## CLEANINGS FROM ENGLISH PAPERS.

The London *Times*, of the 1st instant, says,—Instructions will go by the mail of last day (Dec. 1) to the Commander-in-Chief of the naval station at Jamaica to establish a blockade of the ports of New Granada on the Spanish Main, in consequence of the refusal of the Government of that country to carry into effect, after being repeatedly called on to do so, an agreement formally concluded with a British subject, Mr. James Macintosh. The transaction, it has been carried to its utmost limit, not only by our present Foreign Secretary, but by his predecessors in office, in their dealings with this and the other Central and South American Republics, owing to the allowance made for their immaturity and the peculiar circumstances of their position. But, with the exception of Chili, which has pursued an honourable course, such as to cause its authorities to take a leading rank in the European money markets, they have almost all sunk to a depth in which every reliance upon their good faith has been extinguished. Each act of spoliation submitted to has merely encouraged a repetition of something worse, until, relying upon their weakness and the indisposition of the British Government to use coercion, their treatment of British claimants has been such as to cause the sufferers constantly to contrast their own position with that of citizens of the United States under similar circumstances. It may be hoped that the course now adopted in the case of New Granada will exercise a wholesome influence, especially on Venezuela and Mexico.

The Paris correspondent of the Frankfurt *Illustrated News* gives a sketch of the future residence of Prince Frederick William of Prussia and his intended royal bride, and its correspondent writes from Berlin:—"The journey of Prince Frederick William to England to celebrate the English Princess Royal's birthday is the most interesting subject of conversation here at present, especially among the ladies, and pleases national taste, which is so much more inclined to the British than to the little French girl on her fete-day looks out more sharply for her *souvenirs* than does the German fraulein for her betrothed. A congratulation, and a offering on that day. Everything connected with this English alliance interests deeply, and is most popular. Their Royal highnesses' portraits and busts are side by side in the shops, and English ladies hastened to purchase them to-day on every description of the princess or answer the multiplicity of questions about her in at all a satisfactory manner. To speak English is the fashion; and the number of English words and phrases introduced into the shops is quite alarming, particularly as they are the rubbish and things that have hung sale hitherto which are thus made to go off rapidly. The Kronprinzen Residenz—a pretty, quiet old building, which, if it could only be made to enlarge and beautified for the future habitation of the young couple; and by the size of the scaffolding and briskness of the workmen, it seems as if great things would be accomplished in a short time. It is the prettiest, the best part of Berlin, just opposite the Armoury, and close to the classical and statued bridge across the Spree; while immediately beyond rises the dome which crowns the magnificent residence of the Princess of Prussia."

THE DEAD ALIVE.—An upholsterer, in the neighbourhood of Amsterdam, having received orders a few days since to make a coffin, proceeded to the house to take the measure of the body. The deceased had been a friend of his, and he was naturally shocked when he entered the room. Having removed the sheet with which the corpse was covered, he saw the man with his eyes wide open looking at him with astonishment and curiosity in a minute after the supposed corpse had sprung upright, and said, "John, what on earth are you doing here?" The man, when a little recovered from his alarm, replied, "I came to inquire after your health." "The man, it appeared, had fallen into a lethargy, from which he fortunately awoke in time to save himself from premature interment.

A letter from Amsterdam mentions the arrest in that city of a Jew, who had endeavoured, though one of the clerks of the Netherlands Bank, to get a forged bill for 12,000 florins discounted. It is added that he had other bills of the same spurious kind in his possession to the amount of 100,000 florins.

At the recent Schiller festival, at Leipsic, an oration was delivered by Dr. Prutz, a professor of Halle, which was so ardent and enthusiastic that it seemed to recall the sentiments of 1848. The police of Saxony were alarmed, and an injunction has been given that the Society will be dissolved if any more such speeches are made.

The state of the eminent engineer, Robt. Stephenson, M.P., has been for some time past so precarious as to render it doubtful whether he must not, together, leave England for a more genial climate.

Kossuth lectured in Edinburgh on the 28th ult. The audience is said to have been very enthusiastic, but only so large as to fill the principal hall.

