the worst kind of Inquisition. I allude to that unscriptural system of nunneries and of nuns (applause). Last year in Parliament the nuns had some advocates, and I hope that in the present session the evil will be denounced in stronger terms and with more effect. Nuns and slaves—they are the dispirited victims of priestly tyranny. Oh, men, generally speaking, Englishmen, do not feel keenly for the sufferings of these poor creatures, and therefore I appeal to you Irish ladies. Oh, have pity upon the bad condition and sufferings of such a large portion of your sisters, who are confined in convents through the avarice and tyranny of their friends and their priests, and whose properties have been confiscated by the priests of the Romish Church. Irish ladies, last year in many English provinces, christian ladies sent a memorial to Queen Victoria, for the abolition of nunneries, in order to destroy in this blessed country the slave market for such a large number of your fair and delicate sex; and I firmly believe that all the Irish ladies will soon send a petition to the Queen in order to get—not an inquiry—not an inspection—no, don't inquire of nuns who are terrified, and who will answer, "We are content—we are satisfied,"—no, no, don't inquire (applause). Irish ladies, ask your benevolent and good Queen for the total destruction and annihilation of nuns and nunneries (applause): I—mark my sincerity—if ninety-nine of these nuns were satisfied and contented with their slavery, and only one out of the hundred was pining in the convent, you, Irish ladies, with your warm hearts and benevolent minds, have a right to ask the Queen to destroy nuns and nunneries in order to let this one gentle woman escape from slavery (applause). Do you believe in the satisfaction or the spiritual comfort of this monastic life? If nuns are not women—if nuns have no heart to feel—if nuns are contented with their slavery—if the nature of the women in Ireland and England have not lost these faculties—if in Ireland and England, as in Italy, the women have warm hearts—no, no, do not believe they are contented in nunneries. Their despair is concealed under a thick veil. Their tears are hid, and they are in despair. Generally speaking, these poor creatures die before thirty or forty years of age. I appeal to you, Irish ladies. Do not forget my last words; remember them when I am far away from this beautiful country. Form a ladies' committee, and prepare and send a petition to your Queen, praying for the destruction of nuns and nunneries, and you will rejoice in your good work. You will be blessed by many a happy and grateful heart now in despair, and you will receive a blessing from Christ, who never intended that delicate, kind-hearted, charitable females should be imprisoned or enslaved (applause). And now, generally speaking, Irishmen—more than Irishmen, people of Great Britain—without the Inquisition Great Britain at present is the first nation, not in Europe, but in the world,—the first in commerce, the first in science, the first in arts, the first in industry, the first in glory, the first in civil and religious freedom (applause). Englishmen, will you preserve this glorious inheritance, and never be accused by your sons as the destroyers and enslavers of your nation? Irishmen, hear me, the Italian priest, who can read the hearts of the Roman clergy, and proclaim,—"No Inquisition in England! No cardinals in England! No spiritual slavery in Great Britain!" (Applause).

Dr. Urwick having addressed a few observations to the meeting, the Doxology was sung, and the immense assemblage separated.

MYSTERIOUS OPERATION IN GRAIN.

We copy the following very singular article from the London *Economist* of a late date, and recommend it to the consideration of our commercial readers:—

