GREAT BRITAIN, &C.

LIVERPOOL, OCTOBER 15.

The foreign intelligence of this week is not interesting. There have been arrivals from Mexico and Colombia; but the news they bring is not important. The Mexican Government was making every exertion to support its credit, and was preparing to remit money to this country to pay the dividends on its debt. Mexican bonds have, in consequence, risen considerably in value on the Stock Exchange. Bolivar was approaching the Colombian capital; and the next accounts may be expected to announce his arrival at the seat of Government, and his assumption of the supreme power. Intelligence has been received from Constantinople to the 17th ult., and which, according to some of the papers, affirm that the Porte had shown a disposition to yield to the demands of the three great powers; but this statement is generally doubted. In Spain, troubles increase. The royalist insurrection is spreading itself through the Provinces contiguous to Catalonia; and even the constitutionalists, it is rumoured, are beginning to bestir themselves.

OCTOBER 16.

At the beginning of last week, accounts were received from Constantinople, and were published in the Globe and Times, which stated that the Porte had acceded to the terms proposed by the Allied Powers in regard to the qualified independence of Greece. This news, which was of course hailed with the highest satisfaction, is, however, discredited by the Courier, and, as no further accounts have been received, we are unable to form an opinion of the real state of the facts.

The Mexican Government, whose credit in this country had been seriously shaken by the non-payment of the dividends on the loan due the 1st October, has in a great measure recovered its good name, in consequence of intelligence received by the Mexican Minister in London, that specie is on its way to England for that purpose. On Thursday last, Messrs. Baring & Co. the Contractors, effected insurances at Lloyd's and other offices, for specie to the amount of £106,250, which, according to the advices, was only waiting the arrival of a British ship of war at Vera Cruz, to be sent to this country. When this was known, Mexican Bonds, which had been depressed to 45½, rose in a few hours to 55. The Money can scarcely be expected to arrive before the middle of November. It is to be hoped the Mexican Government will in future be more punctual in the discharge of its obligations.

Royal Exchange, London, Tuesday Night.—Some additional information has been obtained today from Constantinople, fully confirming the news we received yesterday, of the 19th ult.—Despatches have reached the French Ambassador in London, also of the 19th September, by which it appeared, that at that date matters remained without alteration. It had been finally determined that neither of the Envoys should quit Constantinople, until further directions were obtained from their respective Governments, and the original intention had therefore been abandoned.

It is publicly and generally stated at the west end of the town this afternoon, that the nature of the despatches received in Downing-street yesterday, has led Government to come to the decision of ordering the fleet in the Mediterranean, to prepare for the general blockade of the Dardanelles. It was added that orders to this effect were to be sent out immediately, and in some quarters it was said, that they had been already transmitted, but this we find on enquiry not to be the case.

Perhaps the export trade has never been much more dull than at the present moment. This may be accounted for by three causes—the distressed or convulsed state of South America; the extensive shipments of goods made by France and other countries, in a spirit of rivalry, during a period of great excitement; and the direct trade now carried on as to colonial produce between the colonies and foreign countries, instead of its being introduced, as formerly, between England and the latter. With respect to manufactured goods, it has been ascertained from good sources, that the warehouses in South America have been crowded by the imports from France and Germany; and as the markets here have been dull, and the necessities of most of the shippers urgent, they have been sold on various occasions at a loss of 30 or 50 per cent, thus depressing in price British articles of superior quality. The most extensive exports of manufactured goods from this country lately have been made for the East-Indies, Brazil, and North America; but they are now subsiding. An extraordinary fact, however, was mentioned as connected with our export trade. Some silk goods have been recently exported to China, being, it is understood, the first instance of such a trading to that country. What little is doing in the silk manufactures for exportation, is chiefly for North America; but it is gratifying to state, that the demand for home consumption is very considerable. The silk trade, as it improves in the quality of the article produced, increases in extent of demand, and promises, with the Royal encouragement given to it, to become an object of first rate consideration.

THAMES TUNNEL.—On Tuesday Mr. Brunnel reported, that on the preceding day he had commenced a forward movement with the Shield, and that having overcome the late serious difficulties, and the bed of the river having been re-examined by new borings, the expectations of a successful completion of this great undertaking are higher than before the irruption of the river.—*London paper.*

GIBRALTAR, OCT. 2.

CATALONIA.—Authentic accounts have reached the Garrison, from Barcelona, under the date of the 14th Sept. by which it appears, that on that day, the General Post from France, &c, had not arrived in that city. It was therefore supposed it had fallen into the hands of the insurgents, who not only have complete possession of the road to France, but carry every thing their own way.

A proclamation had been issued by the rebel chief at Mauresa, in which he asserts that the French are their best friends &c. This statement has not been contradicted by the French authorities at Barcelona. No one could foresee how these troubles would terminate for the whole business appeared to be strangely enveloped in mystery. Barcelona is as full as it can hold, several thousands have sought refuge there—and on the day of the date every thing bore the gloomiest appearance.

