UNITED STATES.

CONGRESS.

EXECUTIVE PAPERS ON THE STEAMER CAROLINE.

To the House of Representatives of the U. States.

I herewith transmit to the House of Representatives, a report from the Secretary of State, with accompanying papers, in answer to their Resolution of the 21st inst. M. VAN BUREN.

Washington, December 28, 1840.

Department of State, Washington, December 28, 1840.

[This report is merely formal, covering the documents which follow.]

Mr. Stevenson to Mr. Forsyth—Extract.

Legation of the United States, London, July 2, 1839.

* * * I regret to say that no answer has yet been given to my note in the case of the "Caroline." I have not deemed it proper, under the circumstances, to press the subject without farther instructions from your Department. If it is the wish of the Government that I should do so, I pray to be informed of it, and the degree of urgency that I am to adopt.

Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Stevenson—Extract.

Department of State, Washington, 11th September, 1839.

* * * With reference to the closing paragraph of your communication to the Department, dated the 2d July last, (No. 74,) it is proper to inform you that no instructions are at present required for again bringing forward the question of the "Caroline." I have had frequent conversations with Mr. Fox in regard to this subject—one of very recent date—and from its tone, the President expects the British Government will answer your application in the case without much farther delay.

Mr. Fox to Mr. Forsyth.

Washington, December 13, 1840.

Sir—I am informed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, that Mr. Alexander M'Leod, a British subject, and late Deputy Sheriff of the Niagara District in Upper Canada, was arrested in Lewiston, in the State of New-York, on the 12th of last month, on a pretended charge of murder and arson, as having been engaged in the capture and destruction of the piratical steamboat "Caroline," in the month of December, 1837. After a tedious and vexatious examination, Mr. M'Leod was committed for trial, and he is now imprisoned in Lockport jail.

I feel it my duty to call upon the Government of the United States, to take prompt and effectual steps for the liberation of Mr. M'Leod. It is well known that the destruction of the steamboat "Caroline," was a public act of persons in Her Majesty's service, obeying the order of their superior authorities. That act, therefore, according to the usages of nations, can only be the subject of discussion between the two national Governments. It cannot justly be made the ground of legal proceedings in the United States against the individuals concerned, who were bound to obey the authorities appointed by their own Government.

I may add that I believe it is quite notorious that Mr. M'Leod was not one of the party engaged in the destruction of the steamboat Caroline; and that the pretended charge upon which he has been imprisoned, rests only upon the perjured testimony of certain Canadian outlaws and their abettors, who, unfortunately for the peace of that neighbourhood, are still permitted by the authorities of the State of New-York to infest the Canadian frontier.

The question, however, of whether Mr. M'Leod was or was not concerned in the destruction of the Caroline, is beside the purpose of the present communication. This act was the public act of persons obeying the constituted authorities of Her Majesty's Provinces. The national Government of the United States thought themselves called upon to remonstrate against it; and a remonstrance which the President did accordingly address to Her Majesty's Government, is still, I believe, a pending subject of diplomatic discussion between Her Majesty's Government and the United States Legation in London. I feel, therefore, justified in expecting that the President's Government will see the justice and the necessity of causing the present immediate release of Mr. M'Leod, as well as of taking such steps as may be requisite for preventing others of Her Majesty's subjects from being persecuted or molested in the United States in a similar manner for the future.

It appears that Mr. M'Leod was arrested on the 12th ultimo; that after examination of witnesses, he was finally committed for trial on the 18th, and placed in confinement in the jail of Lockport, awaiting the assizes, which will be held there in February next. As the case is naturally occasioning a great degree of excitement and indignation within the British frontier, I earnestly hope that it may be in your power to give me an early and satisfactory answer to the present representation.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

H. S. FOX.

Honorable John Forsyth, &c.

Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Fox.

Department of State, Washington, December 26, 1840.

Sir—I have the honour to acknowledge, and have laid before the President, your letter of the 13th instant, touching the arrest and imprisonment of Mr. Alexander M'Leod, a British subject, and late Deputy Sheriff of the Niagara District, in Upper Canada, as having been engaged in the capture and destruction of the steamboat Caroline, in the month of December, 1837; in respect to which you state that you feel it your duty to call upon the Government of the United States to take prompt and effectual steps for the liberation of Mr. M'Leod, and to prevent others of the subjects of Her Majesty, the Queen of Great Britain, from being persecuted or molested in a similar manner, for the future.

This demand, with the grounds upon which it is made, has been duly considered by the President, with a sincere desire to give it such a reply as will not only manifest a proper regard for the character and rights of the United States, but, at the same time, tend to preserve the amicable relations which, so advantageously for both, subsist between this country and England. Of the reality of this disposition, and of the uniformity with which it has been evinced in the many delicate and difficult questions which have arisen between the two countries in the last few years, no one can be more convinced than yourself. It is, then, with unfeigned regret that the President finds himself unable to recognise the validity of a demand, a compliance with which you deem so material to the preservation of the good understanding which has been hitherto manifested between the two countries.

The jurisdiction of the several states which constitute the Union is, within its appropriate sphere, perfectly independent of the Federal Government. The offence with which Mr. M'Leod is charged, was committed within the territory, and against the laws and citizens of the State of New-York, and is one that comes clearly within the competency of her tribunals. It does not, therefore, present an occasion where, under the constitution and laws of the Union, the interposition called for would be proper, or for which a warrant can be found in the powers with which the Federal Executive is invested. Nor would the circumstances to which you have referred, or the reasons you have urged, justify the exertion of such a power, if it existed. The transaction out of which the question arises presents the case of a most unjustifiable invasion, in time of peace, of a portion of the territory of the United States, by a band of armed men from the adjacent territory of Canada, the forcible capture by them within our own waters, and the subsequent destruction, of a steamboat, the property of a citizen of the United States, and the murder of one or more American citizens. If arrested at the time, the offenders might unquestionably have been brought to justice by the judicial authorities of the State within whose acknowledged territory these crimes were committed; and their subsequent voluntary entrance within that territory, places them in the same situation.

The President is not aware of any principle of international law, or of reason or justice, which entitles such offenders to impunity before the legal tribunals, when coming voluntarily within their independent and undoubted jurisdiction, because they acted in obedience to their superior authorities, or because their acts have become the subject of diplomatic discussion between the two Governments. These methods of redress, the legal prosecution of the offenders, and the application of their Government for satisfaction, are independent of each other, and may be separately and simultaneously pursued. The avowal of justification of the outrage, by the British authorities, might be a ground of complaint with the Government of the United States, distinct from the violation of the territory and laws of the State of New-York.

The application of the Government of the Union to that of Great Britain, for the redress of an authorized outrage of the peace, dignity and rights of the United States, cannot deprive the State of New-York of her undoubted right of vindicating, through the exercise of her judicial power, the property and lives of her citizens. You have very properly regarded the alleged absence of Mr. M'Leod from the scene of the offence at the time it was committed, as not material to the decision of the present question. That is a matter to be decided by legal evidence; and the sincere desire of the President is that it may be satisfactorily established. If the destruction of the Caroline was a public act of persons in Her Majesty's service, obeying the order of their authorities, this fact has not been before communicated to the Government of the United States by a person authorized to make the admission; and it will be for the Court which has taken cognizance of the offence with which Mr. M'Leod is charged, to decide upon its validity when legally established before it.

