The Courier.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1846.

IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.—The three Mails that have arrived from the United States since our last publication, have brought us, each in its turn, some intelligence of the proceedings in Congress relative to the Oregon question, but in none of them has the news been of so exciting a character, and at the same time so unexpected, as that of the speech which appears to have been made in the House of Representatives on Friday the 2d inst. by the Hon. John Quincy Adams, who, in politics, is opposed to President Polk's cabinet, but who seems to have exceeded the most ultra loco-foco in his desire for war, and in his anticipations of the result of such a conflict. Backed by the war-cry of such an auxiliary, who, on other subjects, is the mouth-piece of a large and respectable party in the United States, (we would fain hope not on this) we fear the powers that be at Washington will be disposed to exercise their grasping propensities to an extent beyond their former inclinations, and that no other course will be left for Great Britain but an appeal to arms in defence of her just rights.

In the Senate, on Monday, Dec. 20, Mr. Hannegan, of Indiana, introduced Resolutions relating to Oregon, viz.—" 1. That the country included within the parallels of 42 and 54 deg. 40 north latitude, and extending from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, known as the Territory of Oregon, is the property of, and part and parcel of the United States. 2. That there exists no power in the Government to transfer its soil and the allegiance of its citizens to the dominion, authority, control and subjection of any foreign Power, Prince, State or Sovereignty. 3. That the abandonment or surrender of any portion of the territoy of Oregon, would be an abandonment of the honor, character and best interests of the American people."

Mr. Levy, according to the wishes of several friends, asked and obtained leave to withdraw his resolution advising the President to negociate for the purchase of Cuba.

In the Senate, on Tuesday, Dec. 30, Mr. Hannegan's Oregon resolutions were taken up as the matter first in order, and he moved that they be printed, and made the order of the day for the third Monday in January. Mr. Calhoun opposed the motion, and spoke against the resolutions with great energy; said they declared the question could *not* be settled by negociation, and conveyed an implied censure upon the administration for offering the 49th line of parallel, as the boundary.—Mr. C. sustained the administration, and offered an amendment, declaring the full power of the President and Senate to make a treaty on the basis of the 49th degree, and recommending the renewal of the offer of that line. Mr. J. M. Clayton, of Delaware, thought that the Senate ought not to commit itself in advance of an anticipated treaty.

Mr. Calhoun on the termination of the Treaty with Great Britain respecting Oregon.—From the National Intelligencer's report of the conclusion of the debate on the resolutions of Mr. Hannegan, concerning the Oregon Boundary, which resulted in ordering them to lie on the table, we copy the following remarks of Mr. Calhoun—

I am resolved (said Mr. C.) that my meaning shall not be distorted. I made no war-cry; I asserted a simple proposition; and I submit to the Senator himself whether that proposition be not correct? I said that all those who denied that the question can be settled by treaty, meant that it should be settled at the cannon's mouth. Can any one deny this? Is there a man within the reach of my voice, who will dispute this assertion? And is this a war-cry, to announce what the Senator himself knows to be true?

By adopting these resolutions you deny the power of this government to settle the question by treaty; and, denying that power, you intend, as the only alternative, to resort to force. I make no war-cry nor peace-cry. I mean to assert that our duty obliges us to make an effort for a pacific adjustment of the question by negociation. I regard the honor and interests of this country as highly as any man can do, but I will not be precipitated into measures which I solemnly believe will lead us into a war, that may be, I hope, honorably avoided.

Sir, I do not intend to anticipate the discussion which will arise upon the resolution of the Senator from Ohio, in relation to the termination of the treaty. I am ready for that discussion, whenever it may come up; and I hold the Senator to be mistaken in that the propositions now submitted have no connexion with his own; for if, in point of fact, we cannot settle the question by treaty, under the constitution of this country, it is of little import ance whether notice be given or not. But if it can be settled by negociations, if peace can be preserved consistently with the national honor, there may be powerful reasons against the adoption of the resolution of the Senator from Ohio, as I shall be prepared to shew when that resolution comes up.

[*Correspondence of the Boston Courier.*]

WASHINGTON, January 2.—There was no Session in the Senate to-day, and a quiet Session was anticipated in the House of Representatives, but the journal had hardly been read, when members rose, with various propositions bearing upon the Oregon question. The House were divided in opinion as to the day which had been set apart for the consideration of the Oregon Bill, reported by Mr. Douglas, from the Committee on Territories. The Committee understood the first Tuesday in January to have been named, but most of the members understood the *second* Tuesday. The debate was therefore, by a vote of the House, postponed to the latest day. Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, made an effort to bring the House to a more just decision of the question, by the introduction of a Resolution, declaring that the Committee of the Whole shall be discharged from the consideration of the Oregon Bill, and its various sections referred to the Committees appointed to examine the subjects reported upon in the Bill—that, for example, which gives the one year's notice, to the Committee on Foreign Relations,—that, giving away the public domain, to the Committee on Public Lands, &c. The House refused to suspend the rules.

The most important proposition came from Mr. Cunningham, of Ohio, who moved a suspension of the rules, for the reception of the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas the rejection, by the British Government, of the liberal proposition lately made by the President of the United States, to compromise and settle the respective claims of the two countries to the Oregon Territory, has terminated all negotiations on that subject;

"And whereas, by the extraordinary and inadmissable demands of the British Government, it is made manifest that no compromise which the United States ought to accept, can be effected;

"And whereas the title of the United States to the whole of the Oregon country, included within the parallels of 42 degrees, and 54 degrees, 40 minutes, north latitude, and extending from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, is "clear and unquestionable," and that any further attempt on the part of the United States, to settle such title by a surrender of any portion of said country, would be a surrender of the honour, the dignity, and the true interests of the American people. Wherefore,

"Be it resolved, that it is the imperative duty of Congress to adopt, immediately, such measures as will fully protect our citizens, who now do, or may hereafter, inhabit that country, and effectually maintain our just title to the whole of the Territory of Oregon."

The House refused to suspend the rules to receive these resolutions—Ayes 75, nays 89. Mr. Adams, however, voted for the suspension: and upon another question, at the close of the day, produced a most profound impression by the character of his remarks. The Committee on Military Affairs, had reported a Bill for raising two regiments of mounted riflemen, and to give the President discretionary powers for adding a few more to each of the regiments of infantry, dragoons and artillery.—The mover of the Bill asked that it should be made the special order of the day for Tuesday next. Objections were raised, and at a late hour, in consequence, a most important debate arose upon the merits of the question. Mr. Douglas, of Illinois, made the first allusion to war, and said that, but for the Canadian possessions of Great Britain, she would strike a blow against us to-morrow. He was for extending military and civil jurisdiction over the territory at once, and called upon the Committees who ought to have charge of this subject, to act at once. Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, argued that the one year's notice would result in war, and that, if the notice was given, he should at once vote $20,000 000 for the defences of the country. Mr. C. J. Ingersoll expressed the belief that no such result would come from the notice—and here Mr. Adams rose, and all was silent as death. I have no time, before the mail closes, to give you a sketch of his speech, and can only allude to it, with the remark, that it has created a most profound impression here, and has been hailed by the Western members, and particularly those of the dominant party, with almost a paroxysm of joy. Mr. Adams said that, he was for giving the one year's notice at once,—to-day, if it could be done; that he would have given it at the beginning of the session, if he could. At the end of the twelve months alluded to in the Treaty, he was for taking possession of the whole of Oregon. He had voted to give the notice last year, and he was ready to give it now. Nor did he believe that war would follow from the notice; but if war did—which, he hoped in God, would not—with the hearts of the people united in our defence, and a united hand, he had no fears for the consequence. The term of it would be short, and we should soon be left in quiet possession of Oregon: but until the notice is given, said Mr. Adams, such is my respect for treaties, that I will not vote for one cent for fortifications, or for the army or navy.

