

Hawke, 72 guns; Achilles, 72 guns; Russell, 72 guns; and Hercules, 72 guns. The following frigates are also nearly completed;—The Cornwall, 50 guns; Conquestador, 50 guns; Worcester, 50 guns; and Chichester, 50 guns.

**COMMON COUNCIL.**—A Court was held on Thursday for the Despatch of public business. The Lord Mayor presented letters he had received from Lord Gough and Sir Henry Smith acknowledging resolutions of thanks and the freedom of the city, for their gallant services in India. A communication from Mr. Payne, Coroner of the City of London, in reference to his having revived the ancient practice of holding inquests in cases of fire, and stating that in pursuing that course, he had incurred expenses, for the payment of which there is not at present any provision made, was referred to a committee. A petition from Lord Dudley Stuart and others for the use of the Guildhall for a ball in behalf of the distressed Poles, was complied with. The report of the Improvement Committee, recommending the formation of a street from the commencement of Cannon Street, at the corner of King William Street, to the south side of St. Paul's Churchyard, at a cost of £250,000, was, after some discussion, adopted. Some other reports were presented and agreed to.

**THE GREAT BRITAIN.**—We are given to understand that an agreement has been definitely concluded with the Directors of the Western Steam Navigation Company to get off the *Great Britain*. The gentleman whose plans have been approved of is named Mackintosh, and is an American, born of Scotch parents. He has distinguished himself by several ingenious inventions, and is the patentee of many of the applications of caoutchouc, or Indian Rubber. The parties will proceed on Monday for Dundrum Bay to commence the preliminary operations.

Sir Henry Pottinger has been appointed, in addition to the office of Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, Her Majesty's High Commissioner for settling and adjusting the affairs of the Eastern and Northeastern frontier of the colony.

It is understood that Captain Brandreth, R. E., F. R. S., now the Admiralty Director of Engineering and Architectural works, is to be appointed a member of the new Government Railway Board.

**THE GOVERNORSHIP OF BOMBAY.**—It was reported, a short time since, that the Earl of Dalhousie had been appointed Governor of Bombay, in place of Sir George Arthur, who had resigned from indisposition. We have good authority for stating that Lord Dalhousie denies having received any intimation of such appointment, and that he regards the contemplation of it by the Government as extremely improbable. We hear that his Lordship has expressed himself to that effect, in answer to several applications made to him on the supposition that he was really about to depart for Bombay, and had the patronage of that presidency at his disposal.—*Briannia*.

Mr. M. Short is appointed Police Magistrate in the room of Mr. Bond, deceased.

Considerable changes in the constitution of the Coast Guard have for some time been talked of, but the reports have been for the most part indefinite. We are now enabled to state, upon what we consider good authority, that that valuable body is about to be placed entirely under the Admiralty; and that Captain Mingaye, who formerly commanded the Coast Blockade, will be at the head of the force. By this alteration, a large body of useful seamen will always be available upon an emergency; and it will probably be made a rule to draft a certain number of men from that particular service whenever ships are commissioned.—*United Service Gazette*.

**SUBTERRANEAN ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH IN LONDON.**—Some interest has been excited in the scientific world and the several railway companies whose lines run into the metropolis, by the announcement that the Electric Telegraph Company intend forthwith to establish a central telegraph station in the Strand, by means of which, communication will be obtained from one point to all parts of the country. The extension of the Telegraph on the South-western Railway will be first commenced.

**PREACHING TO THE DEAF AND DUMB.**—It may not be generally known to the metropolitan public, that there has been for some time past, a chapel in Red Lion Square, in which public worship is performed twice every Sunday for the sole benefit of the deaf and dumb. The service is that of the Church of England—singing and the music of the organ being, as a matter of course, omitted. The experiment of communicating to those unfortunate persons deprived of hearing and the power of speech, a knowledge of the great truths of revelation, by means of those "signs" which constitute a language in themselves, have been eminently successful. In the morning, the chapel in Red Lion Square is attended by from 20 to 30 deaf and dumb persons. Last Sunday evening the audience consisted of 17. After the usual prayers had been gone through, the teacher commented at considerable length, by means of gestures, on the 11th chapter of the 1st of Samuel, his audience seeming to comprehend every idea which he sought to convey. The services lasted for upwards of an hour and a quarter.

The story which has been going the rounds of the papers about the attempted destruction of Lord Ross's telescope, by a fanatic, proves to be a hoax.

**EXTRAORDINARY COLLISION IN LEITH ROADS.**—The French Frigate *La Prevoyante*, and the French Gun-brig *La Chevrete*, sailed on Tuesday morning from their anchorage in Leith Roads. While proceeding on different tacks, they fell foul of each other,

when the Frigate sunk the lighter vessel in 25 fathoms of water. The unfortunate collision took place at the entrance of Dunbar Harbour. We understand that four lives were lost, the rest of the crew of the Corvette being picked up by the boats of the Frigate.—*Edinburgh Chronicle*.