The President deems this to be a proper occasion to remind the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, that the case of the Caroline has been long since brought to the attention of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who, up to this day, has not communicated its decision thereupon. It is hoped that the Government of Her Britannic Majesty will perceive the importance of no longer leaving the Government of the United States uninformed of its views and intentions upon a subject which has naturally produced much exasperation, and which has led to such grave consequences.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

JOHN FORSYTH.

H. S. Fox, Esquire, &c. &c.

The following additional correspondence was communicated to Congress on the 2d of January:

I think proper to communicate to the House of Representatives, in further answer to their Resolution of the 21st ultimo, the correspondence which has since occurred between the Secretary of State and the British Minister on the same subject.

M. VAN BUREN.

Washington, January 2, 1841.

Mr. Fox to Mr. Forsyth.

Washington, December 29, 1840.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, in which, in reply to a letter which I had addressed to you on the 13th, you acquaint me that the President is not prepared to comply with my demand for the liberation of Mr. Alexander M'Leod, of Upper Canada, now imprisoned at Lockport, in the State of New-York, on a pretended charge of murder and arson, as having been engaged in the destruction of the piratical steamboat Caroline, on the 29th December, 1837.

I learn with deep regret that such is the decision of the President of the United States, for I cannot but foresee the very grave and serious consequences that must ensue if, besides the injury already inflicted upon Mr. M'Leod, of a vexatious and unjust imprisonment, any further harm should be done to him in the progress of this extraordinary proceeding.

I have lost no time in forwarding to Her Majesty's Government in England the correspondence that has taken place, and I shall await the further orders of Her Majesty's Government with respect to the important question which that correspondence involves.

But I feel it my duty not to close this communication without likewise testifying my vast regret and surprise at the expressions which I find repeated in your letter with reference to the destruction of the steamboat Caroline. I had confidently hoped that the first erroneous impression of the character of that event, imposed upon the mind of the United States Government by partial and exaggerated representations, would long since have been effaced by a more strict and accurate examination of the facts. Such an investigation must even yet, I am willing to believe, lead the United States Government to the same conviction with which Her Majesty's authorities on the spot were impressed, that the act was one in the strictest sense of self-defence, rendered absolutely necessary by the circumstances of the occasion, for the safety and protection of Her Majesty's subjects, and justified by the same motives and principles which, upon similar and well known occasions, have governed the conduct of illustrious officers of the U. States.

The steamboat Caroline was a hostile vessel engaged in piratical war against Her Majesty's people, hired from her owners for that express purpose, and known to be so beyond the possibility of doubt.

The place where this vessel was destroyed was nominally, it is true, within the territory of a friendly Power, but the friendly Power had been deprived, through overbearing piratical violence, of the use of its proper authority over that portion of territory. The authorities of New-York had not even been able to prevent the artillery of the State from being carried off publicly, at mid-day, to be used as instruments of war against Her Majesty's subjects. It was under such circumstances, which it is to be hoped will never recur, that the vessel was attacked by a party of Her Majesty's people, captured and destroyed.

A remonstrance against the act in question has been addressed by the United States to Her Majesty's Government in England. I am not authorized to pronounce the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon that remonstrance, but I have felt myself bound to record, in the mean time, the above opinion, in order to protest in the most solemn manner against the spirited and loyal conduct of a party of Her Majesty's officers and people being qualified, through an unfortunate misapprehension, as I believe, of the facts, with the appellation of outrage or of murder.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

H. S. FOX.

Mr. Forsyth to Mr. Fox.

Department of State, Washington, December 31, 1840.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 29th instant, in reply to mine of the 26th, on the subject of the arrest and detention of Mr. Alexander M'Leod, as one of the perpetrators of the outrage committed in New-York when the steamboat Caroline was seized and burnt. Full evidence of that outrage has been presented to Her Majesty's Government with a demand for redress, and of course no discussion of the circumstances here can be either useful or proper, nor can I suppose it to be your desire to invite it. I take leave of the subject with this single remark, that the opinion so strongly expressed by you on the facts and principles involved in the demand for reparation on Her Majesty's Government by the United States would hardly have been hazarded, had you been possessed of the carefully collected testimony which has been presented to your Government in support of that demand.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

JOHN FORSYTH.

On the communication of the first part of this correspondence some excitement was displayed in the House of Representatives. Mr. Alford, of Georgia, assailed the Administration with much spirit, for its pusillanimous policy in relation to Great Britain, and commended the Secretary of State for the able and dignified manner in which he has defended the rights of the Empire State of New-York.

Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, expressed his gratification that the gentleman from Georgia should find anything to approve in the conduct of the present administration. He wished to know, however, if his remarks were to be received as indicating the policy of the new administration; as he inferred from them that it was prepared to rush into a conflict with the formidable power of Great Britain, for a line of demarcation. If they were to be precipitated into such a conflict—if the South was to be prostrated, he was thankful that gentlemen had shewn their hands, that the South might know that one of the results attending the triumph of the Whigs, was a question of territorial war.

Mr. Alford said, in reply, that he had not spoken in behalf of the coming administration, and knew nothing of its views and intentions on this subject. He had merely expressed his own opinion. His wish was that we should never have war with Great Britain on this or any other subject, if it could be honourably avoided.

Mr. Cushing, of Massachusetts, commented at some length on the prominent parts of the correspondence, and especially on the avowal of Mr. Fox that the outrage upon the Caroline was a public act of the Canadian authorities. He replied to the remarks of Mr. Holmes, and spoke in warm approval of the patriotic sentiments that had fallen from the member from Georgia. It was singular enough, he said, that while the members of this Congress had from their seats here and from the hustings proclaimed that the great Whig party were allies of the British, they were now accusing that very party of being anxious to rush into a war with Great Britain.

The subject is one of great importance, and is assuming a very serious aspect. If Mr. M'Leod should be convicted and punished, for an act committed by the authority of his Government, and justified by it, what is to be the consequence? Mr. Forsyth reminds Mr. Fox that the case of the Caroline has been long since brought to the attention of Her Majesty's principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, who has not to this day communicated the decision of his Government thereupon. If Mr. Van Buren had been more occupied with his official and less with his electioneering duties—and Mr. Forsyth had given a tithe of the attention to this subject that he bestowed upon fighting the battles of the administration in Georgia—this question might long since have been adjusted—and the Governments of both countries saved from the awkward position in which they now find themselves.

The coming administration, we have no doubt, will equal the present in prudence, and surpass it in vigour; and under its auspices we shall look with confidence to an early and final settlement of these agitating questions.—*N. Y. Cou. & Enq.*

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser, Jan. 5.

