Correspondence of the Boston Atlas.

FROM CHINA.

Macao, Nov. 7, 1843.

Since my arrival at this place, on the 13 h ult., I have made a visit to Canton, and was at that place during the great fire which destroyed the Spanish, French and Danish hongs—as also upwards of 1500 Chinese houses. The only hongs left at this time are the American, and in all probability they will soon share the fate of the others, as repeated attempts have been made within the last week to set them on fire—but two or three nights since the mandarins, who are using all their efforts to protect the foreigners, took seventeen ladrones in the act. There were on the shops in the back street, with matches in hand, when they were caught. The chaps are now exposed to public view, in front of the Consoo house, with the wooden collar about their necks.

The opinion is, that ere Chinese new year has passed the factories will be destroyed. The ladrones have done so well by the previous fires that they will not forsake a good business. They know this is the season of the year when much treasure is kept in the factories and they hope to get some of it. The way they got disappointed at the last fire was funny—upwards of three millions of specie belonging to the foreigners was taken on board the chop boats, without their getting one mace. We were well armed, and knocked them about without the least fear on them, showing that if they were superior in numbers, we were in courage. The mandarins deserve great credit for the manner in which they acted, and all were satisfied of their disposition to use their best efforts for the protection of foreigners and their property.

But little business is doing at Canton, and what is done is transacted with difficulty, the Chinese not being yet accustomed to the new method; but they will work in soon, and when once taught they do not forget. Few new teas have come in, but this month they will come along fast. The Press that I send on has the ships at Whampoa, and the next that will leave will be the Splendid, Capt. Land; the next to her the Talbot, Capt. Story. The Oscar, Capt. Eyre, and Lucas, Capt. Miller, are at Hong Kong, to sail in a few days for the coast with their domestics. The new ports are opened, and some business is doing up that way; they will probably go up as far as Ningpo and Shanhae. The Richard, Capt. Benjamin, and Zenobia, Capt. Kingsbury, are also at Hong Kong. The Probus, has sailed for Manilla, and is to return to this port. The Child Harold, Capt. Johnson, is lying here, for sale. The "Cayuga," (brig) Capt. Starbuck, is here also—she came from South America a few days since.

The following is an extract from a letter received in Boston, by the Ann McKim, dated,

Canton, Nov. 4, 1843.

The stocks of imports generally, are not excessive, and the dullness in the market is mainly owing to the unsettled state of affairs, growing out of the radical change under the commercial treaty. Before the late fire there were indications of a partial return of the confidence which the trade so much requires; but that event has led to a complete reaction, and the almost unprecedented scarcity of money among the Chinese continues, because the wealthy men are out of confidence.

The loss by the great fire, and the continuance of it, with the occurrence of two quite destructive ones of late days, are the immediate cause of this check to the recovery of confidence.

As the authorities are very excited we hope any similar calamity will be prevented; and consider the worst point of depression passed.

Teas—Teas continue reduced to about 100 00) [illegible] about 8000 Bohea, 50, 00 Mo[illegible], and 7[illegible] Congou. The value is 5 3 a 8 for ordinary to fine Bohea; 5 8 a 7 for ordinary to fine [illegible], very fine here; 5 4 a 7 3 for ordinary to fine Congou.

The deliveries in September were 45,597 bales, and were considerable in October. There is a great depression just now, as every cotton broker's office or shop was burnt on the 24th and 25th, and the dealers are averse to holding considerable stocks under the new system, because the new dealers with foreigners, want stability and character, or responsibility. We think there are evidences of a better appreciation of American cotton; and look to see the fine qualities of it come into favor here, as well as at Amoy and Foo Chow. The present stock is about 1500 bales."

"In the export trade there has been a great deal of activity the past six weeks. The shipments to tea to Great Britain have been considerable, and our new stock at 400 bales. To India, a large quantity of drugs, spices, sugar, sugar candy, Canton silks, and other usual articles, have been shipped. For the United States the Ann McKim has been laden, and the Talbot also; the J. G. Coster, Splendid and Mary Ellen have received some portions of their cargo."

From the London Atlas.

CANADIAN AFFAIRS.

Any attempt to govern Canada without, or in opposition to a popular representation, must infallibly lead, at no distant period, to another insurrection, and to the probable loss of the whole of our North American possessions. Everything, therefore, appears to be staked upon the character of Sir Charles Metcalfe's being able to obtain a majority favorable to his policy by a fair appeal to the Canadian people in another election; and this chance, by all those best acquainted with the state of parties and of public feeling in the colony, is considered to be by very remote. The real question at issue seems to have been, whether Sir C. Metcalfe was to be a King Log or King Stork;—whether he was to resign himself to the passive functions of a Representative of Constitutional royalty, or to assume the responsibility, [illegible] and active control of a Sovereign who is his own Prime Minister. * * * *

The question is not so much what is the best system of colonial government in theory, but what in Canada, at the present moment, is the best in practice. Even if we take the strongest view against the doctrine of "Responsible Government," it must, we think, be admitted that practically the choice lies between two evils,—Responsible Government, or a suspension of the constitution. If the Canadians show their attachment to the principles advocated by the Lafontaine Ministry, by returning a majority favorable to them in a new House of Assembly, the alternative clearly lies between making the best of a bad bargain and trying to make the thing work as well as we can with "Responsible Government," or suspending the constitution and trying to govern Canada without a representative one. Of the two courses no reasonable man could hesitate to say that the latter is the more dangerous; indeed it would be so obviously fatal to the maintenance of the connexion between England and North American colonies, that any alteration would be preferable.

