

SEALING LETTERS.—The following notice has been issued by the Post Office authorities:—

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC. General Post Office, August, 1840.

The practice of sealing letters passing to and from the East and West Indies, and other warm climates, with wax, is attended with much inconvenience and frequently with serious injury to the letters, in consequence of the melting of the wax and adhesion of the letters to each other. In the case of a mail recently arrived from India, considerable delay was occasioned at this office, and notwithstanding the greatest care was taken in separating the letters, which, owing to the cause already mentioned, adhered closely together, many were much damaged and torn; the public are therefore recommended, in all possible cases, to use wafers in preference to sealing their letters sent to India, or other warm climates; and also to advise their correspondents in those countries to pursue the same course.

By command, W. L. MABERLY, Secretary.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, who possesses amongst his many accomplishments a very sound knowledge of painting, is exceedingly taken with our English school of landscape, and on Wednesday, sent for Mr. J. W. Allen, whom he has commissioned to paint another landscape.

RESTORATION OF YORK MINSTER.—On Friday week a public meeting of the nobility and gentry of the county of York was held in the festival concert room, in the city of York, for the promotion of subscriptions and the forming of resolutions for the immediate accomplishment of the restoration of those parts of York Minster destroyed by the recent fire. When the meeting broke up, the subscription list had increased to about £9,600, or nearly half the amount that it is supposed will be required.

A COSTLY TREETOTAL TRICK.—On Monday the 3d inst. Archibald Farquharson, Esq. of Finzean, was summarily tried before the Sheriff of Stonehaven, near Aberdeen, for having wickedly and feloniously administered, or caused to be administered, to the members of the total abstinence soiree, held at Banchoy Ternan, on the 16th June last, a certain quantity of jalap mixed with a pound of tea, and an ounce and a half of calomel mixed with four pounds of sugar, and which was accompanied with the following note:—"From a well-wisher to the health and prosperity of the society." The panel pleaded guilty, and was fined £10.—Evening Paper.

The Duke of Devonshire is building at Chatsworth a most stupendous conservatory, 300 feet in length by 150 feet wide. There is a carriage drive down the centre, with another for a pony phaeton round the whole of the interior. The building is sixty one feet high, and contains 78,000 feet of glass, and 15,000 feet of hot water piping. The whole will be erected at a cost of £30,000, and when furnished with plants, will form one of the most magnificent spectacles of this noble demense.

CAPTAIN COOK'S COXSWAINE.—Died at Stoke, Mr. William Doyle, late a superannuated boatswain of Her Majesty's navy, aged 84. This venerable man was the last of those who sailed round the world with Capt. Cook. He entered the navy when very young, and in 1776 sailed from Plymouth with the redoubted navigator in the "Resolution," attended by Captain Clerke, in the "Discovery," and was coxswain of the boat at Owhyee, Sandwich Islands, when Captain Cook was killed, on February 14, 1776, and has often detailed, with peculiar vividness, to his attentive auditors, that lamentable affray with the natives.

The Menai Bridge has been thoroughly repaired, and is now equal if not superior to what it was when first opened to the public.

General Santander, for many years President of Colombia, and afterwards of the separate republic of New Granada, died at Bogota on the 6th May: he was interred with great pomp on the 13th of the same month.

The march of temperance in London is apparently progressive. There is not a publican who does not loudly complain of the falling off of the business, although all sorts of attractions in the way of singing and music are enlisted in the temptations of the enjoyment to the social cup. The value of licensed victuallers' houses has fallen off immensely.—Evening Paper.

THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO.—A singular calculation has been made relative to the 2,000 officers engaged in that memorable event. There are now living and serving in the army—1 field marshal, 5 generals, 21 lieutenant-generals, 31 major-generals, 81 colonels, 123 lieutenant-colonels, 82 majors, 108 captains, lieutenants, quarter-masters, and surgeons, which, with 200 killed or died of wounds, and 1,348 sold out, died, retired, &c. make up the 2,000.

THE NELSON COLUMN.—The brick work of this pillar now appears above the railing, and will soon be very conspicuous. It seems, from what has recently taken place, that the altitude of the pillar is not to be so great by 30 feet as was first contemplated. Mr. Bailey is at work upon the figure of the naval warrior, which is to be of Portland stone, and for the execution of which the sculptor is to receive the sum of 1000 guineas.

