The Courier.

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1840.

☞ This being the day set apart by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor for celebrating the Birth and the Marriage of our Most Gracious QUEEN, we issue our paper at a much earlier hour than usual. The *Temperance Soiree*, it will be observed, takes place on Monday evening, and the *Ball* on Wednesday.

The following article was intended for publication last week, but was deferred together with other matter which appears on our last page to-day:

BOUNDARY LINE.—Before many weeks are past, we expect to have the satisfaction of announcing, that the Governments of Great Britain and the United States have formed a convention which cannot fail of a decisive and final result on this great question. In the mean time we are enabled to state, which we do with sincere pleasure, that the Report which the British Commissioners, who last year renewed the Survey of the territory in dispute, were preparing to present, was likely to be such as to meet the approbation of persons thoroughly conversant with the merits of the subject. It will be recollected that Ma. FEATHERSTONAUGH, in the well-considered speech which he made at a public dinner in this City, very emphatically insisted on the point that "the North-west Angle of Nova Scotia" *had never yet been fixed*, but remained to be discovered by due regard to the terms of the Treaty of 1783. This may have appeared to many so obvious a matter of fact, as hardly to need assertion. It happens, however, to be within our knowledge, that the clear-sighted and comprehensive judgment of the eminent person to whose advocacy the British claim was mainly entrusted at the Hague in 1830, pronounced *this to be the point which above all others it behoved him to establish*; and for his able and successful maintenance of the same, in the Statements submitted by him to the King of the Netherlands, the services of SIR HOWARD DOUGLAS were by His then Majesty's Government acknowledged as "*most eminent*."

Persuaded that the general Governments of both countries are actuated by an unfeigned desire to adhere to perfect justice, and anxious to avoid any remark which might be calculated to keep alive unnecessary excitement, we forbear to enlarge on our view of the question. It is, we feel happily convinced,—whether we look at the scientific Commissioners, who, after ten years of continued enquiry and discussion on all sides, are found, on a renewed survey of the ground, to coincide with our former Lieutenant Governor (himself distinguished for scientific attainments) in the first and fundamental principle of our cause; or at our present Lieutenant Governor, who on the special invitation of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, has devoted to this question the full powers of a great mind, known to have been long since occupied in adjusting the boundaries of the British Empire in another hemisphere—then extended by the victories of his illustrious father-in-law, THE CONQUEROR OF DELHI, to the banks of the Indus; or, we may add, to the experienced and vigilant Statesmen to whose departments in the Government at home the question more particularly belongs;—wherever we turn our eyes, it is, we are convinced, in good hands; and in the decision, which may be ultimately formed, it consequently behoves us all to be prepared cordially and entirely to acquiesce.

That this decision may be such as to accomplish the object of the original Treaty—the maintenance of perpetual peace between two nations, or rather two divisions of a people of the same blood, the same language, the same general principles of liberty, law, and religion, is most devoutly to be desired; and in the recent proceedings, as well of the American Congress, as of the British Parliament, we perceive what we trust may be regarded as unequivocal indications that Divine Providence has disposed the ruling minds of both countries to unite in pursuing that most desirable object.

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITISH QUEEN!

Sixteen Days later from London!

The steamer *Maid of the Mist* arrived at an early hour yesterday morning from Eastport, bringing the New-York Mail of Saturday, and the papers and letters by the *British Queen*; which arrived at New-York, on Saturday morning last—having performed the passage in *thirteen days and eleven hours* from the time the English pilot was discharged until the American one was taken on board. She had upwards of a hundred passengers.

In addition to our New-York papers and files by the Queen, we have been kindly favored with a Portland paper of Tuesday last; and have hastily selected the most important intelligence they contain. The London dates are to the 1st of May.

Among the passengers by the British Queen is the Earl of Mulgrave, eldest son of Lord Normanby. He is on his way to Canada.

American flour was selling, at the latest dates, at 27s. 6d., duty paid, at which rates, 10,000 barrels had changed hands during the week ending the 28th ultimo.

The London Times of the 27th ult. has a long and bitter article on the North Eastern Boundary Question, in which it accuses the Ministry directly of an intention to yield to our claims. The article asserts that the Americans have been pushing John Bull to the wall along the frontier, and that it is now time to stop. Then follows the following bellicose sentence:—"We say, then, that resistance on our part must begin *somewhere*, or we shall not have an inch of colonial territory to defend."—*New-York Paper.*

The London Chronicle (ministerial) states that some time in March, instructions were sent out to the Governor General of Canada and the British Minister at Washington, to arrange the incidental question, respecting the extent and occupation of the disputed territory, which was the subject of the last published correspondence between the latter and Mr. Forsyth. This correspondence attracted much attention in London, and was vehemently discussed in the newspapers—of course with a great deal of party feeling, each party endeavouring to throw the blame of the boundary difficulty upon the other. We infer from the tone of the discussion, and from other circumstances, that an effort in earnest will immediately be made by the British Government to bring the matter to a definite conclusion.