DEATH OF AN IRISH GIANT.—One of the last of the mythical line of "Irish giants," in the person of "Shawn Mahgeeree," died at Cumemara on the 28th ult. He was 22 years of age, seven feet six inches in stature, being seven in height, and weighing over 29 stone. His brothers, "Joyces," have been, for many years, one of the wonders of Connemara, about whom tourists have "spun long yarns" as the representatives of the "giants of the west." He died at the age of 70, and has left four stalwart sons.—*Mayo Constitution.*

THE SIEGE OF HERAT.—Letters from Teheran of October 23, given in the *Presse d' Orient*, reduce to very small dimensions the cheap expectations of the Persians, and state that nothing short of a miracle could save the city from capture. The Persians expected with great delight the approaching hour of their success. The *Globe*, in an article relating the Anglo-Indian expedition against Herat, says:—"The plain facts are that in 1853 the Shah undertook not to send any expedition to Herat, unless it were an expedition to assist the Herat Foreign foes; and that he has broken his word, and sent an expedition which has laid siege to the town. The next fact is that it is our interest to keep the Persians out of Herat, because Herat is the half-way house to the best road to the East, and that Herat is less likely to be used against us if it remain in the hands of the Heratites than if it were either Persian or Afghan. There is a Power working by all possible means, and, if we mistake not, in Central Asia; creeping gradually up to the frontiers of British India by these agencies, avowedly with the purpose of trying conclusions with British arms at a convenient season. We do not at all take the Persian expedition because the public cannot foresee the precise upshot of our interference! It is all very well to let the tribes of Central Asia wander over the region between Indus and the Caucasus fight out their quarrels without let or hindrance. We may adopt that policy; but there is another power in Asia that will not. We have to deal with a Russian expedition on the frontiers of the Indian empire! Russia has a huge empire held under the conditions. There are only two Powers in Central Asia. Every step of Russian gain is British loss. Some such steps we have to take to prevent it. There are other modes of doing it, no doubt, which take no part of our control, if not wholly. The question of who shall hold Herat is one; and our business now is to settle that question with as little as it is given unto mortals to settle mundane things."

SPEECH BY A CIRCUMNAVIGATOR.—At a demonstration in Banff, in honor of the Earl of Fife, the following speech was delivered by Captain M'Donald: "It is now the middle of December, and I, the youngest in point of age, and the oldest man in the room. I have sailed four times round the globe.—I have been in all the climates of the known world. And I may tell my young friends around me that for fifty-five years I have drunk more than or than tea or coffee, and I always stood the cold better than any man in my crew. I have made nine voyages round Cape Horn—and I always stood the cold better than any of my crew. So you will see that it's only "Dutch courage that drink gives."

A NEW SPECIES OF STEAMER.—Some time since a company was established in Glasgow, under the recently passed Limited Liability Act, for the purpose of introducing a new kind of boat, which is a steamer of a new manner of build, and this vessel has just been launched from the building yard of Messrs. Tod and Macgregor, at Meadowside Partick. She is from the design of Mr. George Mills, and is altogether of a novel and ingenious construction. She is not a twin, although composed of two distinct bodies, but is what her inventor calls a divided vessel—resembling, in short, an ordinary steamer cut down the middle longitudinally, with a single powerful paddle wheel between. The object of Mr. Mills is to gain immense breadth without greater resistance to the water than that offered by an ordinary steamer, and thus to secure cabin and passenger accommodation of a capacity hitherto quite unknown. Not only the ordinary cabin, which is usually occupied by passenger and middle-wheels, is thus secured, but there are two lower decks and cabins—the paddle-wheel according to the design, working below the saloon floor, so as to keep the vessel upright. In the lower part of the hull, there are two cabins, one for the use of the crew, and the other for the use of the passengers; but none were to be executed without the sanction of the Commissioners.

## NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

Foreign 100 tons was in little request, and 2s lower. Four 6d to 1s cheaper.

The rate of discount has been further reduced by the Bank of England from 6½ to 6 per cent.

The agitation against the unequal and oppressive income-tax continues to gain ground.

A formal complaint has been declared against Persia by the Governor-General of India on the 1st of November. Persia has violated the treaty respecting the independence of Herat made with Britain in the beginning of the year 1853, and in violation of repeated notifications, which the Government replies by the only arguments Eastern potentates can understand. Persia, in her turn, has issued a declaration of war against Britain. The expeditionary army for the present consists of 5,000 Indian troops.

One of the principal collector of the rates of the London Parochial Union, was on Wednesday evening, discovered to have defrauded the Board of many thousands of pounds. Discrepancies, amounting to between £12,000 and £13,000, have been discovered and the investigation of the books and accounts is still going on. It is hinted that more than one person is implicated, and that extraordinary revelations may be expected as the result of the inquiry. Nothing will surprise us after the experience of the past few months.

It is strongly reported in political circles that, prior to the assembling of Parliament, the Earl of Harrowby will resign his appointment of Lord Priv Seal; and it is stated that in all probability Lord John Russell will occupy the vacancy in the Cabinet.