The House adjourned as Mr. Adams closed.

BIBLE SOCIETY.

The Anniversary Meeting of the *New Brunswick Auxiliary Bible Society* was held last Wednesday evening, in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute,—His Honor, Judge Parker, the President of the Society, in the Chair. The Hall, we believe, was never so crowded on any occasion before. The scene was exciting, and the whole proceedings truly enlivening. The President's opening Address, the Committee's Report, and the Speeches delivered in support of various Resolutions, were all well calculated to impress the audience with the vast importance and usefulness of the Bible Society, and the imperious necessity of aiding the circulation of the Scriptures through all countries and among all people. Two very appropriate hymns were sung, one at the commencement of the proceedings, and the other intermediately between the third and fourth resolutions, and in this service, the audience received the able and valued assistance of members of the Sacred Music Society. The collection, made in aid of the funds, amounted to £15 14s. 4d.

The President, in his opening address, after alluding to the title of the Society as sufficiently indicating that it was Auxiliary to another, that great body whose name was spread throughout the world, "*The British and Foreign Bible Society,*" spoke of the period and circumstances in which that institution was formed—the simplicity, yet vast and overpowering importance of its object, namely, the sending the Holy Scriptures, the only authentic written record of the Revelation of God to man, without addition, to all people, nations, and tribes, in their own native language;—that the Bible Society sought not to swallow up other Societies, or interfere with their operations, much less to intrude on the office of the ministry or supersede the labours of missionaries—it was a distributor not an expounder of the Scriptures. The President then referred to the two leading rules of the Parent Society, as clearly declaring its object and principles; and in answer to objections, which from time to time were made to the Society, urged on every member, and every person favourable to its object, to search and satisfy himself on these points,—

1st,—That such a Society as this was proper, expedient, and necessary.

2d,—That the benefits which had resulted from its formation up to the present time fully realized the expectations of its founders, and evinced that the Divine Blessing had been vouchsafed to the Society.

3dly.—That such advantages, direct and incidental, still attended it, as justified and required us to support and extend it.

On the first point—reference was made to the general and increasing destitution of the Bible not in Heathen and Mahometan countries only—not in Foreign Christian countries, nor in the British Colonies and distant Dominions alone; but in the United Kingdom itself, in the centre of the country, in the very heart of its metropolis,—a destitution which the then existing Societies could not supply,—the incumbent duty there was of endeavouring to supply it, and the necessity of combined operation,—the readiness of many persons to aid in circulating the Bible, who yet had objections to joining the old Societies,—the importance of persons of various denominations agreeing to adopt the authorised English version, and uniting in the work of translating the Bible into foreign tongues; and especially the promotion of brotherly kindness and Christian charity, by finding some common ground on which all who hold to the Bible as the Standard of Truth and open to all, might come together, not into an arena of discord and controversy, but into a field of amity and concord, and this was effected by the Bible Society without any sacrifice of opinion, or violence to religious principle.

On the second point—the benefits which had resulted from the Society;—it was stated that nearly seventeen million copies of the Bible and Testament, in 138 different languages and dialects, had been issued, at a cost of over three millions of pounds sterling,—that there were now 428 Auxiliary Societies in England, and 3550 associations in the United Kingdom,—in the Colonies, 65 Auxiliaries, and 497 associations. Discreet and zealous agents had been sent to most places in Europe, and to many other parts of the world, to open or discover channels for the introduction of the Bible. Various Bible Societies had sprung up in foreign countries, of all which the British and Foreign Society might be considered the Parent. Bible Societies in France had issued near 400,000 Bibles and Testaments—in Northern Europe, nearly 900,000,—in Prussia, nearly one million,—in Russia, over a million and a half,—in Switzerland, Greece, and Italy, nearly 600,000,—in India, nearly 1,400,000,—in the United States of America, over 3,700,000. There were in all, 61 Foreign Societies, which have issued over eleven millions; and these added to the issues of our Parent Society, made a total of very nearly *twenty-eight millions of Bibles and Testaments;* and all this within a period of forty years. Nor had the Societies in England in the mean time been idle; they had been stimulated to further exertion, their funds had increased, and their operations enlarged.

But the Bible Society had not merely to speak of the distribution of Bibles; there were incontestible proofs of the blessings flowing from them, in the improvement of Settlements and families, the aid to Schools and Missions, and, what was of the highest interest, the conversion of many souls to God, in various places, by the perusal of the Scriptures alone—the Bible reached where no Missionary could gain access.

If what had been stated was true, and facts had been given without exaggeration, could any one doubt as to the last point, and say—the Bible Society was not still entitled to confidence and support?—was there any period at which her prospects were brighter, the calls for her exertions more powerful, or her means better applied?—Will you now abandon it?—Will any one take the responsibility of paralyzing this great body; stopping the progress of this vast machinery, and after so much has been done, leave undone the still infinitely greater work that remained?—Can any lover of the Bible wish that this Society had never existed?—Whatever doubt or distrust might remain, would, he trusted, be removed by hearing the interesting particulars detailed in the Report.

The President concluded by observing that an Association of this sort, no doubt, required prudence, discretion, and forbearance to temper the zeal of its advocates, who, sincere in their own opinion, differed from each other in many points of doctrine and of discipline. But it was found men might meet together on this platform in peace as in the ordinary walks of life—and surely the field was wide enough and fair enough for us to occupy without collision. He trusted that all would go away this night more and more convinced that the Bible Society had been instrumental, and may yet be still more so, in advancing the glory of God, and extending truth, and peace, and charity among mankind.

In the Report, which was read by the Secretary, there was a series of narratives, bearing testimony to the progress of the Bible, and its power, under God, its Divine Author, in producing many wonderful vital changes, in individuals and communities, in various parts of the world. Several of these are alluded to in the speeches which we have given below. The sad intelligence was likewise conveyed that the Branch Societies, in connection with the Auxiliary, had almost all fallen into decay. Two, or three at most, were said to be in some state of vigour; those at Milkish, K. C. and Cumberland, N. S. and perhaps that at Grand Lake. It was considered a matter of consolation and encouragement, however, that applications are made, almost daily, at the Depository, both from town and country, for supplies of the Scriptures. The Ladies' Bible Association was noticed for its steady adherence to the cause, and the unwearied assiduity of its collectors. Several of the wards of the City and Portland had been visited by members of the Committee for the purpose of supplying the destitute with the Scriptures. One Donation of £5 had been received from a member of the Sackville Branch, who, in his letter, laments the general disinclination of the people to support the Society, while they are willing enough to participate in its benefits.

