HALIFAX AND QUEBEC RAILWAY.

One of the largest meetings we have ever seen at Quebec was held on Wednesday evening last, 14th instant, in the City Hall, when the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted. The Meeting was called at the instance of the General Committee of the supporters of the Halifax and Quebec Railway project, for the purpose of hearing from G. R. Young, Esq., M. P. P. of Halifax, an exposition of the prospects and ultimate advantages of this truly national enterprise. The room was crowded long before the arrival of the Committee, and the Chair was taken, by request, by the Hon. R. E. Caron, Mayor of the City, whose sentiments in favour of the project have been before publicly expressed.

J. C. Fisher, Esq. was named Secretary.

The first resolution was moved, after an eloquent and truly British speech, by the Hon. T. C. Aylwin, M.P.P. for the City.

The Hon. A. W. Cochran moved the second resolution in a neat and pertinent address, which he concluded by introducing G. R. Young, Esquire, to the Assembly.

The following are the resolutions in order, as they were proposed:

Moved by the Hon. T. C. Aylwin, seconded by H. Atkinson, Esq.,

1. Resolved, That this meeting regards with unabated interest the establishment of a Railway between the cities of Halifax and Quebec, with a view to its ultimate extension throughout the Province of Canada, and is satisfied from the inquiries and researches already made that it is indispensable for the full and beneficial development of the commercial, agricultural and mineral resources of these Provinces, for the extension and prosperity of their trade, and for the integrity of the Empire, whether in peace or war.

Moved by Hon. A. W. Cochrane, seconded by J. McLeod, Esq.

2. Resolved, That although this meeting most cordially sympathizes with the feeling expressed in the Sister Province of New-Brunswick by a body of the people to improve its agriculture and to extend its trade, by laying a line of Railway from Fredericton and St. Andrews to Woodstock and the Grand Falls, and will rejoice to see it completed, and although there appear to be strong grounds for believing that the proposed line of railway, passing to the east of Lake Temiscouata and of the Grand Falls, and thence by the Bend of the Petitcodiac through the counties of Westmorland and Cumberland to Halifax, with branches to the cities of Fredericton and St. John, so laid as to secure to them the fullest possible participation in the benefits of this great undertaking, is best adapted to the great national objects the projectors have in view,—a line of military defence, an immediate and extensive system of immigration to the Provinces, the rapid and safe transmission of the mails from the Atlantic to the heart of Canada, and a mode of inter-colonial communication which will secure, whether in peace or in war, the transit through British territory of the products of British North America, and thus preserve to them the privileges and protection extended by the navigation laws and policy of the Parent State—this meeting, nevertheless, concurs in the opinion expressed in a resolution adopted at a former meeting of the inhabitants of Quebec on the twenty-third of October last, in reference to this subject, "that it is desirable that the line be laid out by "scientific men of established character as speedily as possible, with the concurrence of the Imperial Government."

Moved by H. LeMesurier, Esq. seconded by Mr. Sheriff Sewell.

3. Resolved, That this meeting has read with pleasure the despatches and letters written or approved of, by their Excellencies the late Governor General Lord Metcalfe, Sir William Colebrooke, and Lord Falkland in favour of the undertaking, and is satisfied that the continuance of these exertions so as to effect success, will secure to them the respect and gratitude of all classes of Her Majesty's subjects on this continent.

Moved by the Hon. John Neilson, seconded by the Hon. Louis Massue.

4. Resolved, That this meeting has learned with high satisfaction that His Excellency Lord Cathcart, who now administers the affairs of this Province, has expressed a decided opinion in favour of the enterprise,—and that an address be forthwith forwarded to his Excellency requesting that he will be pleased to transmit a copy of these resolutions to Her Majesty's Government, to the end that the aid of the Imperial Parliament may be solicited to complete an enterprize so important in a national point of view, and so indispensable to the protection and prosperity of Her Majesty's subjects in this Hemisphere.

Moved by Okill Stuart, Esquire, seconded by Dr. Morrin.

5. Resolved, That the members for the City and County of Quebec be requested at the next session of the Provincial Legislature to support an address to the Crown on this subject, to obtain an act of Incorporation, extensive grants of land along the line, such pecuniary aid as the public funds will allow, and such a course of public action by delegation or otherwise as will secure, with the assistance of the Government of the Parent State and of the capitalists of Great Britain, the early and successful completion of this enterprize.

Moved by P. J. O. Chauveau, Esq., M. P. P., seconded by T. Legare, Esq.,

6. Resolved, That the Secretaries of the Provisional Committees be requested to forward copies of these resolutions to the Presidents of the Boards of Trade at Montreal, Kingston, Cobourg, Hamilton and elsewhere within the Province, and to solicit their zealous co-operation, this meeting being satisfied that the benefits anticipated from this undertaking will not be fully realized until the line of communication is extended throughout the Province.

Moved by E. Montezambert, Esq., seconded by T. W. Lloyd, Esq.,

7. Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to the Secretaries of the Provisional Committees at Halifax, St. John, Westmoreland, Amherst, Truro, Onslow, Bate Verte, St. Andrew's, and Prince Edward Island, and that they be requested to take effective measures to bring the subject under the favourable consideration of the Legislatures of Nova Scotia, New-Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island in order to secure continued and harmonious action.

Moved by Dr. Fremont, seconded by J. Motz, Esquire,

8. Resolved, That copies of the foregoing resolutions be also forwarded to the Provisional Committee of the "Halifax and Quebec Railway" in London, with an expression of the thanks of this meeting for the exertions they have already made in collecting and publishing useful information so as to excite and direct the attention of the British Public to the enterprize; and that at the same time the Secretaries of the Provisional Committee of Quebec be requested to state that this meeting cordially approves of the resolution passed by the Board in London that no prospectus should be published and no stock allotted until that support to the undertaking is secured from the Home and Provincial Governments which will make it a matter of certainty that the project shall be successfully carried into effect.

Moved by Dr. Fisher, seconded by Councillor Wilson.

9. Resolved, That the best thanks of this meeting are eminently due to G. R. Young, Esq., M. P. P., of Halifax, for the able and eloquent manner in which he has explained the advantages and prospects to be expected from the execution of the proposed Halifax and Quebec Railway and for the untired zeal and exertion which he has personally displayed in the promotion of this magnificent enterprize.

Moved by Mr. Woolsey, seconded by Dr. Fisher,

10. Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Honorable Mayor of Quebec; for his kindness in taking the chair, and for the manner in which he has presided over this meeting.

