From the New York Evening Post.

OUR CORN TRADE WITH ENGLAND.

THE PRESENT CORN LAWS JUST RIGHT FOR US.

In my view the American press and people in asking England to ... [illegible] ... the importation of ... as soon as ... interested, the English ... for our advantage as we could wish, and far better than we could expect them to be made, were any great modification to be attempted. Let well alone, ... just right for us ... [illegible]

It is known, or should be, that wheat from the United States can be imported into Canada at a fixed duty of 3 shillings sterling per quarter, (Seventy ... of 7 1-2 ...) ... colonial produce.—According to the new corn laws, the extreme rate of duty on wheat from the British colonies, are 1 shilling, when the "average" is 58 shillings and upwards, and 5 shillings when the "average" is under 53 shillings. On foreign wheat at the same "average" the duty is 11 shillings and 18 shillings. Wheat is sold on as low there as 58 shillings, about $1 50 per bushel, and at this price the Canadian and English duty combined would amount to only 18 6-7 cents per bushel, when on foreign wheat it would be 12 1-2 cents. When the "average" is 58 shillings and upwards, the duty on our wheat via Canada would be about 2 1-2, and on foreign about 25 cents.

This gives us a great advantage over the European wheat growers in supplying the English market, and is worth to us as a nation what it costs—the floating and the carrying trade. When the crops are generally light in Europe, as the past season, then we can ship from our own ports in our own vessels; and when the Baltic can give a supply, then the English give us the advantage of 20 to 25 cents for the carrying trade, and manufacturing into flour. A better arrangement we could not have, though to avail ourselves of it to the fullest extent, the expense of transportation on the St. Lawrence must be reduced, and the means of transportation thence to England be increased. Both these ends are being rapidly attained; and will not be more than a year or two at farthest, before we shall be able to ship from Chicago to Montreal and Quebec, for but a little more than to Oswego. Certainly a propeller of three or four hundred tons when on a trip will not charge so much difference between those routes as it would cost to transfer the freight into a canal boat at Oswego and tow to New York. And the tonnage at Quebec the past year has increased 103,741 tons over that of 1844, being about twenty-two per cent in one year, and it will probably keep pace with the growth of business on the St. Lawrence, so that ere long we can send a barrel of flour about as cheap to Liverpool from Quebec as New York.

To this it may be objected, that the West reaps the benefit at the expense of the remaining wheat growing portion of the Union. It is not so; and even if it were, the objection should be insufficient, for it is western New York, with western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, that is benefited, which furnishes more than half of all the wheat raised in the country, and almost the whole of the surplus above the amount consumed by the states producing it. But the objection is really invalid. I will pass by the advantage to the east that will grow out of the prosperity of the west, consequent upon having a good market for this important staple, by increasing the demand for their manufactures, and consider their interest only as affected in the wheat market.

Of this staple, the West will always produce a vast surplus that must be marketed somewhere; and to convince any one that we must have a foreign market, or the price at home be depressed far below the cost of production to the eastern farmer, ... [illegible] ... season. With a foreign demand, the western farmer have been able to sell his wheat at a remunerating price! And if England by the present arrangement will take from us rather than from the continent of Europe, a considerable amount of bread stuffs, it is an advantage not to be lightly esteemed in any section of the Union.

An important item in our calculations, is the fact that throughout Europe the past year the wheat crop is short and the potato crop materially injured, so that though we could this year derive benefit from the total repeal of the corn laws, ordinarily we should find strong competitors from the Baltic and the Black Seas. But secure to us the advantage of ... which we now enjoy, and we can defy their competition ... the last nation under heaven that should say a syllable about altering the corn laws of England.

But other interests are directly concerned in this matter besides that of wheat growing. The revenue of New York and the mercantile marine are affected by this diversion of trade to a new route—And though we have a fair share of confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of the east, yet we at the west cannot refrain from returning sincere thanks to Heaven, that herein we are not left to the tender mercies of the empire state and of eastern shippers. Now the interest of the American wheat grower and of England are so completely identified, and I believe so well understood, that, for one, I believe they will not be sundered. Should there be a temporary opening of the ports, they will—they must be closed again.