The Resolutions, which followed the reading of the Report, were as follows:—

1. Moved by Hon. W. B. Kinnear, and seconded by Rev. E. J. Harris,—That the Report, which has just been read, be received and printed under the direction of the Committee.

2. Moved by Rev. James Reid Lawson, and seconded by Mr. Joseph W. Lawrence,—That the benefits which continue to flow so abundantly from the labours of the British and Foreign Bible Society call for a devout and thankful acknowledgment, that the Divine blessing has hitherto attended the operations of the Society.

3. Moved by Rev. S. Robinson, and seconded by Mr. Gilbert T. Ray,—That this Meeting learn with great satisfaction, that measures have been adopted by the Committee and partly completed, for ascertaining what families or individuals in the City and its vicinity are destitute of the Scriptures, and for supplying them to all who are willing to receive them.

4. Moved by Rev. I. W. D. Gray, A. M. Rector of the Parish, and seconded by Mr. S. L. Tilley,—That this Meeting fully recognize the rule and principle of the Bible Society to be—to *add its efforts to those of other Societies* for the circulating of the Holy Scriptures throughout the British Dominions, and conveying the knowledge of God's Holy Word to the other regions of the earth.

5. Moved by Rev. A. Halket, A. M. and seconded by Rev. J. C. Gallaway, A. M.—That we cannot pass unnoticed the zeal, liberality, and energy, with which the American Bible Society has carried on its domestic labours, and co-operated with our Parent Society in the distribution of the Scriptures in Foreign Parts; we hail with joy the union of the two greatest commercial nations upon earth in the great work of Bible circulation.

6. Moved by Beverley Robinson, Esq. and seconded by Mr. S. Owen.—That the following gentlemen compose the Committee of Management for the ensuing year:—S. Huyghue, Esq. John Kinnear, Esq. John Wishart, Esq. Samuel Bayard, Esq. Alfred Smithers, Esq. J. T. Smith, Esq. Messrs. N. S. Demill, Gilbert T. Ray, Alex. Robertson, S. Hallett, Jas. Agnew, John Harding, W. D. W. Hubbard. W. A. Robertson, Robert Jardine, J. W. M'Leod, T. S. Harding. J. M. Hamilton, Joseph Robinson, George A. Garrison. For Portland—Messrs. J. Owens, J. Duncan, S. L. Tilley. C. Waterbery, and Alex. M'L. Seely. For Carleton—George Bond, Esq. and Mr. Robert Salter.

The Hon. Mr. KINNEAR, in moving the first Resolution, said—

It is now forty-one years, Sir, since that great Society of which this Auxiliary is an humble member, was first formed in England. During that period, nearly 17,000,000 of copies of the Scriptures have been put in circulation through its instrumentality; and its increasing prosperity may be judged of by this, that while the average of its circulation would not amount to quite half a million annually, the last year it had exceeded 900,000 copies—very nearly a million. You, Sir, have called this Society great; and the vastness of its operations, as detailed by yourself and by the highly interesting Report just read, most certainly prove it to be so. But there are two or three other points of view from which that fact may be proved. It is great—from the simplicity and grandeur of its object—from the country whence it originated, and from the exhibition of the wisdom and beneficence of that Being who put it into the hearts of British Christians to devise the scheme. The *simplicity* of its object is evinced by the circulation of the Sacred Volume *without the comment of man.* The highest order of intellect—the deepest piety—the most enlarged knowledge—all have failed in a perfect agreement with regard to the interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures;—I thank God this has not been so with fundamentals; but still there are unhappy differences, while on the cover of every volume that is sent from the depositories of the Bible Society may almost be found written, "God is his own interpreter, and will make all things plain." Let us look for a moment at the grandeur of its object. The very name of the Society proclaims it, "The British and *Foreign* Bible Society." It has no confined, I had almost said illiberal views. It is as large as the wants of a bleeding world. That late pious and excellent Prince, King George the Third, was known to have expressed a wish that no family in his dominions should be destitute of a Bible. Such a wish was kingly indeed. But the desire of this Society is imperial,—that all the *families of man* may have the Bible. Wherever the immortal mind can be discovered, there should a copy of this Book be found; and on unfolding its sacred pages, there might be read these consoling words, "Life and immortality are brought to light by the Gospel."—I said it was great, from the country whence it sprung. That country is England—our father land. What patriotic bosom beats not while the name is pronounced! Pre-eminent in arts—in arms—in science—in that chastened and enlightened freedom, which gives to others what it asks for itself,—pre-eminent in all those noble and philanthropic institutions which advance the glory of God and relieve the wants of man. A country, among the last because the most distant islands of the West to receive the Gospel, now destined by the Most High to roll back the tide of divine light through countries dark with a merely nominal and corrupted Christianity, till it reach the shores of that very land where those miracles were performed, and those doctrines and precepts delivered by the Son of God himself; and thence to all parts of the world. This country, so favoured of God, sheds lustre on this noble Institution, while that again reflects lustre upon England. Let it be our pride and our happiness to cherish our connection with both—I have observed that it is also an exhibition of the wisdom and beneficence of God. There are times, and places, and circumstances where the voice of the Missionary cannot be heard—the living man is spurned, is neglected, or is driven away; but the quiet and unobtrusive volume steals into places and under circumstances the most unfavourable, and, when accompanied by the "still small voice of the Spirit," into hearts the most obdurate. Doubtless there are numerous instances of this to be found in that interesting Report, and the circumstances I am about to relate are striking illustrations of this branch of my argument. I shall proceed to mention them. On looking over some of the monthly extracts of the Society, I discovered a letter written by a Mr. Butly, addressed to the Secretaries, in which he refers to an interesting period of his own life in connection with the Bible Society. He observes that in 1811 or 1812, about seven or eight years after its formation, a number of its Bibles were sent on board different fleets of the British Navy, and among the rest some came on board his vessel, a man-of-war, in which he held an office. The kind-hearted Captain besought the men to read their Bibles, instead of their immoral books, and distributed them among the crew. The writer got one, and as he had heard it read by his parents in early life, although ever since he had been a wild and wicked young man, a sensation of pleasure stole over his mind. He read it with diligence—with prayer,—he came to the 11th of Hebrews, and was perfectly astonished to find, as he said, "it was by faith this—by faith that—and by faith the other"—until, entirely overcome and changed by its sacred truths, he became a new man. It was his consolation through subsequent dangers on board his vessel, and when he honorably could, he sought a peaceful repose on land, and is now an active though humble distributor of those sacred Truths which were thus the means, through this inestimable Society, of enlightening and rescuing him.—Again:

You know, sir, the extraordinary history of Tahiti, one of the fair islands of the Pacific Ocean. You are aware that, after sixteen years of toil, the faithfulness and patience of the Missionaries were crowned with the most wonderful success. The whole island became Christian—became civilized—many of them real converts to the Truth. Everything went on prosperously and happily, till in an evil hour a French fleet sailed to that distant Ocean, with Missionaries of another character on board, and there Governor Bruat managed to entrap their Queen, Pomare, into an acknowledgment of French protection, from which, deeming it to be a cruel fraud, both the Queen and people afterwards revolted. She fled on board a British vessel, and the noble and manly, and Protestant people to their mountain fastnesses, determined there to struggle for their religion, their freedom, and their country. But before going, they said to the Missionaries—'Here are our Bibles, keep them till we have conquered our enemies, then we will return and keep them." They had not been long gone, however, before they returned and begged for their Bibles again. "Oh!" said they, "We cannot tell how long we may be detained in the mountains—you cannot come to us—let us have our Bibles again, they are now our only consolation and support."