After the second resolution, Mr. YOUNG rose and made a long and eloquent address. He commenced with a relation of the manner in which he became connected with the project, and of the object which led him into Canada, viz., to collect the information which he thought necessary before coming to a practical conclusion as to the undertaking, and he had obtained such information as led him to the conclusion that it was feasible, and that the means necessary for its accomplishment were at our command. As to its *practicability*, Mr. Young said "all doubt has been removed, for the testimony of surveyors and skilful engineers concur in one opinion, that the country through which the line, as detailed in the 2d resolution, is to run, not only presents no physical impediments, but is highly favorable for the enterprize." As to the *cost*, he remarked, "I saw, while in the States, two practical Surveyors of skill and extensive experience, who both said that our railway could be laid and furnished with the necessary engines and cars for operation, at an outlay not exceeding $20,000, per mile. The cost of the whole line of 550 miles, for iron rails and a single track, at this rate, would be equal precisely to £2,750,000. Calculating the interest on this sum, at the rate of three and a half per cent. (with Government guarantee) it would be equal to £96,250, and the cost of working and repairs, at £300 per mile, (the ascertained cost,) equal to £165 000, the total annual expense would be £261,250." Mr. Young next proceeded to enquire from what *sources* the funds were to be obtained. Observing that if the Government of England viewed it in the same important light with which it was looked upon by the Colonies, there would be little difficulty in raising the required sum, he remarks—

"We will now view it in a less comprehensive, and, if I may so speak, in a more mercantile sense. It is matter of notoriety, that Great Britain has lately surveyed a great military road, running from Halifax to Quebec, and I have been told—but on this there may be misapprehension—for it is difficult to get accurate information in matter of confidence from official men—that she designed to expend three quarters of a million on this great military work. The road has been suspended. Sir W. Colebrooke, to whom the Provinces owe so much, for his vigorous exertions in relation to this project, has earnestly advised that the funds intended for the road should be applied to the Railway. It is not, therefore, any extravagant expectation, to calculate that Great Britain, in consideration of the free transit of the mails, troops and military stores, should give one million of money—and if *given*, of course, no interest would be required. Next, lately I ascertained from Mr. Perley, the Emigration Agent in New-Brunswick, that, of the seventeen millions of acres, which is the area of that Province, two millions consist of barrens and lakes, five millions have been granted, and ten millions remain at the disposal of the Government.

"In Lower Canada, again, I have been informed, that, in the rear of the seigniories on the river St. Lawrence, which extend generally three miles by six, from the River du Loup to the Grand Falls, there is an extent of ungranted land, not less than a million of acres. It should be proposed, that four millions of acres—three in New Brunswick and one in Canada—and such unsettled lands in Nova Scotia as the Legislature can afford, should be appropriated to this object, and placed under the control of the London Company, for the purposes of emigration, on a sufficient guarantee, that, in consideration of such transference, the roads should be laid. Nothing could be more beneficial for the interests of these Provinces. The settlement of these lands, with a railroad passing through them, would proceed with a rapidity surpassing the most sanguine expectations, and develope resources which would fully justify the European maxim, "that railways feed themselves." It is one of the peculiar results of the system, that they not only carry with bird-like flight over the ground, but they create a new spirit, they communicate a fresh impetus to the public mind, favorable alike to public spirit and intelligence as to industry and general prosperity. So far as New-Brunswick is concerned, she would actually gain by the gift, for the seven millions of acres remaining would be trebly enhanced in value. Supposing, then, these four millions acres to be worth a second million, we have got two millions of capital, not demanding interest from the returns of the railway. The balance of outlay would be derived from the grants of the different Legislatures, from our subscription of stock, from the contributions of the London capitalists; and if such a scheme could be submitted to our colonial friends in London, who, I now earnestly hope, will co-operate with the London committee, I have no fear that the stock would at once be taken, and the project placed under an efficient and respectable management. No reasonable man could doubt that this was a feasible scheme, and not difficult of execution.

"The third question came, what trade and transit this line would embrace—what returns, in short, would be derived from it? The first part of the line from Halifax to Amherst, being a distance of 135 miles, and as far as the Bend of Petitcodiac, which was 35 miles farther, the railroad ran through a cultivated and thickly-settled country, which, if it did not yield an adequate return now, would more than repay in the course of five years. If the line, again, took a direction from this through Sussex valley towards St. John, a further distance would be embraced of several miles, which in the same period would yield a sufficient revenue. At this terminus, again, it would penetrate a settled country from Quebec to the River du Loup; and although the committee were aware that this portion of the line would command large freights, as well as passengers, no estimate had yet been formed of the exact extent. Following the line, from this to the Grand Falls and thence through the Province of New-Brunswick, if an extensive and active system of emigration were prosecuted, a large transit of agricultural produce, deals, lumber, and other products of the forest would speedily be created; and with branch lines to St. John, to Fredericton and to the northern ports of the Bay of Fundy, it would be difficult to estimate how rapidly the resources of the country would be developed and trade enlarged. He could not place before them the mass of details he had collected and digested; but he might state that the cost of transit in England, which averaged from 2d. to 3d. sterling, per ton, per mile, had been reduced in the States; in one case, coals on the Reading railway from that place to Philadelphia, were actually carried as low as one cent per ton. The average rate in Massachusetts was from 2 to 4 cents. A M. feet of seasoned lumber, the weight of which was estimated at a ton, was conveyed on the Western railroad from Albany to Boston, a distance of 200 miles for $4. The cost of a barrel of flour from Albany to Boston was 22 to 25 cents, and on the proposed road from Ogdensburgh by Burlington to Boston, was calculated at 43 cents. Taking the first as a criterion, the charge of conveying a barrel of flour from Quebec, to St. John, (N. B.,) would be 41 cents, and to Halifax 68 cents. Before looking at the trade of the West, and the through transit from the St. Lawrence to the Atlantic, liberal allowances must be made for the way trade, that is, from the different settlements to each other, and with the respective capitals of the three Provinces. Next, it was anticipated that the railway would embrace large returns from the conveyance of light goods, from Great Britain, via Halifax; and that the diminished freight and insurance on goods landed in Halifax, as well as the possibility of obtaining a periodical supply, would induce this trade to be chiefly conducted along the line. Looking to the future, too, it was to be recollected that the line of communication was to be extended to the extreme point of Canada West, and that anticipations were cherished by men, not irrational in their expectations, that it would ultimately penetrate to Oregon,—that this would yet be the great British track, not only for the fertile countries lying West, but for the rich silks and light manufactures of China."

The transit of the products of Canada West, said Mr. Young, might be secured, but his enquiries not being completed, he felt unable to state the amount of revenue that might be set down.—There was also a probability that an amount of £45,000, said to be annually paid to the American Government by the British Government, for the transmission of the mails through the States, might be transferred. He next came to the source of income most productive on European lines,—the conveyance of passengers. The cost of passage from Quebec to Halifax by a first class train was estimated at 45s. 10d., and by a third-class train at half this price, and could be accomplished in 22 hours. With these facilities, said he, "our line would embrace all the travelling from the extreme boundaries of Canada and from the West, because travellers would point to Halifax as the shortest voyage across the Atlantic. All emigrants from Great Britain would come this way, and there would be an increase of travelling from Canada and the United States to the Lower Provinces, exceeding present calculation." Mr. Young then took a view of the position of Canada with seven different lines of rails, actually *seducing*, by cheap rates of transit, the trade of Canada from its legitimate channels, and urging the high importance of this undertaking for the security and protection of Canada, glanced at the present condition of England to resist an invasion on her rights or dominions in any quarter of the Globe, and continued—

"But we are bound to look to the future,—to weigh the effect of possible contingencies. Suppose the Republic had acquired the undisturbed possession of this broad continent, and that she had, to use her own significant terms, *annexed* California, Canada, and the regions to the North. Then, indeed, the aspect of things in the Old World might be changed. With the cottons and sugars of the West; the wheat of the southern and middle States; the timber and flax of Canada and New-Brunswick; the coal, the iron, and the copper, so profusely scattered throughout this British continent, and so admirably adapted for the growth of manufactures; the fisheries of our coasts and on the Banks of Newfoundland, to extend her elements of a commercial marine,—Young America would breathe with a new life, and might even attempt to control and modify the destinies of the Old World. She might refuse to supply food and the raw elements of trade to the classes now dependent on her; she might pass a tariff so prohibitory as to cramp if not destroy the manufactures of which England at present enjoys a profitable monopoly; she might shut her ports against the surplus population crowding up in Europe, in an old and ripe state of human society; and while thus sapping prosperity, she might endeavour, by direct interference, to incite the uneasy and encourage the disaffected, to tear down old and venerable institutions, and supplant democratic models in their stead. The peace and safety of Britain seem thus to hang dependent on Canada being preserved, to control the ambition, to curb the spirit, and to counteract the grasping policy of a dangerous rival. It is the belief that Canada cannot be saved unless this project is completed, and that the views I have thus attempted to illustrate, are so potent and irresistible in themselves, that they must produce conviction upon the statesmen who rule the affairs of the British Empire,—which renders others and myself so sanguine and confident that this Railway will be begun and completed without longer delay.