The Spanish brig of war Manzanares, which sailed from Cadiz a short time since, with sealed orders, in consequence of an express from Madrid, went to the Eastward—either to Tarragona or to Barcelona; and the French frigate which was at anchor, a few days ago, off Algesiras, was suddenly ordered to the Eastward also.

UNITED STATES.

EASTPORT, December 1.

CHARLES S. DAVIES, ESQ, whose appointment was mentioned in our last as Agent to inquire into the nature of the aggressions by inhabitants of the British Province of New Brunswick, on some of the frontier settlements, arrived here on Monday last, from Portland, and on the following day proceeded to Fredericton, by land, on the important mission with which he has been entrusted.—The same paper that contained the Proclamation of our worthy and vigilant Chief Magistrate, exhorting the people to forbearance and assuring them that measures would be immediately taken to obtain reparation and security, also published the appointment of Mr. Davies, who is eminently qualified for the discharge of the duties, entrusted to him, and we had hardly received the account of the appointment before Mr. Davies was here, on his way to the scence of trouble and confusion. Such promptness as this in the Executive, to protect the rights of our territory and its citizens, *can never be forgotten by the people.*

NORTH-EASTERN BOUNDARY.

Extract of a Letter to the Editor dated Washington, Nov. 16 1827.

I understand that a convention has been agreed to between our minister and the British Goverment, embracing a statement of facts in regard to our North-Eastern Boundary, but no umpire in the case has yet been designated, and it may well be feared whether any European Sovereign will consent to act as such.—Hence, although the subject has not for a moment been neglected by our government, we have but little encouragement to expect an immediate termination of the difficulties growing out of it.—*American Patriot.*

FROM THE PORTLAND ADVERTISER.

The truth of the remarks we have frequently made respecting the reliance which the British Provinces put on the fact of possession in the question of boundary between them and us, gains confirmation from almost every act of theirs which is at all connected with the subject. That the territory in dispute is important to them, we have no doubt, nor are we among those (if any such there be) who think it of little or no consequence to us. But without any reference to pecuniary consideration of value, there is a previous and more important consideration of *right*, which must not be lost sight of. The sovereignty of the State is assailed, and it becomes an imperious duty to protect it from dishonour. With whatever forbearance we may meet the pretentions of our neighbours, they may yet learn that there is a point at which the forbearance ceases. Let them manifest a disposition to respect our *rights*, and we shall exhibit none to violate *theirs.*

The British claim by a line drawn from Mars Hill to the Katahdin, and from the Katahdin by a line drawn along between the heads of the streams which empty into the Penobscot and those which empty into the Saint John, until it strikes the dividing line between Maine and Lower Canada. If the reader will look at the Map, he will see that it *cuts off from Maine a territory equal to the whole of Massachusetts.* The land itself, it is said, exceeds it fertillity any tract of equal size within New-England.

BATH, NOV. 13.—*Military Posts.*—A military post on our North Eastern Boundary, may shortly become as necessary as those on our Western territories. This step, if any further delay is manifested by the Court of London, in finishing the negotiation, respecting the line, as prescribed in the Treaty of 1783, or of a compromise, offered by our Government, on mutually advantageous terms, will be demanded by a sense of wrong done to our settlers in this quarter, and by a spirit of justice, that must be awakened throughout the nation.

That statesman will be entitled to the gratitude of all parties who will devise a mode of adjusting the difficulty respecting the Eastern Boundary, which shall be mutually satisfactory to all concerned,

MAINE BOUNDARY.—The Castine American objects to further delay respecting the disputed territory, and a longer humble reliance on the General Government, and remarks that circumstances will now justify efficient measures on the part of the State of Maine to procure a redress of wrongs. It adds that "the parties, on both sides, are two much excited to permit a delay in bringing the business to a close. The land in question is said to amount to five or six millions of acres.

BOSTON, November 15.

New Hampshire Canal.—A meeting was held at Dover on Thursday last for the purpose of organizing the New Hampshire Canal and Steamboat Company. A vote was passed to accept the act of the 7th of July last, and a committee of fifteen were appointed to prepare a system of bye laws, and proper measures to be adopted at the next meeting in Dover on the 6th February. The object of this company is to open a water communication between the Piscataqua and the Connecticut rivers, through the waters of the lake Winnipisiogee, and the upper branch of Merrimack river.—*Daily Adv.*

Internal Improvement.—The spirit of internal improvement is fast extending in Upper Canada. Engineers are now employed in making a survey of Grand River, with the view of making it navigable from its junction with the Welland Canal, for small steam boats, sixty or seventy miles into the interior. For this distance, the river is not obstructed by falls; and the rapids are not of a formidable character. The Grand River passes through a most valuable farming country.