The Directors of the Commercial Steam Navigation Company have written to the Mayor of Boulogne, expressing their "deepest and most unfeigned regret" at having been made the "unconscious instruments" of transporting to the shores of France a body of persons whose object was to excite tumult and disaffection among the people: they state that the application for the steamer propelled from a gentleman by the name of Rapello.

CHANGE OF MILITARY STATIONS ABROAD.—The General Commanding in Chief has issued orders for the disposition of the following regiments, viz: the 38th, 19th, 42d, 88th, 97th, and 1st battalion of the Rifle Brigade, from their home quarters to the Mediterranean; the 33d, 47th, 59th, and two battalions of the 36th Rifles, from the Mediterranean to

the West Indies; the 14th, 74th, 64th, 68th, 70th, and 89th, from the West Indies to North America. These moves will take place with all the celerity consistent with the exigencies of the service.

EXPLOSION AGAINST THE ROYAL GEORGE.—On Wednesday last, the Monarch steamship left the Southampton Pier, with a company of upwards of 400 passengers, to witness the magnificent explosion of twenty five barrels, or 2250lbs. of powder against the yet remaining wreck of the Royal George. There were assembled in a circuit of about half a mile round the Royal George, an immense multitude of yachts, steamers, pleasure boats of all sizes, and vessels of all descriptions. At about three o'clock, the signal was given by Colonel Pasley's trumpet, and Lieut. Symonds held the wires connecting with the voltaic battery in his hand—the discharge was instantaneous—the sea was shaken as if from an earthquake, and in two seconds the water bulged up about twenty feet, after which a second eruption took place, on which a mass of water, not rounded as formerly, but in almost a square shape rose to the height of full eighty feet, the spray splashing over the vessels in the vicinity. Thousands of fish were thrown up dead, and were gathered in large quantities by the boats: a few pieces of timber were also cast up, and the muddy state of the water showed that the operation had been effectual. The company on board the Monarch had a most excellent view of the whole affair, and expressed themselves much pleased with the attentions of Captain Forster, Commander of the steamer.

SIR WALTER SCOTT'S MONUMENT.—LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE.—On Saturday, the 15th, the foundation stone of the proposed monument to Sir Walter Scott was laid in Prince's Street Gardens, opposite St. David Street.

The day was observed throughout the whole city as a general holiday. The shops in the principal streets were shut; and, in those where the procession was to pass, all the situations from which a view could be obtained were occupied from an early hour. Not only the windows, but the house tops, both in the North and South Bridges, and in Prince's Street, as well as the Tron Church, the Register Office, the Theatre, and other public buildings, were occupied with crowds of spectators.

The attendance of the various lodges of masons was more numerous on this than on almost any former occasion, comprising not only the various lodges in town but representatives from the lodges in the most remote districts in Scotland, forming a procession more numerous than any other we have witnessed of late years.

Soon after two o'clock, the masonic procession, consisting of upwards of two thousand members, began to move from the College, along the South and North Bridges, preceded by the Band of the Second Dragoon Guards, and forming an imposing array. The procession was closed by a detachment of dragoons. They arrived in Prince's Street, where the foundation stone was to be laid, about three o'clock. A gallery was here erected for the accommodation of the spectators, and of those who composed the procession, which was filled with a fashionable assemblage, and was also occupied by a civic procession, which had assembled in the buildings of the Royal Institution, consisting of the Sub-Committee of the Scott Monument, the Magistrates of Canongate, Portsburgh, and the Provost, Magistrates, and Council of Leith.

The effect of the artillery, which was very judiciously placed among the wooded ground, was grand and striking. Perhaps no city abounds so much as Edinburgh in fine positions for displaying crowds of spectators. The view from Prince's Street of the vast and picturesque masses of building in the Old Town, with the spectators clustered on the windows, balconies, and other elevated points of the high buildings—the gardens below, with the groups, wandering through the grounds—the wooded and rising ground opposite, singularly beautiful and romantic, with the Castle to the right—the military works crowning the rock, and the rich vegetation mingling with the rocky scenery beneath—formed an assemblage of striking objects, and gave a peculiar interest and animation to the scene.