It has remained for 1852 to witness a series of transactions in one of the most important branches of our trade, which, after having watched for many months, we own to be entirely incapable of explanation on any of the ordinary and established principles of trade, or on the ground that they have been made the means of sustaining credit for raising money by accommodation. Since the month of February last, transactions in foreign grain have taken place upon a very extensive scale, in several foreign markets, of a character which has excited the utmost astonishment among those legitimately connected with the trade. The head-quarters of these operations appears to have been in London. Agents were appointed to purchase wheat in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Hamburg, and St. Petersburg, and flour in New York. The wheat and flour thus purchased have been consigned to two houses—one connected with the American trade, and one with the continental trade—and from them it has been all centred in one broker or factor for sale.—The first thing that attracted attention to these transactions was the unusual extent of the purchases in each market by agents who were but little connected with that branch of trade, and at prices which it was impossible could be again realized in England including the freight and charges. At first it was thought that these transactions were the commencement of some extensive speculations for a future rise; but the mode in which they were conducted soon showed that that could not be the case; for the purchases being without limit abroad, were sold on their arrival in London with little regard to the cost, the agents acting apparently without limit, but with instructions to effect absolute sales. And notwithstanding the heavy losses on the sale, the transactions continued without interruption—purchases being made abroad by the same agents, consigned to the same parties here, and sold as fast as they arrived, at what could be got, by the same factors, whose instructions, to judge by the way in which the business was done, had reference rather to effecting absolute and immediate sales, than securing a profit to their principals. Then again, there is no reason to believe that they were undertaken with a view to raise funds on the credit of the parties engaged by drawing and negociating bills; because in general the purchases have been made on the spot with cash, and no bills drawn against the cargoes. Again, it cannot be said that they were purchases made in order to provide cargoes for ships which could not otherwise find employment; because in most cases ships were specially chartered for the purpose. It is obvious, then, that these transactions have been founded on none of the ordinary motives which lead to commercial transactions; without any view to profit, or to raising funds on credit, or to supplying freight for unemployed ships. On the contrary there has been a remarkable mystery thrown over the whole affair. Who the real principals in the transactions were and are, no one has yet discovered, and we have reason to believe that the numerous agents engaged are themselves as ignorant of the real parties at the bottom of the plot as any indifferent person. The agent in whom the transactions are centered, is one of the wealthiest and eminent of our monetary houses. The other agents are all respectable persons, but we believe all are innocent of any knowledge at whose real risk this business was done, who bears the enormous losses which have resulted from it and continues to be incurred up to the time we write. All, therefore who have watched these transactions have been forced to a conclusion that there is some object at the bottom, altogether independent of commercial considerations. These transactions began, as we have stated, in February. Purchases of wheat were made simultaneously in Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Hamburg, and St. Petersburg, and of flour in New York. The prices paid in each of those markets were as high as those which could be obtained in England; the cargoes, therefore, were sold at a loss equal to the whole of the expenses amounting on the wheat to at least 5s. a quarter, including duty, and on the flour to at least 4s. per barrel. These purchases abroad and sales in England continued, with always about the same result from February to June; and it was remarked as the elections proceeded, they were increased in their amount, and in the apparent recklessness and disregard to results. Throughout July and August they seemed to reach a climax. In the foreign markets which we have named, the agents for this transaction were the sole regulators of the markets; every advice to the other houses mentioned in the market as either higher or lower, bricker or cheaper, just as those agents went in or withdrew from it. And the most singular point in the whole affair was that at the same time that regular houses were buying cargoes of wheat here to ship to Holland at a profit, the agents of this strange and mysterious operation were buying wheat in Holland to sell at a loss in England. The transactions appeared in August to be drawing gradually to a close, and early in September it was announced that Mr. ——, in Amsterdam, and other agents elsewhere had announced their mission at an end. But a resumption of the same operations has occurred—the same agents are again employed—the same machinery set at work. The most extravagant prices have been given abroad, and the cargoes continue to be sold at a great loss on arrival here. No want of money is seen—everything is paid in cash—no bills drawn in direct connection with the shipments. During the last week, at Amsterdam, white Danzic wheat mixed, was sold at 50s a quarter, which, with charges, would cost 55s. here, and the value of which in Mark lane is 48s. Inferior wheat was sold at the same time at 44s. which, with charges, will cost 49s. here, and the value of which in Mark lane is 43s. White Zealand, scarcely suited for this market at all, sold at 40s. which with charges, 4s. will cost 45s. here, the value of which in Mark Lane, is 39s. at the outside. But for so remarkable an operation as we have referred to, by which it is calculated that the loss deliberately incurred cannot have been much less in one way and another, than £100,000, it is felt there must be some intelligible reason. Knowing how close a sympathy there is between the price of grain and the value of public securities, it has been suggested that these grain transactions have had a relation to some extensive stock operations. But there is no reason for believing that any such speculations have taken place here, as would appear to justify such conclusion. A far more likely explanation suggests itself in relation to the events in France. Ever since the commencement of the present year, it has been of the utmost consequence to maintain low prices of food in France. If we look to the political condition of France during the present year, to the financial operations of the Government, and to the huge speculations in railways in which those immediately connected with the Government have been engaged, and which have exercised indirectly the most important influence over the prospects of the Government, as well as over the fortunes of its individual members, it is easy to understand the anxiety which has been displayed to keep down the prices of corn in France. It will be remembered that at the close of last harvest, when it was generally believed that the result was unfavourable, an article appeared in the *Moniteur* contradicting, in almost impassioned terms, the general report that the harvest was inferior, and rather implying that it was unusually abundant. But it now turns out that the general rumour was correct, and that the *Moniteur* was wrong; but the price of grain has considerably risen in France since that time. It is moreover a curious fact that the arrangements for the extensive purchase to which we have referred, extends to all the chief exporting countries *except France*. And it is certain that compared with the enormous political interests at stake, the extensive financial arrangements, and the railway speculations on hand, the loss of £100,000, in order to prevent any considerable rise of prices in France was a most insignificant matter. But then, it will be asked, how the particular operation we have described could effect such a purpose?—how importations of grain into England would contribute to the low prices desired in France? A close examination of the subject will show that it was not only a very ingenious but even the only practicable mode of accomplishing such an object. The more obvious and direct way would have been, no doubt, to import foreign grain direct into France, but then it will be borne in mind that the high import duties rendered that impossible, while the importing of it into England and the depressions of prices here, to whatever extent they were acted upon, had necessarily an immediate effect upon the markets in France. It is a familiar fact to our readers that France has furnished this country with more wheat and flour than any other country during the last three years. It is, moreover, our nearest source of foreign supply. The markets of France have, therefore, been subjected to an influence from Mark Lane as immediate and direct as the markets of Norfolk, Lincoln, for the North of England are. Keep down the London markets to a certain rate, and exportation from France is no longer possible. Let the London markets rise, so that it will answer to send grain from France, the French markets will immediately follow those of London. Considering then the fiscal regulations of France and England, it is obvious that the most effective means of influencing the French market is by depressing the London markets. The important practical consideration, however, which arises from the state of matters which we have described is, that the corn market has been for some time past, and still is, placed under the artificial depreciation of forced transactions at a great loss to those engaged in them. How long they may be continued, it is impossible to say; but if there is really a deficiency of corn in Europe—an opinion which begins to gain ground—the more consumption is encouraged by low prices, the more marked must the rise of prices be hereafter.