British Naval Armament on the Lakes.—A Quebec paper states that the British Government are determined to increase their naval armamenton the Lakes, and that a small vessel of war will be immediately put in commission on each lake.

While the British Government are thus increasing the military power of their Canadian provinces, it would be well for our Government to make some provision for such a state of things as may at some future time possibly exist on this frontier. The soldiers now embodied in some parts of the United States, might be made useful in raising fortifications. Engineer Thomas, in his "Travels in the West," suggests a plan, by which all the smaller vessels of our navy, could be brought into service on the Lakes, if occasion should require it. He quotes from a report made by B. Stickney, who has examined the subject with much attention. Stickney says that "The Illinois is navigable in its whole extent, for boats of a considerable size; and with little improvement might be rendered so for sloops of war." To construct a canal from Lake Michigan to Illinois River, "could be done at a very small expense, compared with its importance, furnishing a depth of water sufficient for sloops of war to pass and re-pass from the Mississippi to the lakes." Such a connexion between the lakes and the Mississippi, would be of vast importance to this frontier.

The New York Enquirer declares itself apprehensive of war with England—and that there is more in our Ambassador's return than meets the public eye.

Major General GAINES has arrived at New-York. He it to command the Eastern Department of the Army for the succeeding two years. This is rather remarkable considering the recent uneasiness in Maine.

General Gaines commanded in Georgia during the dispute respecting the Indian Territory.

We hope he is not to have a land trouble again.

Early indications of winter.—On the night of the 7th inst. a severe snow storm commenced from the North, and continued till the evening of the following day, and left us about a foot of snow, on a level. So great and early a fall of snow is hardly within the recollection of our oldest and most observing citizens. The tinkling of sleigh bells at this season of the year surprised us almost as much as to have heard them at midsummer. Indeed the sound was rather melancholy than enlivening, as many of our farmers have not finished gathering their crops—Considerable produce from the neighbouring towns was brought to market on Thursday in sleighs. We also learn, with surprise, that the mail coach from Litchfield to this city, was actually stopped by heavy drifts of snow that had accumulated during the storm.—*Hartford paper.*

From The Natucket Enquirer.

NEWLY DISCOVERED ISLANDS.—Captain James J. Coffin, of this place, late of the British ship Transit, politely furnished us with his private journal, from which we gather the following facts:

On the 12th of Sept. 1824 Captain Coffin discovered a group of Islands not laid down on his charts. He found the group to consist of six islands besides a number of large rocks and reefs. In honour of Messrs Fisher, Kidd and Fisher, of Bristol, England, in whose employ Capt. Coffin sailed, he gave to the largest Island, which is four leagues in length, the name of Fisher's Island; the second in size he named Kidd Island; the third, being the most southern of the group, he called South Island; and the fourth, from the abundance of pigeons found on it, he named Pigeon Island. About four miles E. N. E. of South Island, lie two high round Islands, to which Capt. C. gave no names. Fisher's Island lies from S. S. E. to N. N. W. and Kidd Island, the most western of the group, lies S. E. from the north west part of Fisher's Island. Between the two last mentioned Islands, is a beautiful clear bay, two miles wide and five miles up to the head. Captain Coffin sailed up the bay about four miles, where he found, near Fisher's Island, a fine small bay, where he anchored his ship in fifteen fathoms of water. To this bay Captain C. very properly gave the name of Coffin's Harbour. This harbour is sheltered from all winds excepting from W. S. W. and has no current or swell. In three days Captain C. took on board of his ship fifty tons of water, of the purest quality, and a sufficient supply of wood, both these essential articles being very abundant, and more easily procured than at any other place Captain C. was ever at. Turtle and pigeons were so plentiful, that any quantity could be obtained; and Captain C. was under the necessity of limiting the number to be daily taken to prevent profusion and waste. The waters in the bay are stored with a variety of excellent fish and plenty of lobsters; and the cabbage tree is among the productions of the islands, so that any desirable quantity was easily obtained. Captain C. did not discover any quadruped, reptile, or insect, of any kind or nature, not even an ant. The Islands are covered with large and beautiful forest trees, but not a single mark even of a knife, could be traced upon one of them; nor did it appear that the footsteps of man had ever before been impressed upon any of these Islands. For ships employed in the whale fishery, or bound from Canton to port Jackson, or the North West coast of America, they will furnish a valuable place of refreshment. They are about south of Sansdows point on the coast of Japan, and the distance may be sailed in four days. The bay where Captain Coffin anchored, is in lat. 26, 30 N. long 141 E.

Extract of a letter, dated Rio de Janeiro, September 28.

"We have no news here; things in Buenos Ayres have run into much disorder. The Provinces have separated from that of Buenos Ayres, but are determined to agree among themselves, to carry on the war for the independence of the Banda Oriental."

The insurgents in Spain must be Irish. They rebel in *favor* of their King!

[From the New-York Journal of Commerce.]

