

such enterprises; and I cannot conceal my belief that if the owners of all ungranted lands in the Province were allowed five years in which to make discovery of any minerals within their respective grants, and permitted the right of pre-emption of taking out a lease for one hundred years upon certain conditions, that it would prove highly beneficial to the Province, and be received as a boon by the grantees of the Crown; as serious complaints are made by these people that the Crown should lease the Minerals of their lands, not considering that this right of the Crown is expressly reserved in the Grants under which their titles are derived.

Although the Revenue collected for the past year does not equal that of former periods, yet the whole result of the proceeds of the Casual and Territorial Revenues from 1837 to the end of 1847, I am happy to say leaves the Province nothing to complain of, but really exhibits a balance in favor of the Province after the payment of the Civil List, as will appear by the annexed statement taken from authentic documents; neither can I entertain the slightest doubt, that under proper management the territorial revenue of the Province would be far more than equivalent to the sum granted for the Civil List.

Herewith also I have the honor to transmit the detailed accounts of this department for the past year, which I trust will prove satisfactory.

I have the honor to be, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

THOS. BAILLIE, Sur. Gen.
His Excellency Sir E. W. Head.

Colonial News.

New Brunswick:

St. John Morning News, March 2, *Highly Important.*—It will be remembered by our Merchants and Readers generally, that a Petition was recently got up in this city, most numerous and respectfully signed, and transmitted to the Lieut. Governor, requesting him to forward a delegation on to Washington, to urge the claims of New Brunswick to a parity to the Bill before Congress with reference to the Canadian Reciprocity Bill, and that His Excellency in reply stated that he did not "possess the power," but that he would transmit the Petition to England for the consideration of her Majesty's Government. We have now to inform our readers that Earl Grey's answer was received by the last English Mail—and his Lordship coincides with the views of the Petitioners of Saint John; and also gives us much credit for the spirited movement; and further, that he has sent out instructions to the British Minister at Washington, authorising him to use his influence in order to have New Brunswick incorporated into the Bill now before the Senate of the United States.—What say our representatives to this expression of opinion from his Lordship the Secretary for the Colonies—are they prepared, or have they the disposition, to support a measure that will, if carried in the Senate, promote the best interests of the Province? In a word, are they willing to give us a new world for the absorption of our staple articles? We shall endeavor to obtain a copy of the despatch to lay it before our readers.

Delegation to Fredericton.—To-morrow morning the delegates appointed at the public meeting to proceed to Fredericton with the rail-road petition, will leave St. John on their mission; and it is to be hoped that our representatives will be prepared to give them a good reception. The attention of the whole community is now fixed upon this one object. Upon the issue we must either sink or swim. If the House of Assembly oppose the spirit that has been awakened, we shall be reduced to a sorry plight in this Province the coming year, with nothing to do, and no prospect before us of business of any kind. If they agree to the spirit of the Petition, and bring money into the country, a revival of confidence and also of trade will soon take place.—With the opening of the Shetic line of road the agricultural resources and fisheries of the Province will at once receive attention.

A man by name of Bushby, belonging to Portland, was shot last evening about 7 o'clock, in Cooper's Alley; he was carried to D. Hamilton's; and died shortly afterwards.

Fredericton Head Quarters, March 7.
Dr. Robb's Lecture on Agricultural Chemistry.—We understand Dr. Robb delivered the first of a series of Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry, in the Collegiate School House in this city, on Monday

evening last, at which were present His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, a number of the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, His Honor the Speaker and a number of the members of the House of Assembly, also a number of gentlemen belonging to this City and vicinity. We learn, from Gentlemen who were present, that the learned Professor delivered a most interesting and instructive discourse, which was listened to with profound attention, and highly appreciated by the audience. It will be seen, by reference to another column, that the second Lecture is to be delivered in the same place on Monday evening next.

St. John Chronicle.

We are informed that large Quarto Bibles, handsomely bound, have been purchased by the Corporation of Trinity Church for presentation, with a suitable inscription, to those persons who were instrumental, under Providence, in saving that structure from destruction by fire on the morning of Tuesday last.

Canada.

Quebec Gazette, March 2.

The Ice on the St. Lawrence, which after the late unusually prolonged spell of intensely cold weather, extended farther down than it had, it is said since 1816, is already broken up to the western end of the island of Orleans, below Point Levy, where the water is again visible from town.

Gaspe Gazette, March 1.

Robbery.—On Friday evening, a Store belonging to the Gaspe Fishery and Coal Mining Company at Port Daniel, was broken into, and a quantity of Fish and Dry Goods taken away, and we hear that on the night after the above, the Stores of Messrs. C. Robin & Co., at Passabiac, were also broken into, and a quantity of Rice, Sugar, &c., taken therefrom.

We are sorry to say that the destitution is so great at the present time, that we fear many repetitions of similar outrages.

Novascotia.

Halifax Courier, March 6.

