

THE SENTINEL.

AND NEW BRUNSWICK GENERAL ADVERTISER.

VOL. III.

FREDERICTON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1840.

No. 35.

THE SENTINEL.
IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
By Edmund Ward.
Office.—Phoenix or Tank House—Fredericton.
AND CONTAINS,
The Decisions of the Executive, and Notices of
Sales of Crown Lands.
During the sitting of the Legislature THE SENTINEL
is published twice each week, and in it
will be inserted
The Debates in the Legislative Council and
House of Assembly.
TERMS.—15s. per annum, exclusive of Postage.
Half in advance.

No Paper will be discontinued at the request
of a Subscriber until all arrears are paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding twelve
lines will be inserted for four shillings and six-
pence the first, and one shilling and sixpence for
each succeeding insertion. Larger in proportion.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.
CENTRAL BANK OF NEW BRUNSWICK.—W.
J. Bedell, Esq. President. Saml. W. Babbitt, Esq.
Cashier. Discount Days, Tuesdays and Fridays.
—Bills or Notes offered for Discount must be left at
the Bank, enclosed and directed to the Cashier, be-
fore two o'clock on Mondays and Thursdays. Di-
rector next week, JOHN ROBINSON, Esq.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF NEW BRUNSWICK.—
Fredericton Branch. Archd. Scott, Esq. Cashier.
Discount days, Mondays and Thursdays. Hours
of business from 10 to 3. Notes or Bills for dis-
count are to be left at the Bank, enclosed to the
Cashier before three o'clock on Saturdays and Wed-
nesdays.

BANK OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.—Frede-
ricton Branch. Alfred Smithers, Esq. Manager.—
Discount days, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Hours
of business from 10 to 3. Notes and Bills for
Discount to be in before 3 o'clock on the days pre-
ceding the Discount Days. Director next week, S.
BARKER, Esq.

SAVINGS' BANK. Trustees for next week, J.
WILLOX, Esq.

CENTRAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—B.
Wolhaupter, Esq. Office open every day, at Mr.
Minchin's Brick House, opposite the Parade, (Sun-
days excepted,) from 11 to 2 o'clock. Committee
for the present month, F. E. BECKWITH, and
W. A. McLEAN.

ALMS HOUSE AND WORK HOUSE.—Com-
missioner, till Thursday next, MOSES PECKARD.

BOUNDARY LINE.

EXTRACTS

From the Report of the Commissioners ap-
pointed by the British Government, July 9th, 1839,
to Explore and Survey the Territory in Dis-
pute between the Governments of Great Brit-
ain and the United States of America, under
the second Article of the Treaty in 1783.

SOURCE OF THE ST. CROIX.—Error of the
Commission of 1794.
(Concluded.)

X.—It will appear that the phraseology used
in those Instructions of Congress to their
negotiators, in which the north-west angle of
Nova-Scotia is stated to be at the source of
the St. John, has been transferred to the second
article of the Treaty of 1783; the only difference
being, that, in the latter, the River St. Croix is
substituted for the River St. John, and that the
Highlands are directed to be reached from the
St. Croix by a due North Line.

XI.—We show that the "Highlands" of the
Treaty had been as early as 1755, described by
Governor Pownall; and that he describes them
as dividing the St. Francis and the Chaudiere,
from the Kennebec, and from all the branches
of the Penobscot.

We also show that he states the different
branches of the Penobscot to extend from west
to east along the southern point of the country
now called the disputed territory;

That the topographical description of the
southern boundary of Quebec, contained in the
Royal Proclamation of 1763, and the description
of the boundary of Nova-Scotia, contained in
the commissions of some Royal Governors, were
taken from Governor Pownall's paper;

And that the language used in the Boundary
descriptions, quoted from the Secret Journals of
Congress, and the language used in the second
article of the Treaty of 1783, was but a copy of
that which is to be found in the documents last
mentioned.

