

PAPERS BY THE BRITANNIA.

(From C. Willmer's American News Letter, June 19.)

The Ministers were defeated in the House of Commons, on Friday night, with reference to the sugar duties Bill, an amendment, proposed by Mr. Miles, the member for Bristol, having been carried by a majority of 20. The announcement was received by Sir Robert Peel with evident chagrin, but he soon recovered his serenity, and intimated that he should be prepared to state on Monday what course he should pursue. Reports were very current on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, that he had determined to resign, and it was even asserted, that Sir Robert Peel had carried the resignation of the Cabinet to Her Majesty, who had accepted it, and "sent for" the Duke of Richmond. This statement was, however, denied by the Morning Herald, the only London morning paper which gives the Government decided support. The Morning Chronicle stated that ministers had determined to retain their posts, but to abandon their proposed change of sugar duties for the present. Their friends, however, seem to have been seriously alarmed lest they should retire, and a very numerous meeting of the Conservative members of the House of Commons was held at the Carlton Club House on Monday morning—more than 200 being present, when a resolution of entire confidence in Sir Robert Peel's government was proposed, carried unanimously, and forwarded to the right hon. Baronet in Whitehall Gardens. Another cabinet council was held at the foreign office, after which the Premier proceeded to Buckingham palace, staid to dine with Her Majesty, and then came down to the Commons and made a statement which is elsewhere reported. The Standard says that the Ministers never once contemplated a resignation, and as long as their party permit them to carry on the government with honour, they will persevere, to the completion of the restoration of Ireland to peace—the perfect tranquillisation and security of India—the consolidation of the peace of Europe, of which we have lately had such flattering proofs in the visits of so many sovereigns, and of which we anticipate the most gratifying proof of all in the visit of Louis Philippe, the wise and the good—the work of restoring commerce and finance. He intimated his intention to move, as an amendment on Mr. Miles' proposition, the restoration of the duty on Colonial sugars, and should leave the colonial duties to be discussed next year when the Income and Property Tax Bill shall have expired. The result was that Mr. Miles' proposition was negatived by 255 to 223—leaving a majority for ministers of 23.

The leading topic of our foreign news is the announcement that a collision has taken place between the French troops and the forces of the Emperor of Morocco. The French were completely victorious, putting a large body of Moorish cavalry to the rout, and capturing three standards. In Paris this affair is regarded as the commencement of actual hostilities, although Marshal Soult, in the French Chambers, and Lord Aberdeen in the House of Lords, have declared their conviction that war will not take place. The French Government, however, are strengthening their position on the Morocco frontier, and a squadron of line-of-battle-ships and steamers has been equipped, under the command of the Prince de Joinville, for the purpose of cruising off the eastern coast of Morocco. The Moors are evidently collected in large numbers, and are animated by a hostile spirit, which the efforts of diplomacy may find it difficult, if not impossible, to control. The recent skirmish at Ouedja was caused by the impetuosity of the native troops on first approaching the French camp; and a few days previously, the French garrison at Biskara, which the Duc d'Angame had left without sufficient protection, was treacherously massacred. The movement is known to be the work of Abd-el-Kader, who has so successfully inflamed the religious fanaticism of the Moors, that the Emperor is said to have been unable to resist the impulse given to his people by the old enemy of France, and was, therefore, compelled to proclaim the "holy war." If this be confirmed, there are reasons to hope that the mediation of England, which Lord Aberdeen is understood to have offered, will be accepted, and thus avert a war which might seriously compromise the relations between this country and France.

After a great deal of agitation in the country, the Dissenters' Chapels Bill passed a second reading in the House of Commons on Tuesday the 6th current, by a majority of 307 to 117. The ministers and the leaders of the opposition again met in cordial agreement and firm alliance on the discussion of the measure, which it will be remembered gives quiet possession of property on a prescriptive enjoyment of twenty-five years possession, except in the case of chapels which the donors founded for the preaching of doctrines distinctly specified.

It is supposed that the Emperor of Russia, during his week's visit to England, distributed about £25,000 in acts of liberality.

It is stated that Crockford, of gambling notoriety, has left £350,000 to his widow. He once kept a fishmonger's shop near Temple Bar, London.

Sir James Graham has intimated that Wednesday next has been fixed for the reception of the deputation of the corporation of Dublin, with the address to her Majesty, respecting the sentence of Mr. O'Connell and the other traversers.

Mr. Thomas Campbell, author of the Pleasures of Hope, and other celebrated works, died on Saturday the 13th June, at Boulogne.