Your Report, Sir, contains many animating details, and takes a survey of the Society's operations throughout the world. I have time to notice but two or three prominent objects.—Here the Honorable Gentleman, after remarking on the interesting state of France at present, and comparing it with what France was before and after the Revolution, and glancing at the mysterious Providence which, in China, out of evil educed good—referring to the Opium question—the war—the defeat and subjection of the Chinese Emperor, and the present favourable political state of the country for the reception of the Gospel, concluded by observing,—" When, Sir, we view this last great opening for Bible circulation in a country of 300,000,000 of people—when we behold the rapid advance of science, in the application of Steam, both by water and by land—when we perceive that what at no very distant period took months to accomplish, is now done by weeks, and what now takes weeks may speedily be performed in as many days—when we look at the amazing rapidity of railway communication:—have we not reason to anticipate the time as near at hand, when distant nations shall be to each other as no further separated than remote parts of the same country—when Bibles, and missionaries and religious intelligence shall pass into every part of the world with equal ease and rapidity—when men of different climes and languages shall become, from convenience and necessity, as well as from the wide spread of Gospel principles, willing to live on terms of amity, and "shall learn the art of war no more"—and when the time shall arrive so beautifully described by the Christian poet—

"All creatures worship man, and all mankind
One Lord, one Father; Error has no place,
The breath of Heaven has chased it. In the heart,
No passion touches a discordant string,
But all is harmony and love.
One song employs all nations; and all cry
Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain for us.
The dwellers in the vales and on the rocks
Shout to each other, and the mountain tops,
From distant mountains catch the flying joy;
Till, nation after nation taught the strain,
Earth rolls the rapturous Hosanna round."

Mr. K. concluded by moving that the Report be received, and printed under the direction of the Committee.

In moving the second Resolution, the Rev. Mr. LAWSON spoke as follows:—

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel deeply grateful for the kindness conferred upon me, a mere stranger, in being invited to take part in the proceedings of this respectable and influential meeting. It is, also, to me a source of heart-felt gratification, to witness such a large assemblage of individuals congregated on this occasion, to aid the efforts and encourage the exertions of the *British and Foreign Bible Society.*

I cannot for a moment imagine, that you are assembled here to-night, merely to gratify an idle curiosity, but that you have come forward to strengthen the hands and encourage the hearts of those who labour for the extension of the knowledge of Christ, and him crucified.

I am, furthermore, much gratified to meet on this platform, persons of different religious denominations, and, no doubt, of different political sentiments. There is one feature in the organization and operations of the Bible Society, which cannot fail to recommend it to the prayers and sympathies of every right-hearted Christian, and which cannot fail to ensure its ultimate success, and that feature is, that it is not *sectarian.* The Society, which we are met this night to encourage and support, is neither Episcopal, Presbyterian, nor Independent: it is neither Whig nor Tory, Radical nor Conservative—but it is *Christian.* It is Christian in its organization—Christian in its operations, and Christian in its objects. it is established on the broad basis of our common Christianity, and, therefore, I the more cheerfully encourage its efforts, and come forward this night to bid it '*God speed*' and, ni the name of the Lord, wish it to be blessed.

The Resolution which has been put into my hands, and which I have the honour to propose for your adoption, is to the following effect:

"That the benefits which continue to flow so abundantly from the labours of the British and Foreign Bible Society, call for a devout and thankful acknowledgment, that the divine blessing has hitherto attended the operations of the Society."

This is a Resolution which requires no language of mine to recommend it to your hearty concurrence. It tells us that good has been effected,—that the most salutary results continue still to flow, whilst it points us to the efficient cause of such results,—the blessing of the Divine Spirit accompanying the Society's operations. In the Report which has been read by your esteemed Secretary, you have been favoured with a condensed view of the transactions and triumphs of the Society, during the past year, and is there a sincere lover of the truth as it is in Jesus, whose heart will not rise in gratitude to the God of the Bible, for that measure of success, which has hitherto crowned the efforts of the Society, and who will not exclaim, in accents of devout and adoring praise,—"The Lord hath done great things for us, of which we are glad."

On one occasion, when the Israelites of old had obtained a signal triumph over their inveterate enemies—the Philistines—we are told that "Samuel took a stone, and set between Mizpeh and Sheu, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, hitherto hath the Lord helped us." In circumstances, not altogether different, are we assembled this night, to raise a similar memorial, and inscribe thereon.—" Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Like Samuel and the Israelites, the Bible Society has had many enemies to combat—many difficulties to overcome. Like Samuel and the Israelites, it has obtained signal victories—the entrance of God's Word has given light to many a sin-bedarkened soul, and multitudes who remained in the wretchedness and hopelessness of spiritual death, have, through the instrumentality of the Society's operations, been breathed upon by the Spirit of God, and ushered into the light and liberty of spiritual life.

Samuel also recognized the hand of Israel's God in all his victories; his language was not—hitherto have our own hands gotten us the victory: hitherto have we, by our own valour and military prowess, discomfited our foes; but his language was—" hitherto hath the *Lord* helped us"—in His name have we gone forth against the enemy, in His name have we fought, and by His help have we conquered;—recognizing the hand of God in the blessed results accompanying the Society's operations, the language of our hearts would be,—" Not unto us, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy and thy truth's sake"—" Not by might, not by power, but by thy Spirit, O Lord."

Samuel, furthermore, in the erection of the stone of memorial, humbly depended on Israel's God for future victories.—Hitherto hath the Lord helped us, and he will help us still; hitherto hath he fought our battles, and in his name, and by his help, we will go on until we obtain ultimate victory—and has not the Bible Society the utmost encouragement to "trust in God, for in Jehovah is everlasting strength." There remaineth yet much land to be possessed, and he that hath blessed and prospered the cause hitherto will continue to bless it; and if we go forward in humble dependence on the God of all grace, he will continue to help us,—he will continue to make crooked places straight, and rough places smooth, until "the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the seas."

In moving the third Resolution, the Rev. Mr. ROBINSON said—

We live in an age in which God is accomplishing his designs of mercy in the translation and circulation of his Word. We have been informed in the opening address of the President that the Society of which we are an auxiliary, has, since its formation, circulated sixteen million copies of the Holy Scriptures.

The Saviour compares the world to a field, and his Word to seed sown in that field—" The field is the world, the seed is the Word of God." The reflection, that in so short a portion of time so much of the incomparable seed has been sown, is comforting to every Christian mind. We may be led to inquire, may not that seed perish, and not bring forth fruit to the honour and glory of God? No! It is said, "Cast thy bread on the waters, and it shall be found after many days." The author of this Holy Book has promised—" For as the rain cometh down and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth, it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereunto I sent it." The Prophet was commanded to cry, and he said, what shall I cry?—"Cry, all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass; the grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away, but the word of the Lord endureth forever." Yes, the proudest monument of human grandeur may moulder to the dust, and men may perish and die; but God's word is incorruptible—it will live and endure for ever.

