

We know not of any fact to which it is more for the benefit of colonists that their attention should be frequently directed, than the profound ignorance prevailing in Britain with respect to what most concerns them. The fine phrases in common use here about the value of colonies, are apt to induce a belief in those distant places, that people at home take a great interest in their affairs. Each small colonial community fancies that its peculiar business gets particular attention in this great country—like the young gentleman at Cambridge, who, after taking his degree as senior wrangler, was asked to go to town, and said, "Not just at present, thank you; I should like it to blow over first." That "it," which was the only subject of his own thoughts, he imagined that all London must be in a fuss about.—So it is with colonists, who, when they meet to complain of some grievance and seek redress, commonly speak of appealing to the House of Commons or to public opinion at home, as if they were sure of sympathy in the Parliament or among the people of this country, where, in truth, their existence is, we will not say unknown, but scarcely ever remembered, and where their grievances are never by any chance cared about or even understood by more than the few persons who may happen to be connected in some way with the particular colony. They thus continually delude themselves with false hopes.—And, what is worse, relying on that which is sure to fail them, they neglect the means within their reach, and so miss their object altogether. "Help yourself, and Heaven will help you," should be their maxim; whereas they depend on what they call the "wisdom and justice of the mother country." Justice is figured with a bandage on her eyes, but an essential condition of wisdom is intimate knowledge. The colonists, therefore, rely on the intimate knowledge of their affairs which they suppose to be prevalent at home. Disappointment must be their lot till they get over this delusion. In order to learn self-reliance, they must be taught that the common state of mind in the mother country with respect to them, is not merely indifference, but utter ignorance. The doctrine may be offensive to their pride; but that consideration shall not deter us from teaching it.

UNITED STATES.

[Correspondence of the Commercial Advertiser.]  
THE ANNIVERSARY OF PRINTING.

BOSTON, June 25th, 1840.—I arrived here yesterday, in season to attend the celebration, for which the Bostonians have been preparing for some time, of the four hundredth anniversary of printing with moveable types. A regular holiday was made of it among the trade. The streets where the printing business is principally carried on were decorated with flags stretched across them.—The offices were closed, as were also the book-stores in the afternoon, and no morning papers are to be issued to-day. The procession was formed at the State House, at three o'clock, and proceeded through Tremont and several other streets to Faneuil Hall, where preparations had been made for the celebration of the festival. The large room was appropriately decorated. Directly behind the chair of the presiding officer was a statue of Faust. On the columns of the building, one letter upon each, was the inscription, "Art of printing invented 1440." On sign boards, arranged completely around the apartment, were the names Green, Thomas, Ramage, Dodge, Wells, Ronaldson, Guttenburg, Franklin, Schoeffer, Clymer, Caxton, Calson, Stanhope, Bramah and Napier. Mr. Buckingham, the veteran editor of the Boston Courier, presided. On his right hand was the Mayor of Boston, on his left a clergyman—I believe the Rev. Mr. Young.

After the good things which had been amply provided were properly discussed, Mr. Buckingham opened the intellectual feast with a sketch of the history of printing, interspersed with amusing reminiscences and anecdotes. The first toast called out the Mayor of Boston, who made a most humorous speech. He said that the magnitude of the subject made it impossible to dilate upon the benefits of the art of printing.—You might as well speak about the benefits of the sun. So he should content himself with talking about the evils engendered by the press. The most flagrant of these he considered the encouragement which it gave to the manufacture of public speeches, which had now become so common, that if he were asked what were the principal products of the New England states, he should not answer granite and ice, but public speeches. This was all the fault of the press; folks would not take the trouble of making addresses if it were not for the pleasure of seeing in the paper next day that Mr. So-and-so electrified a most delighted audience with the most thrilling eloquence. Nay, such was the benevolence of the press, that if any gentleman was particularly dull or stupid in his remarks, it was announced that Mr. Blank made a most sensible speech.

