LATE FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE

ROYAL MAIL STEAMER COLUMBIA.

The steamer *Columbia*, the last of Mr. Cunard's noble vessels, left Liverpool on her first trip for Halifax at 10, P. M. on the 5th of January, and arrived out at 1, P. M. on the 19th, notwithstanding the prevalence of strong head winds and stormy weather nearly all the passage.—She left Halifax at 7, P. M. on the 19th, and arrived at Boston on the morning of the 21st, having been obliged to lay to off the port five hours, in a snow storm,—thus completing the passage in less than fifteen days and a half.

Captain Judkins and nearly all the crew of the *Britannia* have been transferred to the *Columbia*. She is as elegantly fitted up as any of her predecessors, and is thought to be the swiftest of the whole.

The *Columbia* brought ninety-seven passengers to Halifax, where she landed nine, and took in fourteen, making in all 102 to Boston. The Mail brought by her is doubtless the largest ever brought by any vessel, comprising no less than ninety-four bags on her arrival at Halifax. The number of letters delivered at the Boston Post Office is estimated at between 25,000 and 30,000. The amount of postage on the letters for city delivery at New-York alone, is stated to have exceeded two thousand dollars.

The English newspapers received are to the 5th of January inclusive.

The news of the greatest interest is from Turkey and Egypt. Admiral Stopford refused to ratify the convention with Mehemet Ali, made by Com. Napier, but he immediately proposed other terms, not very materially different, which the Pacha immediately acceded to, and the pacification was likely to be consummated. The Pacha agreed to make his submission to the Porte—to give up the Turkish fleet—and to evacuate Syria.

There was no later news from China or India. There had been a report, said to have been received overland by way of St. Petersburgh, that the British troops in China had advanced to Pekin, but it does not appear to have been entitled to the least credit.

The quarrel between Spain and Portugal has so far subsided, that the Spanish Regency has consented to wait until the Portuguese Government could lay the treaty of 1835 before the Cortes, for its sanction or rejection in the course of January. The Portuguese Government offered to submit the question between the two countries to the mediation of Great Britain. It is said that Espartero is raising an army of 50 or 60,000 infantry and 4 or 5000 cavalry to enforce the pretension of Spain to the free navigation of the Douro. It is said that Espartero has expressed his readiness to accept the mediation of England.

It appears from the Paris accounts that the recall of Marshal Valle from Algiers was determined on, and he was to be succeeded by Gen. Bugeaud. The charge against Gen. Valle is that he has extended his operations too far, occupying distant cities and posts, requiring a great expenditure of life and money to maintain the system.

In the Chamber of Deputies, in the session of Dec. 30, M. Humann, the Minister of Finance, presented the budget for the year. He went into a very full statement of the condition of the finances—the debt—the expenditures—and the resources of the country. The amount of the budget of expenses for the ensuing year is 1,316,000,000 francs. That of revenue is 1,162,000,000 presenting a deficiency of 154,000,000.

M. Humann, in concluding his speech, thus referred to the pacific intentions of the Cabinet:—

"The financial system of a government ought to be the faithful expression of its political system. The budget which we have presented has been conceived in the spirit of the mandate of peace and conservatism, which we accepted when I and my colleagues undertook the burden of public affairs. We should have refused this mandate, gentlemen, if we had not a strong conviction that a good understanding with the great powers of Europe might be confirmed and maintained on honourable and safe conditions for our country. If our confidence be not deceived, a short time and few efforts will suffice to establish a durable equilibrium in our budgets, and to restore the prosperity of our finances. This, gentlemen, is necessary, in order that France may be placed in a state to maintain her elevated rank among nations."

Plots against the life of Louis Phillipe are again spoken of. In the pocket of a driver of a Paris omnibus, who committed suicide last week, a paper is said to have been found, setting forth, that being the member of a secret society, his turn had come by lot to kill the king; but, finding himself unable to commit the crime, he had determined to hang himself.

A person named Borel has been arrested in Switzerland, charged with being an accessory to the attempt by Darmes on the life of Louis Phillippe on the 15th October last.

A report prevails in military circles that Lord Hill is about to retire from the Horse Guards, and that the post of Commander-in-Chief will be put in commission. We have not been able to obtain information by which to justify our confirming or contradicting the rumour. Recent circumstances, which have become matters of public notoriety, and for which Lord Hill has been severely censured, have been mentioned as grounds of the report.—*Globe.*

It is calculated by sober and experienced judges that the British Infantry is short, by 20,000 men, of the amount which would be requisite to discharge the duties assigned to it, even in the time of peace, with any decent consideration for the health and comfort of the soldier. India is now supposed to require a reinforcement of not less than 6000 European Infantry, keeping in view the dangers which beset our empire from west of the Indus to north of the Ganges. Keeping in view also the obstinacy of the people of the United States on the subject of their North-Eastern Boundary, and the political impossibility of an acquiescence, on the part of Great Britain, in their demands upon her, it is clear that no minister of this country can think of reducing the present British force in our North American Provinces; and as some of the regiments in those quarters have not seen England for fourteen years, it is difficult to guess, with the scanty number of troops at home, where reliefs for Canada, New-Brunswick and Nova-Scotia are to come from.—*Morning Herald.*

