

PEACE.

Once more we are at peace. The tidings that the Plenipotentiaries recently assembled at Paris had at length brought their labours to a close by attaching their signatures to a treaty putting an end to the war, reached London on the afternoon of Sunday last, and was shortly afterwards proclaimed to the inhabitants of the metropolis by the firing of an extraordinary salute of 101 guns from the Park and Tower.

The return to a condition of peace, after however brief an episode of war, must necessarily be productive of a feeling of satisfaction in the people of a nation never prone to war for its own sake, and eminent above all others in the world for their knowledge of the value of peace, and for their activity, skill and power in improving, extending and multiplying its blessings. It would be wrong to say, therefore, that the boom of 101 guns, which broke the silence of Sunday evening, did not fall pleasantly on the ear of the Londoners. But it must at the same time be confessed that the pacific intimation which was thus conveyed, failed on this occasion to awaken or elicit any of that warm and lively enthusiasm which is commonly attendant upon the first announcement of a cessation of war. London, no doubt, was glad to know that there was peace; but London was not quite at ease as to what the nature of that peace might be; nor quite satisfied as to the wisdom or policy of the means by which it had been obtained. London, consequently, reserved its transports, and received the intelligence with more than a calm and modified expression of delight.

We are inclined to believe that the cool and half-apathetic feeling that exhibited in the metropolis will be very largely shared in by the country in general. Not that there exists in this kingdom any class or portion of the community that would be anxious to prolong the war for an instant beyond the period at which it could be properly closed; but because there unquestionably does exist, throughout the length and breadth of the land, a wide-spread apprehension that, under the jugglery of diplomacy, a peace may be concluded far different from that which the nation feels it could infallibly have conquered by the sword, and not completely consistent (as it is feared) with the objects for which the war was begun.

How far these apprehensions may be well or ill-founded, it is, at present, utterly impossible for us to say. The impenetrable secrecy which shrouded all the proceedings of the Plenipotentiaries while their deliberations were pending, is extended with equal jealousy to the conditions of the treaty in which their labours have resulted. All that we know is, that at 3 o'clock on the afternoon of Sunday, the 30th of March, the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, of Austria, of France, of Prussia, of Russia, of Sardinia and of Turkey—being then assembled at the Foreign-office, in Paris—affixed their signatures to a treaty, which the London Gazette extraordinary tells us "puts an end to the war; and while definitively settling the Eastern question, establishes the tranquillity of Europe on solid and durable bases." Further than this we have no information of any kind whatever. The Patrie, one of the most favoured organs of the Parisian press, tells us, that "the treaty is of a nature to give complete and legitimate satisfaction to the great interests for which France and England took up arms;" and the same journal, clearly writing to put the best possible face upon the treaty, afterwards says: "It is a glorious peace for us, and will be fruitful for all. The four guarantees are widely applied, and the fifth paragraph has been realized in such a manner as to give to Europe all the security she could demand, and without humiliating Russia." Our own Ministers, when questioned upon the subject, steadfastly refuse to give us any information at all. The laws of international etiquette forbid, they say, that any public notification should be made of the conditions of the treaty agreed to by the Plenipotentiaries until those conditions shall have been formally ratified by the sovereigns who were represented in the Congress. This formal ratification cannot possibly be accomplished within a shorter period than three weeks, during the whole of which time we are, it seems, to be left in complete darkness as to what the exact terms of the treaty may be. Lord Palmerston, however, is anxious to assure us that the peace to which he and his Government have been an assenting party, is a sound and good one. "Whilst I am precluded," said he, in reply to an interrogatory put to him by Mr. French on the first evening of the re-assembling of the House of Commons after the Easter recess, "from going into any detail of the conditions of the treaty, I have no hesitation in expressing my conviction that the treaty itself will be deemed satisfactory by this country and by Europe." "It will be found," he added, "that the objects for which the war was undertaken have been fully accomplished. It will be found that by the stipulations of the treaty the integrity and independence of the Turkish empire will be secured, as far as human arrangements can effect that purpose. It will be found that the treaty is honorable to all the Powers who are contracting parties to it, and while, on the one hand, it has put an end to a war which every friend to humanity must naturally have wished to see concluded, on the other hand it will lay the foundation of a peace which, I trust, so far at least as regards the circumstances out of which the war began, will be lasting and enduring."

