

NEW-YORK, August 31.

IMPORTANT FROM CHINA—TWENTY DAYS LATER FROM CANTON.

The ship *Asia* arrived last night from Canton, which place she left on the 20th of April; thus making a quick passage for this season.

The Portuguese trade is to be re-opened immediately. All the American merchants were to leave Canton, by the first of May, and were sending their effects down to Macao.

The Chinese did not in the least dread the expected approach of the British fleet, and laughed at the idea of receiving any harm from John Bull.

All Foreign trade was stopped on the last of March in consequence of an edict respecting the death of the Empress of China. It was feared by the American merchants at first, that the stoppage would be for a considerable length of time; but by sending petitions into the city the trade was opened again on the 13th of April. The market was quite bare of country packet teas, and the ships that were loading could with difficulty finish their purchases. It was rather uncertain whether the ships with cargoes of cotton would be secured. An order went down to the Bogue to stop the two last ones that arrived at Whampoa—but before it reached there the ships had passed through, and one of them, the *Roscus*, had been ordered away, but it was thought if the rest were secured, she would be allowed to remain by petitioning.

The following Proclamation has just been issued:

PROCLAMATION.

Being especially appointed to the whole controul of a special duty, we,

*Yu*, acting Kwangchowfoo, and *Kung*, who is waiting for the appointment of a Funfoo, proclaim, to the Hong and other Merchants, for their full information. We have received orders from the superior Officers to the following effect:

"Since the English foreigners were driven from the outer waters, their ships have successively sailed away over the foreign ocean; these circumstances the Pilots have already examined and reported. Those ships that yet delay, anchored at Lintin, and other places, are still not a few, and traitorous natives and banditti boats, gradually and mutually collecting in groups, and mingling with the shipping, through inordinate desire of gain, become regardless of life, and covetous of profit, which (from the source it is obtained) stinks. On these accounts, the naval Commandant, on the 27th day of the last moon (25th of February,) collected his forces and made an attack with fire-rafts, to burn the banditti boats, seize the traitors, and bring them before the Magistrates for trial: this is on record.

"As we are about to take measures to expel the English ships, we are really apprehensive that the foreign ships of other nations, going and coming, and being in the outer waters, are connected with and near to the English ships; it is, therefore, proper that we should immediately direct the Hong merchants to transmit the orders to the Americans, who are to forward them to the Chiefs of every nation, that they may transmit the orders to the foreign ships of every nation. Since they (the Americans) have already given duly prepared bonds, that they dare not smuggle opium, nor clandestinely become agents of the English for the conveyance, out or in, of their goods; besides choosing the safe and convenient places for anchoring, they should not approach the English fleet, lest the transmission of the orders they do not remove out of the way, but still blindly and rashly rush upon danger, remaining with the English, it will then be manifest that they are scheming to transport and sell goods for the English; and as the action of the winds and waves cannot be calculated, they will be exposed to the same destruction by fire: and will not this be a suicidal act?—and how can after repentance follow? It is, therefore, proper immediately to issue orders. When the said Hong Merchants receive the orders, they are forthwith to obey accordingly, and with extreme earnestness to send the orders to the Americans, who are to further them on to the chiefs of every nation, that the whole may know them: that they are not to anchor amongst the English ships and involve themselves in a cause of mourning. Hasten! heaven! Oppose not. The orders are special—2d moon, 20th day." (20th March.)

On last Sunday morning three English gentlemen went on board the chop boats lying off the Leefung temple, in the inner harbor, containing a division of the imperial invincibles. There are fifteen chop boats, containing about 500 soldiers, and the chop boat men said that four hundred more were hourly expected. There are also two or three government row boats. The men were civil, and employed in the peaceful occupation of cooking or eating their breakfasts. In the court yard of the temple there are three brass and three long iron guns. They are not mounted on carriages, but on fourfooted iron stands, about two feet high, on the fulcrum of which they traverse; the breech rests on the ground. It must be impossible to take a good aim with guns thus mounted.—*Canton Register*, April 1.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

By the schooner *Emblem* from Matamoras, we have received letters and papers of that port to the 1st instant, and dates from Mexico city to the 16th of July.

Urrea, the late Republican leader, had escaped from the dungeon of the Inquisition, roused the people, attacked and captured the city of Mexico, and made President Bustamante prisoner. Bustamante subsequently got his liberty, and called the Centralists to the rescue; and, as will be seen by the details below, a general battle is yet to decide which party shall remain master of the capital.

Matamoras, July 30.—An extraordinary express arrived here on the 25th, three days from Tampico, bringing the important intelligence that the city of Mexico was in the hands of Federalists.