The Chronicle.

Saint John, January 14, 1853.

RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.

It is with real regret that we have to record the resignation of a Conservative administration. This untimely blow will we fear be deeply felt in the Colonies. The Derby Ministry had barely entered into office, when one of the most important of Colonial interests commanded its attention; by an armed force it was efficiently protected from foreign encroachment, and the rights secured to us—we trust FOREVER—under the convention of 1818, were enjoyed without the unlawful molestation, to which they had hitherto been subjected.

In bringing forward the Budget, it is our belief that Mr. Disraeli acquitted himself most admirably of the task he undertook, when he promised to bring the financial system into harmony with the new state of things under the *regime* of Free Trade. The five hours' speech in which he disclosed the intentions of the government has been recognized as a master-piece, clear as a bell, and perfect in arrangement—so complete, that not a single point stood in need of additional explanation, and at the same time so succinct, that scarcely a sentence of it could be spared.

It was not to be expected that so many sweeping changes, as proposed by the Government would be suffered to pass by without opposition. A debate ensued, upon which on a minor point, the Ministry were found in a trifling minority; the pope's brass band, of course, aided the majority.—The fate of Maynooth staring them in the face, the realization of which, is unfortunately postponed for the present. Providence ordereth all things for the best, and we must wait with patience until the affairs of these colonies are placed under happier auspices. We have unbounded confidence in the patriotism and integrity of our local government, and entertain no doubt, that under the new order of things, there will be renewed exertions on their part to prevent our fishery, or any other interest from being sacrificed, in order that that baneful principle—concession—may be carried out, to the lasting detriment of British subjects, and the advancement of a nation whose selfish policy almost precludes the possibility of our dealing with it, in such a way, that we can reap that fair share of benefit which should mutually belong to commercial intercourse.

The steamship *America* arrived at Halifax at half-past 12 o'clock on Sunday, bringing Liverpool dates to the 26th ult.

In France affairs are not only quiet but dull.

The Emperor of Austria and the Kings of Prussia and Hanover are enjoying themselves at Berlin.

The insurrection is spreading in Turkey.

A new Ministry has come into power in Spain, under the Presidency of Gen. Roncali.

The debate on the Budget, which lasted four days, terminated on Friday, the 17th, when the House divided on a resolution affirming the House Tax. There appeared for the motion, 286; against it, 305; majority against the Ministry, 19. After the result was known, the House was adjourned until Monday. Lord Derby proceeded to Osborn to see the Queen. Of 82 Irish members in the House at the time of the division, 30 voted with the Government, and 52 against. It was believed that the opposition would not be able to form an Administration, even if the Ministry resigned, and at the latest accounts it was thought that a coalition Government would be formed.

The Conservative Ministry has resigned, and a Coalition Administration was being formed under the Premiership of the Earl of Aberdeen.

Respecting the New ministry, all that is known up to this time, because it is all that has been definitely fixed, is that Lord Aberdeen is now the head of the Goverment, with the entire concurrence of Lord Lansdowne and of Lord John Russell, and that Lord John Russell will lead the House Commons.

Both Houses met on the 20th, when Earl Derby officially announced the resignation of the Ministry, and entered into a lengthened statement of the causes that had led to that result. D'Israeli, in the Commons, made a similar announcement. Both Houses, then adjourned till Friday, and subsequently till Monday, 27th, before which nothing definitely can be known by the public.]

Fatest.—The New Cabinet.—The following list said to contain the names of the new Ministry;—First Lord of the Treasury, Lord Aberdeen; Lord Chancellor, Lord Cranworth; Foreign Secretary, Lord John Russell; Home Secretary, Lord Palmerston; Chancellor of the Exchequer, W. E. Gladstone; Colonial Secretary, Duke of Newcastle; Admiralty, Sir James Graham; War, Hon. Sydney Herbert; Board of Controul, Sir Charles Wood; Postmaster General, Lord Canning; Privy Seal, Duke of Argyle; President of the Council, Lord Clarendon; Board of Works, Sir W. Molesworth; Board of Trade, E. Cardwell; Attorney General, Sir A. Cockburn; Solicitor General, Mr. Page Wood; Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Earl St. German's; Attorney General, Ireland, Mr. Brewster; Solicitor General, Ireland, Mr. Keogh. It is not believed that a ministry formed of such materials, and supported in the Commons by half a dozen parties entertaining different principles, can stand for a week against the united conservative party comprising nearly half the House, under the leadership of Mr. D'Israeli.

