The Courier.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1848.

FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE PROVINCE.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY FROM HALIFAX TO QUEBEC—BRANCH FROM ST. JOHN TO SHEDIAC.

REMOVAL OF THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT FROM FREDERICTON TO ST. JOHN.

These subjects are so intimately blended with the advancement of our Country and its future prospects, it is with difficulty the mind can grasp their importance, and the advantages which must flow from their accomplishment. All must hail with deep satisfaction the result of the labours of the scientific Royal Engineers who have been engaged for the last two years in the preliminary examination of the face of the country between Halifax and Quebec. The announcement, which we believe there is no doubt they have been enabled to make to the Imperial Government, that they have discovered a perfectly practicable line for a Railway between these two places, with *no* engineering difficulties to encounter, with the exception of some twenty or thirty miles, and those easily overcome by an additional expenditure of money; is no less remarkable, when the distance and geographical position of the territory is considered, than it is decisive of the destinies of these Provinces. Who so timid and unbelieving as to doubt now of the ultimate success of this magnificent design?—of the impulse it will consequently give to the settlement of the country—its agriculture—its commerce, and all those advantages that follow in the train of a prosperous and enlightened land; and of the influence which these British North American Colonies are destined to exercise in the affairs of the Mother Country and of the world.

The marked expressions of the Colonial Secretary, Earl Grey, in Parliament and in his despatches, in favor of this great national undertaking, would lead us to hope, when the report of the Engineers is received, that the Ministry will bring the subject before Parliament as a Government measure. Should such be the case, and the approval and support of Parliament be obtained, it will then become the duty of the Colonial Legislatures to take the question up in earnest, and give it that decided support and encouragement which the vastness and importance of the interests involved, demand. Surely there can be no difference of opinion on this vital subject;—surely our public man will not permit the baneful influence of party spirit—of local, personal animosities, to mar such hopes?

Never before did a more brilliant prospect present itself to the eyes of Legislators and the powers who govern and wield the resources of a people than this! The works of the mighty nations of antiquity—of dynasties that have risen, flourished, and crumbled before the hand of time, were stupendous and magnificent; still they are principally but monuments of the pride and folly of man! How different the object and purpose of the work we are now contemplating, and what a glorious fate awaits the age and men by whom it shall be accomplished!

As Colonists we are willing to admit that incalculable benefits must result from this Railway, which will so intimately and advantageously connect these Colonies with each other and bind them to the Mother Country by ties that will continue to influence while man is actuated by such motives as have ever governed him; but, as Colonists, we should be prepared *to do* something more than admit its usefulness and importance;—every individual from the sources of the noble River St. Lawrence to the Atlantic ocean, of whatever rank or however humble or limited his means, should be prepared to offer up his mite, say one quarter of his income or earnings for a year, towards its construction, and should afford every other encouragement in his power. This, indeed, would be an earnest of their patriotism, and ensure the fulfilment of the work. How trifling the sacrifice! in comparison to the vastness and utility of the object!

Another project has been started, secondary only in importance to the Halifax and Quebec Railway; it is the construction of a Railway from Saint John to the Port of Shediac on the Gulph of St. Lawrence, *via* the Vallies of the Kennebeckasis and Petticodiac Rivers and the Bend. This line will form a branch of the grand trunk, in the most direct line from the City of St. John to Halifax. Indeed the Government of our Province should urge it upon Her Majesty's Government, to include this Eastern line as a portion of the original scheme, on the ground that it will undoubtedly become one of the most *profitable* to its such the trunk line, and materially [illegible] principle of doing equal justice to all, by connecting the commercial capitals of each Province with the line. New-Brunswick, in this case, could then be fairly called upon for her proportion of the outlay, but not otherwise. M. H. Perley, Esq. Emigrant Agent, has ably adverted to this project in his report to the Government, last session, shewing, by statistics, the superior advantages of this line, and the probability of its becoming immediately profitable.

When we look at the geographical position of the Province, and examine the capabilities and productions of its Northern section, its unsurpassed fisheries, its rapid improvement from a wilderness to a cultivated country, its increasing commerce, the length and dangerous nature of the voyage from the Northern ports round the coast of Nova-Scotia to the Atlantic ports of the United States, and the increasing communication between Shediac and Prince Edward Island—some forty passengers having passed weekly between these places during the past summer; it must be evident to every one that a Railway connecting this valuable portion of our Province with the City of Saint John, viewed in connection with the great trunk line from Halifax to Quebec, presents the most feasible local Railway project that has yet been started for public consideration. But these are not all the advantages connected with this line: the contemplated establishment of a weekly line of the Cunard Steamers to call at Halifax, and the vast importance of an early communication of the intelligence by the English Mails to the commerce of New-Brunswick, renders it imperative that a Railway should be constructed between that place and the City of St. John—the centre of our commerce. It is most remarkable that in this distance of 240 miles not a single engineering difficulty exists, and that it will pass through some of the most fertile and populous districts of both Provinces. It is the opinion of many of sound judgment, that those portions of this Railway that lie between Halifax and Truro, and between Shediac and St. John, would at once pay a fair per centage on the capital invested. This opinion is not only founded upon the fertility of those districts and the immense quantity of produce sent to those markets, but also upon the great number of passengers (which is the food of Railways,) who now travel those roads, connecting as they do the whole coast of the Gulph of St. Lawrence with the Commercial Emporiums of the two Colonies.