HISTORICAL SKETCH.

GREAT-BRITAIN.

To some of our readers it may seem superfluous to attempt any historical review of the events so well known to our fellow-citizens as those which transpire in Great-Britain. Yet notwithstanding the mass of intelligence received from that country, and the eagerness with which it is read, we are much deceived if there are not many who would gladly give consistence and connexion to their recollections, by perusing a brief summary of important facts. We think, besides, that the relations between the United States and the British Empire are so various and so momentous, as to require no apology for a frequent recurrence to them. In our present remarks we shall glance first at the internal, and then at the external affairs of the empire.

England has long since passed the time when her national debt amounted to a sum which Hume prophesied would be the utmost she could bear, and to exceed which would be inevitable ruin. Yet she is still mighty, and the day of her fate seems even more remote than in the lifetime of the Scottish philosopher. Nevertheless, it cannot for a moment be denied, that this enormous debt, amounting at the present time to near a thousand millions sterling, sits like an incubus upon the body of the state, retarding its vital functions, and paralyzing its energies. The interest of this vast sum must annually be raised from the nation, in addition to all the ordinary expenditure of a costly monarchy. Motesquieu's maxim, that honour is the principle of a kingly government, was never more amply verified than by the experience of England. The taxes actually levied are estimated at about £3 10s. a head for every person in the kingdom. When the great number of paupers is considered, who pay nothing, it will easily be seen how such a taxation will fall upon a laborer with a large family. The cost of the church establishment is altogether distinct from this, and forms another burden upon the productive, that is, the labouring class. This accumulated load England has only been enabled to sustain by a moral power of incalculable extent, which has made the results of all science tributary to the perfection of her manufactures, her agriculture superior to that of any other nation on earth, and her commerce, though too much dependant on an artificial system of prohibition and monopoly, a perennial source of riches and strength. It has long been the object of the ministry, guided by the enlightened counsels of Messrs Canning and Huskisson, to meet the threefold difficulty of raising a sufficient revenue, of subtracting something from the overwhelming mass of the principal of the national debt, and by a cautious and gradual abandonment of the prohibitory system and the greatest possible reduction of the taxes, of increasing the nation's ability to pay the interest of the residue. In pursuance of this design, several of the ancient restrictions on navigation have been abolished within the last two years, and duties on wine, coffee, &c. reduced about 2½ millions of dollars. Parliament did not however go all lengths with ministers in their proposed reduction of taxes; and it proved fortunate that it did not. For towards the close of the year 1825, the mania for speculation, which for a few months had been unusually prevalent, began to produce its natural and ruinous revulsion. All confidence among commercial men was for a time at an end. The distress was first felt by the banking houses, and many of the most respectable failed. Their failure involved that of others; and the distress soon reached the merchants, the country bankers, the manufacturers, and the operatives.—Throughout the chief part of last year, the evil was continually increasing. The rich had lost their past investments; the poor were deprived of present employ. Thousands were reduced to extreme misery. In many cases the famished population assembled in mobs, in the vain hope of raising the wages of labour, or lowering the price of corn, and sometimes wreaked their vengeance on the machinery to which they ignorantly attributed their sufferings. The military were called on to suppress the riots, and England then saw the novel sight of the garrisons of Ireland crossing the channel to put down rebellion at home. Every exertion was made by the philanthropic part of the community to relieve the misery of the poor by liberal contributions. The corn laws were in some degree modified by Parliament to the same end. Branches of the Bank of England were established in some of the towns, and other decisive means adopted to supply the deficit in the circulating medium. But this only produced a slight alleviation of the distress. One or two facts will give some idea of its extent. In one year 130,000 writs were issued against debtors, and 75,000 actually imprisoned. The number of operatives unemployed early last fall was estimated at more than 200,000. In the first six months of 1826, there were four times as many bankruptcies, as in the whole year preceding. The distress naturally fell most heavily upon the manufacturing districts. Ireland was not exempt from a participation in it, and the miserable poverty and hard fare of the lower classes in Dublin and some other cities, brought upon them the additional scourge of a pestilential fever, which continued its ravages even after the beginning of the present year. Nor did the mischief end in private misery. Industry was less productive, importations less extensive, and there was a considerable falling off in the revenue of the last and present years, which embarrassed the financial concerns of the kingdom. Since the beginning of 1827, we are happy to learn that the state of things has gradually improved, and that the manufacturing districts are recovering their former prosperity.

