

sists the weather for many years. The thickest parts serve for beams, posts, and rafters. They are also formed into broad planks, by being split open longitudinally with an axe, and spread out, by cutting through the alternate joints at sufficient distances to allow of their hanging together. In this state they answer very well for roofing and for flooring the upper story, which is that which is generally inhabited in the marshy districts. The guadua also serves for making bedsteads, tables and benches, which are both light and neat. The walls of the houses are made of the small branches tied closely together with thin thongs of raw hide, and plastered over with clay. The thickest canes, being frequently eight or nine inches in diameter, are made into buckets by cutting off joints for that purpose. Small barrels are made in the same way. The guadua is also in great demand in building bridges across the narrow rivers of the plains.—*W. Wittich.*

The Politician.

United States Press.

From the New York Albion, Jan. 10.

THE OREGON QUESTION.

The Oregon question, which carries with it the chances of peace or war, is still the theme which fills every mind and occupies every tongue. The debates in Congress acquire a new, and an intensity of interest daily, and daily the subject seems to become more complex and embarrassing. It is certain that the lull which took place last week, in consequence of the pacific course of Mr Calhoun, has been disturbed by the warlike speeches of Mr Adams and others.

On the 5th Mr Ingersoll, in the House of Representatives, from the Committee of Foreign Relations, brought forward the Resolution, for giving the year's notice to Great Britain to terminate the treaty of joint occupancy. It was to the following effect:—

"Resolved, (the Senate concurring). That the President of the United States forthwith cause notice to be given to the Government of Great Britain that the convention between the United States and Great Britain concerning the territory of Oregon, of the 6th of August, 1827, signed at London, shall be annulled and abrogated twelve months after the expiration of the said term of notice, conformably to the 3d article of the said convention of the 6th of August, 1827."

It appears that, in the committee from which this resolution emanated, there was a difference of opinion as to the propriety of its adoption; and, in consequence, Mr Gilbert Davis, one of the dissentients, appeared with a counter resolution, which he was authorized to make on behalf of the minority. This counter resolution was to the following purport:—

"Resolved, That the question whether a notice to terminate the convention between the United States of America and Great Britain, of October, 1818, and continued in force by the convention of August, 1827, ought to be given, is not a matter for the decision of Congress; and upon it this House at present refrains from the expression of any opinion."

Mr Ingersoll then moved, which he was directed by the Committee of Foreign Relations, that the Resolution be taken up for consideration on the first Monday in February. On this motion a very interesting debate arose and continued throughout the day, when an adjournment took place. In the course of this day's debate a very remarkable speech was made by Mr Giddings, of Ohio, in which he announced his change of opinion. On a former occasion, he said, he had been opposed to giving the notice to Great Britain, but since then, the Union had been changed in its essential elements, (by the admission of Texas) and a slave-holding oligarchy now holds the entire direction of the government. The southern portion of the Union, he averred, now hold the balance of power in the United States. Under these circumstances, he continued:—

"I am led to the conclusion, to the irresistible conclusion, that war, with all its horrors and its devastation of public morals, is infinitely preferable to a supine inactive submission to the slave-holding power, that is to control this nation, if left in its present situation. I wish to be distinctly understood, that I have seen enough of war to form an opinion of its effects, its miseries, and the extent of its curse. Yet sir, I greatly prefer them, for a few years, to the quiet apathy which has already subjected us to a change of the government formed by our fathers."

"Let no one say that I desire a slave insurrection; but, sir, I doubt not that hundreds of thousands of honest and patriotic hearts will 'laugh at your calamity and mock when your fear cometh.' No, sir; should a servile insurrection take place—should massacre and blood

mark the footsteps of those who have for ages been oppressed, my prayer to God shall be that justice—stern, unyielding, and unalterable justice, may be awarded to the master and to the slave."

Other parts of his speech were even more emphatic and startling. Mr Giddings is one of the party called Abolitionists, who sees in the admission of Texas into the Union, an additional permanency given to the slave system of this country; and he considers this so great an evil that he prefers war to the continuance of peace—as war would break up this slave system or neutralize it, either by a slave insurrection promoted by British invasion, or by the conquest and annexation to the northern portion of the Union of some of the British provinces. Such is the purport of his speech as we understand it: In addition to this, it is affirmed by a portion of the press, that the moving cause of Mr Adams's warlike oration was this same abolition sentiment, and that he and Mr Giddings acted with a perfect understanding of each other's views. We know not how far this may be true, but if the supposition be well founded, it follows that the war party has received an accession of strength by the adhesion of the anti-slavery portion of the country. Under such circumstances it is difficult to say how matters will terminate.

But the peace party is not idle. Mr Winthrop, of Boston, Mr Rhet, of South Carolina, Mr Yancy, of Alabama—have made powerful speeches in favour of moderation, and the resumption of friendly negotiations. The speeches are long, and we regret that we can only give skeletons of them. That the members of the southern part of the confederacy are ranging themselves under the banner of Mr Calhoun, is sufficiently apparent; and that Mr Calhoun is the advocate of peace, is certain. But the strength of the parties has not yet been tested by any decisive vote, and we therefore can give no opinion as to results.