It is impossible to realize the general advantages that must flow from the bringing of these two important cities within eight hours' travel of each other.—Commerce, Agriculture, and Trade, will receive an impetus little imagined by those unacquainted with the magic influence of such facilities of communication and intercourse; besides, all the benefits of an Electro-Magnetic Telegraph would at once be secured,—in fact, the time is fast approaching when the principal communication between Europe and America will be for travellers, *via* Halifax, and Railway from thence to different parts of the Continent.

In searching into the causes which have kept this Province, notwithstanding its illimitable resources—of wood—of unequalled fisheries—of minerals, coal, gypsum, freestone, and its capability of producing all the necessaries and comforts of life, behind the age and the neighbouring Republic, the attentive observer will not fail to mark that, the site of the Seat of the Provincial Government is not among the least which has tended to produce this result. This is a subject that demands the serious consideration of the constituency of the Province; every successive session makes it the more apparent that a change must take place, if it is expected that the Government of the Colony is to be conducted upon those liberal and enlightened views which have been so freely and so graciously conceded by the Government of the Mother Country. It must be obvious to every man, whose judgment is not strongly warped by private and local interests, that those principles of government can only be carried out to advantage under the most favourable circumstances, and will require the united intelligence of the people of the Province. Now, without the remotest desire to cast any imputation upon the inhabitants of the present Seat of Government, all must feel that there is *not materiel* there, satisfactorily to conduct the affairs of the State—no public opinion to correct and give energy to the proceedings of the Legislature: on the contrary, that there is a lethargy, a want of life, vigour, and intelligence which has, hitherto, singularly influenced our Provincial Legislation and Executive Government. This state of things, perhaps, is not the fault of its inhabitants, it *may* be owing to the injudicious choice of such a site, without any of those natural advantages upon which alone depends the permanent prosperity of any place.

Another most serious inconvenience to the public business is the division of the Public Offices. The Heads of the Custom House, Treasury, and Post Office Departments, must of necessity continue to remain at Saint John; constant communication is required to be kept up between the Executive and these Departments, and the delays arising from the present arrangement is frequently most prejudicial to the public service. The fact that the Lieutenant Governor has deemed it necessary, in the faithful performance of those high and important duties which devolve upon him, to reside the principal part of the summer at Saint John, is a most convincing argument that the Seat of Government should be *re*-established in this place, from which, in a disastrous hour for the best interests of the Province, it was removed *without authority*, to Fredericton. However we may differ as to how far *private* interests were benefited by this measure, all must agree, in tracing the influence it has had upon the *public* weal, that it was a most mistaken and fatal step; and that no time should be lost by our public men in *re*-instating the Seat of Government at Saint John. The Executive Government and the Legislature will then be inspired with the vigour required to keep pace with the advancement of the age. The intelligence of the Province will be brought to their aid, and public opinion will be an incentive to the performance of their important duties. The rapid development of the resources of this fine Province will be its fruits.

St. John is not only now the commercial emporium of New-Brunswick, but a so of the whole North west coast of Nova-Scotia, and is destined to become one of the largest and most influential cities of North America. It is no less remarkable than fortunate that it is in so central a position, with reference to the great mass of the population of the Province; and when the great Eastern Railway shall have been completed, (of which there can be no reasonable doubt, if any improvement is to be made at all in the country,) it will place within six hours journey, the valuable and important Northern Counties, with the Atlantic sea board and the *then* Capital of the Province. It would be a work of supererogation to repeat here all the other reasons which combine to render the removal of the Seat of Government from Fredericton to the City of Saint John. so desirable. The subject only requires discussion to make it apparent; and it is to be hoped that the Legislature will take the question into serious consideration at the approaching session, and make the preliminary arrangements for its final accomplishment.

It is not to be supposed, however, that these important measures to which we have adverted, and which involve the future prospects of our Country, *can* or *will* be carried into effect while the people continue apathetic and indifferent:—these national and vital improvements require the united energies of us all. It is necessary that the constituency of the Province should arouse themselves, and instruct their Representatives by Petitions on all of these subjects. There is yet ample time for this constitutional mode of influencing and encouraging the Government and the Legislature; but no farther delay should be permitted;—Petitions should be put in course of signature, for the removal of the Seat of Government,—for a grant of money to make the necessary preliminary survey of the line for the Eastern Railway from this City to Shediac, preparatory to obtaining an Act of Incorporation: and for the encouragement of the Grand Trunk Line, by grants of vacant land and the appropriation of an annual grant of money for a term of years, provided this great national work is approved and supported by the British Government.

