned) are settled. First—that on a vacancy occurring in any of the public offices, the same is to be filled by a Colonist, or by a person who has resided some time in the Province having claims—but what constitutes a claim, or how many years residence be necessary to qualify parties for office, is not stated. If the Home Government has conceded to us so great a privilege, it is not for us to complain, whatever we may think of the policy or expediency of their so doing. The second—in the acceptance of Mr. Wilmot's resignation, it is fair to presume, the British Government sets at rest the question of Responsible Government, as understood by that Hon. Gentleman; namely, that *Heads of Departments should be selected from the Lower Branch of the Legislature*, and that their continuance in office must depend upon their being able to secure a seat every time the Assembly is dissolved. We sincerely trust that this may prove correct; and we have no hesitation in saying, that this declaration of the Home Government will meet with the approbation of nine-tenths of the inhabitants of the Province. We shall wait with anxiety some official announcement of what has actually occurred at the recent meeting of the Council at Fredericton, and the tenor of Lord Stanley's Despatch.

From the Loyalist's remarks we select the following extracts:—

"It thus appears that of all the members of the late and present Government, Mr. Wilmot alone is excluded.—This is as we anticipated. We do not mean to say that we expected the Conservative triumph would have been felt at this early period, but we did most cordially anticipate a Conservative triumph in the course of a year or two, and were quite certain that Mr. Wilmot, had, by the rash terms upon which he tendered his resignation, officially excluded himself from office when such triumph should be achieved. We attribute to the circumstance that Mr. Wilmot, in his letter to His Excellency containing his resignation, gave to Messrs. Chandler, Johnston and myself, says, 'I am of opinion that the Provincial Secretary should now be brought into one of the Houses of Legislature—the executive Government, and should hold a seat in the House of Commons upon the successful administration of the Government; and therefore, as the appointment in question is made irrespective of any of these conditions, I am bound to give it my opposition.'"

This declaration was made because the principle demanded had been recognised in Canada, and because Mr. Wilmot thought it should have been introduced here. But we had seen examples which showed how thoroughly dis-

gusted the British Ministry had become with the working of the principle in Canada, and could have prophesied that they would feel extremely reluctant to allow it to be introduced in this Province, and consequently that though Mr. Wilmot's declaration might have been an honest one, it was far from being judicious. And so it has proved; and we hail it as a triumph with which Conservatives all over these Colonies should feel elated, that, after some years trial of the principle in Canada, it has been found to work so bad that Her Majesty's Ministers have decidedly put their veto upon its introduction into another Province.

"There is much speculation afloat as to who out of the ten Executive Councillors now summoned will remain and who retire. Hitherto the number has never exceeded eight, and we thought they were limited to nine, but we have been recently informed that they are limited to ten, so that—if they can agree—they can all sit. But how far this would be proper involves a very serious consideration."

The following is copied from the Halifax Times of Tuesday last.

"The Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick, appears to be placed in no very enviable situation by his appointment of Mr Reade, which has been disapproved by the Home Government. It is not known however, publicly, whether he is answerable to the Ministry at home, for the peculiarity of his present position. Some persons assert that he had orders to offer the first vacant situation in the Colony worth acceptance to Mr Reade, whose previous services in other Colonies, had given him a claim upon the Government.—Should this be true, Sir William Colebrooke would not be much to blame after all. But wherein, it may be asked, lies the responsibility? We answer thus. The British Government acknowledge it, by paying a due deference to the feelings and wishes of the people of the Province, expressed through their Representatives. They admit, by disallowing the appointment of Mr Reade, that the Colonists themselves have the preferable claim to offices that may fall vacant and by this one decision have established a great principle in the charter of our political rights. The prerogative to appoint remains unquestionable, but a limit has been placed which will not in future be overstepped by the Crown, except demanded by a public emergency, or required by the people themselves. If this be the true state of the case, and we hope it will so turn out to be; there will be no necessity for the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick resigning his command, as some of the papers of that Province seem to expect he should. The retired Councillors may again take office, and carry on with him the Government in an amicable and friendly manner. The difficulty would be with those Councillors who sided with the Governor, and however good their intentions may have been, they will feel themselves in a dilemma, from which we trust they may escape with no loss of public reputation. The appointment it is stated, will be made direct from the Colonial Office, and there is no room to doubt that it will be satisfactory to the Province at large, and allay all the excitement which has arisen upon the subject."

**PUBLIC DINNER.**—The Dinner to the Members of the County, came off, as announced, on Wednesday last. We have not yet been furnished with particulars.

**COLONIAL POPULATION.**—According to the census taken in the year 1842, the total population of the British North American Colonies amounted to 1,621,152—the West India Colonies 901,082.