THE MILITIA.—It is stated in the best-informed circles, that upon the meeting of Parliament, a bill will be introduced, for the formation of a militia upon a most efficient plan; and as it is found that the navy can be completed with volunteers, without having recourse to impressment, so it is intended that the same plan should be resorted to as regards the militia; and that the oppressive and obnoxious system of ballot, which, from the numerous exemptions the higher classes of society are entitled to, makes it fall principally upon the middling and lower classes, will be abolished. In the mean time it is to be hoped that the attention of government will be drawn to the present inefficient state of the permanent staffs, and that those hoary veterans, who are borne down with age and infirmities, and are seen bending their way, with the aid of a walking-stick, to the place of muster once a month, will be allowed that retirement their long services so justly entitle them to, and their places be filled with young and efficient men.—*Standard.*

THE NAVY.—Great promotions have taken place. The honorary distinction of "Companionship of the Bath" has been conferred on the Captains of rated ships at the bombardment of Acre, including Captain Austen of H. M. Steamer Cyclops, for his eminent services on prior occasions. The Admiralty have made the following advancements in the squadron in the Mediterranean, for services performed, viz: twelve Captains to be Companions of the Bath; thirteen Commanders to be Captains; twenty Lieutenants to be Commanders; and forty Mates to be Lieutenants.

A brevet for the officers of the Royal Marines engaged in the operations at Acre and the Syrian Coast is said to have issued. We understand that it only includes three captains, namely, Captains Whylock and Morrison for Sidon, and Captain Robinson for Gebail. Lieut. Col. Walker, C. B. to have the rank of colonel while employed in Syria.—*Devonport Telegraph.*

PORTSMOUTH.—The steam-vessel Avon, Lieut. Pritchard, has passed on to Sheerness from Plymouth, with men for the Monarch, 84, and Vernon, 50, at Sheerness. The Inconstant, 36, Capt. Pring, has arrived at Plymouth from Cork, with volunteer seamen for general service. The Vindictive, a fine frigate, to mount upwards of 50 guns, is preparing here, with every despatch, for commission; and at Plymouth, also, are two more of the same class bringing forward, namely, the Portland, 50, and the America, 50. The greatest dispatch is used here in the equipment of the St. Vincent, 120, a three-decker of the largest class; she is getting rigged, and otherwise fitting for sea. The pendant will be hoisted in about a month.—The Vengeance, 84, is in the basin, and only waiting orders for commission. The Driver, a new steam-ship, recently launched here, is in dock preparing for immediate commission. She is intended for the Mediterranean. The Impregnable, 104, Captain Thomas Forrest, C. B., and Belleisle, 78, Captain Toup Nicolas, are in Plymouth Sound, where they will complete their crews and sea stores. They will not proceed to the Mediterranean, however, for some time. The Indus, 84, Captain Sir James Stirling, and Tweed, 20, Commander Douglas, are alongside their respective hulks, fitting out. Both ships will be ready for sea about the 25th of January. The above are the only ships equipping here, but orders are daily looked for to commission several more. The steam-frigate Phœnix is rapidly refitting in the harbour, to return to the Mediterranean. There is no commander yet appointed to her. It is expected that she will proceed about the 5th of January. The Apollo and Athol, troop-ships, are nearly ready for sea. They will go to Cork to transfer troops, the 42d regiment, thence to the Ionian Islands. The Neptune, 120, is to be overhauled at this port for commission, if necessary.—*Brighton Gazette.*

INCREASE OF THE NAVY.—In comparing the list of the ships in commission at the present period, with the list of those in active service last January, we find the strength of the navy at sea is increased by three three-deckers, two eighty-fours, three fifties, five sloops of war, and seven first-class steamers, forming an addition to our defence of 794 guns and 6300 men: the whole of which are in addition to any estimate proposed to Parliament, and is an expense which the pressure of the times has compelled the government to incur, and under a full reliance on the emergency of the case justifying them in asking for the necessary supplies. The number of seamen, marines and boys, now in employ, exceeds 43,000.—*Hampshire Telegraph.*

MANNING THE NAVY.—Letters from Corfu say that proclamations of the Lord High Commissioner have been issued in the Ionian Islands, inviting Greek sailors, subjects of the republic, on very advantageous terms, to enter on board the British fleet.

PORTSMOUTH, Jan. 3.—The Athol, troop-ship, was paid wages to-day, and sailed for Cork, Corfu, Barbados and Quebec. She takes part of the 42d Regiment to Corfu, the 59th thence to Barbados, 70th thence to Quebec; whence she will bring the 73d to Portsmouth.