But if such is the duty of the constituency of the Province generally, what ought not to be expected from the good citizens of St. John, who will be so directly benefited? No man who has viewed or is acquainted with the difficulties and losses to which this City has been subject within the last ten or fifteen years, by calamitous fires and the consequent destruction of capital, (such a desideratum in a new country,) will doubt the indomitable perseverance, energy and enterprise of its citizens; still these valuable qualities have been mainly employed in the pursuit of private gain; and we have not shewn that public spirit, nor taken that prominent position in furthering the public improvements contemplated, and which are so much required [illegible] been expected from the Commercial Emporium of the Province. We will venture to hold up St. Andrews as an example to us in the proceedings that should be adopted, especially with respect to the Great Eastern Railway. The time has arrived when decided measures should be adopted to advance our Province; either we must be content to lie under the stigma, the reproach which attaches to an indolent people, or we must "GO AHEAD."

THE WEATHER during the week has undergone a most decided change. On Monday last the mercury in the thermometer fell to three degrees below the cypher, while yesterday it stood at six above the freezing point, being a difference of forty-one degrees. The extreme mildness of the last two days has made our principal streets almost bare of snow, and reminds us more of April than of the last days of December.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—On Monday evening, D. S. Morrison, Esq. of St. Andrews, entertained a large audience with an excellent Lecture on *Education*. Last evening Mr. Morrison resumed his remarks on this important subject, and delivered another interesting Lecture.

On Monday evening next, Thomas B. Wilson, Esq. of St. Andrews, will deliver a lecture on the Jews.

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES.—The collections in Trinity and St. John Churches on Christmas Day, for the benefit of the Poor, amounted to £43.

MISSING SHIP.—We regret to state that no intelligence has yet been received here of the Ship *John Clark*, Capt. Robert Disbrow, which sailed from the Downs on the 19th Sept. last for this port. Although serious fears may well be entertained for the safety of the vessel, we sincerely hope that we may yet hear of the safety of her unfortunate crew.

At a meeting of the Directors of the St. John Agricultural Society held at Mr. Perley's Office, 30th December, 1847.

Mr. Jardine from the Committee appointed at the Annual Meeting to report what encouragement should be given to the erection of an Oat Mill and Kiln on the Golden Grove Road—reports—That the Committee consider the most advantageous arrangement would be to establish a Mill to grind both wheat and oats for toll, at the Aboideau, with a Carding Mill attached, which they consider would not only be beneficial to the public generally, but would probably be profitable to any person of sufficient means to erect the same. But in the absence of any such undertaking, they recommend, that the Society do encourage the erection of an Oat Mill and Kiln at Black River, one on the Golden Grove Road, and one at Lancaster. Each of such Mills when erected to receive a bonus of £25 from this Society, in addition to the Provincial bounty of £25, the same to be paid when the Provincial bounty is obtained, and on security being given that each Mill and Kiln shall be kept in actual operation for the space of two years.

On Motion, Resolved, That the report be received and adopted and that notice of the same be given in the public papers; the site of each Mill and Kiln to be approved by a Committee of this Society.

Extract from the Minutes.

M. H. PERLEY, *Secretary*.

THE TEMPERANCE SOIREE came off on Tuesday evening with great *eclat*. The large room in the South Wing of the Custom House building, which was tastefully fitted up for the occasion, was filled to overflowing, it being estimated that about one thousand persons were present. After tea, some excellent speeches were delivered on the subject of Temperance by a number of gentlemen, and the proceedings enlivened at intervals with some excellent singing by the choir. The Committee deserve much credit for their arrangements on this interesting occasion.—*New-Bruns.*

THE ROWE FAMILY.—The third Concert of this very intere-ting family came off on Thursday night and the performance afforded infinite pleasure and amusement to a highly respectable audience. Mr. Rowe was again *encored* in all his comic songs. We have heard the "*Cork Leg*" sung before, but never with such exquisite humour as on this occasion; in the *encore* to this song, he introduced an Irish song of broad humour, *Larry O'Gaff*, which was sung amidst bursts of laughter from the company. Miss M. Rowe sang "*I'll make him speak out*," with great *naivete*; and all the other pieces were given with the usual brilliancy of these performances. The next Concert was announced for Tuesday evening the 11th January, and we would strongly recommend those who have not as yet heard this family to take the opportunity of being highly gratified.

We perceive by advertisement in our paper of to-day, that Mr. Rowe intends giving lessons in Music. The lovers of the science should endeavour to get him pupils, as it may be the means of securing his permanent residence amongst us.

ROBERT SEARS' NEW PICTORIAL FAMILY MAGAZINE—FOR 1848.