The meeting was afterwards addressed by the Hon. R. E Caron, Hon. Mr Aylwin, Hon. Mr. Cochran, Mr. LeMesurier, Hon. John Neilson, and other gentlemen, who spoke strongly in favor of a line through the British Provinces as of the highest importance to the Colonies and the Mother Country.

QUEBEC FIRE FUND.—From a report of the proceedings of the general Committee for the relief of the sufferers by the late fires, published in the Quebec Gazette of the 14th instant, we extract the following paragraphs:—

The Rev. Dr. Cook, from the same Sub-Committee, on the reference made to it at the last meeting of a certain resolution adopted by the Committee at St. John, New-Brunswick, reported the following resolutions for adoption by this Committee, viz.:—

1. "Resolved, That this Committee cannot but express their extreme surprise, that without any previous communication with them, such a resolution should have been passed—that the inhabitants of St. John could so readily persuade themselves that no further degree of destitution or probable disease was to be dreaded as the result of a calamity which destroyed the houses of twenty thousand people, and well nigh a million of property—and that, having come themselves to a conclusion so unfounded, they should have hastened to publish it to the world,—a proceeding which could scarcely fail to have the effect of drying up the springs of Christian charity elsewhere.—It was not thus, the Committee remember with satisfaction, that the citizens of Quebec acted when an appeal such as they have now been constrained to make was made to themselves, twenty years ago, by certain distressed inhabitants of New-Brunswick, on the occasion of the fire at Miramichi."

2. "That the Committee of Saint John, New-Brunswick, be requested to communicate to the General Committee of Relief at Quebec the name or names of the person or persons who informed the Committee at Saint John that distress had been entirely relieved and had ceased in Quebec."

And these resolutions being taken into consideration—Mr. H. S. Scott moved, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Cook, that the closing paragraph of the first of them be struck out—which motion was rejected on a division.

The question of concurrence being then put successively on each of the resolutions as reported, the first was adopted and the second rejected.

The Courier.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1846.

The Mail Steamer from England had not arrived at Halifax on Tuesday morning last, then fifteen and a half days out, if she sailed on her regular day, the 4th of January. By arrivals at New York we have dates from Europe to the 12th December. The following are extracts from our American files.

SIX DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

By the packet ship Iowa, at New York, from Havre, we have dates from that city to Dec. 12th, from London to the 10th, and from Liverpool to the 8th ult. The repeal of the Corn Laws was *still a question* of unparalleled excitement. The declaration of the London Times, of the 4th ult., that the English Cabinet had agreed upon the opening of the ports, and upon several other important measures, created a tremendous sensation throughout England and France. Its effect in London was like throwing a bomb-shell in the very midst of the bankers and politicians.

Notwithstanding the statements of the Times are doubted, contradicted and abused by the Standard, the organ of the Government, the Herald, also the organ, and sundry other papers, the Times adheres to its original statement, with the qualification that the Ministry were wavering as to the best course to take to produce the necessary result, namely, the opening of the ports, which had been determined upon. According to the extracts from the principal English journals, we are led to believe that the Times based their statements on good authority at the start, and as the early meeting of Parliament is not absolutely contradicted by the Standard, it is fair to suppose that that body are now in session, and that the whole question has been thrown into Parliament by the Ministry, to be decided as they and the people think best.—In this way the Ministry will probably attempt to escape any responsibility.

The excitement which the announcement of the Times produced in every circle, however, was the means of letting out, what is probably a fact, that negociations had been begun in London for a commercial treaty between England and the United States; and it was supposed that the announcement of the Times was originally based on this.

This supposition implicated the American Minister in the original statement of the Times, and the Secretary to the American Legation felt constrained to publish a card, exonerating Mr. McLane from any connexion with the publication.

It must not be forgotten that when the great question of Catholic Emancipation was resolved upon the fact was announced by the same Times in advance of the reputed government organ, and broke upon the public ear like a clap of thunder out of a clear sky. Then, as now, the announcement was positively contradicted by papers which might be supposed to be well informed. But it turned out then that the Times was right, and the others wrong. It will be so now (we have little doubt) as to the MAIN FACT that the Cabinet, from being opposed to the repeal of the Corn Laws, have been brought by the pressure of circumstances, not the least potent of which is scarcity of food throughout the kingdom, to change their course and decide in favor of repeal. What else could they do? Public sentiment was rolling in like a flood, demanding repeal, and they could not resist it. The alternative was,—to obey, or resign; and they chose the former. The Economist, an ably conducted weekly paper in London, opposed to the Corn Laws, gives the following version of the affair, which we translate from the Havre Journal of Dec. 11th. We think it is not far from the truth.

"Sir Robert Peel went to the Cabinet Council on Tuesday, determined to resign the responsibilities of his office, unless the Cabinet would consent to the adoption of his measures in regard to the Corn Laws. The Duke of Wellington, it appeared, was still opposed to all concession, but without the assent of the Duke it was clear that all other support which the Ministry could command, would not avail to ensure the success of a measure which even under the most favorable circumstances would be a matter of difficulty in the House of Lords. If the Duke of Wellington should leave the Cabinet, this difficulty would become an impossibility. It is easy to see, then, that the only conditions upon which Sir Robert Peel could consent to continue in office, were, that the Cabinet should adhere to his policy, and that the noble Duke should also remain, and sustain that policy in the House of Lords.

"After a discussion of three hours, it is said that the Duke concluded to withdraw his objections. It was agreed that Parliament should assemble about the 6th of January, and that the Premier should be sustained in any measure which he might deem it necessary to introduce for the repeal or modification of the present laws. It is known, however, that some comparatively unimportant changes took place in the Cabinet in consequence of that determination. It is said that Lord Stanley, Lord Ripon, and Lord Wharncliffe, will retire, but more on account of personal considerations, than from any hostility to the government and its new policy. Such (as we believe,) has been the course of affairs, and such is their present posture. The concession now made by the Duke of Wellington, is only a fair return for those made to him by Sir Robert Peel, when the latter consented to the adoption of the Catholic Emancipation Bill, at a period when his resignation would have threatened the dissolution of the noble Duke's Ministry."

The Globe, after quoting the above, adds:

"It is to be noted that this statement does not imply that there has yet been submitted to the Cabinet any definitive measure. We think that nothing is yet known, in detail, of the precise measure which Sir Robert Peel will think proper to present. We believe that he has received a *carte blanche*, and that he has obtained from those of his colleagues who were more or less opposed to the measure, a vote of unlimited confidence in his wisdom for the reformation of the Corn Laws."

Elsewhere the Globe says, "We do not doubt that the news given by the Times, of a great change in the counsels of the Cabinet on the subject of the Corn Laws, is substantially correct."

We do not observe any authentic announcement of the date fixing the date of the meeting of Parliament.