The strongest opposition this Society has had to encounter, was an opposition from a large body bearing the Christian name, who assert that it is wrong to give the Word of God to the common people, without giving with it an authoritative comment of their Church; which comment, they affirm, should be received as the truth as much as the text itself. The Saviour has denounced all who take from or add to his word.

Shall we stop circulating the Scriptures, or shall we go on in giving God's word to the world? If it was proposed to withhold from men, bread—the staff of life—and leave them to perish for want of food, would not every humane mind treat with contempt such a proposal? But let such an attempt be made rather than attempt to keep from men the bread of life. If there was a design to stop the fountain of water which is supplying to such an extent our city, and to cut off every other way of supplying our city with water—would not all men unite in condemning such an act of cruelty? But rather keep from the people that water than to keep from them the waters of life.

The arrogance of any class of men in saying that they are the only persons whom God has designed to have his Word, is as absurd as if a body of men should assert that the sun was only designed for them, and not for the ignorant and the rude. The savage may look up to the sun and call it his own, with as much propriety as the refined philosopher—the abject slave, as the potent prince. So with God's Word, which is as a sun, to be as a light to our feet and a lamp to our path.

Let us give the Bible to all men, for it is their privilege to have it, and it is our duty to give it to them. Give it, for it is God's Book—every other book is man's book, but this is God's—O let us give it to all! With these remarks I would move the Resolution I have read.

In moving the fourth Resolution, the Rev. Mr. GRAY spoke as follows:—

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The evening is too far advanced to admit of my enlarging upon topics extraneous to the Resolution that has been entrusted to me. I may, however, be permitted to express a hope, that the year we have so lately entered upon may prove a happy one for this useful society, a happy one for its interests in this community and every other where its claims are known. In your opening remarks, Sir, in the Report and the speeches that have followed, enough has been said to justify such a hope. We have heard some statements this evening, which it is truly cheering to listen to, and I am heartily glad, that notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, so many are present, to hear the powerful testimonies that have been given us, to the permanent and expanding usefulness of this Society.

Ladies and Gentlemen!—I have it in charge, this evening, to call your attention to one of the fundamental laws of the Parent Institution, and to point out to you the principle upon which it is carried into effect.

I have in my hands the last Report of the Parent Society. Under the head of Laws and Regulations the second is as follows—" This Society shall add " its endeavours to those employed by other socie- " ties, for circulating the Scriptures through the " British Dominions; and shall also, according to " its ability, extend its influence to other countries, " whether Christian, Mahometan, or Pagan."

We have here defined for us, the *sphere* upon which this Society was designed to act. That sphere comprehends, in the first place, *the British Dominions*—and these alone, if its efforts extended no further, would be no contracted field. It has of late been made a subject of complaint, that "a little narrow Island on the Western Coast of Europe, should exercise sovereignty over one-eighth of the Globe, and give laws to one-fifth part of its population." There is, perhaps, a little amplification in this statement, but supposing it even an approximation to truth, it must be confessed that these Dominions comprise a sphere by no means contracted or insignificant. It must demand the efforts of a great and powerful institution to cover with Bibles such a field as this. But the efforts of this Society are not limited to the British Dominions. It "extends its influence," as you perceive from the Rule I have just read to you, "to other countries, whether Christian, Mahometan or Pagan"; in other words, to the *whole human family.* Its field is the world. Its scope is man, man in every successive generation, in every nation in every clime, the swarthy African, the subtle Hindoo, the wandering Arab, the enlightened European, and the wretched Savage, who, amidst the mountain snows and the forest caves, in the wilds of this continent, lingers out a miserable existence, scarcely elevated in point of intellect or moral habits above the brutes that perish. Such is the expanded field upon which it proposes to act!

I am more anxious, however, at present, to bring under your notice the *principle* upon which it proceeds in this vast undertaking. "This Society," the Rule before us says, "*shall add its endeavours to those employed by other societies,* for circulating the Scriptures throughout the British Dominions." "It shall *add its endeavours* to those employed by other Societies," in other words, it shall be, not an *antagonist,* but an *auxiliary* to other kindred Societies, as well existing ones at the time of its formation as those which might be subsequently established. The Bible Society was formed, as you have been reminded this evening, in 1804.—There were at that time other Societies, great and good Societies, in existence. Some of these were formed for *Missionary* purposes. There was the Church Missionary Society, and the London Missionary Society, each of them formed only a few years before it, and there was a far older Society than either of them—"the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," which received its charter in the reign of William the Third, a hundred years before. But these, you perceive, were instituted for the purpose of sending out Missionaries, and were not what we mean by Bible Societies. There were also, at that time, Societies for the printing and distribution of religious Books. The oldest of these, indeed of any that have been named was "the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge," which was formed as far back as 1698, for the purpose of circulating Bibles, Prayer-books, and other religious books and tracts. This Society possessed a large income; its operations were widely extended, both in Great Britain and her Dependencies, and was no doubt a blessing to thousands who would otherwise have been left without religious instruction. This was indeed a Bible Society, but not *simply* a Bible Society. As a large portion of its funds must necessarily be expended in the printing and circulating other publications, it could not, however excellent its tendency, meet the increasing demand for Bibles, within the limits of Great Britain, still less in her dependencies, and still less than all, in the other regions of the earth. And when the happy period arrived in which Sunday-schools came into operation, a far stronger and more extended desire for possessing and reading the Scriptures was excited, which no existing Society could meet. And here, my friends! you have the history of the origin of the *Bible Society.* It was under these circumstances that it came into being. It was under these considerations that the necessity was felt of forming another Society with an object so simple that all who received the Scriptures as of Divine authority could join in it, and yet so vast and comprehensive that whatever other Societies might engage in the holy design, they might all pursue their way without collision or jealousy. I repeat it, you have here the origin of the British and Foreign Bible Society. It came forth not to impede, not to retard, not to supersede other Institutions, but "to *add its endeavours*" to theirs, in circulating the Scriptures of God.

It is of importance, my friends! that we should recognize distinctly the regulation to which I have referred and the principle upon which it proceeds.

It is of importance, in the first place, in order that we may rightly estimate the *value of this institution.* How, indeed, with its magnificent design before our eyes, can we estimate it too highly?—What a noble object does it propose, viz.: of conveying the Scriptures to the whole human family! Possibly it may wear to us, at first sight, some appearance of presumption to expect the accomplishment of such a project. But, in truth, it is only an act of reliance upon God to bless an undertaking which we believe to be in full accordance with his will. And have we not already before us the accumulated evidence of facts, to shew that his blessing rests upon it? It has existed now for more than forty years. During all this time it has been gathering strength. The stream has been flowing onward to the remotest regions of the earth, and growing deeper and broader as it has flowed. And what has it done on its course? Why it has carried on its bosom nearly seventeen millions of Bibles and Testaments to the different nations of the world. Every year it adds another million to the number. Already by means of its translations it has rendered the Bible accessible to three-fifths of the human race. And who, at this point, shall arrest its course? Who shall prevent the three-fifths from becoming five-fifths? Who shall prevent the one million from becoming ten or fifty millions, or the seventeen from becoming six hundred or a thousand millions, as many, in short, as the inhabitants of the earth? Whatever may be its destiny, its design is noble, its results are glorious, and it is desirable that we should recognise them as such, that we may duly estimate the value of the institution.

