

on the Babylonian bricks, which he considers to indicate the names of the kings in whose reign they were made.

Colonial News.

New Brunswick.

St. John Courier, July 25.

Railway Survey.—We learn, that the Survey of the line of Railway from the Atlantic to Québec, is to commence at Canseau, whither Capt. Owen has proceeded with Her Majesty's Surveying Steamer "Columbia," for the purpose of surveying the Harbours there. Lieut. Henderson, R. E. with a party is now on the line, and it is said will be at the Bend of Petitcodiac in a fortnight. Thence the party will proceed by the Salmon River to Boies Town, crossing the Tobique at or near the Wapskehan, and so northwardly to the St. Lawrence.

After running this line, we understand that several others will be explored, with the view of ascertaining that which is most eligible.

Additional Convictions under the Passengers' Act.—Captain James Cooper, of the barque *Renval*, from Berehaven, who was fined £10, sterling, and costs, for an insufficient supply of provisions, has also been fined in the mitigated penalty of £5, sterling, and costs, for an excess of passengers. This morning, James D. Cann, Master of the Brig *Burman*, from Sligo, on the complaint of the Government Emigration Agent, appeared before B. L. Peters and John Kerr, Esquires, and was fined in the sum of £5, sterling, and costs, for not having the proper description of provisions on board when the vessel sailed from Sligo; and also, in the further sum of £5 sterling, and costs, for irregular issues of provisions during the voyage.

Kingston Circuit.—The trial of Robert and William Weldon, indicted for the murder of John McKeel, commenced on Thursday last,—the evidence was closed last evening, when the Jury were charged and retired. They did not agree until this morning when they returned a verdict against Robert Weldon for manslaughter, and acquitted William Weldon altogether. Robert Weldon was sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour in the Penitentiary, and the Court for the trial of civil causes, was adjourned until the 15th day of December next, when the cases remaining on the Docket, eight in number, will be tried.

Potato Disease.—We have been shewn stalks taken from a potato field in the neighbourhood of this City, yesterday, which exhibit the commencement of disease, similar, we are informed, to that with which the potatoe crop was effected last year in this Province, and we are now too fearful that we shall have accounts from other parts of the Province bringing us tidings of symptoms of the blight in various other districts. A recourse was last year had to a number of remedies with a view of arresting the progress of the disease, and the most effectual one, we are assured, was the covering the stalks as far up as possible with earth. A farmer, who had adopted this plan, secured his crop in a healthy state, and although a laborious one, it is therefore recommended for more general adoption this year wherever symptoms of blight may be detected. The weather, however, has now become cool, the progress of the disease may be slow, if not altogether arrested, as its rapid progress last year was generally thought to have been accelerated by great heat after heavy falls of rain.

We understand that in the United States the disease assumed a less virulent form the second year, and hope that the same will occur with us. We would suggest to our country friends that White Turnips may be sown any time before the first of August,

United States News.

Important from Mexico.—The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald writes, "I saw some curious letters from Matamoras yesterday—so curious, indeed, that it may be but a shade this side of treason to give them utterance. A Mexican priest who has travelled in the United States and whose character would command respect anywhere, writes to a distinguished acquaintance at the capital of the Union, to enquire what this government will do in the premises, if Chihuahua, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas, declare their independence of Mexico, and seek a peaceful alliance with the United States; He

says distinctly that he can get no encouragement from Gen. Taylor, or those States would pronounce against Mexico about the middle of August. He complains bitterly that General Taylor prefers taking by the sword, and with much treasure, what a little address would bring to us in free gift. He lays especial stress, moreover, on the oversight of our people in not commissioning the civil and religious authorities of Matamoras to assure them comparatively of their perfect security in person, property and faith. There is no doubt our Generals should have the precaution to explain to the Mexican people and clergy how perfectly their national creed, and church property would be under the protection of our laws, and how greatly their brethren in the faith have prospered in every State in the Union.

The Southern Mail.

EUROPEAN NEWS.—The arrival at New York of the steam ship *Great Britain*, on Tuesday morning week, in a passage of 13½ days, has put us in possession of European news three days later than previously received. The intelligence, if not important, is interesting. We make some selections which we copy below.

The London Times of the 6th inst. in an article on Affairs in Mexico, says:

"For the protection of British interests in the Gulf of Mexico, the Edmonion frigate and the *Alarm* have been ordered down from Bermuda.—Com. Pring will probably be able to increase the squadron from Jamaica, where he hoists his broad pennant on the *Inaun*; and the *Albion* has been sent out, we believe, from this country.—In the Pacific, the British and American squadrons were both at Mazatlan, but no news has yet arrived of any operations on the Western coast.