The uncertainty as to what the intentions of Ministers are respecting the corn laws appears to have stopped all speculation in the English funds, and the spirit of inactivity which has for several days characterised the English markets has to-day extended itself to those for Foreign stocks and Shares.—*Globe.*

Since the continual meetings of the Cabinet, the letters of Lord John Russell and Lord Morpeth and other ominous circumstances, created a general persuasion that something decisive would be done, we are told that wheats have suffered a decline of 3s. to 4s. per quarter, and all other kinds of grain have fallen in proportion. That this haste to sell arises from a mere political delusion is clear from the fact that all the best authorities, both from the Corn Exchange, and the whole mercantile world, are unanimously of the opinion that the repeal of the Corn laws will certainly, immediately, and most considerably raise the prices all over the world. We do not see how it can be otherwise.—Nay, if we have any one misgiving as to the wisdom of the ministerial measure, it originates in the thought of what may possibly arise from the whole current of British speculations being, for the first time allowed free play on foreign produce, just at the crisis when the stock is unusually low. The farmer, is, of course, only too easy a prey to these alarmists, from the circumstance that his boasted protection has, in a manner insulated him from the corn trade of the world, and kept him profoundly ignorant of it. He has not known a regular competition with it, and has, indeed, known nothing about it, except that it is a certain frightful infinity of mischief. Little is he aware that the average of importations from the whole world does not exceed the produce of one English county, or half the demand of our metropolis, and, what is more, that it would take many years of labor, skill, and money, to increase that importation. Hence the fatal facility with which he is duped by leaders as ill-informed, perhaps, as himself.—*Times.*

The London Standard (government paper) says, "We learn with regret that the merchants arriving from the United States, are more and more doubtful of the continuance of our pacific relations with that country. They are all of opinion that the Message of President Polk will be extremely violent, and some even think that the passions of the multitude, who aim at the possession of the entire territory of Oregon, will be sustained by the President, and lead to a rupture between the two countries."

We hear from all hands of steady and unostentatious preparations for placing the country in a proper state of defence in the event of any unfortunate difference with America, and of these preparations the mercantile interest seems generally very much to approve, even though doubting whether any serious misunderstanding will arise.—The rum contract taken a few days since was at a much higher figure than the last, and the price of supplies for other articles, no doubt will advance, likewise, if government continues its efforts to place every branch in a state of efficiency.—Many think that to unite the people of this country, would alone be sufficient to induce our government to make concessions on the Corn laws; and, certainly if the army and navy are to be augmented, there will be more food consumed.—*Globe.*

NATIONAL DEFENCES.—The recent experiments with a one gun battery in the Woolwich Marshes, recommended to be made by a board of officers appointed to consider and suggest the best mode of constructing defences for the coasts of Great Britain, having been completed, and the result being highly satisfactory, batteries on the same principle will be erected at Sheerness, Portsmouth, Plymouth, Pembroke, and other places on the coasts of the island. Numbers of large guns have been forwarded to Jersey and other exposed islands, and to the Cape of Good Hope and other colonial possessions, and the utmost activity prevails to strengthen every place at home and abroad, for securing them in the event of being attacked. A number of the block ships, heavily armed, will soon be ready for their respective stations, and add greatly to the defence of the coast.—*United Service Gazette.*

The Morning Chronicle of Dec. 9th, says:—A Cabinet Council was held at five o'clock yesterday afternoon at the foreign office. The Lord Chancellor was sufficiently recovered from his recent illness to attend the meeting. The other ministers present were—Sir R. Peel, Lord Warncliffe, the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Stanley, Sir James Graham, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Ripon, Lord G. Somerset, the Earl of Lincoln, and the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert. (The Duke has left town.) The council sat an hour.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE, Dec. 9, half-past 3.—The money markets this morning opened tranquilly, and after continuing pretty steady throughout the day, closed without any material variation in prices. Consols for Money and Account have declined ⅛; New Three-and a Quarter ¼. The foreign market has been very quiet; quotations evince a tendency downwards in those stocks in which transactions have taken place. Railway shares are very steady, and hold out an indication of further improvement.

There seems, by the advices within the last day or two, to be a temporary lull in trade abroad as usual just before the close of the year. With respect to the home trade, seeing the ample employment for labor which railroads must give, there are the best prospects, and the money market at present offers no obstacle to legitimate operations.—*Globe.*

LIVERPOOL CORN EXCHANGE, Dec. 8.—Supply of Wheat was small this morning, and the millers, availing themselves of present uncertain state of the trade (created by the reports of the Times paper), proceeded purchasing at a reduction.—Holders of free foreign and bonded refused to sell at any decline.

The Liverpool Mail, in speaking of the famine in Great Britain, says: "It is as we anticipated, and it is delightful to record the fact, that the monster 'Famine,' with which the nation was threatened, has begun to devour its insolent and mendacious authors. Every post brings the cheering intelligence that the potato failure, the distemper, are fallacies not engendered by the brain, but proceeding from the heart—fearful falsehoods, invented for a sordid and dishonest purpose."

THE POTATOE DISEASE.—The accounts brought by the latest provincial journals are, in the aggregate, by far the most favorable that have been received since the first appearance of the distemper, and the opinion is daily gaining ground "that the injury sustained will prove to be very short of what was apprehended."

The disease among cattle has again broken out in South Lancashire, and many farmers have lost the greater portion of their stock. The present disease appears to be a violent affection of the lungs, and in many cases it is quite incurable—Sheep, on the other hand, are doing remarkably well.

The London Post of the 8th ult. says:—"We have great satisfaction in being enabled to announce that an event, calculated to strengthen the affectionate attachment of the people to the throne, and at the same time increase the happiness of her Majesty's domestic circle, may be expected to take place early in April next."

THE CHANCELLORSHIP.—A London paper says, we have heard a rumor from a quarter likely to be tolerably well-informed upon such a subject, that in consequence of the serious and continued indisposition of Lord Lyndhurst, some intention exists of throwing the seals into commission; and it is further rumored that in the event of such an arrangement being carried into effect, Mr. Baron Parke will be the Lord Chief Commissioner.

MUNIFICENT GIFT TO GREENOCK.—The late Sir Gabriel Wood has given in charge of appointed executors, the princely sum of £80,000, to be expended in the erection and maintenance of an hospital in Greenock, for the reception of the aged, infirm, and disabled seamen of that port.

IRELAND.—Our advices from Dublin are of the 8th ult. The last reports from Cork, Galway, Londonderry, and some of the midland districts, relative to the potato disease, continue favourable, and the harsh weather of the past ten days appears to have had no injurious influence on the crops, so far as those localities are concerned. The Cork Southern Reporter, in its corn circular of Saturday's date, reiterates its opinion, "that no little exaggeration existed upon the subject" of the potato panic. From Kerry, however, the accounts are not so satisfactory.

The weekly meeting of the Repeal Association was held on the 8th, in Conciliation Hall, which was pretty well attended. The week's rent was announced as £291 2s. 11d.