In my last communication, you recollect, I spoke to you of Urrea, giving you an account of that General since his escape at the battle of Acajete. It appears that he was lately released from imprisonment, followers immediately flocked around him, and the spirit of rebellion issued forth in the very heart of the capital.

On the 15th, Urrea, assisted by his coadjutors, Gomez Padassa, ex-Vice-President, and Gomez Forillas, attacked the Palace, and after a bloody engagement, in which 300 men are reported to have been killed, Bustamante was taken prisoner. Before dark, the city of Mexico was in the hands of Urrea, who declared himself in favour of Federalism; and he will sink or swim with the cause he has espoused. Subsequently, the Seminary, the Cathedral, and the Disputation were taken possession of; these, with the Palace, form the four corners of the great square.

On the 16th, the latest intelligence received, Bustamante was given his liberty; and the Centralists were collecting their forces to make a desperate resistance.

Upon the occurrence of these important events, Santa Anna left Vera Cruz immediately in *la diligencia* for the capital.

Generals Wall, Condea, and Canalizo, have left here for the city of Mexico. There is a very small force here, under the command of Empuedo, and Matamoras, I assure you, is in a very defenceless state. Arista, who was expected here, is reported to have left Tampico for the capital.

August 1, 1840. The express arrived night before last from Tampico, and I have dates from the capital up to the 23d ult. Urrea still had possession of the Palace, and *los casos publicos* that command

the great square of the city, and appearances at this date are of rather a gloomy feature for him.

Santa Anna, it appears, was eager in his proffers of assistance to the Government, but was informed that the revolutionists could be subdued without his aid. He is at Puebla.

Many of Urrea's followers were about to throw themselves upon the leniency of the Executive, fearing the result of their operations, but were told that none need be expected, the sword should determine the result.

The 5th regiment of cavalry, which were taken prisoners by the Federalists, had made their escape, and again joined the ranks of the Centralists. By a private letter, of great respectability, from the city, I learn that upon the first attack of the *pronunciados*, they sustained a loss of 100 killed, 60 wounded, and 35 made prisoners, and that they met with a similar fate on the 23d.

[Supplement to the *Arca de Matamoras*, July 24. *Central*.]

An express courier has just arrived from Mexico, which brings but one communication from that capital, dated the 16th instant, at half past 7 in the morning; and, as we understand it, its contents are the following:—His Excellency the Minister of War states to the commanding general, that on the evening of the 15th inst. the anarchists attacked the Palace of Mexico, and in a short time made a capture of His Excellency the President; but, that after the first moment, the troops, faithful to the Supreme Government, united in the citadel, and attacked the faction, reducing them to the extremity of defending themselves in the palace, in the cathedral, and in the Government buildings. About dusk, his Excellency the President, who was imprisoned by the factions in St. Augustin-street, was set at liberty. He immediately put himself at the head of his troops, and commenced to lay siege to the thousand times ungrateful and unnatural Urrea, who had escaped from prison, and who headed the conspiracy.

The enemy were besieged by more than 3000 faithful soldiers of the army, without any other artillery than four pieces of small caliber; but still the patriotic Mexicans advanced boldly against the treasonable foe, although they were entrenched behind a park of artillery of large caliber in the citadel, and they were on the point of reducing them when the courier left the capital.

From all directions troops have arrived and continue to pour in from the country to the assistance of the Government. Generals Felisola, Valencia, Menou, and many others, are ready to combat by the side of the able and valiant Bustamante.

Summary of News.

FROM ST. HELENA.—Removal of the Remains of Napoleon Bonaparte from St. Helena to France.—We learn that H. M. S. *Dolphin* arrived at St. Helena in 47 days passage, with despatches from England for his Excellency the Governor, acquainting him that the British Government had granted permission for the disinterment of the remains of Napoleon Bonaparte, for transmission to France; and that his Excellency should make every preparation (at the expense of the British Government) to entertain the Prince de Joinville, who is on his way in the French frigate *Belle Poule* for this express purpose.