"We trust, however, that without any further effusion of blood, and without prolongation of those risks which are inseparable from active hostilities we may look forward to the termination of this deplorable strife. It cannot be doubted that the extreme repugnance of the Mexican Government to come to terms with the United States upon the subject of the boundary of Texas, and the pertinacity with which these delicate questions have been kept open until they have led to positive hostilities, are attributable in a great part to a vague expectation that the differences between England and the United States would eventually secure to Mexico a powerful diversion, if not a powerful ally. The intelligence of the settlement of the Oregon question, and the happy removal of the last of those subjects of discussion which have for so many years endangered the amicable relations of the American and British Governments, will, therefore, probably produce as much effect upon the present heads of the Mexican Republic as the news of another victory gained by the Yankee rifles on the banks of the Rio Grande. We sincerely trust that the influence of the pacific termination of our own controversy will be felt in the speedy restoration of peace between Mexico and the United States; and at this time the mediation of British agents has been offered with peculiar propriety, to complete between other States the triumph of that policy which has been so successfully maintained by our own Government."

After speaking of the ill-timed and ridiculous scruples of the Mexican Government, which have invariably led to a condition of things a step worse than that which has preceded it—their insane refusal to recognize the Independence of Texas until Annexation had transferred the quarrel from a revolted province to an ambitious and a powerful rival &c., the Times continues:

"If, therefore, it be possible that the mediation of England should be exerted with any effect, not only to restore peace at this time between the United States and Mexico, but to remove the causes of future discord and the pretences of future aggression, it can only be by endeavouring to encourage the Mexican Government to undertake with rather more vigor and intelligence than it has yet displayed, the task of governing the country. British interest, arising out of the Mexican loans secured upon the soil of some of the provinces, are directly involved in these questions; and that security is perfectly illusory if we are not prepared to assert the claims which will at no distant period accrue under it."

Ireland.—There is not any news of importance from Ireland since the sailing of the *Cambria*. Some of those horrid murders, which have hitherto made that country a kind of Academa, have been lately perpetrated in the county of Cavan. A man named Thomas Burns, who resided on the lands of Denny Gaghan, near Belturbet, was dragged out of his bed on the 29th ult., in which were his wife and three children, one carrying him by the feet, the other two by his arms, and murdered him in a most cold blooded manner.

Two of the ruffians held Burns by his arms against a table at his own door, while a third deliberately groped for his short ribs, and discharged a pistol filled with duck shot. The shot spread upward and took effect in his lungs and heart. Poor Burns lived until the following day; and on the police being sent for, he gave information against the three

men, neighbors whom he knew and identified. They are now in Cavan jail. Their names are Smith, Farrelly, and Reilly, who fired the shot.

We learn that a popular outbreak took place at Banagher on the 29th ult. and that an attack on the Government provision depot was meditated, but owing to the solitary influence of a Roman Catholic, clergyman, Rev. Mr. Walsh, of Lusmagh, the peasantry were induced to return quietly to their homes.

The new Ministry is regarded by the Radical Press of Ireland as being doomed to a short existence. In the opinion of many of that party, it is thought that the late Premier's farewell speech has destroyed the last shred of popularity which Whiggery could lay claim to in this country; and Liberals of all shades now seem to regard Sir Robert Peel's return to power as merely a question of time—confident that whatever measures of reform his present successor may promise, he alone is the man destined to hereafter carry them into effect.

The reports respecting the state and prospects of the crops are highly encouraging. The weather is all that agriculturist could wish for; the splendid appearance of the wheat crop is particularly spoken of as being most abundant.

The Harvest in France.—A great many fields of barley have been already cut down in the environs of Paris. The crop is not heavy in the ear, and the straw short, as was to be expected from the long drought, but the quantity of grain appears to be equal to what is called an average crop. The late rains have had so beneficial an effect upon the artificial grasses, that they were in a full flower, and ready for the scythe. It is very rare for the second crop to be fit for mowing so early in July. If the weather should be favourable the third crop will be fit to cut in August.

Italy.—The London Times has letters from Rome to the 23rd ult., in which it is stated that the new Pope's Cabinet was formed in the most satisfactory manner, Cardinal Gizzi, a moderate Liberal, being named Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, or Prime Minister, and Cardinal Amati as Minister of the Interior. These nominations may be hailed as the first step toward temperate reform in the Roman States.

Iceland.—The eruption of Mount Hecla still continued according to the latest accounts of the 15th April. The pillars of fire rose from three new craters to the height of 14,000 English feet, and were broader than the largest river in the island, the Piarsen. The lava has already formed several high hills. Pieces of pumice-stone, or scoria, weighing two cwt. were thrown to a distance of a league and a half.

The Season and the Crops.—We have little further to add to the gratifying report which appeared on this subject in our last publication. From all quarters of these kingdoms the accounts are of a pleasing and satisfactory character. Wheat promises to be early and abundant. Oats, rye, and barley, look well, and are equally encouraging, the former having nearly recovered from the effects of the drought, by the copious rains which have fallen during the last week or two. As we mentioned in our last paper, there is not any further intelligence respecting the failure of the potatoe crop—partial failures, it is true, have taken place, but we believe we are warranted in asserting that there is just reason to expect, during the next season, a plentiful supply of this valuable and necessary esculent.

The British Revenue (actual) for the year ending July 5 1845, was £49,652,140; decrease ending July 5, '46, £48,394,420—decrease, over six million dollars.

There was a falling off of ten millions of dollars in the Customs, owing to changes in the Tariff: on other items generally an improvement.