From the Spectator.

The strongest case for each side at present appears to lie in the general charge not yet rebutted by the opposite side: people will be disposed to excuse the Governor General when they see how his Ministers seem to have endeavored to drive him up into a corner, making themselves as disagreeable as possible; and how, in striving to reduce responsible government to the technical form of a bond, they frustrated its practical working,—losing the substance that was quietly growing up, in a fidgety attempt to force its maturity; while some excuse will be found for them, in the slights which are scarcely denied, and which are certainly at variance with the etiquette that regulates the relations of responsible Ministers with the Crown in England. Their impolicy (supposing their motives honest) in raising such a question, at such a time, is flagrant; they ought to have avoided the issue; but it is to be regretted that the experienced Governor General did not treat them with greater frankness and confidence, and with more allowance for the difference between the habits of free representation in North America and those of despotic will and implicit obedience in the East of Asia, to which he had been longer accustomed. * * * Responsible Government as Sir Charles Metcalfe admits, is the only rational plan in Canada. The opinion is hopless that, although the authority and final discretion rest with the Governor, the administration must be more and more intrusted to the Ministers elected from the parliamentary majority. He may indeed doubt, at any time, whether the Ministers really do belong to the majority of Parliament, or to the majority that would at that particular time be returned by the constituency; and in that doubt, he may refuse compliance with their advice. Their remedy is to resign. Being without Ministers, he must resort to Parliament; and if Parliament still is urged to him the Minister whose grounds "responsibility" it is suspected that he would if appealed to the country," and abide by the issue of that appeal. According to present showing, Sir Charles Metcalfe has entered upon this contest and process, after having allowed himself to be in a position that seems to give Responsible Government its full effect; which is both an imposition and an embarrassing false position. On the other hand, the Ministers, instead of quietly suffering the constitutional process to take its course, have contrived to hurry it, to jump to an assumed conclusion, and have put themselves in the false position, not of Ministers who have resigned, because, in their sense of responsibility, they disdained a certain task whose policy they disapproved, but of persons hostile to the representative of the Crown. Sir Charles Metcalfe's position appears to be much that of Queen Victoria, had she allowed Sir Robert Peel to bring in the Irish arms bill and then refused the royal assent, and in the meantime appointed excisemen and clerks, and even a Lord Chancellor, unknown or hostile to her ministers; while Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Lafontaine have done what Sir Robert Peel, would, under no provocation do,—instead of quietly resigning, turned the constitutional withdrawal into a personal quarrel with the Sovereign. The principle of responsible government has not yet come to issue; but the real issue is, the personal discretion of the men concerned, on the one side and on the other, in the untoward dispute.

From the Journal of Commerce of Friday.

Heart Rending and Fatal CALAMITY.

Explosion of one of the large Cannon on board the United States Steamer Princeton.

TWO MEMBERS OF THE CABINET INSTANTLY KILLED,—ALSO COMMODORE KENNON, THE HON. VERGIL MAXCY, COL. GARDINER, OF LONG ISLAND, AND SEVERAL OTHER PERSONS.

Seldom indeed have we been called to record a more awful calamity than that which we are about to describe. On Wednesday last, the U. S. steamer Princeton, commanded by Capt. Robert F. Stockton, made an excursion from Washington city down the Potomac, having on board a great number of persons, among whom were the President of the United States; the Secretaries of State, War, and Marine; Commodore Beverly Kennon, Chief of the Bureau of Naval Construction, Equipment and Repairs; the Hon. Virgil Maxcy, late Minister to Belgium; Col. Gardiner of Southampton, L. I., who has been accustomed to spend his winters in this city or at Washington; several members of Congress, and many ladies.

The Princeton, as most of our reader s know, carried two enormously heavy guns (besides several smaller ones) throwing balls of more than 200 lbs. weight, and requiring between 40 and 50 lbs. of powder for a charge. The more formidable of the two has been playfully called "The Peace Maker." But the event has proved that she might have been more fitly termed "Destruction to her Friends."

The steamer made a pleasant run as far down as Mount Vernon, and was on her return, and within three or four miles of Alexandria, (it being about sun set) when the disaster occurred. The big gun had already been discharged twice during the trip, and being again loaded, but not with ball as before, (so says our correspondent,) the march was applied, when awful to relate, the gun burst at the breech, and in an instant the deck was strewed with death and destruction. Among the persons killed, we are pained to say, were the

Hon. Abel P. Upsher, Secretary of State.
Hon. Thomas W. Gilmer, Secretary of the Navy.
Hon. Beverly Kennon, Chief of the Bureau of Construction, Equipment and Repairs, Navy Dept.
Hon. Virgil Maxcy, late Minister to Belgium; and
Col. Gardiner, of Southampton, L. I.