A prayer was then offered up by the Grand Chaplain, after which two engraved plates were placed in the cavity of the stone, one containing the names of the office-bearers of the Grand Lodge, and the other bearing the inscription.

A glass jar was also deposited in the cavity of the stone, the contents of which were as follows:—1. Almanack of 1840. 2. Six newspapers, namely, the Edinburgh Evening Courant, the Caledonian Mercury, the Edinburgh Advertiser, Scotsman, Edinburgh Observer, and Witness. 3. The following coins:—A Double Sovereign of George IV., a Sovereign of Victoria, a Half Sovereign of ditto, Crown of George IV., Half Crown of William IV., a Shilling, Sixpence, Groat, 3d. 2d. and 1d. Silver Pieces,—and a Penny, Halfpenny, and Farthing in copper. 4. Copies in Inscription Plates. 5. Plan of the City and County of Edinburgh. 6. Medal struck for the occasion. 7. List of names of Auxiliary Subscribers.

REMARKABLE INSTANCE OF LONGEVITY.—A correspondent informs us, that there is at present residing on the townland of Donord, county Kildare, a woman who is ascertained to be 144 years of age! At her marriage, her husband took a farm of thirty acres of land, leased at thirty-one years, on the expiration of which it was again renewed. The family has remained in possession of the farm, which is occupied at present by the grand-children with whom she lives, and the fourth lease of thirty-one years expired on the 25th of March last. Our correspondent adds,—"I have seen the renewals; and the woman herself told me, that she was not less than twenty years of age when she married."—Drogheda Argus.

Friday night's Gazette announces the first step of the Executive Government towards completing the Union of the two Canadas. At the Privy Council held at Buckingham Palace on Monday, the Queen, in pursuance of the act lately passed, authorised the Governor General of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada to declare by proclamation, "that the said

Provinces, upon, from, and after a certain day in such proclamation to be appointed, which day shall be within fifteen calendar months next after the passing of the said act, shall form and be one province, under the name of the Province of Canada."

JUNIUS.—A grandson of the late Sir Philip Francis, and his widow, Lady Francis, are each of them said to be preparing a life of that accomplished statesman, in which the identity of the author of Junius's letters will unquestionably be established. The box, or trunk, so frequently alluded to in the investigation of this subject, and which was always reported to contain undoubted testimony of this author's name, has, we are told, been discovered by the grandson of Sir Philip Francis.—Morning Chronicle.

CENTENARY FUND.—The great annual convocation of Wesleyan Methodist Ministers is now sitting at Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Subscriptions to the Centenary funds still pour in, and the fund now cannot be less than £250,000.

Lord Keane has obtained the royal licence that he and his descendants may bear, in addition to the family arms, the following honourable augmentations:—"On a chief a representation of the strong and important fortress of Ghuznee," and the crest of honourable augmentation following, viz., "On a wreath a representation of the Cabool gate of the said fortress of Ghuznee," which was blown in by gunpowder on the 23d of July, 1839, and the fortress stormed on that day.

The Archimedes, steam-vessel, reached Oporto from Plymouth in seven hours,—supposed to be the quickest steam communication that has ever been made between those places; and this was effected without her having once had occasion to stop her paddles. The distance is about 800 miles.

DEATH OF DR. M'GILL OF GLASGOW.—We regret to announce the death of the Rev. Dr. M'Gill, Professor of Divinity in this University. He expired on Tuesday morning at his residence in the College of Glasgow.

There were two fires in London on the 27th August, which together destroyed property to the amount of £70,000. One destroyed the warehouses on Hore's Wharf, the other, the steam saw mills of Mr. Frea. On the 25th, Mr. Thorne's mill, at Dundee, with the machinery, which cost £20,000, was destroyed.

The sittings of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference, at Newcastle, closed on Friday. A long discussion took place relative to the Wesleyan Methodists in Canada, which terminated in the Conference deciding that their brethren in Canada shall exist as a distinct body, independent of the British Conference.

Mr. O'Connell is busily endeavouring to effect a repeal of the Union between Great Britain and Ireland. He has a powerful rival, however, in Sharman Crawford, who is sustained by a great party in the province of Ulster, and he is unanimously opposed by the whole press of England.