With these generalities we must, we presume, for the present, remain contented; but three weeks, certainly, appear to be a long time to wait for that exact and precise information with respect to the terms of the treaty which we are all so anxious to acquire, and upon the right and honourable construction of which, the tranquillity of so broad a portion of the world's surface, and the interests and welfare of so many races of the human family, must immediately depend. If the British nation has received this intimation of the sudden termination of the war with less of enthusiasm than is commonly manifested on such occasions, it is not on that account to be concluded that the people of these kingdoms are indifferent to the blessings of peace, or unconscious of the advantages which flow from them. It may be confidently asserted that there is not on the face of the earth a community more wedded, by inclination and by interest, to the pursuits of peace than the English. But it must at the same time be confessed, that when the blast of war has once sounded in their ears—when a sense of national honour, or the conviction of some great public necessity has once summoned them to the field, there are no men less inclined to lay down their arms, or to abandon the struggle in which they are engaged, until they are fairly convinced that every object for which it was commenced has been fully and completely attained. It is the feeling of doubt upon this point, fostered by the secrecy under which the negotiations for peace have been conducted, that induces the people of England at this instant to withhold those expressions of rejoicing which the announcement of a cessation of the war would otherwise undoubtedly produce. After two years of severe and painful, but not inglorious trial, they have repaired the deficiencies occasioned by a long period of previous neglect, and are able at this moment to boast of a finer army in the field than any other power in Europe can possibly produce; whilst upon their more natural element, the sea, they have launched a navy such as the world never before saw. Under these circumstances, the people of England felt that they were in a condition to enforce upon the enemy, who wantonly provoked them to the combat, whatever terms they pleased; and it is only because they fear that the peace now concluded through the medium of diplomacy may be less honourable and less durable than that which they were fully prepared and resolved to win at the sword's point, that they are led to hesitate in the expression of delight which the announcement of peace would otherwise afford to them. We

TO THE OCCUPIERS OF THE WORRELL ESTATE.

GENTLEMEN.—The time is not far distant when I shall receive instructions to name a day, after which it will not be open to you to settle with the Government for your occupations. Those who at that period have not attended, (that is, accepted the offered terms), by the condition of the contract will be conveyed to the former owners, with all their debts and arrears, where they exist. It does not signify to the Government the fraction of a farthing how this terminates. The money released by the re-conveyance can be laid out elsewhere, where it may be wanted, and the advantages proffered to you will be realised by others.

I have thought it my duty, as much as my desire, to inform you of these facts. About two-thirds of the whole estate are disposed of, independently of a large number of occupations, held by persons whose intentions are known to me, and who, though up to this time they have paid no instalments, will shortly do so. The remainder, then, to whom I now address these lines, are but few, but I should be sorry if, in the sequel, there is one left not converted into a freeholder.

Now, I know you are or have been misled by a thousand misrepresentations, no matter whether they are real or only foolish; but as to the letter just now addressed to a certain portion of the people of King's County, by Mr. Cooper, read it with care, and if you can come to any other conclusion than that it aims at a subscription to take legal proceedings, which no lawyer in the Island will advise—I am mistaken. Now, it would be well before any man commits himself, to just enquire if Mr. Cooper has ever tried on this process himself, and he might also be asked, before he stimulates others to lose their property in law-suits or in subscriptions, how it happens that he being so strongly gifted with the spirit and doctrine of a martyr, did not resist legal processes instituted against him by his own landlord, and an account might as well be asked of a former subscription for the same or a similar purpose.

WILLIAM SWABEY.

May 3, 1856.

MOON'S PHASES.—MAY, 1856.

New Moon 4th day, 10h. 3m. morning. S. E.  
First Quarter 11th day, 4h. 6m. evening. S. E.  
Full Moon 19th day, 7h. 17m. evening. S. E.  
Last Quarter 26th day, 0h. 54m. morning. E.

THE EXAMINER.

CHARLOTTETOWN, MAY 5, 1856.

The Sailing packet *H. Ingram* arrived here on Friday evening from Pictou with a Colonial and United States Mails; but the papers reported furnish no news.