A colored servant of the President, named Armistead, was also killed, and five men in charge of the cannon; making a total of eleven killed outright, except that the President's servant lived about ten minutes. Most of the bodies were shockingly mangled. Judge Upsher was nearly cut in two. Capt. Stockton was wounded, it is believed, not dangerously, and Senator Benton slightly. Further particulars of this melancholy catastrophe will be found in the annexed extracts from the Washington papers.

From the National Intelligencer.

In the whole course of our lives it has never fallen to our lot to announce to our readers a more shocking calamity—shocking in all its circumstances and concomitants—than that which occurred on board the United States ship Princeton, yesterday afternoon, whilst under way, in the river Potomac, fourteen or fifteen miles below this city.

Yesterday was a day appointed by the courtesy and hospitality of Capt. Stockton, commander of the Princeton, for receiving as visitors to this fine ship, (lying off Alexandria,) a great number of guests, to spend the day on board. The day was most favorable, and the company was large and brilliant, of both sexes; not less probably in number than four hundred, among whom were the President of the U. S., the Heads of the several Department, and their families. At a proper hour after the arrival of the expected guests, the vessel got under way and proceeded down the river, to some distance below Fort Washington. During the passage down, one of the large guns on board (carrying a ball of 225 pounds) was fired more than once, exhibiting the great power and capacity of that formidable weapon of war. The ladies had partaken of a sumptuous repast; the gentlemen had succeeded them at the table, and some of them had left it; the vessel was on her return up the river, opposite the fort, where Capt. Stockton consented to fire another shot from the same gun, around and near to which, to observe its effects, many persons had gathered, though by no means so many as on similar discharges in the morning, the ladies who then thronged the deck being on the fatal occasion almost all between decks, and out of reach of harm.

The gun was fired. The explosion was followed, before the smoke cleared away so as to observe its effects, by shrieks of wo which announced a dire calamity. The gun had burst, at a point three or four feet from the breech, and scattered death and desolation around. Mr. Upshur, Secretary of State, Mr. Gilmer, so recently placed at the head of the Navy, Commodore Kennon, one of its gallant officers, Virgil Maxcy, lately returned from a diplomatic residence at the Hague, Mr. Gardner, of New York, (formerly a member of the Senate of that State,) were among the slain. Besides these, seventeen seamen were wounded, several of them badly and probably mortally. Among those stunned by the concussion, we learn not all seriously injured, were Capt. Stockton himself; Col. Benton, of the Senate; Lieut. Hunt, of the Princeton; W. D. Robinson, of Georgetown.—Other persons also were perhaps more or less injured, of whom, in the horror and confusion of the moment, no certain account could be obtained. The above are believed, however, to comprise the whole of the persons known to the public who were killed or dangerously or seriously hurt.

The scene upon the deck may more easily be imagined than described. Nor can the imagination picture to itself the half of its horrors. Wives, widowed in an instant by the murderous blast! Daughters smitten with heart-rending sight of their father's lifeless corpse! The wailings of agonized females! The piteous grief of the unhurt but heart-stricken spectators! The wounded seamen borne down below! The silent tears and quivering lips of their brave and honest comrades, who tried in vain to subdue or to conceal their feelings! What words can adequately depict a scene like this.

The bodies of the killed remained on board the ship last night. They will be brought to the city this morning.

From the Globe.

Colonel Benton and Captain Stockton were slightly injured. The accident happened about 3 o'clock, some two or three miles below Alexandria. Col. Benton's injury arose not from any fragment of the gun, but merely from the concussion. He was at the butt of the gun, taking its range when it fired. He was not sensible of its stunning effect until he had called for aid to the bleeding sailors. He was stunned for a time, but was enabled to walk after reaching the shore, and has given a divinct account of the dreadful scene. Captain Stockton was burnt by the powder, but not seriously injured.

Captain Stockton having, on successive days, extended invitations to visit his ship to the executive and committees of Congress, and then to both Houses,—invited the ladies of the city to an entertainment on this, which was meant as the galaxday of his beautiful ship. It opened brightly, but has closed in the most dreadful gloom over our community. The only circumstance calculated to relieve the all pervading distress, is that of the multitude of ladies who were on board the ship, not one was injured. The happy exception of such a multitude of the tender sex, who attended the fête made in the midst of scenes of the most distinguished and beloved of their countrymen, while it leaves nine relatives to the circle of their immediate friends, cannot but deepen the sympathies which they, and the whole community feel for the bereaved families of those who have fallen. Mr. Upshur and Mr. Gilmer were of the happy family by which each was surrounded. The children of Mr. Gilmer are just grown; the youngest still in the nursery arms. Colonel Kennon, Mr. Maxcy, and Mr. Gardiner are all single, family endearments—from wives and children.