The Repealers in a muss.—A quarrel has broken out in the repeal camp. Mr. O'Connell, at the head of one party—the humbugs—is disgusted with the earnestness and plain speaking of the other party—the revolutionists. He is getting alarmed at the zeal of such men as Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Duffy, and has determined to destroy the credit of them and of their journal, the *Nation*. When dirty work is to be done in Ireland, hands are never wanting for it. Mr. O'Connell's favourite paper, the *Pilot*, thus leads off the attack against Mr. Lucas, of the *London Tablet*, and Mr. Duffy, of the *Nation*:—

"This Lucas is the prince of all unprincipled scoundrels that ever deluded, to betray, the Irish people. Does he think he can longer delude them—he who has appropriated all Duffy's offences, and added to them a Saxon stock of his own? He is infinitely a greater rascal than Duffy.—Duffy is, at least, sustaining, though with lies and treachery, the principles of his journal; Lucas is sustaining a journal in antagonism of his professed principles. Duffy is a poor, drivelling, talentless, ill-countenanced, ill-tempered, sour scoundrel, that ought never to have deceived, and never could, without the aid of the brilliancy which has departed. Lucas is an ill countenanced, unsavoury-looking ruffian, too; but is a dangerous, talented, laborious, unprincipled Saxon, that spares no means, however foul, to remove out of his way any impediment to his purpose of deceiving and plundering the Irish people."

Sixteen Roman Catholic dioceses have now 'pronounced' against the Ministerial scheme of education, that of Killaloe being the latest of the malcontents.

It is said that the Government have determined on giving employment under the Drainage Bill, which is at present in force, in every district where it shall be shown, to their satisfaction, that there is want of employment; and that the necessary surveys will be made, without requiring any deposit for that purpose.

ENGLAND AND THE CHURCH OF ROME.—The Paris "Universe" publishes a letter, addressed to Dr. Wiseman, Bishop of Molipotomus, to all the Prelates of France, demanding their prayers for the reconversion of Great Britain to the Catholic faith, and adds "we learn with the liveliest satisfaction, that the several Bishops have already expressed to Mr. Wiseman the warm interest they took in his proceedings, and are preparing to comply with his wishes. The Bishop of Nantz published on the subject a pastoral letter, which was read from the pulpit at high mass, on Sunday.—The venerable Prelate directs that a *novena* be performed throughout his diocese, and that prayers be offered to Heaven for the conversion of England."

The Abbe Ronge is stated, in a letter from Dresden, to have met with great encouragement in that city. He has made many converts, and the hall of the town delegates was placed at his disposal for the celebration of divine service according to the rites of the German Catholic Church.

OVERLAND MAIL.—Advices by the Overland mail, from Bombay Nov. 1, were announced in the Times of the 5th. The news from China is to September 30, but it affords nothing important. The affairs of the Punjaub, of course, continued in a disturbed state. The Ranee, or Queen Mother, continued to be the nominal head of the Government. The Governor General arrived at Agra Oct. 15. Scinde remained tranquil.

The town and territory of Serampore, which was lately sold by the Danish Government, was formally surrendered on the 9th of October. The British flag was hoisted, and the Danish authorities ceased to reign.

The expedition which had proceeded to chastise the pirates on the coast of Borneo, at Maloodoo, on the northern shore, having effected its purpose, had returned to Hong Kong.

A fearful fire broke out in Bombay on the first night of the Dewallee (Lamp Festival) of the natives. It took its origin from some fireworks in a shop where a quantity of powder was stored. Having destroyed nearly 200 houses of various descriptions, it was stopped by the energy and activity of the Europeans. Fifteen persons lost their lives. Bombay escaped a dreadful calamity, for about 4000 lbs. of powder were removed from the houses on fire. If that powder had blown up, the consequences would have been appalling; thousands would have been killed.

FRANCE.—The Paris paper of the 3d December contains neither intelligence nor comment of an interesting character. Upon the subject of the joint intervention of England and France in the River Plate, the Journal des Debats has an article, in which it exonerates the French Government from any blame in the course it has pursued. An article from the Debats upon the Oregon furnishes the National with a subject for an attack upon M. Guizot, who has, it contends, by the publication of such opinions in his semi-official organ, rendered it impossible that King Louis Philippe can now be selected to arbitrate between England and the United States.

The National also accuses the French Government of a desire to fight the battles of England in every part of the world, even at a risk of a rupture with the natural allies of France. In another article the National fiercely assails M. Bugeaud for his policy as a governor and his tactics as a general in Algeria.

THE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE is summoned to meet at Fredericton, for the despatch of business, on Thursday next, the 29th instant. Little is generally known of the probable termination of the dispute between the Lieutenant Governor and the House, but it is not unlikely that the difficulties of last session have been satisfactorily overcome, and that the business of the country will go on satisfactorily.—The answer to the address of the House of Assembly to the Throne, on the subject of the Governor's appointment to the Secretaryship, is looked for with much anxiety.

HALIFAX AND QUEBEC RAILROAD.—We direct the attention of our readers to the proceedings of an important public meeting held at Quebec, relative to this great enterprize. G. R. Young, Esq has lately returned to this city from Canada, and we understand has been in communication with a number of influential gentlemen here, and a Committee has been formed to correspond and co operate with the Committees in other places, with a view to promote the undertaking.

CIRCUIT COURT.—During the present week the Court has been chiefly occupied with Criminal business. On Monday, *Andrew Ferguson* was tried for the murder of his wife in this City, in August last. The parties, it appeared, did not live on the best of terms, deceased being in the habit of getting intoxicated and neglecting her domestic duties. The wound, which was upon her neck, it was assumed, might have been occasioned by a fall on the edge of a board, or the like. The only witness who saw the fatal affray, was a daughter of the parties, about nine years of age and after being examined by His Honor the Judge as to her ideas of the nature of an oath, she was declared to be an incompetent witness, and her testimony was not taken. The evidence of other parties, living in the house, afforded strong circumstantial proof of Ferguson having caused the death of his wife, and the jury, therefore, found him guilty of *Manslaughter*.

Same day, *Hiram M'Allister* was brought to the bar, charged with stealing and killing a Cow, near the Crow's Nest, in the Parish of Portland, the property of William Paul. Guilty.

Catharine Donovan was brought up, for stealing £10 from William Hayward. Pleaded Guilty.

On Tuesday, *Alfred Hawkes* was tried for the murder of Henry Toole, on the road between this City and Mispeck, near the residence of the latter, at Red Head, about four miles from town, in December last. It appeared that the deceased, his wife and son, were on their way home, with a horse and cart, and overtaking Hawkes and his brother-in-law, named Stewart, on the road, with bundles, told them to put their bundles in the cart and he would walk along with them. Toole who was a little in liquor, sung a song, and wished Hawkes also to sing, but he declining, a quarrel ensued between them on Toole asking Hawkes what countryman he was, and being told, in reply, that he was an English-Irish-Scotchman. Toole then told him that he must be one of the three, and after some further conversation, according to Stewart's evidence, struck Hawkes a back handed blow on the breast, whereupon Hawkes tripped up Toole, and kicked him when down, and took his bundle from the cart and ran away some distance. Having arrived at his dwelling, another son of Toole's (a lad about sixteen years of age,) took part in the affray, and, with his father, followed Stewart and Hawkes on the road,—stones were thrown by the young man, one of which struck Stewart, and the lad finally took some stakes from the fence,—and it was with one of these, caught up by Hawkes, that the fatal blow was given.—The testimony of the wife and sons of the deceased conflicting somewhat with that of Stewart, the Jury found the prisoner guilty of *Manslaughter*.

On Wednesday, *Catharine Walsh* was tried on a charge of larceny, for finding and concealing a Pocket Book, containing £30 in money, the property of William M'Cullough. Guilty. J. G. Campbell, Esq. Counsel for prisoner.