XII.—We have drawn the just inference,
that the "Highlands" which Governor Pownall
speaks of as throwing down both the western
and eastern branches of the Penobscot, are the
Highlands intended by the Treaty; and we
have adduced the contract of Jackson and Flint
with the State of Massachusetts in 1792, to show
that the land then granted was bounded on the
north by the Highlands thus heading all the
branches of the Penobscot; and that these
"Highlands" were then understood by the Gov-
ernment of the State of Massachusetts to be the
Highlands intended by the Treaty of 1783.

XIII.—It is seen that the second article of
the Treaty of 1783 can never be executed, until
the two Governments first agree which is the
line of Highlands that is to be intersected by the
due North Line, since the Treaty directs the
execution of the article to begin at a point which
can have no existence, until the due North
Line has intersected Highlands acknowledged
by both Governments to be those of the Treaty.

XIV.—We have discovered by a critical ex-
amination of the grant of Nova-Scotia of 1621,
in the original Latin, that the passage which
describes the Western Boundary of the territory
included in that grant, and which boundary was
agreed, at the time of the Treaty of 1783, to be
the eastern boundary of Massachusetts in con-
formity with the provision contained in the Char-
ter of Massachusetts of 1691, is susceptible of a
new interpretation varying in important par-
ticulars from the received one; and we show by a
literal translation of the Latin, that the Bound-
ary was intended to run from the most western
waters of the St. Croix to the sources of the
Chaudiere; a line, which it has been seen, co-
incides in a most striking manner with the bound-
ary in the Sieur De Mont's Grant of 1603.

XV.—With reference to the great errors in
Mitchell's map in latitude and longitude, we
have suggested some remarkable considerations
resulting therefrom. We have observed that if
a line were protracted upon that map between
the most western sources of the St. John and
the western termination of the Bay of Chaleurs,

and were adopted as the Boundary between the
two countries, the River St. John would fall to
the south of that line, and be within the United
States. Whereas by a line protracted between
the above-mentioned points, properly adjusted
as to the latitude and longitude as they exist on
our map, the River St. John would be left on
the British side, and to the north of the Bound-
ary between the two countries. But though we
have referred to Mitchell's map for the purpose
of showing how the mistakes in that map may
have contributed to account for the erroneous op-
inions prevailing in the United States about the
Boundary Question, we are quite aware that
Mitchell's map is not, and cannot be, any au-
thority on this question: inasmuch as it is not
mentioned or referred to, in any manner, in the
Treaty. The Boundary must be determined by
applying the words of the Treaty to the natural
features of the country itself, and not by apply-
ing those words to any man.

XVI.—It appears that in the discussions which
have been hitherto had on the subject of the
Grant of Nova-Scotia in 1621, reference has al-
ways been had to an American translation of
that Grant which was defective; and that all
the omissions and inaccuracies in that defective
translation singularly concur to obscure the na-
ture of the claim which her Majesty's Govern-
ment was interested to maintain.

XVII.—We have shown that the terms due
North Line, which were originally used in the
Commission of Montague Wilmot, Esq. in 1763,
were inserted in that instrument, because the
sources of the St. Croix River began to the south
of those of the Penobscot; it was necessary to di-
rect a due north line to be drawn from those
sources as far as the Southern Boundary of the
Colony of Quebec; fact which goes far to
identify that Boundary with the Highlands of
the Treaty of 1783.

XVIII.—In adverting to the proceedings of
the Commissioners appointed under the treaty of
1794, to identify that the St. Croix River, we
remark upon the erroneous establishment of the
point of departure for the North Line, which
has had a disturbing influence upon all attempts
subsequently made to execute the Treaty.—Had
the point of departure of the due North Line
been established at the most western waters of
the St. Croix, agreeably to a just construction
of the Treaty of 1783, it would have intersected
Highlands south of the Roostic River; and any
further protraction of the due North Line from
that point of intersection could not have been
proposed, the Treaty directing the due North
Line to go to the Highlands, and not to any fur-
ther point.