There was a voilent thunder storm in London, Greenwich, and the vicinity, on the morning of Jan. 3. Spitalfield church was struck by lightning and the spire and roof were considerably injured. Streatham church was also struck and set on fire, and the whole of the steeple was destroyed.—The storm was quite extensive along the Thames, from Windsor downward. It was felt also at Brighton.

Mr. Jack Frost, not the Chartist, but the coldest of the cold, has been reigning triumphantly in England for weeks past. The Thames above bridge is covered with ice, and the thern ometer 30 degrees below freezing point. The Serpentine river has been the grand focus of attraction for skaters and "all observers." Not less than 70,000 persons visited it on the Sunday after Christmas day. Mr. F. has also extended his severity to France; making his *entre* under cover of extraordinary dense fog.

Thirty fires occurred in London in the Christmas week.

Three persons died at Glasgow on Friday se'nnight, from excessive cold.

It has been ascertained that upwards of 100 seamen, connected with the ports of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Sunderland, unhappily perished in the awful storms which raged on the eastern coast in the month of November—many of them leaving wives and children in a miserable state of destitution.

A fearful tempest has lately swept over the Black Sea and the Sea of Marmora, and incalculable damage has been done. The Russian steamer from Odessa to Constantinople was wrecked on the coast of Khili. The engine became injured during the storm; and the vessel, no longer obeying her helm, was thrown on the rocks, and nineteen men and passengers perished: the captain, however, was saved. The Trebisonde steamer had six hundred men on board, five of whom were swept away by a wave; three others have gone raving mad from fright and cold, and were obliged to be lashed to the masts; twenty more, who were taken to Constantinople, have their limbs completely frozen.

M. Million, an eminent merchant of Lyons, has been carried off by ruffians, who demand 100,000 francs for his ransom.

The commercial city of Leghorn is in the most melancholy condition, owing to the failure of several first-rate houses.

The Nile has risen to 22½ feet this year, and the inundation is so great that incalculable mischief has been done to the country.

A manuscript relative to the military and naval position of Corsica, entirely written in Napoleon's own hand, has been found in a library at Toulon.

A French paper states that the continuous wall and ditch round the City will be put off for three years, and the detached forts alone proceeded with.

From the discussion of the loan in the Dutch chambers, it appears that out of a revenue of fifty-two millions of florins, forty millions are required for the interest of the debt.

It is rumoured that the decease of the Princess Augusta had a very distressing effect on the Duchess of Gloucester, and that her Royal Highness is in a state of health which demands the closest attention, and excites very painful solicitude.—*Morning paper.*

The Christening of the Princess Royal is to take place on the 10th of February—the anniversary of the Queen's marriage.

PRINCE ALBERT'S STUDIES.—Prince Albert is now studying the constitutional law of England with great industry and earnestness under the able tuition of Mr. Selwyn, Queen's Counsel, the father of one of the assistant curates of Windsor. Since the union of his royal highness with her Majesty, Mr. Selwyn has been frequently at Windsor and at Buckingham Palace, reading with his royal highness Blackstone and other constitutional authorities, in order that the prince may be perfected in a knowledge of the constitutional law, and be better fitted for that seat in the council to which he has been appointed by the Sovereign.

MR. O'CONNELL AND DR. COOK.—It is confidently stated that Dr. Cook intends to challenge Mr. O'Connell to meet him in a public discussion of the Repeal question, when the Learned Gentleman arrives in Belfast.—*Belfast Whig.*

A judgment has been recovered against Sir John Caldwell, late Receiver General of Canada, for £34,068 currency, for which his estates, the seigniory and fife of Lacole, 22,500 acres, with the buildings thereon, come into possession of government, in full satisfaction.

Mr. Turton, the barrister, secretary to the late Earl of Durham, in Canada, has received the appointment of Registrar of the Supreme Court on the Ecclesiastical side, in Calcutta; an office valued at £8000 per annum.

The import of Cotton into Liverpool in the year 1840, was 1,416,163 bales—which is an increase of 401,296 bales over the import of 1839; and 85,194 over that of 1838.

We are glad to state, that it is expected that the importation of sugar, from the East Indies alone, will next year amount to about one-third of the total consumption of the kingdom.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

The ship Marlborough, Captain Budie, belonging to the West India Immigration Society, left the Downs a few days since with emigrants for Jamaica, and we understand the company are about to despatch another vessel to that island in three or four weeks, and also to embark ploughmen and tradesmen for St. Vincent's.