LATEST FROM ENGLAND.

By the arrival of the *Baltic* at New York, on the 11th inst. we have European dates, 4 days later. The Ministry has been definitely formed. Premier, Earl of Aberdeen. Colonial Secretary, Duke of Newcastle. Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Earl St. Germains. The policy of the new government has been officially declared in both branches, and is "liberal" in the extreme. The south-east coast of England has been visited with severe gales. Louis Napoleon has determined the succession to the throne, which is to devolve on Jerome Bonaparte, and his lawful descendants in a direct line.

THE CALORIC SHIP.

One of our American exchanges informs us that the *Ericsson* started on her trial trip on Tuesday, the 4th inst., making with wind and tide in her favour eight knots an hour. The New York *Scientific American* does not manifest the greatest confidence in the usefulness of this new discovery, and attributes the glowing accounts of the performance of the *Ericsson* whilst lying at the wharf, and the favourable anticipation of her future success to publishers of newspapers, who are perfectly ignorant of new discoveries in mechanics and engineering, and desirous only of furnishing news to their readers, whether it is based on truth or not; but our scientific cotemporary prudently winds up his editorial with the old-fashioned and sage observation, 'that time, however, will try all, better than tongue can tell.'

An old member of the *Glasgow Practical Mechanic* contains a long sketch of Captain Ericsson, mainly digested from a lecture delivered in the United States by John C. Sargent, on the improvement in steam navigation, and from which we make the following extracts, which doubtless at the present time will prove interesting to our readers:

'John Ericsson was born in 1803, in the province of Vermelandi among the iron mountains of Sweden. His father was a mining proprietor, so that the youth had ample opportunities to watch the operation of the various engines and machinery connected with the mines. These had been erected by mechanicians of the highest scientific attainments, and presented a fine study to a mind of mechanical tendencies. Under such influences, his innate mechanical talent was early developed. At the age of ten years, he had constructed, with his own hands, after his own plans, a miniature sawmill, and had made numerous drawings of complicated mechanical contrivances, with instruments of his own invention and manufacture.

In 1814 he attracted the attention of the celebrated Count Platen, who had heard of his boyish efforts, and desired an interview with him. After carefully examining the various plans and drawings which the youth exhibited on this occasion, the count handed them back to him, simply observing, in an impressive manner—"Continue as you have commenced, and you will one day produce something extraordinary." The few words of kind encouragement which he spoke on the occasion to which I have referred, sunk deeply into the mind of the young mechanician, and confirmed him in the career on which he had entered.

Ericsson, through his colonel, obtained leave from the king to visit England, where he arrived on the 18th May, 1826. He there proceeded to construct a working engine on the principle to which I have referred; but soon discovered that his flame engine, when worked by the combustion of mineral coals, was a different thing from the experimental model he had tried in the highlands of Sweden, with fuel composed of splinters of fine pine-wood. Not only did he fail to produce an extended and vivid flame, but the intense heat of the mineral coals so seriously affected all the working parts of the machine as soon to cause its destruction. These experiments, it may well be supposed, were attended with no trifling expenditure; and to meet their demands upon him, our young adventurer was compelled to draw on his mechanical resources.

The directors of the Liverpool and Manchester railway, before erecting the stationary engines by which they had intended to draw their passenger and freight carriages, determined to appeal to the mechanical talent of their country, in the hope of securing some preferable mode of transit. A prize was accordingly offered, in the fall of 1829, for the best locomotive engine, to be tested on the small portion at that time completed of the railway.—Sufficient publicity not having been given to their advertisement, Ericsson was not aware that any such prize had been offered until within seven weeks of the day fixed for the trial. Unwilling to permit the occasion to escape him, he was not deterred by the shortness of the time, but applying all his energies to the task, planned the engine, executed the working drawings, and caused the patterns to be made, and the whole machine completed within the seven weeks. The day of trial arrived. The competing engines were on the ground, and the novelty of the race had attracted an immense concourse of people. Both sides of the railway, for more than a mile in length, were lined with thousands of spectators. There was no room for jockeying in such a race—for inanimate matter was to be put in motion, and that moves only in accordance with immutable laws. The signal was given for the start. Instead of the application of whip and spur, the gentle touch of the steam valve gave life and motion to the novel machine. Up to that period, the greatest speed at which man had been carried along the ground was that of the race-horse, and no one of the multitude present on this occasion expected to see that speed surpassed. It was the general belief that the maximum attainable by the locomotive engine would not much exceed ten miles. To the surprise and admiration of the crowd, however, the Novelty, steam-carriage, the fastest engine started, guided by its inventor, Ericsson, assisted by John Braithwaite, darted along the track at the rate of upwards of twenty miles an hour.