We understand that Mrs. Gilmer was upon the deck when her husband fell. It was the hand discharge of the gun (and fired at the request of Mr. Gilmer) that burst it. The daughters of Mr. Upshur, several of the family of Commodore Kennon and the daughters of Mr. Gardiner were on board the steamer; but none of them except Mrs. Gilmer, were apprized of the death of the most dear to them until after their return to the city. Almost all the ladies were below at dinner, when the catastrophe occurred. Mrs. Gilmer was brought to the city in almost a state of distraction.

There were two hundred ladies on board, and during the two discharges of the gun, were on deck, and many of them approached very near to observe the course of the ball after it struck the water.

From the Madisonian.

The same number of our paper which contains the unfortunate Gilmer's address to his constituents, bears them also the account of his death.

The last paragraph in the official notice respecting the Canadian prisoners, in the last number of our paper, was written by the lamented Upshur, just starting on the excursion, and are the last words he ever wrote.

From the Correspondence Jour. Com.

Mr. Pratt of N. York states that he heard the explosion, being near the gangway, and went forward instantly. He was the first person on the spot, except one or two sailors. He saw men on both sides of the gun, prostrated—and two persons, particularly on the larboard side, with a mass of iron lying on them. Those persons he soon recognized as Mr. Gilmer and Mr. Upshur. A little farther on, he saw the mangled corpse of Mr. Gardner. Mr. Gardner was, in fact, blown to pieces. He called men to help—threw off his coat as he states, and took a handspike, and, with great difficulty, removed the iron from the legs of Mr. Gilmer and Mr. Upshur. He states that Mr. Gilmer was still breathing or gasping. He says, however, that blood was on their foreheads. Mr. Gilmer soon ceased to breathe. Mr. Upshur was dead. Mr. Gilmer was standing four feet from the gun, with his back turned to it, being engaged in conversation with Mrs. Withered, of Baltimore. A mass of iron struck him below the hips.—Mr. Pratt tells me that the iron was of a thousand pounds weight, as he supposes, that fell on these unfortunate men.

I have just left Brown's and Gadsby's hotels, which are our Exchange. Passing by Brown's, a moment ago, my heart sunk when I saw hose beautiful and now fatherless girls,—the Misses Gardiner,—taken into the President's carriage, to be conveyed to his house, where these friends, the ladies of the President's family, can be best taken care of for the present. It was one of these young ladies who, on this occasion, *saved the President's life.* The President was standing near the gun, and by the side of Mr. Upsher, and between him and Mr. Gardner, at the moment before the gun was to be fired. Miss Gardner requested the President to conduct her to the cabin which he, of course, complied, and thus his life was saved.

Of the numerous and young family of Mr. Gilmer, I cannot speak. I happen to know something of his devotion, as a father, to his children—of the interest he has manifested for them, in making his arrangements for his residence in this city—of the struggle, in his own mind, between his private and paternal interests and feelings, and the stern demand of duty which seemed to call him to office. He long deferred his acceptance of the trust. He had misgivings about it to the last. The doubt is resolved by the mysterious workings of Providence.

Correspondence of the Sun.

Captain Stockton took the head of the table, and gave the health of the President, which was drunk with enthusiasm. Several other toasts were given, and heartily responded to; the ladies quaffed their goblets of champagne; their bright eyes sparkled, their cheeks glowed, and wit flowed from every ruby lip.

At last Capt. Stockton said, as they were now within 20 minutes run of Alexandria, he would fire a parting salute from the peacemaker, in honour of the memory of the great peacemaker of his country, George Washington. He said this *precisely* to the President, and the Cabinet immediately crowd him, and told them he would fire the gun this time for them. [illegible] Accordingly all the Cabinet started to go up the cabin stairs, and the President with them; the President was nearly on deck when he was called to hear a toast proposed by Miss Wickliffe—it was this, "The flag of America; the only thing that is American that will bear a stripe." This was received with great enthusiasm. The President then gave the "Three great guns—the Princeton—her commander and his peacemaker." This was loudly applauded by the ladies. And then the members of the Cabinet started to go up stairs.

At this moment Mr. Upshur had his hand on the President's arm, and said, "come, Mr. Tyler, let's go and see the big gun fired." Just then, Colonel Drake asked Mr. Waller (the President's son-in-law) to sing an old song about 1776. The President replied, No, no George, Upshur, I must stay and hear that song of Walter's, it's an old favorite of mine; you go up and I'll join you directly." Accordingly away went Upshur and Gilmer, Wilkins and Nelson, to see the gun fired.

Messrs. Rhodes, Phelps, Hannegan, Jernegan, Miss Woodbury, Mr. and Mrs. Weatherhead, Charles Augustus Davis, Mr. David Gardiner, Virgil Maxcy, Commodore Kennon, and many others were on deck.

