land of Judah, and re-echoed from the ends of the earth—We have a strong city, salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks.—Isa. xxv. 1. O Lord, I will praise thee; though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortest me. Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid; for Jehovah, Jehovah, is my strength and my song; he also is become my salvation.—Isa. xii.

May the Lord hasten it in his time.—Isa. lx. 22.

In name and by appointment of the General Assembly,

ROBERT GORDON, Moderator.

May, 1841.

THE STORMING OF CIUDAD RODRIGO.

From "Charles O'Malley."

Whatever the levity of the previous moment, the scene before us now repressed it effectually. The deep-toned bell of the cathedral tolled seven, and scarcely were its notes dying away in the distance when the march of the columns was heard stealing along the ground. A low murmuring whisper ran along the advanced files of the forlorn hope: stocks were loosened, packs and knapsacks thrown to the ground; each man pressed his cap more firmly down upon his brow, and, with lip compressed and steadfast eye, waited for the word to move.

It came at last; the word "march!" passed in whispers from rank to rank, and the dark mass moved on. What a moment was that, as we advanced to the foot of the breach! The consciousness that, at the same instant from different points of that vast plain, similar parties were moving on; the feeling that, at a word, the flame of the artillery and the flash of steel would spring from that dense cloud, and death and carnage in every shape our imagination can conceive be dealt on all sides. The hurried fitful thought of home; the years long past, compressed into one minute's space; the last adieu to all we've loved, mingling with the muttered prayer to heaven, while, high above all, the deep pervading sense that earth has no temptation strong enough to turn us from that path whose ending must be a sepulchre.

Each heart was too full for words. We followed noiselessly along the turf the dark figure of our leader guiding us through the gloom. On arriving at the ditch, the party with the ladders moved to the front. Already some hay sacks were thrown in, and the forlorn hope sprang forward.

All was still and silent as the grave. "Quietly, my men—quietly!" said M'Kinnon; "don't mind." Scarcely had he spoke when a musket, whose charge, contrary to orders, had not been drawn, went off. The whizzing bullet could not have struck the wall, when suddenly a bright flame burst forth from the ramparts, and shot upwards towards the sky. For an instant the whole scene before us was as bright as noonday. On one side the dark ranks and glistening bayonets of the enemy; on the other, the red uniform of the British columns; compressed like solid wall, they stretched along the plain.

A deafening roll of musketry from the extreme right announced that the third division was already in action, while the loud cry of our leader, as he sprang into the trench, summoned us to the charge. The leading sections, not waiting for the ladders, jumped down, others pressed rapidly behind them, when a loud rumbling thunder crept along the earth, a hissing crackling noise followed, and from the dark ditch a forked and livid lightning burst like the flame from a volcano, and a mine exploded. Hundreds of shells and grenades scattered along the ground were ignited at the same moment; the air sparkled with the whizzing fuses, the musketry plied incessantly from the walls, and every man of the leading company of the stormers was blown to pieces. While this dreadful catastrophe was enacting before our eyes, the different assaults were made on all sides; the whole fortress seemed girt around with fire. From every part arose the yells of triumph and the shouts of the assailants. As for us, we stood upon the verge of the ditch breathless, hesitating, and horror-struck. A sudden darkness succeeded to the bright glare, but from the midst of the gloom the agonising cries of the wounded and the dying rent our very hearts.

"Make way, there! make way! here comes Mackie's party," cried an officer in the front, and as he spoke the forlorn hope of the eighty-eight came forward at a run; jumping recklessly into the ditch, they made towards the breach; the supporting division of stormers gave one inspiring cheer, and sprang after them. The rush was tremendous; for scarcely had we reached the crumbling ruins of the rampart, when the vast column, pressing on like some mighty torrent, bore down upon our rear. Now commenced a scene to which nothing I ever before conceived of war, could in any degree compare; the whole ground, covered with combustibles of every deadly and destructive contrivance, was rent open with a crash; the huge masses of masonry bounded into the air like things of no weight; the ringing clangour of the iron howitzers, the crackling of the fuses, the blazing splinters, the shouts of defiance, the more than savage yell of those in whose ranks alone the dead and the dying were numbered, made up a mass of sights and sounds almost maddening with their excitement. On we struggled; the mutilated bodies of the leading files almost filling the way.

By this time the third division had joined us, and the crush of our thickening ranks was dreadful; every moment some well-known leader fell dead or mortally wounded, and his place was supplied by some gallant fellow, who springing from the leading files, would scarcely have uttered his cheer of encouragement, ere he himself was laid low. Many a voice, with whose notes I was familiar, would break upon my ear in tones of heroic daring, and the next moment burst forth in a death-cry. For above a hour the frightful carnage continued, fresh troops continually advancing, but scarcely a foot of ground was made; the earth belched forth its volcanic fires, and that terrible barrier did no man pass. In turn the bravest and the boldest would leap into the whizzing flame, and the taunting cheers of the enemy triumphed in derision at the effort.