One word as to the demand and supply of this year's crop, and I have done. Unless the wheat and potato crops in Europe are worse than we have yet heard, and if our own crop now in the ground be not winter killed, the holder of flour and wheat at present New York prices is sure to lose money on the opening of navigation. In Illinois, we should probably export of this crop, with ordinary prices, five or six million bushels; but $1,10, which would be equivalent to the present New York price of $1,10, would draw from us probably eight million. Our farmers are genuine Suckers, and like Indians ... well enough to live on it, with wheat at that price. The same may be said of all the other western states. The great difficulty is to store produce ... in the farmers' hands till spring, and our surplus, therefore, cannot be definitely estimated. But the deficit in Europe does not now appear to be equal to our surplus.

The abundant crop of most other grains has an important influence in the market. At the west, corn is by far the greatest staple, and I believe Illinois could without inconvenience, spare ten to twelve million bushels; and the price of 35 cents cash, during the winter, would cause that amount to be delivered on navigable waters, and perhaps several millions more. Unfortunately we have not the supply of hogs to consume the grain that we should have. The man that finds corn on his hands in the spring at the eighty-five cents will wish he had let it alone, or I am no prophet.

JNO. S. WRIGHT.

New York, 31 Dec., 1845.

From the N. Y. Albion.

THE OREGON CORRESPONDENCE.

We occupy a large portion of our paper to-day with the remainder of the correspondence on this question.

Of this remarkable correspondence the most remarkable is the closing part, in which Mr. Buchanan takes offence at an expression used by Mr. Pakenham, which appears to us perfectly harmless. Great Britain in this negotiation, has enlarged her offers, doubtless with the expectation that if not accepted, another proposition would come from the U. States at least as favorable as former overtures; but the government of the United States on the contrary offered less, and the language of the British Plenipotentiary in consequence, is not to be wondered at.—We cannot agree in thinking that the rejection of an overture without referring it to his government is an offence so heinous as some persons suppose it to be. Mr. P. doubtless knows the sentiments of his own government, and we cannot see why this circumstance, and the harmless expression just alluded to, could form sufficient reason for withdrawing all former overtures by this government and breaking off the negotiation. Propositions have been made by each party, on several previous occasions, and rejected without leading to such unfriendly results. Mr. Buchanan says:—

"It (the American proposition) has been rejected without even a reference to his own government.—Nay, more, the British plenipotentiary, to use his own language, "trusts that the American plenipotentiary will be prepared to offer some further proposal for the settlement of the Oregon question more consistent with fairness and equity, and with the reasonable expectations of the British government."

"Under such circumstances, the undersigned is instructed by the President to say that he owes it to his own country, and a just appreciation of her title to the Oregon territory, to withdraw the proposition to the British government which had been made under his direction; and it is hereby accordingly withdrawn."

In our opinion ... the penalty here for exceeding ... [illegible] ... a reply from Mr. Pakenham, and Mr. Buchanan's long and elaborate argument went forth ... [illegible] ... We all know ... pays for having the last ... the jury.

The President, however, yet hopes that the case may be adjusted without disturbing the peaceful relations of the two countries; ... we cordially join, and trust that ... Britain again ... to submit the question to the ... of a third power, ... [illegible]

The ... [illegible] ...

Mr. Buchanan ... full credence to all the ... of Fuca; ... and said to be in the service of Spain in the sixteenth century. He ... that he discovered the northwest passage, ... to Hudson's Bay, thus reaching the Atlantic from the Pacific. That the straits now called those of Fuca, will henceforth bear his name forever, as Mr. Buchanan says, is probable—but that does not confer on him the honor of discovery. Columbus, the great discoverer of the new world, has been robbed of the honor of giving his name to that continent by Vespucius Americus.

The splendid globe recently constructed by Messrs Malby & Co., of London, one of which is to be found in the Department of State at Washington, may possibly represent the whole of the Oregon Territory as belonging to the United States. But this is no proof of title, and only shows that Messrs. Malby & Co. are good map-makers, but bad geographers. They probably copied the boundaries from the American maps, nearly all of which have long since appropriated the entire tract in dispute. The same was done for a long series of years, in regard to the north eastern boundary. Every school book and Atlas represented all the territory in dispute as American, and thus was the youthful mind of the country taught to believe the whole claim valid. We have often thought that this was a very objectionable proceeding.—While the boundaries are doubtful, they should be delineated as doubtful.