The President remained below listening to the song, and just as Mr. Waller came to the name of "Washington," off went the gun. "There," said Mr. Schoolcraft (master of the ceremonies) "that's in honor of his name; now for three cheers." And just as they were about to give them, a boatswain's mate rushed into the cabin covered with powder, and said that the big gun had exploded, and killed many of those on deck.

On this announcement the shrieks and agonizing cries of the women were heart rending; all calling on and for their husbands, fathers, brothers, and so on. And when found rushing wildly into their arms, and fainting with excess of feeling.

All the upper part of the breech was blown off, and a piece weighing 200 or 300 pounds, struck Messrs. Gilmer, Upshur, Maxcy, Gardner and Kennon, and knocked them all down; the piece lay across the legs of Gilmer, Upshur, and Gardiner, when they were found after the smoke blew away. Gilmer and Upshur were also struck by pieces of [illegible] behind the ear and in the side. Mr Gardiner's lower limbs were torn all to pieces; all their clothes were much burnt; and Upshur, Gardiner and Kennon, all fell touching each other. Upshur's lips moved for a few seconds, and then all was still; Gilmer breathed once or twice, and then all was over; the others never stirred.

Captain Stockton was blown back against the fore throud (he was behind the breech of the gun when it was fired;) his whiskers and eyebrows were all blown off, and as soon as he recovered from the stunning effect of the shock, and the smoke cleared away, he sprang with a delirious effort on the gun, shattered as it was, and exclaimed in agony "*would to God I alone had been killed!*" His friends then carried him down stairs, and laid him on a settee, where he dearly fainted from exhaustion, and at last burst into an agony of tears. He was immediately put to bed.

The President appeared the most sorrow-stricken man of the whole party; he hastened to the deck, and when he saw the dead bodies of Upshur and Gilmer he wept bitterly. It was a horrid scene. God keep me from seeing another like it. One of Virgil Maxcy's arms was blown off, and struck Mrs. Wetherred on the side of the head, covering her face with blood, and knocking her bonnet off. Col. Benton was blown flat on his back, and stunned; all the buttons on Senator Phelp's coat were torn off, and Miss Elizabeth Woodbury, who stood between them, had her bonnet blown off but was not knocked down.

Miss Somerville's dress was covered with blood and brains, Jernegan and Hannegan were blown flat on their backs; Mr. Postmaster Tyson had a hole blown through his hat; Mr. Strickland, the artist, had such lodged through the skirt of his coat; General Jesup narrowly escaped, a piece of the gun passing close to his face; two or three of the Foreign Ministers were blown down, but otherwise uninjured; many others were blown down by the shock, bruised or more or less cut, faces cut, and clothes torn; Mr. C. A. Davis had his lip slightly cut. All the bulwarks on the larboard side nearly back to the main chains were blown out, and all the bulwarks on the starboard side, back to the bow gun, by the fore chasse, and down to the monkey rail, were blown over the side.

In addition to this, the deck was strewed with fragments, &c., and it is God's mercy that all on the forward deck were not blown into eternity together.

Col. Benton, when taken home, was cold and almost pulseless, but he has recovered, and Dr. Sewall hopes he will be about in a few days.

Capt. Stockton, when I left the vessel at 9 o'clock to night, was quite delirious, and suffering intense mental as well as physical pain.

Mr. Gilmer has left a wife and nine children. Mr. Upshur, aged about 50, has left a wife 25 years of age, and a daughter in the bloom, aged 16. Commodore Kennon has left a wife and family. Mr. Gardiner has left six unmarried daughters, who have long been belles in this place.

The female relatives were not allowed to see the dead bodies of their husbands and fathers; but were taken home by their female friends immediately.—Mr. Wickliffe left as soon as possible with his wife and daughters; Judge Wilkins and the President stayed to the ship till the last.

All is here sad and sadness in the city. When the news was told to Mr. Spencer he cried like a child.

The officers of the vessel say positively, that no one was blown overboard, and that only six sailors were wounded, all of whom were sent to the hospital and one of them has since died.

Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce.

Amid the general burst of grief and agony, it may be vain to call attention to the causes of this disaster. Vain is it for the dead, but not for the living. The 225 pounder was said, and so reported to Congress, to be of wrought iron as it was to some extent. But I learn from Mr. Barney that the scattered pieces of the gun were seen every where.

Com. Kennon was evidently struck by one of them, Mr. Ritchie, of the Globe, has a piece in his possession. They say that the breech of the gun was of a mortar shape, and of cast iron and welded on to the other part. The other parts appear to have been in sections and welded together. The parts of the gun that were burst were all below its axis. But it does not matter as to this. We have evidence of the strongest character, that experiments were made in Europe, long ago, of welded guns, and that they signally failed. I am told, by good authority, that the plan was tried and exploded in Europe, two centuries ago. Wm. Cost Johnson's valuable reports on this subject have been unheeded.

He had investigated this whole matter, and showed the necessity of establishing a national foundry, for cannon. The Board of officers sent to Europe to examine all the mysteries of the art of making cannon, &c., also reported on the subject. The celebrated artizan, Mr. Ames, of Mass. was sent with them, and we know what he and they recommend, as to this matter.