The *John Bull* states that circumstances have recently transpired which lead to an expectation that the large sum of money stolen from Messrs. Rogers and Company's may yet be retrieved, at least the notes. "That the whole of the notes, to the amount of £40,000 are still in existence, has been satisfactorily proved by the fact, that, a few days since, a one-pound note, the number of which does not appear in the printed list published and circulated, but which was stolen at the time, was forwarded to the banking house; the party sending it requesting the receipt of it to be acknowledged in the newspapers, and the whole of the notes would be restored upon the payment of £10,000; the acknowledgment to be 'H. F.' This request was accordingly complied with; but as to the compromise, that has not been entertained."

**A LOST INHERITANCE.**—An old Lady a short time since left a bequest to some favourites in the following terms:—"I give to my black dog, Carlo, an annuity of £30 a year during the dog's life, to be paid half yearly. Unto each of the cats, Blackey, Jemmy, and Tom, I give an annuity of £10 a year for the three cats, to be paid half yearly. Margaret Potson and Harriet Holly, my mother's old servants, to take charge of the dog and cats." Unfortunately for the animals, it is the opinion of counsel learned in the law, that the bequest is void, from being made directly to them, and not to some person in trust for them.

**AN ORIGINAL LETTER OF GRACE DARLING'S.**—We (*Sherborne Journal*,) have been favoured with the original of the following letter, written by the lamented Grace Darling, to Mr. S. Burton, the Sailors' Missionary, in reply to one sent by him relating to her conduct at the wreck of the *Forfarshire*. The letter is written in a neat and unaffected handwriting, and emits evidently that meek Christian spirit for which the memory of Grace Darling is revered, as much as for heroism and self devotion:—"Dear Sir,—I recd. yours Dated 9th Inst., for which I beg to return my sincere thanks for the good advice contained in the same. May the Almighty, who alone Enabled us to do what we did, Enable me to make good use of your advice; you needed no Apology for your letter, for I assure you it was very welcome; although I am but a very weak Christian, yet I hope to be found in that fold whose Shepherd is Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. I can say that I rejoice in everything that I think tends to the advancement of his Kingdom. I am at a loss to explain my self better, but my parents learned me to read & write, the Church of England Catechism, and the General Assemblies Short Catechism, which I admire as a beautiful little Book. I am well Provided with a good Bible, and if it Please God to open them to me, I may be enabled, through the assistance of the Holy spirit, to gain the pearl of great Price. I am, Dear Sir, with sincere respect and good wishes to a Minister of Jesus Christ, Your most Obedt. Servant, G. H. DARLING, Longstone Light, March 22d, 1839. Rev. S. Burton, Post Office, Exeter, Devon."

**THE FAST DAY IN IRELAND.**—The Lord Primate, at the suggestion of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, has postponed the day which his Grace had appointed for solemn prayer and humiliation in the diocese of Armagh, from Friday, the 30th of October, to Friday, the 20th of November. The postponement has taken place in the hope, earnestly expressed by the Lord Lieutenant in a communication to the Lord Primate, that one and the same day may, by appointment of the several dioceses, be observed as a day of humiliation throughout the whole of Ireland. The short notice which had been given of the day first named by his Grace did not leave sufficient time for some of the prelates to notify to the clergy of their dioceses their wishes on this subject. An order has been made by the Lord Lieutenant in council, extending the period during which the special form of prayer is to be read from the 31st of October to the 22d of November.

**CAFFRES IN LIVERPOOL.**—A party of five Caffres arrived in Liverpool on Monday week, from the Cape of Good Hope.

**SABBATH OBSERVANCE.**—The new Directors of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway, at a meeting held last week, agreed to discontinue the Sabbath passenger traffic on and after the 1st of November. The mail will continue to be conveyed by railway on Sabbath.

**DEMAND FOR LABOUR IN SCOTLAND.**—We rejoice to state that, in all directions in the northern counties, there is at present a very great demand for agricultural labourers. Draining and other improvements are going vigorously forward; but many farmers are entirely at a stand-still for want of hands. Although we have to regret that many individuals in this parish, (Wick,) are unemployed, and will continue for some time to be so, from their ignorance of these branches of labour; still it is a matter for great gratulation that all our workmen are not similarly situated, and that the coming winter will be a busy one to not a few.—*John o' Groat Journal*.

**POPULAR RECREATION.**—The King of Prussia has, it is stated from Berlin, devoted no less a sum than £120,000 to the formation of a covered garden in the centre of that city, to be used as a winter promenade by its inhabitants. A regulated temperature is to be maintained, and rare exotics of warmer climes cultivated in this truly royal design.