The breathless silence of the multitude was now broken by thunders of hurras, that drowned the hiss of the escaping steam and the rolling of the engine-wheels. To reduce the surprise and delight excited on the occasion to the universal standard—and as an illustration of the extent to which the value of property is sometimes enhanced by the success of a mechanical invention—it may be stated, that when the Novelty had run her two miles and returned, the shares of the Liverpool and Manchester railway had risen ten per cent.

Ericsson's theory of heat is altogether in opposition to the received notion, that the mechanical force produced will bear a direct known proportion to the quantity of caloric generated; and that the power exerted in our best constructed steam engines is nearly the measure of that effect.

From what I have already said, it will be readily inferred that the principle forming the basis of the caloric engine is that of returning the heat at each stroke of the piston, and using it over and over again. This is obviously impracticable if steam is employed as the acting medium. Ericsson therefore uses the permanent gases, and in preference to all others, atmospheric air. The object which he seeks to accomplish is simply this—that the heat, contained in the air which escapes from the working cylinder, should be effectually taken up by the air which enters it, at each stroke of the engine. This result Capt. Ericsson has accomplished by means of an apparatus which he styles a regenerator; and so perfectly does it operate, that the heat employed in first setting the engine in motion continues to sustain it in full working force with no other renewal or addition than may be required to supply the inevitable waste by radiation. This remarkable invention was first brought before the scientific world in London in 1833, though it had been a favourite subject of speculation and reflection with Capt. Ericsson for many years. With the prominent exception of the celebrated Dr. Andrew Ure, and Professor Faraday, now the most distinguished chemists in England, nearly all the leading scientific men of the day united in condemning the principle on which it was based as unsound and untenable.

The interest which this subject excited did not escape the British government. But a short time was permitted to elapse before the Secretary of the Home Department, Lord Althorp, now Earl Spencer, made his appearance in the engine-room where the new motive power was in operation. His lordship was accompanied by Mr. Brunel, the constructor of the Thames Tunnel, and a gentleman at one period distinguished for his skill and enterprise as an engineer. At this time he was somewhat advanced in years, and therefore perhaps not most judiciously selected by his lordship to judge of this invention. At the very outset he conceived an altogether erroneous notion of the new power which he would not suffer to be corrected by explanations. An earnest discussion arose between Mr. Brunel and the inventor on the spot, which was followed by a protracted correspondence. The result was, that an unfavourable impression of the new power was communicated to the British Government.

The invention fared but little better at the hands of Prof. Faraday, from whose efficient advocacy and influence the most favourable results might have been anticipated. This gentleman had announced that he would deliver a lecture on the subject in London, in the spacious theatre of the Royal Institution. The novelty and interest of the invention, combined with the distinguished reputation of the lecturer, had attracted a very large audience, including many individuals of eminent scientific attainments. Just half an hour, however, before he was expected to enlighten this distinguished assembly, the celebrated lecturer discovered that he had mistaken the expansive principle, which is the very life of the machine. Although he had spent many hours in studying the caloric engine in actual operation, and in testing its absolute force by repeated experiment, Prof. Faraday was compelled to inform his hearers, at the very outset, that he did not know why the engine worked at all. He was obliged to confine himself, therefore, to the explanation of the regenerator, and the process by which the heat is continually returned to the cylinder, and re-employed in the production of force. To this part of the invention he rendered ample justice, and explained it in that felicitous style to which he is indebted for the reputation he deservedly enjoys, as the most agreeable and successful lecturer in England.

Other causes than the misconceptions of Brunel and Faraday operated to retard the practical success of this beautiful invention. The high temperature at which it was necessary to keep up the circulating medium of the engine, and the consequent oxidation, soon destroyed the pistons, valves, and other working parts. These difficulties the inventor endeavoured to remedy in an engine which he subsequently constructed of much larger powers, but without success. His failure in this respect, however, has not deterred him from prosecuting his invention. During his residence in this country, Captain Ericsson has constructed two engines, though purely experimental, with the view of working at a reduced temperature; and he is gradually but surely approaching the realization of his great scheme."

We have a beautiful diagram before us of this ingenious invention, together with a full explanation of that portion of the discovery which exclusively belongs to John Ericsson, whose indomitable perseverance under the most trying difficulties in striving to bring the caloric engine to perfection, is richly deserving of success, and which it is our decided impression he will ultimately attain.

The New York *Times* closes a long article on the subject of the *Ericsson* with the following paragraph:—

The experiments already made with the engines of the new ship, promise a very auspicious commencement of her career. The operations of the machinery, so far as the different portions have been tried, are perfectly smooth and accurate, and the revolutions of the wheels of the vessel have taken place with all the regularity and order which was to be expected of them. The prognostics of success are very promising. The public will await the result with eager interest. But one opinion can be expressed in regard to the probabilities of the plan. The necessity of a new motive-power is every day more pressing. Advantages must be gained by the application of the leading principles of Nature to new uses, and the inventor who shall accomplish this feat will entitle himself to the lasting gratitude of the commercial and traveling world. It is to be hoped, in view of the labor and ingenious resources which have been expended upon a project that seems so feasible as this, that the honor of the new Motor may be finally awarded to the studies of Capt. Ericsson.