Prince Albert reached the age of 21, on the 27th August, which event was celebrated at Windsor and in town. The morning was ushered in by the ringing of bells, and in the evening many of the club houses and other buildings presented a very splendid appearance from the gas illuminations.

The freedom of the City of London was conferred on Prince Albert on the 28th August by the Lord Mayor, with the usual ceremony. Some notice is taken in the London papers of a private interview between the Queen and the Duke of Wellington, at Windsor, when the Duke passed two days on a visit. The interview is said to have lasted an hour. The French Ambassador was also a visitor for two days at Windsor.

The King and Queen of Belgium left London for Brussels on the 24th of August; previous to their departure the King had an interview with M. Guizot, and another with a special envoy from Austria, after which he returned to Windsor, and the next day set out for home.

TRIAL OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.—The Paris Moniteur of the 10th of August contains an ordinance invoking a session of the Court of Peers, on account of the late attempt of Louis Napoleon at Boulogne. It states that the Court will proceed without delay to the trial of the individuals who have been or shall be arrested as principals or accomplices of the above attempt.

The London Standard of the 11th says, Prince Louis Napoleon and his accomplices are to be tried together, not by the House of Peers, but by the ordinary tribunals. The circumstance of his having fired on and killed an unarmed man, is expected to afford an excuse for condemning him to death, but the most magnanimous revenge would be to treat him as a lunatic.

The Gazette de France of the 13th says, that the Chamber in the last session voted the ordinary budget of 1200 millions, besides 100 millions for public works. To this enormous expenditure, we must add 75 millions of extraordinary votes of credit, which have just been ordered in consequence of the convention of London, and in contemplation of war. Thus before a gun has been fired, France has to provide for an expenditure of 1400 millions (fifty six millions sterling,) which is 200 millions more than her revenue.

ESCAPE OF LOUIS PHILIPPE AND HIS FAMILY FROM SHIPWRECK.—On the 16th ult. the King embarked with his family at Eu, at 12 o'clock at night, in the Vevece steamer, his intention being to touch at Boulogne; but the weather became very stormy, and the steamer was obliged to make for Calais. In threading the channel, the vessel was driven by the violence of the winds and waves on the works of the new jetty, where she grounded in a situation of imminent peril to all on board. As soon as it was possible to effect a debarkation, the King ordered every person to be landed, and was himself the last person who left the ship. Thousands of the inhabitants of Boulogne crowded the shore to receive their sovereign, after which the King with his family, left the town for Boulogne.

From a long account of Louis Philippe's visit to Boulogne, we extract the following:

His Majesty addressed the deputation of English residents, of whom about twenty were present, in a very cordial manner—using the English language. He said that he felt great pleasure in assuring them, that affairs between France and England were taking a favourable turn; and he trusted that nothing would occur to disturb the amicable position of the two countries.

When the King returned to the hotel, he was met on ascending the staircase by the celebrated Romeo Coates, who on seeing his Majesty exclaimed—"Vive le Roi! No war with England." His Majesty graciously bowed and smiled, and repeated the words, "No war with England." His Majesty and the Royal party left Boulogne for the Chateau of Eu about two o'clock on Tuesday afternoon.

This further and more detailed account of the interview, on the staircase of the inn, between Louis Philippe and Romeo Coates, is given by the Morning Chronicle's correspondent—"Mr. Coates, immediately upon the Queen's arrival, surrendered his apartments to Her Majesty's convenience. Last night, as the Royal pair were ascending the stairs of the hotel, they encountered Mr. Coates, and the King very graciously thanked him for his politeness. Mr. Coates, who is an enthusiastic old gentleman, answered by shouting in French, "Long live the King and Queen! Prosperity to France and England, and eternal peace between them!"

The sentiments were repeated by the many persons in attendance; and after all others were silent the King himself exclaimed, in a very loud voice, as if to enhance the compliment, in the English language, "Prosperity to England and France, and eternal peace between them!"

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kingdom, and rendezvous have been established at Blackwall, on a tender, in the Downs, at Portsmouth and Plymouth, and all the principal seaports, to raise sailors for Her Majesty's service.