His honor the mayor was succeeded by a member of the state Legislature, whose name as announced I did not catch—a most capital speaker. During the evening, addresses were delivered by the attorney general of Massachusetts; Mr. Bancroft, the historian; H. B. M. consul, Mr. Grattan; Dr. Howe, principal of the institution for the blind; Mr. Prentiss, editor of the New Hampshire Sentinel; the editor of the Farmers' Cabinet, and several other gentlemen, whose names I did not learn. An ode of peculiar appropriateness to the occasion, and a chaste and beautiful composition, was read by Mr. Shepherd, formerly an apprentice to the printing business, but now an under-graduate of Harvard University.

(From the Albany Daily Advertiser, June 29.)

**CONVICTION AND ESCAPE OF LETT.**—We learn from the Syracuse Signal, that Lett, the Canadian, has been convicted of an attempt to burn the steamboat Great Britain, at Oswego, and sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment in the State Prison at Auburn. He passed through Syracuse on Friday night, on his way to prison, in custody of the Sheriff, and when within four miles of Auburn he made his escape from the car, while going at the rate of 20 miles an hour. One hundred dollars are offered by the Sheriff for his apprehension.

**THREE HUNDRED MILES A DAY.**—The splendid steamboat Erie, Capt. Titus, returned from Chicago on Saturday last, with a large number of passengers, and 300 barrels of flour and pork. The run of the Erie on this occasion is worthy of record. She left Chicago on Tuesday morning at half-past nine o'clock, touched at ten intermediate ports, took in passengers and wood, and arrived here at 45 minutes past two on Saturday afternoon, thus running the trip of 1,200 miles in four days.—(Buff. Com.)

**OPERATION FOR ABSCESS IN THE LUNGS.**—The Philadelphia Inquirer speaks of an operation in that city by Dr. Bethell:

An incision was made about three inches long between the sixth and seventh ribs; a gum elastic tube was introduced into the cavity of the abscess, and the pus drawn off by means of a pump. The orifice was kept open and the tube applied until the pus (which amounted to 24 ozs.) was entirely removed. The patient immediately after the operation became entirely relieved; his cough subsided, and his respiration became easy. He is now convalescent, having had no symptoms since the operation, and remains under the care of Drs. Bethell and Taylor.

**NEW YORK, JUNE 27.—STILL THEY COME.**—About 3000 emigrants have arrived at this port from Germany, &c., within the last three days. They are pouring also into Philadelphia, Baltimore and New Orleans, but in smaller bodies.

**NEW WHEAT.**—Already they have harvested the wheat in East Tennessee, and are eating of the new flour.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION.

(From the New York Sun.)

"The American Citizens' Manual of Reference," a pamphlet of about 100 pages, just published, and for sale at E. French's book store, 120 Fulton street, contains a fund of valuable statistical knowledge in regard to this country. The declaration of Independence, the constitution, the inaugural and farewell addresses of Washington and Jefferson, a brief biography of all the Presidents, with a great variety of useful information in regard to the Treasury, Post Office, Army, Navy, Commerce, and many other matters may be found in this cheap and useful publication. We select from it some facts that may be interesting to our readers.

**THE NAVY** is composed of 65 vessels of war, as follows: 11 ships of the line, from 74 to 120 guns, and one razee 54 guns—14 frigates 1st class, 44 guns—2 frigates 2nd class, 36 guns—21 sloops of war from 16 to 20 guns—12 brigs and schooners from 4 to 10 guns—2 steam-ships and 1 store-ship.

**THE ARMY** contains of officers and men 12,577 in all, as follows:—General Staff 57, Medical Department 83, Pay Department 3, Corps of Engineers 43, Corps of Topographical Engineers 25, Ordnance Department 322, two Regiments of Dragoons 1,493, four Regiments of Artillery 3,020, eight regiments of Infantry, 7,496. The total number of the militia of the United States is about 1,400,000.

**POST OFFICES.**—There were in 1839 in the United States 12,780 Post Offices—Receipts for postage \$4,476,638; expenditures \$4,624,117—extent of post roads 133,999 miles—annual transportation of the mails 34,496,878 miles.

**THE PRESS.**—There are in the United States 1,555 newspapers, magazines and periodicals. Of these 274 are published in the State of New York, and 71 in the city of New York. 116 are published daily; 14 tri-weekly; 39 semi-weekly; 991 once a week. The remainder are periodicals—semi-monthly, monthly, or quarterly.