We have been put in possession of the first Number of the New and Improved Volume of this Monthly Miscellany of Moral and Useful Instruction, issued for 1848. The articles are well written and the work is beautifully printed on paper of the finest quality, with numerous illustrations—and contains forty to fifty large octavo pages. The present number exhibits the design of the popular publisher, to give, in succession, a series of papers on the several branches of human knowledge, written in a popular style, combining in an eminent degree, in its construction, the "utile et dulce:" thus presenting a rich treasury of useful and entertaining instruction in its most attractive guise. This Magazine has an immense circulation throughout the United States, where all Mr. Sears' publications have in a great degree became popular from the high tone of *moral* sentiment with which they abound. The present number for January, contains an interesting article on "NEW YEAR'S DAY;" the season is appropriate to lay it before our readers.

"A HAPPY NEW YEAR!" has been the repetition of a thousand merry voices this morning. This is a day on which old feuds should be broken down, warm friendships be strengthened, and new acquaintances formed. New-York, of all the states, keeps New Year's Day with the greatest spirit. It is one of the bequeathments of their Dutch forefathers. While in New England the austerity of the puritan breathed the denunciation of the *iconoclast* on all festivals, the homely settler of New Amsterdam encouraged them. The savants of the east enacted laws to make the people sober, and to render illegal all support of such festivities. When bleak and cheerless winter set in on the little island of Manhattan, the severity of the season was utterly disarmed by the social qualities of its plain good natured inhabitants. There was a regular interchange of visits among the neighbors, and all parties laid in a large supply of cookies, as was called their *koek*, or cake, on which to regale themselves. Probably from this circumstance has come down to us the present agreeable custom of the gentlemen making their calls on the ladies of the household. The first day of the year has in it something peculiar, and which at once recommends it to the observance of every heart; the customary division of time of the world's age, of the different phases of history, and what endears it more particularly, of the life of man. The birth-day remembrance is but an individual consideration, but on this day the nations, as with a simultaneous thought, add *one* to the years of their being, while old mother Earth dots another year of her existence on the calendar of time. This is a day of gifts, a day for the expression of affection by little mementoes, which become the household representatives of love and kind regard. Man in many traits is the same now that he was some thousands of years ago. We now give new-year's presents—so did the ancient Romans. On the first of January, long before the advent of the Messiah, the Eternal City was kept in a yearly hum with the passing feet of the bearers of the *strenæ*, or presents; the patron received them from his client, the citizen gave them to the magistrate, and friends gave them to each other. The visiter brought his *xenium*, or guest-gift, and received his *strenæ*, or return-gift. These were new year's presents. The gifts consisted chiefly of rare coins, gilt dates, plumbs dried and gilt, figs and other small household matters, ornamented with the head of Janus, to which god the festivities of the day were dedicated. Persons visiting had their compliments, which have come down to us. *Annum novum fustum felicenque tibi*, said the ancient Roman to his friend. *A prosperous and happy new year to you!* great stress being laid on the word *prosperous*, for success in any matter on new year's day augured well for the whole year. The Druids had their solemn days for cutting the sacred mistltoe with a golden knife, from some aged tree in their forest, dedicated to their gods. This, with much ceremony, was dried into branches, and distributed on new-year's day as gifts to the people. Our Saxon ancestors, in common with the Teutonic nations or tribes, made merry on this day, observing it with gifts and unusual festivity. Indeed, it was a season of great importance with them, as from it they numbered their age; and the hoary headed man of seventy was called the man of seventy merry-makings. England does not celebrate the day with much festivity, the only observance being that beginning on the last night of the old year; the bells of the various churches ring out their merry peals until past midnight—as is said, they ring the old year out and the new year in. But the greatest *eclat* is given to this festival in France, where all other nations are for outstripped in the lavish nature of the gifts. The expenditure for sweetmeats, &c. in Paris, exceed $100,000, while the sales of jewelry and fancy articles for some five days about this time, equal *one fourth* the sales of the whole year. A Parisian of 10,000 francs a-year, will spend one-fifteenth of it in new year's presents. In the visits of the day, the French have an etiquette which is quite becoming. The nearest relations are first visited, and so on, until they have all been called on; then the friends are visited. This is all done in the morning. A dinner is given, and the evening winds up with social amusements. Still, although we do not make such lavish expenditures, we are not a whit behind any people in the social enjoyment of the time. The kind congratulations between the sexes, make it a happy [illegible] social festival—cousins kind hearted, and in the midst of this gleeful festivity, let gratitude have a place in every heart. Remember those who are in adversity, and see that the poor have the means of uniting in the festival. Temperance is a virtue, which confers on her faithful votaries, on festivals like to-day, blessings in rich profusion; while Bacchus overwhelms his followers in drunkenness, disgrace, pain, despair and sorrow.