Among many extraordinary things said in Congress, Mr Owen stated, that when American settlers went over to Oregon, and settled north of the Columbia, they were immediately bought off by the Hudson's Bay Company. One poor man, he averred, was cruelly bought off with \$800! If this could be proved, how many would flock thither to endure the like persecution!

The Colonial Press.

Halifax Royal Gazette, January 17.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

What a multitude of strange, odd, melancholy, humorous, and terrible things pass weekly through the world! now gazed at, wondered at, laughed at, shuddered at, and yet all would be forgotten were it not for such as we, poor, drudging, ill-paid chroniclers.—Be thankful then, pray, and be punctual too, our noble Patrons, for be assured that your edification and amusement are very near and dear to our heart. Well—but what of the News—the doings abroad and at home—for the week just gone by!

From abroad, then, late arrivals bring "Rumours of War." The news from the United States is of the deepest importance, and the conviction is forced upon us that Jonathan really intends to get up a very pretty fight, "but the end is not yet." Verily that same American democrat is an odd fellow. Democracy in America has arisen out of, and is associated with the no eccentric agitation of the spiritual man, but comes entirely from the terra firma man; it has grown out of circumstances; it has been fashioned by circumstances; external events have played their proper part; they have had their due, directing force. There is not the slightest trace of the theoretic kind of equality in the great Republic of this new world; and, despite her unmixt democratic forms, we believe that civil liberty will last in that region—but we also believe that its forms will undergo, and that at no distant period, many modifications, and admit many new elements into its composition—and all this will be hastened along by the mighty struggle—"that war of principles," as Canning foresaw and foretold it, which cannot be distant, if it may now be averted even for a brief season. All that is required is some ambitious Oergeterix to fan the flame, and stimulate it into action. How the too-imperturbable, forbearing John, on "t'other side of the sea," will receive Jonathans "Resolutions," we cannot say; but this we know, that if he yield to the braggart tones of the United States Congress, he is "John Bull" no longer. A war with the United States would

strengthen the hold of England upon this portion of the Continent—it would combine all classes, and men of every shade of Provincial politics into one solid phalanx to resist, aye, to the last, the aggressions of their ambitious neighbours. On points of local politics the Colonists of British America are divided—in their allegiance to Britain they are one. It is all very fine for Mr Polk's Major Generals to talk of "walking over the border," and "marching in continued triumph, from Montreal to Halifax;" we have heard, aforesaid, of Major Generals who "walked over the border," but with all the benefits of a sound drubbing, ran back again, and in haste, by the way they came.—We shall see.

Our Provincial Parliament is moving along quietly enough: the Despatches, which we have published, have revealed this fact, that the Administration has not been unmindful of the interests of the Colony; but, on the contrary, that every vigilance has been exercised both by Lord Falkland and his Executive Council in protecting, as far as in them lies, the rights of this people. Nor have we any, the remotest reason, to question the anxious solicitude of the Parent State, and her desire to throw her shield over us, to regard all our just claims, and to preserve unto us inviolate all our rights as British Colonists.

The Harmonic Society held their monthly meeting on Tuesday—to the delightful entertainments of this Association our community is much indebted. Music is a lovely art—it use singularly increases the enjoyments of life—it remarkably harmonizes the popular mind, and its general cultivation has always been found to supply a gentle, yet powerful solace for troubles inevitable to a life of labour.

To the Literary man it affords one of the simplest yet most ample refreshments of the over-worked mind; while to the higher ranks its cultivation, frequently the only cultivation they pursue with interest, administers often the only harmless passion of their nature.

The Steamer from Liverpool is expected hourly, and by her we may anticipate the receipt of news of great national importance: the repeal of the Corn Laws, if perfected, will be but another operation of this democratic age—an age, the tendency of which is, in every movement, and in every section of the European family of nations, to increase, indefinitely, the power of the masses; and to cripple, and ultimately annihilate even the semblance and name of monarchical rule. The "idealism" of France is doing its work, and hastening on a general and fundamental transformation of society in all its political and social relations—in all the civilized world.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY JAN. 24, 1846.

WINTER ARRANGEMENT FOR THE ARRIVAL AND CLOSING OF THE SEVERAL MAILS, AT THE POST OFFICE, CHATHAM.

TIME OF ARRIVAL.—Monday.—Nova Scotia, St. John, Fredericton, Dorchester, United States, (via St. Andrews,) Pettitcodiac, Richibucto, 6 A. M.

Tuesday.—Newcastle and Douglstown, 5 A. M.

Thursday.—Nova Scotia, Dorchester, Pettitcodiac, Richibucto, 6 A. M.

Friday.—St. John, Fredericton, Canada, United States, (via Woodstock,) Newcastle, South West, 6 A. M. Bathurst, Dalhousie, Campbellton, 8 A. M.

Saturday.—Newcastle, Douglstown, 5 A. M. Shippigan, Pokemouche, Tracadie, Tabisintac, 3 P. M., every fortnight.