It is important that the principles of this Society, to which I have alluded, should be recognised, that we may see the propriety of adhering with unshaken attachment to it, notwithstanding we may feel it our duty to unite with *other* societies that are formed for similar designs. We have seen that this institution is not opposed to other societies; therefore other societies, of a kindred nature, need not be opposed to it. It is by no means necessary because others are formed in our community for the benefit of our Province or any other place, that our interest in this should decline. On the contrary, I think, it ought to increase. For, why do we form such other societies? Because we feel our Christian responsibility to extend to others the religious blessings we enjoy. Well, my friends, carry out this principle. Act upon it fully. Endeavour to extend the blessings you enjoy, not merely to your own vicinity, but to the world. I repeat it, carry out this principle, or rather suffer it to carry you as far as it will go, and it will conduct you, not one or two hundred miles, but round the circumference of the globe—not to the bounds of a Province, but "from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the earth." In urging this point, I only express what I feel myself and intend to act upon. I have lately become a member of another Society which has been formed for the purpose of extending the gospel more widely in our Province; but this, instead of lessening my attachment to the Bible Society, has only led me to appreciate more highly its distinctive claims.—Sir! I value this Society, because it opens a way for me to communicate with the most distant, and most abject of the human family. I value it because it tends to union and not to divisions. I value it because it recognises the great principle of Christian responsibility, a principle upon which Christians will have to act more fully and more unitedly, before the Gospel attains its final triumph. I value it, Sir, because the good have loved it and the Lord has blessed it; and, lastly, I value it, because, in perfect harmony with its spirit, I can join in other kindred Societies, and yet cling with undiminished affection to an institution, which I do regard, and shall ever regard, as an honour to our nation and a blessing to the world.

The Rev. Mr. HALKET, in moving the fifth Resolution, spoke to the following effect:—

The resolution, which I have the honor to submit for the consideration and approval of the meeting is to the following effect:—'That we cannot pass unnoticed the zeal, liberality, and energy, with which the American Bible Society has carried on its domestic labours, and co-operated with our parent Society in the distribution of the Scriptures to foreign parts. We look forward with joy to the union of the two greatest commercial nations upon earth, in the great work of Bible circulation!' This resolution, it will at once be observed, is naturally divided into two parts. In connection with the American Bible Society, it refers with satisfaction to the results of the past, and it looks forward with delight to the proceedings of the future. It calls on us to notice the good which has already been effected by the agency of the kindred institution established and maintained among our neighbouring brethren; and it carries forward our thoughts to the still greater good which may reasonably be anticipated from friendly co-operation and united effort. As a resolution, therefore, breathing the very spirit of the blessed Book which it is our object and desire to disseminate through the world, it is certainly worthy of our cordial approbation. It implies and it proclaims, that in labouring for the accomplishment of the mighty work in which we are engaged, we are animated by no hostile feelings of rivalship and jealousy; that we are not selfishly aiming at honour for ourselves, but are earnestly seeking the glory of God; that while devoted to the interests, and anxious for the success, and humbly rejoicing in the prosperity of our own parent Society, we are ready to extend the hand of brotherly kindness and fellowship to all who are occupied in striving for the advancement of the same glorious objects, in struggling for the attainment of the same blessed ends. It proceeds upon the fact, that in the work of Bible circulation there is neither a boundary line to divide, nor disputed territory to irritate, nor national pride to exasperate; but that, amidst the din of earthly politics and the strife of earthly passion, there is here at least one quiet sphere, in which Christians, hand in hand and heart with heart, may live and labour in unity and love. There is a boundary line, it is true,—but it is the line which separates between light and darkness, and it is our common object that it may be pierced and penetrated by the beams of truth; there is a disputed territory, it is true—but it is the territory which is disputed between Christ and Satan, and it is our common aim that it may become the property of the Prince of Peace. And when we are told, that while *we* have been striving to cross that line, some breaches have been effected in it by the agency of others; that while *we* have been labouring, in the name of our Master, to take possession of that territory, some parts of it have been gained by the instrumentality of our brethren; O surely we should hail the announcement of the fact with mingled feelings of gratitude and joy. It is by sympathy of interest and union of operation that the cause in which we are embarked can best be promoted; and it is certain, that if we prefer the honour of the instrument to the glory of the Saviour: if we are inclined to disparage the efforts and to be jealous of the success and prosperity of others, we are unworthy of the banner under which we are enrolled, and unfitted for the work which we profess it our desire that we may be enabled to achieve. In the spirit of this resolution, therefore, let us be thankful for the zeal, liberality and energy which the American Bible Society has exhibited; and while we differ from our brethren in nation and in name, let us cherish towards them the feelings of Christian sympathy and affection. As servants of the same Master, let us consider one another, to provoke unto love and to good works; and let it be the only ground and subject of holy emulation between us, which shall be most zealous for the glory of God, which shall do most for the cause of God. O if there were more of this spirit among those who are engaged in the work of Missionary enterprise and Bible circulation—more of the heavenly charity which beareth all things, and believeth all things, and hopeth all things, and endureth all things—more of the disinterested zeal of the Apostle, who rejoiced that every way, whether in pretence or in truth, Christ was preached—then might we hope that the blessing of God would descend like the former and the latter rain: that more abundant success would be given to the means which are employed for the dissemination of the Gospel: and that speedily the time would arrive, when under the hallowing influence of its light and its lessons the wilderness and the solitary place would be glad, and the desert would rejoice and blossom as the rose.

The resolution testifies to the fact that we look forward with joy to the union of the two greatest commercial nations upon earth in the work of Bible circulation. And surely to all who have at heart the best interests of man, there is here abundant occasion for congratulation and joy. Union at all times we know to be strength, but in this union in particular there is the element of power. The ships of Britain and America are in every sea; the products of their industry are borne to every land; the natives of their soil are found in every clime. In commercial enterprise they stand first and foremost among the nations of the earth, and commerce is pre-eminently fitted to be the handmaid of religion. The ships which are freighted with the bread that perisheth, can transport the bread that cometh down from heaven; the cargoes of fabricated raiment for the body can be accompanied with the intelligence of a robe of righteousness for the soul. Let us therefore rejoice in this union; and while we rejoice in it, let us seek to maintain it. Let us labour and strive and pray that the dark and portentous cloud, which is hovering above us, may be speedily dispelled; let us be earnest in our endeavours, according to our ability, to hinder the commencement of an unnatural contest; and let us make it our desire that the bonds of unity and peace may continue unbroken. Let us deprecate war, that the Bible may be circulated; let us circulate the Bible, that war may be prevented. The hindrances which may accrue to our glorious work from such a disastrous event it is impossible to estimate; but in the name of the God of benevolence and love let us do what we can, that, the flag of Britain and the ensign of America waving in concord together, the banner of the cross may overshadow the world. O! that the nations could universally see that true honour and glory and power are to be found in the removal of ignorance, the refinement of manners, the extension of freedom, the diffusion of happiness, the salvation of souls. As members then and supporters of the Bible Society let us breathe the spirit, let us disseminate the knowledge, let us extend the influence of the blessed Gospel. We know what it has done in the time that is past, and we are aware of what it is destined to accomplish in the time that is to come. Let us pray that its power may be increasingly felt; that its principles and precepts may be universally adopted; and that under its benign and peaceful energy the prediction of the prophet may be speedily fulfilled: "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up the sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