INTERESTING SCENE IN THE ISLE OF SKYE.—For the last fortnight Uigg Bay in the parish of Suizort in Skye, has presented a scene of much interest, owing to two transports being anchored there, for the purpose of removing for ever from their native hills and glens, several hundred souls, for the Islands of Prince Edward and Cape Breton, North America; the natives, sensible of many disadvantages arising from a superabundant population, and no doubt dreading the recurrence of a similar destitution to that of 1836 and 1837, having voluntarily resolved in great numbers to emigrate to her Majesty's colonies, in the already mentioned islands, consequently, for the last three months, there has been a great movement for this purpose in the northern parishes of Skye, and probably no fewer than 700 souls came to the determination of leaving their native Isle, under the agency of Archibald McNiven, Esq. of Tobermory.—The general appearance, cleanliness, and comfort of the vessels provided by Mr. McNiven, reflect much credit on his skill and attention, and prove that he spared neither trouble nor expense in getting them fitted out for the accommodation of the poor Hebrideans. The transports are, the *Nith*, of Liverpool, Captain Shaw, and the *Rother*, of Sunderland, Captain Hall. The former is a splendid new ship of about 650 tons register, having about 100 berths capable of accommodating 400 full passengers. The latter is a beautiful brig of about 325 tons register, with about 40 berths, which are sufficient for 160 full passengers. On the morning of the 14th inst. the *Rother* weighed anchor, with her complement of passengers, for the custom house at Tobermory, and the *Nith* was to follow in a few days.—*Scotch Paper*, July 20.

The *Leicestershire Chronicle* states that a number of framwork knitters have emigrated to the United States during the last week or two, and others are about to follow them. Their place of destination is Germantown, near Philadelphia, where there is a large manufactory for hose, gloves, &c., carried on by a Quaker.

TERRIBLE DISASTER AT ALBANY.—Albany was the scene of an accident on Saturday afternoon, (Aug. 22.) entirely unforeseen, and attended with fearful loss of life. A few minutes before 5 o'clock, the hour when steam boats leave the city for New York, a lunatic (James Caveno,) in charge of two gentlemen from Oneida county, came upon the State street bridge; just as they reached the draw, (made in the centre of the bridge for the passage of canal boats and other vessels) the lunatic, who had hitherto remained perfectly quiet, suddenly became furious and attempted to break away from the persons who had him in charge. They immediately endeavoured to handcuff him, succeeded indeed in the effort, but during the struggle a large crowd collected around the party, and the draw, unable to bear the unusual weight, suddenly gave way, and precipitated nearly all the persons on it, besides two carts and a baggage wagon, with the horses attached, into the water beneath.

The draw is composed of two pieces, the one letting down upon the other, forming a flat arch, and raised when necessary by means of chains attached to a high frame work fixed on the permanent part of the bridge. It is supposed that the great weight caused the parts of the bridge against which the draw abutted, to give way gradually, until the draw itself settled to a level and finally broke through. The easternmost half of the draw fell first upon them, killing instantly several, and carrying others to the bottom with it.—This perhaps will explain the otherwise unaccountable fact, that of all those who were drawn from the water, not one was resuscitated, although every assistance in the power of our citizens and physicians was promptly rendered.

As to the precise number who lost their lives by this sad calamity, there is yet perhaps some uncertainty. It is supposed that there were from sixty to seventy persons on the draw at the moment of the accident. Twenty-one bodies have been found, and with one exception, identified. But there are several caps and hats at the City Hall still unclaimed, some of which, however, doubtless belong to persons who effected their escape.

DREADFUL SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIVES.—The Brig *Florence*, of and for New York, Samuel Rose, Master, sailed from Rotterdam, June 30th, with a crew of 8 persons, and 79 passengers. On the 9th August, she struck on the coast of Newfoundland, instantly filled and fell on her side.—The scene that followed was awful, the tender separation of wife and husband, mother and child is painfully depicted, while some securing their money on their persons, were carried down by its weight. The second mate, Mr. Ross, took the end of a line and sprang from the vessel to a ledge, but was dashed against the rock, a mangled corpse. Capt. Rose was more fortunate, but of 79 passengers, only 30 were saved. Nearly naked and without a single biscuit to eat, for four days they travelled through thick woods, and over swamps and rugged hills. They at length reached the village of Renouise, where the inhabitants rendered them every assistance, and Mr. Goodrich gave them money and clothes, and sent them on to St. John's to the care of the U. S. Consular Agent. The chamber of Commerce met and raised money for their relief. The news of their arrival soon brought to the shore the rich and poor, old and young, some thrusting bread into the hands of the shipwrecked strangers, and others taking the poor wretches home with them. *Nothing was spared which pity could suggest to alleviate their wants or sufferings!*

DESTRUCTION OF INDIAN KEY BY THE INDIANS, AND THE MASSACRE OF THE INHABITANTS!—Indian Key—a small island, about midway between Key West and Cape Florida, containing a population of about sixty souls, white and black—was visited by the Indians, on the night and morning of the 6th and 7th inst., who killed six persons (all white), and burned every dwelling except one—the dwelling of Charles Howe, Esq. The killed were Dr. Henry Perrin, Mr. John A. Mott, Mrs. Mott, and two children, and James Stedman, a lad of some twelve years old. The rest of the citizens made their escape to Tea Table Key, about a mile from Indian Key.