NEW BRUNSWICK BIBLE SOCIETY.

The Anniversary Meeting of this Society was held at the Institute last evening. As usual, on these occasions, the spacious Hall was densely crowded, and large numbers were unable to gain admittance. I was indeed a cheering sight to witness so many of our citizens of all denominations of Christians assembled together to support the cause of the Bible Society. It proved that this noble Institution not only retains its influence in this community, but that it is advancing steadily onward, and gaining friends on every hand. The chair was taken at 7 o'clock by the President of the Society, Mr. Justice Parker; the first four verses of the sixty-sixth Psalm were then sung with delightful effect; the Rev. Mr. Donald then read the seventy-second Psalm, when the President rose and said that—We were assembled at a period of peculiar interest to all members of Bible Societies, just on the eve of the Jubile-year of the great Parent Institution, the British and Foreign Bible Society. Attention had been called to this circumstance by a Circular just received, announcing the intention of the Society to commemorate the year by a special Celebration and a special Fund. "It is," as that paper states, "a period in the history of the B. and F. Bible Society when it will be most becoming in all its supporters and friends to pause and review the past dealings of God with it, and to stir up one another to a more full accomplishment of the mission with which it is entrusted." The President then alluded to the wonderfull discoveries and improvements in arts and sciences of the last half century—steam conveyance by land and by sea—the application of the power of steam to machinery of all sorts, especially the printing press—the electric telegraph—Daguerotyping—chloroform—agricultural chemistry—gas, &c., and asked what were all these but benefits and blessings conferred on the present generation by a kind Providence which had been withheld from those of the hundreds and thousands of years which have preceded us; and calling loudly on us, in recognition of these blessings, in the words of the Psalmist, "to make God's ways known upon earth, His saving health among all nations." Surely the formation and success of the Bible Society ought to be ranked with the great events of the half century, and well justified the prominent place it sustains before the world, and the deep hold it has on the affections of its constituents, containing, as Lord Shaftesbury said, the very pith and marrow of all the other religious societies. Allusion was then made to the extent of the Society's present operations—its circulation of nearly twelve hundred thousand bibles and testaments in 1852—the influence exercised on the world by the twenty-five million copies of the Scriptures circulated by the Society; and we were urged to consider what might have been the state of many parts of the world at this time had this influence not existed,—this leaven not been mingled with the mass. The principle proclaimed by the Society, as dear to all our hearts, is, *that every individual of the world has a right to read the Word of God, without note or comment.* It is our duty to maintain this principle; but were it a question of expediency merely, and not of right or duty, and we had now to determine whether the property of the Province would be best promoted by the free or fettered circulation of the Bible, could we hesitate a moment as to the choice,—comparing the state of those countries in which the free use of the Bible was denied to the people, with that of those where it was open to all! By every consideration then we were urged to contend that the Bible should not be a sealed book in New Brunswick. The position and prospects of the Bible Society are such as to call for deep and hartfelt gratitude to the Great Giver of all good, and for the hearty earnest co-operation of us all.

An abstract of the Report was then read by the Secretary, Dr. Paterson. This document contained a number of interesting facts in reference to operations of the Parent Society and of our Auxilliary; but our space will not admit of our noticing them at present.

The following resolutions, which were supported with great ability by the several speakers, were then passed unanimously:

Moved by Rev. Mr. Ferrie; seconded by Charles Hart, Esq.:

Resolved, That the report, an abstract of which has been just read, be received, and that the same be printed, and circulated under the direction of the Committee.

Moved by Rev. I. W. D. Gray, Rector; seconded by Rev. Mr. Elder:

Resolved, That we most thankfully and cordially join with our brethren in England in the acknowledgement, that the increased amount during the year ending in May, 1852, both the receipts and issues of the British and Foreign Bible Society, calls for an expression of deep gratitude to Almighty God; whose continual blessing this meeting would earnestly implore, to sustain the Society in its work, to clear a pathway for its progress where it meets with obstruction, and to crown its labours with success.

Moved by Rev. Mr. Bill; seconded by Rev. Mr. Smith:

Resolved, That this meeting rejoices to recognize the growing support which Bible Societies are receiving from all denominations of Protestant Christians, and to perceive that differences on this head are fast yielding to the vital and absorbing principles in which we all agree, that the Bible—the whole Bible—should be open for the free instruction of all men, being adapted to all conditions of Society, and, therefore, most fitted for enlightening and purifying the world.

Moved by His Honour Mr. Justice Wilmot; seconded by John Wishart, Esq.:

Resolved, That the present period is one of peculiar interest to all who rejoice at the circulation of God's Holy Word throughout the world,—as we are now on the eve of the Jubile year of the Bible Society; and when we call to mind the signal blessings vouchsafed to the highlands of Noble Institution, now of nearly fifty years standing, we should feel animated and encouraged to make this, our humble Auxiliary, do its part to urge on the great work—"not to swell a party, but to influence the soul and lead men to truth." Having the light let us diffuse it!

