

United States News.

From the New York Albion.

Congress.—The speeches in the Senate on Oregon affairs, have been important of late. Mr. Webster spoke in favour of adopting the line of 49 degrees. With this he thought the majority of the people of the United States would be satisfied; and he thought too that England would meet them on that basis. [This distinguished Senator's speech will be found at length on our first page.] On Tuesday, 31st March, Gen. Cass once more addressed the Senate in a war-speech, that out-Heroded all his former efforts. He seemed to dwell with delight on the prospects of war—declared that peace was impossible, and contended that it would not require the half of ten years, nor the half of 200,000 men to bring England, to terms, and dictate peace in her own capital! On Wednesday, 1st April, Mr. Benton spoke, and on some technical points, in relation to the treaty of Utrecht, and the parallel of 49 deg. Gen. Cass was completely overthrown. We perhaps cannot do better than explain this matter in the words of the *National Intelligencer*:—"It will be recollected that in the debate on Monday, Mr. Webster suggested that the United States had acknowledged the fact that the forty-ninth parallel of latitude had been established by the treaty of Utrecht as a boundary, at least on this side of the Rocky Mountains. Mr. Cass on Tuesday, argued, on the contrary, that no line had ever been determined under the treaty of Utrecht, and was understood to say that, if it could be established that such line of demarcation between the English and French Colonies had been determined under the treaty of Utrecht, he would never say another word in favour of 54 deg. 40 min. The honourable Senator from Missouri yesterday took up the gage, and with what success, the public will judge from a perusal of the speech itself. Its effect upon those who heard it was deep and striking. Mr. Hannegan, on behalf of Mr. Cass, (who was absent) made a very animated impromptu reply. But the position in which the distinguished and worthy Senator from Michigan stands will undoubtedly lead him to attempt an ex-trication as well for himself as for the fifty-four party, which, according to Mr. Benton, is becoming 'small by degrees and beautifully less.'"

Washington Rumours.—The correspondent of the Baltimore American, of Friday, writes that the Committee on Naval Affairs, were ready and anxious to report that morning, but that the majority took the matter into their own hands, and refused to allow the reports to be read. The information which the House designed to keep secret is the fact that estimates were made by the heads of the Naval Bureaus. Commodores Morris, Warrington, Crane, and Shubrick proposed, under estimates prepared by the Secretary of the Navy, the following increase of the Navy:—In men, thirty-six thousand eight hundred; Expenditure, \$20,000,000. And the increase of the vessels in commission to the following number:—Steamers, 40; Frigates, 40; Sloops of War, 20. An increase of fifty-eight vessels of war in all. The Secretary of War did not go to this extreme, but proposed an increase of fifty thousand to the Standing Army, the whole force to be under the controul of the President of the United States. A correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says that recent despatches from Mr. McLean, by the the Hibernia, inform our Government substantially, that the British Government will make no more propositions for a settlement of the Oregon question: that our government are at liberty to the notice and pass such laws as they may pass such laws as they may think proper for the protection of our citizens in Oregon, but that Great Britain will not permit any improper interference with her own rights of those under her protection.

Murder of a Missionary.—The South African Commercial Advertiser, of December 13, gives an account of the murder of the Rev. Mr. Scholtz, of the Berlin Society Mission, at the Cape of Good Hope. The Rev. gentleman and two other German missionaries who were on a tour, when near Fort Peddie, on the 28th of November, were attacked by a party of Kaffirs, and Mr. Scholtz and one of his attendants killed. On the 2d of December the Lieutenant Governor visited the mission station, in company with a Kaffir chief, and immediately summoned two others, who were told that unless the murderer, whose tribe had already been ascertained, were given up, con-

punishment would be visited upon the whole tribe. It was thought that he would be produced.

The advertiser reports also the following murder, of which intelligence was received in a letter, dated Port Beaufort, Nov. 30. 'Information has just come in from Port Victoria, of the murder of Captain Shepherd, R. A. supposed by a man of his own corps, who is said to have shot him as he passed his quarters.'