The Rev. Mr. GALLAWAY, in seconding the fifth Resolution, said—

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen, it was my intention to have offered a few observations on the very important and deeply interesting resolution which has been placed in my hands, but considering the lateness of the hour, the crowded state of the Meeting, and the ample justice which has been done to the motion, by the truly christian and liberal sentiments, which have been so admirably expressed by the preceding speaker, I will content myself with briefly stating that in the sentiments of this paper, so enlightened, so superior to those little prejudices which neighbouring nations are apt to indulge toward each other, and so eminently pacific, I most heartily concur, and hence, Sir, not as a matter of mere form, but with the most hearty concurrence, I second this excellent resolution.

The Court of Nisi Prius and Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery for the City and County of Saint John, opens on Tuesday next, the 13th instant—His Honor Judge Street presiding. We understand there are two cases for murder, and several for minor offences, on the Sheriff's calendar.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last evening, M. H. Perley, Esq. delivered his concluding Lecture on Oregon. The Hall was crowded to excess; an indication that the matter is exciting no small degree of interest. The lecture was illustrated by two maps,—one of the Territory in dispute and the country adjacent, and another of the Columbia River. Mr. P. besides giving a faithful historical narrative regarding the discoverers, explorers and settlers of Oregon, made a very satisfactory statement of all the negotiations on the subject between Great Britain and the United States, and left his audience, without exception, we believe, impressed with the conviction, that the claims of the United States to any part of the Territory *north* of the Columbia River are arrogant and without foundation, and that, on the plea of prior discovery, exploration, occupation and settlement, the claims of Great Britain are just and indisputable. Next week, we hope to be able to give an outline of Mr. Perley's interesting lectures, which were delivered ex-tempore.

W. Watts, Esq. of Fredericton, will deliver three lectures next week, on the *Colonial Empire of Great Britain*; the first on Monday.

The annual examination of the Scholars attending the Sabbath School in connection with the Reformed Presbyterian Congregation, took place, as usual, in the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Lower Cove, on Wednesday the 1st inst. The Rev. Mr. Stavely, Pastor of the Congregation, and the Rev. Mr. Macgregor were present throughout, and acted as the chief examinators. The Rev. Messrs. Irvine, of this city, and John Turnbull, of Blackville and Nelson, Miramichi, were also present for a short time, took part in the business of the day, and severally addressed the children on the subject of their religious and moral duties.

The pupils first produced from memory a great number of appropriate texts of Scripture, in proof of some of the most important doctrines and moral duties of the Christian System, such as the Divinity of our Saviour, the Divinity and personality of the Holy Spirit, &c., and evinced a very pleasing degree of progress in their Biblical studies. They were afterwards examined on the Assembly's Shorter Catechism and gave proofs of an intimate acquaintance with the contents of that brief but greatly admired summary of Christian truth. In the course of the proceedings of the day, two classes of coloured children were examined on a portion of the Acts of the Apostles, which they read, and acquitted themselves very much to the satisfaction of the examinators, and the other friends of the School who were present.

After they had been suitably addressed, the pupils and visitors were kindly treated with Tea and Refreshments, provided for them by the Teachers of the School.

May the Great Teacher of the Church himself prosper abundantly this and all other seminaries of a similar kind which have in view the training of the minds and habits of the young for piety and usefulness in this world and for a blessed immortality in that which is to come!—*Com.*

☞ The St. John GRAMMAR SCHOOL was re-opened on Monday. We understand that an Assistant in the English Department has been engaged, and that, in consequence, some additional Classical pupils can be admitted.

COASTING!—We are happy to learn that the intolerable nuisance of "Coasting down hill" and through the streets of our City, on sleds, is at last likely to be put a stop to—His Worship the Mayor having given orders to the High Constable and others to take up and destroy all sleds found so employed, and to arrest the parties transgressing and commit them to prison to be dealt with as the law directs.

EXTRAORDINARY DESPATCH!—Mr. Bradley, the Contractor for the conveyance of the St. John and Fredericton Mails, performed the journey between the two cities on Tuesday, *via* the Nerepis Road, in *seven hours*: having left Fredericton that morning at 7 o'clock, and at 2 p. m., he was driving his stage up King-street in St. John. This beats the *Steamers by the river* in summer.—*Obs.*

SERIOUS ACCIDENT.—We regret to learn that Mr. John Gillis, merchant, of this City, was seriously injured in the spine, by the upsetting of a stage coach, in turning the corner of the Province Building, at Halifax, last week. Mr. G was on his way to England with a number of other gentlemen from this City, who were also in the coach, but escaped with slight bruises. The driver had two of his ribs broken. Mr. Gillis was unable to proceed in the steamer which sailed from Halifax on Saturday last for Liverpool, and, we understand, when the Mail left Halifax for this City on Tuesday morning last, was still in a very precarious state.

On the 5th instant, an Inquest was held at Fredericton, before Henry Fisher, Jr. Esq., on view of the body of a male child which was discovered in an out House during the day. A verdict of wilful murder was returned against the Mother, Margaret Mahony. She has been committed on the coroner's warrant.—*Reporter.*

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENT.—George Ferdinand H. Minchin, Esquire, to be Surrogate and Judge of Probates for the County of York.

By His Excellency's Command.
JOHN S. SAUNDERS.
Secretary's Office, 31st December, 1845.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH.—We regret to state that a fatal accident occurred on the Marsh Road last Monday afternoon. It appears that a horse ridden by a person from one of the lime kilns near the city, took fright, and running furiously along the road, passed a sleigh in which were two Officers of the 33d Regt., who had a very narrow escape; that after passing the sleigh, the frightened horse overtook and ran against another horse, ridden by Mr. James Clendinning, of King's County, who, by the shock, was violently thrown to the ground, and so severely injured, that his death took place almost immediately. The Officers on coming up, with great kindness, raised Mr. Clendinning and had him carried into the nearest house, and then drove rapidly into town for a medical man, with whom they returned as quickly as possible, but no assistance could be rendered the sufferer.

An inquest was held on the body on Tuesday, before Dr. William Bayard, Coroner, when a verdict was returned, "that the said James Clendenning was accidentally killed by a fall from his horse."—*New-Brunswicker.*

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.—On the night of the 24th December, the Steamboat Bell Zane, Capt. Brazier, while on her way from Zanesville, Ohio, to this city, struck a snag, about 12 miles below the mouth of White River, on the Mississippi, and immediately turned bottom up. It was about 12 o'clock when the accident occurred, and the night was bitter cold. Out of some 99 souls on board at the time, upwards of 50 perished by this terrible accident, some of the unfortunates only escaping being drowned to freeze to death after reaching the shore.