We cannot better close our remarks on the new year than by giving the ruminations of WASHINGTON IRVING, from his "elbow chair:"—

"In this season of festivity, when the gate of time swings open on its hinges, and an honest, rosy-faced new year comes waddling in, like a jolly fat-sided alderman, loaded with good wishes, good humour, and minced pies; at this joyous era, it has been the custom, from time immemorial, in this ancient and respectable city, for periodical writers, from reverend, grave, and potent essayists, like ourselves! down to the humble but industrious editors of magazines, reviews, and newspapers, to tender their subscribers the compliments of the season; and when they have slily thawed their hearts with a little of the sunshine of flattery, to conclude by delicately dunning them for their arrears of subscription money. In like manner the carriers of newspapers, who undoubtedly belong to the ancient and honorable order of literati, do regularly, at the commencement of the year, salute their patrons with abundance of excellent advice, conveyed in exceeding good poetry, for which the aforesaid good-natured patrons are well pleased to pay them twenty-five cents. This honest, grey-beard custom of setting apart a certain portion of this good-for-nothing existence for the purposes of cordiality, social merriment, and good cheer, is one of the inestimable relics handed down to us from our Dutch ancestors. In addition to this Divine origin of new-year festivity, there is something exquisitely grateful to a good-natured mind, in seeing every face dressed in smiles; in hearing the oft repeated salutations that flow spontaneously from the heart to the lips; in beholding the poor, for once enjoying the smiles of plenty, and forgetting the cares which press hard upon them, in the joyial revelry of the feelings; the young children, decked out in their Sunday clothes, and freed from their only cares, the cares of the school, tripping through the streets on errands of pleasure; and even the very negroes, those holyday-loving rogues, gorgeously arrayed in cast-off finery, collected in junts, at corners, displaying their white teeth, and making the welkin ring with bursts of laughter, loud enough to crack even the icy cheek of old winter. There is something so pleasing in all this, that I confess it would give me real pain to behold the frigid influence of modern style cheating us of this *jubilee of the heart*, and converting it, as it does every article of social intercourse, into an idle and unmeaning ceremony. 'Tis the annual festival of good humour;—it comes in the dead of winter, when nature is without a charm, when our pleasures are contracted to the fireside, and when every thing that unlocks the icy fetters of the heart, and sets the genial current flowing, should be cherished as a stray lamb found in the wilderness, or a flower blooming among thorns and briers."

THE EBONY CHOIR.—We would direct attention to the card of these amusing songsters, who intend giving a Concert at the Institute this evening.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.—At a general meeting of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, held in London on the 2d of November, it was agreed, pursuant to notice given at the last Meeting, that £300 be granted towards the cathedral of Fredericton. It was also agreed that £300 of this sum be paid as soon as the building is fit for the performance of Divine service, and the remaining £500 upon the completion of the works reported by the Bishop of the Diocese to be now in progress.

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge also propose to grant £2000 in aid of King's College, Windsor, N. S.—one-half to be paid when the alumni of the College raise £2000 by subscription, and the other moiety when another £2000 shall be realized by the alumni.

Canada Elections.—On the 21st ult. Messrs. Aylwia and Chabot, the former representatives of Quebec, were re-elected, without opposition. For the County of Frontenac, the late ministerial member, H. Smith, Esq. has also been elected without opposition.—The election for the city of Montreal is to take place on the 5th January.

Louis Joseph Papineau has again been brought forward to public notice, through an invitation he has received from the electors of the counties of Huntingdon and St. Maurice to represent them. He has replied at great length in the *Minerve*, (French paper) stating that, after mature consideration, he has arrived at the conviction, that the present constitution is wholly insufficent to secure the blessings of a liberal and reasonible government to the Canadian people. Looking to the past history of the country, and to the conduct of former Governors, he is firmly persuaded that Responsible Government will not be honestly administered in the Colonies. He apprehends that Downing Street interference will still be persevered in, and that which will wholly fettered by instructions from the Governor will still be fettered by instructions constitutional advisers and of Parliament. Upon grounds such as these Mr. Papineau deems it inexpedient that he should take any part in public affairs; it yet, however, remains to be seen whether he will be enabled to overcome his scruples, and again enter the arena of political strife.—*Morning Chronicle. Dec. 24.*

The Official Gazette of Saturday last announces the appointment of the Hon. F. P. Bruneau as Receiver General; the Hon. John A. Macdonald to be Commissioner of Crown Lands; Joseph Edmond Turcoutte, Esq. to be Solicitor General; and Ogle R. Gowan, Esq. to be Supervisor of Tolls on the St. Lawrence, west of Lachine—the latter a newly created office. His Excellency the Governor General has likewise appointed the Earl of Erroll to be an extra aid-de camp.

Dr. Fargues, lately deceased, has bequeathed £6000 for the establishment of a Poor House in Quebec, to be called Fargues' Asylum.

The Steamer Unicorn sailed from Halifax last Tuesday afternoon for Greenock, via Sydney and St. John's, N. F.—Col. Thompson, Lady and two children, and Capt. Parks, were passengers for Greenock.

Deaths from Intemperance.—Three soldiers belonging to the 82d Regiment and an artilleryman, indulged to such fearful excess in drinking on Christmas day at Halifax, that they all died during the night. Two or three others came near sharing the same fate—a Sergeant is stated to have had a pint and a half of spirits pumped off his stomach.