The Case of McLeod.—It is a remark as old, almost, as human communities, that accident has quite as much to do with the eventualities of national affairs as the wisdom or the prudence of statesmen. The saying, moreover, is as true as it is old; and many examples of its application will readily suggest themselves to the minds of persons having any reasonable familiarity with either modern or ancient history. The case of Alexander McLeod, now under arraignment in Niagara county, for murder alleged to have been committed on board the steamboat Caroline, presents some of the gravest and most difficult questions that have ever arisen under our complicated forms of state or national government. Accident may dispose of it in some way that shall dispense with the necessity of deciding these questions—as for instance the accident of his acquittal—but should the trial go on, and result in a verdict of guilty, we do not see how a great controversy is to be avoided, in which all the civilized nations of the Earth will have and take, a warm and serious interest. We are not prepared, just now, to examine the subject at large, but in reflecting upon it some ideas have occurred to us which it may be well enough to promulgate, as hints for the consideration of others.

It will have been noticed, doubtless, that Mr. Forsyth, in his letter to Mr. Fox, disclaims both the right and the duty of the national government to interpose, in any way, between Mr. McLeod and the judicial authorities of the State of New-York. To a certain extent—perhaps to the full extent of the language employed by him—Mr. Forsyth in this is undoubtedly right. The crime with which McLeod stands charged is murder, and this murder, if committed at all, was committed within the State of New-York, and falls exclusively within the jurisdiction of New-York tribunals.

But there is another point of view in which the sovereignty of this State, in relation to the matter, is not exclusive, even if it is concurrent. The attack upon the Caroline was a violation of the *national* territory, the *national* sovereignty and the *national* justice. This assertion, however, we need not waste words in demonstrating; for it is recognized and admitted by the claim for redress preferred by the Government of the United States upon the Government of Great Britain.

Now the pinch of the matter arises from this twofold character pertaining to the act in question, and from the distinction thus resulting; a distinction perfectly anomalous in the eyes of all Foreign Governments, one which they must find it very difficult to understand, and out of which most intricate and embarrassing questions are likely to grow hereafter.

Suppose McLeod is found guilty. His Government, deeming itself bound to protect him, demands of the United States Government that he be set at liberty; the United States Government replies that he has been condemned under the laws of New-York, whose sovereignty in the matter is absolute, and that it (the United States Government) cannot interfere. Can the British Government then make its demand upon the Government of New-York? Of that Government it has no recognition—with that Government it has no treaty, no diplomatic relations, no official means of communication. But suppose it succeeds in placing itself, somehow, in communication with the Government of New-York, and demands the release of the prisoner; the Government of New-York will of course reply—if it replies at all—that it knows nothing (officially) about the Government of Great Britain, and that if the latter has any thing to say it must address itself to the Government of the United States. In the mean time the man is hanged, under the authority of the State of New-York.

Now what is Great Britain to do? She cannot declare war with the State of New-York. She may *invade* the State of New-York, or make reprisals on the citizens of the State of New-York; but if she does, then the Government of the United States is bound to defend the State of New-York, and so the national war is brought on after all.

But there are twenty-six states in our confederacy, between every one of which and some foreign government an *embroglio* of the same nature may arise, under this system of exclusive state sovereignty; and so we may have twenty-six state wars on hand, each ripening into a national war.

Now how is this result to be avoided? We cannot expect Foreign Governments to recognize our peculiar system of state sovereignty as a bar to interpellations on behalf of their subjects. There must be, *somewhere*, an authority with which they can negociate in such cases, and which shall have power to interfere between state tribunals, and foreigners charged with offences that have what Mr. Webster would call "an odor of nationality" about them. The power can reside only in the national Government, and if the national Government does not possess it now, it must get it, by some means or other; or we shall find ourselves, one of these fine days, involved in some miserable war, the issue of which will be, if we are defeated, an irreparable blow to our prosperity, honor and power—and if victorious, a compact among all other powers to hold us excluded from the pale of nations. Pleasant alternative!

From the Augusta Age.

Great Britain.—By reference to our congressional abstract, it will be seen that Great Britain has avowed the burning of the Caroline, and the murder of the unoffending American citizens in it, as the act of its Colonial Authorities.

It would also seem, if the article extracted by us from the Montreal Gazette is to be relied upon, that the Governor General of Canada will not accede to the advice of Sir John Harvey, and substitute a civil posse for the military force, now stationed at the Madawaska by his orders.

So far as these occurrences develope the temper of the British Government, they are not very flattering to the hopes entertained of the speedy and successful issue of the negotiations for a just commission of survey and settlement, in reference to the North East Boundary. So far at least as public opinion is concerned, the number of those who despair of a termination of the controversy upon the basis of that negotiation, is every day increasing.

It is stated in the Richmond Enquirer that Andrew Stevenson, Esquire, the American Minister at the Court of St. James's, has requested to be recalled, and that he may leave London about the first of March next for the United States.

Fires—seven lives lost.—At New Orleans on the 27th of December, a fire broke out in the buildings between the two markets on Old Levee-street. They were entirely destroyed. They were occupied by Joseph Morrison, ship chandler, and by sundry small dealers. A child of Mr. Morrison, aged four years, Mrs. Brown, sister-in-law of Mr. Morrison, her two children, a colored woman and her child perished in the flames. A fireman, Cunningham C. H. Rowan, was also killed by the falling of the walls—thus making a loss of seven lives by the fire. Mrs. Morrison escaped from the burning ruins with an infant child in her arms, by creeping along the roof of the building where the fire commenced to that of the adjoining one. The loss of property is estimated at $31,000.

—*New-York papers, Saturday, Jan. 9.*

GREAT FRESHETS.

Croton Dam Destroyed, and Lives Lost.—We are sorry to say, that most serious injury has been caused to the works on the Croton River, by an unprecedented rise of its waters, and, unfortunately, not unaccompanied with a loss of human life. The rain, which commenced falling on Tuesday evening, and which continued, without intermission, till Thursday at midnight, added to the melting of the snow, which was about 18 inches deep, when the thaw began, so swelled the river, and created such a torrent of water, that it has carried away about one-half the Croton Dam and the new bridge across the river, above the dam.

These works were erected under the superintendence of the water commissioners, and the city will experience a severe loss by the injury they have sustained. The mason-work part of the dam remains, but the earthen embankment, with the heavy stone protection-wall, of 20 feet thickness, at its base, is all carried away. Upward of two years have already been expended on its construction, and it was all but completed last fall.

Three bridges, below the dam, one of which is crossed by the New-York and Albany post-road, and several mills, as well as dwelling-houses, both above and below, have also been swept away, and, we regret to add, that three individuals, who were inmates of the latter, have lost their lives. The flood came in the middle of the night, and with such rapidity, that the people had scarce time to escape from their beds and seek refuge in the tops of trees.

The rise in the Croton River has been greater than is recollected by the oldest inhabitant.—As yet we have not heard of any other injury having befallen the works on the aqueduct than those above described, though it is not unlikely, we think, that more have taken place.

The country, below the dam, exhibited a scene of devastation. Fragments of houses, chairs, bedsteads, trunks, and other furniture, were floating down the stream, or thrown upon the inundated fields in promiscuous confusion.

We were unable to obtain a full list of the sufferers, and can only particularize a few. Tompkins bridge was carried away; Bailey's wire and rolling factory was totally destroyed; so also were Hollmon's Mills, Quaker's Bridge, and Pine's Bridge. In addition to these, about 60 houses or shantees, occupied by Irish labourers, were carried away. The inmates, being taken by surprise, were obliged to fly for safety, without saving any thing, and some, being unable to escape otherwise, were compelled to climb trees in the midst of the water.