**TEXAS.**—A Proclamation has been issued by the President of Texas, calling an extraordinary session of the Congress, to take into consideration the proposal of annexation, by the United States.

**UNITED STATES.**—A Boston paper of the 5th instant contains the following paragraph:—"Last night was literally a night of terrors. Alarms of fire were ringing in the ears of our citizens almost constantly, and the firemen were jaded to the utmost. There seems to have been a concerted scheme by incendiaries to fire the city in various places; but the vigilance of the Firemen rendered it abortive."

**THE WEATHER IN ENGLAND.**—While the season with us has been a very dry one, it appears by late accounts, that the inhabitants on the Continent of Europe have been visited with heavy rains, which flooded the country, and did considerable damage. The following is an extract of a letter dated at Cologne, on the 4th April:

"We have been near thirteen days without accounts from the upper countries, on account of the inundations. Near Calruhe the waters are seven feet deep. The railroad between Bruchthal and Weistock is submerged. In the village of Stela, fifteen persons and a great

number of cattle have been drowned. At Frankfurt, the inundation has reached the Roemerberg. The Danube has also overflowed its banks. At Nuremberg, the Correspondent Journal could not be published, as it was impossible for the compositors to reach the printing office."

**REV. SYDNEY SMITH.**—The Nation, an Irish paper, contains the following tribute to the memory of the late Reverend Sydney Smith:—

"Poor fellow! 'tis the first time we ever heard his name with gloom. His light is flown, and he rests with folded wings in the tomb. His life was full of joy and service. He had a wide knowledge, great flexibility, a kindly heart, and wit that forever flashed and glided. Rarely was there seen a nobler use of that perilous gift. He used it to sap tyranny, to ruin cant, to make men happy. His contributions to the Edinburgh Review were like rifle shots against the army of darkness—sharp, sure, and flashing. Brave against the most powerful and the most popular, never truckling, rarely exaggerating—his works and Macaulay's are nearly all that will survive of that renowned journal. Ireland, and especially Irish Catholics, owe him strong gratitude. Frequently in the Review, and more elaborately in 'Peter Plymley's letters,' he advocated emancipation with the clearest reasoning, in the finest English, overwhelmed the foes of liberation with a shower of invectives, scorn and jest, and did much to enlist in its cause, or deter from its opposition, the literature and refinement of England. His latter politics were consistent with his early—they were high Whig. He was an Englishman, and must not be judged on Irish principles. What we can judge of are his wondrous wit, his love of liberty, his services to Ireland. We, too, would be permitted to lay the crown of Irish yew upon his grave."

**LITERARY CHARACTERS.**—The London papers by the last mail, report that the celebrated comic writer of the age, Thomas Hood, was on a bed of sickness, with no hopes of his recovery. The previous mail brought intelligence of the death of Laman Blanchard, another humorous writer. The April No. of Hood's Magazine contains the following pathetic passage in relation to the expected demise of its talented Editor:—

"THOMAS HOOD.—It is with a heavy and aching heart that wearken these pages, that have so often reflected the brilliant wit of our beloved Editor, and the calm lustre of his serious thoughts, with the sad tidings of his approaching death; a death long feared by his friends, long even distinctly foreseen, but not till now so rapidly approaching as to preclude all hope. His sufferings, which have lately undergone a terrible increase, have been, throughout, sustained with manly fortitude, and Christian resignation. He is perfectly aware of his condition; and we have no longer any reason or any right to speak ambiguously of a now too certain loss—the loss of a GREAT WRITER; great in the splendour of his copious imagery, in his rare faculty of terse incisive language, in his power and pregnancy of thought, and in his almost Shakespearian versatility of genius; great in the few, but noble works he leaves behind; greater, still, perhaps, in those which he will carry unwritten to his early tomb. It is this, indeed, which principally afflicts him; the man is content to die—he has taken leave of his friends, and forgiven his enemies (if any such he have) and 'turned his face to the wall'; but the poet still longs for a short reprieve, still watches to snatch one last hour for his art; and will perhaps even yet, once more, floating towards the deep waters of eternity, pour out his soul in song."

"In any case, the last number of his Magazine that he may live to see, shall not go forth without some impress of the master's hand—some parting rays of the flame now flickering low in the socket. We have chosen for this purpose the beautiful conclusion of his Ode to Melancholy, which those who know it will delight to read again—while for others it may help to solve the enigma of his many-sided genius, to account for the under-current of humor that often tintured his gravest productions, and to justify the latent touch of sadness that was apt to mingle in his most sportive sallies. Truly, indeed, for the poet's earnest heart,

"All things are touched with Melancholy,  
Born of the secret soul's mistrust,  
To feel her fair ethereal wings  
Weigh'd down with vile degraded dust;  
Even the bright extremes of joy  
Bring on conclusions of disgust,  
Like the sweet blossoms of May,  
Whose fragrance ends in dust.  
Oh give her, then, her tribute just,  
Her sighs and tears, her musings holy!  
There is no music in the life  
That sounds with idiot laughter solely;  
There's not a string attuned to mirth,  
But has its chord in Melancholy."  
Hood's "Ode to Melancholy," (1827.)

**UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD,** March 22nd, 1845.—In a convocation holden on Saturday, the Degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred by Degree of Convocation

upon the Rev. Dr. Medley, M. P. of Wadham College, who has been nominated Bishop of New Brunswick.—*Ecclesiastical Gazette*, 8th April, 1845.

**FIRE.**—On Saturday last, the 10th instant, in the Parish of Northesk, a School House caught fire, and was consumed; the building being contiguous to the Baptist Meeting House, the flames communicated with that building, which was likewise consumed, without the inhabitants being able to subdue the fire, altho' every exertion was used for that purpose. The fire was purely accidental.—*Communicated.*

**THE BERMUDAS.**—A correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer, furnishes the following brief description of the formidable military depot established in these Islands by the British Government:

"How few of our war-dogs are aware that at Bermuda the British Government has constructed within a few years past, a spacious harbour for the accommodation of their squadron; that for several years they have employed a fleet of colliers in making it a depot of coal; that they have also in store the armament and duplicates of important parts of machinery for every steamer under her flag, now the Atlantic and the Caribbean; and in addition to the large supplies of military stores, that they keep constantly on foot 4000 head of cattle!"

## This Morning's Mail.

The Courier with the Fredericton mail did not arrive until this morning. The papers published in that place do not furnish any additional information respecting the proceedings of the Councillors at their late sitting. The Loyalist contains a rumour that the Hon. John Montgomery had tendered his resignation.

The St. John Observer of Tuesday, says that the bodies of seven of the unfortunate persons lost by the wreck of the schr Tom Cringle, near Musquash, have been recovered, and were brought to St John, and interred.

The Steamer St. George arrived last evening. A gentleman on board informs us, that they put into Bedeque, which occasioned much delay, and necessarily, a considerable consumption of fuel. After waiting some time, no addition was made to their passenger list, and the only thing in the shape of freight procured was a basket containing two hens. They then proceeded on their voyage.

Passengers—Mrs Jameson and son, George Coles, Esq., James Purdy, Esq., and 22 in the steerage.

## Marriages.

At Bathurst, on the 29th ult., by the Rev. George McDonnell, Mr John Mitchell, to Miss Mary Proctor.

At New Dunlop, by the same, on the same day, Mr Alexander Macintosh, to Miss Mary Lindsay.

## Deaths.

On the 3rd instant, at Indian Town, Miss Mary Stewart, aged 27 years.

On the 7th instant, at Northesk, Eleanor, wife of Mr A. C. Donaldson, aged 22 years.

On the 11th instant, at Indian Town, Charlotte, wife of Mr William Fifth, aged 20 years.

At Belledune, by the Rev. George McDonnell, on the 12th inst. Mr Hugh Lark, to Miss Sarah Galbraith, of Belledune.

## Shipping Intelligence.

## PORT OF MIRAMICHI.

Entered, May 9—brig Emerald, Ryle, Newcastle—Crane & Allison; schr Happy Return, P. E. Island.

13th—schr Sarah, Campbell, P. E. Island.  
14th—schr Charlotte, Doudett, do.; Pearl, Hall, Halifax—Joseph Cunard & Co.; Victoria, Paughad, Montreal—Gilmour Rankin & Co.; barque Lord Mulgrave, Lickis, Hull—do.

15th—schr May Flower, Baker, P. E. Island; Relief, Powell, do.; brig Myrtle, Halliday, Sunderland—Joseph Cunard & Co.; brig Gleaner, Beckwith, New York—Gilmour Rankin & Co.; James Johnson, and others.

16th—schr Elizabeth, Gallant, P. E. Island; brig Lord Althorp, Brack, Newcastle—Gilmour Rankin & Co.; barques Ross, Wolff, Hull—do.; Eudymion, Cordingley, do—do.; brig Mary Hudson, Tillock, Newcastle; schr Duck, Ready, P. E. Island; Agenor, McKay, do.; Elizabeth, McGowan, do.; Catharine, McLeod, do.; brig Ezra Ann, Ferguson, London, London—J. Cunard & Co.; barque Renewal, Youens, Newcastle.

**SAILINGS FROM BRITAIN.**  
Clyde, April 8—sailed, Romance, Bathurst.  
Lyon, April 2—sailed, Whim, Richibucto.  
Clyde, April 4—sailed, W. G. Anderson, and Henry Hood, for Restigouche.