The House of Commons re-assembled, after the Easter adjournment, on the 29th of April. The first business, after petitions, was the report of the election committee on the Cambridge election.—It set forth that the returned Member, the Hon Manners Sutton, (Tory,) was not duly elected—that he had been guilty of bribery, and that an extensive system of bribery had prevailed at the election.

The House of Commons resumed its sittings on the 29th April, after Easter recess. The attendance was thin, and the proceedings uninteresting. Lord John Russell, when questioned upon the point by Lord Mahon, professed himself unable to say whether the British fleet in the Mediteranean had proceeded to make reprisals from the Neapolitans.

Lord John Russell, in answer to a question in the House of Commons, on the 20th, as to the state of the Boundary Question, said that as the question was an extremely important one, he must defer answering it till the next day.

The Budget was to be brought forward on the 8th of May.

The London Times says that the British ships of war in the neighbourhood of Naples, commenced on the 17th, reprisals, and captured, it was said, 50 vessels. The Hydra was cruising off the mouth of the gulph. The Neapolitan vessels at Malta, were under an embargo.

In the House of Commons, on the 29th, a question was asked, whether the report in the newspapers stating that hostilities had actually commenced was true. In answer to which, Lord J. Russell said that no official information had been received by the government on the subject.

The Paris papers, however, of the 28th, confirm the report of reprisals, and state that a circular of the French Consul at Naples, dated the 18th, announces the beginning of reprisals, and the English ships of war had seized upon several Neapolitan vessels.

It was agreed that French property on board Neapolitan vessels, with an English certificate, should be respected and allowed to pass.

An embargo on all Sicilian vessels had been laid on at Malta.

Louis Philippe had offered himself as mediator, between England ann Naples, and the mediation had been accepted by the King of Naples.

A letter from Naples states that the government is placing all the coast in a state of defence, and that every disbanded soldier has been recalled.—The English Ambassador had invited all the English families residing at Naples not to renew the term for their apartments. Several of those families had already arrived there.

The French Sulphur Company has published an *expose* of its position with the Neapolitan government. It reveals no new facts, and is no more than an argument for the continuation of its monopoly founded on what they believe, or affect to believe, to be the justice of the original contract, they call for the intervention of the government upon the ground, that representing interest to the amount of 12,000,000f. they have a right to claim protection from abuses attempted through the means of foreign force.

NAPLES.—A letter of the 14th from Rome, published in a Lyons paper, contains the following: "An English steamer has returned from Naples Malta to demand from Mr. Temple, the definitive answer of the King to the note of Lord Palmerston. Apprised of the fact the King started in haste for Castlemare, and the English envoy had no time with whom he could communicate at the palace. The steamer was obliged to go back to Malta, without bearing to the English Admiral the desired information. The first act of English hostility, will probably be the seizing of the Neapolitan fleet which is out of port. The fleet consists of 12 sail, the Vesuvius 82 guns, Parthenope, 60, Isabella, 48, and the Ursula, 46.

Independence of Sicily.—A proclamation has just made its appearance, dated from Sicily (but bearing no signature whereby to identify it with any known party,) declaring the independence of the Island, and proclaiming the Prince of Capua its future "Constitutional King."

The *Presse* states that England had only accepted the mediation of France on the condition that the sulphur contract should be annulled.

Halifax and Boston Steamers.—The Steam-packets between Liverpool and Halifax and Boston will commence sailing from this port on Saturday the 16th of May. This, we believe, will be the shortest voyage across the Atlantic. It will realize the plan proposed many years ago in Macgregor's British America, and more fully developed by Judge Haliburton, in his Memoirs of the immortal Sam Slick.—*Liverpool paper.*

The arrangements for a line of Steam Packets to the West Indies are at length completed. The packets are to be of 1250 tons burthen, and are to be ready for sea by the autumn of 1841.

Antarctic Voyage.—A voyage of discovery to the Antarctic will leave England early in June. This new expedition, which will consist of two vessels, to be placed under the command of an Officer in the Navy, will be equipped at the sole expense of several British merchants. We need not add that we wish them all the success that so spirited an undertaking so signally merits.

The Cork Theatre was totally destroyed by fire on the morning of Sunday, April 12—supposed to have been caused by the escape of gas. Mr. and Mrs. Wood had taken their benefit the night before.

Our readers are probably aware that the Chinese difficulties have arisen in part from the killing of a native by some English sailors, in a row, and the refusal of Captain Elliott to surrender the culprits for trial by the Chinese authorities. He thought it best to take the matter into his own hands, and therefore, after a trial of some sort, sentenced five of the prisoners to a certain period of imprisonment in England. They arrived about the end of April, and were almost immediately set at liberty, the Law Officers of the Crown being of opinion that Capt. Elliot had no authority to sentence them as he had done.

A meeting was held in London, April 24, to protest against the "opium war"—Earl Stanhope in the chair. Strong resolutions were adopted, and a petition to Parliament, which was to be presented in the House of Lords by Earl Stanhope, and in the Commons by Lord Sandon. It was resolved also that the resolutions should be done into Chinese and sent to the Emperor of China.