But in the two grand features of the case, viz: prior discovery and settlement; and the title obtained from Spain by purchase in 1819, we do not think that the American plenipotentiary has satisfactorily answered the arguments of Mr. Pakenham, especially when the United States urge their sweeping claims to the whole territory. In claiming under these two sets of arguments, one of which invalidates the other. If the first claim be proved—prior discovery and settlement—England has undoubtedly superior advantages. If the claim be urged on the score of purchase from Spain, then England becomes a participator in the claim by virtue of the convention of 1790. It is impossible to apply both sets of arguments at the same time, without involving a contradiction.

Let us again run over the matter of prior discovery. Drake undoubtedly visited the northwest coast in 1579, and, in all probability, penetrated to 48 degrees of north latitude; at any rate, his claim to the merit of having reached 48 degrees is as good as Fuca's claim to the discovery of the straits which bear his name. All accounts agree in admitting that he reached 43, one degree or sixty miles within the now called Oregon Territory. To this coast and adjacent country he gave the name of New Albion,—which name it bore on the maps for ages. Cook discovered Cape Flattery in latitude 48, in 1777, also Nootka Sound, and thence sailed northward to Behring's Straits. Berkley and Meares arrived a year or two before Captain Gray.

All these discoveries were made before the American ... appeared in that quarter at all.

We now come to the Columbia river. Heceta, the Spanish navigator, certainly discovered the Columbia in 1775; but Capt. Gray was the first to pass the bar and enter its mouth, which he did in 1792, and sailed up the stream to the distance of 20 miles when he returned to the coast, abandoning further exploration. He was immediately followed by Broughton of Captain Vancouver's ... [illegible], who ascended the river and explored and surveyed it upwards of one hundred miles. The next exploration on the Columbia river was made by Lewis & Clarke, who crossed the Rocky Mountains from the eastward and discovered the southern or smaller branch of that river and pursued it to the Pacific. A few years afterwards Thompson, in the service of the Hudson Bay Company, crossed the Rocky Mountains from the eastward, and discovered the north or larger branch of the Columbia, which he in his turn pursued to the sea.

Thus, then, it appears that the United States discovered the mouth of the Columbia, and twenty miles of its stream, also the south or southern branch of the same river; while England explored and surveyed one hundred miles of the main river, and discovered the northern branch ... Was there ever a fairer subject of compromise and equitable division which is all that Great Britain asks?

So much for the Columbia: now for the northern part of the territory. Sir Alexander Mackenzie was the first civilized man who crossed the Rocky Mountains, in these parts. This he achieved in 1793 and discovered a part of the Tacoutche Tesse, now called Fraser's River, and ultimately reached the shores of the Pacific, in latitude 52 degrees. This was 13 years prior to the expedition of Lewis and Clarke.—How then can it be said that the United States can establish a prior claim to discovery from this side of the Rocky Mountains. If the expedition of Lewis and Clarke in 1805 could give a title to the whole territory, how much stronger must be the claim of Mackenzie whose expedition was in 1793?

Next as to prior settlement. The only settlement made by the United States was that of Astoria in '11 which was in a few years abandoned, and has not since been revived. But on the part of England it is established that Meares had settlements on Vancouver's Island, previous to 1790—it is also established that Fraser of the Hudson's Bay Company, crossed the Rocky Mountains, and established a settlement on Fraser's Lake. This took place in 1806, 5 years before the settlement of Astoria. If then the settlement of Astoria in 1811, constituted a good title, the settlement on Fraser's Lake in 1806, must be better.

How, with these facts staring us in the face, can ... [illegible] ... whole of the Territory? Will such a pretension ever be enforced by the sword? will the people of this christian country, plunge the two nations into war, desolation and bloodshed, on claims which are so doubtful and equivocal, especially when the opposing party is willing to make a fair and equal division?

Right by Purchase.

We shall now say a few words on the subject of the title acquired by purchase. The United States purchased from Spain all her right to the territory in 1819.

