COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of the Courier.

SIR,—I shall feel greatly obliged by your publishing the following *official* statement of the COLONIAL CHURCH SOCIETY, whose Agent I am for the British North American Colonies.

It is my design to make known the plan and objects of this Society in every practicable method in this Province, with a view to the bringing it into active and extensive operation as early as possible.

I shall be most happy to communicate with the members of the Church of England, and the friends of true religion and sound education in general, with a view to ascertain the places destitute of Ministers, and localities where Schools are wanted and can be established, with such other information as may place the spiritual wants of this Province fairly and fully before the Committee of the Colonial Church Society and the British public, well knowing that it is only by the state of the Colonies being known that the sympathies and liberalities of British Christians can be obtained for their supply.

Communications addressed to me at Halifax, N. S., will be most gratefully received.

I am, Sir, your very obdt. servant.

CAVIE RICHARDSON.

COLONIAL CHURCH SOCIETY,

For sending out Clergymen, Catechists, and Schoolmasters to the Colonists of Great Britain, and to British Residents in other parts of the World.

PRESIDENT,

THE RIGHT HON. LORD BARHAM.

VICE-PRESIDENTS,

The Right Hon. Lord Calthorpe, the Right Hon. Lord Teignmouth, M. P., the Right Hon. Lord Mountsandford, the Right Hon. Lord Bloomfield, the Right. Hon. Sir G. H. Rose, G. C. H., M. P., the Right Hon. F. Shaw, M. P., Lieut. Gen. Sir Peregrine Maitland, K. C. B., Lieut. Gen. Lord Seaton, G. C. B., Lieut. Gen. Sir R. Darling, G. C. H., Major Gen. Sir John Harvey, K. C. B., Lieut. Col. Sir W. M. G. Colebrooke, K. H., Sir J Franklin, Capt. Sir E. Parry. R.N., J. D. Macbride, Esq. D. C. L., PRIN. MAG. HALL. George Finch, Esq., John Labouchere, Esq., H. Pownall, Esq.

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OCCASIONAL PAPER.

Considering that the Divine command to make known to every creature the remedy provided by a merciful God for this fallen world, applies with especial force where the ties of brotherhood or nationality exist, the Colonial Church Society has begun to assist in supplying our countrymen, in the Colonies and in foreign lands, with the means of public worship, and with instruction in their duty to God and man.

If in our own country the population has been found so far to outgrow the means of grace, what may not be expected in our Colonies? A general description is applicable to nearly all of them; and a most appalling one it is—livings of small value vacant, parishes too ext nsive for the physical powers of an individual, and districts of wide extent entirely neglected. In many localities, weeks, months and years pass, and not even an occasional service is performed. But how far short are occasional services of what is wanting to edify the Church of God! How are pastoral visits, the formation of Sunday-schools, the inspection of day-schools, the catechising of the young, the weekly ministration of the Word of God to be carried on in parishes originally too large for superintendence, to which a second parish of similar size is not unfrequently annexed, and sometimes a third? Many churches in such districts are closed, the institutions connected with a congregation unknown, or, if once enjoyed, broken up; the Sacraments are not administered, and the children grow up unbaptized. An Agent of the Society states, "The people here (Prince Edward Island) wish you to send clergymen. There are 50,000 inhabitants scattered over the Island, which is 140 miles in length, and there are only three clergymen." .' We had service," he continues, "in the afternoon (at New Devizes:) about fifty persons attended. The congregation, chiefly English, were both delighted and affected, and this was the first Church of England service they had heard since they left England. I should not do justice if I did not say, they were deeply affected, even to tears, both men and women.—' O, Sir,' said the woman of the house, 'we have never heard anything like this. This is England over again.'

In the interior of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, the Church of England barely exists. In the eastern division, which is chiefly settled by the English, a few Clergymen are located; but they labour under great discouragement by reason of the distances which separate the places where they are wanted to discharge their duties. An Agent in that quarter has written to the Committee to send out one Clergyman to itinerate in the Winterberg, where there is no spiritual provision for the people, and another to Lower Albany, adding, "The hearts of the Clergy who are now overborne and dispirited would be revived, their hands strengthened, and the reproach of the Church wiped off,"—a reproach not to be cast upon the laborious ministers who occupy stations there, but upon the mother country, which has but faintly responded to the cry, both of Clergy and laity, "Come over and help us."

From the Mauritius we hear, "A very large portion of the Island is so destitute, that the inhabitants cannot have the privilege of public worship under any form of Christianity. A line drawn from Port Louis to Mahebourg, will almost exactly divide the Island into two equal parts.—To the southward of that line there is not a place of worship of any description, leaving out Port Louis. There is in the other half, only one Protestant place of Worship."