TIME OF CLOSING.—Monday, Canada, United States, (via Woodstock,) Fredericton, Newcastle, South West, Douglstown, Bathurst, Dalhousie, Campbellton, 8 A. M. Shippigan, Pokemouche, Tracadie, Tabisintac every fortnight, 8 A. M. Nova Scotia, Saint John, Dorchester, Richibucto, Pettitcodiac, 9 P. M.

Thursday.—Newcastle and Douglstown, 8 A. M.

Friday.—Nova Scotia, Dorchester, St. John, United States, (via St. Andrews,) Richibucto, Pettitcodiac, 9 P. M.

N. B.—Letters will be forwarded upon the payment of a Fee of "six pence," and Newspapers "one penny" each, if posted within thirty minutes after the time appointed for the closing of the respective mails at this Office.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY.

At the Annual Meeting of the Highland Society of New Brunswick, held at Hamill's Hotel, Newcastle, 13th January, 1846.

DR. ALEXANDER KEY, President, in the Chair.

The Secretary having read the Minutes of last Annual Meeting and the Report of the Board for 1845—

The Committee having concluded the usual routine business of the Society, the Meeting proceeded to the election of Office Bearers, for the ensuing year.

It was unanimously resolved that the under-mentioned gentlemen be nominated to their respective offices, viz.

Chief—His Excellency Sir William McBean George Colebrooke, K. C. B., Lieutenant Governor.

President.—Doctor Alexander Key.

Vice Presidents—Honorable John Montgomery, of Dalhousie; Alex. Rankin, Esq., M. P. P.; T. C. Allan, Esq.; P. Morrison, Esq., Col. R. C. McDonald.

Treasurer—T. C. Allan, Esquire.

Chaplain—Rev. John C. Macbean.

Secretaries—Alex. Fraser, Jun., Esq., and Mr Alex. Loudoun.

Directors—George Kerr, Roderick McLeod, John Fraser, John Miller, (Gloucester) John McDonald, (Bay du Vin) Richard Hutchison, Alexander McLaggan, James Caie, Alexander Goodfellow, Donald McKay, (Northesk) and Wm. Loch, Esquire; Rev. Mr Henderson; Messrs. David Johnstone, John Macdougall, Donald McNaughten, and Mr John Mackie.

Piper—Mr Alexander McDonald.

NIEL McLEAN, Secretary.

Miramichi, 13th January, 1846.

REPORT.—1845.

Your Committee are gratified to Report the very favourable auspices of the Society. Its friends and members are increasing yearly. Members from other Counties of the Province are happily ranking themselves under its banners and handsomely augmenting its funds.

Your Committee have not felt themselves hitherto warranted in entrenching upon the funds of the Society for any general or particular object; while the Committee recommend the strictest economy in any appropriation which the Society might deem it proper to make, it would appear expedient that during the present year the Society might fix upon some meritorious object for their benevolent consideration.

A Committee was appointed for the Revision of the Constitution of the Society, at its last Annual meeting.

A Committee was also appointed to procure for the Society an appropriate Seal and Plate, under the auspices of the Highland Society of London, and report that they have duly attended thereto.

NIEL McLEAN, Secretary.

UNITED STATES.—Knowing that our readers are desirous of being made acquainted with how matters are proceeding in Congress on the subject of Oregon, we have taken some pains to collect from the United States papers, all the information they furnish on this deeply interesting question.

In the House of Representatives on the 6th instant, Mr. McConnell, of Alabama, asked leave to introduce the following Resolutions, which was granted, and they were accordingly read.

"Resolved, That we hail the elevated feeling that now prevails in our glorious confederacy, to strengthen and consolidate the principles of Republican freedom, and extend the blessings of our free institutions in every practicable quarter of the universe, in the spirit of christian love and peaceful brotherhood."

"Resolved, That while we hail the admission of Texas (which fought her own way to independence) as a sister State into our Union, we now, with unaffected pride and satisfaction, have the determination of the Executive and Congress, to uphold our title to Oregon, and in the same spirit we observe the growing desire to incorporate Mexico, Yucatan, California, &c. into the United States, and that Ireland is fully entitled to share the blessings of our free Institutions."

"Resolved, That the Irish people have long been ground down to the dust by British misrule and misgovernment, and that while they have been thus ground down by a Monarchical Government yoke, they have always cherished the principles of a Democratic Government, the only kind of Government that has ever ensured freedom to man."

Resolved, That the House will receive with due attention and consideration any communication that may be forwarded by that high-minded and liberty-loving people, with a view to effect such an object."

What a cutting and bitter piece of satire the first and second Resolutions are on the spirit of aggrandizement, and the vain and presumptuous boasting that now unfortunately pervades the Legislature halls of our Republican neighbours. We cannot believe the mover is serious in this matter, but are inclined to think he intends it as a burlesque on recent sentiments expressed by members, and measures adopted in Congress.

On the 8th instant, Mr. Allan, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported the joint Resolution advising the President to give notice of the termination of the convention in twelve months, with an amendment, abrogating the con-