From the South, we have nothing beyond Philadelphia. A gentleman, who arrived this morning, informs us, that the Newark Turnpike, Belleville, and Aquackanock Bridges have all been swept away.

The correspondent of the Courier says, that the damage by the rise of the Delaware is great. It is supposed that lumber, to the amount of 100,000 dollars, floated down the Delaware yesterday.

Philadelphia, Jan. 8.—Every bridge, across the Delaware, between Trenton and Easton, had been swept away, and the fragments of the bridges were to be seen, floating down past Trenton, this morning, together with large quantities of grain, hay, barns, barrack, household furniture, &c. &c.

Yardleyville and Taylorsville Bridges, which cost $20,000 each, have been carried away.

The Latest News from Florida is, that Colonel Harvey has surprised a camp of forty Indians, *hung ten of the warriors*, and reserved one to take him to Sam Jones's camp. Chekika, who headed the party robbing Indian Key, was among the number. Lieutenant Ord, in attempting to dislodge seven Indians from an island, lost one man, had six wounded, and the only one uninjured, brought his men off.

Lieut. Sherwood was shot while proceeding from Micanopy to another port. A lady in company was wounded, as were four or five of the escort.

At Fort Fanning, eleven warriors came in on Christmas day. At Tampa Bay, fifteen warriors came in on the same day. Seven came to Fort King, in quest of Gen. Armistead; they afterwards left that post to seek him at Tampa Bay. At Cedar Key, seventeen warriors surrendered themselves. Several others, (number not known) came in at No. 4, a post between Cedar Key and Fort Fanning. These warriors all came in at different posts, within four days of each other. It is supposed that the delegation from Arkansas has contributed to produce this state of things.

IRON.—20 tons common and refined Iron assorted.—For sale by
Dec. 19. RATCHFORD & BROTHERS.

The Courier.

SATURDAY, January 16, 1841.

By the New-York Packet Ships *England* and *Garrick*, we have received Liverpool papers to the 12th December, inclusive. The intelligence they furnish from China, Egypt, and the East Indies, is highly interesting, and will be found detailed in the summary below, which we have copied from New-York papers.

It affords us much gratification to learn that Her Majesty and the young Princess continued to improve in health; and that our Gracious Queen had so far recovered as to attend the meeting of the Cabinet Council, and to be able to affix her signature to all official documents.

At the Privy Council, held on the 8th of December, Parliament was farther prorogued, from the 10th of that month to the 26th of January—then to meet, for the despatch of business.

The accounts from Europe are somewhat better; and as to the markets, for cotton better, the demand being active, the prices well sustained, and, indeed, according to some accounts, advanced considerably.

It is in contemplation to create the Province of New-Brunswick into an independent Episcopal see.

The Solicitor to the Treasury has received instructions to prefer an indictment against Jones, the person who was found secreted in Buckingham Palace.

Weekly meetings of the Chartists are held at various places in the West of England.

The great contest in Carlow, Ireland, has resulted in the election of Colonel Bruen, Conservative. His antagonist was Mr. Ponsonby, Whig. The seat became vacant, we believe, by the death of Mr. Vigor, Whig.

It is said that in return for the compliment of giving up the rooms of the King of Hanover in St. James's Palace, a suit has been brought by him in Chancery, against Sir Henry Wheatly, Keeper of the Queen's Privy Purse, for the crown jewels of the Kingdom of Hanover.

A letter from Hanover states, that the ex-Duke Charles of Brunswick, expelled some years ago by his subjects, was meditating an attempt to recover his dominions by force; that he had purchased arms, ammunition, &c. in England, and enlisted men, and that his attempt would be made in December. A notice to this effect had been issued by the Hanoverian Minister of the Interior. The police were enjoined to be vigilant. The ex-Duke is considered by many as little better than mad. He has resided for some years in England.

Her Majesty has appointed Com. Charles Napier a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath, for his distinguished services in Syria.

The new steam ship Columbia was advertised at Liverpool to sail on the 5th January for Halifax and Boston.

The steamer Oriental had made a passage from Gibraltar to Malta in three days and twenty hours. It was supposed to be the shortest passage ever made between the two ports.

The London Journal of Commerce of Dec. 5 says that a return to general confidence in money and banking matters, is the only feature, and an important one, that distinguishes this week from the last. "The money market has become decidedly more easy since this day week."

It is said that the English and French Cabinets were on better terms, and that the tone of the last despatches of the latter was more satisfactory.

M. Guizot declared, in the Chamber of Deputies, on the 9th of December, that it was the firm determination of the French Government, not to interfere, directly or indirectly, in the affairs of Spain. This is important.

General Sir Joseph Stratton, recently deceased, bequeathed 70,000 pounds to the University of Edinburgh.

It is perhaps generally known that for a small commission the post offices in England will check upon each other, thereby insuring the safe transmission of money from one part of the kingdom to another. By a recent order of the postmaster-general, the commission is reduced, on sums not exceeding £2, from six-pence to three-pence, and on sums exceeding £2, and not exceeding £5, from 1s. 6d. to 6d.

The eminent house of Fox & Co., wire-drawers, of Birmingham, stopped payment on the 9th of December. Liabilities, £150,000. Assets believed to be sufficient to pay all. About 500 workmen were thrown out of employment, by this failure, in Birmingham alone, and a great number in Wales.

Bank of England.—Quarterly average of weekly liabilities and assets of Bank of England, from 15th September, to 8th Dec. 1840.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Circulation,	£16,446,000	Securities,	£22,078,000
Deposits,	6,337,000	Bullion,	3,511,000
	£22,783,000		£25,589,000

From the London Standard, Dec. 12.

By the quarterly average return of the weekly liabilities of the Bank of England, published in the Gazette of last night, it appears that there has been a decrease in the circulation of £352,000; in deposits of £59,000; in securities of £241,000, and in bullion of £218,000.

Half-past one o'clock.

The British funds still continue to decline; Consols may now be quoted 89½ for the opening with little doing. Reduced, 89¼; Bank Stock 157½; for the Account 158¼.

London, Dec. 12.—*Twelve o'clock.*—The funds have been flat to-day, and nearly ¼ per cent. lower. This arises from the continued decrease in Bank stock of bullion, and the apprehensions entertained on the subject of the foreign loans.

(From the London Globe, of Dec. 7.)

We are glad to hear that Messrs. H. & J. Johnston & Co., who lately suspended payments, have issued a circular to their creditors, stating that they will be prepared on Saturday next to pay a second instalment of 10s. in the pound, and thus liquidate in full all outstanding claims against them. Afterward the firm will continue their business upon the old footing. The business of Wright & Co., the bankers, has been taken up by the London Joint Stock Bank, and it will be conducted by two of the partners in Wright's house, Messrs. Jerningham & Robinson, as joint managers, on the old premises in Henrietta-street. All the other rumours, of an unpleasant nature, have died away again.

The over-land India Mail arrived at London on the 7th of December, via Alexandria and Marseilles, containing advices from Bombay to the 1st of November, from China to the 4th of August, and from Calcutta to the 18th of October.