Intelligence had been received of the death of Sir Henry Fane, recently Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in India. He died on board the Malabar, on the 24th of March.

Sir Robert Seppings, the distinguished Naval Architect of England, from whose models many of the English vessels have of late years been constructed, died at Taunton, England, on the 25th ult. aged 72 years.

The London papers announce the death of the Countess of Burlington, first Lady of the Bed Chamber to the Queen. The Countess was 28 years of age. She was the fourth daughter of the Earl of Carlisle, and sister of Lord Morpeth, Lady Dover, and the Duchess of Sutherland.

The death of the Hon. Mr. Waldegrave is also announced—brother of the Earl of Waldegrave. About a year ago he married the daughter of Braham the vocalist.

Mr. O'Connell employed his Easter holiday in "agitating" most strenuously against Lord Stanley's registration bill. In Dublin he got up an immense meeting, at which strong resolutions against the bill were passed, and the great Daniel himself was never more prolific in speeches, letters, &c. or more successful in rousing the people. It is indeed with him a struggle for life; for should the bill pass, and a new election take place under its provisions, his influence in the return of members would be almost annihilated.

Prince Castelcicala, Ambassador Extraordinary from the King of the Two Sicilies, arrived in London on the 26th of April. He is on a special mission relating to the sulphur difficulties.

LIVERPOOL, April 16th.—*Travelling at fifty-six miles an hour.*—The ten feet wheels attached to the locomotive engines employed on the Great Western Railway not being found fully to answer the expectations of the Directors, they have altered their plan, and in future wheels of seven feet in diameter only are to be employed. The result has been the attainment of the speed of fifty-six miles an hour.

WAR OFFICE, April 17.—69th Regiment—Herbert Vaughan Mundell, Gent. to be Ensign, without purchase, vice Frederick Mundell, promoted to the 1st West India Regiment.

FRANCE.—The King of the French has taken the occasion of his son's marriage to complete or rather to extend the amnesty completed in May.

The marriage of the Duke de Nemours, and the Princess Victoria of Saxe Coburg was solemnized at the Palace of St. Cloud, on the 27th of April. The ceremony was as strictly private as the etiquette of the French Court permits.

In the Chamber of Deputies the ministerial demand of 1,500,000 francs, for the Blockade of Buenos Ayres, was agreed to by a vote of 260 to 10.—Private letters report that an expedition against Buenos Ayres was contemplated by the French Government.

Letters from Algiers of the 24th ult. state that the Dukes of Orleans and d'Aumale were at Boufarick, in good health and spirits. Marshal Vallee was shortly expected to join them, when the expedition would at once commence its march.—The whole army of Marshal Vallee now amounts to 50,000 men.

The Crops in France.—The crops (says the *Breton of Nantes*) are looking splendid, and promise a fine harvest. The drought has done no harm, except to small quantity of bad land, the produce of which is always feeble. We learn that in no part of France are there any complaints as to the appearance of the crops. Hay alone threatens to be deficient, but even this fear would be removed by a few days of rain.

SPAIN.—There had been another breaking up of the Cabinet, several of the Ministers having resigned. Only one new appointment is announced—that of Count Clonard to be Minister of War.—Gen. Evans had gone to Madrid, to make, or attempt, some settlement of the claims of the Spanish Legion. No military movements of any importance are mentioned.

Madrid letters of the 21st say that the health of the young Queen is very delicate, and the physicians having advised change of air, her mother, the Regent, purposes to make a tour with her, either in Andalusia or in the Basque Provinces.

INDIA.—We find no later advices from China, and only the following paragraph relating to India, in the Standard (evening) of April 30.—

The Eco de l'Orient contains advices from Bombay to the 29th of February. The Gov. General was at Allahabad. It is rumoured that some important changes are to be made in the government of the East Indies. The seat of government is to be transferred from Calcutta to Bombay, the presidencies abolished, and the whole of the British Possessions in the East Indies divided into northern and southern India.

The plague, it is said, had broken out in Damascus.

Great distress prevailed in Greece, and the price of provisions had been considerably augmented. The severity of the winter had been such, that upwards of 50,000 cattle had perished in the snow in Romelia alone.

Constantinople letters of the 1st inst. mention a new defeat sustained by the Russians in Circassia, and the capture by the Circassians of one of their forts and 20 pieces of artillery. It was believed in Odessa that the army of 40,000 men concentrating at Sebastobol, would be landed in the course of the spring on the coast of Circassia.

Accounts from Persia state that the Schah was preparing to march southward at the head of his army.

LIVERPOOL CORN EXCHANGE, April 28.—Since Tuesday, the 21st, there has been a very large arrival of Flour from the United States.

The trade in Wheat has been inactive, the dealers requiring some reduction in price on account of the expected decline to 13s. 8d. per quarter this week in the duty on foreign, which was only partially complied with.