The fate of the Catholic Emancipation Bill furnishes an important practical comment on the state of public opinion. It will be remembered that it was defeated in the House of Lords, in 1825, after a speech against it from the Duke of York, the presumptive heir to the crown, and the high church party were glad to shift the odium of its defeat upon one who would be so little affected by it. During the session of 1826, the effort in favor of the Catholics was not renewed, probably in consequence of the approaching dissolution of the old, and choice of a new Parliament. On the 31st May, 1826, Parliament was dissolved. The elections were in some places conducted with great violence, but no material change was made in the character of the Commons, and Cobbett and Hunt failed of their election. In November, Parliament met, and in the beginning of March, 1827, Sir Francis Burdett made a motion which brought the Catholic question before the lower house. As it was not made a ministerial question, the motion was resisted by the Master of the Rolls, (now Lord Chancellor), and Mr. Peel, while it was strenuously supported by Messrs. Canning and Plunkett, of the Ministry, as well as Mr. Broughman and others of the opposition. Its fate was still more unfortunate than in 1825, being rejected in the Commons by a vote of 276 against 272.

On the other hand, it deserves mention, that Mr. Peel has been enabled to make encouraging progress in his plan of consolidating the numerous penal statutes, and expunging from them a mass of absurd and contradictory matter. Of a like praiseworthy character, though a more partial measure, is Lord Wharncliff's Spring Gun Abolition bill. In looking at the foreign policy of Great-Britain since Mr. Canning's ascendancy in her councils has been acknowledged, we are struck with the fearless and magnanimous character of the measures adopted. This predominant character has only been controlled and altered by the pressure of domestic difficulties, or by what has been conceived to be the absolute necessity of maintaining the old system of monopoly which has interwoven itself too completely with the whole tissue of British commerce, manufactures, and even agriculture to be lightly discarded. And in the bold policy that has been pursued, it is farther to be remarked that England has always had an eye to the great interests of her industrious classes. Thus it was unquestionably a decided step, from which a less energetic statesman than Mr. Canning might have shrunk, to recognize the independence of Mexico, Colombia and Buenos Ayres, in the face of Spain, and of the Holy Alliance, but it is no less unquestionable, that it could not safely have been delayed any longer, if England would avail herself of the rich and extensive market opened to her by the new nations. Not long after the last mentioned event, a treaty was concluded with Brazil, (in addition to a commercial treaty with the same power) for the express purpose of putting an end to the Slave Trade; a purpose, to which every friend of humanity will yield his unqualified approbation.

In the course of 1826, the Burmese war was brought to an honorable conclusion. Treaties of commerce were also concluded with France and Prussia, as in the preceding year with the Hanse Towns, on broader terms of equality, than had before found advocates in the cabinet of St. James.'

Toward the close of the year, the disaffected of Portugal raised a formidable rebellion, in which they were covertly aided by Spain. The princess regent demanded assistance of England, which was granted with remarkable promptness. In four days from the time when precise information was received of the state of affairs in that quarter, five thousand troops were on their march. Consistent policy and national honour were no doubt maintained by this decided measure; but few will deny, that in the distressed condition of the labouring classes at that time, ministers were also glad to turn the public attention upon any other subject. It was forseen that the Portuguese government would assume the payment of the auxiliary troops, which has recently been done in form by a convention.

On the 6th of July last, a treaty for the pacification of Greece was signed at London by the representatives of the French, Russian and British sovereigns. It is probable that the first power was the least friendly to the design, but was induced to join in it from motives of a cautious policy. The advantages which Russia anticipates from an interference between the Porte and its rebellious subjects are palpable enough. Those which England may expect are more remote, but scarcely less certain, in the extension of her commerce, and the increased market for her manufactures; at the same time that an indispensable check is placed upon the movements of Russia.

The relations between England and the United States are certainly friendly, but not altogether satisfactory. It is not to be concealed that Great-Britain looks with an eye of jealousy on our unshackled commerce and untaxed industry. And it is not unnatural that she should be disposed to convert to her own separate use those sources of profit which circumstances have placed under her control. When her merchants were crying out for 'protection,' and her colonies shouting for 'privilege,' ministers were compelled to make an exception to their principles of free trade, and attempt to confine to British subjects the trade of British America. Our limits will not now permit us to enter into the colonial question, but we shall soon take an opportunity to give it a fair discussion; at present we shall simply state the facts as they occurred. In July 1825, Parliament passed an Act, limiting the trade with the British colonies to such foreign nations as should place the navigation of Great-Britain and her possessions on the footing of the most favored nation. In July, 1826, an order in council declared that the United States had not fulfilled the condition referred to in the abovementioned act; and in consequence denied to our vessels the privilege of trading with the British West-Indies after the 1st of Decemper last. Immediately on his arrival in England, which took place about this time, Mr. Gallatin made an overture for further negociation on the subject, which the British Cabinet did not think proper to entertain. The whole matter was laid by the President before Congress at its last session, but after an ineffectual attempt to legislate upon it, it was left in its former embarrassed condition; and the Executive issued a Proclamation, declaring the act of congress of March, 1823, to be in force, which authorizes the President to abolish all discriminating charges upon British vessels from the West-Indies, whenever the countervailing burdens on our own vessels shall be removed.