The emancipated bondmen of the West India Islands and of Demerara, now raised to the rank of our fellow subjects, and possessing, for the most part, the appellation of Christians, demand our care. The Missionaries of several institutions labour among them in the West Indies, but further help is distressingly needed to instruct them in the principles of the Christian faith; and the body of Clergymen must be greatly increased, ere the colored population can be gathered into the fold of Christ, and the duty of England be discharged.

Many of the Colonial Clergy, deeply impressed with the spiritual destitution prevailing around them, have hailed the friendly offers of the Society with the warmest anticipations of advantage, and have written forcibly to the Committee to increase the number of Missionaries. Special applications have been received from our British North American Provinces, from the Bahamas, the West Indies, the Cape, Australia, and Van Diemen's Land. To secure the services of a Clergyman, a large portion of his stipend has, in some instances, been offered; and in others, subscriptions have been entered into for the same object.—The Committee have not, however, been able to respond to these calls; but they have done what they could; perhaps more than, from the state of the Society's funds, they were strictly justified in doing.

To supply the lack of Clergymen, some devoted laymen have been sent out in the capacity of catechists. These read the scriptures to the people, and pray with them; distribute, moreover, Bibles and religious publications. As the best practical mode of preserving the remembrance of the Sabbath, and keeping alive the flame of piety, until ministers can be sent to them, they read the service of our Church.

The proper training of the rising generation in Sunday and other Schools, is an object of vast importance. No statement the Committee could make would describe too forcibly the deplorable deficiency in regard to religious education in the Colonies. The reports of the Agents of the Society, as to the great want of Sunday and Day Schools, and the wretched management of many already in existence, are fully confirmed by the representations of the Clergy and other inhabitants. Can we refuse to give our help? can we not spare our money for such an object?

Besides our Colonies, our countrymen in other parts of the world call to us for assistance. The number of British settled along the coasts of South America, in various towns along the shores of the Mediterranean, and on the continent of Europe, is very considerable. The Committee have already received about forty replies to communications made by them to British Consuls and Vice-Consuls, in order to obtain correct information on a matter so important, whether considered in reference to national character, to individual happiness, or to our duty as a Christian people. These replies show that not one half of British Protestant mercantile stations, and resident communities abroad, have places of worship or Clergymen,—that our countrymen and their families thus neglected, amount to thousands of souls, and that several thousands of British sailors annually frequent the ports and places thus destitute. If to these we add the manufactories, the mining and other establishments, where Englishmen are employed in large bodies, and where there are no means of instruction, the number of our exiled country men is enormous. And are their souls to be less cared for than the souls of savages, whose shores are eagerly sought out for missionary labour, and for works of piety and love?

The following observation is made by Her Majesty's Consul in a Mahomedan State:—"It must appear very extraordinary to the natives, that the Protestants have never had a place of worship, or any Clergyman to administer to their spiritual wants, being the only religion here, destitute of such a necessary provision."

In a letter from the capital of a Roman Catholic country, it is stated:—"I would suggest the expediency, in fact, absolute necessity, of a minister of the Church of England being placed in this city, for the purpose of solemnizing the marriage ceremony between British subjects. The Consul has not the power, and parties wishing to enter into the state of wedlock, have not the means of making the contract legal and binding according to the laws of England, but by abjuring their faith, and being united by the Clergy of the country, in conformity with the ritual of the Roman Catholic Church."

A letter to the Committee, written from Paris, contains the following passage:—"In parts of this city, where a few respectable families, and a very considerable number of the manufacturing and working classes have their abodes, there is not one single place of worship. There are about 4000 resident English subjects, some of whom indeed attend the French Protestant service, others the Roman Catholic, but most, none at all. The Colonial Church Society is admirably adapted for acting as a mediator between Government and our countrymen in foreign lands, and it is to be hoped there will not be a spot on the globe, inhabited by our countrymen, however few in number, especially if with families, where the inestimable blessings of religious instruction will not be attainable."—The Continent of Europe is visited by multitudes of British tourists, and there are a great many resident British families, and a very considerable number of the operative class in factories, and in manufacturing towns. Persons of this last description are specially deserving of compassionate attention. From their peculiar temptations, they are oftentimes conspicuous for excess of riot and disobedience to God, and yet they do not in all cases forget or despise the advantages once possessed by them in their native land. Some workmen in a factory having been assembled for divine worship, one elderly man said, after it was over, "God bless you!—This is the first time I have heard either prayer or sermon these fifteen years that I have been in France." The poor people seemed quite overcome with gratitude and delight at feeling, as they expressed it, that there was somebody to care about them. An English Clergyman has written to the Committee on this subject in the following terms:—"For the last twelve months I have made it my business, by the best means in my reach, to acquire information on the numbers and religious condition of our fellow subjects in France. The result is what might be expected from almost total neglect. Numbers have ceased to profess religion of any kind, some have outwardly conformed to the Church of Rome, some few have merged into the Reformed Church of France, but the greater part have sunk into a state of negligence and indifference. This state of things mainly proceeds from the general absence of minister and Church ordinances. I must take leave to say," the writer continues, "that whilst large sums are sent to uphold the Protestant cause in foreign divisions of the Church, comparatively little is done to supply the spiritual wants of the brethren who have gone out from the bounds of our own particular Church. No Christian can grudge this outlay upon any portion of the human family, of what nation or tongue soever it may be: but all must feel that the children of the family have the first right to be fed."