Several parcels of American Flour, in bond, have been purchased on speculation and for exportation, at 27. 6ds. but the duty paid has been dull at former rates.

American Flour, in bond, had a ready sale at 27s. 6d., and some at 28s. Duty paid was retailed at 37s. to 37s. 6d.

Manchester Cotton Market, April 24th.—Confidence is again returning, though perhaps not quite so quickly as some might wish, but slow and sure is a good maxim. There has been great firmness in every department of the grey cloth market this week, and in some cases a trifling advance.

From the London Price Current, April 28.

TEA.—The monthly public sales of Tea commenced on Wedaesday, and were brought to a close on Friday; the total quantities contained in the catalogues was 12,471 packages or 915,775 lbs. weight. There was a good attendance of the trade, as well as many country buyers, and much more confidence was exhibited than might have been expected. The sales opened with a determination on the part of the merchants not to sell black tea, the proportion of which was small, unless at extreme prices, but green teas, of which the assortment was comparatively large, and not being much wanted, have not generally maintained their former quotations, and have for the most part gone 2d. to 3d. lower.

Congou has fully supported previous rates, and Canton Bohea, which sold at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d., was considered to have fetched its value. Some of the proprietors have withdrawn and bought in large breaks of Congou, at higher prices, not being disposed to realize at present rates. Of the above quantity about 9000 packages, or 650,000 lbs weight, were sold, of which 5500 packages or 260,000 lbs. weight, consisted of Green Tea.

There has been very little business done privately in either free trade Tea or Company's Congou, but the former is held for extreme prices, while some forced sales of the latter have been made for cash at 2s. 4½d. per lb.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

(From the Morning Chronicle, April 23.)

There are two questions pending between us and the United States.

1. The great question of the settlement of the boundary line.

2. The subsidiary question growing out of it, of the provisional arrangement respecting the occupation of the disputed territory.

It is with regard to the last, and least important only of these two questions, that any difference of views between the two Governments is developed, in the recently published correspondence between Mr. Fox and Mr. Forsyth. The President of the United States, in assuming the duties of his station, avowed his determination, all other means of negotiation failing, to submit a proposition to the Government of Great Britain to refer the decision of the question once more to a third party. This determination Mr. Forsyth, in the name of the President, explicitly repeats, and expresses his extreme satisfaction at the communication from Mr. Fox, that "Her Majesty's Government are only waiting for the detailed report of the British Commissioners recently employed to survey the disputed territory, in order to transmit to the Government of the United States a reply to their last proposal, upon the subject of the boundary negotiation."

So far, therefore, from Government having brought the country to the verge of a war, by their supineness and neglect, it appears that the principal question in dispute is at this moment the subject of amicable negotiation. So far from having neglected the question, the Government have been taking active steps to remedy the evil entailed upon them by the extraordinary and culpable neglect of their Tory predecessors. The appointment of commissioners to ascertain with precision the nature of the localities, was evidently the step dictated by prudence and common sense, with a view to the arrangement of a question which arose from the ambiguous wording of a passage in which those localities were referred to. Nor does there appear any reason to apprehend that now, when the foundation of an arrangement has been laid, by ascertaining the facts indispensable to any satisfactory settlement, the two Governments, each alike anxious to avoid the scandal of a war between their respective countries, will find much difficulty in coming to a fair and honorable understanding. Even, however, if unforeseen difficulties should arise, the formal pledge of the Government of the United States to refer the question anew to arbitration, affords a sure resource for escaping the calamities of an appeal to arms.

With regard to the subsidiary question, an arrangement was made in March last for the provisional occupation of the disputed territory. This arrangement agreed to by the British in perfect good faith, and from the most sincere desire to avoid every cause of irritation between the two countries, proceeded on the basis of allowing each party to remain in undisturbed possession of their actual settlements. The Government of Maine undertook to withdraw without delay her military force from the disputed territory, leaving only a small civil posse to protect the timber from the lawless depredations of bodies of lumberers from each nation, who would otherwise have taken advantage of the provisional state of things to clear the district of that which constitutes no inconsiderable part of its value. The British Government wished for nothing more than to have this agreement faithfully observed during the short period which would probably elapse before the final settlement of the whole affair.

The Government of Maine, has however, countenanced, or at least not prevented, its citizens from entering disputed portions of the territory, and erecting block-houses, in which they have placed cannon, muskets, and what they are pleased to call armed laborers. Against this evident infraction of the agreement with Sir John Harvey, the British Government have firmly and decidedly protested. So far, however, from wishing to urge hostilities upon a collateral question which will disappear of itself as soon as the present amicable negotiations have brought the really important question of the boundary to a satisfactory settlement, Government have already (more than a month ago) sent out instructions to Mr. P. Thomson and Mr. Fox to enter into a fresh arrangement with the United States, clearing up all doubts as to the territory to be left provisionally under the jurisdiction and in the possession of the respective parties.