XIX.—In that branch of our Report entitled
"The Physical Geography of the Country" we
have shown that the line of "Highlands" claimed
by the United States to be the Highlands of
the Treaty of 1783, even if it were continuous,
which it is not, and if it divided the waters
flowing in opposite directions, which it does not,
passes at least fifty miles to the North of the
North Westernmost Head of Connecticut
River; and therefore could not by any reason-
ing be shown to be the "Highlands" of the Treaty
of 1783; those Highlands being required by
that Treaty to go to the north-westernmost head
of the Connecticut River.

XX.—We have shown that the assumptions
on the part of some of the official agents of the
United States, both in relation to the continuity
and to the dividing character of their "High-
lands," and to the elevation above the sea of the
point they have stated to be the north west
angle of Nova Scotia of the Treaty of 1783, and
altogether unfounded in fact. That the conclu-
sions upon which they have rested the Ameri-
can case, instead of being the legitimate results
of practical investigation, and unsubstantial in-
ventions brought forward in the absence of all
the real investigation; conveying erroneous ideas
of the nature of the country; and calculated
to mislead, not only their own authorities,
but public opinion in the United States and in
Europe, as to the merits of this question.

CONCLUSION.

In including this Report, we have to ask the
indulgence of your Lordship, if it should appear
to be less complete than the importance of the
subject required, or would have admitted of.—
The very short period allotted for our personal
examinations of the disputed territory, was dili-
gently employed by us, as long as the season
permitted us to continue our investigations; nor
were they discontinued until we had made our-
selves acquainted with the natural features of
the country, to the extent required by the im-
portant end contemplated in our instructions.

We are also aware that the somewhat com-
plicated history of this controversy might in more
able hands, have been treated with greater abili-
ty, yet we venture to ask your Lordship to re-
ly upon the fidelity of all our statements. If
we may be thought to have occasionally exceed-
ed the precise line of our instructions, we rest
our justification on the great anxiety we have
felt to vindicate our Country and our Govern-
ment from imputations as offensive as they are
unfounded. Intimately allied as Great Britain
and the United States are, we have thought it
due to a question which has somewhat endan-
gered the peace happily subsisting between them,
that we should frankly explain some of the
causes why the two governments have hitherto
been defeated in their earnest attempt to
bring the dispute to an equitable and amicable
arrangement. If our strictures upon the con-
duct of some of the agents of the two govern-
ments heretofore employed in ineffectual at-
tempts to settle the Boundary Question, should
give pain in any quarter, we can only say that
the maintenance of British rights and the pre-
servation of peace did not appear to us to admit
of being compromised by personal considerations.

We have, therefore, stated things as we found
them to be, and have been impartial in the ap-
plication of our remarks. Above all, we desire
to say, that we have not intended to insinuate a
doubt as to the good faith of the Government of
the United States in the progress of this matter.
On the contrary we have regretted to see that
those irregularities on the part of some of its
agents which it has been our duty to expose,
could not fail to mislead that intelligent Gov-
ernment whose conduct during the negotiations
we have been uniformly marked by fairness.
Notwithstanding the assertions which during so
long a period have been confidently urged, that
the United States alone can rightfully claim the
territory in question, we hope to have proved
that the claim of Great Britain does not, as has
been alleged, rest upon vague and indefensible
grounds, but that she has always had a clear
and indefeasible title, by right and by possession,
to the whole of the disputed territory; a title, it
is true, which has hitherto been somewhat ob-
scured by its rather complicated history, and by
the want of that interest which countries in the

state of a wilderness, and remote from the Mo-
ther Country sometimes fail to inspire.