One of the most interesting events of the week, in fact of the year, was the visit of her Queen and Prince Albert to the Resolute at Portsmouth on Tuesday. Considering the compliment which the American Government paid to the Sovereign and to the people of this country, in first purchasing and then restoring, the disabled ship to her original state such a visit was an act of duty. Nothing can be conceived more touchingly beautiful than the events connected with this vessel. In the history of maritime competition the rivalry of civilized nations we know no parallel to it, and whatever may have been the defects of President Pierce and his administration, this closing act of his public life redounds greatly to his credit. To complete the romance of the story it was only necessary that Hartstein, who was deputed by the American Government to present the ship to the Queen of these realms, to have executed his delicate task in the manner which he did. The few sentiments he uttered on this occasion were so terse and so effective that they rise to the highest order of eloquence. Captain Hartstein dined with the Queen subsequently, and his officers were also invited to Osborne, where they took tea with the royal family. So long as courtesies like these are reciprocated between England and America, the days of dissentions ought to be far distant.

The famous English steam ship Great Britain has again undergone at Liverpool important alterations for increasing her capacity and efficiency. She has had a new iron stern-post, forged at the Mersey Foundry, which is said to be the "most powerful piece of machinery in iron ever put together for any purpose." She is to have a new figure-head of life size,—her masts have been moved forwards, and alterations made in her rig to enable her to carry a fourth more canvass,—with other important alterations by which she will have accommodations for nearly 600 passengers, with room for 200 tons of cargo, 1,000 tons coal, besides stores and water for a voyage to Australia.

The new Conferences at Paris are on the eve of taking place. In fact, the 20th of last month has been mentioned as the day for the first meeting. The *Times* of the 1st states that Count Cavour has written to Count Stackelberg, the Russian Minister at Turin, in which he declares in favor of the British and Austrian interpretations of the Treaty of Vienna, and of the regards Baltic, he adds that the Sardinian Ministry will examine with impartiality and independence all the arguments which may be adduced at the Conference.

The misunderstanding between Prussia and Switzerland has arisen out of such a point that the first-named Power is said to be determined to march troops into the Federal Republic. The French official organ laments the obstinacy of Switzerland. "On one side," it states, "France has shown the utmost sincerity and the most delicate question; on the other side, an obstinacy which is to be regretted—an exaggerated susceptibility, and a complete indifference to her interests." The Journal concerned seems to be goaded to this step by the determination of the Swiss to try the prisoners, and the Neufchatel question may lead to results the importance of which cannot be overlooked. It is stated that Prussia has been done by Louis Napoleon to prevent a collision, but hitherto without effect. Frederick William, so difficult to move in bringing Russia to her senses, is, after all, a very pugnacious gentleman, "with eyes to see every horse and let slip the dogs of war" when his personal feelings are moved. The *Gazette de France* states one important fact, if true, namely, that the policy of the English Ministry is to allow the Russians to carry the Conference with France. Prussia will do all the fighting herself, and will not ask the Germanic Confederation to assist her in the work of bringing the little Republic to its senses.

Milano, who attempted to assassinate the King of Naples, has been hanged.—He appears to have been a brave and determined fellow, and on the scaffold shouted for his country and liberty. When asked how long he complained the last, his reply was withering,—"Ever since the King perjured himself." It would appear that the insurrection in Sicily was a much more serious affair than people at first believed. A great number of captures have been made, and the leader, Benon Bonitvegna, is in custody. From Naples orders have been received to try the prisoners; but none were to be executed without the sanction of the Sardinian Government.

PERSIA.—A letter from Constantinople, in the *Pays*, contains the following intelligence:—"Letters which have arrived at the various embassies give us some detail relative to the taking of Herat. It was on the 26th of October that the town fell into the hands of the Persians. Some days before a breach had been made in the wall at the foot of one of the numerous towers which flank the walls of the town; but in order to reach that spot it was necessary to carry a work in front of the place, which had been raised by English officers. The Persian columns, composed of picked troops, rushed to the assault with great intrepidity, and the Afghans, though resisting the first shock, were soon obliged to give way. Then, the Persian troops commanded the besieged, where further resistance was quite impossible, submitted to Moorad Meerza, commander-in-chief of the Persian army. Esa Khan was to be sent to Teheran. The capture of Herat will not facilitate an arrangement of the difference which has arisen between England and Persia. Redschid Pacha is trying to settle the affair, and Ferukh Khan had on Sunday last an interview with Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, which lasted more than three hours."