And further Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the Jubilee year should be celebrated by a special public meeting to be holden during the summer, at such day as the Committee may appoint.

Moved by Rev. G. M. Armstrong; seconded by Henry Frith, Esq.:

Resolved, That our best acknowledgements are continually due to the St. John Ladies' Bible Association, and to all the Branch Societies and Associations connected with this Auxiliary, which show a sincere disposition to co-operate with us in the work of Bible distribution, especially the Milkish, Grand Lake, and Kingston Branches.

Moved by Rev. Mr. Allison; seconded by Rev Mr. Mackay:

Resolved, That the following gentlemen do compose the Committee for the ensuing year:—Dr. Samuel Bayard, Dr. LeBaron Botsford, Messrs. Samuel Hayghan, John Kinhear, John Wishart, Nathan S. Demill, Gilbert T. Ray, George A. Lockhart, William J. Starr, James McMillan, Edward Sears, D. J. McLauchlan, John Armstrong, James Reed, Charles A. Hart, William Girvan, A. Mott, Secley, and John C. McIntosh, for the City, John Duncan, James Flewwelling, Moses Tuck, and David V. Roberts, for Portland. R. Salter, I. Clark, and Dr. Waddell, for Carleton.—[*Church Witness.*

CHURCH MEETING AT GRAND LAKE.

At a meeting in St. John's Church, White's Point, Grand Lake, of which due notice had been given at the other Churches in the Grand Lake Mission, to take into consideration the Circular of the Lord Bishop of Fredericton, lately addressed to the Clergy of the Diocese.

Moved by Wm. Foshay, Esq., and seconded by Mr. B. M. Dykeman.—

Resolved, That this meeting views with apprehension and distrust the effort now made by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, as the recognised organ and leader of the Tractarian party in England, to establish a novel system of Church government in the Colonies by the introduction of Ecclesiastical Synods, to be composed in part of lay members, a proposition which this meeting, actuated by principles and feelings of attachment to their Church as now established and governed in this Province, feel themselves imperatively called upon to reject. And the more so, as Mr. Gladstone, in introducing so important a change into the British Parliament, appears to have done so on his own responsibility, unsolicited by the Church of England in this Province.

Moved by Wm. Foshay, Esq., seconded by Mr. Robert Orchard, Senr.

Resolved, That this meeting unite with their brethren of the Colonial Church throughout the Province in preferring their humble but loyal address to Her Most Gracious Majesty and the British Parliament, deprecating in the strongest terms, the passing of any bill such as proposed, or of any measure calculated to introduce constitutional changes, that would have the disastrous effect, as is greatly feared, of destroying the prosperity of a Church to which a large portion of Her Majesty's Colonial subjects are deeply attached.

Moved by Wm. Foshay, Esq., seconded by Mr. Samuel White, Senr.—

Resolved, That Wm. Foshay, Esq., and Samuel Knight be a committee to prepare an address in accordance with the above resolution.

Further Resolved, That a copy of the proceedings of this meeting be transmitted to the Lord Bishop of the Diocese; and that the above resolutions be forwarded by the Secretary to the Editors of the *Church Witness* and *Chronicle* in St. John.

Mr. Wood having left the Chair, Wm. Foshay, Esq. was called to it.

Moved by B. M. Dykeman, and seconded by Stephen S. Wiggins—

Resolved, That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Chairman, the Rev. A. Wood, Missionary at the Grand Lake, for his impartial, gentlemanly and satisfactory conduct in the Chair.

These resolutions passed unanimously.

ABRAHAM WOOD, *Chairman.*

Grand Lake, Jan. 10, 1853.

EXTRAORDINARY WILL OF THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY.—The will of the late Earl of Shrewsbury has been proved, and the personal property has been sworn under £100,000. His lordship has directed that out of this amount there shall be paid £500 to the Rev. Thomas Doyle, £500 to the Rev. Daniel Rock, £130 to the Rev. Dr. Winter, and there are several legacies to his sister and to servants. He has directed the whole of his estates at Alton Farley, and elsewhere to be converted into money, the whole of the proceeds, together with the residue of his personal property, to be given to Mr. Ambrose Lisle Phillips of Grace Dieu Manor, Leicestershire, and Mr. C. Scott Murray of Danefield, Buckinghamshire, both of whom, it will be remembered seceded from the Church of England some time since, and joined the communion of the Church of Rome. By the mortmain act, no sum exceeding £500 can be left for religious purposes, and it is, therefore, generally believed, that although this large amount of property has been left unconditionally to Mr. Phillips and Mr. Murray, there is a tacit understanding that it is hereafter to be applied to the benefit of the Roman Catholic Church. This surposition is strengthened by the fact that, in a will made some time ago, the whole of his lordship's property was left to Dr. Walsh, and, in the event of his decease, to Cardinal Wiseman; but this was revoked by a codicil in favour of Messrs. Phillips and Murray, who are to divide the property equally between them.