On Thursday, *John M'Dermott*, carman, was brought to the bar, charged with the crime of Perjury, having sworn falsely before the Coroner of the City and County of Saint John, on an examination held on the body of Charles Yerxa. The prisoner was found Guilty.

Yesterday, *Richard Johnston* was brought to the Bar, charged with having fired a loaded gun into a crowd standing at the corner of a street near the upper Barrack-gate, Lower Cove, and wounding a sailor boy, Peter Kennedy, in the heel, and after trial was found guilty.—W. H. Needham and Charles Doherty, Esquires, Counsel for the prisoner; Attorney General for the prosecution.

Johnston was again tried on another indictment for committing an assault and battery on Bombardier Gallagher, of the Royal Artillery. It appeared in evidence that Bombardier Gallagher having ascertained the direction which Johnston had taken after firing the gun, followed him into a house for the purpose of arresting him, where he found Johnston re loading the gun. The bombardier seized hold of the gun and desired Johnston to give it up to him, telling him that he had done damage enough with it already. Johnston refused, and the bombardier succeeded in taking it from him. Johnston called to a bull-terrier dog, which was standing near him, to seize hold of the bombardier, which he did. Johnston then picked up a hatchet and made several blows at the head of the bombardier, which were warded off by the gun which he held in his hand. There were a man and a woman in the room with Johnston.—The bombardier finding himself overpowered, retreated to the door, for the purpose of making his escape. As he was passing through the door, he received several blows on the head with a bludgeon, which knocked him insensible. He was then taken to the Military Hospital. The guilt of the defendant was so apparent from the testimony given against him, that the Jury found him guilty without requiring a charge from His Honor the Judge, and in delivering their verdict, expressed their high approbation of the conduct of bombardier Gallagher, for his praise worthy exertions in endeavouring to arrest the defendant. It appeared from the evidence of the Assistant Surgeon of the 33d Regiment, that the leg of the bombardier was severely bitten by the dog, and the scalp of his scull was fractured in two places, which confined him to Hospital for twenty days.

The Attorney General conducted the criminal prosecutions. Ferguson was defended by the Hon. R. L. Hazen, and W. J. Ritchie, and W. H. Needham, Esquires; Hawkes by the Hon. R. L. Hazen and R. Bayard, Esq.

The Sentences will be passed next week—probably on Wednesday.

INTERESTING TRIAL.—*The Queen* vs. *Partelow*.—A trial of some interest came on at the Circuit Court on Thursday morning last, which arose out of an assault made by John R. Partelow, Esquire, on the person of Thomas Merritt, Esq., on the 23d of October last, an account of which appeared in our columns over the signature of Mr. Partelow, a day or two afterwards. The case was given to a highly respectable and intelligent Jury about four o'clock, and they soon after returned with the following verdict:—

"The Jury *deeply regret* that having borne *persecution* for so long a period, Mr. Partelow should have so far forgotten himself as to commit a breach of the peace; but, considering there are many mitigating circumstances, they beg to recommend him to the *most favourable* consideration of the Court."

For the Plaintiff William Wright and John H. Gray, Esquires; for the Defendant R. L. Hazen, W. J. Ritchie, L. A. Wilmot, and George Wheeler, Esquires.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—On Monday evening, P. Stubs, Esquire, entertained a large and respectable audience with an excellent lecture on Railways, in which he described the occasions on which they were first used, and various improvements which they have undergone. The lecture was interspersed with amusing anecdotes; and the advantages of Railways to these North American Colonies, both political and commercial, were set forth in glowing patriotic language. The entertainment was increased by the exhibition of a model locomotive coursing its rounds upon a circular model railroad. In this exhibition Mr. Stubs was assisted by Mr. Pratt, an ingenious Engineer who fitted to the locomotive two pairs of guide wheels, with the view of giving the audience some idea of an improvement which has been lately made by Mr. Prosser, in England.

Last evening the Rev. Mr. Brooke delivered a pleasing lecture on *Poetry*, which he illustrated by many beautiful quotations from the Poets of ancient and modern times. On Monday evening the Rev. gentleman will deliver a second lecture on the same subject, in which he will institute a comparison between ancient and modern Poets.

As some changes have taken place in the position of the forthcoming lectures of the season, we present our readers with the following list, from which we believe there will be no deviation.

Feb. 2, Mr. McLardy—On Coal Fields.
" 6, George Otty, Esq.—On the inequalities of the Surface of the Earth.
" 9, Mr. McLardy—On Coal Fields.
" 13, Mr. Owen—On Music with illustrations.
" 16, P. Stubs, Esq.—On Railway Statistics, (experiments by Mr. William Pratt.)
" 20, Mr. Deuchar—On Etiquette.
" 23, Mr. Perley—On the Forest Trees of this Province.
" 27, Do. do. do. do.
March 2, Mr. Duval—On the Phenomena of the Ocean.
" 6, Rev. Mr. Gallaway—On Palestine.
" 9, Mr. Duval—On the Phenomena of the Ocean.
" 13, Rev. Mr. Halket—On the History of a Book, or the Mechanical Arts and Processes necessary to its completion.
" 16, Rev. Mr. Irvine—On Female Education.
" 20, Gustavus R. Jarvis, Esq.

AN OLD REFUGEE!—On overhauling the Powder at the Government Stores, a few days since, a Keg of Powder was found, which had been stored there since the year 1783. It was in as sound condition as the Powder of recent importation.

The British North American Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine, for January, which has just left our press, contains, among other interesting articles, the first part of a lengthy Review of a pamphlet written by his Lordship the Bishop of Fredericton, while Minister of St. John's Chapel, Truro, England, and subsequently reprinted in this Province, entitled, "The Episcopal Form of Church Government; its Antiquity, its Expediency, and its Conformity to the Word of God."

NEW WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—We understand that a new Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, containing accommodation for about 400 persons, was opened at Smith's Creek, Parish of Studholm, for Divine Service on Sunday the 11th inst., when the Rev. S. D Rice preached an impressive sermon from Rev. xxii. 17v., at the conclusion of which, the ordinances of the Sacrament and Baptism were administered in the same building.

On the Monday evening following a Social Tea Meeting was held at the same place, when several addresses of a moral and religious cast were made to a large and delighted audience.—*Telegraph.*

FIRE.—We regret to learn that the Dwelling-house owned by Messrs. Robert J. Carpenter and Timothy Carpenter, at Wickham, Queen's County, and occupied by them, was entirely consumed by fire last Tuesday morning. The fire broke out about two o'clock, and so rapidly did the flames spread that Mr. Robert J. Carpenter, who resided in the second story, lost all his furniture, &c. No insurance.—*New-Brunswicker.*

FULLARTON.—It is currently reported that this criminal, now in the Gloucester County Gaol at Bathurst, is to be executed on the 7th February.—*Miramichi Gleaner.*

MILITIA GENERAL ORDER.

Fredericton, 10th January, 1846.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief has been pleased to make the following promotions, &c.:—

New-Brunswick Regiment of Artillery.—2d Lt. Walter D. Bedell, to be 1st Lieut.; Robert Reed Gent. to be 2d Lieut.; Bernard C. Friel, Gent. to be 2d Lieut.; LeBaron Boisford, M. D. to be Assistant Surgeon The above commissions to be dated 30th Oct. 1845.

Lieut Colonel James Moran, 2d Battalion St. John County Militia, is allowed to retire with his rank.

Major C. R. Hatheway, 3d Battalion Charlotte County Militia, is appointed to the 2d Battalion, vice Flaherty retired with his rank.