But, notwithstanding all this, it is at this moment a question before Congress, whether the contracts for making cannon shall not be given out to the lowest bidder, according to the law of the last session. Those guns of the Princeton were proved. They were subjected to the strongest possible proof, and stood it. But as the report of the board of officers shows, it is the experience of Europe that, after this proof, a single ounce of powder would often burst a gun,—the very proof to which it was subjected was, sometimes a cause of the gun.

Chronicle & Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 1844.

Legislature of Nova Scotia.

The debate on the Address in answer to the Speech from the Throne was continued from the 8th till the 22d ult., with considerable warmth on both sides, when the House come to a division on the amendment proposed by the opposition, which was negatived by a majority of two. The present Ministry do not, of course, feel much altered by their majority—more especially as several members who voted with them on this occasion declared that they did not thereby pledge themselves to support the views of the Ministry on the College question, or that they approved of a mixed Government. Mr. Howe, Mr. Uniacke, and other leading members of the Opposition contended that the amendment was not a formal vote of want of confidence, although it would have somewhat of the effect of one; and that it was intended as a suggestion respecting the modification and filling up of council, not a declaration which would cause the retirement of the whole existing body. It appears very evident that the Council, as it exists at present, will not be able to carry on the Government for any length of time.

We subjoin a general account of the closing scene of the debate, from the Halifax Morning Post:—

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, Feb. 22d.

THE ADDRESS.

The House then resumed consideration of the Address in answer to the Speech of His Excellency, and after a few preliminary explanations by Messrs. McLELLAN, ROSS, and G. R. YOUNG

The Hon'ble Mr. DODD rose and gave a lengthy reply to the arguments which had been advanced and the charges brought against him.

Mr. HOWE, followed in a sarcastic strain ridiculing the positions taken by the members of the Government, and energetically but in a friendly spirit, urging upon them some course of conciliation instead of pressing the House to a division on the amendment.

The Hon'ble Gentleman closed at half past six o'clock, and the House then adjourned till eight, o'clock, P. M.

The House met again at eight o'clock, and at half past eight, the Hon'ble ATTORNEY GENERAL commenced his address to the Committee. He continued for precisely two hours, reviewing the arguments which had been advanced in support of the amendment, and appealing to the House for the passage of the address.

At the close of the Attorney General's speech, a division was called for, and the committee dividing on the amendment, it was negatived—26 to 24.

Mr. WILKINS then moved the Address.

Mr. J. B. UNIACKE rose for the purpose of moving another amendment. He took exception to the wording of the same clause of the address, to which the previous amendment had been moved, and was going on to remark in what respect the course pursued by the friends of the address was contrary to British practice, when

Mr. WILKINS, interrupting, said, "Ah, We are not British, we are a Colony."

Mr. UNIACKE—"Ah! not British!—Not British!!—The honorable member for Hants says we are not British! It may do very well for *him* to trace his origin through the democratic sources of the neighbouring Republic; but I am a BRITON! and seek to establish for myself and my children, British principles that date their birth in hoary antiquity and are dear to my heart.

Before the Hon'ble Gentleman had concluded the sentence, the rumbling of applause in the gallery commenced—rolled on—and heightened in one long, loud, enthusiastic, and irrepressible burst of soul stirring Cheers amid which,

The SPEAKER took the chair for the purpose of sustaining the order of the House.

A scene of confusion ensued. Several members crying—"Clear the Gallery."

Mr. HOWE, I rise to move, Sir, that the Gallery be cleared.

Mr. HALL, I second the motion.

The Hon'ble ATTORNEY GENERAL—No! No! Mr. Speaker. Why should the Gallery now be cleared? for thus merely the effect of the course pursued by the Speaker through the whole of the past fortnight, in permitting popular ebullitions!

The SPEAKER—Mr. Sergeant-at-arms—direct strangers to withdraw; and I hope there yet remains among the people of Nova Scotia, sufficient respect for their own character, and the rights and dignity of this House, to prompt them immediately to obey the order of its Speaker.

Mr. HALL—Who are strangers, Sir?

The SPEAKER—All who are not Members of the House.

The Gallery was then cleared—the dense crowds moving out with reluctant steps—and the doors for public admission were closed.

The House adjourned half an hour afterwards—their proceedings, *in camerin*, being unknown to the public.

It was understood, outside that the amendment was not put after the galleries were cleared, and the division on the address stood as follows:—

For the Address—The Hon'ble Attorney General and Mr. Dodd, *Messrs.* Marshall, Holmes, Dickey, Fulton, Ross, Fletcher, Grant, A. M. Uniacke, R. Smith, Fraser, Yorkins, E. Young, Thorne, Whitman, Hall, Dwolf, Beckwith, Budd, Fairbanks, Taylor, Freeman, Heckman, Owen, Creighton.—26.

