

explicit confidence that no evil would result except from the precedent. But, on account of the precedent, the Board are unanimous in their decision.—The Certificates of the brethren whose names you mention, will be forwarded to you so soon as they are properly filled.

You, undoubtedly, are better acquainted than we are with the expense of our books when they reach you, and therefore you are best qualified to judge of the propriety of purchasing. Our prices, however, are somewhat lower than in former years. We have made importations of books issued by the British and Foreign Bible Society, to compare them with our own, and have held negotiations with the Queen's Printers, who offer to print for us, with our title page, on the same terms as they do for that Society. We find that we can have the same printing done here at less cost, and that only one description of bible sold by the B. & F. B. S. is cheaper than those which we furnish; but, doubtless, the duty makes our books dearer to you.

In respect to funds, my dear brother, we certainly have reason to urge a most earnest appeal to our friends in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. We have letters from brother Angus, in London, and brother Thomas, in Calcutta, pressing us, in the most moving terms, to make an appropriation for Scriptures in India. Our hearts are ready to respond, but the money we have not. I seldom have felt so sick at soul as on reading brother Thomas's letter last week, and looking at our exhausted treasury. Our friends in the Provinces may send us all the money that they can for Scriptures in India, and we will add thereto, and transmit to Calcutta immediately. They never could act in better time. If they do not now act, there is danger that the Scripture operations will be brought to a stand.—This is no time to put money in bank, unless in the bank of Faith. Let the bread of life be cast on the waters, and you will find it returning many fold to you in Spiritual blessings, while to the poor heathen it will have proved their salvation from death eternal. With sentiments of Christian regard and affection, I remain, Yours, &c.

Wm. H. WYCKOFF, Cor. Sec'y.

Nova Scotia.

OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE.—On Saturday the 22d inst. about 2 o'clock His Excellency Sir JOHN HARVEY opened the Session with the usual forms. The House of Assembly, being summoned, presented William Young, Esq. as their speaker, who, in the usual manner, demanded the rights and privileges of the Commons, which being granted his Excellency delivered the opening speech.

On the return of the Members to the House of Assembly the following officers were chosen:—
CLERK—Joseph Whidden, Senr., Esq.
ASST. do.—Joseph Whidden, Junr., Esq.
CHAPLAIN—Rev. Dr. Twining.
SERG'T.-AT-ARMS—Peter Spearwater, Esq.
ASST. do.—Mr. Joseph Quinan.
MESSENGER & DOORKEEPER—Mr. Ino. Fitzgerald.
ASSISTANT MESSENGERS—Charles Roan, and J. Kelly.

On Monday, after the transaction of the routine business, the address in reply to His Excellency's Speech was read; when James B. Uniacke Esq. moved an amendment to the effect that the House had no confidence in the Government, which gave rise to a stormy debate, and was continued for several days, ending on the 26th, by the House dividing, for the amendments 28, against it 21. The amendment was accordingly adopted and on Thursday the 27th, the House waited on His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, with the answer to the address. The Speaker introduced the new members to His Excellency, who was pleased to receive them most graciously. After the answer was read, His Excellency replied thereto; stating, that as regarded the concluding paragraph of the address, he would take the earliest opportunity of adopting such measures as he might think conducive to the best interests of the Province.

By a letter received in town to-night we learn that the Council had resigned. This was to be expected in the event of the amendment to the address being adopted.

FIRES AND RIOTS IN PHILADELPHIA.—This city has been again disgraced by incendiaries and serious riots among the firemen. Several fires took place recently, supposed to be the work of incendiaries; while returning from the fires several of the engine companies came in collision, and most brutal and deadly fights ensued; pistols, brickbats and other deadly weapons were resorted to, and many persons were wounded. Two arrests only appear to have been made.

THE WEST INDIA BANK.—Late accounts from Barbadoes state that a committee had been appointed by the stockholders of the Barbadoes branch of the West India bank. The committee reported that they could see no reason why, by placing the establishment under active supervision, by a commission, the bank at a given time may not resume operations.

FROM ST. DOMINGO.—The schooner Mary Ellen arrived at New York on Saturday, with advices from St. Domingo city to the 30th ult. Affairs in the island appear to be in a very disturbed state. The New York Journal of Commerce says:—
“A plot has been discovered, headed by the Prime Minister, to destroy all the whites in that part of the Island. The Prime Minister, the General-in-Chief, and two other officers, had been shot a few days previous to the sailing of the Mary Ellen—thirty more of the conspirators were confined in the castle, and would be shot the following week. The authorities were also expecting an attack from the Haytiens.