The Steamer *Lady le Merchant* arrived in port during the past week, the owner being on board, and expecting that the Government would employ his vessel as Mail Packet; but the exceedingly large amount which he asked for the services of his boat precluded, as we understand, the Government from engaging her. We trust we shall be enabled to give our readers, in our next No., full particulars respecting the arrangements proposed and yet to be made by the Government for the conveyance of the Mails.

MR. COOPER'S LETTER.—Having, since our last issue, read Mr. Cooper's letter, which he has the modesty to think all the papers should publish for him, and finding that it is chiefly occupied in repeating the old arguments on the old worn out story of Escheat, we feel that it would be an insult to the common sense of the community to give further publicity to the nonsense. During the last Session Mr. Cooper voted with the Tory party on almost every division; aye, even when the proprietors' memorials were under discussion, he advocated proprietary interests, and voted against a censure being cast upon the memorialists for the manner in which they libelled the inhabitants of this Island! He is a fine fellow, truly, to profess a friendship for the tenantry of this Island, and to seek to re-establish his popularity by addressing them letters through the newspapers! But one thing he may be sure of—that this press shall not be lent to further his nefarious designs;—on the contrary, we deem it our duty to make known his apostasy, and to exhibit his actions in the House of Assembly in their true light; and to the discharge of this duty we shall shortly apply ourselves, when we shall review the legislation of the last Session.

We understand that the Gut of Canso is completely blocked up with ice, which accounts for the non-arrival of the spring vessels at this port.

The season is unprecedentedly backward—the weather being colder than it was a month ago, and farming operations can scarcely be said to have commenced.

We complete in our present No. the publication of the Debates and Proceedings of the Legislative Council for the past Session. Never before, we believe, have the proceedings of that Branch been so fully reported. We will give in our next and succeeding Nos. the debates of the House of Assembly, so far as they have been reported for this paper, together with our usual summary of the proceedings up to the close of the Session.

WE are requested to state that the notice of marriage of Daniel Baker to Miss Elizabeth McKay, of St. Peter's Bay, alleged to have taken place at Georgetown, which notice appeared in THE EXAMINER of the 21st ult.—is a gross fabrication—no such marriage having taken place. We are not now aware from whence the notice was obtained, but it is evident enough that it originated with some worthless scoundrel about Georgetown.

ANOTHER Colonial and United States mail arrived here at a late hour on Sunday night. The Steamship *Persia* had arrived at New York with one week's later advices from Europe; but there appears to have been no news brought by her.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM EUROPE.

On Thursday evening last the English Mail arrived in this place, but brought us no intelligence further than the details respecting the signing of the Treaty of Peace, which we were enabled to announce last week by means of a telegraphic communication from New York. The conditions of the Peace are yet unknown, and it is said would remain so for about three or four weeks from the time the Mail Packet left England. That much general satisfaction was felt in England at the conclusion of the war, is evident enough from the tone of the English press; but considerable doubt remains as to whether the immense sacrifices of the war have been counterbalanced by the advantages of the Peace Treaty. The fact is, John Bull seems to apprehend that, though not beaten in the field, he has been out-generalled in the Cabinet by the clever diplomatists from St. Petersburg. However, it would be premature to express any decided opinion until the articles of the treaty are known to us. We give the following extracts from our latest papers respecting the Treaty.

building adjoining, occupied by Jeremiah Stimson, as a store-house for carpenter material, was also crushed in.

Soon after four o'clock the immense building was a mass of ruins, and it was with great difficulty that the adjoining property was saved from destruction, the flying embers setting buildings on fire in every direction. The well directed efforts of the Fire Department of this city, however, with the efficient aid received from abroad, confined the destruction to the immediate vicinity of the building destroyed.

The Market was erected some four years since by Mr. George W. Gerrish, and probably cost from \$75,000 to \$100,000. It was insured to the amount of \$40,000, a policy of \$40,000 having expired a few days since.

The Printing and Book-binding establishment of Sanborn, Carter & Bazue, booksellers, Cornhill, occupied several of the upper stories. They employed about sixty hands, forty of whom were girls. They had a new and valuable steam engine, and two fine Adams' presses, which, together with \$5000 worth of printing paper, about \$15,000 worth of book and printed sheets ready for binding, besides all their binding tools and stocks, were totally destroyed. Their insurance but partially covers their loss—some \$35,000 in all.