LATE FROM SOUTH AMERICA.—The Bueno Ayrean papers brought by recent arrivals are full of detailed accounts of the movements of the allied fleets of France and England, and the Montevideans, the latter commanded by the pirate Garribaldi, on the interior waters of the Argentine Republic.—Several numbers of the Diaro are filled with a correspondence between the Argentine Secretary of State, the English and French Ministers, and the United States Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Wm. Brent. The Anglo French proposed a peace, but not on terms honorable to the Argentines. Of course this was refused; and in one of the Secretary's letters to the French Minister we find the following:—" The undersigned would also manifest to your excellency and to his excellency the minister plenipotentiary of her Britannic Majesty, that this government has already announced the dignified and friendly interposition of the gentleman charge d'affaires of the United States: that the government had accepted it; and that, in such a case, it would not be able to take into consideration any incident or circumstance in connexion with subjects of pacification, without the concurrence and participation of the said charge d'affaires; nor will this government fail to fulfil an obligation to which it is so strongly bound by considerations and exigencies of great weight; for in no case would it wish to untie the bonds of faithfulness with which it preserves the relations of a perfect understanding with the government of the United States.—*Washington Union.*

FROM MEXICO.—The New Orleans Picayune of Dec. 24th announces the arrival of the schooner Gold Huntress, from Tampico. The Capt. states that she sailed from Aransas on the 18th November, and arrived at Tampico on the 24th, where he was ordered by the authorities of the place not to communicate with the shore, the officer of the port assigning as a reason, that the schooner was from an enemy's port. In the port of Tampico there were two men of war schooners, and from 1000 to 1500 Mexican troops were encamped in the neighbourhood of Tampico, under the command of Gen. Peredes.

FROM ST. DOMINGO.—The Charleston Patriot of Dec. 29th says, we learn from Capt. Lawson, of the schooner Larch, arrived this morning from Port Plenx, (St. Domingo), in distress—that previous to his departure, the French army had returned from the Spanish part of the Island to the Cape, and that the Dominicans had then taken charge of the fort on the frontiers, and put all the Haytiens, about 150 men, composing the garrison, to death.

From the P. E. I. "Islander," Dec. 20.

FROM a letter received yesterday by a gentleman in Charlottetown, from our late much esteemed Lieutenant Governor SIR CHARLES FITZ ROY, we rejoice to hear that his Excellency has been appointed Governor General of New South Wales. His Excellency and Lady Mary Fitz Roy, and suite, arrived at Bermuda in the Steamer *Dee,* on their way to England, on the 19th November. We quote the following paragraphs from the Antigua *Weekly Register,* and *Mirror,* of October 21st, expressive of the high sense entertained in that Colony of His Excellency's eminent services:

"We last week gave an account in detail, of the laying of the Corner Stone of the Cathedral and Parish Church of St. John, by His Excellency the Governor in Chief—little imagining at the time, that it was likely to prove the last public ceremonial over which his Excellency would preside in this Island. It is now generally known that his Sovereign has called him to administer the Governor Generalship of New South Wales; and that his Excellency leaves us early next month. Whilst we cannot but congratulate His Excellency on his promotion, as forming a valuable proof of the high position which he holds in the confidence of Her Majesty's Government, yet it is impossible not to remember the harmony which has happily existed between the Governor and the other branches of the Legislature during His Excellency's Government; and the undoubted interest which he has ever taken in the welfare and prosperity of the Colony. In these respects we despair of again seeing a Governor who will run a more felicitous course than Sir Charles Fitz Roy. Moderation and courtesy have tempered firmness in all His Excellency's intercourse with the other bodies. The Colonists were not treated as persons who were distrusted—their good will was gained, and their confidence secured. A cataract of novel, distasteful, and impracticable proposals were not poured out all at once upon the Legislature—but such changes as were deemed improvements have been gradually, reasonably, and considerately,—and, therefore successfully, urged and effected. The majesty of the law has not been degraded in the eyes of the people. Whilst protection has been extended to each who needed it, the decisions of the Magistrates on the authority of the laws which they were called to the unthankful task of administering, have not been frivolously set aside. Attribute all these things to whatever people may—whether to tact or talent—the result has been good government, and we trace it, under God, to good sense and right feeling in the Governor, and are thankful for the blessings which the community has enjoyed."

NEW-YORK MARKETS, Jan. 2.—Flour dull; 5000 barrels Genesee, in store, were offered at $5,88. *January* 3.—Flour, $5,75 buyers, and 88 sellers—some good brands brought $5,88. Exchanges heavy—Sterling 8¼ to ½.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—To-day, $5,25 is fully offered for considerable parcels of Flour, but no sellers at that price. Rye Flour, $4,50—Corn Meal, $3,75.

Commercial Exchange, St. John.

SATURDAY, January 10.

The prices of staple articles of import and export remain the same as quoted last week. There are no purchases of any consequence going on. Holders of Flour are more firm in their demands, in consequence of the recent advance in the American markets.

SAINT JOHN SAVINGS BANK.

Deposited in December, - - -	£899	13	3
Withdrawn in do. - - - - -	365	8	2

Acting Trustee for January, C. C. Stewart, Esq.

BISHOP DOLLARD'S INCORPORATION ACT.

MESSRS. CHUBB & CO.,—As the time will shortly arrive for the sitting of our Legislature,—when a Bill for establishing our Right Rev. Bishop into a Corporation sole, will be brought forward, and as the passing of this Bill (a copy of which was read in Saint Malachy's church on Sunday last) will hereafter exercise an extensive and decided influence over the management of the temporal affairs of our churches throughout the Province, I select the present as a proper period to draw the attention of the Catholic population to the nature and details of this contemplated measure, and by a fair discussion of its merits and utility, to examine its claims for general concurrence,—being convinced that our Rev. Bishop can have no desire to avail himself of his distinguished position for the promotion or attainment of any object inconsistent with the interest or opposed to the reasonable convictions of any Parish in his Diocese.

I may be allowed to premise that, having given much attention to the precarious state of much of our church-property throughout the Province, I would hail with satisfaction the introduction of a judicious and well-considered measure for the future protection and regulation of such property; and any proposition containing a reasonable guarantee for the rights of pew-holders and parishioners, and providing suitable checks for the due and just administration of church temporalities, would, I feel persuaded, be readily acceded to by every discerning layman in the Diocese. The very extensive and absolute power, however, which is sought for by means of this present Bill, although moderately exercised by even a Catholic Bishop, would, I greatly fear, soon induce among laymen, a melancholy disregard for the future increase of churches, and have a great tendency to check, if not destroy, that laudable spirit of liberality for which our people are so peculiarly remarkable on all occasions when the interest of the church requires their pecuniary assistance. While the necessity is admitted for Legislative interference, all arbitrary enactments are uncalled for, and, if forced upon the people, would certainly meet with hostility, as being quite unwarranted by circumstances, and decidedly at variance with the spread of improvement and inquiry of the day.