The accounts which have come to hand respecting the fall of Herat show the defence to have been bravely sustained as long as there was a chance of success, and that the city was only given up to the besiegers when all hopes of defending it had disappeared. Meanwhile, the Indian and Home Government are taking the matter very seriously. The Indian Government has ordered a force of 5,000 men to be ready to proceed to Persia, and it is possible that the Parliamentary opposition may make political capital of the delay in the sending out of the Indian force.

CAPTURE OF HERAT.—The Constantinople correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 8th, says:—"The information received by the Persian Ambassador about the taking of Herat has not been confirmed from other sources. The town surrendered for want of provisions. When the news of the taking of Herat arrived at Teheran, it was celebrated by festivals, which were to have lasted three days, but which were suddenly interrupted by the death of the eldest prince and heir of the Shah, a child six years of age, who had been ailing for some time. All the details of the surrender are from Persian sources, and according to these, everything passed in the most perfect order, and no excesses of any kind were committed."

## FRANCE.

A letter received from the Indian Seas, dated the 15th of September, give some details relative to the treaty concluded between M. de Montigny, the representative of France, and the King of Siam. The treaty was signed on the 15th of August at Bangkok, the capital of the country. It is composed of 24 articles, and it is to be executed both in the kingdom of Siam properly so called, and likewise in the Siamese Laos, the Siamese Cambodia, and the Siamese Malacca, in consideration which are subject to the same government. It confers very important commercial advantages on French subjects. It admits religious liberty under certain conditions, and defines the rights of Christians, and provides a passport for any scientific traveller who may visit those countries. It appears that M. de Montigny was received at Siam with the greatest respect. The King reminded him that his country and France had always been the total and full ally of France, and that he regarded it as a great honour to be the ally of Napoleon. The present Sovereign has thrown off the Chinese domination. The national religion, which is Buddhism, suggested by Brahmanic practices. The people adore white elephants, which are found in the forests of the south. One of these animals, regarded as the representative of Buddhism on earth, is lodged in a splendid palace at Bangkok, to which is attached a temple. The French names were admitted by special favour to visit this mysterious residence, the high priest doing the honours. The Siamese, although naturally very indifferent in religious matters, are not when their religious fanaticism is roused. The sacred elephant having died in the summer of 1853, this calamity was attributed to the neglect of the high priest, and the people assembled in great numbers before the palace, and demanded that he should be put to death. There is a French Catholic mission at Bangkok; its progress is as yet but slow. M. de Montigny quitted the kingdom of Siam at the commencement of the month of July, to proceed to Cochin-China, where he arrived in safety.

The Paris correspondent of the New York *Commercial Advertiser* says that "a new and gigantic railroad scheme has just been proposed to the Emperor. The road is to commence at Honfleur, near Boulogne, and Marseilles, traversing diagonally through the whole extent of France. It is proposed to call it the Imperial Railway. It is alleged that it will not require the construction of any important work of art, its course being carried almost constantly along the courses of rivers. At the head of this project are the Duke de Padoue, the Prince of Wagram, the Duke of St Simon, and the Duke de Farente.

## RUSSIA.

A private letter from St. Petersburg, of the 10th inst., states that the expedition sent by the Russian government to the extremity of Asia has been completely successful. The Russian troops drove away the tribes living at the mouth of the Amour; and establishing themselves solidly on the borders of the Sea of Baikal, and in the town of Irkutsk, where they had collected a store of provisions and ammunition. The Russians were preparing to construct a flotilla for the navigation of the sea of Baikal, of which the Russian engineers had surveyed the coast.

The relations between Russia and China had become more easy and more important. Russian goods could be conveyed by the sea of Baikal to Kiatchka, and bartered with the Chinese for caravan tea.

*Le Nord* publishes an article to prove that the greatest political interest of Russia is to maintain peace, and that in place of encouraging Persia in her attack on Herat, the Russian government has used all her influence with the court of Teheran to induce it to renounce the expedition. The *Nord* adds:—"Peace alone can secure to us the development of the internal prosperity of Russia as it is her interest to avoid conflicts with England, which she has no reason to seek. It is equally necessary for the progress of her political and commercial influence in provinces yet half civilised, for it is not on the force of her arms or on conquest that its influence can be supported, but on the ascendant of superior civilization and of a higher moral and material development, favoured by a closer contact." The *Nord* goes on to say that the traditional policy of the Russian cabinet is to maintain peace in Persia and Central Asia. That even during the late war all its efforts were exerted to induce Persia to remain neutral. It succeeded—although the temptation was great to Persia to take advantage of the events passing in her neighbourhood. It asserts that since the commencement of the conflict between Great Britain and Persia, excited by the question of Herat, the attitude and language of the Russian government have remained in the same principles. Russia never ceased to impress the Shah with the disastrous consequence which might ensue from a collision with Great Britain, and used all its influence to induce him to abandon the expedition against Herat, and to re-establish friendly relations with the British government.