EXPORT OF MANUFACTURED GOODS TO THE UNITED STATES.—The export of manufactured goods to the various ports of the United States, the revival of which we noticed some weeks ago, is now extremely brisk. The packet ships to New-York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore have all had full cargoes, and the transient vessels now on the berth are likely to obtain fair freights. The New-York packet ship Virginia, now wind-bound, is not only crammed full, but had to refuse nearly two hundred packages. Her freight reaches £1700, the largest, we believe, made by any New-York ship since 1838. The packet-ship North America, which will sail on Thursday, will also, it is expected, obtain a full cargo. The year opens well for trade; let us hope, therefore, that the export of goods will not only continue but increase.—*Albion.*

THE TRADE OF THE POTTERIES.—Amidst the depression of trade, and consequently very general suffering of the poor artisans and their families, at this inclement season, a gleam of hope arises for the future. Several manufactories have recommenced work, that had been shut up for months before. This cheering announcement has in a great measure dissipated the gloomy foreboding prevalent a short time since.—*Staffordshire Gazette.*

THE CHARTIST AGITATION.—Considerable excitement and alarm has prevailed at Newport for some days, in consequence of the chartists having threatened to again begin the dangerous system of agitation pursued last year, and which was productive of the fatal insurrection of the 4th November, 1839. On Christmas-day a large meeting was held at Merthyr Tydvill, the very centre of the large iron works of Monmouthshire, at which the usual exciting and inflammatory language was indulged in; and another on New-Year's Day. No disturbance occurred. From commercial men we learn that the trade of Newport and the hills never was in a more deplorable state, which is to be attributed in a considerable degree to the effect of the chartist agitation.—*Liverpool Mail.*

Vincent, the chartist, has addressed a letter from Oakham Gaol to the chartists of Cheltenham, in which he says, that on his liberation he shall commence a system of agitation throughout England that must command the respect of every good man and woman throughout England.—*Cheltenham Gazette.*

Eight of the Chartists convicted at the Liverpool Spring Assizes, having completed their term of imprisonment, were liberated last week, and arrived at Manchester on Friday. They were met by a public procession about a mile from that town, and conducted to the Hall of Science, where they made speeches. The demonstration is described by the Manchester Courier as quite a failure.

BIRMINGHAM.—The meeting of chartists at Hollowayhead, on Friday, to petition for the pardon of Frost, Williams, and Jones, was miserably attended. John Collins occupied the chair, and amongst the principal speakers was Mr. O'Neill, a Scotch delegate. Petitions to the Queen having been adopted, the meeting broke up very peaceably.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—*Tea Market.*—The demand is steady, with a buoyant market, and a few parcels could be obtained at 2s. 2d. per lb. for cash. The stock is more than equal to fifteen months' consumption, but the holders rely upon the intercourse with China being cut off during another tea season.

Liverpool Cotton Market, Jan. 1.—The demand has been good, both for the trade and speculators, and on Monday an advance of 0¼d. was obtained upon the quotations of last week in American; since that time prices have receded, but the market closed steadily.

Liverpool Corn Market, Jan. 2.—The change of wind has brought up several Grain cargoes during the last two or three days, including 9000 quarters of Wheat from the English coast, (nearly all free foreign, from London,) with 9000 quarters of Oats and 14,700 loads of Oatmeal from Ireland.—American Flour, free, has sustained late rates, but has been rather slow of sale, the best marks of United States at 36s., Canadian at 35s. to 36s. per barrel. A little United States has been sold, in bond, for export, at 26s. per barrel.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET, Jan. 4.—*Pine.*—We have no alteration to notice in the price of Pine during the last month, for though there have been some indications of improvement, yet no actual sales have been made at advanced rates. Cargoes of Quebec, of common quality, have been sold at 17½d. and 17¾. per foot, and of good quality at 18d. per foot. Two cargoes of St. John Pine have been sold—one, of 47 feet average, at 19½d. per ft. and the other, 42 feet average, at 19d. per foot.—A parcel of St. Andrews Pine has been sold at 17d. per foot, and a cargo of Pictou Pine at 14½d. for the Yellow, with the usual deductions for the Spruce and the Hemlock.

Red Pine.—This article continues on the advance. Several parcels of Quebec have been sold with the cargo at 2s. per foot; separate from the cargo, parcels have been sold at 23d., 2s., and 2s. 2d. per foot. St. John Red Pine is worth 19d. per foot.

Pitch Pine.—A parcel, just arrived, has been sold at 2s. 8d. per foot. The market is very bare, but further arrivals would reduce the price.

Masts.—A parcel of masts, of small sizes, have been sold at 2s. 9d. per foot. Good large-sized Masts would bring 3s. 3d. per foot. A single mast sells at 4s. per foot.

Birch, of good sizes and quality, is very scarce: such would bring 20d. per foot.

Deals.—Some parcels of Spruce Deals have been sold at 2¼d. per foot of two inches, and one large parcel from the yard below this rate. Two parcels of St. Andrews have since been sold at 2⅝d. per foot of two inches.