Against the Address—Messrs. James B. Uniacke, Turnbull, McKeagan, Martell, DesBarres, Power, Brenan, G. Smith, G. R. Young, McLellan, Logan, Howe, McNab, Doull, Ryder, Dimock, Benjamin, Huntington, Clements, Crowell, Spearwater, Wilson, Barnstaff, Comeau.—24.

BRITISH MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

Messrs. Ramsay Aitken, & Co., are entitled to the renewed thanks of the Press and people of Canada at least once a month, for their successful endeavors to supply the appetite of the reading public with the choicest tit bits of British Magazine Literature. We rejoice to learn that our praiseworthy exertions are likely to be amply rewarded by an extensive patronage.

The Magazines for February have all arrived and may be found at the bookstore of Messrs. R. A & Co. at prices twenty per cent. lower than the Sterling charge in London. Most of the Magazines are facsimiles in every respect and the prices have been reduced for the sole purpose of increasing their sale in the Colonies.

The British & Foreign Review contains a very able article on the Oregon" territory

We invite the attention of the Mayor and Corporation of Kingston to the following Ordinance passed by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Oswego, on the 23d Oct. last. The most destructive fire which ever occurred in Kingston was ceasioned by sparks or cinders falling from the chimney of the steamer *Telegraph*, so that every precaution should be adopted, which is at all calculated to prevent a similar casualty.

VILLAGE ORDINANCE IN RELATION TO STEAMBOATS.

"Be it Ordained by the President and Trustees of the village of Oswego, that it shall not be lawful for any steam-boat, steam-vessel or propeller, to enter the port or harbor of Oswego without the smoke chimney of such steam-vessel being covered or capped with a metalic wire gauze cap, capable of preventing the passage through the same of sparks and cinders.

"And it is further ordained that if any such steam-vessel shall enter the said port or harbor without having her smoke chimney so capped or covered, the master or owner of the same shall be subject, for every such act, to a penalty of $25, said penalty to be recovered as is by the village charter provided for the recovery of penalties for the violation of the ordinances of this board, and one moiety of the same to be forfeited to the use of the President and Trustees of the village, and the other moiety to the use of the person giving information of the violation of this ordinance."

We have reason to believe that his Excellency the Governor General will shortly appoint the Hon. Samuel B. Harrison to the office of Inspector General for Canada West, with a seat in the Executive Council.

The appointment of Mr. Harrison, we are persuaded, will give general satisfaction to all moderate and right thinking men throughout the Province. His political views are liberal, but sound, and he is a hard working thorough man of business. It is rumored that David Thorburn, Esq., the old and respected Representative for one of the Ridings of Lincoln, will retire to make room for Mr. Harrison.

A full account of the awful disaster caused by the bursting of a Paixham gun on board the U.S. Steamer *Princeton*, will be found in a preceding column. Our readers are no doubt aware that the *Princeton* is a new steamer, built for the American Navy; propelled by the Archimedes Screw, and that on the last trip of the *Great Western* the *Princeton* made a trial of speed with that steamer, and according to the accounts published, she had the best of the race. Capt. Stockton, her commander, has, since that event, been showing his noble vessel with pardonable vanity at all the principal Atlantic ports. On this cruize he visited Washington, and whilst on a pleasure excursion with all the chief Officers of the State on board, the awful calamity has occurred which has caused a nation to mourn. The gun which has caused so much destruction was a sixty-two pounder, capable of firing a shot weighing 225 lbs. with from 40 to 50 lbs. of powder.

It appears by the following scrap from the Montreal *Gazette* that the Corporation of that City are very exhaustion in their demands. It is a shameful waste of the public money to expend large sums for the erection of temporary accommodations in that City. Another year's occupation here would have afforded sufficient time for the erection of permanent buildings in Montreal, thereby saving a large sum of money to this already deeply indebted Province. Besides, had the latter course been adopted, some honest gentlemen would have been saved the extreme mortification of sitting over the shambles!

It is just possible, however, that at the end of three years the Seat of Government may be removed to Three Rivers, as a gentle lift towards Quebec. Bytown should have been selected on the present occasion, before Montreal, and then we should have had Parliament Buildings in every Town in the Province.

We had not a reporter at the meeting of the Town Council, on Friday night last, but we understand that a resolution was come to, demanding terms for the use of the St. Ann's Market Buildings, which the Board of Works at once refused to accept, and which if persisted in, will have the effect of causing the next meeting of the Provincial Parliament to be held at Kingston. We hear, however, that the resolution will be withdrawn, and the proposals of the Government accepted.

An Address from the House of Assembly of New Brunswick, to his Excellency Sir C. T. Metcalfe, will be found in another column. The House was three days engaged in debating it.

The Hon. Dominick Daley, M. P. P., Provincial Secretary, arrived in Montreal from Kingston, on Friday evening.