Model of a Dry Dock.—A neat model of this great desideratum, for Halifax Harbor, now lies at Keefer's Reading Rooms. It has been designed by C. W. Fairbanks, Esq., Civil Engineer; and we have no hesitation in stating, that the project is as practicable as it is simple. There are a dozen good and substantial reasons, why such a work should be proceeded with at once. And although we have not space just now to urge any one of them, they cannot fail to recommend themselves to every person interested in the shipping, trade, and character of the port.

The Weather.—Although the snow is going off amazingly fast under the influence of the now lengthening day, and strengthening sun—still, the weather continues of an almost zero like character; and the nights—as well as the days when not basking in the rays of old Sol, are anything but consolatory to those of our citizens who are wooing the favours of gentle Spring with her balmy breath, subdued temperament, and budding beauties.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

Arrival of the Steamer America.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

About two o'clock on Thursday morning last, the Mail Steamer America, arrived at Halifax. She had a fine run across the Atlantic of 11 days. Our papers are to the 24th ult. and contain a good deal of important news. We have devoted all our available space to extracts copied principally from *Willmer & Smith's European Times.*

The Editor of this paper thus notices the state of Commercial affairs in the Mother Country:—

"Business generally has been in a healthy and satisfactory state during the last two weeks; all parties are disposed to think well of the future, and indulge the hope that we shall have a good spring and summer trade. Our manufacturers are busily employed, and more remunerating rates are obtained for nearly all descriptions of goods; whilst the number of unemployed operatives is daily decreasing in both the mines and manufactories. Money also continues to get more abundant, and the rate of interest rules low. The market for Breadstuffs has been in an unfavorable position; supplies are plentiful and dealers make purchases with

caution, prices therefore have been declining. Cotton has been taken to a fair extent but the market is now tame, with rather a declining aspect. The demand for Colonial produce has been large. Extensive sales have taken place at most of our leading markets, and although immense supplies have been brought forward, prices are well supported. This remark applies particularly to Sugar. All descriptions of Metals are in fair request, and prices have an upward tendency.—The Stock market both for English and American Securities has been active, and prices generally have advanced since the date of our last issue. Our commercial reports from the leading mercantile cities and maritime ports of Europe are of a favorable character; and from the tone adopted in our last advices from India and China, we have, everything considered, reason to be satisfied with the present state and future prospects of trade in that quarter of the globe.

"The state of trade in the manufacturing districts is on the whole in a satisfactory state. Employment is plentiful, and activity prevails throughout both Cotton and Woollen districts. We refer to reports, which we insert elsewhere.

"Europe is slowly recovering from the social confusion and lethargy of 1848, and with it, increasing confidence and activity is visible. The time is not far distant when superfluous capital will find investment, and the energies of the people active employment.

"The Timber Trade in all its departments, is improving, and stocks generally decreasing."

The proceedings in Parliament have been generally of a very practical character since the opening of the session. Members have in some degree pruned their speeches of superfluities, the chief speakers seldom indulging in long irrelevant quotations. Many important questions have been discussed. A new system of convict discipline and punishment is about to be brought into play by Lord Grey. For the future the convict will be sent to Wakefield or Pentonville, for a longer or shorter period, according to his crime, from sixteen to eighteen months, and from thence will be forwarded to Gibraltar, Bermuda, or Portland Island, as a further probation. He will there work in association, and from thence will be transported to New South Wales, where, by good conduct, he will be entitled to a ticket of leave, not to be granted however till he pays back half the cost of his transport to the colony. The colonial treasury will receive the amount of this reimbursement. The Cape of Good Hope will be one of the places of reception of these convicts, who will be dispersed in different places, remote from their former companions in crime.

A committee has been appointed at the instance of Mr. Austey, to inquire into the state of the inland fisheries and navigation of Ireland, with a view to remove the obstructions which hinder their enjoyment. Mr. Moffat has introduced his bill to prevent insolvent debtors sitting in the House, and it appears to be now favorably received. Lord John Russell has also brought forward his measure for the removal of Jewish Disabilities, and after an animated discussion the preliminary vote for going into committee was carried amidst loud cheers by a majority of 214 over 111. The events which have occurred in Guiana and Ceylon have also been the subject of a long debate. Mr. Bailey, supported by the Protectionists, made a fierce attack upon Lord Grey, but was met by a very sensible reply from Mr. Hawes and Lord John Russell. From their statements it appeared that the insurrection at Ceylon was not occasioned by the imposition of the new taxes, but that it had its origin in events long antecedent to Lord Torrington's ordinances. The charge of nepotism attempted to be fixed on Lord Grey, was quickly disposed of by Lord John Russell stating that no fewer than four competent persons were offered the Governorship of Ceylon before it was given to Lord Torrington, and they all declined it. A committee has been appointed to inquire into the grievances complained of in the Crown colonies of Ceylon and British Guiana, in connexion with the administration and government of those dependencies, and whether any measures can be adopted for their better administration. The questions of protection and free trade are, it is understood, not to form any part of the inquiry. Amongst other matters the East Indian Railway Bill has been allowed to be read a second time by the Government, and negotiations are in active progress, to which the Board of Control is evidently favorable, for the organization of a general line of Railways in India, the importance of which to our commerce cannot be overrated. Sanguine hopes are entertained that they will lead to a successful result.