A portion of the upper stories was occupied by Miss E. Boyle, who manufactured clothing for many of our wholesale firms, employing about seventy-five girls, and thirty sewing machines. The girls, when the alarm was given, were not at first aware that the building was on fire, and when they became aware of the fact were greatly alarmed, and pressed in a mass down the stairway, some of them in a fainting condition. Miss Boyle had just completed 3000 pairs of pantaloons, all of which were waiting to be sent home.

On the second floor was the chamber furniture establishment of Mr. George A. Sampson. His stock, valued at \$10,000, was in possession of a Mr. Haley, and, it is feared, is not insured. The occupants of the Market Stalls, believing that the fire would not reach them, did not remove their stocks, which was all destroyed. They lost every thing.

The fourth floor was occupied by A. & M. Lowe, pianoforte makers; Barnard & Dillingham, furniture painters; Josiah Walcott, ornamental painter; Boyes, Shore & Co., painters, and others.

John DeHuff, pianoforte maker, saved a small portion of his finished work. Messrs. White & King, polishers of ornamental woods, had a valuable stock on hand. It was insured for only one-third of its value. Messrs. Boyce, Shore & Co, furniture dealers, lost every thing. There were many others, too numerous to mention, who are losers to a greater or less extent.

The heat of the fire caused the gas in a cesspool, at the corner of Friend and Merrimack streets, to explode, by which three men were somewhat hurt, though not seriously. Upon hearing the explosion, the cry was raised of "Powder!" and the multitude fell back in all directions. An old man was thrown down in Friend street, and at least a hundred people trampled upon him before he regained his feet.

By the falling of a portion of a chimney on the Merrimack House, two little girls—Emma Dyke, aged ten years, and Sarah Adams, aged thirteen, who were standing on the sidewalk beneath—were very seriously injured, the latter dangerously so, her skull having been fractured. The former was struck by a brick, the sharp corner of which peeled the flesh from her entire forehead. She is the daughter of Mr. Wm. Dyke, shoe dealer, in Hanover street. The latter is the daughter of Mr. Wm. Adams, safe-maker, in Fulton street. It was at first thought that her wounds were mortal, but yesterday there were hopes of her recovery.

A vast number of persons visited the scene of the fire yesterday. A few fragments of the wall now only remain of the vast building which occupied the spot on Saturday morning last. The total loss is estimated at \$250,000. The insurance is probably nearly \$100,000 short of the loss. It is not known how the fire originated, but it is supposed to have caught in the bindery of Messrs. Sanborn, Carter & Bazue. There were numerous reports of afloat on Saturday of firemen and others being killed and buried in the ruins; but as far as I can learn they are all untrue, and only the accidents recorded above occurred.

On Monday morning last, the passenger depot of the Boston and Worcester Railroad Company, at Framingham, was destroyed by fire, together with a blacksmith's shop adjoining; loss estimated at \$10,000. The heat was so great that several of the rails on the track were warped by it, and had to be repaired. Last month there were 32 fires in the United States, where the loss in each was \$10,000 and upwards, and 15 were of manufactories. The total loss was a million of dollars. The losses by fire for the three months of the year were \$3,094,000.

We await with interest the arrival of further news as to the progress of hostilities between Walker and Costa Rica, and any speculation as to the result would be idle. The U. S. government, it appears, is not disposed to interfere; but a despatch from Washington announces that the English and French ministers there have declared that troops will be landed from their respective squadrons off Central America, to aid Costa Rica. This, if true, may lead to difficulty and unpleasant "complications." Three men were seized on board the steamer at New York on Tuesday, as she was about sailing for San Juan, charged with organizing a body of armed men to proceed to Nicaragua. The scene was one of great excitement. The *Orizaba* had some 500 passengers, and although only three were arrested, it is said that over 300 were unquestionably for General Walker's army.

Two hundred recruits left New Orleans April 10th, in the steamship *Charles Morgan*, to join Gen. Walker's forces. Gen. Hornsby was among the passengers. A report presented at a Sunday School Convention in Lynchburg, Va., proves that one-fifth of the white population of that great State cannot read, and three-fifths of the young people between five and twenty years of age attend no school.