From the first institution of the Society, a clergyman has been wholly maintained in Western Australia, but very limited resources have not admitted of further enterprise in this field of labour. Two laymen are now employed at the Cape, for which Colony a third is engaged and about to sail. Two other laymen are labouring in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward's Island. Besides this commencement in the Colonies, two stations on the Continent have had the services of a Clergyman continued by the Society's assistance; and, in another instance, an excellent clergyman has been fixed in a populous town in France, where some hundreds of our countrymen engaged in manufactures have been living for many years without any religious observances or instruction whatever. Another English settlement has been assisted in securing a pious and laborious catechist to read the Church service, visit from house to house, and conduct a Sunday School.

The question for the public to decide is, whether this good work shall proceed? The salaries of the present agents, incidental expences of the Colonial Missions, and grants for the Continent, exceed the whole amount of the Society's income.

Must the Committee stay their hand? It is evident that the Society's operations cannot go on, if larger supplies be not obtained; but they cannot, they will not believe, that Christians at home will suffer their countrymen and fellow-subjects to perish for lack of knowledge.

We hear of our neglected countrymen in New South Wales regarding the life of the Aborigines, as little as that of the wild beast which approaches their pasture range. A like terrible disregard of human life may be induced on the extremities of the Cape Colony, where they are exposed to Caffre depredations, if the religion of Jesus Christ does not create and foster sentiments of an opposite character. In the American woods, the men who explore the wilderness, being untaught in their duties to God, may become less sensitive to moral obligations, than the Indians whom they are supplanting. These are the forerunners of a settled population, by these an impression favorable to the civilized community may be made; or fear, mistrust and dislike engendered, and a proportionate hindrance created to the progress of the Gospe among the Heathen.

The unparalleled extent of the British dominions gives vast importance to the subject, and entails deep responsibility. Our maritime advantages afford great facilities, and the unbounded wealth of the country amply supplies the means for carrying out measures for the advancement of religion in the Colonies. Whilst an Englishman walks as a conquerer in every part of the globe, it is earnestly to be desired that he should walk as a Christian. It is to attain this end that the Society labors, and this appeal for further assistance is now made to the public at large, and especially to that rich and influential class whose wealth is derived from the Colonies. The Committee have thus endeavoured to discharge their duty, and they desire to leave the event with Him in whose hands are all our ways.

If any friends should deem one branch of the Society's labours more important or interesting than another, separate funds are opened; and contributions may be applied to the missionary or educational department, whether for the Colonies or the Continent.

Subscriptions will be received in the Province of New Brunswick at the Branches of the Bank of British North America at St. John and Fredericton.

COLONIAL CHURCH SOCIETY.

The following Address was delivered at the Annual Meeting of this Society, held 29th April, 1841, at the Hanover Square Rooms, in London, by the Hon. and Rev. Baptist W. Noel. This very eminent Clergyman is one of the promoters and most active supporters of this institution, which promises to be of so much advantage to the British Colonies.—*El. Courier.*

The Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST W. NOEL said that he addressed the Meeting with the less difficulty, because he believed that they were superior to the prejudice which would condemn any institution merely because it was old or new. An old institution might be of perpetual adaptation to the wants of men, and with all the force of youth might have all the wisdom of experience; or it might be a worn-out relic of past barbarism. A new institution might be likewise the offspring of fancy, an abortive experiment, a momentary mania, or it might be the expression of a long-smothered desire, the remedy for an imperious want, which, like the Pastoral-Aid Society, might spring at once into gigantic existence, (hear, hear) because the appropriate antidote for an acknowledged evil. We should not therefore ask whether an object be new or old, but whether it be wise and well principled. He might also have been elsewhere embarrassed by the recollection that he had no long list of patrons to offer to their notice, not because the course of a Society must be like that ascribed by the poet to the literary adventurer,