The Nantucket Inquirer contains two British chancery notices—one requiring the creditors of the late Sir Isaac Coffin to come in and prove their debts, before James William Farrer, Esquire, one of the masters of the said court, at his chambers in Southampton buildings, Chancery lane, London—the other citing persons claiming to be next of kin to Sir Isaac Coffin to appear before the above mentioned master, and make out his, her or their claim or claims.

DIED, on Tuesday evening last, in Reading, Mass., at the residence of his brother, of a lingering and painful disorder, Timothy Flint, aged 60, well known in America, and on the other side of the Atlantic, as the author of various works, that have given him a rank among the most distinguished writers of our country.—*Boston paper*.

COLONIAL.

(From the *Montreal Courier*, August 17.)

IMPORTANT REDUCTION OF COLONIAL POSTAGE.—We have much pleasure in being able to lay before our readers the copy of a Letter from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to Lord John Russell, conveying the assent of their Lordships to the recommendation of the Governor General for a reduction of Postage in these Colonies. Directions have been sent to the Post Office authorities to act without delay upon their instructions, and the new system will be put into operation the moment that arrangements can be made.

NEW POST OFFICE REGULATIONS.

TREASURY CHAMBERS,  
July 9, 1840.

SIR, I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to acquaint you, for the information of Lord John Russell, that my Lords having carefully considered the Despatch from the Governor General of British North America, which was enclosed in your letter of the 27th May last, and feeling convinced that the present high rates of Postage between the British Isles and the North American Colonies, which amount frequently to three or four shillings for a single letter, must be a serious grievance to the poorer settlers in the North American Colonies, and their Correspondents in this country, and must tend injuriously to check Emigration and to discourage the friendly intercourse which it is so important to promote between the Colonies and the Mother Country, have determined to reduce such rates of postage to an extent nearly equal to that recommended by the Governor General.

In conformity with this determination my Lords will adopt the following Regulations:—

1st. As regards all letters passing between this country and our North American Colonies, and conveyed between them direct, either by Packet or Ship, to charge the internal Colonial Postage, if any, not as heretofore, according to the number of Enclosures and by distance, but according to weight, adopting the same scale of weight and number of rates as now apply to the Packet and Ship rates on the same Letters;—and,

2d. To continue to charge on the above letters the present Packet and Ship letter postage, but to reduce the internal Colonial Postage on the same to a uniform charge of 2d., the single rate, whatever distance within the Colonies the same shall be conveyed. Under this arrangement a letter not exceeding half an ounce, if posted in any part of the United Kingdom for delivery in our North American Colonies, or if posted in any part of the United Kingdom, will be charged as follows:—

If a Packet letter, and either posted or delivered at Halifax or at St. John's Newfoundland, (the Packet ports) 1s. But if either posted or delivered at any other place in our North American Colonies, 1s. 2d.

If a Ship letter, and either posted or delivered at the Port of the Ship's departure from our North American Colonies, or delivered at the Port of the Ship's arrival in our North American Colonies, 8d. But if posted or delivered at any other place in our North American Colonies, 10d.

The Colonies to which these Regulations will apply are,—Upper and Lower Canada—Nova Scotia—New Brunswick—Newfoundland—and Prince Edward Island,—and the reduction in the Internal Colonial rates is to extend to all letters passing between the said Colonies and the British Isles, whether in transit to or from any other British Colony or Foreign Country, or otherwise, provided that such letters in passing between the said Colonies and the British Isles, are conveyed direct

by Packet or Ship, and do not pass through any Foreign country.

I am further directed to state that my Lords will immediately authorize the Post Master General to issue instructions to his officers in the North American Colonies, in conformity with these Regulations, and will instruct his Lordship to fix the earliest convenient day for bringing them into operation.

As regards the Internal Colonial rates on the letters to which the preceding Regulations do not apply, as for instance, the letters which are both posted and delivered in the North American Colonies, My Lords propose to leave such rates as a subject of enquiry in the Colonies; and with a view to such enquiry, their Lordships recommend that it should be suggested to the Governor General to appoint three Gentlemen, of whom an officer of the Post-Office Department should be one, to investigate and report on the state of the British North American Post-Office, including its Administration, the remuneration of its Officers, the rates of Postage, and every other matter comprehended in a full and complete enquiry.