If it should be urged that the British agents,
in whose hands this question has hitherto been,
have sometimes taken different views of the sub-
ject, and consequently expressed themselves in a
manner inconsistent with the reasonings which
we have used, we may fairly attribute it to the
want of that more accurate information which
we possess at this time. But it becomes less
surprising that they should have so acted under
the disadvantageous circumstances we have al-
luded to, when we see that the people of Maine
whose legitimate home is contentious with the
country in dispute, have not to this day exam-
ined the territory, as they might have done,
with an accuracy that admitted of an impartial
judgement being, whether their claim, as they
have hitherto preferred it, was or was not truly
in accordance with the language or intentions
of the Treaty of 1783. It is not to be concealed,
that they who were so much interested in the
decision of the question, and who, as it were,
live upon the spot, have contributed little or no-
thing to clear up the difficulties attending upon
the subject. Their acts seem principally to
have been confined to surveying the land into
townships, to be settled by their own citizens,
and leaving it to the next generations to assert
the proprietorship of them. Time will prove or
disprove our statements. We have had truth at
all times for our guide, and now confidently de-
clare, that if, upon concluding our investigations,
we have found reason to believe that the claim
of Great Britain was, in our judgement, a doubt-
ful one, we should have reported that fact to
your Lordship.

When this question shall receive a more calm
and a more careful examination in the United
States, we believe that the American people,
who are eminently capable of forming a delibe-
rate and sound judgment upon this grave ques-
tion, will be anxious that it shall be decided ac-
cording to the principles of strict justice, and con-
sistently with the reverence due to that treaty
whence is dated the independence of their gov-
ernment.

Finally, it gives us great satisfaction to be
able to state to your Lordship, that we have care-
fully examined every branch of this important
subject as it has come under our consideration;
and that conscientiously believing that the
claims of Great Britain to the whole of the dis-
puted territory are founded in justice, and are
in plain accordance with the second article of
the Treaty of 1783, and with the physical geo-
graphy of the country:

We Report,

That we have found a line of Highlands, a-
greeing with the language of the second article
of the Treaty of 1783, extending from the north
westernmost head of the Connecticut River to
the sources of the Chaudiere, and passing from
thence, in a north-easterly direction, South of
the Roostic, to the Bay of Chaleurs. The course
of that line is traced out on the map A, ac-
companying our Report. Upon the left margin
of this map we have placed a section of the
country along the line as far as the Lake Kea-
quawgam; and upon the right margin a perpen-
dicular section along the exploratory due north
line, accompanying them both with barometrical
elevations.

We further Report that there does not exist,
in the disputed territory any other Line of High-
lands which is in accordance with the second ar-
ticle of the Treaty of 1783; and that the line
which is claimed on the part of the United
States, as the Line of Highlands of the Treaty
of 1783, does not pass nearer than from forty
to fifty miles of the north-westernmost head of
Connecticut River, and therefore has no pretension
to be put forward as the Line intended by
the Treaty of 1783.

We have the honour to remain, my Lord,
your Lordship's most obedient and humble ser-
vants,

G. W. FEATHERSTONHAUGH,
RICH. Z. MUDGE,
Commissioners.

From the London Atlas.

LONDON, August 1.

The Paris papers of Thursday are, of
course, full of the spectacles by which the last
day of the July fete was celebrated.—
They tell us that among the bones of the her-
oes of the revolution repose the last remains
of the Swiss guards who fought against them
in defence of the Bourbons. The bones of a
woman and child have also been found among
the relics of these revolutionary martyrs.

After ten years' rest in their temporary bed
the little rudely raised square grass plot in
front of the Louvre, which has been marked
ever since by the continued elevation of a
tricoloured flag, the bones of the heroes
have now been removed to their final resting
place, under the column on the side of the
Bastille! Peace to their ashes! Their fu-
neral rites have been most truly French—a
mock Greek sarcophagus, a grand military
procession—the soldiery repeating taunts and
threats to foreign powers while turning their
sabres against their fellow citizens, whose
feeling for the dead appeared to differ with
that of the authorities only in intensity—a
solemn funeral service—a mountebank exhi-
bition—fire works, and a dance of beggars
in the royal gardens. Threats and groans,
boasting and humiliation, religion and war,
quiet and revelling—such are the chief ele-
ments in the fete of July.