The schooner Huron arrived at New York yesterday, from Miragoane, with advices to the 1st instant. By this arrival, the following additional intelligence has been received:—

“Troops from the French portion of the Island were marching towards the lines, said to be for the purpose of repelling an invasion from the Spanish part. Little apprehension was, however, entertained by the inhabitants on that account. The President is not a favorite with the whites and mulattoes. These differences, it is thought, would shortly cause trouble. The President's measures were very arbitrary.”

LATER FROM MEXICO.—The steamer Orleans has arrived at New Orleans, bringing dates from Vera Cruz to the 14th inst.

The loss by the attack upon Col. Miles's train falls principally upon merchants—one English house losing fifty-four thousand dollars. The French and Spanish merchants recovered their goods by paying for them smartly.

Gen. Scott has issued orders assessing the States of Mexico, now to be occupied by our troops, an annual war tax of three millions of dollars for the support of the army.

Papre Jangauta has advanced with his Guerillas within eight miles of the Capital. A detachment of dragoons pursued him.

It is rumored that Col. Withers's command for Real del Monte has been cut off, but the rumor is not confirmed.

MORE RUMOURS OF PEACE.—The Washington Correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer says:—

“My news from the city of Mexico, this morning, is positive and direct, that Mr. Trist, notwithstanding his recall, does not consider his powers revoked, nor are they revoked; and that, with the concurrence of Gen. Scott, he has agreed to a treaty with Mexico with the Gila as a boundary, in pursuance of his instructions. On the 25th of December, this fact was known in the city of Mexico, to several officers of the army, intimate and confidential friends of General Scott and Mr. Trist, who agree with them on this subject. On the other hand it is said that Gen. Worth denounces the treaty, and is openly and decidedly in favour of retaining the whole of Mexico. I repeat that my information as to the negotiation by Mr. Trist, is direct to me from the city of Mexico, and may be relied on implicitly.”

Arrival of the English Mail.

The second January Mail, by the Steamship Acadia, Capt. Stone, arrived in this city by express, about 9½ o'clock, on Tuesday morning. We give below some of the most important intelligence.

COMMERCIAL.

No great change has occurred in Commercial affairs since the departure of the last Steamer Money is abundant, and discounts are readily effected, for first class paper at 5 per cent, per annum, but distrust arising from late revulsions still remains, and great dullness prevails in the produce markets generally. Still business generally improves, though gradually; the Bank of England's minimum rate of discount will probably be reduced below 5 per cent.

To add to the misfortunes of trade, we regret to report that failures continue, and some of them, indeed, important as regards amounts. This remark applies particularly to Scotland, from whence the reports are very gloomy. The Glasgow Citizen says, “The failure of Messrs. Cotesworth, Powell, and Pryor, of London, has resulted in the suspension of the old and respectable firm of John Anderson and Co. of Glasgow. The business of the firm is connected with the River Plate, the branches there, we believe, not being involved. It is understood that Messrs. John Anderson and Co's. liabilities are extensive. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the firms of William and Alex. Taylor, and Gilmour and Kerr were announced, as having stopped payments; the former, power-loom weavers, with liabilities stated at £12,000, the latter, manufacturers of domestic checks, shirtings, &c., and owing about £30,000. The cause of both failures is attributed solely to the ruinous scale of prices which have lately prevailed for such descriptions of goods. To the above names we are sorry to add that of Messrs. Anderson, Macgregor, and Co., calico printers, at Kilmarnock. The number and frequency of these disastrous events appear strangely at variance with the generally improved condition of monetary affairs. They are however, only seeming anomalies. So deep and wide was the disorganization throughout the whole mercantile system, that scarcely any exemption has been claimed from its ruinous effects; and it seems almost undoubted that the dark catalogue of individual misfortunes must still be lengthened out, while the foundations of prosperity are being laid by the tardy hand of time.”

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.