China.—The expedition to Chusan, under the command of Commodore Sir J. Gordon Bremer and Brigadier General Burrell, arrived off that island on the 2d of July, and the necessary soundings having been taken, anchored in the harbour of Chusan on the 4th, and after summoning the Governor to surrender, compliance with which was evaded, the operations against the place were commenced on the following day, July 5th. After a short resistance on the beach, which was soon cleared, the troops landed and began to breach the city of Ting-hae-heen, the capital of Chusan, which was defended till a late hour, but on the following morning was found to have been evacuated during the night, and the British troops immediately took possession. A great number of guns were captured, together with numerous stores and a large quantity of ammunition.

The loss of the Chinese is estimated at about 30 killed; but there were no casualties on the side of the British.

Admiral Elliott, in the Melville, reached Chusan on the 7th of July, and unfortunately got aground, with so much damage done as to make it necessary to have his ship hove down and dismantled, thus rendering her perfectly useless. In sailing along the coast, the Blonde, sent into Amoy with a flag of truce, was fired into; but on returning the fire, the Chinese troops were quickly dispersed, with considerable loss.

Shortly after the admiral's arrival, he proceeded to Ning-po-foo to forward a sealed letter to the Emperor, which, after having been received by the mandarins of that city, was returned unopened. In consequence of this occurrence, Ning-po-foo was blockaded, and preparations were making to extend the blockade to the mouth of the river Yong-he-Kian, leading to Canton. The capture of Chusan, and the action at Amoy, appear to have caused a great sensation in that part of China. Brigadier General Burrell has been appointed Governor of Chusan.

The ships of war at Chusan were the Wellesley, Conway, Alligator, Algerine, Cruiser, Melville, Blenheim, Pylades, and Madagascar and Enterprise steamers. The accounts from Canton state, that Commissioner Lin was vainly endeavouring to raise volunteers to destroy the ships of war, by the promise of high rewards. Several junks, laden with salt and grain, had been captured under the guns of the Bogue fort by the British blockading squadron, which consisted of the Druid, Volage, Hyacinth, and Larne, subsequently reinforced by the Nimrod and Columbine. The blockade did not commence till the first of July.

All the foreigners, remaining at Canton, namely, two Americans, two Swiss, one Dutchman, and one Portuguese, had been ordered to leave the city. All the factories were abandoned. The inner passage was left open by the blockaders, but the Chinese would not allow any silk or tea to come down, nor manufactured goods to go up.

The American ships Merchant, Adelaide, and Wellington had been released.

Among other appointments made at Chusan, we notice that of the Rev. Mr. Gutzlaff to be acting Chief Magistrate.

The export of tea, including transhipments, at Singapore, would fall short by near 13,000,000 lbs. of the average for the previous four years.

Tonnage to England was very scarce at Macao. The Blakely sailed for Liverpool on the 31st of July, having been loaded at £10 per ton all round. The Litherland would be loaded at the same rate. The arrival, however, of the Barossa and the Isabella, of Leith, and other vessels being expected from Singapore, all the goods (about 1500 tons of tea and 1000 bales of silk) awaiting conveyance at Capsingmoon, would have no difficulty in finding tonnage on more moderate terms; after which home freights would be no longer procurable till teas were again allowed to be exported.

Turkey and Egypt.—The intelligence from Alexandria is to the 26th of November. Commodore Napier arrived there on the 21st, and immediately opened negociations with Boghos Bey, the Pacha's prime minister. These negociations were kept secret, but the correspondents of the London papers say that Commodore Napier's terms were, the immediate evacuation of Syria, and the restoration of the Turkish fleet—to be offset by the confirmation of the Pacha as hereditary sovereign of Egypt. The latest letter, dated November 26, states, that the Pacha had finally yielded, and that an order would be forthwith given by him for the embarkation of his son Ibrahim and his army. The Turkish fleet was to remain in possession of the Pacha until proper guarantees should be given for his hereditary enjoyment of Egypt.—Commodore Napier was resolved, and prepared, to bombard the city if his terms had not been complied with. The ships he had with him were the Powerful, Rodney, Revenge, Cambridge, Ganges, Vengeance and Carysfort, and the steamers Medea and Vesuvius.

On the 6th of November, three days after the taking of Acre, another of the magazines exploded, killing and wounding nearly 300 persons, about 150 of whom were native women and children.—Fifteen British marines were killed, and a greater number of officers and seamen wounded.

Central Asia.—Another victory over Dost Mahomed, the deposed ruler of Caubul, had been gained by General Dennie. Dost Mahomed had raised, in concert with the Walee of Khoolum, an army of 6000 men; the British force was but 500, exclusive of a native corps, belonging to Shah Sooja, but the defeat of the former was decisive. He lost 500 killed, a great number of wounded, all his tents, baggage, &c. and was himself wounded—report had it that he subsequently died of his wounds. The best consequences were expected from this victory, in keeping the native powers quiet.

The accounts from Scinde and Nepaul, however, continue to be ominous of war with those powers; and it is said that the ruler of the Punjaub had been detected in correspondence with Dost Mahomed, hostile to British interests. The utmost activity prevailed in the military departments throughout India—all officers absent on leave had been ordered to join their regiments, &c.

General Holt, with a division of Bengal troops, was advancing on Khelat, for the re-capture of that fortress, and large bodies of troops were concentrating in the Northern provinces.

A detachment under Sir R. Sale had been repulsed in an attack upon a small fort in Kohistan, near Caubul, with the loss of 12 killed and many wounded.

In the borders of Scinde, another detachment, under Major Clibborn, had also been defeated, near the pass of Nafoock, by a strong force of Belooches. Loss—179 killed, and 90 wounded.

The state of affairs in Central Asia is thus described, in a letter from Affghanistan.

"When this campaign will be over, God only knows. We are at present in a sad dilemma—the whole of the country in arms against us, and the force left in Affghanistan now is not sufficient to keep the country quiet. Troops are ordered off from place to place—first to Khelat-i-Ghilzie, then to Shawl, then to Moostung, and now we expect to go to re-take Khelat one of these days. When I was at Candahar, seven weeks ago, we expected every night an attack to be made upon the officers, and their throats cut;—and I am now at Quettah, and we expect one of these nights a rush will be made by the Belooches into our camp, and then there will be a dreadful slaughter. If these cowardly brutes will but fight, we are ready; but that is not their object—they want to plunder right and left, and harass us to death.

"The report now at this place is, that 10,000 Belooches are assembled together at Moostung, and are there waiting for farther reinforcement—they have guns with them, and the men are well armed and well mounted. They are quiet at Candahar, but they expect an outbreak. My royal patrons (the third and fourth sons of Shah Shoojah) are going on shamefully—they both drink the strong stuff, (called brandy,) distilled in the Bazaar, and now have taken to worse. The eldest enticed some Europeans into the Killa, and gave them brandy, and took advantage of their state.—One man has poisoned himself. The political agent is not allowed to interfere in putting an end to this atrocious business. Major Leech is removed as political agent at Candahar; but no man is so able and so fit for that office as he is, save Sir A. Burnes. They overwhelm him with business, and they are displeased because every letter, every note is not duly replied to.