With regard to the eastern question, the
Moniteur, which was expected to speak out
is yet silent, but the constitutional is full of
important and semi-official matter. "France
was not duped," it says. "It certainly did
not know of the actual signature of the treaty
till it was ratified. How could it? France
knew what the negotiations were about and
to what they tended, and in consequence re-
fused to have any thing to do with them. It
was quite natural, then, that the other pow-
ers should negotiate without her." As to the
preparations for war, we read as follows:—

"What preoccupies the government is not to
have under arms, for the present, more men
than it can dispose of, for in France soldiers
are soon made. It is above all requisite to
provide matériel, and horses for cavalry and
artillery. These important measures have
been ordered. The fleet is to be augmented
and the command given to Admiral Duperre,
who will have under his orders Vice-Admir-
als Hugon, Lalande, and La Susse. Govern-
ment has taken care that the construction of

steamboats should proceed with activity.
Our fabricators are to receive tools to furnish
engines of the largest kind, and the Belgian
manufacturers are to be engaged to supply
what we may want. Our French mechan-
icians will probably have more work than
they can accomplish. In short, the prepara-
tions are such that France could in a very
short time, if necessary, be ready for war."

"Admiral de Mackau," says the *Presse*, "has
received orders to suspend his expedition to
the Plata."

The Toulon papers of Sunday mention that
the "Triton," of the line, which had been
destined to convey over to Algiers the Span-
ish refugees enlisted for the foreign legion,
has received counter-orders, and is intended
for another mission. The transport "Isere"
has been ordered to touch at Tunis, and to
carry out further instructions to Admiral de
Rosamel, on her way to the Levant.

The *Journal des Debats* is a little more mo-
derate than on Wednesday, and throws all
the blame on the predicament in which the
two governments are placed upon Lord
Palmerston alone, thus absolving the rest of
the cabinet. Of course no great importance
is attached to this French bravado. Even
the *Times* of this morning is free to say—
"We cannot bring ourselves to recommend
that M. Thiers and his colleagues can recom-
mend war to support the tyrannical and rebellious
Pasha of Egypt. On the contrary, we anti-
cipate a firm resolve for the maintenance of
that alliance which has so long subsisted be-
tween England and France, especially when
it is evident to every man of common sense
that this treaty can bring no advantage to
England beyond that which will accrue to
every other great power by the conclusion of
that war between the Sultan and his subject
which has so long disturbed and disquieted
the East of Europe."

A politician's consistency and worth cannot
be estimated while he is yet alive. The Earl of
Durham is now beyond the possibility of for-
feiting the character he bore or of discarding the
sentiments which he held. He has died as he
lived, an upright and unchanging public man.

Of all the men who now play prominent parts
upon the political stage, we could point out but
very few whose career can even yet be review-
ed with so much unvarying approval as the sur-
vivors of Lord Durham can review his. In the
events of his public life we met with much to
regret but nothing to condemn. His course
throughout has been that of a high spirited, ho-
nest, fearless, upright gentleman. Straightfor-
ward and unswerving, stained by no tortuous
ambition, disgraced by no low intrigue, guilty
of no craving after power, and tainted by no
suspicion of courting by unworthy acts the po-
pular applause, the fame of the first Earl of
Durham is bright and untarnished. It will de-
scend to the Lambtons as an hereditary honour
more lustreous than their earldom; a model and
an ornament to those of his descendants who may
be worthy, and a reproach to those who may
degenerate from their upright ancestor.

Lord Durham never had but one set of prin-
ciples. He wore them in his early youth, and
they were as fresh as ever when he died. Ac-
cording to the Whig party at a time when it had
lost its ablest leaders and was contending with
weak minorities against the fatal policy of Cas-
tlereagh, Lambton's name is to be found regis-
tered as an opponent of every act which has
since then either been repealed at the command
of the people, or which still survives as a curse
to the country. The despotic tendency of our
foreign policy, the corn law of 1815, which is
still the great grievance of 1840, the iniquitous
six acts, all met with the most strenuous op-
position of Mr. Lambton; and in 1821, while pa-
liamentary reform was a standard joke for Tory
simpletons to sneer at, he had the courage to
bring forward a measure founded upon the old
Whig principles of household suffrage and tri-
ennial Parliaments.