The general aspect of the market for wood has somewhat improved, inasmuch as sales can now be more easily effected than previously, but not yet at any higher prices than the last quotations. The sales by private, since the 1st inst., are comprised in a cargo of Quebec, on the Quay, the yellow pine being of middling quality, at 14d per ft.; red pine, at 19d per ft.; Oak at 2s 2d per ft.; Elm at 17d per ft.; Ash at 15d per ft.; and Pine deals at £8 10s per standard; another cargo, in the yard, of middling quality, and small sizes, at 13½d per foot for yellow pine; a cargo of St. Stephens spruce deals brought £8 7s 6d per standard; and a cargo of River St. John spruce, £7 17s 6d per standard. By auction, 20,000 feet of middling Quebec yellow pine was sold at 13d per ft.; 20,000 feet of red, at 19d per foot; 7,000 Pictou battens, spruce, 1½d per foot of 2 inches; 2,000 Bathurst yellow pine deals, at £9 per standard; 1,200 Miramichi yellow battens, £8 7s 6d per standard; 100 logs Miramichi pine, 12½d per foot; and 50 logs Pictou birch, 12d per foot.—Duncan and Ewing.

CORN MARKET.—The arrivals of English Wheat for our market during the present week have been moderate, and several fresh runs were received up to this morning. Owing to the dampness of the weather, most of the samples were greatly out of condition. The show of foreign Wheat was not large; yet that grain was heavy, and previous rates were with difficulty supported. Fine parcels of Flour were quite as dear.

The best Western Canal Flour is quoted at 29s per barrel, but sells only in a retail way at this rate, and probably might be bought in quantity at 28s. 6d. Philadelphia and Baltimore 27s. 6s. to 28s.

The corn trade is heavy, and large arrivals now coming in from Ireland. Prices have shewn a tendency to recede; the top price for Western Canal flour is 29s., but the sales at this price are quite on retail, and 28s 6d may be stated as quotation. Indian Corn now commands not more than from 29s to 22s per quarter.

The cotton market continues dull and depressed. Speculation is still almost wholly suspended, and the quantities offering has been more than sufficient to meet the demands from spinners and hence the tendency of the market has been decidedly in favour of buyers, although no actual decline has taken place in prices.

IRELAND.

The state of this unhappy country is at length improving—showing indications that the Reign of Terror is coming to an end. The accounts since the beginning of the year, have not been so fraught with horror as previously, although outrages still continue to be perpetrated.

A special commission for the trials of offence, in Limerick, has been held, which, in the present condition of Ireland, has naturally excited a good deal of attention. It would seem that the special commission, although its proceedings are complained of as unnecessarily tardy, finds no insuperable impediment, arising from the fear of witnesses to give evidence to the administration of justice. Several convictions have been obtained, not only of capital, but of minor offences, and one instance—the first, we believe, on record in Ireland—of harboring a criminal with a view to his evasion of the penalties of the law. The vigor, however, which has been displayed by the executive power does not appear to have told, as yet, upon the disorganization of society. Atrocious crimes continue to be of daily occurrence, and new cases present themselves faster than old ones are disposed of.

ITALY.

IMPORTANT DECREE BY THE POPE.—The *Semaphore de Marselles* of the 4th inst. contains a new *motu proprio*, published by the Pope for the organization of the ministry, and which appears to have given universal satisfaction. The administration of the holy see is in future to consist of nine departments; namely, foreign affairs, interior, public instruction, grace and justice, finance; commerce, fine arts, manufactures and agriculture; public works, war and police. The chiefs of those departments are to compose the council of ministers. State affairs are not to be brought before that council until the Consulta (the deputies) shall have examined them, and given its opinion. Ministers are to be responsible for the acts of their respective administrations, and the subaltern officers are to be likewise accountable for the execution of the orders they may have received. The important affairs of the state are not to be submitted to the approbation of the sovereign until they shall have been discussed in the council of ministers. The latter are to appoint all public functionaries and officers, the consuls-general, the governors, and the councillors of the government, the professors of the university and of the provincial colleges, the military commanders and officers, &c.; the Pope only reserves to himself the nomination of the cardinals, nuncios, &c.

It will be seen that this, combined with the institution of the council of state and the municipal council, constitutes a radical and complete political revolution in the states of the church.

SWITZERLAND.—Public order is gradually recovering its influence in Switzerland, and the army raised for the suppression of the insurrection of the small cantons is being disbanded. From the 1st of January there will only be six battalions in the canton of Lucerne, two in that of Schwytz, one in Uri, one in Zug, and three in the Valais. The entire amount of the Federal army to be kept on foot is not

to exceed 11,000 men. The canton of Unterwald has been entirely evacuated by the Federal troops.