BOSTON, Dec. 25.—*Aquatic Race.*—Yesterday afternoon there was a trial of speed between the yacht sloop Iris, of Halifax, modelled and rigged after the fashion of an English cutter, and two Boston pilot boats, the Sylph and Anonyma; all three being about the same tonnage. They proceeded to a position in the bay, about half way between Fawn Bar and Nahant, the Sylph being under the lee of the Iris, when they filled away and beat up to the city, a distance of between 10 and 11 miles. The wind was westerly, not very fresh, what seamen call a "whole sail breeze," and the weather pleasant except a flurry of snow, which lasted about half an hour, towards the close of the race. The Sylph reached the wharf a little before five o'clock, at which time the Iris was more than two miles astern, and the Anonyma about half a mile astern. We understand that the owner of the British yacht frankly admits it to be a fair beat, and acknowledges that his model and rig are not calculated to contend to advantage with our clippers. It was intended that a trial of speed should have been made between the Iris and Mr. Perkins's yacht Coquett, but through some misunderstanding the C. was not quite ready. As the C. is admitted to be more than a match for our pilot boats, there may be no trial between her and the Iris.

The Iris is owned by Mr. DeLatour, who was accompanied by the Hon. Mr. Carson, both of the Rifle Brigade. The latter is son to Lord Howe. She arrived from Halifax on Wednesday.

The Hon. John Fairfield, formerly Governor of Maine, and latterly a Senator in Congress, from that State, died suddenly at Washington on Christmas eve.

A novel circumstance has occurred at Washington, and which has given rise to much speculation. It appears that the Right Rev. Dr. Hughes, Roman Catholic Bishop of New York, in accordance with a written invitation of members of both Houses of Congress, and of all parties, delivered a sermon in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Sunday the 12th December, to an excessively crowded audience. The Bishop is accused of having a strong political bias, and of having a desire to be sent as one of the commissioners to Mexico, as well as of wishing a friend of his to be appointed minister to Rome.

At St. Louis, on the 15th, Harrington, of Rockwell & Co's Circus, shot Hiram Franklin the well known equestrian, of the same troup, and wounded him slightly. Harrington afterwards committed suicide by shooting himself twice in the head.

Professor Ingraham, the prolific novelist, is said to have abandoned story-telling, and is about to become a preacher of the doctrines of the Episcopal Church!

The New York Tribune notices the glaring and important fact that the Mexican Congress have elected a President favourable to Peace and significantly rejected a proposition that no territory should be ceded in making a Treaty; and have despatched Commissioners to the head quarters of the United States army, expressly and avowedly to negotiate for the termination of the War. On their arrival however they found no one authorized to treat with them, and were obliged to return with a report of their ill success.

A commission composed of Conto, Arista, Cuaras and Rincon, had been sent to the capital to open negotiations with Trist, whose powers having been revoked, the Commissioners returned to Quentaro, supposing Gen. Scott had referred the matters to Mr. Polk. Santa Anna had assumed command of the army at Pajaka, declaring hostility to peace negotiations while American forces were occupying [illegible]

The British Minister left Vera Cruz on the 3d Dec. for the city with an American escort. He will be puzzled to find the Mexican Government to which he is accredited.

A train of thirty-four waggons, loaded with merchandise, on the road from Puebla to Mexico, had been captured by guerillas under Generals Rea and Correjon.—Gen. Lane followed in pursuit, and had a fight with guerillas at Thascla. Most of the wagons were recaptured. Seventeen guerillas were killed, and thirteen officers taken prisoners.

Gens. Worth and Pillow, and Col. Duncan have been arrested by Gen. Scott, for disrespectful correspondence in regard to the commander-in-chief.

The latest accounts from the region of the Rio Grande, are to the 4th inst. It was currently reported that Gen. Filosola was in command of a large force at San Luis—8 or 10,000 men—while Minon had 2000 cavalry near at hand, operating with him. The rumoured purpose of the Mexicans was for Minon to come out by the Linares passes to China, while, with the main body of his troops, Filosola should fall upon Saltillo.

Accounts from Fort Wayne, Santa Fe, says, that seven Pawnee Indians had been killed by American soldiers after being invited into the fort.—Twenty more were wounded, five of whom mortally.

TRADE IN LIVERPOOL.—Lord John Russell, on Monday night, said—"I find on looking to the returns, that, in the nine months ending Oct. 10, 1845, the amount of articles of British and Irish manufacturers exported from the kingdom was £41,732,000; that for the same period in 1846, it was £40,800,000, and for the same period in 1847 to £39,975,000. This does, to be sure, exhibit a difference, as compared with the two preceding years, but it is no such falling off as should dispirit any one looking to the future for the permanent prosperity of the country. (Hear.) I find that the exports from Liverpool of British manufactured goods to the United States for the three quarters ending Oct. 1846, were to the amount of £4,529,636, and that for the three quarters ending Oct., 1847, they amounted to £6,791,000, making a difference in favour of exports this year from Liverpool to the United States of £2,261,414.—(Hear, hear.) This fact shows us, that according to the wholesome process of trade and exchanges, the food we imported into this country in greater quantity than usual had been the cause of greater export of our manufactures."