The number that supported him was so small
as to leave him without hope; yet nine years
later, he found himself one of three Cabinet mi-
nisters commissioned to make perfect a large
measure of Parliamentary reform, which should
be adopted by the whole country and sanction-
ed by the Legislature.

Considering the moderation which Durham
always displayed, the little care which he took
to press his just claims to political importance,
and his indifference to a popularity which cer-
tainly at one time gave him the power of seiz-
ing upon the Premiership, he certainly has been
a most ill-used and much calumniated man.
There is no public man of the day who has been
pursued with more ruthless virulence by the
Tory party and the Tory press. Finding a
death of topics of abuse in his public conduct,
they have sought materials for detraction in
the style of his living, and the *Times* has even cri-
tiqued with grave censure the utensils of his
kitchen. His embassy to Russia our merchants,
who are the best judges of such matters, think
successful; his enemies saw that it was splen-
did, and although the splendour of an ambas-
ador is, in such a country as Russia, an honour
to his country, although the cost was Lord Du-
rham's and not ours, yet all that satire, insinua-
tions, direct charges, and impertinent and most
baseless questions could do, was put in action to
annoy and ridicule him.

His government in Canada was unsuccessful
because his personal enemies made it so. Al-
ready is justice being done him in this respect.
But a few days ago the Duke of Wellington pub-
licly approved it in the House of Lords, and
Lord Durham's celebrated report must remain,
as long as the Canadian Provinces retain any
importance or interest, a monument of his in-
dustry, ability, and judgement. We do not en-
vy Lord Brougham the triumph which he ob-
tained on this occasion over his absent enemy.

That Durham was ever calculated for a po-
litical leader in England, we do not believe. His
temper was too unbending, he was not cautious
enough, or subtle enough, to manage a large
party, and to conciliate the continual support of
a numerous body of independent men. Perhaps
the infirmity of his constitution may have ren-
dered him less patient and temperate in manner
than he would have been had his temper been
less tried by bodily ailments. However, these
were little things which might detract from his
practical usefulness, but not from his character.
We are speaking of Durham as an honest, able,
and consistent public man, not as a very great
man, or as a first-rate statesman. As such let
us honour his memory.

How quietly and civilly matters proceed now
that the party contests of the session are over,
and the opposition have given up all hope of
driving ministers from their places.

Questions, which three months ago would
have produced the fiercest debates and the most
closely contested divisions, now roll with gaily
ease through both the houses. The education
grant no longer calls forth exclamations of hor-
ror from one half of the House of Commons; the
right of the Church of England to every farthing
of money that can be collected for religious pur-
poses in any of our colonies, is allowed to sleep
undisturbed; and even the wholesale robbery
of the cathedrals, the daring iniquity of apply-
ing the sinecure funds of the prebendal stalls to
some useful and pious purpose, calls forth ex-
ecration in the Commons only from the mouth of
Sir Robert Inglis, and receives in the Lords the
strenuous approval of the Duke of Wellington.
These are strange signs of the advanced state of
the session, and of the retiring of the two bel-
ligerent factions into autumnal quarters.

Mr. Gladstone, indeed, and Tory gentlemen
of similar rank in their party, occasionally make
speeches in order to show that there is still such
a thing as an opposition in existence; and Sir
Robert Peel lends them his countenance, by la-
conically ascribing every difficulty or intricacy
to her Majesty's ministers, and leaving his au-
ditors to guess how or why it is that they have
caused it. But beyond these little nibblings,
every thing is calm and peaceable between the
two parties, and the only sound of quarrel is a-
mong the Tories themselves. This faction in-
deed is in a most disorganized state. The Duke
of Wellington is at variance with Sir Robert
Peel and Lord Stanley; the Archbishop of Can-
terbury is at variance with the Bishops of Win-
chester and Salisbury, and at least forty-eight
peers of the high church party; Sir Robert In-
glis is at variance with every body; and the
whole tribe of Tory Maes, and O's, the Mc-
Ginnis, McNiels, O'Sullivan and such like are agreed
that Sir Robert Peel, Lord Stanley, the Duke
of Wellington, and all the other Tory leaders
are expediency men, from whom nothing good
or honest can be obtained or hoped for.