"Toil, envy, want, the patron and the gaol,"

that the patron was the penultima in a series of disasters ending in ruin; but because the patronage of the wise and good would invariably follow usefulness; and as their objects were good, they would, with the blessing of God, eventually obtain adequate support. On the other hand, it might encourage him in addressing the Meeting to think that he addressed them, not in behalf of strangers, whose only claim was their misery or their sin, but in behalf of their own Colonists, speaking their own language, and united with them by so many other ties. (Hear.) The condition of the Colonists was most important, from the consideration that while there was already a great scarcity of employment both in rural and manufacturing districts—the Highland mountaineers, the labourers of Devonshire, the tenants of the mud huts of Ireland, and a large suffering population in commercial and manufacturing cities, being compelled by distress to emigrate—the population of Great Britain and Ireland, according to Macculloch, was increasing at the rate of 413,000 per annum. And this might be matter of exultation rather than grief. Was it not glorious to this country to be sending out its children to fill the wilds of the earth with a free and enlightened population, and to make its influence almost ubiquitous, not by its force in war, but by its commerce and its arts, its language, its literature, and its religion? But whether the colonists of Great Britain should be its glory or its shame depended on the direction given to their energies. (Hear.) They had heard that day some specimens of the want of instruction so generally acknowledged and deplored. To meet that want this society had come into existence, its object being to send out clergymen, catechists, and schoolmasters, to our countrymen in the colonies, and in foreign lands, wherever they might be found to need them. But here he might be asked, why they should not leave this duty to be discharged by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts? He answered, that they had seen this want with pain, that year by year it had gone on increasing, and that they were compelled to do their utmost to remedy it. The colonists were not provided with instructors, they saw no prospect of their being provided, and they had done therefore, what they could to provide them. Several gentlemen had said that the Society was animated with no spirit of rivalry to the more ancient Institution. He believed that nothing could be more true. But as it was sometimes said, that whatever might be their intention, the effect was to produce schism in the colonies, he wished to go farther and to show one or two points of difference between the two Societies, which rendered the separate existence of their Society necessary. (Hear, hear.) As to the apprehended schism, he could only say that the missionaries sent out by this Society would faithfully preach Christ to the people, and if any schism were caused by their labours, it would only be of that sort predicted by our Lord, when he said, "I came not to send peace but a sword;" and that sort of schism in society which arose from the full preaching of the Gospel, they were not at liberty to avoid. Passing, therefore, from that imaginary ground of objection to the Society, he wished to direct their attention to one difference in the principle of the two Societies.—He believed that it was the principle of the ancient Society to give a larger discretionary power over their missionaries to the colonial Bishops, than this Society would give them. Both Societies would place their missionaries under Episcopal jurisdiction, both would wish the Bishops to have power to restrain immorality or heresy. But while one Society would, unless he was mistaken, place all their missionaries in a condition resembling that of curates in this country, the other would place them in the condition of incumbents. The Colonial Church Society would give them all the power possessed by the Bishops of Great Britain. If he understood their practice rightly, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel would give them a great deal more. According to the Practice of this latter Society, he believed that the colonial Bishop nominated the missionary, placed him in his sphere of labour, and could remove him. If the Bishop should complain of any missionary, that complaint would be decisive; if a missionary should complain of any Bishop, that complaint must come through the Bishop himself. All the missionary correspondence he believed passed through the hands of the Bishop. The Colonial Church Society, on the other hand, would correspond directly with their Missionaries, and this he conceived to be an advantage: because otherwise he did not see how Missionaries could feel that independence which was necessary to enable them faithfully and energetically to discharge their ministry. (Hear, hear.) He would illustrate this point. Let it be imagined that the Bishop of any Colony should exceedingly dislike that modern Calvinism which seemed to him (Mr. Noel,) the doctrine of the Thirty-nine Articles, and the doctrine of the Bible, and should say to the Missionaries placed under him, that if they should preach such Calvinism, he would recommend the Society to withdraw their salaries; would they not be under great temptation to be unfaithful? Or suppose they should think the efforts of such a Society as this to be exceedingly necessary to the Colony, and should feel it their duty to support it, but the Bishop should intimate that their salaries should be withdrawn if they did; would not this impose a yoke upon their consciences which they should not be compelled to bear? No man, he thought, however excellent, should wield so large a discretionary power. (Hear, hear.) Some years since, the late Bishop of Peterborough had introduced eighty-seven questions to be put to candidates for ordination. These led to some cases of hardship, one of which was brought into the House of Lords; not a single prelate supported these questions, and only one temporal peer, and they fell into disuse. But imagine that the Bishop should have had the power of saying to all the incumbents of his diocese, if you preach contrary to the doctrine implied in these eighty-seven questions, I shall dismiss you from your livings; the effects upon the diocese would have been most disastrous. Now, unless he mistook greatly, he would have had in one of our Colonies a power resembling this, according to the practice of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel; but according to that of the Colonial Church Society, he would not have it. The one would place the missionary under a discretionary power of the bishop, not known in this country except with reference to curates, the other would give him all the power recognised among us with respect to incumbents, and no more. There was a second point to which he must call their attention. They too well knew that there were certain doctrines which had lately grown up in their Church, of which Tract 90 was a specimen. There were many clergymen who preached these doctrines—He thought the prevalence of them one of the greatest disasters which had recently befallen the Church of England. And should we send out such ministers to our colonies, to preach the atonement with reserve, but to preach forms and ceremonies with force: to exalt the sacraments, and to depreciate the preaching of Christ crucified; to inveigh against the duty of judging of Scripture for ourselves, and to place traditionary exposition in the room of our unfettered examination of the Word of God; then, when the Colonies asked for bread, we should be giving them a stone. But the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, being composed of all parties, all might look to be represented by its missionaries, and he feared that such men might be found among those sent out to teach our colonists. The Colonial Church Society on the other hand would send out none but Evangelical labourers, none but those who believe the thirty-nine Articles in their full, plain, literal sense; men who had no other aim than to save souls by bringing them to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. From the concurrent operations of this Society, he therefore judged that men of Evangelical sentiments would more readily find employment in the older Society, that the older Society would be stirred up to greater exertions, that it would give more information to the country of the state of the Colonies, and would more diligently investigate the more neglected parts of our Colonial possessions. In the Colonies, it would have the effect of giving greater independence to Evangelical missionaries, and of furnishing many places, now overlooked, with useful labourers. In support of his views, he might mention, that he had been, in common with others, entreated by Clergymen from the Colonies to proceed in this good work, from which they augured the most important results; and he had in his possession a letter, signed by three Clergymen, in which they stated, that the majority of the Clergy in the diocese to which they belong, heartily wish it success. Some timid or prejudiced persons might anticipate evil from its operations, but he believed it to be heartily approved by all the most pious Clergy in the Colonies, and that every pious Colonial Bishop would heartily consent to that Scriptural limitation of his discretionary authority, which, only taking away the power of doing evil, would leave all the power to do good. (Hear, hear.) If it were objected that the Colonial Church Society should not continue its course at this moment, because the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel had recently increased in energy and improved in spirit, he must observe that this fact constituted one of the arguments why they should proceed with increased zeal, because that improvement in energy and spirit, which he heartily hoped would proceed, had been coincident with the birth of this Society, and if their early existence had contributed to this improvement, their progress would certainly confirm it. Mr. Noel then showed some of the positive results of their operations in the past year. One Agent alone, Mr. Richardson, had traversed Nova Scotia, and visited New-Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, everywhere directing the people to the duty of providing for themselves Christian instruction. He had formed in the last year one Auxiliary, one day-school, and ten Sunday-schools. He had formed twenty libraries of religious books, and a depot of Bibles and tracts, from which large numbers of volumes had been circulated. And he then concluded by inviting the Meeting to zealous co-operation with the Committee in the good work which they had undertaken. (Cheers.)

CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.—In the House of Assembly, on the 10th inst. some warm discussion arose on a motion by Mr. Small for an Address to His Excellency, praying for information as to the intention of the Executive in relation to the future seat of Government. Mr. Harrison resisted the motion, as an interference with the prerogative of the Crown, and stated that no information as to the future views of the Government could be given.

The municipal district council bill having been next brought up, Mr. Baldwin moved an amendment to the 26th clause, to the effect that the clerk of the council should be elected, instead of being appointed by the Executive. A very rambling debate ensued, in which Messrs. Viger, Alwyn and M'Nab spoke in favour of the amendment. It was however, lost by a majority of two, and the original clause was then carried by a vote of 38 to 29.

An amendment to the 32d clause, also moved by Mr. Baldwin, to the effect that both auditors should be elected by the council, instead of one being elected and the other appointed by the Executive, was lost by a vote of 37 to 27, and the original clause adopted without a division. Having reached the 38th clause, the House adjourned.

Mr. Holmes introduced a bill for the establishment of saving banks.

On the 12th, the House was engaged in what we should call an exhibition of the absurdities that sometimes follow in the train of ancient usages. The matter before the House was the contested election for the county of St. Maurice. Col. Prince had undertaken the management of the case on the part of the petitioners, but when the time for action arrived he was missing—gone to Toronto—and it was stated on the floor that he had given as the cause of his absence a determination "to rid himself of the business."

Mr. Gugy appeared, on the spur of the moment, as counsel for the petitioners, borrowing a gown for that purpose from one of the clerks. Unhappily this gown was of silk; and it was gravely objected that he had no right to appear in such a gown, not being one of the Queen's counsel. On this weighty objection the House was cleared, and a debate ensued, the end of which was an order from the Speaker to Mr. Gugy, to "doff the silk."

After this the inquiry was proceeded in, but when a session of seven hours terminated, there had been little progress made. All the questions and answers had to be written down, in French and English; and whenever a question was objected to, which occurred quite often, the House was cleared, and the objection was debated; all which took up no little time.

On the 13th the subject was resumed. Colonel Prince appeared, and denied the assertion made respecting him the day before, whereupon there was a war of words between him and the member who made it. No progress was made in the inquiry.