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

Iron Castings.—The demand for this article in this city for building purposes alone must be very great, when it is considered that one improvement in this city, the building now in process of erection at the corner of Sixth and Chesnut streets, will require upwards of 75 tons.

New York Sun, April 4.

The Cherokee Nation of Indians continues in a most deplorable condition, as disgraceful to the governing parties as to the United States forces in the vicinity. Murders of the most horrible character; assassinations in the highway or at the family fireside; dirkings in the towns and butcherings of fellow men in the settlements, all these appalling scenes are constantly enacted in that distracted nation, the work of party prejudices. We do not see how the government of the United States can be defended for their strange indifference on the subject of Indian Government. If Government desire the destruction of the Indians, why not kill them decently, as in war, rather than permit these brutal conflicts between friends and neighbors.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 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, Tabisitac, 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, Tabisitac, every fortnight, 8 A. M. Nova Scotia, Saint John, Dorchester, Richibucto, Pettitcodiac, 9 P. M.

Thursday.—Newcastle, Douglstown, and 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.

EUROPEAN NEWS.—The arrival at St. Saint John of the Oromocto, has put the Editor's in that city in possession of Liverpool papers to the 7th March, three days later than previously received. Under the proper head we have given all the information furnished, which is important.

Boston papers received at Halifax contain some interesting information from Paris, to the 4th March, received by a packet ship at New York, which we have also copied.

TEMPERANCE LECTURES.—At the request of a number of Gentlemen, the Rev. Mr. HENDERSON, of Newcastle, kindly consented to deliver two Lectures on the important subject of Temperance, on the evenings of Tuesday and Wednesday last. As a room sufficiently large could not be procured, the Trustees of the Methodist Chapel kindly offered the use of that building for the occasion.

The Rev. Gentleman employed the first evening in detailing, at some length, the pernicious effects the intemperate use of all intoxicating liquors have on the constitution; the misery it entails on the indulger and his devoted family; the

crimes of which it is the fruitful source; the immense loss of property it yearly produces, particularly at sea, as well as of human life; and gave from well authenticated documents, the sum which was annually expended in the mother country for strong drinks, the announcement of which seemed to startle every listener.

In his second Lecture, he furnished a large amount of matter, detailing the extent to which intemperance prevailed in the chief towns of England and Scotland; gave us the united testimony of a number of eminent Surgeons, respecting the pernicious effects produced on the human system by the use of intoxicating liquors, as well as the declaration of a number of labouring men, who had ceased to drink spirits and malt liquors, that their health was improved, their domestic comforts enlarged, and their capabilities to undergo fatigue and labour considerably augmented.

The Rev. Gentleman then pointed out the great advantages which had resulted from the formation of Temperance, but more particularly of Total Abstinence Societies; besought the drunkard to seek shelter and protection under their banner; and concluded by affectionately urging on his hearers the necessity there exists for a combined and systematic action, to put down an evil which was bringing distress and misery on families—sinking man to the level of the brute—hurrying many of our neighbours and friends, who were once useful and respectable members of society, into an untimely grave, and what was of more consequence, sending their souls down to the pit of destruction.

The Lectures throughout were listened to with much attention by the numerous and respectable audiences assembled both evenings, and contained much interesting, and a large amount of useful and important information.

There is but one opinion in the community respecting the obligation under which they lie to the Reverend Gentleman, for the prompt manner in which he complied with the wishes of several gentlemen, to deliver these Lectures. For them, and in behalf of the inhabitants generally, we tender him grateful thanks, and sincerely trust he will have the gratification and pleasure of witnessing that his philanthropic labours to promote the moral, social, and religious condition of his fellow-man, have been crowned with a large measure of success.

POST OFFICE.—We perceive by the Journals of the Assembly, that the Committee on Post Office affairs have granted £100 to defray the expense of conveying the British mail by express from Halifax to St. John. They have also recommended the renewal of the grant of £100 to the Courier between the Bend of Pettitcodiac and Newcastle. Two days subsequently Mr. Howe informed the House, that the Post Master General had been pleased to relieve the province of the expense of conveying the second weekly mail from Pettitcodiac to Newcastle, after the expiration of the present quarter, when the same will be defrayed by the department.