The stoppage of the bank of T. Johnston & Co., bankers, at Romford, Essex, has been announced. Mr. Johnson was Lord Mayor of London in 1841.

IRELAND.

THE IMPRISONED REPEALERS, AND THE REPEAL AGITATION.

The proceedings in the Dublin Court of Queen's Bench, in the case of the Queen versus O'Connell and others, have closed with the despatch of the writ of error to London; it was allowed last week, without opposition to the crown.

The authorities of Richmond Penitentiary have put some restrictions upon the wholesale admission of visitors; they are no longer allowed to inscribe their names in a book for publication; and depositions to present addresses to Mr. O'Connell are not admitted. The Freeman's Journal notifies, that those visitors who wish to have their names published, have only to leave a card at the office of the newspaper for every one sent to Mr. O'Connell.

Several meetings have been held about the country. One of the most respectable was that at Belfast, on Friday; which comprised "Liberals" of all shades. Some of the speakers avowed political differences with Mr. O'Connell, but protested against the prosecution as unjust. One of the most ludicrous meetings was that of the Dublin law-clerks, on Sunday; they address Mr. O'Connell as "beloved Sir," and "great beloved Sir," declare that "with a nod" he could have "uprooted the foundations of society;" but they undertake to obey his injunctions to peace, or to die for him if required.

The Dublin Corporation met on Thursday week last, to consider an address to the Queen, on the subject of Mr. O'Connell's imprisonment; praying her "to vindicate the constitution, and protect the rights and liberties of her Majesty's subjects, which have been violated in his person." An address in that spirit was proposed and advocated in several heated speeches. Alderman Butt opposed it; and, in some temperate strictures, he pointed out one inconsistency of the Repealers—that while they professed hatred to England, they cried that if they had but had English judges and English jurors, they would have had better justice! One warm supporter of the address was Mr. Fitzpatrick, who was on the jury-panel, and was among the forty-eight drawn by ballot, but he was not on the jury: Mr. Butt bantered him on the unbiassed verdict that he would have given! The address was carried, by 40 to 6.

The Repeal Association met on Monday. In taking the chair, Lord French stated that he had come up to town for the sole purpose of presenting the Liberator and his fellow-martyrs with two addresses from parishes in his county, the inhabitants of which were boiling with indignation at Mr. O'Connell's unjust and unmerited conviction, and had resolved, "Come weal, come wo," that on their

parts there should be no shrinking. Mr. Henry Grattan handing in a subscription of £5, explained why he had not attended in the House of Commons—because abusive language had been applied to the Irish People, (and he read passages from the Morning Herald that called them savages,) and because Parliament had passed the Arms Act, and he had pledged himself "that while he lived, no Englishman should brand himself or his arms—"

He had locked up in a chest, in an English county, the arms which his father had carried in 1782, and had transmitted to him, accompanying them with a note in the following terms: "These are the arms of Henry Grattan, placed here because an English government directed a brand to be placed on them. Never! Henry Grattan." For these reasons alone, his intention—firm as if he had taken an oath—was, that he would never enter the House of Commons unless driven there by the injunction of his constituents.

Mr. M'Nevin, a barrister, spoke of the Emperor of Russia; whom he described as brought over from Russia by the gaolers of O'Connell, for his occupation of fetter-forging and peopling Siberia, to officiate as a bear-hugger with Prince Albert in a lobby. Mr. Smith O'Brien read an address from the Complete Suffrage Union of the people of England, signed "Joseph Sturge," and expressing indignation at the imprisonment of O'Connell. He mentioned a rumour that government were about to issue a proclamation to forbid the meeting of the Association: the committee were determined to try the legality of the proceeding; on the issue of the proclamation the Association would meet; and he requested to be chairman on that day. The rent for the week was £3,200.

A strange scene was witnessed in Dublin on Thursday. A number of deputations from municipal corporations went in a procession of thirty carriages, to present addresses to Mr. O'Connell. At the prison-gate they successively applied for admission, but were politely repulsed by the governor. They then returned to Mr. O'Connell's private house, and adopted a formal "declaration" of their sentiments. The speakers were very indignant.

A government reporter continues to take notes at the Repeal meetings. It is said that the days upon which the traversers will be suffered to receive visitors in future will be limited to two each week.

Twenty-four boys have been expelled from the national school in Dublin, because they insisted upon wearing the repeal button during school hours. The prohibition was confined to those hours merely, but the boys would not doff the national emblem even during that short period.