Accounts from Illinois represent the coming wheat harvest as likely to be as good as the last, and much larger than ever before harvested in the country. Mr. James I. McCobb, a "Liberal," or Anti-Maine-Law man, has been elected Mayor of Portland.

On the sunny shores of Cape Cod they are raising the white, or Weymouth pine, from the seed, which is planted in hills like corn, where the soil will produce nothing else. The ship *Enoch Train*, now expected at this port, has on board 529 Mormon emigrants, of whom 411 are adults, 98 are children and 20 are infants. All but seven or eight of them will leave immediately after their arrival for Utah.

On Saturday last a number of laborers in the Lamp Establishment of Mr. William Carleton, Beach street, were in the act of pouring red nitric acid from a carboy containing one hundred and thirty-three pounds, when from some cause, the carboy broke and the fiery liquid poured over the floor. The men in the room instead of instantly leaving, tried to remedy the evil by throwing sand upon it, which only increased the trouble and soon filled the room with a noxious and deadly gas. At this moment, the proprietor of the establishment arrived, and seeing what had occurred, at once ordered the workmen out of the room and took prompt and effective measures to remedy the evil. The workmen all appeared as well as usual when they were paid off late in the afternoon, performed their usual home duties and went to market in the evening, walking home without trouble.

During that night, however, two of the workmen were suddenly seized with a violent attack of internal heat and burning, accompanied with intense pain. Physicians were at once sent for, and all the known remedies were applied, but the powerful acid had worked such serious internal injury that it was of no avail. One of them died at three and the other at five o'clock yesterday afternoon. Their names are, Jacob Geer, about 50 years of age, a resident of Middlesex street. He has worked for Mr. Carleton about twenty-five years, and leaves a wife and several grown up children. Joseph Cross, 26 years of age, resided in Plymouth street.

Of the other workmen John Lary, of Plymouth st., experienced yesterday ill effects from the inhalation, but is now doing well; Albert Burl, of Ruggles street, Roxbury, was somewhat affected—is recovering; Joseph Hermes was well yesterday forenoon, and went to meeting—upon hearing of the death of his fellow-workmen, however, he had a somewhat similar attack, but nothing serious is apprehended.

The spring trade is becoming brisk, vessels are arriving fast, and our wharves and commercial thoroughfares present a scene of lively activity. The weather has been as warm as 72 deg Fahrenheit—farmers are putting in their crops, and gardeners are busily engaged trimming fruit trees, &c. In fact, nature has awakened, and shaken off the chills of winter, and the pleasantest season of the year is upon us.

Yours &c., NATIVE.

Hon. COLONEL SWABEY.—At the time of the Reform Bill in England, two principles were submitted as the basis of representation—that of population was one of them, and it was repudiated. Many places, such as Manchester in England, or St. Eleanor's or Summerside here, might be so differently situated as regards the particular interests to be represented, and the capital invested. In France the rural districts were represented according to population, but the case of the towns and cities was different.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL agreed in the abstract with the principle of representation according to population; but he believed that the Bill had been drawn up with a view to unite, as far as the circumstances of the case would permit, the two principles of territory and population.

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE was not present when the Bill was introduced, but supposed, as it had been advocated by the Hon. Col. Swabey, a member of the Executive Council, that it was a Government measure.

Hon. COLONEL SWABEY had expressly declared it was not.

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE would, in that case, like to hear the reason why it should not be. It was now five years since Responsible Government was introduced, and yet important measures were not introduced by the Government. Such a Bill as this should certainly be a Government measure. He did not oppose the Bill; the Franchise Bill added to the representation of the country. Responsible Government rendered necessary an increase in the Lower House, as also in the Upper. In the lower branch no less than five or six out of twenty-four members were in the receipt of salaries, and it would doubtless be for the general good that the number of independent members should be increased. At their own Board four hon. members had seats in the Executive Council, out of a Board which, when full, comprised but twelve. Therefore, if the Government were sincerely desirous to improve the institutions, they should add to the Council. It is reasonable to suppose that a certain number will always be found to side with the Government here, and thus keep them in a perpetual majority. He was surprised that it was not avowed to be a Government measure, because when it was introduced by a private member it was liable to the suspicion of being designed for electioneering purposes, to secure imperilled seats. If it were a Government measure, such suspicion would not attach. His Honor the PRESIDENT.—The suspicion would in that case be doubled.