The latest accounts from Maine show no intention on the part of the Government (however remiss they may be in checking the improper acts of their wild border population) to embark in acts of hostility; while from New-Brunswick and Canada, it is clear that our troops will remain quiet unless attacked. Every thing therefore seems to hold out a prospect that this minor difficulty will not be allowed to disturb the amicable relations between England and the United States, or to interfere with the tranquil settlement of the question so unfortunately left by the negotiators of Ghent as a germ of dispute between two nations, linked together by every tie of mutual interest and common descent.

From the Glasgow Herald, April 27.

It is the most self-evident of all political propositions that a war with Britain would lead to the total dismemberment of the American Union. Our first act of war, if the States made common cause, would be to throw a small force into the slave districts, and thereby rouse the whole Southern States to rebellion. The slave population there is already ripe for revolt, and the slightest encouragement from any foreign power would induce them to take the field in countless multitudes against their task masters. The Americans are as well aware of this as we are. They know that an open rupture with Great Britain would be fatal to their Union, and therefore they will strive far more earnestly than we to avoid war. What is wanting is a mere manifestation of resolution on our part. Let us dictate our terms with half the spirit exhibited by the American Government, and peace will result as surely as our mutual interest recommends it.

It certainly appears to us hardly credible that the United States Government should be inclined to provoke a war with Britain; but if we regard only the official correspondence, which we have already published, the rational inference would be, that war is inevitable. The most accurate index, however, of the public anticipation is furnished by the fluctuation of public securities. On the receipt of the news by the British Queen, consols fell to about 90. Within the last few days, they have again risen to 91. This improvement has been occasioned by a current rumour that a definite arrangement had been entered into between Lord Palmerston and Mr. Stevenson, the American Ambassador. Various reports are afloat as to the terms of this arrangement. The *Morning Chronicle* notices two—the first being, that the award of the King of Holland is yet to be adopted as the basis of negociation, and the second that a reference to a third party is again to be resorted to. Against this last supposition we would most earnestly protest, not only because the United States Government have shewn how little they value the decree of a mutual arbiter, but because the interests at stake are too important to be submitted to arbitration. Let the disputed territory be made the subject of purchase or mutual arrangement, and we shall patiently abide the result; but the idea of perilling a matter of so essential importance to us on the chance decree of any third party appears, in every point of view, most inadvisable. The mutual object of both countries ought to be, not so much to adjudicate upon the old treaty of 1783 as to fix such a line of boundary by common consent as would preclude the possibility of future difference. It is the interest of both parties that their provinces should be compact, and it is certain that nothing could be more fruitful of eternal discord than the zig zag line of boundary at present claimed by the State of Maine.

From the Manchester Guardian, April 30.

THE BOUNDARY QUESTION.—Reports have recently become current, to the effect that Ministers have agreed with the American Minister upon a basis for the settlement of the long disputed boundary question, by the adoption of the intermediate line proposed by the King of the Netherlands, and the payment of a sum of £200,000 to the State of Maine by the British Government. These rumors—for which, we believe, there is some foundation—have of course set the conductors of the tory press in motion, with the view of attacking the proposed arrangement,—just as they would have attacked any other course which Ministers might have pursued in the matter. If they keep the question unsettled, they are abused; if they propose to compromise it, they are abused; and if they were to propose to insist on the immediate surrender of the whole question by the American Government, they would be much more loudly abused for plunging the country into a war in order to enforce a claim of very doubtful justice, to say the least of it. Of course the ground now taken is, that Ministers ought to concede nothing; and the very parties who abused and still abuse them for not enforcing the award of the King of the Netherlands, fall into the ridiculous inconsistency of denouncing that award as exceedingly unjust towards England, and one that ought not to be submitted to. We think that before these parties attack Ministers, they should make up their minds as to the course which ought to have been taken, and not prefer charges manifestly inconsistent with each other.

In the *Times* of Monday last, there is an article on this subject, from which we make the following extracts:—

"For two or three days past we have observed some ugly symptoms of the manner in which our national interests and honor are likely to be treated under the name of a settlement of the North Eastern Boundary Question, so long at issue with the United States. If the truth and justice of that question were generally understood by Englishmen, it would be recognized as one which ought never to have been tolerated by any British statesman. We repeat, that no such thing as a question upon the rights of the British boundary ought ever to have been endured at all, and never would have been so, if British ministers had known and firmly discharged their duty. For if the spirit, or indeed the express provisions, of the treaty of 1783 had been thoroughly insisted on, they would have been found to designate and acknowledge as British territory all the country to the eastward, not merely of the St. Croix, but of the other, England has since permitted herself to be juggled. In fact the demand to stretch their boundary even to the St. John's, has ever been, on the part of the people of Maine, most iniquitous and audacious—unsupported by common sense, and assuredly unsanctioned by any *early* construction of the terms of a treaty which, in the year 1783, was signed by Ministers personally ignorant of the territory which they described; but in their references to which they followed implicitly the received denominations and landmarks of that period."