Sir James Graham, in reply to Mr. O'Brien's letter of remonstrance, says that, by law, the enforcement of the discipline of the Richmond Penitentiary is vested in the Board of superintendence, which board is not under the immediate control of the Secretary of State, and that he is not prepared to interfere with the discretion of the board on this occasion.

Subjoined is the "declaration" of the several provincial mayors, aldermen, and town councillors assembled at the house of Mr. O'Connell, in Merrionsquare on Thursday last, after their ineffectual attempt to gain admission, in one large body, to the presence of the incarcerated conspirators, with a score and more of repeal addresses for presentation to them. The six mayors and seventy lesser civil authorities, whose names and titles it bears, undoubtedly consider themselves very ill-used persons.

"We, the undersigned mayors, and other members of the municipal corporations of the undenamed cities and towns of Ireland, have, in compliance with the wishes of our constituents and fellow-citizens, visited this metropolis for the purpose of paying our respects to Daniel O'Connell, and of conveying to him, by the presentation of the respective addresses confided to our charge, the assurance how deep and enduring is their gratitude to their illustrious countryman, and how great is their indignation at the personal insult received in his person.

"Though disappointed in the object of our mission, we think that a moment of such intense interest—a crisis so important—which has brought together a large section of the popularly constituted authorities of this country, should not be permitted to pass without a solemn and deliberate declaration of our opinion on the present aspect of affairs in Ireland.

"Having consulted together to ascertain how far the state of public feeling in our different localities corresponds with the sentiments in the addresses intrusted to us, and having reviewed the proceedings connected with the state trials—commencing with the mysterious disappearance of Catholics from the panel, followed by the formation of a jury wholly exclusive in its character—this again succeeded by the novel application of the law of conspiracy, and the whole terminated by a sentence enforced in opposition to the opinion of a distinguished member of the Court of Queen's Bench, in favour of a new trial, and in defiance of the declaration of eminent lawyers and statesmen in Ireland, that O'Connell had not had a fair one—having thus reviewed these proceedings, vitiated as they do, in the eyes of the world, the verdict obtained, and making a martyr of Ireland's first citizen, we now put on record this solemn and conscientious declaration:—

"That the state trials, and their result, have produced in the great communities with which we are connected, and throughout the whole country, a strong apprehension that life, liberty, and property cannot be safe as long as an administration so hostile to the national sentiment, and so obnoxious to the people, continues in power.

"That if anything could increase the popular exasperation it is this: that while, on the one hand, the most oppressive measures have been resorted to, under the forms of law—on the other, ministers have been deluding the Irish nation, by holding out, even in the Speech from the Throne, hopes of a just extension of its electoral rights, at the very time that they contemplated the introduction of the measure now before parliament, which, if it become law, will almost annihilate the miserable franchise we possess.

"That an administration which has pledged itself to maintain in its full enormity the monster grievance of a church established in Ireland, can never be countenanced by the Irish People.

"That, notwithstanding much hollow professions, we see no attempt made to relieve the prevailing distress; we expect for the rack-rented tenantry no alleviation of their misery, nor for our labourers any general employment; and all that can be looked for from the boasted land commission of this anti-Irish administration is a tardy report, from which no practical benefit is likely to arise.

"That while we thus deliberately declare our opinion that the continuance in power of the present administration is irreconcilable with the well-being of Ireland, still we are daily more thoroughly convinced that the liberties, the franchise, and the social prosperity of the people, cannot be effectually or at all secured under any administration, without giving to the Irish nation a participation in its government by the establishment of its own parliament."

From Spain we have accounts of the arrival of Queen Isabella and her mother at Barcelona, and of the reception prepared for them by the citizens. The Prince di Trapani was expected to arrive in a few days from Naples, and as Sir R. Peel has announced in Parliament that the project of marrying the Queen to the son of Don Carlos has met with no encouragement from our Government, there is little doubt that the Neapolitan Prince will be a successful suitor.