"Stormers, to the front! only the bayonet! trust to nothing but the bayonet," cried a voice whose almost cheerful accents contrasted strangely with the death notes around, and Sirwood, who led the forlorn hope of the fifty-second, bounded into the chasm; all the officers sprang simultaneously after him; the men pressed madly on; a roll of withering musketry crashed upon them; a furious shout replied to it. The British, springing over the dead and the dying, bounded like blood-hounds on their prey. Meanwhile, the ramparts trembled beneath the tramp of the light division, who, having forced the lesser breach, came down upon the flank of the French. The garrison, however, thickened their numbers, and bravely held the ground. Man to man was now the combat. No cry for quarter. No supplicating look for mercy; it was the death struggle of ten years' and despair. At this instant, an explosion louder than the loudest thunder shook the air; the rent and torn up ramparts sprang into the sky; the conquering and the conquered were alike the victims; for one of the great magazines had been ignited by a shell; the dark smoke, streaked with a lurid flame, hung above the dead and the dying. The artillery and the murderous musketry were stilled, paralyzed, as it were, by the ruin and devastation whose theme; both sides stood leaning upon their arms; the pause was but momentary; the cries of wounded comrades called upon their ears. A hoarse burst of vengeance rent the air; the British closed upon the foe; for one short hour they worked; the next, the bayonets descended upon the ramparts and Ciudad Rodrigo was won.

"I ought to be sick now," as the duck said when he was stuffed with sage.

RAILWAYS IN BRITISH INDIA.

We find in the *Railway Magazine*, the following magnificent scheme for a grand system of railways in India. Some of the lines pointed out, are, we suspect, not very feasible; but we quote the article as a proof of the increasing attention paid in England to matters connected with India.

"The legislature having been pleased lately to equalize the duties between the produce of the East Indies and our other colonies, I beg to suggest to your readers, and especially to railway speculators, the following scheme, for a grand system of railways in India, which would lay open the interior of that magnificent country to its ports, and diffuse energy and commerce all through its provinces. I shall commence my scheme with

"No. 1. In the Island of Ceylon, from Kandy, the capital, to Trincomalee, a naval station. This would follow the course of the Mahawalle Ganga River, and be about 130 miles long with a rise of 100 feet. (See Forbes's *Ceylon*.)

"2. In the southern parts of India, from Seringapatam to the Bay of Bengal, at Port Novo, following the rivers Cauvery and Coleroon. This would open all the Mysore territory, which is about the extent of Ireland. Probable length about 200 miles, and branches might be made to Bangalore, Coimbatore, and Tanjore, all considerable cities.

"3. Madras to Arcot, about seventy miles, on a dead level, and a very rich country. Madras contains 800,000 inhabitants.

"4. Poona (250,000 inhabitants,) on the eastern side of the Ghauts, near the river Moola-Moola, one of the tributaries of the Kistna, following the course of the water to Hyderbad (the Nizam's capital, about 130,000 inhabitants,) and thence to the great river Kistna. Probable length 250 miles.

"5. Poona, to some town on the great river Godavery, at which the river becomes navigable for steamers. About the same length.

"These two lines would open a large tract of country to the sea coast, containing about twenty millions of inhabitants.

"6. Surat, on the Tapta (a fine seaport on the western side of India,) to Nagpoor and Amhona, on the Wide Ganga, a large tributary of the Godavery. This is the first line to unite the sea on the eastern and western sides of India, and would be probably 400 miles long.

"7. A line to join the above at Nagpore to the river Nerbudda (about 700 miles in length,) to connect that river with the Bay of Bengal. It might be 130 miles long, and would connect the two seas, through a rich and populous territory.

"8, Cambay to Hyderbad, on the Indus. This line would decidedly give this country the complete command of the mouths and navigation of the Indus, but it seems questionable if the whole line could be practicable, in consequence of a tract of land called, in the *Useful Knowledge Society's* maps, "Thurr, on the Little Desert," intervening. If practicable, probable length about 350 miles.

"9. Another line from Cambay, to connect that coast and gulf with the upper part of the Ganges. This would follow the course of the Myhe, to its head waters, which interlock with those of the Chumbul, a large tributary of the Ganges. Probable length, 300 miles. A branch to Baroda, and the Nerbodda, about seventy miles, might be made.

"10. Balasore, (a sea port on the Bay of Bengal, 150 miles south-west from Calcutta) to Benares, through the western part of Bengal, and the heart of Behar to Benares (above 600,000 inhabitants,) on the Upper Ganges. This would bring all the produce of Upper India to Balasore, an excellent port on the sea-coast, avoiding a tedious navigation of nearly 400 miles. It would also go through the coal district of Burwadeh, whence a branch might be made to Calcutta. Probable length, 300 miles.

"11. Benares to Lucknow, capital of Oude, with 220,000 inhabitants, which would lay open a fertile kingdom to British enterprise. Probable length, 200 miles, along the banks of a river.