In November last, a convention was agreed upon at London, between the British commissioners and Mr. Gallatin, by which the British government engaged to pay the United States the sum of $1,200,000, an indemnity for slaves and other property seized by the British during the late war, subsequent to the signature of the treaty of Ghent. On one of the first days of the present year, this convention being ratified by the senate of the United States, Mr. Vaughan paid a moiety of the above mentioned sum into the hands of our government at Washington. The commissioners under the same treaty, for the settlement of our north eastern and north western boundaries, have not yet fully concluded their labors, although it is understood that little difficulty remains with regard to the latter.

It only remains for us to mention the death of two individuals, who have been called to fill the loftiest stations, one by the fortuitous circumstances of his birth, the other by the splendour and energy of his genius. The Duke of York was distinguished by many noble qualities, and some glaring defects. His youthful and manly career was tinged by profligacy and unsuccessful generalship; his advanced age was rendered honourable by the faithful discharge of official duty, though it was disturbed by the embarrassments that wait on a profuse expenditure. George Canning was alike remarkable for what was noble in intellect, and interesting in domestic life. He raised himself from obscurity to be the leader in his sovereign's councils; and after swaying at will the resources of an opulent nation, it may be honouraby recorded of him as of the younger Pitt, whose disciple he was, that he died poor. In his death he is not lost to his country, for he has left to it the rich legacy of his liberal and enlightened policy.

COLONIAL.

QUEBEC, NOVEMBER 1.—Our Provincial Parliament, is to meet on the 20th of this month. As it will be the first meeting since the General Election which followed the late appeal to the people on the part of the Executive, its proceedings will be looked to with unusual interest throughout the Province.

From the Quebec Official Gazette.

IMPORTANT.

Commissioner Barrie and the Officers and men who accompanied him from England, proceeded on Monday night to Montreal, on their way to Kingston. We are happy to hear that by the exertions and representations of this active and experienced officer, joined to the interest which His Royal Highness the Lord High Admiral feels in the welfare of these colonies, with which many of his early recollections are associated, His Royal Highness has determined to make the Naval Establishment in the Canadas more extensive and effective than it has hitherto been. We learn that a small vessel is to be put in commission on each of the Lakes, and another at Quebec, the whole under the command of Captain Barrie, with the Broad Pendant of Commodore, which we trust will be seen flying in the harbour of Quebec in the course of next summer.

We are also informed that there is the fullest determination, on the part of the Royal and illustrious personages at the head of the naval and military services of the Empire, to carry into complete execution the great works for the defence of the Canadas from Penetauguishine to Quebec, which have been already commenced on the Ottawa River. We most sincerely congratulate the Province on the above gratifying information, which may be relied upon.

Quebec, November 12.—A public meeting was held at the Court-house on Monday afternoon last, at which Mr. Vallieres de Saint Real presided. The following resolutions were moved, by M. BLANCHET, and unanimously passed:

1st, That from the information before this meeting, as well as from that laid before the general meetings lately held in the Counties of Hertford, Devon and Cornwallis, it appears that in violation of the peace happily subsisting between Great-Britain and the United States of America, and of the negotiations now pending for the amicable adjustment of the Boundary between Lower Canada and the State of Maine, that state, or persons assuming authority in its behalf, unequivocally intimated designs of forcibly possessing themselves of a large tract of fertile and valuable territory heretofore considered as a part of the Province of Lower Canada and New-Brunswick, comprehending what may be designated as the Great Valley of the River Saint John, to the extent of nearly fifteen hundred leagues in superficies, in the vicinity, and almost on the very margin of the River Saint Lawrence below this city.

2d, That from the information laid before this meeting it is represented that in prosecution of the design alluded to in the last resolution, of severing from his Majesty's dominions the Great Valley of the River Saint John, (in many parts whereof settlements, still existing and increasing, were made by Canadians long previous to the existence of the United States as an independent power,) surveys have been made and townships or other subdivisions apportioned off under the authority of a Foreign State, whose subjects or citizens have commercial settlements thereon, which are silently but progressively and rapidly proceeding towards the entire occupation of a part of the territory in question; attempts have been made to interrupt the intercourse between Canada and New-Brunswick, on the River Saint John; and threats used by foreigners to disturb his Majesty's subjects or expel them from their possessions held under the Crown and protected by the Laws of Great-Britain.

3d, That measures be forthwith adopted to investigate the truth of the allegations detailed in the foregoing Resolutions, in order that, if after careful and dispassionate enquiry, such designs, attempts and threats, or either of them, shall be found really to exist, means may be resorted to, the most efficacious in resisting to the utmost such encroachments, as are equally and most dangerously aimed against the security of His Majesty's dominions on this continent, and as destructive of the future welfare and prosperity as subversive of the political existence of His Majesty's Province of Lower Canada as a portion of the British Empire. That it appears to this meeting, that in order to avert so great a calamity, as the occupation of the territory in question by foreigners must be productive of, to the British Provinces generally, and to this Province in particular, an humble Petition be prepared and laid at the foot of the Throne, supplicating our Most Gracious Sovereign that His Majesty may be pleased to take such measures as in his wisdom may appear expedient to secure the undisputed enjoyment of the territory in question to His Majesty's most loyal subjects; and that petitions should also be presented to the Provincial Legislature, at their approaching Session, praying that they may be pleased to take the case into consideration, and adopt such measures thereon as circumstances shall require.