On the 14th, the returning officer was examined at great length, and when he was done with, the House adjourned. The case was expected to occupy several days. The sitting member is Mr. Turcotte, opposition.

The Council are rapidly getting through the Bills which have been sent up to them—a great many being adopted without amendment. Among these are the Bills for exempting the Holy Scriptures from duty—the Sherbrooke Railroad Bill—Tailbade's Naturalization—De Gaspe's Relief from Imprisonment Bill.

Among those which have created much discussion, and to which amendments have been proposed, is 1st, the Court of Requests Bill to which Mr. Morris has introduced, as an amendment, a new Bill, making the District Judge the sole Commissioner of that division in which the District town is situated—that the Commissioners of the other places may advise with him in all difficult cases—that an appeal shall be in all cases over 40s. to the Central Court—and all over £5 to the Jury in the District Court. All the Commissioners to be appointed by a Board of three, appointed in each District, of which the District Judge to be one.—This I do not think will pass, if I am to judge by the opposition offered to it in the Council. 2d, the Naturalization Bill has been amended by Mr. De-Blaquiere, by conferring the rights of British subjects upon some eighty or ninety individuals by name, who have petitioned for that privilege. An animated discussion is expected on this measure, but its fate is as yet perfectly unknown. 3d, the Marriage Bill has been amended by Mr. Sullivan, so as to allow all persons having religious scruples against being married by any of the Clergy now authorized to celebrate marriage, to give notice to any Magistrate in their County, in a prescribed form, of their intentions. The notice is to be posted up for three weeks, and then transmitted, with the Magistrate's certificate, to the Registrar of the County, who enters them in a book to be kept for that purpose. They then declare themselves man and wife, in presence of the Registrar and two witnesses, and on receiving his certificate, are to be deemed to all legal purposes man and wife. They may then get married by their own Clergyman, according to any rite and ceremony they please. The fees will not exceed 7s. 6d. The Bill is taken from the Marriage Law of England of 1825 or 1826.—4th, the Religious Societies' Land Bill has been amended by Mr. Sullivan, so as to allow every Christian community to obtain ten acres of land for Church, Chapel, residence for Minister, schoolhouse, or burying-ground, by applying to the Court of Chancery, setting forth their tenets, &c., and obtaining a licence to hold lands, &c., and the uses and trust to which they are to be applied will be expressed in once in such licence. These two bills are to apply to Upper Canada only for the present. They are extremely liberal in their provisions, and could scarcely have been expected from either of the late Legislative Councils of Upper or Lower Canada. 5th, the Canada Assurance Company will receive many amendments, to render its Charter more conformable to that of Montreal and others already granted.—*Correspondence of the Montreal Transcript.*

The foundation stone of an Episcopal Church was laid at River du Loup, (District of Quebec) on the 7th August. This (says the *Quebec Mercury*) will be the first Protestant Episcopal Place of Worship, between Quebec and Gaspe, a distance of several hundred miles.—*Mon. Transcript.*

The 32d Regiment which distinguished itself in the action against a superior force of American Brigands at *Pointe-au-Pelle*, embarked on the 14th inst. on board the *Queen* en the route for England.—*Ib.*

THE BURNING OF THE ERIE.—The Coroner's investigation into the causes which led to the destruction of the Erie, was still progressing at Buffalo at the latest dates. But few additional facts of interest have yet come to light—none calculated to change the opinion which has been generally expressed. Some of the witnesses, it is true, state that they did not *see* the demi-johns on the boiler-deck, and express the opinion that they would have seen them had they been there. Others, however, are positive on this point. Mr. Clements, the first engineer, testifies that when the fire broke out, he had just returned from oiling and fixing the machinery—he heard an explosion similar to the slight blast of a rock, and almost instantly the flames burst out just aft of the smoke-pipe on the boiler-deck; explosion, fire, and rolling kegs of paint were all seen and heard at nearly the same time; the smoke had a strong odour of turpentine. He further states that if a demi-john on the boiler-deck had burst, the contents would have run between the boilers into the furnace doors; he believes the demi-johns stood within two feet of the smoke-pipe, and thinks one or more of them were burst by the heat.

The Buffalo Press gives the annexed statement as the most accurate account of the number of persons on board of the Erie when burned. The estimate is larger than those hitherto made, and we hope it is overstated. Swiss passengers, 130; cabin do. 50; deck do. principally Americans, 50; crew, 25; musicians, 10—total, 265. Saved, 33; Lost, 232!

CUNARD VASE.—The splendid silver Vase, to be presented to Mr. Cunard, as a token of respect for his successful labours in getting up the line of steamers which bears his name, will be completed in about three weeks, by Lowes, Ball, & Co. when the public will have an opportunity of examining a most superb specimen of workmanship. —*Boston Transcript.*

LOW LIVING.—In France, out of a population of thirty-two millions, twenty-two millions have but six cents a-day to defray all expenses, food, lodging, raiment, and education. England and Ireland are in no better condition.