"12, and last. Agra, by Delhi, (two large cities) Loodiana, and Humeerpore, to Lahore. This line would connect the waters of the Ganges and the Indus, the two largest rivers in India. In its course it would cross the Sutledge, also a large river in the Punjab. Length about 400 miles. A branch might be made to Ajmere (a large city) and following the course of the Loony, join No. 8, near Cutch, on the east coast.

"These lines would therefore make two communications, between the Ganges and the Arabian Sea, and one from the Ganges to the Bay of Bengal, avoiding a dangerous and intricate navigation, and also making two lines across the Peninsula, and between large navigable rivers, flowing into different seas. I thus beg to bring before your notice a system of railways for our Eastern Empire, to an extent of nearly 4,000 miles, running through fertile and populous countries. The empire of Hindostan, under British rule or influence, is calculated to have a population of the million [illegible] Would any one of these lines invert some portion of the surplus capital of the country, and invest it in so large a field for enterprize? In India, land is cheap; labour the like; teak, wood, and stone, to be had for the cutting; and, though last, not least to be considered, it would be a certain means of developing the resources, of, and consolidating our immense Empire in the East."

DESCRIPTION OF MALTA.

Of Malta and its appearance says Captain Marryat "Of all the scraggy, calcined, dusty looking places I ever have seen in any part of the world, Malta, Gozo, and the little island of Comino, which stands between them, bear off the palm for apparent sterility. The Island of Ascension is no doubt a great deal more desolate than Malta, but it is so decidedly volcanic, and bears such evident traces of recent eruptions, that its story is told at the first glance. It pretends to being nothing more than a heap of scoriæ, streams of lava, and cones of ashes. Whereas Malta, with its fortifications, palaces and gardens—its historical recollections, its knights, its sieges and battles, lays claim to something more, and we are proportionately disappointed to see such a fire-brick looking place as it is.

In the midst of such a scene the Captain remarks, it is interesting to see how the English contrive to carry the comforts of their father-land with them, making of every place a home.

"At Valletta," says the Captain, "we dined with one of the most agreeable persons in the world, a gentleman well known in the world of letters and diplomacy, and who, though he might command the best society in London and Paris, and would be gladly received in either as one of its most accomplished members, chooses, from a love of the climate, to expatriate himself to this distant spot. But, in truth, a person of this stamp can never be said to expatriate himself. The wide world is his true country—and though the range of any human benevolence must be limited, there is no reason why the circle of so good a man's influence should be smaller at one place than at another. When, therefore, we regret that the country of such a person is lost to us at home, we should recollect how much more severely his loss would sore he felt on the spot which he appears to have selected for the rest of his life."—[Malta Times.

From the Literary Gazette.

NAVIGATION OF THE EUPHRATES.

A short time ago there appeared in the newspapers a brief statement of the arrival of two steamers at Balis, (or Beles) on the Euphrates. Our readers, who all along had full and complete accounts of Euphrates expedition, will be glad to hear of the successful termination of this enterprise. It will be remembered that after the loss of the Tigris steamer, the Euphrates attempted the ascent, but failed on account of her deep draught of water, which amounted to three feet, while the Tigris only drew eighteen inches. Colonel Chesney and the officers of the Euphrates having returned to England, the charge of the steamer left was entrusted to Capt. Lynch, of the Indian navy, who, between that period and the present, effected two very remarkable exploits; first, the ascent of the river Tigris as far as close to where it receives the Great Zab, and where he was not stopped by want of water, but by the force of the current; the second was, to take the steamer from the river Tigris to the Euphrates, by the most southerly of the canals on the alluvial plain of Babylonia. In the accomplishment of this last task, the paddle boxes were some time both suspended over land and dry ground.

Government, however, never abandoned the original undertaking; and, between that period and this, no fewer than four iron steamers, of light draught of water, and constructed for river service, have been sent out to the Euphrates, but, unhappily, with all the good results, as the ascent of that great river would have been before all supposed. Two of these steamers (we believe the Nitocris and Nemrod) have now accomplished what puts beyond all doubt the long-vexed question as to the possibility of navigating the river Euphrates.

We are not, at the twelfth hour, going to run over again the important commercial and political advantages, and, still more, the great advantages to progressive civilization, which the opening of such a navigation offers to Great Britain, and to sympathising humanity, wherever it is to be found. Let us hope that, while other nations are talking of these things England will be doing them.