The writer afterwards alludes to the reports which we have mentioned above, and adds

"Thus we are not merely to lose a large amount of that territory of which we have always, to this hour, held possession; but in consideration of the credit and advantage derived to England for that loss, we are further to pay down the fifth of a million sterling! On this, of course, we shall have to bolt a tirade of congratulations from Lord Palmerston."

Now, would it be believed by any but those who are conversant with the thorough profligacy of the Times, that the terms of the reported settlement are nearly identically the same as those of a plan suggested by that journal itself a few months ago?—the difference being merely this, that, instead of giving £200,000, the Times proposed to surrender to the State of Maine that part of the Province of New Brunswick which lies between the St. Croix and the St. John, comprising the town of Fredericton, and a very considerable extent of improved and cultivated land, very far beyond the value of £200,000, to say nothing of abandoning a number of British subjects to a foreign government,—an act which would be far more shameful and afflicting than any mere cession of territory, or grant of pecuniary indemnity. But, at the period when the Times proposed its plan, there was nothing to be gained by a misrepresentation of the facts, or by a preference of any one plan of settlement to another. Ministers had not then given any indication of the course which they were disposed to pursue; but, having now apparently adopted the basis of the very plan suggested by the Times, that journal, with its characteristic dishonesty, turns round and abuses its own schemes, denouncing them as derogatory to the honour and fatal to the interests, of the country. And so the Times would abuse any other plan of settlement that could be suggested, provided only that ministers were to show an inclination to adopt it.

As much blame has been attempted to be cast upon the English ministers of 1831, for not having enforced the award of the King of the Netherlands,—all unjust as that award is alleged to have been towards this country,—we may here observe that it is perfectly clear that ministers had neither the right nor the power to enforce it. The question submitted to the King of the Netherlands was, simply, whether the English or the American interpretation of the treaty of 1783, was the correct one; he had no authority to decide on any intermediate course; and as soon as his decision was made known, Mr. Preble, the American minister at the Hague, remonstrated against it; on the ground that it went beyond the powers delegated to the arbitrator, which it manifestly did.

But, even supposing the English government should have been of opinion that the Americans were bound to accept the award of the arbitrator, how was the obligation to be enforced? By going to war? That would have been exceedingly foolish. If it was not worth while to continue at war in 1814 for obtaining the whole territory in dispute, it certainly could not be advisable to commence fresh hostilities for the sake of securing one third part of it, which had been allotted by the King of the Netherlands; and any ministry that had taken such a course would not merely have been subjected to the attack of Tory newspapers, but would have become the just objects of reprobation by the entire people of England.

With respect to the real merits of the boundary question, we intimated our opinion some twelve months ago; and nothing that has since come under our notice has tended in the slightest degree to change that opinion. That the English negotiators of 1784 made a most improvident bargain, we do not doubt—that they were overreached by their more crafty American competitors is exceedingly probable; but that they put their hands to a treaty giving to the United States the country now in dispute, is, we fear, but too certain, unless there are some facts in the case which have never yet come under our notice.—The article in the Times to which we have already alluded, is founded upon a long letter, signed "W. J. D. Waddilove," in which the claim of the English Government, and indeed something more than its recent claim, is insisted upon with great confidence, but with a marvellous lack of facts and arguments. A great part of the letter is taken up with an attempt to prove, by an extract from an account of the expedition of General Arnold against Quebec in the year 1775, that a certain ridge of hills at the head of the Kennebec river was then called the "heights of land;" and that these were the "highlands" meant by the treaty of 1783. It is somewhat a novel expedient to construe a treaty of peace by the aid of an unauthorised account of military operations; but, even if Mr. Waddilove had made out satisfactorily, that the ridge of hills crossed by Arnold at the head of the Kennebec was the true chain of highlands mentioned in the treaty, he would thereby only strengthen the American claim; for the hills at the head of the Kennebec are manifestly a continuation of the chain separating the waters flowing N. W. into the St. Lawrence, from those flowing S. E. into the Atlantic and the Bay of Fundy,—in short, the very highlands set up by the Americans as the true boundary. The whole letter is, in fact, mere trash; and we are astonished, that the Times should have given it insertion; much more that it should have founded a long leading article upon it; but the fact no doubt is, that tolerable arguments in favour of the English claim are exceedingly scarce; and, as the Times wanted a ground of attack upon the ministry, it accepted even the foolish letter of Mr. Waddilove.

(From the Morning Chronicle, April 27.)

The Tories seem very unwilling to give up the hope of a war between Great Britain and the United States. Perhaps the prospect of a speedy adjustment of the dispute with Naples—a prospect brought about by the energy and decision with which the British Government acted the moment they discovered that the fickle, irresolute King had finally made up his mind to break through his solemnly pledged word, and refuse the satisfaction demanded at his hands for his flagrant and outrageous breach of the faith of treaties—may have made them more anxious not to lose what they considered as their last card. A war against a free people, against the detested land of Washington and Franklin, against the descendants of the high-minded martyr-heroes, who planted the seeds of civil and religious liberty in a new world, has it must be admitted, too many charms for a Tory imagination to be readily abandoned.