4th, That to carry the resolves of this meeting into effect, a Committee of seven persons be appointed, of whom any three shall form a quorum, with power to correspond with the other Committees already formed, or that may hereafter be formed in other parts of the Province, for the purpose for which this Committee has been appointed, and jointly with said Committees to take such steps as may be mutually agreed upon as most conducive to the fulfillment of the trust reposed in them.

And that Messrs. Blanchet, Stuart, Vallieres, Henderson, Lagueux, Laforce, and Neilson do form the said Committee.

[Other resolutions were at the same time adopted, expressive of the conviction the meeting felt that the immediate opening of roads, and settling the waste lands in that part of Lower Canada would be productive of the best consequences to the country. The same Committee was then appointed for the purpose of "enquiring into the expediency, practicability, and means of establishing a Society in the district of Quebec, for promoting the settlement of waste lands."]

YORK, (U. C.) NOV. 1.

Markets.—A gentleman who came passenger by the Queenston and who left Montreal on Friday last informs us that Upper Canada wheat was selling with avidity at 6s. Halifax per bushel. Superfine flour is 32s. 6d. per barrel, and fine sells readily at six dollars. In ashes not a great deal is doing, and prices looking down—31s. has been paid both for pots and pearls.—A great deal of pork is now carrying to the Rideau Canal, as also live pigs in droves from all quarters; a good price being obtained there.

Morgan once more.—A friend writes us from the frontier that several gentlemen in Lewiston whose names we need not now give, have come over to the British side to hunt out the relations of Monroe who was drowned in the Niagara, about three weeks ago, in order to prove by them that the body of Morgan lately taken to Batavia is actually Monroe's remains—this is mystery upon mystery.

Canada Company.—At the half yearly meeting on the 15th June last a statement was made by which it appears that Mr. Galt had had 700 offers for land up to the 30th April last—that he had accepted 50 of these offers which were for 10,000 acres of land at the average rate of 10s 9d. per acre—and that the company had made great efforts in England to diffuse information respecting Canada. A salary of £1000 was voted to Mr. McGillivray chairman of the committee of management.

Canada Company.—Our readers will perceive that the Crown Reserves belonging to the Canada Company, in the Townships of Ameliasburgh, Sophiasburgh and Hallowell, are to be offered for sale on the 27th December next.—It is stated that the Company are making great efforts in England to diffuse information respecting Canada.—The *Colonial Advocate* thinks it probable that "the city of Guelph will be entitled by population, to send its Representative to York next election.

The York newspapers inform us, that a public meeting is to be held in that town on the 6th day of November next, "for the purpose of adopting measures to secure the free and unshackled Representation of the town in the next Provincial Parliament."—*Upper Canada Herald.*

EXTRAORDINARY.—A few days ago a Canadian woman at Chambly, while making an Omelet for some persons who were to breakfast with her, opened an egg for the purpose, and to her surprise found it to contain *a live snake*, about two inches in length and resembling in almost every particular the common grass snake, with the exception of the head being unusually large and flat. When liberated it crawled about on the frying pan with much avidity. Several of the neighbours were witnesses of the fact. The hen that had laid the egg was immediately killed, and a number of soft eggs were taken out of her, each of which on being broken was found to contain a snake, in size and perfection proportioned to those of the egg containing it. We have often heard of iron, bones, and other hard substances being found in eggs; but the fact of the snake's being alive, and the other eggs having similar contents, is certainly very extraordinary, and will puzzle naturalists to explain the cause.

Charlotte-Town, P. E. I. November 13.—Last evening the valuable and extensive works, the Bird Island Mills, consisting of a Grist Mill, and Saw Mill, all newly fitted up with the most approved and expensive machinery, together with the adjoining distillery, the property of the Hon. G. Wright, about three miles to the eastward of Charlotte Town, were totally consumed by fire. The fire, which originated in the drying kiln, broke out about seven o'clock, and though the most prompt assistance was rendered by the people from the town, who hastened to the spot in great numbers, both on horseback and on foot, and also by those in the neighbourhood, such was the rapidity of the flames that little or nothing was saved. Their exertions therefore were chiefly directed to preventing the flames from extending to the other buildings in the vicinity, and to the safety of several stacks of grain, which were fortunately saved. A considerable quantity of thrashed grain was consumed. The engine belonging to the ordnance department was of great service in preserving the props which sustained the dam, which were frequently on fire. Great praise is due to the Royal Artillery and the detachment of the Rifle Brigade for taking out the engine, through very deep roads, and for their exertions in working it under the directions of Capt. Pemberton, in which they were cheerfully aided by several of the inhabitants. We observed several members of the Fire Engine Company present, in their caps and tippets, but, unfortunately, their engine, which might have proved of essential service was not brought out. The loss, at the lowest computation is estimated at Fifteen hundred pounds.