Elopement in High Life in Belgium.—A considerable sensation was recently excited in Brussels, in consequence of the sudden elopement of the daughter of one of the members of the Chamber of Peers and of the Belgian Government, with a Belgian of high family and agreeable manners. The young lady who is described as being exceedingly beautiful and accomplished, is in her 19th year, and one of the richest heiresses in Belgium, it being reported that upon her arriving at age she would become possessed of no less a sum than £32,000 per annum (English money.) The young lady became acquainted with her abductor through the medium of her maid, and secret correspondence had been carried on for months prior to the elopement, which took place about a month since, the parties coming to England direct by an Antwerp steam-ship. The father of the young lady soon discovered his daughter's flight, and learning the route taken he proceeded direct to England; being most intimately acquainted with M. Van de Weyer, the British minister, he lost no time in applying to him for assistance. That functionary immediately despatched his attaché to the Police Commissioners' office to request their assistance, and next morning obtained the consent of the Home Secretary to allow of the service of the Metropolitan Police being made use of in discovering the retreat of the lovers. Two of the inspectors of the A division, Messrs. Hughes and Partridge, were employed in the affair; and after a great deal of trouble and exertion, Inspector Hughes succeeded in tracing the fugitives to the Saracen's Head, Snowhill, the first inn they had stopped at on their arrival in London. From thence they were traced to different hotels and lodging houses in the west-end, and at some of which apartments had only been nominally taken with the intention of blinding those in pursuit of them. At last the party was found located in a lodging in Albany-street, Regent's-park. The Inspector, in the course of his inquiries, ascertained that the banns had been put up at no less than six churches; and on the day subsequent to the lady's capture she would have been married at a Lutheran chapel in the neighborhood of Bedford-square, of which a Belgian is the clergyman. Inspector Hughes, having discovered the retreat of the lady, lost no time in communicating with her parent, who accompanied him to a public house opposite from the window of which they could watch the movements of the inmates. In a short time the lady's maid showed herself at the window, and she was instantly recognized by the young lady's father. After waiting a considerable time longer the gentleman who had eloped with the lady left the house, and immediately he was out of sight the father made his appearance before his astonished daughter, whom he took with all possible speed to the residence of the Belgian Minister. On the same evening (Saturday last) a post-chaise was ordered, and the father, daughter, maid, and the inspector proceeded to Dover, which place the latter person did not leave till Sunday afternoon, having seen the young lady and her father safe on board a Calais packet. The names of the parties figuring in the above have been kept a profound secret. It is said that the gentleman who brought the young lady from Brussels recently held a situation of some eminence in the Belgian government.

Simple Remedy.—A Quaker was once advising a drunkard to leave off his ruinous habit of drinking intoxicating liquors.

Can you tell me how to do it? said the slave of his appetite.

Quaker.—It is just as easy as it is to open thy hand.

Drunkard.—Convince me of that, and I promise you, upon my honor, that I will do as you tell me.

Quaker.—Well, friend, whenever thou findest any vessel of intoxicating liquor in thy hand, open the hand that contains it, before it reaches thy mouth, and thou will never be drunk again.

The toper was so pleased with this plain advice that he followed it, and was a toper no more.

[illegible] have been paid for the convenient and painful prescriptions, which were worth far less than this. We publish it gratis for the benefit of those who may be afflicted with the disease it is intended for.—[Yankee Cabinet.

Merited Retort.—Madame D. had a magnificent Cat. M. de C. amused himself one day by killing it, for want of something else to shoot. Madame D. caused to be set in her own house, and in the houses of her friends, all sorts of mouse-traps; and and when three or four hundred mice were caught, she had them put into a box, which was forwarded to Madame de C. at her country-house. The lady eagerly opened the box herself, expecting to find in it some new modes; while at the bottom of the box was found a note directed to Madame de C.:—"Madame, your husband has killed my cat—I send you my mice.—[Alphonse Karr.

Liberty, Law, and the Constitution.—Here is a scrap of precious cute reasoning from the speech of a candidate for Congress. Read it!—"Fellet Citizens! Railroads is unconstitutional, for the constitution don't say nothing 'bout railroads. Banks is ditto, 'cause the constitution don't say nothing, 'bout banks. Read it, feller citizens, read it—and see how it has been trod under foot. Here has Congress, for instance been, for time out o' mind, building light houses. What right had they to building light houses, I'd like to know? Not a bit, feller citizens, for the constitution *expressly* dont say one word 'bout light houses! I go in for 'bolishin' light houses, feller citizens, and 'bollished they must be, or we never can call ourselves freemen! Our forefathers fit and bled, and why shouldn't we do the same? (Cheers.) Yes, we'll fight for Congress for 90 cents a day, till all unconstitutionality is 'staminated." (Immense cheering.)

THERE THE DISTINCTION between man and man, throughout all the relations of society,—and you will invariably find the difference to arise from the scarcity or plentitude in which they possess the root of all evil—MONEY.

Argument.—A woman's, the broomstick; a Yankee politician's, the bowie knife; a fool's, many words about nothing; a wise man's, comparative silence; a soldier's, his sword; a coward's, treachery.

Rule in Friendly Intercourse.—Never suppose that close familiarity with a friend will justify a forgetfulness or neglect of politeness and courtesy.

An Extraordinary Bequest.—A person named August, lately residing in Cambridge England, being possessed of some real property, devised it, or part of it, to a nurse, upon condition, that before he was buried, *his head should be cut off*, he having for many years previous to his death been under an apprehension he should be buried alive. He died a week or two ago. His extraordinary will was complied with, and the nurse of course took and obtained the property.