Accordingly we were not surprised to find the *Morning Post* cavilling at the article in which we placed the question in its true light, and endeavoring to disprove the plain statement of facts which made it apparent that war with the United States was an exceedingly remote and improbable contingency. With this view our contemporary selects two passages from the published correspondence between Mr. Forsyth and the British minister at Washington, which, taken by themselves, and without context or explanation, bear a somewhat hostile appearance. These passages it prints without a single word of allusion to the nature of the question, to the rest of the correspondence, or to the important fact mentioned in our article, of despatches having been sent out which will, in all human probability, remove the minor and subsidiary ground of dispute, on which alone any unpleasant difference of opinion has manifested itself between the two Governments; and then turning round to the reader with an air of triumph, audaciously accuses us of falsehood and misrepresentation. The passages in question refer entirely to the collateral and comparatively unimportant point of the provisional occupation of the disputed territory. Upon the main question of the boundary line, the tone of the correspondence is, as we showed in our article on Thursday, every thing that the friends of peace could desire. Mr. Forsyth expresses, in the name of the American Government, his extreme satisfaction at the steps taken by the British Government with a view to the speedy renewal of amicable negotiations for the final settlement of the question on a fair basis, and pledges himself on the part of the President, to resort once more to arbitration, if all other means of averting a war should unfortunately fail.

With reference to the provisional occupation of the disputed territory, under the arrangement of March, 1839, between the Governor of Maine and Sir John Harvey, Mr. Fox complains of certain infractions of that arrangement, authorised, or at least winked at, by the State of Maine, and expresses, in temperate but firm language, the determination of Her Majesty's Government to repel aggression, and, if it is persisted in, to make such military arrangements as may be required for protecting Her Majesty's rights. Mr. Forsyth, in his reply, argues that the acts complained of, are not infractions of the arrangement, and states that, "unless Her Majesty's Government shall arrest all military interference in the question, and apply to the subject more determined efforts than have hitherto been made to bring the question in dispute to a certain and pacific adjustment, the misfortunes predicted by Mr. Fox may most unfortunately happen."

Now this, no doubt, constitutes a case out of which a Tory government might have contrived to manufacture a war. A little misplaced haughtiness, unseasonable stickling about punctilio, and rash bravado, would have been quite sufficient to kindle a conflagration more disastrous than the fratricidal and useless war of 1812, which no right-minded man, either in England or America, can now think of without feelings of the deepest regret and humiliation. If the Tories were to come into power to-morrow, and act upon the advice given by their journals, of sending out fleets and armies in order to bully the Americans into submission, as sure as the sun shines in Heaven those disastrous and unhappy scenes would be soon repeated. Fortunately for the country, the Tories are not in power. Fortunately for the millions on both sides of the Atlantic, whose property and daily bread are dependant on the continuance of that commercial intercourse which links together the cotton grower of New Orleans, the spinner and weaver of Manchester, the farmer of Kentucky, and the merchant of New York, London, and Liverpool, by a daily-increasing community of interest and interchange of mutual benefits—fortunately, we say, for the material interests of millions and millions of industrious men, and what is of still more importance, for the hopes of civilization and the moral interests of humanity, the reins of government are in the hands of men who are able to appreciate those high considerations, who are not urged on by a blind hatred of liberal principles to wreak their vengeance on the country which has dared to exhibit to the world the spectacle of a free public, who are not ashamed or afraid to confess that they earnestly deprecate a war, and are anxious to avoid it by every means consistent with the honour and interests of the British Crown. The Whigs are under no necessity of stickling for punctilio lest they should be suspected of pusillanimity. They are haunted by no ghost of a "blockaded Dardanelles," no recollection of a base, disgraceful object, and damning submission. From Cabool to Canton, from Canton to Naples, from Naples to Canada, they can look round the world and see no insult tamely endured, no injury to British interests or honour which has not been, or is not, promptly redressed. They fear therefore, to meet their American brethren in the full spirit of frank, open, honourable conciliation. Instead of sending armies they have sent instructions, which, without conceding one iota of the just rights or fair pretensions of Great Britain, must convince the world of their sincere desire to observe the strictest good faith, and to meet the American government half-way, or even more than half-way, in every reasonable arrangement for averting the faintest possible chance of hostile collision.

Mr. Forsyth's words—to which a hostile interpretation is attached, are,—"that misfortunes may happen unless the British government shall apply to the subject more determined efforts than have hitherto been made to bring the dispute to a certain and pacific adjustment."