Cod Fishery of France.—The cod fishery employs 600 ships, manned by 13,000 sailors. It is considered by politicians as of value only as a nursery for seamen.

JOHN RHODES

HAS removed from the South Market Wharf, to the Brick Building lately erected by Mr. Melick, Market Square, and offers for sale the following GOODS, received per ship 'Emerald,' from Liverpool:—

CASES of Extra S'fine Wool-dyed Blue and Black CLOTHS,
Cases of Extra Superfine Invisible Greens, various shades,
Do. do. do. Wool black CASSIMERES,
Do. s'fine blue and col'd CASSIMERES,
Do. do. Albert Ribs, Abotsford Checks, and New Western Stripes, Plaids, &c. &c.
Do. do. Olive, Browns, Invisible Greens, and Blue CLOTHS,
Do do. Buckskin stripes and PLAIDS, various colours.
Do. do. Dalmatia DOESKINS,
Bales of TWEEDS, assorted patterns,
Do. MERINOS and SAXONYS,
Do. Saxony WHITE FLANNELS,
Do. Red and Grey PADDINGS.

ALSO,—

Bales of Prints, White and Grey Cottons, Plain and Printed, Moleskins, Ticks, Cotton Warp, Summer Slops, Threads, Blue Cloth Jackets, Sewing Silk and Twist, with sundry other Goods, making a complete assortment of staple articles. *Terms liberal.*

St. John, 8th May, 1840.

London Goods,

Per "Rebecca".

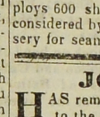
A large assortment of Mousselin de Laines, Orleans Cloths, Saxonies, Summer Cloths, Bombazines, Crapes, Shawls and Handkerchiefs, Gro de Naples, Satins, Persians, Nets, Quillings, Laces, Ribbons, Gloves and Hosiery, Silk Handkerchiefs, Broad CLOTHS, Buckskins and Kerseymeres, Scarfs, Parasols and Umbrellas, &c. &c.

THOMAS DANIEL.

Market Square, St. John, May 29, 1841.

NEW VESSEL.

For Sale on accommodating Terms:



THE HULL and SPARS, complete, of a new VESSEL of the following dimensions, viz.:—Length of Keel, 62 feet; breadth of Beam, 18 feet 9 inches; depth of Hold, 10 feet 3 inches; will register about one hundred tons, old measurement, and can be launched in all next month.

Also for sale,—

A CARGO OF BRIGHT DEALS, to load—suitable for the English or Irish market. Apply to J. & G. KNIGHT, *Pennfield.*

June 19, 1841.

PAINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

JAMES HAND returns thanks for the very liberal patronage he has received since his commencement in the above line, and wishes to inform his friends and the public, that he has removed his business a few doors west of the Saint John Hotel, where all orders, &c. &c. will be punctually attended to. May 8, 1841.

Great Novelty!

The subscriber has for sale in Vernon's Brick Building, corner of King and Germain-sts.:

A LOT of Splendid CHINESE PAPER, adapted for *large Rooms* or *Public Halls*—specimens to be seen at the above place.

April 17. S. STEVEN.

E. L. JARVIS & CO.

Are now receiving by the "Emerald" and other late arrivals from England,—

50 TONS Banks' best IRON, ass't. sizes.
70 ditto Common ditto ditto,
100 kegs best WHITE LEAD,
200 ditto X ditto ditto,
150 ditto coloured PAINTS, assorted—Green, Yellow, Blue, Red, Brown and Black;
20 casks raw and boiled Linseed OIL,
2 tons PUTTY, in bladders,
200 kegs GUNPOWDER, 15 smiths' bellows,
24 smiths' ANVILS, 24 ditto VICES,
60 casks NAILS, ass'd. sizes and kinds,
54 packages of IRONMONGERY, of various kinds, put up expressly for this market.
10,000 feet WINDOW GLASS, ass'd. sizes.

North Market Wharf, 8th May, 1840.

NEW GOODS—NEW GOODS.

Prince-William-street.

Just received, per Springfield, from Liverpool:

A LARGE and elegant assortment of SPRING GOODS, of the newest fashions, and direct from the Manufacturers,—consisting of—a great variety of beautiful Shawls, Capes, and Mantillas, Fancy Handkerchiefs, Scarfs, Challis, De Lains, Orleans Cloths, Princettas, Summer Cloths, Saxonys, Merinos, Flannels; a complete assortment of Silecias, Rolled Linings, White and Grey Cottons; an elegant assortment of Prints and Printed Dresses, of splendid patterns, Silk and Gauze Handkerchiefs, Stocks, Gloves, and Hosiery; Berlin Wools and Rug Canvas, Cotton Reels, Lace and Gauze Veils; a large assortment of Plain, Figured, and Turc Satins, Persians, Silks, &c.—Blue and White Cotton Warps.