A Cast-Iron Light House. Among the wonders of this wonder-working age, is mentioned a light house of cast iron, which is now nearly completed in London, intended to be placed on a dangerous reef of rocks at Mount Point, in the Island of Jamaica. The light house is 100 feet high, and 18 44 feet in diameter at the base.

MOVEMENTS OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE DE JOINVILLE.

Since the arrival of this distinguished personage in this, the first city of Nova Scotia, he has been the universal theme of discourse, and all parties have been forward in greeting him with the deference due to his nation and to the rank he occupies among her high-born sons. A deference not only honorable to British feeling, but which must be gratifying to himself.

On Thursday His Royal Highness dined at the Government House, where he met a small party of ladies and gentlemen, in the evening His Royal Highness had received a card of invitation to the Regatta Ball on the evening of Tuesday, but was not present at that "Festive scene"—having retired to his ship from the Government House soon after ten o'clock.

Yesterday between eleven and twelve o'clock, His Excellency Viscount Falkland and suite, in company with Sir Jeremiah Dickson and suite, visited his Royal Highness on board of the Belle Poule, from which a salute was fired in honor of the visit. His Royal Highness conducted the party through his magnificent vessel, and when they had retired, came on shore to accept of an invitation to view the fortifications on the Citadel Hill. He was shown through them by the Commandant Lt. Colonel R. Jones, K. H., R. E.; and expressed his admiration at the strength and solidity of the works. After this, His Royal Highness visited Her Majesty's Ship Winchester, and was received by a Royal Salute, and that beautiful display—manning the Yards.

Last evening, His Royal Highness attended a Grand Ball at the Government House, given in honour of his visit to this city. The Band of the La Belle Poule was there, and enlivened the gay party with some of the most exquisite airs of the great modern professors of composing. The Prince had a fair opportunity of witnessing the Beauty of our metropolis in a most fascinating atmosphere,—and we doubt not that many a *jolie demoiselle*, while glancing at the fine figures of the French Officers, and mingling in the mazy dance, keeping time with strains of melody such as are heard in the far famed saloons of Paris,—and listening to the soft accents of the French language, has felt a not impeachment whispering in very good English—

"If music be the food of love, pay on!"

The Prince's Band is one of uncommon excellence—distinguished even in France for its superiority.

We have heard that Commodore Douglas will, to-day, have the honour of entertaining the Prince at dinner, at the Commissioner's House, in the Dock Yard, where will also be present Major General Sir Jeremiah Dickson, K. C. H., the Staff of the Army and other guests of distinction.

It is also rumoured that the officers of the Army and Navy will jointly give a Ball to His Royal Highness, in the Province Building, on a scale of magnificence and splendour, never before equalled here.—[Halifax Morning Post, Sept. 1.

Halifax Sept. 11.—At 11 o'clock this morning the Mayor, accompanied by the Aldermen, Recorder and City Marshal, waited upon his Royal Highness the Prince de Joinville, who condescended to receive them most graciously in the splendid cabin of the *Belle Poule*, where His Worship, after a short preface, read and presented the following address:

To His Royal Highness the Prince de Joinville Commander of His Most Christian Majesty's Ship of War "Belle Poule,"

We, the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Councilmen of the City of Halifax, hail with pleasure the arrival of your Royal Highness on these shores, and feel animated with a just pride in bidding welcome to our City, a Prince of the illustrious House of France, which has for a long period faithfully cherished those relations of amity and good-will now happily subsisting between the Courts of Paris and of London.

Though a remote Dependency of the British Empire, distance does not diminish the ties of affectionate and loyal attachment to the person and Throne of our Sovereign, The Queen; and a Monarch, who as your Illustrious Father has done, so earnestly cultivated and preserved the peaceful and friendly connexion to which we have adverted, cannot fail to command our best feelings of respect.

Trusting that the sojourn of your Royal Highness among us may be attended with pleasure, we offer our congratulations on your visit, and hope that your Royal Highness will be pleased to accept the sentiments of our highest consideration.

[Signed in name and by authority of the City Council.]

STEPHEN BINNEY, Mayor.

Halifax, N. S. September 8, 1841.

His Royal Highness was pleased most handsomely to address himself, in the name of his illustrious Father and himself, to express high gratification at the distinction with which he thus was honoured by the Civic Authorities, and tendered to the gentlemen the assurance of the feelings he experienced at the kind attention he had received since his arrival at this port.

The Prince De Joinville attended Mass at St. Mary's on Sabbath morning, and returned to the City on yesterday afternoon from a ride to Windsor. He is to view the halls of our Province Building tonight, a ball to be given by Sir Jeremiah Dickson and the army.—[ib. Sept. 11.