By the terms of the Federal Pact, the direction of Federal affairs will still belong to the canton of Berne during the year 1848. Since the introduction in the canton of the new constitutional order of things, the administrative year will commence on June 1st. It results, therefore, that the Vorort will continue to have M. Ochsenbein, the present chief of the Confederation at its head until 31st May next.

TURKEY.—We have the despatches of our correspondent at Constantinople, with the intelligence that the cabinet of Athens has made the apologies and reparations demanded by the Porte for the insult offered to the envoy of the latter by King Otho, the Greek cabinet having authorised Ali Effendi to convey to M. Musurus the expression of the regret of the court of Athens for what had occurred. It is expected that M. Messiorus will immediately return and resume his position as ambassador at Athens.

INDIA AND CHINA.—We have received from India advices from Bombay to the 1st December, Madras to the 20th November, and Calcutta to the 16th November.

Lord Hardinge, as was noticed by the last mail, had reached Cawnpore from Simla. The King of Oude had passed from the left bank of the Ganges to the British Station, where he was received in state by the Governor-General.

In the kingdom of Hydrabad affairs continued at the climax of confusion. The arrangements for procuring money had totally failed, the Arab mercenaries plundered throughout the country, and the estrangement between the king and his minister was greater than ever. The Nizam had quitted Hydrabad and declared that he would not return to the capital until our resident consented to the removal of the Prime Minister, a step which would probably be conceded.

There is nothing new from the Punjab.

From Rajpootna there is intelligence that Doongur Singh has at last been secured. As our readers are aware the hunt had been continued for many months with considerable detachments of troops in the field. The capture was effected by Lieutenant Hardcastle, who, with his party, thereby becomes entitled to the large rewards offered by the British and native governments for the apprehension of this noted robber.

The intelligence from the Goomsoer Jungles is unsatisfactory. The insurgents, increasing in audacity, owing to the leniency lately shown them, have congregated to the number of several thousands in plunder the districts defended by our posts. A force of three native regiments was about to be marched into Goomsoor, but the difficulties presented by the nature of the country, render the success of any offensive operations there very doubtful.

The intelligence from China is of the most pacific character. Accounts are given of a much better state of feeling at Canton, the factory residents having in a number of instances perambulated the city, and even gone outside of the walls without molestation. Trade had also somewhat improved.

Our commercial advices, alluding to the effect in India of the home failures, state that the consequences were not likely to extend further than the failures which had already occurred in Calcutta.

The private letters from India give a much less satisfactory account of the state of mercantile matters there than that exhibited in the published advices. The suspension of some eminent firms was anticipated, and a good deal of serious apprehension existed as to the possibility of others weathering the storm. The firm of Hughesdon and Co., in the China and Singapore trade, was stated to be in difficulty, but hopes were entertained that their suspension would be prevented by the aid of friends.

Lord Auckland has in the most flattering terms, offered the naval command of the North American and West Indian Stations to the Earl of Dundonald. The veteran Admiral has accepted the command.

The question of our national defences continue to be much discussed, and has, during the last fortnight, derived additional interest by the publication of the letter of the Duke of Wellington, about which so much has been said.

The Paris papers just received report that Louis Philippe had really been seriously ill, and that in consequence a considerable decline in the Rentes had taken place.

On the 14th proceedings commenced in the Court of Queen's Bench against the confirmation of Dr. Hampden to the See of Hereford. The proceedings have been instituted in the name of the Rev. R. Huntley and others, Sir Fitzroy Kelly has been retained to conduct them.

SURRENDER OF ABD-EL-KADER.—After a gallant struggle of nearly twenty years, distinguished by undaunted courage, indomitable endurance and consummate skill, the Arab Wallace, Abd-el-Kader, overwhelmed by numbers, not conquered, has given up the contest, and surrendered to the French, only stipulating to be sent to Cairo or St. Jean d'Acre.

Every preparation has been made for the reception of the court at Claremont this week; but it is not likely that the Queen will remain there more than a week or ten days.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The rent for the week was announced, on the 3d inst., to be £150, including over £100 from the pastors of the starving flocks in the archdiocese of Tuam.

Large quantities of base silver coin are now in circulation, especially five-shilling pieces, which are so admirably executed as to preclude detection, unless by very competent judges.