WAR BETWEEN FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

Despatches have been received, showing that war has actually commenced between Morocco and France. According to the report of General Lamoriciere to Marshal Bugeaud, the troops of the Emperor, or rather those of a chief who owes him allegiance, began the attack on the 30th of May; the French troops, who had been on their guard for some days, watching the movements of the Arabs, immediately acted on the offensive, descended into a plain near the supposed frontier between Algiers and Fez, and, after some sharp fighting, put the enemy completely to rout. The French suffered very little loss, having only twenty-five

men wounded, two of them severely, while 300 of the Moorish cavalry were cut to pieces, and the remainder, amounting to about 1700 cavalry, under the chief Abd-el-Bokari, took to flight. It appears to have been a rash and ill concerted attack on the part of the Moors. They had no infantry—they dashed with wild enthusiasm into the middle of the French, and being purposely encouraged by Lamoriciere to advance till the proper moment for attacking them had arrived, a large portion of them were separated from the main body and annihilated. It is evident that these irregular and barbarous troops have no chance whatever with disciplined soldiers, commanded by skillful generals; and that unless the Emperor makes satisfaction for this unexpected assault, and yields to the French Government, both Tangiers and Mogador will soon be in the hands of the French. The government of France are making every preparation for such a purpose. The "Moniteur" of Tuesday contains the following announcement:—"The King, on the proposition of the Minister of Marine, has just decided that the Prince de Joinville is to hoist his flag in one of the ships of the line of the squadron of evolutions, and to proceed in her, accompanied by a steam-frigate, two smaller steamers, and several light vessels, to cruise off the eastern coast of Morocco. His Royal Highness will leave very soon for Toulon, to assume the command of the naval division which is to act under his orders."

INDIA AND CHINA.

We have news from India and China, dated the 1st of May, and the 10th of March. The only fact worth noticing is the murder of Sudej Singh, who had come to Lahore on the invitation of his uncle, Heerah Singh, and at the request of the seditious troops. This tragedy is thus described:—Rajah Heera Singh having invited his uncle, Rajah Sudej Singh, to Lahore, the invitation was declined when coming from the nephew, but when repeated from the mouths of the refractory troops, with a very different object in view, he hastened to the capital, and arrived on the 26th of March, very slenderly attended, and in hopes of being received with open arms by those at whose summons he had left his mountain hold. The soldiers had in the meantime been bought over; and the hill chief, finding that he had been deceived, prepared to retire. He was followed on the 27th by his nephew, at the head of the royal army, now 20,000 strong, and overtaken with no more than 500 followers in the house of a Fqueer. Terms were offered and refused, and the gallant little band intimated their determination to fight to the last. Having for some time defended themselves with their long and deadly matchlocks, they at last, as the artillery opened on them, sallied forth, resolved to cut their way through the troops or die in the attempt. The old Rajah Sudej Singh, his minister, Rae Kesseer Singh, and the Dewah Bheem Singh, were amongst the first who fell; Dewan Governull was taken prisoner. All the leaders having fallen, the followers were easily overcome. Sudej Singh, brother of Dhy-an Singh, who was murdered during the insurrection in which the Maharajah and so many others perished, was one of the right hand chiefs of the Old Lion of Lahore. He was said to have been engaged in tampering with our sepoy during the late mutiny, and £170,000 of treasure belonging to him is said to have been discovered at Ferozepore, whither it had been brought for the purposes of a rebellion.

A British vessel carrying opium had been captured by the Chinese and delivered up to the authorities of Hong Kong, and condemned to a fine.

CONTEST BETWEEN THE WHITES AND THE NATIVES OF MARREE—17 WHITES KILLED.

The Sydney Herald of the 6th of January relates the following awful occurrence:—"A few weeks since the Brigand left New Zealand for the South Sea Islands, with a number of emigrants on board, with whom it was intended to form a settlement on the New Hebrides; but she unexpectedly put into Newcastle on Monday last, having had a serious affair with the natives of the island of Marree, whom they incautiously allowed to come on board, without regard to numbers. The natives attempted to carry the Brig by a rush, but they were eventually beaten off, after having killed 17 of the whites. One of the seamen states that the number killed on board the brig was four Europeans and five Chinamen, and of the passengers and eight wood-cutters that had gone on shore, only one of the former and two of the latter got on board of the brig. The others were killed and eaten, according to the account given by a friendly chief, who afterwards came on board.

MASSACRE.—We learn from the New Bedford Mercury, that an arrival at that port brings intelligence that the British frigate Cleopatra having got ashore on a reef on the coast of Madagascar, one of her boats, with an officer and thirteen men, sent to carry out a stream anchor, was attacked by the natives, and eight of them were killed, including the Lieutenant.

ARRIVAL OF A SPECIAL EXPRESS FROM THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT.—The Mexican steamer Petrita, Capt. Hincley, arrived at New Orleans on the 10th June, seven days from Vera Cruz, having on board Senor J. Gonzales de la Vega, bearer of despatches from the Mexican Government to Signor Almonte.