"The Ghilzies are up again, (because the troops are removed from thence to Shawl,) and our daks are hooted as a matter of course. Shah Shoojah is hated by the people, and since he has been put on the throne he has become so proud, so arrogant, and so abusive to the Affghans, calling them "dogs," "infidels," that it ought not to be tolerated by Government. Indeed, he treats his own officers with such contempt, that they dread being obliged to pay him a visit."

Aden.—Strange reports are in circulation about this new possession, in the India papers. The Bombay Overland Courier reports that the cruiser Elphinstone has had a tremendous engagement with a French frigate. The story is, that the Elphinstone was on a cruise to Nassawah, and found the said frigate there at anchor. Upon some of the officers of the cruiser proceeding ashore, they were hailed by the frigate and told that they were not permitted to land. The commander, incensed at this, attempted to land in the gig; but he was fired upon. He then went back, and a fierce action ensued. Report says that the Elphinstone was triumphant, and captured the frigate, but was left in a very disabled state herself. A vessel has been sent from Aden to ascertain the truth.—*Bombay United Service Gazette.*

France.—The long and angry debates in the Chamber of Deputies had resulted in the adoption of the ministerial address in answer to the royal speech, by a majority of 86, the numbers being 247 and 161. A great triumph for the King and M. Guizot.

A diplomatic note had been received by M. Guizot from Senor Ferrer, the Spanish minister for foreign affairs, remonstrating against the project supposed to be entertained by the French Cabinet, of re-establishing Queen Christina in the regency.

Spain.—Advices from Madrid are to the 30th of November. That city remained tranquil, and there was no apprehension of a popular disturbance.

The new regency had published an act, declaring that the claim of the Infante, Don Francisco de Paula, (brother to Don Carlos) to the guardianship of his royal niece, must be decided by the Cortes.

London, Dec. 8.—The dates from China are to the 4th of August.—On the 5th of the preceding month the City and Island of Chusan were captured by Brigadier General Burrell, after a brief and not very serious resistance. The Chinese Governor was killed. The inhabitants had left the town, but were returning. We regret to perceive that our troops had committed such excesses as to necessitate punishment. The soldiers had been excited by unlimited indulgence in a spirit called "samshu," distilled from rice. The Chinese appear to be as intractable as ever. At Amoy, the Blonde's boat, with a flag of truce, had been fired upon, and the Blonde, in return, battered down the fort and destroyed the junks there. At Ningpo, the letter to the Emperor was returned open to Captain Elliott, who declared Ningso and Shanglae, and all the intermediate ports to Nankin, in a state of blockade. It was reported that Admiral Elliott intended to proceed to Pee-chee-lee, in the neighbourhood of Pekin, with a part of his force. It appears by the accounts from Macao, that the blockade of Canton had been very rigidly enforced. In the mean time, Governor Lin was making very active demonstrations of hostility.—*Courier.*

The official despatch, describing the capture of Chusan, states that the loss of the Chinsse is estimated at about twenty-five killed; number of wounded not known.

The ordnance captured at Chusan (on shore) was 30 iron two to three pounders, 40 iron four to six pounders, 15 iron six to eight pounders, 5 iron nine pounders, and one brass six and a half pounder: total, 91. The guns, except the brass one, were Chinese make; the brass one has the date of 1601, made by Richard Phillips.

Dec. 9.—If we may give credit to some letters from the Levant, it should seem that Ibrahim Pasha is inclined not to obey the orders to retreat sent to him from Alexandria. But this information is dated at the time when he could not forsee the complete submission of Mehemet Ali. Yet it cannot be denied that the events which have just passed in consequence of the intervention of the European Powers, may excite serious discontent among the old Mussulmans.

Ibrahim, by placing himself at the head of the discontented, might cause unexpected embarrassments; for the English power can do nothing beyond the coast, and the Turks behold with grief what is passing. A letter from Constantinople, of the 17th of November, says that the population of that city, and of all Turkey, are in a state of fermentation, and look with displeasure on the events in Syria. It is even said that four regiments have mutinied in Asia Minor; one of them cantoned at Kutayah assassinated all its officers on receiving orders to march.

ARRIVAL OF THE REMAINS OF NAPOLEON IN THE SEINE.

The Havre Journal gives an account of the entrance of the remains of Napoleon into the Seine, and their passing in front of that port. On Tuesday the weather was stormy, and fears were entertained that the passage from Cherbourg would be difficult; but as night came on the wind subsided and the weather cleared. The convoy arrived at Havre in the evening, and remained in the roads.

At six o'clock in the morning, the drums of the National guard and the garrison beat the *reveille*, and by half-past six nearly the whole population of the town and environs were assembled on the piers, on the heights and along the shore, eagerly looking out for the funeral *cortege*.

As the light increased the vessels became perceptible. The Normandie steamer, with the body on board, was distinguished taking the lead, dressed in her colours. At seven the convoy passed within a short distance of the jetty, running at a quick rate, impelled by the wind and tide, with very little steam on.

General attention was turned exclusively to the Normandie, which made a majestic appearance.—The coffin, covered with an embroidered pall, and surrounded by burning lights was the most striking object. The sun coming out just at this moment added greatly to the effect of the scene. This journal adds that, unfortunately, the arrangements made for lining the jetties with National Guards, for firing salutes, &c. were either badly made or tardily executed, so that the National Guards were not present when the convoy passed, and the municipal and other authorities came running to the pier just as the steamers were going round the end of it. The salutes were not fired until after the vessels had passed.

It appears that the steamer which has been fitted up to receive the remains of the Emperor at Rouen, cannot be sent down the river, and is left at St. Denis. It was found to expose too great a surface to the wind, and was found too wide and high to pass under the bridges.

The Dorade has proceeded alone to Rouen, where it will receive the remains of Napoleon, and bring them as far as St. Denis. At this place the coffin will be put on board the steamer above mentioned, and will be conveyed in it to Courbevoie.

The Funeral Car.—The car which is to convey the remains of Napoleon from Courbevoie to the Invalids is finished. The effect of it may now be judged of, as well by its draperies and decorations, as by its form, which is much more gigantic than that of the car of the victims of July. It is thirty-five feet in height, thirty-four in length, and fifteen and a half in width. It is upon four massive gilded wheels.

The car is composed of a basement, with panels between columns. The platform upon which the coffin is to be placed, is covered with a violet coloured velvet, embroidered in gold, with bees, stars and eagles. The under carriages, both before and behind, are of a semicircular form, decorated with the four trophies of flags taken from different nations.

The bier has similar drapery to the pedestal, decorated with the imperial mantle, sceptre and crown, and supported by fourteen figures representing the principal victories of the French. The base of the car is covered with garlands and crowns of immortelles.

Over the whole is an immense crape drapery, which hangs down to the ground. This prodigious hearse is to be drawn by sixteen horses, dressed with feathers, and housings embroidered in gold, with the arms of the Emperor.

The supporters will be three Marshals and an Admiral, all on horseback. An immense temporary wharf and a lofty temple are erecting at Courbevoie for the reception of the remains on their landing.

The officers of the National Guard of Paris have drawn lots for the Legion, which is to escort the funeral car of Napoleon from Courbevoie to the Invalides, and the honor has fallen on the 3d Legion.

The 10th will be stationed round the Invalides, and the rest will line the route of the *cortege*.