THE CITY CHANCERY SUIT.

"Contention, like a horse
Full of high feeding, madly hath broke loose,
And bears down all before him."—*Shakspeare.*

This suit, between the inhabitants on the western side of the Harbour, and the City Corporation and Trustees of the Corporation property, has now been pending over seven years, and at the rate at which costs in Chancery are taxed, it is our humble opinion that the 'gentlemen of the long robe' engaged in the cause, will quietly swallow the oyster, if the litigant contention lasts for another seven years, whilst the litigants must be contented with the shells.

An effort has been recently made to effect a friendly compromise, and the negociation was completed, 'all but'—when trouble and delay presented themselves, arising from the future disposal of the general revenues. We sincerely trust that those who are entrusted with the management of the matter, will again put their heads together, and resolve upon some mode of disposing of the difficulty which presents itself in the way of a final arrangement. This highly desirable object can only be effected, when a spirit of friendly compromise animates the minds of those who are appointed to negotiate this complicated affair. Surely what the Court of Chancery can do, at a ruinous amount of costs, can be effected by men of common sense for themselves, and without the expenditure of another farthing!

From the London *Daily News* of the 17th ult., we learn that the committee on the petition against Major Beresford, Secretary at War, &c., charging him with bribery at the Derby election, where he was returned, reported rather suddenly. They say that they were fully satisfied that an organized system of bribery had existed, and that a letter was written by the Major which certainly seemed to implicate him, and was apparently the means of calling the system into existence. Still they say that there is no evidence to show that he concurred in the bribery, or assented to it, and they characterise his conduct as a "reckless indifference to, and disregard of consequences which they cannot too highly censure." Nevertheless the gallant Major retains his seat.—*Exchange.*

We wonder when the brutal conduct of the Popish priests in Ireland will be brought under review in the House of Commons. They did worse than bribe—they acted upon the superstitious fears of their flocks—they hounded them on to murder Protestants, who were disposed to vote in opposition to the Pope—they interfered physically at the polls to prevent the free exercise of the elective franchise; but, and what is supremely ridiculous, they exercised the blasphemous mummery of sending men's souls—beyond purgatory, when they would not do their wicked bidding,—and in what manner, gentle reader? By blowing at a tallow-candle, 6 to the lb., in the presence of a poor, deluded, monkey-visaged congregation! When will the murderous propensities, the idolatrous iniquities of the sacerdotal crew be discussed in Parliament? The Irish journals are full of it, and were the recitals not considered by us really too degrading to the standing of men, purporting to be christian men too, we should, in our present number, submit a large amount of it for the contemplation of our readers. For every pretended offence of a Burgoyne, we will engage to *substantiate* fifty against the priests.

LAUNCHED, from the Ship-yard of Messrs. W. & R. Wright, the owners and builders, at Courtenay Bay, in this City, the clipper-built ship *Star of the East.* This fine vessel is of the burthen of 1600 tons and upwards, and is built after the model of one of the fastest vessels in the world, the American ship *Flying Cloud.* For materials and workmanship, she cannot be excelled.

COURT OF OYER AND TERMINER.—The assizes for the City and County of St. John, were opened on Tuesday last, his honor, Mr. Justice Wilmot, presiding. Thirty three civil actions were entered for trial, whilst five criminal cases, most of them of a serious character, but none capital offences, presented themselves for adjudication.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE.—The January number is before us, and for which we are indebted to Mr. B. O'Brien, King Street. The illustrations exceed those already published in point of execution, whilst the reading matter is equal if not superior interest.

CHAMBERS POCKET MISCELLANY.—Mr. O'Brien has also presented us with a copy of this periodical, being the 6th number. It contains 180 pages of well-selected miscellaneous matter.

☞ Steamer *Arabia* for New-York, put into Halifax at 5 o'clock last evening. No news of importance.

HONESTY.—The *Canadian Churchman*, a High Church paper, published in Toronto, inserted, a few weeks ago, the resolutions passed at Carleton, in reference to Mr. Gladstone's Bill, but not a line or word in that or the succeeding number of the paper to inform its readers that a totally different opinion had been arrived at by other Parishes in this Province.—*Church Witness.*

DEANERY MEETING.

A meeting of the Clergy of the St. John Deanery, was held yesterday, at Trinity Church in this City. There were present of the Clergy—Rev. I. W. D. Gray, D. D. Dean; Rev. John Armstrong, A. M.; Rev. F. Coster; Rev. W. Harrison; Rev. J. Disbrow; Rev. W. Armstrong; Rev. G. Armstrong; and Rev. Mr. Lee. An impressive sermon, adapted to the occasion, was preached by the Rev. Wm. Armstrong, from Daniel xii. 3, after which the Holy Sacrament was administered.—*Ib.*

SHOCKING RAILROAD ACCIDENT—SON OF GEN. PI