F. M. the Duke of Wellington, though upwards of 78 years of age, on Thursday last was ballotted for and elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. This is the first and highest honour sought for among the British scientific; it is generally the passport,—the stepping-stone to further eminence in the world of science and natural knowledge, conferring a *status* as it were on persons eminent for some great mental attainment; the distinction of F. R. S. is anxiously expected by all who thirst after fame in the character of philosophers;—this granted, it follows that the trial of election is made at a comparatively early period of life,—certainly never in the wane. The duke's election, therefore, was matter for some surprise, though it is understood the application did not spring from his grace but from the kind wishes of some fellows who wished to have F. M. the Duke enrolled in their archives.

The Lords of the Admiralty have conferred the Captain's out pension of Greenwich Hospital, which reverted to their Lordship's patronage on the death of Capt. Hayes, to Capt. Philip Westphall, of Carrisbrooke, Isle of Wight. Capt. W. is a native of Halifax, N. S., and had well earned the distinction which has been awarded to him.

EXAMINATION OF MASTERS AND MATES.—At a board of examiners, held on the 17th instant, Captain Albert Betts, late master of the Devon, of St. John, New Brunswick, and Mr. Charles William Walker, second officer of the British and North American royal mail steam ship Hibernia, were examined and found duly qualified for the first-class masters' certificates.—*Liverpool Standard.*

It is rumoured (says the *Liverpool Courier*) that it is her Majesty's intention not only once more to visit the Isle of Man, but to take up her abode there for a portion of the summer season. The rumour further asserts that Castle Mona is the residence chosen for the future occupation of Royalty, and that a person high in authority is now, or has been lately, inspecting the premises for his Royal mistress, and treating for the purchase thereof.

Two important official men have fallen before the typhus pestilence in Glasgow, Dr. Thomson, the physician of the fever hospital, and Mr. Reid, one of the lieutenants of police. Of the men connected with the police force, 70 are reported to be off duty from fever, influenza, &c.

In a letter to the *Times*, Lord Eglington says that a statement in the *Globe*, to the effect that he had become bankrupt, given up all his property, and been placed on an allowance of £500 a year, is utterly without foundation.

Sir Robert Peel is employing a considerable number of labourers in draining his lands near Blackburn—charging his tenantry about 4½ per cent. additional rent on the cost of the outlay.

SPECIE FROM THE UNITED STATES.—Specie is coming into Liverpool freely. The Caledonia, on Monday, brought £100,000; the John R. Skeddy, on Wednesday, £40,000, and the Fidelia, on Thursday, £60,000. These arrivals of specie will give increased vigour to trade.—*Liverpool Chron. Dec. 4.*

Dublin, Nov. 30.—STATE OF THE COUNTRY.—The intelligence from the provinces, this day, is scanty, but by no means satisfactory. Distress in the most appalling form is beginning to manifest itself in some of the southern districts, particularly in Cork and Clare, where such fearful privations were experienced last year. The *Clare Journal*, among other instances, gives the following:—"Last week some three or four hundred persons, men and children, from the parish of Killard, entered an extensive turnip field belonging to Mr. James Shannon, of Craganock, and tore away and ate on the spot the greater part of the turnips grown threon, to stay for the moment the cravings of hunger. About 100 of these poor people were on the last meeting day allowed into the Kilrush workhouse." There are 700 paupers in the Scariff workhouse, and hundreds daily—nay, hourly, seeking admission; with their countenances emaciated and fully depicted with the destitution that is hourly augmenting in that locality. The vice guardians have declared a rate of 7s. 6d. in the pound all over the Union. Parents are deserting their children there and leaving. One child was brought into the workhouse yesterday, four years of age, and could not tell its name.

MURDER OF THE REV. MR. LLOYD.—A letter from Elphin, in Roscommon, gives an account of the murder, on the morning of Sunday last, of the Rev. John Lloyd, vicar of Aughrim, who was shot dead on his return from the parish church half an hour after he had officiated in the performance of divine service. The writer adds:—"The Rev. J. Lloyd, vicar of Aughrim, after preaching his sermon this day in the parish church, returned to his residence in Smith's Town, near Elphin, accompanied by his servant, on horse back. When about half a mile from his house, a man, armed with a gun, came up, and, addressing the rev. gentleman, said, 'Say your prayers, for you are going to be shot.' Mr. Lloyd exclaimed, 'What have I done that I should be murdered?' The miscreant replied, 'You put out a tenant two years ago on your estate in Leitrim; and I tell you, say your prayers, for your time is come.' The ruffian then levelled his gun, deliberately took aim, and fired. Two balls entered the chest of the unfortunate gentleman, who fell a lifeless corpse upon the road. The servant rode on to give the alarm; the murderer escaped."—A correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Roscommon, gives a somewhat different version;—"After having performed divine service at Kilmore Church, on which he was the officiating minister, when about two miles distant from his own residence he was met at Aughamore by two assassins, one of whom laid hold of and stopped his horse; the second fired and severely wounded Mr. Lloyd; the same again reloaded, took a child (a son of the Rev. Mr. Percy,) that was seated by Mr. Lloyd's side, out of the carriage, shot the wretched gentleman dead, deliberately seated the child, handed him the reins, and bade him drive home! The servant, who was one of the party, ran off on the first appearance of danger, and, as usual I suppose on such occasions, could not identify, but 'might know them again' if he saw them."