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE.—It was, I believe, introduced into the House of Assembly by a semi-official member. If the increase of population required an increase of representation, it would be proper to advance step by step as it increased, and let the representation keep pace with the population.

Hon. Mr. WALKER would state, in answer to the allusion made by his Honor, that the introducer of the Bill into the House of Assembly, the Hon. Mr. Whelan, has struck off from his present district a Township (No. 55) where his support has always been almost unanimous, but about twelve persons voting against him.

The Hon. COLONEL SWABEY had omitted to state that, and he considered that the argument that the increase of the number of independent members would do away with any undue preponderance of office-holders in the Assembly, was of great weight in favour of the Bill.

His Honor the PRESIDENT.—There are but five office-holders in the Assembly.

Hon. Mr. HAYTHORNE had always supported Responsible Government without office. He thought the Bill was being passed prematurely. There were no petitions to shew the sentiments of the people, who certainly, on a measure of this nature, should have time to express their views. There were no means of ascertaining whether it was a popular measure or not. It had been introduced into the House of Assembly at the latter end of March, before the people had any notice that such measure was in contemplation. He would wish the Bill to be printed, and remain over till next session. It was probable that the Bill, if it pass, would not be allowed to remain in abeyance for two years, but as it might not be acted on before that time, he would, in consideration of that and of the late period of the session at which it was introduced, move that it be printed for general circulation, and be considered next session.

After some unimportant conversation, the amendment was lost, and progress was reported.

SATURDAY, April 12.

The Election Bill was re-committed and agreed to with amendments, as was also the Revenue Bill. The Weights and Measures Bill was committed and agreed to. The Appropriation Bill was read a third time and passed.

MONDAY, April 14.

The Weights and Measures Bill was read a third time and passed, as also the Election Bill.

On motion of the Hon. COLONEL SWABEY, the Address from the joint Committee on the subject of the Memorials against the Rent Roll and Tenants' Compensation Bills, which had been agreed to by the House of Assembly, was adopted by the Council.

And thus terminated the proceedings of the Legislative Council for the Session of 1856.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE EXAMINER.

BOSTON, April 14, 1856.

DEAR SIR.—Our city has been visited by another of those extensive conflagrations which are the continual dread of inhabitants of all large cities, and which cause so much ruin, not to the owners of buildings alone, for they are generally pretty well insured, but to the occupiers whose whole capital is invested in their business, and who from neglect, and often want of means, have to run the risk of all disasters by fire.

At about one o'clock on Saturday, the six story brick building on the corner of Portland and Sudbury Streets, extending to Friend Street, known as the Gerrish Market, was discovered to be on fire in the upper stories. The wind was strong, added to which the portion of the building on fire was filled with inflammable material, causing the flames to spread with great rapidity. It was at first believed that the lower parts of the building would be saved, but gradually story after story was destroyed, until the whole building was a mass of ruins, the falling of the walls in various directions prevented the firemen from having a hand-to-hand encounter with the flames. The dense smoke of the fire was seen for a great distance in the country, and engines from all quarters soon reached the city, including the Departments of Cambridge, Charlestown, Roxbury and many other places. At about two o'clock, the steam fire engine, Miles Greenwood, which on that day had been reported by Chief Engineer Smith as in a working condition, was ordered to the fire by Mayor Rice, and reached Haymarket Square, where it was placed and soon commenced to throw two powerful streams upon the fire, thus liberating most of the hand engines for the protection of the adjoining property, which, at one time, was in great danger.

It was soon apparent that the walls of the building, as the wood work was burnt away, would fall, and precautions were taken to prevent any injury therefrom, both firemen and spectators keeping at a respectable distance. This fear was fully realized, and before half past two o'clock crash after crash was heard, by which adjoining buildings were destroyed or badly damaged, and the loss of property greatly increased. By the fall of the westerly gable end, the sash and blind establishment of Jerome Bolles, 34 Friend street, was totally destroyed—a building three stories high, and which had lately been improved by the proprietor, but which, under the pressure of the immense weight of brick thrown upon it, seemed to almost disappear from sight, crumbling to pieces in an astonishing manner. A