SEIZURE OF TURKISH BOATS BY THE RUSSIANS.—The *Journal de Constantinople* is such a point that the first-named Power is said to be determined to march troops into the Federal Republic. The French official organ laments the obstinacy of Switzerland. "On one side," it states, "France has shown the utmost sincere desire to settle a delicate question; on the other side, an obstinacy which is to be regretted—an exaggerated susceptibility, and a complete indifference to her interests." The Journal concerned seems to be goaded to this step by the determination of the Swiss to try the prisoners, and the Neufchatel question may lead to results the importance of which cannot be overlooked. It is stated that Prussia has been done by Louis Napoleon to prevent a collision, but hitherto without effect. Frederick William, so difficult to move in bringing Russia to her senses, is, after all, a very pugnacious gentleman, "with eyes to every horse and let slip the dogs of war" when his personal feelings are moved. The *Gazette de France* states one important fact, if true, namely, that the policy of the English Ministry is to allow the Russians to carry the Conference with France. Prussia will do all the fighting herself, and will not ask the Germanic Confederation to assist her in the work of bringing the little Republic to its senses.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS OF PRUSSIA.—*Berlin Doc.* 16.—Nothing is talked of but the preparations going on and the orders given to put a large part of the army on a war footing, in order to towards Switzerland. Meanwhile the War Office the needful instructions are ready to be sent off at a moment's notice. Considerably more than the two army corps at first intended will be mobilised for immediate service.

It is understood that Switzerland will eventually be made to pay for the expense caused by the demonstration or campaign, whichever it proves. Prussia has already applied to the different States for permission to pass through their territory. It is said that the subject will be officially brought before the German diet, in order to obtain the formal sanction of the Federal Diet.

THE STATE OF NAPLES.—A letter from Naples, dated the 6th instant, announces that the greatest part of the Sicilian insurgents have been arrested. Their chiefs were five in number, among whom were Baron Bentivenga de Peralone (who was to act at Taormina), and Luigi Laperta (who had been implicated with Bentivenga in order to raise the whole province. The movement of Cefalu was made by Francesco Guesno, who, after having assembled a certain number of persons, liberated one of his fellow-prisoners, named Siofrigo, broke into houses to search for arms, and destroyed the telegraph. A frigate conveyed the troops from Palermo, who soon defeated the insurgents; at night the town was illuminated and decked out with flags, which were suspended from all the windows.

A battalion of troops also occupied Mezojuzo. On every side the insurgents were dispersed and arrested. Several presented themselves voluntarily to the authorities, and submitted. Naples, the letter adds, is perfectly tranquil, as also the provinces.

The King and Royal family are still at Naples; the day of their departure for Caserta is not known. Cabinet councils are frequently held. Forty political convicts have been amnestied within the last few months.

## IRELAND.

THE INCOME-TAX. The movement against the war income is spreading in Ireland, and probably will become general before the meeting of Parliament.

MOVEMENT TO MOORE THE POET.—The general committee of the Dublin committee, to be entrusted with the memory of the poet Moore, have finally, after several references and inquiries, selected as a site for the statue the end of College Street, opposite the eastern front of the Bank of Ireland.

THE LATE FATHER MATHEW.—The Apostle of Temperance died on Monday last, at his residence, Queenstown, Cork. Although latterly he has had very feeble health, no other Catholic clergyman in Ireland has ever exercised a tithe of influence. The news of his death, before the time of payment which had been given to M'Donald had expired, Mr. Caffray had obtained a judgment against M'Donald, and issued an execution thereon, and having indemnified the Sheriff—Dempsey—the defendant in the case, the goods were sold. Anderson, upon this, brought this action, and on the trial proved the execution of the bill of sale; but the witness who proved the signing and sealing, was unable to prove the delivery of a chair in the name of the whole: the court, however, overruled this objection to the validity of the bill of sale on the ground that, as the instrument itself was under seal and in other respects regular, and the only question that could arise was whether it was given for a *bona fide* consideration, and without fraud; and the jury being of opinion that such was the case, returned with a verdict for the plaintiff, damages to the full amount of the appraised value of the goods. Haviland and Brecken for Plaintiff; Attorney General, Hon E. Palmer and C. Palmer for Defendant.