The Lord Lieutenant does not wait for a coercion bill to protect life and property in Tipperary. The 92d Highlanders, garrisoned in Dublin, have received orders to march directly for Limerick and the North Riding. The constabulary depot in the Phœnix Park is also preparing to send out a considerable draft. This immediate assistance is not unnecessary, for without such protection the North Riding and a large district of Limerick bordering on Tipperary are likely to be soon emptied of their resident gentry by threats of violence. Two extensive proprietors having been warned to depart, under penalty of death, complied with the notice. They have sent for their families at much expenses and inconvenience. The difference between the North and South Ridings is singular. In the latter, with some slight exceptions, all is perfect tranquility. The gentry are free from apprehension, and realise one of the dreams of the golden age, in being able to sleep with unbolted doors.

Notwithstanding the extreme poverty which prevails in Ireland, the collection for the O'Connell monument amounts to about £15,000!

The papers inform us that "the Duchess of Montrose has been deer-stalking, and shot four splendid bucks in the Marquis of Bredalbane's forest." Our own opinion is that a lady should never shoot more than one "*buck*" or one "*dear*" at a time; that the said animal should be of a *two-legged* character, and only be fired at from *her eyes*. We have no fancy for sporting ladies. As Lady Macbeth says, "all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten the little hand which has the smell of blood upon it," although it be only the blood of the beasts of the forest. If women are angels, they should confine themselves to angelic works.—*Liverpool Snapdragon.*

☞ *A Supplementary Mail for England will be closed at the General Post-Office in this City at three o'clock, P.M. to-day (Saturday).*

COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE, December 31.

As might be expected from the depressed state of our staple trade, a stagnation pervades all departments of business. Sales are only effected by the Banks discount little or no new paper.

Flour.—Mill Flour, 35s. to 36s. 3d.; American Superfine, 38s. 9d. to 41s. 3d.; Corn Meal very scarce—retailing at 25s.

Sugar.—The Market well supplied—sales of bright at 36s. 9d. to 40s.

Molasses.—Stocks light and sales at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7.—D. P.

Pork and Beef.—Mess Pork, duty paid, £4 10s.; Prime, in bond, £3 1s. 3d.; Beef, Mess, in bond, £3; Prime, £2 12s. 6d.

Coals.—No cargo sales to report; Scotch and Liverpool common, retailing at 22s. 6d.

Salt.—None afloat.

Timber and Deals.—No sales.

Freights—Dull; engagements have been made at £5 for Deals to London; for Irish Ports, we may quote from £4 10s. to £5.

Exchange.—The Banks are drawing to a limited extent on London at 10 per cent prem.; on New York, 2 per cent prem.

IMPORTANT LETTER FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

Fayetteville, N. C., March 2, 1847.

Dr. Seth W. Fowle,—Dear Sir: For two years past I have been more or less troubled with a cough. During the past year, I was taken with a severe pain in the left side, accompanied by a very bad cough, and a raising of blood; probably a quart or more. In addition to this, I sweat profusely at night, which induced me to apply to a physician, but received no permanent benefit. I then procured a bottle of Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry which seemed to have the desired effect. I continued to use it, and my appetite, which had been very poor, returned, and with it my strength was restored. After taking four bottles I was completely cured, and have enjoyed good health since.

DAVID R. BELL.

The editor of the North Carolina, albeit strongly opposed to puffing "quack medicines," but believing that Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry ought not to be classed with that sort, cheerfully testifies to his knowledge of the truth of Mr. Bell's statement in regard to the efficacy of the Balsam.

None genuine, unless signed I. BUTTS on the wrapper.—☞ For sale by PETERS & TILLEY King-street, St. John.

HALSEY'S SUGAR-COATED PILLS.

1 ONE year has now elapsed since this great and
2 good medicine was first made known to the pub-
3 lic, yet within which time thousands have ex-
4 perienced its good effects. Invalids who have
5 been given over by their physicians as incurable
6 have found relief and been restored to sound
7 and vigorous health by this wonderful remedy.
8 *HALSEY'S PILLS are unlike all others!*
9 They act directly on those vital organs of the
10 stomach, liver, kidneys, &c. which secrete the
11 fluids and