**COD FISHERIES.**—It is with no small regret, that we see this important branch of our commerce is sinking under the weight or pressure of the times. Never have we known this important source of wealth to our country—this nursery of our seamen—at so low an ebb. In addition to the most discouraging news from the Grand Bank, that it had curtailed its annual discounts; that those who had gone once more to supplicate aid at its hand were badly fished; that but a scanty pittance had been afforded them—we now see even in the face of very small fares for this season, prime codfish, which last year at this time brought \$3 50 to \$3 75 per quintal in this port, now selling at from \$1 60 to \$1 87 per quintal—a price which will not end only in ruin to the owners, but involve the fishermen in poverty and want. But in the face of these facts, we see Benton urging upon Congress the abolition of the Bounty—a mere drawback allowed the poor fishermen upon the salt they use in curing their fish.

The Salem Advertiser says, "The prospects of the Grand Bank fishery are quite discouraging. About this time last year several fares of 20,000 fish and upwards had arrived. This year there are no arrivals as yet, and the highest fare reported is short of 3000 fish."

**THE BOUNDARY.**—The President of the United States, transmitted a message to the Senate, on June 27th, respecting the North Eastern Boundary. This consisted of the correspondence between Mr. Forsyth and Mr. Fox—a brief exposition of the views lately expressed on the subject, by the British Government,—and the recommendation of another survey in pursu-

ance of these views. It appears that late propositions meet the concurrence of all parties, and that more than usual harmony on the subject, promises satisfactory adjustment. A re-survey and re-arbitration to be final.

**SEIZURE.**—The New Orleans Bulletin of the 15th, says.—The British Steamship Argyle, which arrived on the 12th, with 418,000 dollars in specie from Vera Cruz, was seized on Saturday for a violation of the treaty stipulation between Great Britain and the United States, in regard to the carrying Trade. The specie, which is owned in New Orleans, we understand, is placed in a safe deposit, to wait the decision of the proper authorities.—N. Y. Bro. Jonathan.

WEST INDIES.

**RIOT AT FALMOUTH, JAMAICA.**—The following particulars are copied by the New York Commercial Advertiser, from the New Orleans Bee:—

"By the arrival of the schooner Governor Arnold, we have received files of Jamaica papers to the 3d instant, and by that of the brig Kenawha, we have been furnished with Kingston papers to the 6th. The advices by both are of interest.

"On the 26th of May, a serious riot occurred at Falmouth, between a number of Africans, who had been indentured as apprentices, aided by a Baptist preacher, named Ward, and a detachment of police. It seems that Ward had harboured several of the Africans. A warrant was issued for their apprehension, but Ward interfered, and obstructed the police in the performance of their duty, telling the negroes not to proceed—that they were free men. The latter threw themselves down, and refused to go with the police.

"A crowd collected, and the police, in attempting to remove them, were saluted with a shower of stones, by which several were wounded."

The New Orleans Courier throws a little more light upon the affair. It states, on the authority of a gentleman who was in Jamaica at the time, that the Africans in question—about 100 in number—were recently rescued from a captured slaver—that they were "placed with"—that is, we presume, hired to a planter, from whose service they were removed by some coloured men, acting under the advice and countenance of Mr. Ward, who is a Baptist preacher. The constables were despatched to take them back, but were opposed by Mr. Ward and his friends. That a company of troops were then sent against them—a fight ensued, the troops were repulsed, and the commander and 19 of his men wounded. After this, an overwhelming force was sent from Kingston, another engagement took place, and the Africans and their friends were overcome, about 100 of them being killed and wounded, and the leaders taken prisoners.

NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX, July 13.