The affairs of Ireland have occupied an usual large portion of the time of Parliament since the session commenced. The necessity of the continuance of the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act has been admitted by overwhelming majorities, and even the ultra Irish members have made but a feeble resistance to its passing the Commons. The bill will pass the house of Lords with little or no opposition. The additional grant of £50,000, for the relief of the Irish poor, has also been sanctioned, but has given rise to a variety of debates, all hinging upon the question of what is to be done with Ireland. The dissidence of opinion respecting

the Poor Laws widens hourly. The prevailing opinion seems to be to make a maximum rate upon the present electoral divisions and valuation, and, in the event of any deficiency, to levy a rate in aid from the whole of the country. This 'rate in aid' project naturally excites deep discontent in the northern and eastern provinces. So long as England bore the entire burthen of maintaining the millions who have been pauperised in Ireland, no objection was made; but John Bull having come to the resolution that Ireland shall, with her present exemption from taxation, at least, maintain her own poor, the northern counties claim against this just principle, 'as alike dangerous to the best interests of Ireland, and inconsistent with the articles of the Union!' It is impossible to read the debates respecting Ireland without being struck with the remarkable change which has taken place in public opinion. It is evident that no one imagines that £50,000 additional will avert all the dangers and destitution which still hang over so many thousands of Irishmen; but almost all acknowledge that unless the Irish themselves put their shoulders to the wheel and their hands to the plough, the extrication of the country from her present distress is impossible. Again, while some writers contend that emigration has now been carried too far, and that hands are actually required to till the soil, which in many parts of the country is left waste, there are other politicians equally positive that a further wholesale deportation of the Irish people is absolutely essential for the regeneration of the country. The committee on the poor laws has assembled, and at once has voted that a rate of sixpence in the pound be struck immediately in every electoral division in Ireland, the proceeds to be placed at the disposal of the Poor Law Commissioners. We rejoice at this decision because it will prove to the landlords that Parliament is in earnest in maintaining the principle of the Poor-law, and that the rate-payers must vigorously apply themselves to the reduction of pauperism by some means or other. With a fertile soil, and boundless capital near at hand in England, and we believe in Ireland also, if developed, there is no pretence for the country relapsing into its previous state of misery if the Irish people will but apply themselves to the industrial pursuits. It is most satisfactory to add that political agitation is entirely at an end. The Irish members usually most violent in their language towards the Government have not suggested one single practical remedy for the evils of the country, and their numbers and influence are insignificantly small. The Encumbered Estate Bill cannot, however, have succeeded to any great extent, inasmuch as it is stated by Mr. Napier, one of the most intelligent Irish members, that not one estate has yet been alienated under the new act, in consequence of the legal difficulties to be overcome in effecting a sale. And yet when the bill was passed last session, it was considered a vast step in legislation, and that numerous law obstructions had been swept away by the provisions of the act.

Whilst, however the slow process of legislation is aiming at giving partial relief to the starving population, the state of the country in many districts continues deplorable indeed, apparently worse than at any former period. The prisons and workhouses are filled to repletion; reports of deaths from starvation are to be found in all the local papers; the clearance of the peasantry and of emigration are as active as ever; the stocks of provisions are plundered in all quarters; Catholic chapels are being closed, and the destitution of the Roman Catholic clergy is very great indeed. Apathy and misery seem universal in that unhappy country, the condition of which is without parallel in the history of the world.

Mr. Duffy's trial, after innumerable delays, has at length commenced. During its progress one of the jurors very obstreperously exhibited his party feeling by clapping his hands at some of the sentiments of counsel. Mr. Meagher appeared in court, by Hubeas Corpus, to give evidence, and was loudly applauded. After the senior judge Ball, had charged the Jury, they retired to their room to consider their verdict, but although locked up on the night of the 31st, they could not agree, and were discharged on the following morning; Mr. Duffy, meantime being sent back to prison until the 7th of April, when he will again be tried.

INDIA.—The news brought by the overland mail from India is one of the highest importance. The dates are from Bombay to the 19th, Calcutta the 5th, and Moulton to the 7th January. Moulton had been captured after having been battered and bombarded for an entire week, but the citadel still held out. The Bombay troops having arrived before the city on the 21st December, the entire besieging army amounted to 32,000 men, of which 15,000 were British troops. Our artillery amounted to one hundred and fifty pieces of heavy ordnance, of which nearly one half were of the largest calibres. The defence of Moolraj seems to have been one of the most obstinate on record. On the 27th the columns moved to the attack, and, clearing the suburbs, established themselves within five hundred yards of the walls. Here batteries were erected, and on the 18th a terrific bombardment commenced. On the 29th the heavy guns were advanced to within eighty yards of the ramparts. On the 30th a fort, containing 800,000lbs of powder was blown up by a well-directed mortar. The devastation was horrible. The Dewan's mother, several of his relatives, and many of his Sirdars, together with a great number of troops and people, were blown into the air, and the destruction of mosques and