The remainder of the Stock momentarily expected, per *British Queen*, and *Sophia*, from London, comprising one of the most elegant selections ever offered to the public. The Goods have been all selected on the spot by Mrs. Ansley, at the lowest CASH prices.—Grateful for the former attention of my friends, I respectfully solicit their present Patronage. D. ANSLEY.

May 22, 1841.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

Warehouse.

THE Subscribers have received per late arrivals from London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, their usual Extensive Stock of Fashionable Goods, suitable for the season, consisting of—Woollen and Linen Drapery, Silks, Ribbons, Hosiery, Gloves, Shawls, Laces, &c. with a choice selection of

CARPETS, and RUGS to match,

at unusually low prices for prompt payment.

PARKS & HEGAN,

May 15. Prince William Street.

NEW GOODS.

THE Subscriber has just received per ships *Victoria* and *Sister Ann* from Glasgow, and *British Queen* from London, the remainder of his Spring Supply of DRY GOODS, which will be sold low.—A great variety of Summer SHAWLS and Handkerchiefs; *Materials for Summer Dresses;* and his usual supply of other articles.

Carpeting & Hearth Rugs

ready for inspection.

JOHN D. MACINTYRE.

June 5th, 1841.

SPRING GOODS.

CHARLES PATTON

HAS received by late arrivals from London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, his Spring supply of Goods, CONSISTING IN PART OF,—

Broadcloths, Buckskins, and Cassimeres, Printed and Plain Moleskins, Cotton Goods, Orleans Cloths, Saxony and Victoria do. Muslin de Laines, Shawls and Handkerchiefs, in great variety, Silks and Satins, Hosiery, Tuscany and Straw Bonnets, Leghorn Hats for gentlemen, Beaver and Silk do.

Also, per ship "Avon" from Liverpool,—

A few boxes Irish Linen, part put up in 13 yard pieces for the accommodation of families; it is also the soft finish, and warranted free from Cotton. The whole of which will be sold Wholesale and Retail, at the lowest prices. May 29.

NEW GOODS.

The subscriber has received from London and Liverpool, per ships British Queen and Hebe,

BALES Printed and Unbleached COTTONS,
Cases Mousseline de Laine DRESSES,
Bales Cotton WARP,
Cases London Ready Made CLOTHING,
Cases and Bales London SLOPS,
Cases Silk, Gossamer, and Japanned HATS,
Cases Oil-skin Navy Caps, & covered Threshers,
Cases Carpet Bags and Mackintosh COATS,
Trunks Women's BOOTS and SHOES,
Bales Cod, St. Peters, and Pollock Lines,
Bales Sail TWINE,
Boxes London Wax Wick Mould CANDLES,
Boxes London SOAP,
Casks London Bottled PORTER.
Do. do. do. do. (Pints)

—ALSO,—

7 Hhds. *Martell's* BRANDY,
2 qr. casks very superior Pale do.—which he offers for sale at the Store in Water-street, lately occupied by Messrs. James Lockwood & Co.

June 5. S. J. SAMUEL.

NEW GOODS.

The subscriber has received by the ships "Sophia", "British Queen" and "Westmoreland"—

A LARGE and elegant assortment of LONDON GOODS, comprising FASHIONABLE MILLINERY and FANCY GOODS; also, a great variety of Silk, Straw, Tuscan, Rutland, Dunstable, and Devon BONNETS; all of which will be opened in the ensuing week. Also, a beautiful assortment of MANTILLAS, of the latest fashions and newest patterns; VELVET, SATINS, CHINE, &c. GRO DE NAPS, GLOVES, HOSIERY, ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS, and OSTRICH FEATHERS.

☞ The subscriber would call the attention of the public generally to the above assortment of GOODS, and he feels confident that purchasers will be pleased with the selection, as much care has been taken to suit this market.

DANIEL ANSLEY,

May 29. Prince William street

NEW BRUNSWICK HOUSE.

New Goods.

The subscriber has received ex the ships Emerald and Pekin, part of his Spring supply of British GOODS, viz.

BLACK, blue, brown and assorted colours fine and superfine BROAD CLOTHS, plain & ribbed DOESKINS, TWEEDS, Orleans Cloths for Gent.'s Summer wear; grey and white Shirtings; twilled striped Shirtings, printed Saxonies, printed Cottons, Bed Ticks, Osnaburghs, Linens and Linen Shirtings; STAYS; SHAWLS and HANDKERCHIEFS in great variety; Hosiery; Prunella Boots and Shoes; CARPETING with Rugs to match; Beaver and Gossamer HATS; Small-wares, &c.; Bonnets and Bonnet Shapes.

*Ex the Teazer from New York