Regatta.—The annual Regatta took place on Tuesday. The weather was propitious—fine, with a steady breeze. The town was unusually animated with holiday making [illegible], and the dock-yard exhibited almost every shade of costume, in very picturesque variety. Ladies in all colors, gentlemen, civilians tempering the radiance with more sombre hues—sailors, soldiers, Africans and Indians, intermixed as at a carnival. Notwithstanding the motley crowding we have not heard that unpleasantness in any kind occurred; so much, again, to the credit of the population of Halifax.—Novascotian.

The *Winchester*, which arrived some weeks ago, in the inky hues of Mourning, for the loss of the Admiral of the station, has resumed her usual appearance, and is the naval ornament of the harbor.—[Ib.

PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE QUEBEC GAZETTE.

"Royal Exchange, London, Sept. 3, 1841.

"You have my entire confidence, Sir Robert, and I shall afford you every assistance I can in the formation of a ministry."—These were the words with which the Queen took leave of Sir Robert at Windsor Castle, where the Right Honorable Baronet was admitted to an audience on Tuesday last. Subsequent events have fully confirmed this expression of the confidence entertained by the Queen in Sir Robert Peel. The public papers you will receive by the same packet which conveys this letter, will inform you of the progress made in the completion of a cabinet. This evening's Gazette, in a supplement, will contain a list (official) of the members of the new cabinet, they having received the seals of office at Claremont, this afternoon. We are assured that her Majesty most graciously received the whole of the new ministers.

"You will find by the papers I send you, that the Colonial Committee have passed resolutions condemnatory of the course pursued by the American Government towards M'Leod. The meeting was very numerously and respectably attended. Some interesting speeches, from Lord Sydenham and Lord John Russell have also appeared.

"I believe there is a party here which will be quite as content to receive good laws from the Tories as they would be from the Whigs. Sir Robert Peel is in favour of an alteration in the Corn Laws, but does not seem to like a fixed duty. With regard to the sugar question, his opinions seem temperate, but not partisan or exclusive, he justly remarks as he has stated some time ago, the supplies from our West India Colonies are uncertain, and he would give both, at least, [illegible] they would not supply our wants. He also adverts to the great fall in prices, but so has the whole growth must be of great interest to your readers, you will, no doubt, give it them entire.—The Duke of Wellington is pretty well of accord with Sir Robert Peel, but the Duke of Buckingham and one or two other Ultra-Tories are rather threatening on the Corn Laws, as they have asserted their intention to withdraw their support, if any alteration is attempted. This is folly: we must have no violent opposition to the known wishes of the people at large. A good, moderate, conciliatory government, with the inclination and the power to study and promote the general advantage, is the only one that can long keep its footing here. We want wholesale reforms, but not hazardous experiments; for change is not always improvement.

"It cannot be denied but that the accession of the Conservatives to power has already had a beneficial effect upon public confidence, for people know that they can ensure themselves respect at home and abroad, as, indeed, the Whigs might have done, if O'Connell and the Radicals had not embarrassed them so eternally."

The District Councils in some of our neighboring parishes, have determined not to tax their fellow-citizens—they say that *they require no improvements!* The French Gazette recommends this example as worthy of being followed!!—[Quebec Mercury.

Office of H. M. Chief Agent for Emigrants.
Quebec, 18th September, 1841.

Number of Emigrants arrived during the week ending the 18th instant.

From England,	74
" Ireland,	253
" Scotland,	93
" Lower Ports,	5
	425
Previously reported	26,705
	27,130
To same period last year	21,914
Increase in favor of 1841	5,216

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

The subjoined Resolution, on motion of Alderman *Ferrie*, seconded by Councillor *Molson*, was adopted at a meeting of the City Council, on Tuesday evening, after the official notice of the death of His Excellency the Governor General, transmitted to the Honorable the Mayor of this city, and published by us on the 20th instant, had been read. Present, Aldermen DE BLEURY, in the Chair, Aldermen FERRIE and TOBIN, Councillors BAGG, HUME, MOLSON, and FERRIER:—

Whereas this Council have learned with deep regret, the lamented demise, at Kingston, on the 19th instant, of His Excellency the Right Hon. Charles Poulett Thomson, Baron Sydenham and Toronto, Governor General of all Her Majesty's Provinces on the Continent of North America:—

Resolved, That the Members of this Council do wear mourning for the space of one month as a well merited tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased nobleman, and as a testimony of the high sense they entertain of his public and private worth, and the consummate wisdom, energy, and impartiality displayed by him in the conduct of his Administration in British North America.

Certified, J. P. SEXTON, *City Clerk*.

From the N. Y. Express.

LATER FROM CANTON.

Probable Bombardment of Canton—Sixty thousand Tartar soldiers in Canton—Loss of the Florida, with a cargo valued at $200,000—Departure of the British fleet for Pekin.

The ship Florida, Capt. Faucon, left Canton May 17, Macao 19th, and was wrecked on Brigantine shoal, off Little Egg Harbor, on the 21st instant.—Mr. Bush, a passenger on board, arrived in the city last night, via Monmouth, N. J., and has kindly furnished us with the following information:

Our last dates from Canton were by the Eben Preble, since which nothing very remarkable has happened, though much was in preparation. Capt. Elliott has, however, since May 1st, had an interview with the Kwan Chow Fou, a high Mandarin, who was desirous that Capt. Elliott should give up the forts.