The papers, all over Mexico, speak in terms of great indignation against the proposed annexation of Texas. One of the editors says that the republic has the will and the means to resist a movement of the kind—has a great army already disciplined, and the great Santa Anna to take the command.—The following letter contains important intelligence:—

VERA CRUZ, June 3d, 1844. Eds. Picaune.—Dear Sirs:—At the last moment I write these few lines. Col. Thompson left in the Pointset about two hours since, and by her I wrote you the news; but as the Mexican Government has freighted the steamer Petrita, to carry over to your port a bearer of despatches, I take advantage of her to write you, as she will no doubt reach your city before the Pointset, the latter having to touch at Galveston. In a few words, Col. Thompson has not been successful in his mission, the Mexican Government having repeated its former declaration, that if Texas is annexed, she, Mexico, declares war. Nothing further to add. In haste, yours truly, Z.

The U.S. steamer Pointset arrived at Mobile on the 11th June, eight days from Vera Cruz. The Pointset arrived in time only to place Colonel Thompson in the mail boat after she had started for Stockton. Fourteen thousand troops had assembled and were quartered at Vera Cruz, and larger quantities of military stores were arriving there.—An English brig with ammunition, &c., had arrived from Tobasco.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

St. John's, N. F., June 11.

The following purports to be a copy of a despatch from Lord Stanley to Sir John Harvey, upon the subject of some crimination and recrimination between Sir John and the Chief Justice of this Colony, with which the public generally are as yet but very imperfectly acquainted.

Downing-street, May 5, 1844.

Sir,—I enumerate in the margin the various despatches and letters which I have received from yourself and the Chief Justice of Newfoundland, on the subject of the charges which have been preferred by that officer against you.

The Chief Justice has imputed to yourself, as Governor of Newfoundland, a corrupt use of your powers, with a view to your own pecuniary advantage. He has charged Messrs. Crowley & Robinson with a guilty participation in those imputed offences. He has also arraigned, though in less serious terms, the conduct and motives of the four members of the Executive Council, in preparing and presenting to you the memorial of the 21st of March, 1843.

When Mr. Bourne advanced such accusations, he must have anticipated that, if they should be substantiated by proof, your recall from the government of Newfoundland would be the consequence. He must as distinctly have foreseen that, if the charges should be disproved, his own removal from the Chief Justice-ship of that Colony was inevitable. It must have been evident from the commencement of this correspondence, to the different parties engaged in it, that their further co-operation in the Queen's service was impossible; and that Her Majesty could not be advised to retain in her employment, either a Governor, guilty

of pecuniary corruption, or a Judge guilty of imputing to the Governor so scandalous an offence, on any light and inadequate grounds.

The result of the examination of those documents, by Her Majesty's Government, is to convince them that you are innocent of the offences with which you are charged by the Chief Justice, and that the other gentlemen, whom he would implicate in the same accusations, are also guiltless of them.

Having submitted to the Queen his opinion, and having therefore advised Her Majesty to revoke the Commission under which Mr. Bourne acts as Chief Justice of Newfoundland, Her Majesty has been pleased to approve and adopt that advice, and Mr. Bourne's Commission will be revoked accordingly as soon as his successor shall be appointed. In the meantime, it will not be desirable that Mr. Bourne should continue to act in his judicial capacity. I trust that by accepting an immediate leave of absence, he will exonerate you from the otherwise inevitable duty of superseding him from office until the appointment of his successor.

I have, &c. STANLEY.

(Signed) June 12.

Since the publication of our last journal, we have heard—and indeed the rumour has been confirmed—that His Honor Chief Justice Bourne has obtained leave of absence, and that Mr. Attorney General Simms has been invested with the Chief's robes of office, pro tem.—Hugh A. Emerson, Esq., to be acting Attorney General; and the Hon. Wm. B. Row to be acting Solicitor General.

June 19.—We understand that the hon. James Tobin has obtained, from Her Majesty's Government, a grant of the dockyard and grounds attached, at River head; and that it is the intention of the honorable gentleman to erect thereon a "patent slip," which is much required by the shipping at this port.