We copy the following extract from the letter of a Correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser, dated Trinidad de Cuba, Jan. 16. By this it appears that notwithstanding the boasted humanity of the provisions of the late Treaty entered into with England, to put a stop to that atrocious traffic, the slave trade. When slavery has been abolished in the United States, we may expect to see that country's flag floating o'er brave hearts and willing minds determined to stop the trade in human flesh—but not before that event takes place. The following is the extract:—

"The infamous, hellish traffic in slaves is still carried on upon this island to a lamentable extent. It is only eight or ten days since a small slave schooner crossed the mouth of this harbor, and was seen plainly from the port; she went only a few miles to windward and there landed her human cargo of 110 negro slaves, and this vessel I have understood had only a crew of about eight men! Two rakish-looking vessels are now lying in port, which only a few weeks since returned from Africa with the same kind of cargo; one of them, which designed to carry many more, was chased off the coast by an English man-of-war and was obliged to leave with only fifty-four. What has become of the "eighty gun treaty" that was so much talked about, and what would it amount to if even our government should keep double that number on the slave-trading coast of Africa, if our vessels of war never molest or attack these fiendish pirates in pursuit of their execrable business? The wises head, I think, would be puzzled to say what decided effect it could have in suppressing that iniquitous traffic. It would be quite a new thing under the sun to see an American squadron engaged heart and hand in exterminating the slave-trade. Would that we might see such an agreeable spectacle, for as things are now permitted to go on in this business, to the disgrace of nations, calling themselves civilized and Christian, most truly may it be said that "man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands mourn."

We are indebted to the Rev. T. Campbell, of Leeds, Megantic, for another opportunity of recording the Governor General's liberality; especially towards religious institutions of all denominations. That gentleman laid before his Excellency a simple statement of the destruction of the Weslean Methodist Chapel, in the Township of New Ireland, in the month of September last by a hurricane; also of the intention of the congregation to erect another if means could be procured. In reply he received, through his Excellency's Secretary a cheque for £10 with characteristic promptitude and generosity, which (says the Rev. gentleman) will prove a very seasonable help to our poor people.—[Quebec Mercury.

Superintendent of Education.—Mr. George A. Barber, (Editor and Proprietor of the Toronto Herald) has been appointed by the Mayor and Corporation of Toronto as Superintendent of Education for that City, by a vote of Ten to Eight.

Mr. Barber has received a very large collection of the most flattering testimonials from a very large number of the first citizens of Toronto, of all classes and shades of politics, as to his fitness for the office in question.

We have no doubt of his devoting his attention to fulfilling the important duties of his office in the most efficient and impartial manner. The new Superintendent has our best wishes.—[Patriot.

Mr. H. H. Hunter, late Editor of the Toronto Examiner, has been appointed County Superintendent

LETTER FROM THE REV'D PROFESSOR CAMPBELL IN REPLY TO THE REV. MR. ROGERS.

To the Editor of the Chronicle & Gazette.

Kingston, 5th March, 1844.

SIR,—I feel obliged to you for pointing out to the Rev. J. Rogers, of Demorestville, (while publishing his letter of 28th ultimo,) some of the mistakes into which he has fallen respecting my statements. That in undertaking to impugn their correctness, and the veracity of my informants, he should give evidence of having but hastily and carelessly read what he condemns, does not look well. It is somewhat singular, also, that while he so boldly declares the total inconsistency of these statements with the facts of the case to which he assumes them to refer, he should, nevertheless, appear so certain that they do refer to it.

Let it be granted, however, that the "illustration" in my letter to the Editor of the Banner, was borrowed from the case of the Rev. Mr. Findlay. Except as regards the very immaterial point of the length of Mr. F.'s incumbency, I have within reach, in written documents and the proferred testimony of persons of undoubted truthfulness, (who have as *substantial* reasons as those of Mr. Rogers for knowing the facts,) more than enough triumphantly to establish the coincidence of that case, in every important point, with the particulars of my "illustration." Any person, hearing, as I did from Mr F. himself, that in June last, considerably upwards of £100 were due to him, might very naturally have supposed, for the credit of the people themselves, that this enormous deficit had taken more than one year to accumulate. While, therefore, I admit that Mr. Findlay acted as Missionary in the Townships a much shorter period than two years, (though more than "eleven months," as stated by Mr. Rogers,) yet the case is thereby made only the worse.

As a general proof of the credibility of my "informants," it will be enough to produce the following extracts from a letter written by Mr. F. himself, to a member of Presbytery.

"Napanee, 26th May, 1843.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I think it right to acquaint you that I am under the necessity of removing from this Village next week. I stated to my landlord some time ago, that I could not take his house, which I now occupy, for another year, unless I clearly saw a decided disposition on the part of the people who had signed the bonds, to aid the Presbytery to the extent promised; and now he informs me that his new tenant takes possession on the 1st June.

"Although I have completed a year at this most trying station, and although for some months back I have not entertained the slightest hope of settling permanently in this place, yet I was designed to remain a week or two in June, preaching and teaching as I have been doing for the last twelve months; but I am now obliged to leave, and to tell you the truth, so far as—(one of the principal stations) is concerned, I do not much regret it, for the longer I continue, the greater likelihood will there be of getting into greater