Staves are not in so much request as they were a while ago. Standard staves, all pipe lengths, may be quoted at £55 per M.; and mixed specifications at £40 per M. Puncheon Staves of best quality are worth £17 to £18 per M. and common £12 to £13 per M. Ash Hhd. Staves bring £8 10s. per M.—United States' Staves are not in much request just now.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—The subjoined intelligence from Alexandria, dated the 12th inst. and published in second and third editions by our morning contemporaries, created a great stir in the city this morning, as the first impression made by it was that Admiral Stopford's refusal to ratify Commodore Napier's treaty with Mehemet Ali, was tantamount to a total rejection of the treaty by the Four Powers. This impression was happily erroneous; for scarcely had Admiral Stopford, acting upon his individual sense of duty, refused to ratify the treaty, when Lord Palmerston, evidently without being aware of Commodore Napier's Convention, authorized the Admiral to propose a Treaty for Mehemet Ali's acceptance, the same in tenor and in substance as that already signed by the Commodore. This is a most flattering testimony of the wisdom of the course pursued by Commodore Napier. In fact, the only difference between the treaty of Lord Palmerston and the treaty of Commodore Napier is, that the former allows only three days for the restoration of the Turkish fleet, while the latter permitted the Viceroy to retain it till the Porte had revoked the sentence of deposition and confirmed his Highness in the government of Egypt.

Mehemet Ali has accepted Lord Palmerston's treaty, and thus the Eastern question is happily in a state of speedy and amicable adjustment. This affords us the greater pleasure, as for the last ten days the war party in France, and the Tory press of the Metropolis, have been circulating rumors of the rejection of Commodore Napier's Convention by the Four Powers, and of their secretly abetting the determination of the Porte to carry out the sentence of deposition.

It is to be regretted that Admiral Stopford, who was aware that Commodore Napier's Treaty was despatched direct from England to Alexandria the day it was signed, and consequently would be in the hands of Lord Palmerston almost as soon as in his own, did not think it proper to await instructions from England, before refusing to ratify it.—His abrupt rejection of the Treaty was a severe censure of the conduct of one of the bravest officers that ever trod a quarter deck, and at the same time was calculated to impress the Viceroy with a conviction that he was shamefully trifled with by England. That Admiral Stopford performed what he conscientiously believed to be his duty, no person, knowing any thing of that gallant officer, can doubt for an instant; nevertheless it may be permitted to express regret that he did not take a different view of the line of conduct to be followed on so important an occasion.

The *Morning Chronicle* says truly—"We cannot of course pretend to know what may have been Commodore Napier's instructions; but we presume the Admiral did not send six sail of the line and three steamers to Alexandria to repeat his own exhibition of August last. For what purpose were they sent? * * * It seems to us the height of folly to have sent the Commodore's squadron to Alexandria, unless with power to negotiate, or failing in that, to act. If empowered to negotiate, *it has been decided, we believe, by even higher authority than Admiral Stopford, that the Commodore has negotiated successfully.*"

The London Atlas, Ministerial, of the second of January, gives the following admirable summary of the news of the preceding week:

The new year meets us with a fair and fortunate aspect. It finds us quiet and prosperous at home, and succesful abroad. Guizot, and the peace party in France, supported, as they will be, by the King, and by every Frenchman who has property to lose, will, we are convinced, make good their stand against all the intrigues which are now directed against them. Mehemet Ali retires to his old den, where he will probably take a short time of torpor before he makes another inroad upon his neighbours. Spain and Portugal have submitted their differences to England, and thus, another aperture through which war might have entered, is closed. So well are all things settled, that it might appear impossible for even Thiers himself, if he were again to come into power, with all his secret agents, his inflammatory press, and his unprincipled tactics, to find out another flaw which he could widen into a breach.

In China and in British India we have no news but news of success; in Canada all again is peace; while our sturdy though infant Colonies in Australasia are opening to us new sources of wealth, power, and grandeur. Surely there is nothing in this prospect which can make us look suspiciously upon the advent of the year 1841.

At home we are as well off as we have ever been or ever can be while the inevitable inequality of conditions entails upon every society a large class of necessitous persons. It is a cheering symptom that even at this time of general holiday and leisure, Chartism has been unable to rouse itself from its torpor. The labouring classes are inspired by a better spirit, and prefer the enjoyment of the festivities of the time, to listening to angry declamations against their employers. In the restored health of our happy and our good young Queen, and in the birth of a direct heir to her crown, we have a farther assurance of peace and prosperity to our country, which must always render the old year an epoch to be remembered with gratitude, and to be noted with a white mark in our annals. Everything promises that in this new year we may sit down in peace, and apply ourselves to the better developement of our internal resources, and the maturing of safe and wholesome domestic reforms. Nothing appears to threaten us but the selfishness of faction, nothing impedes the prospect of general prosperity but the expressed determination of the Opposition to wrest the governing power from the hands which have held it so long and used it so well.

It is in times of happy promise such as these, when the sky is cloudless and the waters smooth, that the helm becomes an object of envy to those who would shrink from its responsibility in moments of peril. We may expect that in this new year the efforts of the Opposition will be more earnest and desperate than ever; but we have confidence in the good sense of the British people that they will see that their common interest is to leave this prosperous state of things undisturbed.

From the London Sun, January 4.