The new British Ministry goes on swimmingly as yet. It is supposed that no member of the new Cabinet will be opposed in his reelection to Parliament, except possibly Mr Macanlay in Edinburgh, where his support of the Maynooth Grant and his want of sympathy with the Free Church have made him adversaries.

The retiring Ministers have had their audiences with the Queen, to Surrender the Seals, &c.—All is as yet harmony and good feeling between them and their successors.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The following despatch was received by the Governor of Newfoundland by the last mail, which evinces the parental care of the British Government for the interest of the Colonies.

Downing street, 3rd July, 1846

Sir,—I have to acknowledge with deep concern and commiseration your Despatch, No. 38, in which you make known to me the awful conflagration with which it has seemed good to the Almighty that the Town of St. John's Newfoundland, should be visited.

I have addressed, by the Mail of this day, a Circular to the Governor and Lieut. Governor of the other British North American Provinces, desiring them to render whatever assistance it may be in their power to give on this distressing occasion; an injunction which it was seemly for Her Majesty's Government to issue, but which I am sure is hardly necessary in order to secure their active interest in the measures of relief which it may be requisite to adopt.

Although the intelligence has reached England at a moment when Her Majesty's advisers only hold the seals of office until their successors shall have been designated, and shall be

prepared to receive them, yet I have not scrupled, in conjunction with my colleagues to form the judgment that the character and urgency of the circumstances at the particular moment imposed upon us the duty to act decisively so far as regards the affording immediate relief.

I am therefore to acquaint you that you are at liberty either to apply to the Officer in charge of the Commissariat on the station, or to draw upon the Lords of the Treasury forthwith for a sum not exceeding £500 to be applied under your authority and superintendance towards such purposes as may appear to you to be the most pressing in their demands, and to be duly accounted for.

After being consulted and conferred with gentlemen interested in the Colony, upon the question what description of relief would be most effective, I come to the conclusion that it ought to be given in the form of money, and that all necessary supplies could be better procured from sources other than the public stores of this country.

It will remain for the successors of the present administration to determine whether any and what further measures should be taken here in aid of the sufferers by this dreadful conflagration. They will approach the consideration of that question probably with full information and certainly with full authority. We have been called upon to act in a manner unusual under the circumstances in which we stand in consequence of the exigency of the moment; and our part therefore has been confined to affording, on the part of this country, a pledge of sympathy, and a fund sufficient for the immediate support of the destitute.

W. E. GLADSTONE.

From the Halifax Herald.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

By the arrival of the *Unicorn*, on Sunday evening, we have received Newfoundland papers to the 22nd inst. The committee appointed to devise a new plan of the town of St. John's, have closed their labours, and the report, which has been published, is now under the consideration of the House of Assembly.

The House of Assembly passed an address to the Governor of Newfoundland, which was presented on the 9th inst., requesting His Excellency to convey the thanks of that body to the Right Hon. Lord Falkland, and the people of Nova Scotia, for the liberality with which they extended relief to the sufferers by the late fire.

On the afternoon of the same day, an address was presented to His Excellency, congratulating on his appointment as Governor of Nova Scotia; expressing regret that Newfoundland is to be deprived of His Excellency's services, and requesting that His Excellency would be pleased to permit them to appropriate the sum £500, to enable them to bestow upon His Excellency a testimony of their sincere gratitude for the great services he has conferred upon the country.

His Excellency returned a suitable reply, which he states—"It is a relief to my heart to add that the moment for saying adieu has not yet arrived, as I hope to be among you for yet some weeks."

A message from the Governor was presented to the House on the 10th, in reference to the vote of £500 named in the address, that having given his consideration to the description of testimonial which would be most acceptable to his own feelings—be exceedingly agreeable to those of Lady Harvey—to whom the house has so kindly referred, and at the same time, as he trusts, best carry out the objects of the House, under the actual circumstances of the colony, and moreover be in accordance with observations contained in his speech on the opening of the present session, would be that £400 of this sum should be appropriated to the formation of a fund to be loaned under regulations to be framed by the Governor, in small sums, to housekeepers of St. John's, of small means, who have been severe sufferers, in their comforts, from the effects of the late fire,—and that the remaining sum of £100 should be applied to the purchase of a Town Clock, to be placed in some conspicuous position in the centre of the city.

An order has been issued at St. John's for the destruction of all Dogs found prowling about the streets.

Means are being taken to have the town of St. John's well supplied with water.

WILLIAM McNAUGHT,

Tailor.

BEGS to return his sincere thanks to his friends and the public in general for the liberal support they have afforded him for some years past, and solicits a continuance of the same, at his old stand, next door below the shop of Mr C. McCully, Watchmaker. He is in want of two good JOURNEYMEN and an APPRENTICE. A lad from the country would be preferred.
Chatham, June 12, 1846.

THOMAS A. ARMSTRONG,

Will CARD WOOL at the Boies Town Mills this summer. Wool left with the under-named persons will be returned within a reasonable time.
Terms,—prompt payment.
Apply to John Chalmers, Douglastown, James Fish, Newcastle, John Wilson, Point.
Chatham, June 13, 1846.