To establish an exclusive title to the whole territory under this purchase, it is necessary to show:

1st, That the whole of Oregon, at the time of purchase in 1819, an actual and bona fide Spanish colony.

2d, That the Convention of the Escurial between England Spain in 1790, was null and void.

If these points be established, all discoveries explorations and settlements made previous to the last named year, 1819, either by England or the U. States, were alleged obtrusions and usurpations. The discovery of the mouth of the Columbia by Gray, the expedition of Lewis and Clarke, and the founding of Astoria, pass for nothing, and must be banished from the field of argument.

But the convention of Escurial cannot be overthrown or set aside—that is a solemn treaty entered into, ratified, confirmed and acted upon by England and Spain after all due deliberation. Spain had denied the right of England to trade with the natives on the north-west coast, or to make settlements there. She sent her officers and broke up Meares' establishment at Nootka Sound, and perpetrated other acts of violence. England called for redress, and insisted that the north west coast was not a Spanish colony, for Spain had no settlements there, no fortifications, and made no use of the territory. Like the dog in the manger, she neither used the country herself, nor would she permit others to do so. At last the patience of England became exhausted, the temper of the people was aroused, and they prepared for war. An expedition upon a most gigantic scale was planned for the purpose of making reprisals. Great Britain was agitated from one extremity to the other. Ships were commissioned, regiments were prepared for embarkation, and activity pervaded every dock-yard. Spain at last became alarmed, and agreed to negotiate, when the Convention of the Escurial followed, and England disbanded her armament, which had cost nearly three millions of money in its preparation. And yet Mr. Buchanan tells us that the Convention was good for nothing.

The principal articles in this convention is the following:—

"In order to strengthen the bonds of friendship and to preserve in future a perfect harmony and good understanding, between the two contracting parties, it is agreed that their respective subjects shall not be disturbed or molested, either in navigating or carrying on their fisheries in the Pacific ... [illegible] ... country, or of making settlements there; ... [illegible] ... the following articles."

The ... [illegible] ... the right ... by the two high contracting parties. It is not a boon or an indulgence granted by Spain to England, but a right claimed, admitted and made reciprocal—and therefore, inviolable. The right was exercised by England immediately; the Hudson Bay Company proceeded to make settlements ... in 1819, the year of sale by Spain to the United States, ... the company ... various parts of the territory. How, then, could Spain sell these rights to another power? Spain had merely a joint interest in the country with England, and that she was at liberty to sell, but nothing more. The United States bought her claim, but no exclusive sovereignty, or why did the American government consent to the treaty of joint occupancy, which continues up to the present moment, and which, in its essential principle recognizes British rights? But Mr. Buchanan says, that the convention of 1790 was annulled by the war which followed between Great Britain and Spain in 1796 and became a nonentity;—Spain having by the declaration of that war regained all her former pretended claims. Then, we say again, why was the treaty of joint occupancy renewed and continued after the purchase of 1819? The treaty of joint occupancy is a tacit admission of joint right, and it can never be set aside but with the consent of both parties.

The argument that a war between two nations cancels all treaties previously existing must be taken with limitations. That it puts an end to certain temporary obligations is true; but not so with treaties that have a permanent character such as those, which refer to territorial and permanent rights. That the Convention of 1790 was permanent is certain, for no limit was fixed to its duration; and, although England continued to act under the provisions of this Convention after the declaration of war in 1796, and after the restoration of peace, Spain interposed no objection. From 1796 to 1819, the period of the sale of the territory to the United States, Spain offered no impediment to the extension of the Hudson Bay settlements and presented no remonstrance. Neither in peace nor in war did she attempt to rid herself of the compact. She entered into it unwillingly, it is true, but she observed it faithfully.