This case is of importance in two respects, as having decided, first, that delivery of a chattel, when the instrument conveying it is under seal, and for a good consideration, is not essential to its validity; and secondly, that the sheriff or other persons who chose to seize upon goods thus conveyed, must, when the instrument is substantiated in a court of justice, pay the *full value* of the articles enumerated in the bill of sale, and not the sum which they may have realized at a sale by auction.

The famous case of M'Lean vs. Whelan, for libel, came off yesterday before a special jury. We have not time at present to give the particulars. The case was fairly stated for the plaintiff by Mr. C. Palmer; and Mr. Whelan—who defended himself—made a spirited defence. Mr. Justice Peters charged the jury, who, after some time spent in their room, came in with a verdict of ONE FARTHING.

[COMMUNICATED]

The adjourned Annual Meeting of the Diocesan Church Society of this Island, was held at the Infant School House, on Thursday evening, the 8th of January, 1857, at 7 o'clock.—the Rev. C. Lloyd, E C., in the chair. After the offering up of prayer and the singing of the 100th Psalm, the chairman opened the business of the meeting by directing the attention of those present to two principal features connected with the Society, the interests of which they were that evening met together to promote, namely, its being a church, as well as a Native Society,—church in its character and principles, and native in its aspirations and sphere of labor; a Society which not only represented the interests of the Church of England in this colony, but was constituted and was to be maintained by the Church power, which, he regretted to say, were as yet but small, and nothing equal to the demands which were made, or even likely to be made, upon it: a Society which had the free and full disposal of its own funds, and over whose laws the Bishop of the Diocese had a controlling power. The prospects of the Society, he was glad to see, were brightening, especially if he were to take the attendance this evening, at such an inclement season, as an indication of the interest felt in its operations. The time, he was persuaded, was drawing near, when the venerable Society which had hitherto so generously assisted the cause of the church in this Island, would be obliged to withdraw its funds to younger and more destitute colonies, and therefore there was the more need, ere they were altogether thrown upon their own resources, to promote the welfare of that native Society to which they must ultimately look for the support of their ministers in this Island. And after some further observations, in which he pointed out the duty of sustaining their own church, he called on the Secretary to read the annual report.

The Rev. Mosk read the report, and the Treasurer's account submitted to the meeting, it was moved by the Rev. W. Mosk, and seconded by Charles Palmer, Esq., that the Report now read be adopted, and printed, under the direction of the Committee.

Moved by the Rev. D.Paruther, and seconded by H.Haszard, Esq.,—That this meeting desires to return thanks to Almighty God for the many blessings, both temporal and spiritual, which has been vouchsafed to this Island during the past year.

Moved by the Rev. H. Read, and seconded by Capt. Orlebar, R.N.,—That this meeting gratefully records its sense of thankfulness to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and also to the Colonial, Church, and School Societies, for their liberal and ready help towards the spiritual wants of the Church of England in this Colony, whereby they are enabled to worship God after the manner of their fathers.

Moved by the Rev. D. FitzGerald, and seconded by the Hon. the Attorney General,—That this meeting thankfully acknowledges the valuable assistance and co-operation of the Ladies' Branch of this Society.

Moved by Thos. DesBrisay, Esq, and seconded by T. B. Tremain, Esq.,—That it is desirable and expedient to invite the country clergymen, and appears to be conducive to the general interest of the Society, to alter the time of holding its Annual Meeting; it is therefore resolved, that the Annual Meeting of this Society shall in future be held on the 3rd Tuesday in January, at the hour of 7 o'clock, P. M, and that the fourth Quarterly Meeting of the Committee be held on the same day, at 12 o'clock, A. M.

Moved by W. Cundall, Esq., and seconded by Thos. DesBrisay, Esq.—That the following persons, being members of this Society, do constitute the Executive Committee for the ensuing year—namely, all the resident Clergy of the Established Church; Messrs. W. Cundall, Thos. DesBrisay, J. Orlebar, R. N., R. Hutchinson, H. Haszard, C. Palmer, Thos. DesBrisay Jr., G. Owen, J. Hensley, Attorney General, G. W. DeBlois, T. B. Tremain, J. Longworth, J. Gates, H. Cundall, A. H. Yates, G. T. Haszard, J. Hobbs, ——Kaye, M. D., J. Aldous, J. Easton, J. Hudson, T. Essery, J. Tweedie, T. Hunt, J. Haszard, W. Reid, D. Palmer, T. Hasham, J. Pidgeon, J. Cousins, R. Gidley, H. C. Green.