Lieutenant Gray is now engaged in taking a series of views in the two Provinces, which he intends to have engraved in London, should a sufficient number of subscribers be obtained. The views are to be eight in number. There are two of the Falls of Niagara—one from the upper bank behind the pavilion, and the other from the point, about half a mile below the ferry.—The view of York is to be taken from near the Don Bridge—that of Kingston from Point Henry,—Brockville is drawn from the island in the Saint Lawrence, opposite it, and Montreal, from the artillery barracks on the island of Saint Helens. The two remaining views (Quebec and Falls of Montmorenci) are not yet taken. We have seen several of the views. They are remarkably accurate. The size of each engraving will be twenty-four by twenty-five inches. They will be coloured.—The price will depend on the number of subscribers, which at present promises to be large. The series will not exceed five guineas. We may add that Mr. Gray is already known as an artist, from some views which he has published of Sierra Leone.—*Upper Canada Herald.*

CONVERSAZIONI.

INITIATORY ORATION,

Delivered before the CONVERSAZIONI,

AT THE

Commencement of their Second Winter Course.

(CONCLUDED.)

In the infant, and often in the progressive periods of colonization, it is common to find the sentiment prevailing, that knowledge of a *speculative* kind has nothing in it, relative to private circumstances and occurrences, and that, like objects of fancy, it may be purchased too dearly. There is, indeed, in all societies a class of *cui bono* persons, to whom, nothing short of the actual results of science, brought down from theory to practice, and subordinated to wealth and industry, can satisfy. They seem, however, to forget, that *external exhibitions* are not always in the power of science; and that, before those results looked for, can be obtained and applied to the arts and circumstances of life, recondite principles must be investigated, and new laws of nature analysed. And what if the impulse that speculation or hypothesis gives to science, do not, necessarily, secure any new fact or triumph? Ought we, therefore, to despair of human genius?—It would be rash and presumptuous. If experiment be the talisman which unfolds the arcana of nature, it is to those excursive views which constitute the glory of the intellect, and which, even when sometimes ill directed, are the concomitants of native talent, that the impelling principle which invites experiment, is indebted.

The result of these views can be known only, when science is pushed to its limits:—some towering talent may frame magnificient systems from them, and, without reaching originality, establish a new state of arts. Ptolemy and Tycho Brahe led the way to Galileo and Newton; the Marquis of Worcester to Boulton and Watt; and Bacon to Sir Humphrey Davy. It was, I have no doubt, in reference to this accumulation of information, that the great Linnæus asserted, "Omnia quæ scimus sunt pars minima corum quæ nes cimus." ALL THAT WE ALREADY KNOW, IS BUT AN ATOM, COMPARED WITH WHAT WE DO NOT KNOW.

Circumstanced as these Provinces, at present are, it is impossible, but that their population should manifest a growing interest in the arts and liberal studies. It is not necessary that there should be suddenly planted on their soil, growths of profound learning, but we hope to see buddings of many a scion, which may ultimately become parent stocks to others. We hope to see literature approachable by thousands *who have not rustled a gown in the graduation halls of a College*, and if anticipations do not deceive me, such a republic of letters as is here contemplated, is not far distant. And where can the whole energies of the mind be more favorably directed and reflected, than in an infantile community? It is there genius may create for itself an independent pedestal, lean upon its own strength, and elicit subjects for its peculiar disposition or talents.

It is in new countries, that the fairest opportunities of making valuable discoveries, and of benefitting mankind, are disclosed. In them, men of science chiefly unite, to observe new changes and relations of the laws of matter; to ascertain the motions of the planetary spheriods; and to gather rich spoils from the hands of nature. Hence it is to them, that philosophy looks, almost exclusively, for fresh additions to the stock of knowledge extant. In almost every part of the Colonies, we are surrounded with objects calculated to inspire the most elevated conceptions of the imagination. The Roman Tiber and the British Thames are but babbling streams, compared with some of our majestic rivers. May we not please ourselves with the expectation of seeing, even in our day, a Helicon and Parnassus in some favorite spot? May we not anticipate the day, when we shall have Poets, who will eternise in song, our native scenery?

To sit on rocks, to muse or flood and fell,
To slowly trace the forest's shady scene,
Where things, that own not man's dominion, dwell,
And mortal foot hath ne'er or rarely been;
To climb the trackless mountain all unseen,
With the wild flocks that never needs a fold;
Alone o'er steeps and foaming falls to lean. *Minstrel.*