The Paris papers of Friday and Saturday have been duly received. The *Moniteur* of Saturday is filled with the New Year's day Addresses, presented, according to immemorial usage, to the King of the FRENCH. Copies of these Addresses, and the King's answers to them, will be found in another part of *The Sun*. We find much to admire in the King's answers to the Addresses of the Chambers and the Diplomatic body. They confirm all that we before heard of His Majesty's unalterable desire to maintain the peace of Europe. "The real good of France," said the King, addressing the Deputies, "does not consist in conquests, or in glory too dearly purchased at the price of our blood and our treasure. War should not be undertaken except when the public interest renders it a rigorous duty. At present, we have the hope, that the long career of peace, which we have gone through so honourably, will not be interrupted; but, on the contrary, will be continued, without the country having anything to regret, either for its honour or dignity. It will always have reason to be proud of having preserved mankind from the dangers and evils of a general war. We have given to history sufficient monuments of our glory to have a right to add to our trophies that which is not less glorious—that of being the guarantees of the peace of the world, and the repose of mankind." These noble sentiments, so worthy of the King and of France, were delivered in a firm voice, and were responded to with loud cheers and cries of "Vive le Roi!" by the assembled Deputies. To the Diplomatic body the King addressed himself in the same pacific spirit. "You know the value," observed His Majesty, addressing the Ambassadors, "which I have never ceased to attach to the duration of the political repose enjoyed by Europe, and to the maintenance of the general peace. Convinced as I am that this state of things is alike the interest of France and all other States, nothing shall relax my efforts to co-operate with all the Sovereigns for the preservation of this great blessing to our nation; and I hope with you that in the year which has just opened to us, the wisdom of the Cabinets will effect its consolidation." May these wise and patriotic sentiments find an echo in the heart of enlightened France!

[*From the Liverpool Standard, Jan.* 5.]

Since our last, there has been very little foreign intelligence of any importance. The war party in France seem to have exhausted their stock of abuse of the present ministry of Louis Philippe. There is nothing new from the East. The overland mail may be daily expected, with most important intelligence. We learn that the Circassians have again completely routed the Russians, and captured an important fort, after a decisive engagement. The governments of Austria, Prussia, Wurtemburg, and Bavaria, are purchasing horses to a very great extent in Russia, with the permission of the Emperor. This has certainly a warlike appearance. Fresh disturbances have taken place in the Province of Andalusia, in Spain. That distracted country is torn asunder by internal dissensions. Her finances, her trade, and her political relations are under the controul of rival factions, whose sole principle of action is self-aggrandisement. In case of a European war she will easily fall a prey to France, in whose favour her resources, such as they are, would be made available.

The Chartists have re-commenced their career of agitation in various parts of the kingdom.—Many of their leaders have been liberated from prison within the last few weeks, their term of incarceration having expired, and they have resumed their treasonable appeals to the passions of the multitude. The principal object of these incendiaries, at present, appears to be to excite a feeling of sympathy in favour of Frost, Jones, and Williams, with a view to the liberation of those convicted traitors. We are glad, however, to perceive that the numbers who attend the Chartist meetings have materially diminished of late.—They will soon merge into the Socialist body, with whom they seem to have strong feelings of sympathy. The meeting which was held, on Friday last, at Newport, notwithstanding the most extensive preparations, was comparatively insignificant in point of numbers. The magistrates appear to have taken the most prompt and energetic measures for the preservation of the public peace. The audience did not, at any time during the meeting, exceed 1000 persons. The meeting at Norwich was equally a decided failure, the number of Chartists present being only about 400. The meeting at Manchester, on Friday last, served to show, in like manner, that the cause of Chartism is nearly extinct. Its day, like that of many political humbugs, has passed away. The labouring classes have, at length, found out that the lazy delegates and travelling orators were the only parties that were likely to profit from the agitation in favour of the Charter. Two Chartist newspapers have recently become defunct, and the *Northern Star* itself is in *articulo mortis*. In another year, we shall hear nothing of Chartism but at those dens of infamy, the Socialists' "Halls of Science."

The *Sud*, of Marseilles, contains accounts from Constantinople, stating that the Russians had been completely defeated by the Circassians, and driven from one of their most important fortresses, after a decisive battle. The intelligence, owing to the absence of dates and places, was considered very doubtful.

CHINA.—Cape of Good Hope papers contain, and we believe it has not yet been made public through any other channel, an account brought by a vessel from the Mauritius, to the effect that a division of the British fleet had gone up the Yellow River, and would proceed to within eighty miles of Pekin. The troops would march along the banks, in order to secure the passage, which is represented as very circuitous. Unfortunately we have no date given with this piece of information. The Canton River was effectually blockaded.

NEW COMET.—The French papers seize with avidity the appearance of a new comet, as one of the remarkable series of prodigies by which the year 1840 is to be made famous in all future time. Nothing but this, they aver, was wanting to make it commemorable. The new comet is certainly not fictitious. Dr. Bromiker, of Berlin, has just discovered one, which was remarked also at the observatory of Vienna, on the 18th of November, and which was also observed by an astronomer at Modena on the 1st of December. This comet is not visible except with the assistance of a telescope. At this moment it is to be seen in the constellation of Andromeda.