We were glad to see, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a very good attendance of those interested in the welfare of the Society; yes, we felt persuaded that there was not one present who would not willingly have gone through greater difficulties rather than have missed the pleasure of being present, and listening to those spirit-stirring and eloquent speeches, which were delivered on the evening in question, and we hope that all those who were present, will be stimulated by the recollection of what they heard, and will be prompted to more active exertion in the cause of the Society, and to more earnest prayer for its prosperity.

The Legislature of the Province of New-Brunswick is summoned to meet at Fredericton, for the despatch of business, on the twelfth day of February next.

Haszard's Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1857.

The Courier with the English and Colonial mails arrived in town on Saturday night last. The *Europa* arrived at New York on the 29th, and the *Niagara* at Halifax two days later. The carriers were unable to bring all the mail bags across the Straits at one time, but those left behind arrived in town this morning and also another Colonial mail. From papers brought by the English and Colonial mails we have made numerous extracts of the most important news, which will be found in a preceding column under the usual head.

## SUPREME COURT.

The docket this term has been rather large. Several causes have been tried, and others settled or referred. On the first day there were two causes disposed of—Peake vs. Clough, absent debtor; verdict £287 6s 4d—Haviland and Brecken for Plaintiff—Paw vs. Harris and others, absent debtor; verdict £185 8s 4d.—Lawson for Plaintiff. The case of James Anderson vs. Charles Dempsey, Trover, was then tried, the circumstances of which case are as follows:

Alexander M'Donald having procured the endorsement of Mr. Anderson (the Plaintiff) to a bill of exchange for the purpose of more readily negotiating it, and the bill having been refused acceptance, M'Donald, in order to secure Anderson from loss in case of non-payment, executed to him a bill of sale of certain articles of furniture, and a chair among them, before the time of payment which had been given to M'Donald had expired, Mr. Caffray had obtained a judgment against M'Donald, and issued an execution thereon, and having indemnified the Sheriff—Dempsey—the defendant in the case, the goods were sold. Anderson, upon this, brought this action, and on the trial proved the execution of the bill of sale; but the witness who proved the signing and sealing, was unable to prove the delivery of a chair in the name of the whole: the court, however, overruled this objection to the validity of the bill of sale on the ground that, as the instrument itself was under seal and in other respects regular, and the only question that could arise was whether it was given for a *bona fide* consideration, and without fraud; and the jury being of opinion that such was the case, returned with a verdict for the plaintiff, damages to the full amount of the appraised value of the goods. Haviland and Brecken for Plaintiff; Attorney General, Hon E. Palmer and C. Palmer for Defendant.

This case is of importance in two respects, as having decided, first, that delivery of a chattel, when the instrument conveying it is under seal, and for a good consideration, is not essential to its validity; and secondly, that the sheriff or other persons who chose to seize upon goods thus conveyed, must, when the instrument is substantiated in a court of justice, pay the *full value* of the articles enumerated in the bill of sale, and not the sum which they may have realized at a sale by auction.

The famous case of M'Lean vs. Whelan, for libel, came off yesterday before a special jury. We have not time at present to give the particulars. The case was fairly stated for the plaintiff by Mr. C. Palmer; and Mr. Whelan—who defended himself—made a spirited defence. Mr. Justice Peters charged the jury, who, after some time spent in their room, came in with a verdict of ONE FARTHING.

[COMMUNICATED]

The adjourned Annual Meeting of the Diocesan Church Society of this Island, was held at the Infant School House, on Thursday evening, the 8th of January, 1857, at 7 o'clock.—the Rev. C. Lloyd, E C., in the chair. After the offering up of prayer and the singing of the 100th Psalm, the chairman opened the business of the meeting by directing the attention of those present to two principal features connected with the Society, the interests of which they were that evening met together to promote, namely, its being a church, as well as a Native Society,—church in its character and principles, and native in its aspirations and sphere of labor; a Society which not only represented the interests of the Church of England in this colony, but was constituted and was to be maintained by the Church power, which, he regretted to say, were as yet but small, and nothing equal to the demands which were made, or even likely to be made, upon it: a Society which had the free and full disposal of its own funds, and over whose laws the Bishop of the Diocese had a controlling power. The prospects of the Society, he was glad to see, were brightening, especially if he were to take the attendance this evening, at such an inclement season, as an indication of the interest felt in its operations. The time, he was persuaded, was drawing near, when the venerable Society which had hitherto so generously assisted the cause of the church in this Island, would be obliged to withdraw its funds to younger and more destitute colonies, and therefore there was the more need, ere they were altogether thrown upon their own resources, to promote the welfare of that native Society to which they must ultimately look for the support of their ministers in this Island. And after some further observations, in which he pointed out the duty of sustaining their own church, he called on the Secretary to read the annual report.