Surely never was there such an entire break
up of an opposition which threatened so loudly
and divided so heavily at the commencement of
the session. The only single question upon
which they have been recently thoroughly a-
greed as has been the bill for the disfranchise-
ment of Ireland. That was their only gravitat-
ing influence, and that withdrawn, all the atoms
fly off from their centre and wander eccentrically
through space.

Four months ago Sir Robert was ready to take
office, not four weeks ago the ministers offered
him their places. But no sooner did Lord Mel-
bourne intimate that if the Duke of Wellington
fulfilled his intention of throwing out the Cana-
da Bill he must undertake to form a cabinet,
then Sir Robert grew pale at the idea of having
to garrison Downing-street with his divided and
disaffected levies. He found that, although he
had been ready to take office, that such had been
the progress of the Tory cause during the ses-
sion, that he was any thing but ready to take
office now; and, as even the desperate valour
of Lord Stanley was not up to the office-taking
mark, the Duke was obliged to eat humble pie,
to protest and to pass.

Those who closely watch the progress of po-
litical events cannot but see that, for this gen-
eral disorganization of their enemies, the liberal
party is almost entirely indebted to the great
tact and temper of Lord John Russell. The
more we see of this statesman the more we are
convinced that he is greatly underrated, the
more we are constrained to admire his ability,
and the more we are persuaded that there is no
other man in the House of Commons, Sir Ro-
bert Peel not excepted, who could have con-
ducted, as he has done, a party commanding
but a bare majority in the House of Commons,
and but a minority in the House of Lords, with
safety, and honour, and with public utility,
through the intricate dangers of this most diffi-
cult session.

While we are waiting for intelligence from
China, and expecting the result of the expedi-
tion which is to bring those grandiloquent bar-
barians to a decent sense of their own impotence,
it is pleasing to be able to turn our eyes to our
own vast possessions in the East. It is pleasing
to be able to assure ourselves that if China and
her three hundred millions were suddenly to
disappear like a vapour, England has still, a-
mong her own possessions, hitherto unfathomed
resources, from which she can draw at will every
article of comfort, convenience, or luxury for
which she has ever been indebted to China.

China, like the old empire of Mexico, has ar-
rived at the full extent of prosperity and produc-
tion of which it is capable under its present sys-
tem of government. There is the same fallacious
and superficial appearance of civilization
which the followers of Cortez found among the
Mexicans, and which starts up like a fungus in
every large despotism from the power which
one man has of employing the labour of mul-
titudes upon a particular object. There is the
same arrogance in the officials, derived from the
same ignorant faith in the incomprehensible
greatness and illimitable power of the despot;
the same impossibility of progress beyond a cer-
tain point, produced by the jealousy of innova-
tion universal among absolute monarchs; the
same poverty and want among the mass of the
people; the same imbecility and rotteness in the
empire.

In a despotism like China there is no mutual
dependence. The society wants the great ce-
ment of commerce, which knits all classes to-
gether and supplies that patriotism which Gib-
bon has so well defined to be the sense of in-
dividual advantage in the prosperity of a commu-
nity. In England a war, a single blockade, the
closing of a single port, the interruption of any
one of the ordinary channels of commerce, would
scatter destitution among thousands; in China
the earth would be sown and reaped, the labourer
would toil and eat—all would go on just the
same if the Tartar dynasty were destroyed to-
morrow and a slave were substituted in its place.
The great commissioners would look aglance, and
perhaps the mandarins might again refrain
from shaving their heads for another hundred
days, but the three hundred millions would
know nothing of the matter.

China will go on as it has gone on for tens of
centuries, and a number of its population, so
small as to be only a speck in the map, will pro-
duce rhubarb and tea and sell it to foreigners;
but it will only thus go on so long as there is no
assault upon it from without. At this moment
the Emperor of China is not less powerful in his
own dominions, or less impotent against foreign-
ers, than Montezuma was. Another Cortez
could establish himself at Peking at this day a