What becomes of the hostile interpretation, when it appears that government have done precisely that which Mr. Forsyth says will avert the prospect of misfortunes? No sooner did it appear that the arrangement entered into last year was not sufficiently clear and precise to prevent dispute, than instructions were sent out to Mr. Thomson and Sir J. Harvey to endeavour, if necessary, to effect one which should obviate all possibility of misconstruction, and remove all danger of unforeseen collision. The eminent success—a success acknowledged alike by friend and foe—which has attended every measure of Mr. Thomson's administration in Canada, is a pledge that if temper, moderation, sound common sense, and statesman-like sagacity, can suffice to avert the calamity of a war deprecated alike by both parties, the end will be attained. If, however, contrary to all reasonable expectation, and to their own solemn and repeated assurances, the government of the United States should wilfully and perversely force Great Britain into hostilities, by persisting in claims which they well know to be untenable, and rejecting all our anxious offers of accomodation, the Tories will, perhaps, find that men conscious of having done all in their power to avoid a quarrel, can bear themselves as courageously when it is forced upon them, as those who seek to conceal a want of confidence in their own firmness by a premature assumption of bravado.

A desire to publish as much as possible of the news by the *British Queen*, compels us to omit, to-day, much other matter and a number of Advertisements.

It is with pleasure we can state that the Mechanics' Institute are making preparations to lay the Corner Stone of their Building with due ceremony, in course of next week, and that His Excellency Sir JOHN HARVEY has consented to assist at the ceremonial. The Mechanics are taking a warm interest in this proceeding; many of the trades have procured handsome banners to grace the procession, in which it is expected that all the Mechanics in the city and suburbs will join, whether members of the Institute or not; and we venture to predict that this event will be the auspicious harbinger of much permanent usefulness to be conferred by the Institute, and will be celebrated in a manner worthy of its members and of the intelligent and industrious Mechanics of Saint John.

Monday last, the 18th May, was the 57th anniversary of the landing of the Loyalists, the venerated founders of our City, who at the close of the American revolutionary contest, in 1783, left their homes in the revolted Colonies and took up their residence in what was then a wilderness of forest, but which is now a flourishing Province, with a large Commercial City, and several other thriving mercantile towns and villages. A few of the venerated founders of our City and Province yet remain among us, and appear to view with pride the steadily increasing prosperity which displays itself on every side, both in town and country.—One of the most aged and respected of these ancient individuals, whose venerable appearance animates every bosom, we yesterday observed driving in a waggon with two horses, some members of his family through our streets; and long may the snow-white head of the "father of the City" be yet visible among us!—*Observer.*

SAINT ANDREWS, May 15.—*The Queen* vs. *Wilford Fisher and others.*—This cause, after occupying the Court nearly three days, terminated on Monday last, at noon. It was one that created general interest, from the enormity of the offence charged, and the high standing of Mr. Fisher in the community, as an upright, honest and respectable man. Fortunately for the parties concerned, they were enabled to shew the transaction in its true light, so much so, that the Jury, after the evidence was closed, on Monday, on the part of the defence, declared, without leaving the box, they were satisfied, and at once pronounced an acquittal of the parties accused, whereupon His Honor Judge Carter, with that mildness for which he is so conspicuous, addressed the prisoners severally, and expressed, in the strongest terms, as we understood him, "his entire belief of their innocency," adding, "that Mr. Fisher was extremely fortunate in having an opportunity of so completely refuting the charges, and that his character stood unimpeached." In fact it was a complete triumph of innocency. We forbear further comment, as the whole case will be published in a short time, at this Office.—*Standard.*

[Mr. Fisher, and the other defendants, who were part of his family, or persons in his employ, were accused of having set fire to the Episcopal Church at Grand Manan.—It is with sincere pleasure that we are enabled to publish the foregoing report of the trial of an individual, whom we have had reason to esteem, on a charge the most demoniacal that can well be imagined. That the foulness of calumny, in maliciously implicating the character which Mr. Fisher had maintained with many respectable individuals in this City for nearly thirty years, should have caused them much solicitude, may well be imagined; but his triumphant acquittal, will doubtless afford them, as it does us, the highest gratification.]

From the Royal Gazette, May 20.

The Receiver General acknowledges the receipt of thirteen pounds from the Rev. Mr. A. Languin, Priest of the Madawaska Settlement, being a conscientious restitution on the part of one of the inhabitants of that Settlement for Timber clandestinely passed.

A late Toronto paper gives it as a rumour, which obtains considerable credence, that Sir George Arthur will shortly leave for England, and that the Governor General will assume the whole direction of the two Provinces.

Amos Kendall, Esq. Postmaster General of the United States, has resigned office, in consequence of ill health.

THE REV. ROBERT NEWTON.—This very celebrated and eloquent Methodist Minister, the representative, in America, of the British Conference, preached an able and impressive sermon in the House of Representatives, at Washington, on the 10th instant. The capacious hall and galleries were unusually crowded—the congregation being the largest ever witnessed within its walls, comprehending most of the members of both Houses of the National Legislature, and a vast number of very distinguished citizens.

Convictions for Violations of the Neutrality Law.—Rensselaer Van Rensselaer was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and fined $250, to stand imprisoned until the fine be paid. It having been satisfactorily shown that he is wholly unable to pay the fine, the President has remitted the same.

William Lyon Mackenzie was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, from the 20th of June last, and $10 fine. The residue of his