The Rev. Mosk read the report, and the Treasurer's account submitted to the meeting, it was moved by the Rev. W. Mosk, and seconded by Charles Palmer, Esq., that the Report now read be adopted, and printed, under the direction of the Committee.

Moved by the Rev. D.Paruther, and seconded by H.Haszard, Esq.,—That this meeting desires to return thanks to Almighty God for the many blessings, both temporal and spiritual, which has been vouchsafed to this Island during the past year.

Moved by the Rev. H. Read, and seconded by Capt. Orlebar, R.N.,—That this meeting gratefully records its sense of thankfulness to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and also to the Colonial, Church, and School Societies, for their liberal and ready help towards the spiritual wants of the Church of England in this Colony, whereby they are enabled to worship God after the manner of their fathers.

Moved by the Rev. D. FitzGerald, and seconded by the Hon. the Attorney General,—That this meeting thankfully acknowledges the valuable assistance and co-operation of the Ladies' Branch of this Society.

Moved by Thos. DesBrisay, Esq, and seconded by T. B. Tremain, Esq.,—That it is desirable and expedient to invite the country clergymen, and appears to be conducive to the general interest of the Society, to alter the time of holding its Annual Meeting; it is therefore resolved, that the Annual Meeting of this Society shall in future be held on the 3rd Tuesday in January, at the hour of 7 o'clock, P. M, and that the fourth Quarterly Meeting of the Committee be held on the same day, at 12 o'clock, A. M.

Moved by W. Cundall, Esq., and seconded by Thos. DesBrisay, Esq.—That the following persons, being members of this Society, do constitute the Executive Committee for the ensuing year—namely, all the resident Clergy of the Established Church; Messrs. W. Cundall, Thos. DesBrisay, J. Orlebar, R. N., R. Hutchinson, H. Haszard, C. Palmer, Thos. DesBrisay Jr., G. Owen, J. Hensley, Attorney General, G. W. DeBlois, T. B. Tremain, J. Longworth, J. Gates, H. Cundall, A. H. Yates, G. T. Haszard, J. Hobbs, ——Kaye, M. D., J. Aldous, J. Easton, J. Hudson, T. Essery, J. Tweedie, T. Hunt, J. Haszard, W. Reid, D. Palmer, T. Hasham, J. Pidgeon, J. Cousins, R. Gidley, H. C. Green.

We were glad to see, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, a very good attendance of those interested in the welfare of the Society; yes, we felt persuaded that there was not one present who would not willingly have gone through greater difficulties rather than have missed the pleasure of being present, and listening to those spirit-stirring and eloquent speeches, which were delivered on the evening in question, and we hope that all those who were present, will be stimulated by the recollection of what they heard, and will be prompted to more active exertion in the cause of the Society, and to more earnest prayer for its prosperity.

## COLONIAL ITEMS.

AWFUL CONFLAGRATION AT HALIFAX.—About four o'clock yesterday afternoon, a fire broke out in Mr. Vass' building, in a store occupied by Mr. Donohoe, and before the engines arrived, it had gained considerable head way, and spread very rapidly. The flames soon reached St. Matthews Church and quickly destroyed it in their angry fecocity. A steam press office was also consumed, with two valuable steam presses, one lately imported which cost about £800 or £900. The other press and machinery, cost about £800 or £900. The destruction of property included up Prince Street, along Granville and Hollis Streets; destroying all before it.

The Unitarian Church office suffered severely, the type being all in *pie* by the hurry of removal. The stone wall of Vass' building protecting it from being consumed, also the Chronicle Office, and the Royal Gazette Office; but these were saved by the exertions of the firemen, sailors, and many of the citizens, proved themselves not only *bricks* but *fire kings*, while many were indifferent, or thoughtless.

A gentleman by the name of Steward, who lately opened a very respectable eating house or hotel, was quickly, (but rather late) to his post, and unfortunately he suffered considerable loss, as also with many others.

We have not yet learned the amount of loss, but any man has lost, in fact, every thing of which he was possessed, merely saving one bed and a coat, and we sincerely hope that a subscription will be opened for him.

Many deserving families have suffered, as well as the unfortunate typos. We have not time to write further particulars, as our steam is gone down. About 16 buildings were destroyed, we sincerely hope that the city will be better supplied with water plugs in future.

We learn that several accidents have happen during the fire.