Captain Elliott replied, that on the payment of $22,000,000, he would deliver them up. The Kwan Chow Fou, surprised at such terms, replied that the Emperor would never make such a treaty, and that they must fight. It will be recollected that Captain Elliott's first demand was six millions, which has now been increased to twenty-two.

Several British vessels of war were off the Factories, and Capt. Herbert commanding the advanced squadron had orders in case of any signs of hostility on the part of the Chinese, to bombard the city, and not to cease till it was reduced to ashes. He was to afford at the same time all necessary protection to foreigners.

Teas were high and scarce, and only to be purchased by dollars. No sales of imports of any description, the Chinese feeling very sanguine of renewed hostilities. The Mandarins will not allow teas to come in.

The city was full of Tartar soldiers, more than 60,000 being there already, and large numbers are daily arriving.

Just as the Florida was leaving Macao, news was received of an outbreak in Canton. The rumor being that the Chinese had commenced hostilities. The Florida passed Capt. Elliott in the steamer Nemesis on the 18th, bound to Canton.

A part of the British Fleet was to leave Hong Kong May 25 for the coast, bound to Pekin to commence hostilities.

The cargo of the Florida was insured in China.—She had 400 tons of Tea, silks and rhubarb, valued here at about $200,00. The Florida struck the shoals at half-past one o'clock, and was abandoned at 8 o'clock same evening. The schooner Birdsto, Capt. Cranwer, of Tuckerton, N. J. very kindly took off the crew, and tendered them every service in his power.

Lusus Naturæ.—The Richmond (Va.) Compiler says the clerk of the Circuit Court, J. T. Mason, Esq. owns a negro boy about 15 years of age, whose skin is as ebony, with the exception of the greater part of the right arm, the entire part of the shoulder blade, and nearly all his right side and back, which are as white as an alabaster!—The spots on which have been increasing in size for four years, and will in all probability, cover the whole body before they cease their growth.

BRIEF MORAL LESSONS.

He that cares only for himself has but few pleasures, and those few are of the lowest order.

We may escape the censure of others when we do wrong privately, but we cannot avoid the reproaches of our own mind.

Partiality to self often hides from us our own faults; we see very plainly the same fault in others.

Chronicle & Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1841.

THE MIDLAND DISTRICT ASSIZES.

We have much pleasure in giving place to the following Charge by His Honor Mr. CHIEF JUSTICE ROBINSON, to the Grand Inquest, at the opening of the Assizes,—his Lordship having given it for publication at the special request of the Grand Jury.

MR. FOREMAN, AND

GENTLEMEN OF THE GRAND JURY—

Although the number of Cases on the Calendar is not greater than has been usual on similar occasions in this District, you will regret to learn that there are some charges of the most serious character, and among these not less than three for the crime of murder. Having no further knowledge of these cases than the fact that the prisoners are charged with murder, I have no grounds for anticipating any particular question or difficulty, as likely to be presented to your consideration; and I shall therefore abstain from noticing any of those distinctions which have been settled in a series of cases, and which have established in general very clearly the boundaries between justifiable homicide, manslaughter and murder. Not being in the least degree aware of the evidence which is to be laid before you, I cannot foresee what legal principles may be involved in the investigation; and to attempt any particular direction under such circumstances would be more likely, I apprehend to perplex than to assist you. I will therefore only say in general terms, that there is no more strongly marked feature in our criminal law, whether we regard its principles, or its practical administration, than the anxious and scrupulous care with which it applies itself to the protection of human life, by providing for the most prompt and solemn investigation of every charge of homicide. In England, from whence, happily for us, these principles and practice are drawn, it is a striking characteristic of their jurisprudence, that whenever a murder is supposed to have been committed, no vigilance is spared, no labour thought too great, nor anything in short left unattempted, which may seem likely to lead to the detection and punishment of the offender. Besides the particular sense of duty which on such occasions actuates those who are in any degree charged with the execution of the laws, a strong feeling is found to animate the whole community, inciting them to every exertion which can assist the officers of justice; and the interest taken in each circumstance that seems likely to afford a clue to the discovery of guilt is so general, and at the same time so minute, that in most cases the culprit is unable to elude detection. It will be happy for us if that feeling shall be forever maintained in this country in the same freshness and strength; for to look with indifference upon the perpetration of atrocious crimes, while it argues the absence of religious and moral feeling, tends directly to endanger every interest which it is the object of society to guard. Guilt becomes emboldened by the prospect of impunity; and those whose particular duty, or whose laudable disposition, it is to be forward in enforcing the laws, cannot proceed with the same confidence, and of course not with the same hope of success, when they are neither aided nor encouraged by the co-operation of their fellow subjects.