I am, &c.,  
(Signed) R. GORDON.  
JAMES STEPHEN, Esq.

MONTREAL, August 19.

More Burning on the Frontier.—Two Barns, one belonging to Mr. Richard Fisher, and the other to Mr. John Atkinson, of Hemmingford, were burned to the ground, on the night of Sunday last, by the 'respectable inhabitants' on the opposite side of the line. The barns were within a half a mile of the line, both filled with the newly cut crop of hay, oats and wheat, the whole provision of the families, and winter fodder for their stock. The sufferers are said to be very quiet respectable men. The trail of the incendiaries was followed, through the dew, to beyond the lines in the direction of a place called Perrysburg in Moortown. These devilish transactions must receive the immediate attention of the Governor General, and the abused people on the whole frontier have a right to know, if any and what steps have heretofore been taken by the Government in parallel cases.

AUGUST 20.—We learn that three Canadian refugees were apprehended a few days ago in Vermont, one of whom confessed that they were the individuals who set fire to the barns of Fisher and Atkinson, on the night of Sunday last. They were taken before the Magistrates at Champlain, but immediately discharged, they having expressed their inability to take cognizance of outrages committed in Canada. Col. Seriver is in town, to press upon the Executive the consideration of this affair, and to demand from the United States the villains engaged in these horrible transactions.

COAL.—The Sydney and Pictou Coal has been used by the steamers *Britannia* and *Unicorn* with perfect satisfaction. Great quantities of this coal are used in the United States. Would not a trade in coal be profitable between Nova Scotia and the towns on the St. Lawrence? the invariably high price of firewood at Montreal leads us to think it would.—*Herald*.

The Official candidates for seats in the Assembly, are beginning to be numerous, both in Upper and Lower Canada. In addition to Mr. Solicitor General Day, for Ottawa, we find Mr. Collector Simpson for Vaudeville; and Mr. Stipendiary Magistrate McCord for the County of the Two Mountains.—*Quebec Gazette*.

UNION OF THE CANADAS.—Among the provisions of the Bill for uniting the Canadas, which recently passed the British Parliament, are the following:—

The Governor General is to be appointed by the Crown, with a salary of £7000, and a Lieutenant Governor with a salary of £1000. The aggregate salaries on the Civil List amount to £75,000, including Judges, Attorneys, Secretaries, Inspectors, Executive Council, &c. The Legislature will consist, as heretofore, of a Council and House of Assembly; the only change being that one Legislature will have jurisdiction over both Provinces. The members of the Council are appointed by the Crown. Proper qualification is requisite to constitute a voter; no one is eligible to a seat in the House unless he is possessed of a freehold estate of the value of £500, over and above all charges and encumbrances. The Governor General has the power to veto any act of the Legislature; any act passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor is to be transmitted to England, subject to the inspection of the Queen; and be vetoed at any time within two years.

The *Montreal Herald*, of the 25th ult. says—When his Excellency the Governor General was at Halifax, he received a Despatch from Lord John Russell directing him *not to assume*, for the future, the government of any of the Provinces except Lower Canada, and that he was not to interfere with Sir George Arthur in the discharge of his duties as Lieutenant Governor, nor to supersede him temporarily, but recommended that he should make an extended tour through the Upper Province. The despatch was received by his Excellency five days after he had assumed the Governorship of Nova Scotia, so that what was done there could not be undone, but our readers may recollect that he acted upon its contents when he arrived in New Brunswick.

It appears by the statements of a writer in the *Toronto Patriot* of the 24th ult., that the population of Upper Canada had nearly quadrupled itself in 18 years. The census of 1820 gave 105,980, and the number in 1838, according to these statements, was 407,553.—Advancing at this rate sixteen years, from the present time, would give the Upper Province a British population amounting to about 1,600,000 souls, and the consumption of British goods would indubitably keep pace with the increase of consumers.

The same writer states, that 51 miles of turnpike roads, diverging on three routes from Toronto, have been completed at a cost of £80,220 11s. 0d. the tolls on which, in 1839, amounted to £5445 5s. 8d.—*Quebec Transcript*.

The Governor General had gone to Upper Canada, and was not expected to return until about the middle of September.

THE COLONIAL HERALD.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1840.

Later accounts from China have been received by way of New York. The British expedition had not reached Canton, nor did the expected approach of the fleet seem to excite much apprehension on the part of the Chinese.

A revolution of a seemingly serious nature had broken out in Mexico, some particulars of which will be found in a previous column.