As the Province will in future be relieved from this burthen, we trust a sum will be granted to forward the British mail to Miramichi, when the St. John express comes up to Dorchester. We labour under the same disadvantage as the inhabitants of that city, and have a right to expect an equal measure of justice will be awarded us.

Mr. Howe also informed the House, that as the expense of continuing a Post communication between Chatham and Pokemouche so greatly exceeds the gross amount received for postage, the Post Master General does not feel justified in ordering its continuance at the expense of the Department. Unless, therefore, the Legislature make the necessary provision, this post communication will be disconti-

nued. We perceive but £30 have been granted for this service, a sum altogether too small to keep the Courier on the route. The inhabitants in this quarter are much to blame in this matter,—they should remonstrate with the Legislature. As the time is now passed to do so this session, we hope they will not allow another to pass over without bringing the subject before them.

THE GREAT LAKES.—A Report of the State Geologist of Michigan, gives us the following tabular statement of the extent of these great inland fresh water seas in North America:—

Lakes.	Mn. length.	Mn. breadth.	Area sq. ms.
Superior	400	80	32,000
Michigan	220	70	32,000
Huron	240	80	20,000
Green Bay	100	20	2,000
Erie	240	40	9,600
Ontario	103	35	6,300
St. Clair	20	14	360

90,060

The same tabular statement exhibits also the depth and the elevation of each above tide-water:—

Lakes.	Mean depth.	Elevation.
Superior	900 feet	596 feet
Michigan	1,000	579
Huron	1,000	579
St. Clair	20	570
Erie	84	565
Ontario	500	232

It is computed that the lakes contain above 14,000 cubic miles of fresh water: a quantity more than half of all the fresh water on the earth. The extent of country drained by the lake, from Niagara to the North-Western angle of Superior, including also that of the lakes themselves, is estimated at 335,515 square miles.

HALIFAX.—The Store of Messrs. T. & E. Kenney has been broken open and robbed. The counting-house was entered—the desks and drawers rifled, and £25 carried off, besides goods to the value of from £200 to £250. A portion of the goods and money was discovered secreted in a house near Fresh Water Bridge, occupied by a carpenter named Donahoe. He is said to be a dissipated character, and was at large when the mail left.

STEAMER UNICORN.—This vessel had not arrived at Halifax on Tuesday morning, when the mail left. It was conjectured that she had been detained at Glasgow beyond the time named for her leaving, in consequence of her repairs not having been completed. We hope this may be the case.

UNITED STATES.—The Novascotian furnishes the following late intelligence from Washington, Boston papers to the 7th of this month being in the Editor's possession.

"In the United States Senate, the matter (the Oregon question) is still under debate. The manifesto of Mr. Webster on the Oregon question has excited great attention.

"On the 3rd instant, Mr. Clayton called for copies of any further correspondence which may have taken place between the American and British Governments since the date of the last communication.

"Mr. Webster advised Mr. Clayton to postpone it. Negotiation should have been tried first. He declared that public opinion was fast verging to a settlement of surrendering to Great Britain the free navigation of the Columbia, and all of Kaedrik's Island south of the 49th degree, and the entrance of the Straits de Fuca.

"After some speeches, Mr. Clayton consented to the postponement of his motion, as it might embarrass the President, and add to the difficulty of any negotiation that might be pending."

LEGISLATIVE NEWS.—We have devoted a large space to extracts from the Journals of the Legislature in our possession, which are to the 4th of the month. It will be seen from the following summary, taken from the Reporter of last Friday, that some of the members still continue to kick the dead lion, when an opportunity occurs:—

"On Wednesday, the committee of supply rose, having done more business in their way than had ever been transacted in any previous session of the Legislature. We cannot tell how the appropriations accord with the available amount of revenue—some hon. members contending that there has been an over expenditure of several thousands; others, among