I do not know whether either of the cases to which I refer, has been connected in any degree with that rather unsettled state of public feeling which it was to be expected would continue for a considerable time, after such events as it was our misfortune, a few years ago, to witness.—They are perhaps rather to be traced to circumstances of which the general effect is cheering and encouraging to the people of this Province [illegible] tends most instances of prosperity, they have drawn some mixture of evil in their train. The late changes in the political arrangements of this extensive Province, have conferred an importance upon this portion of it, which is leading to a rapid increase in its population and wealth; and we may expect to find with these a corresponding increase in the number of offences. In large trading towns especially as population swells, and wealth increases, the temptations to vice are multiplied; and at the same time the opportunities of offending are more frequent and more accessible. To keep pace with these there must be an increased vigilance on the part of those whose duty it is to administer the law; whether it be for prevention, or for punishment; and having, as it is our blessing to have, a constitution free not in name merely, but in truth, and a system of laws which have won the general admiration of mankind, it must be our own fault if the means of correction do not rise in proportion to the evil.

When I refer to the recent political measures emanating from the Imperial Government, which have even already made a visible change in this community, I intend nothing more than the passing allusion which I have made to them for a purpose connected with our duties here.—They are, it is true, of far too interesting a character, in every point of view, to be looked upon with indifference by any person who understands the position of this great and valuable Colony, and sincerely desires its prosperity; but it is not in this place, and on such an occasion, that it can ever be becoming to examine, even in the most temperate spirit what the Legislature has enacted, or the State ordained, with any view either to praise or censure. It is the business of courts of justice to uphold that civil system, and those laws which the constitutional authorities have established; and they are never acting so beneficially for society, and so plainly within their proper sphere of duty, as when they are dispassionately, but firmly enforcing the laws, as they find them, being not only free themselves from all distracting influences, but avoiding so far as it can possibly be done, the ministering either by word or deed to any such excited feelings as will sometimes spring up in all communities; and unhappily not seldom in connection with those subjects which are to undergo the investigation of legal tribunals. But while I am sure your concern for the due administration of justice will lead you fully to concur in this opinion of our duty, you will not be surprised that I cannot refer, however slightly, to the changes in our political condition which have been recently made, and are now still in progress, without adverting to that most unlooked for dispensation of Divine Providence which within the last few hours, and since I came here to open a Commission attested by his signature, has deprived this Country of its ruler. It has indeed afforded us an appalling proof of the uncertain basis upon which all human plans and expectations must for ever rest. A succession of unhappy troubles disturbing chiefly the tranquillity of another portion of Canada, had at last resulted in a criminal violation of an allegiance so justly due, that it seems almost incomprehensible how it could have required to be strengthened by any other tie than the grateful sense of benefits received. The Parent State actuated in all her relations with this Colony, and throughout all our difficulties, by the one desire to promote, as she best could, our security and welfare, had taken that course which seemed to her the most expedient for effacing the traces of past dissensions, for overcoming the pressure of existing difficulties, and for providing for the future security of a possession which presents perhaps in some respects more occasion for anxiety than any other foreign dominion of the Crown. The Statesman who but yesterday closed his career amongst us was the instrument selected by our Sovereign for completing this course of policy; and after some months of toil and anxious no doubt, and [illegible] he had carried through both branches of the United Legislature such measures as he thought most fitting for attaining the objects which he had in view. Of those measures, while they were in progress, every inhabitant of this free Country had the undoubted right to form his own opinion, which opinion if he were worthy of freedom, he would hesitate neither to avow, nor to act upon; but discussion upon their merits, for practical purposes, had been brought to a close. It remained only for Lord Sydenham to go through the mere formal ceremony necessary for consummating the work which he had undertaken; and then to await the unerring proofs of its value, which can be derived only through the test of experience.—But how true is it that we know not what a day may bring forth! How striking is the change that we have witnessed! That short ceremony which was required for perfecting the labour of many anxious months, has been performed by another.—The voice which was about to convey to the assembled Legislature a thankful acknowledgment of their services, is now silent for ever. The hand is already cold which was to have set the seal to measures of unknown import to the future welfare of this rising country, and whatever lessons the experience of their effects may teach, must now be received by other statesmen, and by other Governors.

We needed not, perhaps, the warning of this awful dispensation, in order to bring home to our bosoms, for the purpose of ordinary application, the great truths which should be ever present to us, of the fleeting nature of all that depends on our tenure of life, and of the necessity of being ever ready at a moment to render an account to the great author of all good of the manner in which we have employed our faculties. To the thousands inhabiting this busy city, every day almost must convey some lesson of this nature; and when I look around me and see so few of those whom I can remember as having shared with me in former times such duties as those for which we are now assembled, it is plain how many a painful, and I hope impressive warning, must have been received by the survivors, of the frail and uncertain tenure of human life. But seldom has there been afforded in the dispensations of Providence, so striking an injunction to all, who being clothed with authority, are controlling in any degree the destiny