**ARRIVAL OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.**—The Steamship Unicorn, having His Excellency the Right Honorable Charles Poulett Thomson, Governor General of British North America, Sir Charles A. Fitz Roy, Lieutenant Governor of P. E. Island, and their respective suites on board, arrived here on Thursday morning last, about ten o'clock, from Quebec, and came to anchor off Mr. Cunard's wharf, under a salute from H. M. Ship Winchester. His Excellency Sir Colin Campbell visited the Governor General immediately on his arrival. About 12 o'clock, the Unicorn moved down to the Queen's wharf, where Sir Colin Campbell and the heads of the different public departments were in waiting. He was received, on his landing, by a strong guard of honour, and the streets leading to the Province Building were lined by the troops of the Garrison, through which he proceeded to the Council Chamber, where the usual oaths were administered by Sir Rupert George, when His Excellency assumed the Government of this Province. The Members of the Executive Council present, were also sworn in. A salute was fired by the Royal Artillery, stationed on the Parade. Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, a very large number of the inhabitants were present on the occasion. After leaving the Council Chamber, his Excellency proceeded, accompanied by Sir Colin Campbell and Sir Charles Fitz Roy, to Government House, where he will reside during his stay at Halifax.

Capt. Prescott, Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland, is expected shortly in H. M. Ship Crocodile, from St. John's. The Governor General will remain here about ten days, when he will proceed to New Brunswick.

**THE LEVEE.**—His Excellency the Right Honorable Charles Poulett Thomson, Governor General of British North America, held a Levee, at the Government House, on Friday last, at 1 o'clock, which was numerously attended.

Immediately previous to the Levee, the Attorney and Solicitor Generals, Messrs. James B. Uniacke, Joseph Howe and Wm. Young waited, by invitation, upon his Excellency.

Yesterday, at 11 o'clock, his Excellency the Governor General, and suite, attended a Grand Review of the troops in this garrison.

The following Address, numerously and respectfully signed, was presented to His Excellency the Governor General, after his return from the Review, by a deputation from the subscribers thereto, consisting of the Hon. Michael Tobin, sen. Messrs. Howe, Bell, Uniacke and S. Binney.

To His Excellency the Right Hon. CHARLES POULETT THOMPSON, Member of Her Majesty's Privy Council, Governor General in and over the British Provinces of North America, &c. &c. &c.

The Address of the undersigned Inhabitants of Halifax. We the inhabitants of the town of Halifax, offer our congratulations to your Excellency on your arrival in Nova Scotia, and beg leave to express the high sense we entertain of the manner in which you have discharged the important duties of Governor General of the British Provinces of North America.

The impartial consideration of all subjects connected with the prosperity and social advancement of the Provinces, which has invariably characterised the Government of Great Britain, demands an expression of gratitude, and we should ill represent the feelings of Novascotians, if we did not assure your Excellency of our high respect for you as the Representative of our Sovereign and the head of this Government.

It is our pride to belong to a nation rendered so conspicuous by the commanding influence she possesses throughout the world; and while we cherish the hope that affection and attachment for the person and government of our Sovereign, will secure for us and our children a continuance of the blessings we enjoy under our unrivalled Constitution, we feel assured that the wise provisions of your Excellency in the government of the Colonies committed to your care, will cement those ties which now bind us together, contribute to our welfare and prosperity, and remain a lasting testimonial of your ability and experience.

His Excellency's Answer:

Gentlemen; I beg you to accept my warm acknowledgments for your Address.

In obedience to the Queen's commands I have visited Nova Scotia, and although my stay within this Province must necessarily be short, and is not unaccompanied by the sacrifice of other duties, I shall consider myself amply rewarded if my presence here shall tend to your future advantage, by enabling me to reconcile differences which unhappily appear to have prevailed, and to remove misunderstandings in which alone I feel satisfied they have originated.

You have been pleased to express your approbation of my discharge of my duties since I assumed the government of British North America. My earnest endeavour has been to put an end to personal and party feuds, and to lead the people of these Colonies from fruitless and idle disputes upon theoretical points of Government, to the consideration of their real and practical interests—the amelioration of their laws—the advancement of their commerce—and the improvement of their country.

It is the anxious desire of the Queen that Her British North American subjects should be happy and prosperous—that they should enjoy that freedom which is the birthright of Britons, and bless the tie which binds them to her Empire.

Her commands to her Representative are, that he should consult their wishes and their feelings—that he should promote their interests by well considered reforms—and suit his administration of affairs to the growing importance and varying circumstances of each Colony;—that whilst it should be alike his interest and his duty to listen respectfully to the opinions which may be offered him, and to seek the advice of those who may be considered to represent the well understood wishes of the people, he can devolve the responsibility of his acts on no man, without danger to the connection of the Colony with the Empire, and injury to the best interests of those whose welfare is committed to his care.