By Command, GEO SHORE, *A. G. M.*

A difficulty has been pending for some time between Canada and New Brunswick, relative to the settlement of the boundary between the two Provinces. It would appear that our authorities do not press the matter as they should, and have it amicably settled. Not so with the Canadians. If they are not well watched—and there is reason to think they are not—New-Brunswick will lose a large portion of its limits.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands for that Province has made a Report to the Governor General in which he suggests "that prompt measures be adopted for the survey and immediate settlement of the lands situated on the Canada side of the River St. Francis, down to its outlet in the St. John and western shore of the Madawaska, up to the seignory of that name." He further urges,—"Let this Government extend a fostering hand to its subjects in all parts of this Province, in that corner in particular; let Magistrates be appointed there enjoying the confidence of the people, an active Crown Land Agent to reside among them."

We presume that part of that suggestion has been acted upon, for we heard a few days ago that Francis Rice, Esq. of Madawaska, had received an appointment from the Canadian Government, of Crown Land Agent for the District of Madawaska. What will our authorities say to that?—*Woodstock Telegraph.*

The *Church* publishes a circular, put forth by the Sub-Committee appointed by the Archbishops and Bishops engaged in obtaining endowments for additional Bishoprics, soliciting subscription in aid of the new Bishopric, to be established at Rupert's Land, part of the territory belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company. This document states that there are already two or three missionary stations connected with the Anglican Church in that country, to one of which a church is attached, numbering three hundred converted Indians. The Hudson's Bay Company has promised a piece of land for the Bishop's residence, and will give £300 per annum in addition, provided the Bishop will undertake the duties of a Church with a District.

The Provincial Revenue of Canada for 1845 is said to exceed, by £55,000, the amount collected in 1844.

It being considered probable that the new *Governor General* may be a passenger on board the steamer expected, the House of Assembly have this day resolved upon waiting upon him with an Address, should this be the case.—*Halifax Journal, January* 19.

The British men-of-war now on the North-west coast of America, are the Collingwood, 80; the Modeste, 18; the Frolic, 16; the America, 50; the Fishguard, 42; the Talbot, 26; the Daphne, 18; the Salamander and Cormorant, steam sloops.

On the South east coast are the Eagle, 50; the Vernon, 50; the Racer, 18; the Firebrand, steam frigate and the Cyclops, steam sloop; the Grecian, 16; the Resistance, Spider, and Crescent, troop and receiving ships.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

In the Senate, on Monday, Jan. 12th, Mr. Fairfield, Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill making appropriations of *Ten Millions One Hundred and Ninety Thousand Dollars*, for increasing the naval establishment of the United States. The following are the items of the bill—For building ten Steamers, $5 525 000; to complete vessels on the stocks, $2,920,000; for repairs of fortifications, &c. $1,520,000; for stores and ordnance, $1,125 000.

FAVORABLE INDICATIONS.—Most of our readers, we think, will be gratified to learn that the Senate of the United States have virtually refused to receive s resolution offered by Mr. Allen of Ohio (Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations) in his individual capacity, relating to the interference of European powers in the affairs of this continent. On the motion to lay on the table the question of permitting the resolution to be introduced, the vote stood, yeas 28, noes 23.—Among the yeas were Messrs. Calhoun and M'Duffie of S. C., Chalmers of Mississippi, Haywood of N. C., and Westcott of Florida, Democrats. Mr. Calhoun took a firm stand against having this new firebrand thrown into Congress, under present circumstances,—at the same time declaring that he considered the recent interference of the English and French governments in the affairs of the river Plate, a gross outrage. Before the vote was taken, Mr. Allen said it was to be "a test vote,—if laid on the table, it was final.' We trust he will take himself at his word.

The above vote, and the recent vote of the same body postponing the further consideration of the Oregon question till the 10th of February, clearly indicate that the Senate intend to do nothing rashly.

The following is a copy of Mr. Allen's proposed joint resolution, declaratory of the principles by which the Government of the United States will be governed, in regard to the interposition of the powers of Europe in the political affairs of America:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That recent manifestations of a disposition, by certain powers of Europe, to interfere in the political arrangements of this continent, with a view to the enforcement of the European "balance of power" upon the independent nations of America, having made it in his judgment, the duty of the President of the United States to call the attention of Congress to this subject in his annual message, and announce, on the part of the United States, the counter principle of non-intervention, it is the judgment of Congress that the announcement thus made by the President was demanded by the manifest hazard to which such interference would inevitably expose the relations of peace now subsisting between the old world and the new.

Resolved, That Congress thus concurring with the President, and sensible that this subject has been forced upon the attention of the United States by recent events so significant as to make it impossible for this government longer to remain silent, without being ready to submit to, and even to invite, the enforcement of this dangerous doctrine, do hereby solemnly declare to the civilized world the unalterable resolution of the United States to adhere to and enforce the principle, that any effort of the powers of Europe to intermeddle in the social organization or political arrangements of the independent nations of America, or further to extend the European system of government upon this continent, by the establishment of new colonies, would be incompatible with the independent existence of the nations, and dangerous to the liberties of the people of America; and therefore would incur, as by the right of self preservation it would justify, the prompt resistence of the United States.

Mr. Calhoun said the subject called for the solemn consideration of the Senate, under the critical circumstances in which the country was now placed. No man had a stronger sense than himself of the impropriety of the interference of Great Britain and France in the affairs of the Argentine government, &c.; but, yet, the question was whether we should take under our guardianship the affairs of all the South American States. If we did, how were we going to protect them? Had we arrived at that maturity at which we could do this? We must begin and put the whole energies of the country into request. He was afraid that the Resolution would have an injurious effect on our institutions in the eyes of the world.

The debate on the Oregon question in the House will continue until the minds of the members shall be put at rest upon the subject some way or other—by a resumption of the negotiation, or by passing the Resolution. Notwithstanding all the opposition to the notice, I shall be surprised if, when it comes to the vote, there will be forty votes against it. Still, there are many who would be willing to stave off the question entirely. Gentlemen insist, in the debate, that the notice will not provoke war. That is true; but, after giving the notice, we shall be committed to measures that will be *war of themselves!* This is the view taken in the Message. The question is now not, whether we shall provoke a war, but how we can avoid it. There is no reason to believe that Great Britain will propose any thing more favorable to us than her last offer. We have refused arbitration, and the negotiation is dropped. Great Britain will simply await our action, and be prepared to maintain her alleged rights when infringed upon. That will be war.—*Washington correspondent N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

STEAMERS.—At a meeting of the Cabinet, a few days ago, it was agreed to make proposals for the building of ten steam vessels, on the following plan. The vessels to be built by individuals, and used for commercial purposes; the government to advance a portion of the cost, for which it will have a lien on the vessels, and in case of need, to take them entirely for government use on refunding the whole cost, or such portions as may be right; the vessels also to carry the mails while in the merchant service. As we understand it, this is not a war measure, or rather a *peace* measure, as Mr. Adams would say, but a plan for carrying the mails, as provided for last winter. The arrangement for the creation of steamers is capital; but if government is to extend its carrying letters to the ocean as a monopoly, then in our judgment it were much better that the steamers should never be built.—*Ibid.*

A letter from Washington, to the editor of the New York Express says—"There are rumours in the city of despatches last night received from Mexico, to the effect that the Mexican Government are in negotiation with France for the protection of her rights, honor and interests, and that in return for this, a French prince will be elevated to the throne of Mexico, to be hereafter established.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16th.—The correspondent of the Herald writes, we are all waiting the news per the Hibernia. It is understood that Cave Johnson is to have the news brought on by express from the steamer, and the action of this government, it is expected, will be shaped according to the temper of the Government of Great Britain.—If Sir Robert bullies, we have bullied, and shall bully him to his heart's content; if he scratches his head, and talks like a reasonable man, of a compromise, we shall be reasonable, and talk of a compromise. Sir Richard Packenham expects instructions, and Mr. Buchanan expects despatches, and the President expects that both the instructions and despatches will look to the line of 49. Mr. McLean is as ready for a compromise as Mr. Buchanan was last August. He has been exerting himself to such compromise, upon the "middle extreme" of Mr. Chipman, of the parallel from the Lake of the woods. The war spirit is subsiding into a common-sense view of the crisis; and by the time the smell of sulphur shall have been dissipated from the House, the subject will be put upon the anvil of the Senate, and hammered into an anchor that will hold fast.