The Minister of the Interior intends proceeding with the authorities of the department of the Seine to the limits of the department beyond St. Dennis, on the river, in order to receive the remains of Napoleon with Imperial honors. Two steamers are preparing for this purpose.

The mahogany coffin, which enclosed the remains of Napoleon at St. Helena, and which was exchanged for the ebony one brought from France, was cut up, by order of the Prince de Joinville, and distributed in pieces to the officers and men of the Belle Poule and Favourite.

The submission of Mehemet Ali was published on the 7th, in Paris, in a form of a telegraphic despatch from Marseilles.

On the same day, by telegraph from Bayonne, was announced a decree of the Spanish Regency, granting an amnesty for all political offences committed since the 19th of July, 1837, and authorizing all Carlist refugees, except, for the present, civil and military chiefs, officers and ecclesiastics, to re-enter Spain, on condition of taking the oath of allegiance.

The re-interment of the remains of the Emperor was to take place on the 15th of December. The escort was to consist of 30,000 men, under command of General Schneider.

The *Messager* contradicts the rumour that Prince Louis Napoleon will be liberated after the ceremony, and affirms, that the matter has neither been determined on, nor even considered.

Paris, Dec. 10.—It is affirmed, that the Ministry had received to-day detailed accounts of the circumstances which induced the Pasha of Egypt to make his submission.

Liverpool Grain Market, Dec. 8.—Sweet parcels of American Flour are becoming much less plentiful, and meet a fair inquiry at full rates;—choice brands of the United States 34s. 6d., and Canadian 33s. to 34s. per barrel.

There was a firmer tone in the Wheat Trade, generally, to-day, and a fair amount of business was transacted, principally in free Foreign, at the full prices of last Tuesday. United States and Canadian Flour were 1s. per quarter dearer; 34s. 6d. to 35s. per barrel paid for prime sweet parcels of the former.

From 1500 to 2000 barrels of United States Flour, in bond, have been taken for export at 24s. 6d. to 25s. per barrel.

London Tea Market, to Dec. 8.—Dec. 7.—The Tea Trade, this afternoon, was firm. Company's Congous were quoted, on 'Change this afternoon, at 2s. 3½d. per pound. The deliveries, last week, were rather over 316,170 pounds. The public sales announced for to-morrow are expected to include about 10,000 packages.

Dec. 8.—The public sales of Tea opened rather lower, but have since recovered. We quote Company's Congou 2s. 4d. per pound, cash, and some free trade samples at the auction have been as high as 2s. 4½d.

Bradford, Thursday, Dec. 10.—There was a fair attendance to-day in our piece market, and before the close of the day a fair amount of business was done in nearly all kinds of goods.

Liverpool, Dec. 11.—*Cotton Market.*—A large amount of business has been done this week, the demand having been active throughout. The total sales are 30,560 bags. The trade have bought with spirit, and, with the exception of 2000 American and 1000 Surat, taken by speculators, they have been the sole buyers.

Liverpool, Dec. 11.—*Corn Exchange.*—The weather having been very favorable throughout the last four or five weeks, Wheat sowing round us is nearly completed in excellent order, and the plant, where it is up, appear healthy. *Flour.*—The stock here having been considerably in good demand, prime brands of Foreign commanding full 6d. per barrel over Tuesday's quotations.

London Market, Dec. 11.—*Tea.*—The market is very flat; Company's Congou 2s. 1½d. money.

Later from England.—By the packet ship Quebec, London papers to the 13th and Portsmouth of the 14th December, have been received at New-York. The Journal of Commerce of Saturday last remarks:—"Great activity prevailed in the Dock-yards at Portsmouth; and it is plain that whatever England may expect or desire as to the continuance of peace, she means to be prepared for either alternative. She may also have an eye to the *adjustment* of our North-Eastern Boundary."

Great Britain and the United States.—The correspondence between Mr. Fox, the British Minister at Washington, and the American Secretary of State, Mr. Forsyth, relative to the imprisonment of Alexander M'Leod, a British subject, and formerly Deputy Sheriff of the District of Niagara, Upper Canada, in the jail at Lockport, in the State of New-York, on a charge of having been concerned in the destruction of the noted steamer *Caroline*, three years since, with the remarks of some of the Members of Congress on the subject, which we insert to-day, will be read with much interest. As the case stands at present, it certainly wears a threatening aspect; but we hope the American Government will soon be led to see the nature of the unjust and impolitic stand it has taken; for, as the New-York *Albion* very correctly remarks—"it is agreeable to the law of nations, that a party, seeking assistance from a friendly power against a continuous injury and annoyance,—against a piratical expedition for instance,—and receiving for reply an intimation of that power's inability to do so, though professing to be desirous, shall take the means into its own hands, if in a capacity to do so. This was evidently the case in the affair of the Caroline, and similar cases can be alleged in which other nations, the United States among the rest, have been obliged to resort to the same recognised expedient."

The Legislature of this Province meets for the despatch of business on Wednesday next. The debates in the Assembly will be reported, as usual, by Mr. Ward, and published in his paper, the *Fredericton Sentinel*, which, during the sitting of the Legislature, will be issued twice a-week.

The Courts of Oyer and Terminer and Nisi Prius were opened at the Court House in this city last Tuesday; his honor Judge Parker presides. The case of homicide, which occurred in this city last week, and several other criminal cases, with a considerable number of civil causes, some of them standing over from last term, will be tried at this court.

In the *charge*, which his honor Judge Parker delivered to the Grand Jury, at the opening of the Court, he remarked, that, up to the 29th November last, there was not a single criminal in confinement, for trial—but since that period, there had been a considerable accumulation of crime. His honor alluded to the homicide committed last week in this city; and gave a definition of what constituted the crime of murder, and read extracts from late valuable authorities on the subject. His honor also alluded to charges for assault, larceny, and riot; pointing out, particularly, what constituted the latter offences. His honor expressed his regret, that party names and feuds, common in another portion of the Empire, should have ever been introduced, by emigrants, into this community; and expressed a confidence, that there would ever be found sufficient firmness and resolution in judges and juries to put down every attempt to disturb the public peace. His honor also referred to the state of that valuable class of our fellow-subjects, the seamen,—to the state of the jail, preparations for the erection of a new one being in progress—and also to the formation of an efficient Police establishment—these subjects having been brought under consideration at the last assizes.