It is in obedience to these commands, and in the spirit of the declarations of Her Majesty's advisers, and of myself, that I have humbly endeavoured to discharge my duty to the Queen and to these Colonies.

I feel confident that the people of Nova Scotia, distinguished for their loyalty to their Sovereign, and proud of their connexion with the British Crown, will yield to no attempt to inspire them with other feelings, or to lead them to demands incompatible with these principles.

My acquaintance with your affairs has deeply impressed me with the conviction of the injury which must be inflicted upon your real interests by the contentions which we have to deplore.

I find in Nova Scotia all the elements of prosperity. You possess an overflowing Treasury, under a system of taxation which may well be envied by your fellow-subjects at home—you enjoy liberty equal, if not superior to theirs—industry may find on your shores, not merely a bare return, but an ample reward—the Crown has conferred on you by your constitution, the most ample power for securing good laws, and in the like exercise of its control it seeks your advancement and your interest alone.

It is to the right use of this power and to the improvement of these advantages, that I would earnestly draw your attention. That much may be done by yourselves for your own benefit, is obvious. The imperfection of your judicial system—the necessity for municipal Government; the abuses which disgrace the administration of those resources which you believe to be devoted to public improvements—these and other subjects are matters of vital importance to you.

Permit me then to take this opportunity, through you, to impress on the people of this Colony these my honest convictions. It is the duty of the Representative of the Crown, and of those who are responsible to him in the administration of your affairs, to lead the way in improvement, and to submit for adoption whatever may be calculated to remove abuses or promote your advantage—and the Queen will expect from him a faithful discharge of these duties. But upon your co-operation must depend the success of his endeavours, and his efforts can fail or succeed only in proportion to your readiness to support and assist him in the task.

Whether charged with the immediate administration of your affairs, or called on only for more remote superintendence and advice, I shall ever be ready to afford my best assistance in advancing these objects: and to whomsoever these duties belong as the Representative of Our Sovereign, you may confidently rely upon his carrying out Her beneficent wishes for the prosperity and contentment of Her people within this Province.

We leave His Excellency's Reply to the calm and serious consideration of the People of Nova Scotia. We shall make no comment at present upon his sentences, further than to express a hope, that as the question which has been made the groundwork of agitation in this Province, and has agitated other Provinces, has received a quietus, by the disavowal on the part of the Governor General, of any participation with those who are favourable to it—no more folly will be perpetrated under the assumed sanction of his name, or the name of any other Governor, or of Her Majesty's advisers. His Excellency has spoken, as it is to be wished the British Government would always speak in its transactions with the Colonies, in a decided and emphatic manner, about which this time there can be no mistake. It now only remains that mutual forbearance should be exercised on both sides, in order to carry out to their full extent, the other suggestions for the good of the Province, which his Excellency has embodied in his answer.—Times.

The Tories are congratulating themselves upon the use of some expressions in the above document, and are endeavouring to keep up the delusion, that there is some essential difference of opinion between his Excellency and the majority of our Assembly. Even if this were the case, there are other passages which may well make them blush for their past conduct and policy. We believe that when his Excellency's general views and policy come to be explained and worked out, there will not be so wide a difference between what was asked, and what he means to do, as they imagine. For the present, it is only necessary for us to say, that having quieted the Province of Upper Canada, we have a confident belief that he will win and retain the confidence of Nova Scotia also.—Novascotian.

JULY 15.

**MEETING OF THE SYNOD OF NOVA SCOTIA.**—The Synod of Nova Scotia, in connexion with the Established Church of Scotland, met this day, agreeably to appointment, in St. Andrew's Church, at 11 o'clock, and was opened by an excellent and appropriate Sermon by the Rev. Hugh Mackenzie, of Wallace, from Heb. xiii. 1, "Let brotherly love continue." We were happy on seeing almost all the Ministers belonging to the Synod in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton, present at this solemn service, and also a number of the Elders. After the Synod had been regularly constituted with