THE RIVAL STEAMERS.—The success of the steamer from Liverpool to Boston, by the way of Halifax, has caused considerable attention to be directed to that route; and the Boston steamers seem likely enough, not merely to divide the trade in passengers with the New York vessels, but to obtain the greater portion of it. The advantage obtained by the Britannia over the British Queen, both in the outward and homeward voyage, is not owing entirely to her speed, but to the smaller distance which she had to cover, as will be seen from the following statement which has been carefully taken from the best charts, and may probably interest some of our readers:

New York to Liverpool.—To Cape Clear, 2748 miles; Cape Clear to Tuscar, 150; Tuscar to Skerries, 90; Skerries to Liverpool, 60—Total, 3048.

New York to Bristol.—To Cape Clear, 2748; Cape Clear to Bristol, 275—Total, 3023.

New York to Portsmouth.—To the Lizard, 2962; Lizard to Portsmouth, 200—Total, 3162.

Halifax to Liverpool.—To Cape Clear, 2900; Cape Clear to Tuscar, 150; Tuscar to Skerries, 90; Skerries to Liverpool, 60—2500; Boston to Halifax, 250—Total, 2750.

The advantages of the route by Halifax and Boston are not confined to the smaller total distance; for in a steam voyage across the Atlantic, it is a matter of no small consequence to have an intermediate station, at which, if the progress of the vessel should be retarded by unfavourable weather, a fresh supply of coal can be obtained, and the chance of missing the voyage greatly diminished.—London Sun, August 21.

Lord Keane, we are told, visited the successful adventurer, Mehemet Ali, on his lordly home from India. One of the objects of Mehemet Ali to his Lordship was, to have got his possessions by his sword, and he would keep them by his sword. The delicate health of the poet laureate, Dr. Keble, has obliged him, for the present, to abstain from all literary labour.

We deeply regret that the long illness of the late Princess Augusta leaves little hope of her recovery.

A curious fact that Mehemet Ali, a Bonaparte, and the Duke of Wellington were all born in the same year.

ROYAL GAZETTE.

EDINBURGH, SEPTEMBER 30, 1840

Bank of New Brunswick. WILLIAM J. BEDELL, President. SAMUEL W. BABBET, Cashier. Days, Tuesdays and Fridays. Bills for discount must be left at the Cashier, before 3 o'clock on Mondays and Thursdays.

Bank of New Brunswick. REDRICKSON BRANCH. ARCHIBALD SCOTT, Cashier. Days, Mondays and Thursdays. Hours of business from 10 to 3. Bills for discount are to be left at the Cashier, before 3 o'clock on Wednesdays.

Bank of British North America. REDRICKSON BRANCH. ALFRED SMITHERS, Manager. Days, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. Bills for discount are to be left before the days preceding the Discount Days.

Savings Bank. PETER FISHER, Cashier. Bills for discount are to be left before the days preceding the Discount Days.

Fire Insurance Company. B. WOLHAUPTEN, President. Committee for the present month, CHARLES M'PIERSON and CHARLES FISHER.

Alms House and Work House. Commissioner for the week commencing to-morrow, L. A. WILMOT.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

In consequence of the Branch of the above Institution at Montreal, in Lower Canada, requiring a change of Managers, ROBERT H. LISTON, Esquire, (who has conducted the affairs of the Saint John Branch most creditably, we believe, to himself, and with very general satisfaction to the mercantile community in that City), has been appointed to fill that situation;—Mr. SMITHERS, who has acted as Manager of the Branch in this place from its commencement, has been selected by the Court of Directors in London, as successor to Mr. LISTON; and as it is considered desirable, that some expression of the high opinion which the community entertain of that Gentleman's public and private worth, should be expressed to him previous to his departure from among us, we are requested respectfully to invite all those who are favourable to the proposition to meet at the Reading Room on Thursday evening next, at 6 P. M.

MORE STEAM.—We have much pleasure in observing that a Joint Stock Company, has been formed by the enterprising Merchants, and people of St. John's, N.F., for the establishment of Steam communication between that Island, and this place, touching at Sydney and Arichat. The very great advantages of such an undertaking must be obvious to every person connected with the trade of this Town and eastern parts of the Province, and we trust capitalists will come forward with spirit in aid of its accomplishment.—The shares are fast filling