FIRE.—We regret to state that the flourishing town of Harbour Grace has again been the scene of a most disastrous fire. At about 8 o'clock on Wednesday evening last, the chimney and roof of a house occupied by Mr. Finn, a tailor, (who is stated to have just imported a large quantity of cloths from England), was observed to be on fire. The alarm was instantly given, and two fire engines were promptly on the spot; but notwithstanding every effort to suppress the flames, the mercantile premises of Messrs. Thorne, Hooper & Co., and Mr. Peter Brown, caught fire and were completely consumed, together with 20 other houses, including the mercantile establishment of Miss Mary Poley Morris, and two stores, shops, &c., belonging to Mr. Daniel Green. By the most unexampled and praiseworthy exertions, the premises of Messrs. Panton & Munn, and the whole of the westerly part of the town to the eastward thereof, were saved. The house of Mr. Charles Thomson was pulled down, thereby preventing the fire from catching Mr. Jillard's house, which was the means, under Providence, of saving the north side of the street. The principal sufferers, besides those already named, are Mr. Fox, Capt. Drisdale, Mr. James L. Pendergast, Mr. Wills, Mr. Martin Kelly, Mr. Poley, Mr. Shelley, Mr. Lahy, Mr. Stowe, Mrs. Tapp, Mr. Moore (painter), Mr. Dixon, Capt. John Green, Mrs. Churchill, Mrs. Devereaux, Mrs. Kearney, Mrs. Molloy, Mr. Edward Pynn, Miss Butler, and several others, whom our correspondent, from whom we have learnt these particulars, could not at the moment name. The topsail of one of the vessels lying in the harbour was at one time on fire, but this was fortunately extinguished. The house of Thomas Danson, Esq., the chief magistrate of the district, was saved by great exertions. Great praise is due to the Revds. Messrs. Dalton and Cummins, for the extraordinary manner in which they used their influence among the people, and in directing them what to do. Lieut. Gillespie, and the detachment of the Royal Newfoundland Companies, were on the spot shortly after the fire broke out, and were highly useful in guarding the property that had been saved. Lieut. G's personal exertions were of great service. At noon on the following day the fire was completely subdued, and the loss, although it has been variously estimated, may be set down at about £25,000.

TOKENS OF ADVANCING CIVILISATION.

Two very striking proofs of advancing civilisation have been recently afforded in two places where we should least have thought of looking for them—Sweden and Turkey.

In 1812 a royal ordinance was published by BERNADOTTE, strictly prohibiting all communication with any of the surviving descendants of the unfortunate GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS. PRINCE VASA, the living representative of the discharged family, put forward a sort of protest against the recent accession of OSCAR I; and was said in the political circles to be secretly sustained by that universal bugbear of European diplomacy—Russian influence. Yet, in the face of this foolish protest, and the power by which it was supposed to be upheld, the young King has most wisely issued an ordinance, in which he voluntarily and unconditionally revokes the prohibition of his predecessor. He believes that his throne is based upon the hearts of his people; and that if it be not, no prohibitions can make it secure. This is a piece of sound policy which would be equal to the intelligence of the age any where, and which is beyond it in Sweden.

The other instance is the abolition of torture in Turkey, as a means of procuring evidence or confessions of guilt. This reverend iniquity has been recently brought into disrepute by an accusation against an Englishman, wrung from some wretched prisoner in a moment of despair—perhaps under the hope of escaping further agony. The Englishman was found to be completely innocent of the crime imputed to him, upon which SIR STRATFORD CANNING very properly brought the whole affair under the immediate consideration of the Sublime Porte. The result was a notification from the Sultan to all people in authority, strictly forbidding the employment of torture for the future.

These are hopeful auguries for mankind, with sound reason and strong hearts in them, from which the happiest consequences may be predicated.

The Colonial Herald.

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1844.

The Steamship BRITANNIA arrived at Halifax on the 1st inst. in 11½ days from Liverpool. Extracts from the papers brought by her will be found in previous columns. The news is of considerable interest.

THE LEGISLATURE OF NOVA SCOTIA.—The Halifax papers of this week publish a circular letter addressed by the Provincial Secretary to each of the members of the Legislature, in which the reason for calling a meeting of the Assembly on the 20th of this month is stated to be, "for the purpose of considering the extent to which the interests of Nova Scotia proper are involved in the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case shortly to be argued before them, relative to the legality of the annexation of the Island of Cape Breton to Nova Scotia in 1820."

One thing seems certain, that the people of Cape Breton are much dissatisfied with the union, and are holding public meetings for the purpose of procuring a repeal of it—and public meetings, at least so says the Editor of the Palladium, "were the only means through which popular feeling sought an expression." One great cause of complaint with the Cape Bretonians is the inequality in the representation, involving, as it necessarily does, a disproportionate distribution of the revenue; to which it is to be added the want of punctuality on the part of the Judges in attending the sittings of the Supreme Court in that Island; for it would appear that although they are allowed to retain the