The Courier.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 1841.

A summary of the news by the January Mail, which arrived in town at an early hour last Sunday morning, by the land route from Halifax will be found in preceding columns. The dates are to the 5th of the month; but there is nothing of special importance.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.—On our last page will be found the Answers of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly to the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor at the opening of the Session. These documents breathe a pleasing spirit of harmony and unanimity between the different branches of the Legislature. The proceedings of the Assembly during the first four days, as detailed in the Journals, appear to be of little interest. On Monday last His Excellency communicated to the Assembly several important Dispatches received from the Colonial Secretary, relating to certain Acts passed by the Provincial Legislature, and which had been submitted to the Home Government for approval. With respect to the Act for the prevention of Fires and the widening of Streets in this City, relative to which a Petition was forwarded to Her Majesty by the Common Council, Lord John Russell remarks—

"The Acts Nos. 1252 and 1253, for the prevention of Fires, and the widening of the Streets in the City of Saint John, form the subject of a Petition to Her Majesty from the Common Council, complaining that these Acts infringe unnecessarily upon the privileges of their Charter. Your despatch also transmitted extracts from the Council Minutes, and copies of an address from the Common Council to yourself, and of your answer.

"I have laid the Petition before Her Majesty.

"It has not been thought desirable to withhold the Royal assent to the first mentioned Act, but that for widening the Streets of Saint John, appears to be liable to the objections so strongly taken to it by the Common Council, that it amounts to a direct and unnecessary infringement of the Charter, granted by His late Majesty King George the Third,—Her Majesty cannot be advised to confirm it. It must therefore be amended."

COURT OF NISI PRIUS.—On Thursday last His Honor Judge Parker passed sentence in the following cases:

William Williams, for Manslaughter, in causing the death of William Blair, two years hard labour; William Robertson for Larceny, in purloining the goods of Mr. James Bowes, six months' hard labour; John E. Rulofson, for a similar offence, in stealing cloths from Mr. E. L. Thorne, twelve months' hard labour; and William Robinson, an old offender, for stealing a cloak from the residence of Capt. Coote, twelve months' hard labour. His Honor delivered feeling addresses to the several prisoners, some of whom, a short time since, had bright prospects before them, but are now doomed to suffer the punishment and ignominy of their offences.

In the case of Daniel Croonan, Dennis Leary, John Barry, Dennis Donovan, and James Driscoll, who had been found guilty of the assault on Mr. McCarron and his wife, at York Point, in this city, as detailed in the newspapers a few weeks ago, sentence was deferred; and they were required to give bail for their appearance on the second Tuesday in April, to receive sentence.

Yesterday, His Honor passed sentence on four of a gang of ruffians, found guilty of an assault on Assistant Alderman Hagerty, and other citizens, last Monday evening. Robert Dewer, the ringleader, an old offender, was sentenced to twelve months hard labour; two others, coloured men, to six months each. John Brister, also a coloured man, in consideration of his taking part with Mr. Hagerty on his interference in the affray, was sentenced to only one month's hard labour.

The Grand Jury, on Thursday last, presented our City Police establishment, coupled with its administration, as a nuisance, and also made very grave charges against two of the Aldermen. As His Honor said that he should order copies of the presentment to be furnished to the Justices in Sessions, the Common Council and each of the Members for the City and County, we shall, no doubt, have it at full length, very shortly.

The Circuit Court was adjourned this day until the Second Tuesday in April next, when the causes still remaining on the docket will be disposed of.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Two very interesting Lectures were delivered on the regular evenings, this week, by the Rev. J. G. Macgregor—on the *Science of Geography*, and the *Geography of History*. The Rev gentleman elucidated his subjects in the most clear and pleasing manner, and gave ample evidence of possessing a mind well stored with useful scientific knowledge.

On Monday evening, Mr. Robertson Bayard will deliver his first Lecture on the *Antiquities of America*. The Hall will be open next Wednesday evening, when Mr. S. M. Chamberlain will deliver a Lecture, which he has volunteered, on the *Zoology of New-Brunswick*; and on Friday, Mr. G. N. Smith will Lecture *on the progress of the Fine Arts from the institution of the Italian Schools*, as announced in the programme of the course.

CONCERT.—On Thursday evening, the *Saint John Sacred Music Society* gave a Concert in the Lecture Room of the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, in the presence of between five and six hundred of the most respectable ladies and gentlemen of our city. The musical talent of the members, generally, as displayed on the occasion, surpassed public expectation, and some of them were particularly conspicuous. Of the latter was Mrs. Jones, who possesses a judgment and voice inferior to few of the best female singers of the present day, Miss Busteed, and the Misses Finch. Mr. S. K. Foster, Conductor of the Society, acquitted himself with his customary ability, and Mr. Weishecker's admirable performances on the Piano Forte were highly applauded. On the whole, the entertainment and attendance were excellent, and creditable alike to the Society and the public.