Arbitration.—A writer in the New-York Evening Post says that, if the Oregon question is submitted to arbitration, it might be referred to the Pope of Rome "as the most impartial arbitrator to be found among the European sovereigns."

REVOLUTION IN MEXICO.—An arrival at New-Orleans from Tampico, with dates to the 1st inst. brings intelligence that the army had revolted against the government of Herara, the main ground of the revolt being hostility to the United States, and objections to Herara's peace policy.

The revolution in progress commenced with the "Army of Reserve," stationed at San Luis Potosi. On the 14th December, the Commandant-general of the department, D. Manuel Romero, invited to his residence at San Luis Potosi the superior and other officers of the Army of Reserve, as well as of the garrison of the department. Being there assembled, General Romero read to them a manifesto prepared for the occasion, in which the duties of the armed force of the country are well pointed out, but grave political evils are assigned to excuse themselves for the act they are about to commit.

The army names Gen. Paredes for its chief. To the document with the propositions, are attached the signatures of a great number of the officers of the army, commencing with Gen. Romero.

The solemn act of the army of reserve having been fully considered by the Governor and Assembly of the department of San Luis Potosi, was by them on the 14th December last, fully approved. They declare the movement to be entirely patriotic, and believe it will receive the sanction of the nation.

On the 20th of December, a meeting of the officers stationed at Tampico was held at the residence of Gen. D. Anastasio Parrodi, the Commandant-General of the department, and the proceedings of the army at San Luis were laid before them. They then approved, formally, the solemn act of the army, by affixing their names to a document, in which they recite that it is the only possible course to save the nation from the ruin into which it is succumbing through the apathy and incapacity of the administration.

They declare that the government has given unequivocal proof that it does not wish to make a campaign against Texas, thus opposing itself to the wishes of the nation; and that with the utmost effrontery, in the face of the entire world, it is treating with the United States for the sale of the territory of Texas, and perhaps that of the Californias. They then adopt as their own in every respect, the action of the Army of Reserve, and direct their proceeding to be communicated to Gen. Arista, and urgently intreat him to unite his forces to the army of Paredes, to secure the well-being of the republic. They invite the local and superior authorities of the department to join them, and order their action to be communicated to General Paredes, with the intimation that that place is henceforth entirely subject to his orders.

No act of violence whatever occcured. The plans of Paredes had been so fully matured, and the dissatisfaction with the government so unanimous, that there was none to oppose the revolt.

A letter received in town from a respectable commercial house, and dated on the 23d December, states that he had actually commenced his march upon the city of Mexico at the head of 6000 men, and expressed his opinion that the affair may be settled then.

The writer is of opinion that Paredes will refuse to treat with Mr. Sliddle, the U. S. Minister, and "probably declare a paper war and send him away."

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Flour is heavy—to fill up vessels for England, some 300 barrels of Genesee have been purchased at $5,75, but there now seems to be no demand for export except at lower rates.

Commercial Exchange, St. John.

SATURDAY, January 24.

Flour.—The news from England regarding the opening of the ports being doubtful, our market has not been affected; prices same as last week—Mill S'fine, 35s.; Philadelphia, 37s. 6d., Rye Flour, 28s. 9d.; Corn Meal, 22s. 6d.

Wheat.—Several lots have sold at 7s. 4½d.

Molasses—selling by retail at 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.

Sugar—Bright retailing, 40s. to 41s. 3d.

Tea.—Congou—1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d. for Common; 2s. 3d. for Fine.

Oil.—Pale Seal, 3s. 3d. Porpoise, 4s. 3d.

Exchange—on England, 9 per cent.; New-York, 1 per cent.

☞ The Mail for England, to meet the sailing of the Steamer from Halifax on the 3d of February, will be closed at the Post Office in this City on Saturday next, the 31st of January, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

MARRIED.

On Wednesday morning, by the Rev. Enoch Wood, Mr. James M. Robertson, to Amelia J., daughter of Mr. John Jones, all of this City.

At Saint Martins, on the 15th instant, by the Rev. John Mills, Mr. William Fownes, to Sarah, daughter of Simon Vaughan, Esq., all of that place.

At Christ Church, Maugerville, on the 22d December, by the Rev. J. M. Stirling, M. A., Mr. Charles Brown, of Maugerville, to Eliza, only daughter of F. A. DeVeber, Esq. of that place.

At the Parish of Lincoln, (Sunbury County,) on the 17th instant, by the Rev. Samuel Elder, Mr. W. Lewis Dingee, of Gagetown, to Miss Rebecca Seely, youngest daughter of Mr. Stephen Smith, of the former place.

At Nashwaaksis, on the 15th inst., by the Rev. W. C. Besls, Mr. William Fletcher, of St. Mary's, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Mr. David Pickard.

At Pictou, on the 14th instant, at the residence of Jas. Primrose, Esquire, by the Rev. C. Elliott, Rector of St. James, William B. Chandler, Esq. Barrister at Law, eldest son of the Hon. Edward B. Chandler, of Dorchester, New-Brunswick, to Ellen, only daughter of the late John Carritt, Esq. M. D., of Amherst, N. S.

At Trinity Church, Yarmouth, Nova-Scotia, on the 11th instant, by the Rev. H. L. Owen, Mr. John G. Bingay, Editor and Proprietor of the *Yarmouth Courier*, to Miss Sarah Eliza Hatfield, youngest daughter of the late Job Hatfield, Esq.

DIED.

In Portland, on Sunday morning last, after a painful illness, which she bore with resignation to the Divine will, Ann, wife of Mr. John Armstrong, aged 47 years—leaving a husband and two children to lament their loss.

On Wednesday last, at Wickham, Q. C., Mr. Mayes Case, in the 74th year of his age. Mr. C. was much respected in the community in which he lived, and by whom, and a very large circle of relations, his death is much regretted. He was one of the earliest inhabitants of the country, having arrived here when a lad, in 1783.

At St. Stephen's, on the 4th instant, of consumption, Miss Harriet Germ Weston, seventh daughter of Dr. Levi Weston, of that place, in the 19th year of her age.

At Fredericton, on the 18th inst. Mr. Wm. Monteith, aged 45 years, leaving a disconsolate wife and five children to lament their loss.

At Queensbury, on the 11th inst. Miss Elizabeth Cliff, daughter of Benjamin R. Cliff, in the 14th year of her age. She died after two days sickness.

At his residence at Penioc, St. Mary's, on the 21st January, Capt. Alex. Donald, in the 88th year of his age. He was a native of Aberdeen, Scotland, and (after visiting various parts of the world, and engaging in many conflicts in defence