His honor pointed out and explained the duties connected with the office of Coroner, and commended the wisdom of our ancestors, in appointing an officer whose duty it is to make enquiry in cases of sudden or violent death.—His honor concluded his able charge, of which the above is a faint outline, by a very happy allusion to the Mechanics' Institute, in this city, which is now in so efficient and prosperous a state of operation; remarking that the path to success, riches, and honour, is open to all who make a proper use of the talents with which they are entrusted; and stated that the Mechanics' Institute would exercise a most salutary influence on the destinies of this community, when those who are now engaged in the busy scenes of life shall have passed away; and that it will be referred to as an institution that has originated in the purest and most disinterested philanthropy.—*City Gazette.*

Mechanics' Institute.—On Monday evening, Mr. Blatch delivered the first of a course of lectures before the Institute, on *China*, and we can truly say, that we were highly delighted. There was a very large and respectable audience, who listened with great attention, and lively interest, while Mr. Blatch explained the Geography and physical character of the country, and pointed out on a large and well-coloured map—(prepared expressly for the occasion, by Mr. Slader, who also prepared several handsome maps and plans for Mr. Perley's late Lectures on "New Brunswick,")—the immense Rivers which wind their course through this fertile and densely peopled empire, and its famous canals which have existed for centuries; the chain of lofty Mountains which intersect it, and the enormous Plain within its limits, which supports so many millions of people. The climate was described, and next a short account was given of the natural productions of the country. Those provinces which produce Tea were designated, and it was stated, that in the southern part of the empire every Chinese drinks tea, whenever and as often as he can get it, while the poorer classes in the north-western part of the same extensive dominion, can never procure it at all, and only know its virtues and fragrance by report.—The mode of living in China excited an expression of feeling from the auditory, when it was stated that quantity and not quality was the great desideratum with the *lower orders* of Chinese, and that flavour and condition had nothing at all to do with the matter. The personal appearance and dress of the natives were described and admirably illustrated by two beautiful full length Chinese figures, executed in Canton, which were kindly lent for the occasion by W. P. Ranney, Esq.—The male figure was said to be an exact likeness of that celebrated man, *Governor Lin*, who has made so much noise of late, and who seems likely to make yet more before the present *fracas* in China is ended. The Governor and his Lady were regularly introduced, and very politely nodded their heads to the audience, whom they no doubt considered as belonging to the "red-bristled barbarians;"—the title by which Europeans and Americans are known in China. Several very amusing instances of the total ignorance of the Chinese with respect to the Geography of foreign countries, concluded this highly pleasing and instructive Lecture, and we congratulate Mr. Blatch on the extremely favorable impression he has made in the opening of his course, as it is quite certain that the interest will increase as he proceeds, and give him greater scope for the display of his abilities.—*Observer.*

Last evening, Mr. Blatch delivered his second Lecture on China, to a most respectable and crowded audience. The subjects introduced were, the History of China, its Government, Laws, Religion and Literature. Interesting details were brought forward on these subjects by Mr. B., in his usual clear and happy style, and were listened to apparently with much interest by the large assembly, who occasionally testified their satisfaction by repeated plaudits. The manner in which these Lectures have been received and spoken of by all classes of our citizens, must be highly gratifying to Mr. Blatch, who is deserving of the thanks of the community at large, for the information he has furnished respecting a country and people, hitherto but little known here, but which, at the present time, are regarded with much interest.

☞ Mr. Blatch will deliver the *third* of his course of Lectures on "China," on Monday evening *next*. The principal heads of the Lecture will be, the *Language, Population, Agriculture, Arts and Manufactures, Manners, Customs and Ceremonies* of China; *Treatment of Females, Character of the People, Disposition towards Europeans, &c.*

Small Pox.—We regret to learn that four cases of Small Pox occurred among the crew of the ship *Coronation*, on her passage from the Clyde to this port, three of which proved fatal. The survivor has been placed in the Hospital on Partridge Island, under Medical attendance, and is expected to recover, while the ship is in quarantine, undergoing the necessary fumigation, and from the measures adopted by the Board of Health, there is, we think, no danger to be apprehended of the disease being introduced into the City.

Sacred Music Society.—We understand that the Directors of the Mechanics' Institute have granted the use of their "Hall" to the *St. John Sacred Music Society*, who will give one of their pleasing Concerts at that place about the first of February.

We are also much pleased to hear that it is the intention of the Sacred Music Society to sell a limited number of tickets; this, we think, will be a much better arrangement than the one heretofore adopted: as many persons who have been debarred from attending their Concert, from the want of intimate friends, belonging to the Society, to furnish them with tickets, will now, we have no doubt, be most happy to avail themselves of the privilege of purchasing them.

The coming Concert, we anticipate, will give more satisfaction than any heretofore given by the Society, as they will have the assistance of a professional Gentleman, on the Piano-forte, who is one of the best performers, on that instrument, in America.—*Chronicle.*

Launched on Monday last, from the Ship Yard of Messrs. Wrights, for Messrs. Ratchford & Brothers, a schooner of about 110 tons, o. m. She is of a peculiar and beautiful construction, uniting speed with the capacity of our best carrying ships. We understand that she was draughted by, and built under the inspection of a gentleman who has built some of the finest class ships in Her Majesty's navy.—*Ib.*

British Troops at Madawaska.—The following article, said to be copied from the Montreal Gazette, is going the rounds of the American papers. As we do not receive the Gazette regularly, we cannot vouch for its origin. We are, however, rather disposed to doubt the fact of its having emanated from the source to which it is ascribed.

"We understand that His Excellency, the Governor General, has most emphatically declared that he will not remove any of the troops recently sent by his orders to the Madawaska territory, and that he considers Sir John Harvey too courteous by a great deal, in notifying the braggadocia Governor of Maine that a detachment of troops had taken up a position. This augurs well. for His Excellency must have had positive instructions from the Imperial Government, that the territory was to be kept, and the report of Messrs. Featherstonhaugh and Mudge acted on, or he would not have taken so bold a stand.

"Capt. Miller left town yesterday with despatches to his Excellency Sir John Harvey. This detachment of troops has been sent for the purpose of aiding the Civil Magistrates in the execution of the laws of the Province, and protecting the rights of Her Majesty's subjects. Sir John stated to Governor Fairfield, that he had not anything to do with the matter, and that he had advised the Governor General to order the withdrawal of the troops, and substitute an armed civil posse, as amply sufficient for all the purposes for which the troop was intended. This, as we said above, His Excellency has declared his determination not to do, and when once he says he will or will not do so and so, our readers may rest assured he will stick to it."

The statements of the preceding paragraphs, and their tone, are very much after the manner of the Montreal Herald, but not at all after the manner of Lord Sydenham. We do not believe them.—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

Head Quarters, Fredericton, Jan. 11.

Militia General Order.—The Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief has been pleased to confer upon Lieutenant Stephen Miller, of the York Light Dragoons, the rank of Captain in the Militia Forces. Commission to be dated 1st January, 1841.

Robert Parker, Jun., Gent., to be Supernumerary Cornet, York Light Dragoons, vice Edward Warwick Harvey, appointed to H. M. 36th Regiment of Foot.

By command, Geo. Shore, A. G. M.

St. Andrews, Jan. 8.—*Post Office Commission.*—We understand that the gentlemen written to here, by the Secretary of the Post Office Commission, have, amongst other improvements and alterations, suggested that the Mail should always be conveyed by land, when practicable, and that it should leave daily for and from St. John; and also that there should be a tri-weekly mail between Fredericton and this town, by the new road. A considerable alteration in the rates of postage has been also proposed, and the appointment of "Distributors of Letters" at different growing settlements, such as St. David, St. Patrick, Pennfield, &c. persons with small salaries, who shall be answerable for the receiving and delivering of letters. This last suggestion, if adopted, would afford great accommodation to the inhabitants of remote parts of counties, who now have to travel several miles to enquire for letters and newspapers at the nearest Post Office. All these measures are loudly called for, and desired by the inhabitants of this