We are unable to-day to give the letter of *Zerubabel Skinner*, but as the information it contains is both novel and curious, we give a summary of its contents. Our correspondent states that Mr. Truro, of the Chronicle, agreed to give John Ambrose Street, Esq. the sum of forty guineas, as a Counsel fee, on the late trial for Libel; that Mr. Truro accepted Mr. Street's draft at three months for the amount, being £46 13s. 4d.; that the draft fell due very recently, and not being paid, the holder waited on Mr. Truro to ask the reason, and was told that the parties who concocted the Libel had promised to pay, and should pay, and that unless they did so, he would publish their names, and a statement of the transaction in his paper. The draft has since been put in suit by the holder, and our correspondent says an active correspondence has been going on between Mr. Truro and the contributors to the Chronicle, who do not feel inclined to pay over any money—that "*the Statute of Limitations*" not being available against a demand of so recent date, some other equally honourable plea has been resorted to.

As so much appears to be publicly known respecting this most shabby affair, we strongly advise Mr. Truro, as brother Editor, and having a fellow feeling with him, to show up the delinquents and not allow himself, after being subjected to the annoyance and vexation of a prosecution, to be compelled to pay the expenses out of his own pocket. It is a thing that should never be submitted to.

☞ We owe our friend HOWE one. He will be kind enough, meanwhile, however, to make the *amende honorable*, and correct the error in his next *Novascotian*, thus—for '*Chubb*', read '*Stubs*', who gave a highly interesting Lecture at the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute on the rise and progress of Newspapers, &c. We intend shortly to ask the Rev. FREDERICK COSTER, Rector of the Parish of Carleton, to preach us a sermon on the *new* and *improved* principle of paying printers' bills, the *moral* effect of which, we doubt not, will be salutary to the *conscientious rectitude* of his hearers.—When he preaches it we will print it and send Mr. H. a copy.

FIRE.—On Wednesday night between 12 and 1 o'clock, a barn belonging to Mr. James March, at Manawagonish, was entirely consumed by fire with the whole of its contents, of 17 head of cattle, a span of horses, 250 bushels oats, about 10 tons of hay, besides harness, farming utensils, &c. Another horse being the only animal which escaped from the barn, is so severely bruised as to be entirely useless. This unfortunate circumstance will be severely felt by Mr. M. who we understand, is an industrious, hard working man, and destroying as it does the whole of his cattle, and means of going on with his farming business. It is not known how the fire originated.—*Chron.*

A Highland North British Society, (in connection with the Highland Society of London,) has been formed in Miramichi, of which James Gilmour, Esq. has been chosen President, and Alex. Fraser, Jr., Dr. Alex. Key, R. C. M'Donald, and Alex. Rankin, Esquires, Vice Presidents.

HALIFAX, Jan. 21.—*More Steam!*—We have been favoured with the following extract of a letter from one of the first houses in London, dated January 4th:—"We had a long visit yesterday from Mr. Cunard—the *Steam Lion*. He talks of establishing a steamer every week for Halifax. The project is favourably considered at the Colonial Office."—From other letters which have been received in town, we are informed that Mr. Cunard is making arrangements to build two more steamers. Success to his enterprise!—*Morning Post.*

HALIFAX, January 26.—*Ordination.*—On Sunday morning, the 24th inst. the Bishop of the Diocese, held an Ordination in St. George's Church; when the Rev. John Storrs, A. B. of Trinity College, Dublin, and Curate of the Parish, was admitted to the Office of Priest. The Rev. James William Disbrow, A. B. of King's College, Fredericton, Assistant Missionary at Lunenburg, and Mahone Bay, was also admitted to the Office of Priest. And Alexander Stewart, from England, was admitted to the Office of Deacon, on the nomination and title of the Rev. I. W. D. Gray, Rector of St. John, N. B.

Rev. J. W. Disbrow proceeded to Gay's River, and Rev. A. Stewart is appointed second Curate at St. John, N. B.

The Montreal Gazette announces, with a *quasi* official manner, that Sir George Arthur will embark for England in the course of a few weeks.—General Sir Richard Jackson will, it is supposed, succeed him in the Government of Upper Canada, temporarily at least.

McLEOD.—The Niagara (Upper Canada) Chronicle of the 14th instant, has the following paragraph in relation to this individual:

We understand that Mr. McLeod will to-day give the required bail at Lockport. This step, we believe, would not have been taken had there been any probability of his trial taking place when the court sits in February; but, as it is almost certain that he would have been incarcerated for many months before his persecutors would bring the cause on, it is far better that he should be at liberty in the mean time, his health having already suffered materially from the unjust confinement of which he has been the victim.

FIRE ON BOARD THE COLUMBIA STEAMER.—A correspondent of the New-York Courier, who was a passenger in the Columbia, from Liverpool, writing from this city, says the steamer was on fire on the 17th inst.,