Suppose on the breaking out of the war in 1796 the settlement at Nootka Sound had increased to 5000 British inhabitants, what would have been the fate of those people under such a construction of the Convention? As Spain could not have made subjects of them without their consent, what disposition could she have made of them? Put them to the sword or marched them into captivity and bondage? She could have done either, certainly, if she possessed the power, but the sovereignty of the soil would have remained as the convention left it, unless changed by conquest or negotiation. The Hudson Bay Company hold their settlement in the Oregon territory by the same tenure, especially as Spain offered no remonstrance to their doing so on the return of peace, which was a virtual admission that the obligations of the Convention were still in force and effect. Nor could Great Britain then, or at any other time, have offered objections to Spanish settlements, had any Spaniards appeared to make them, for the subjects of both nations had an equal and joint interest there. These conjoint Spanish rights are now held by the United States by virtue of their purchase, and neither the United States nor Great Britain can set up an exclusive claim for the whole, to the detriment of the other. Such a claim by either party is as valuable as the dross that rises upon the molten lead, as the foam that gathers upon the Atlantic surge, or the dust of the earth that is set in motion by the hurricane.

Let the two nations then be wise in time, and make a fair and equal division of the property.

Treaties, as we have said before, which involve the rights of third parties, or territory cannot be abrogated by war; they may be suspended for some time, but ... [illegible] ... Great Britain acknowledged the independence of the United States and surrendered to them a vast territory. This treaty, under the assumption that war abrogates all treaties, would have been annulled in 1812 when the United States declared hostilities against England, and the people of these states would have returned into British colonists; and as that treaty has not been renewed, the people of this country would be British colonists to this very hour! So too with all other treaties of cession. Would war with Holland restore to her the Cape of Good Hope and Demerara, without the intervention of conquest or negotiation? Have the wars with Spain restored Gibraltar to her subjection; or the hostilities with France, give back to that nation, Quebec? How then does the renewal of war cancel all national compacts?

But even if this principle could be maintained, the treaty made between England and Spain in 1814 would restore all the rights of the Escurial Convention, for it contains the following important clause;

"It is agreed that pending the negotiation of a new treaty of commerce, Great Britain shall be admitted to trade with Spain upon the same conditions as those which existed previous to 1796; all the treaties of commerce, which at that period subsisted between the two nations being hereby ratified and confirmed."

But it is attempted to set aside even this on the plea, that Spain never permitted foreigners to trade with her colonies. This is true to a certain extent, but not in every case, and supposing the northwest coast to have been a Spanish colony as Mr. Buchanan contends, Spain did by the convention of the Escurial *permit a foreign nation to trade there, and that nation was England.*

The right of England, as a foreign nation, to trade with the northwest coast was conceded and stipulated for in the Convention—that indeed was the express object of the instrument—and in the treaty of 1814 the Convention of the Escurial was revived in its fullest and most ample sense. What are the words—"*all treaties of commerce which at that period subsisted,* in 1796 *between the two nations being hereby ratified and confirmed.*" Now, ... [illegible] ... treaty of the Escurial ... [illegible] ... be it remembered, took place five years before the sale was made to the United States; consequently the United States made the purchase subject to the provisions of this treaty. Can the force of proof or argument go farther; or can language be more clear, more explicit or more conclusive?

With these views we again commend to the American people our proposal of the Puget Sound line of compromise, which if admitted is by far the most liberal that has been suggested.

MONTREAL POLICE COURT.

Before Col. Ermatinger.

Saturday, Dec. 20, 1845.

Wm. Scougall was brought up charged with an attempt to seduce soldiers from their allegiance, and to enlist them for the service of the United States.

It appeared that Col. Ermatinger had heard that a party in town was engaged in an attempt to entice soldiers from their duty, and that he had communicated with Capt. Wily on the subject, who had sent Constable Belsham, an old soldier, down to Doctor's tavern, in order to ferret out the matter. Belsham went into the tavern, and having sat down a few minutes, the prisoner came in, and after making a few remarks on the subject of the probabilities of a war, he enquired what Constable Belsham was doing: Belsham said he was a soldier, acting as a servant; upon which the prisoner proposed to him to better himself by enlisting in the United States army. The Constable engaged to do so, and to procure eighteen or twenty more stout fellows. Several glasses of beer were drunk upon the strength of this agreement, after which the Constable lodged his friend in the Station House, and brought him to the Court this morning. The prisoner stated in reply, that he had been brought up as a merchant, and had been in Russia in very respectable business, being in some way connected with the firm to which Lord Sydenham belonged: that after that, he had been in Spain with the Auxiliary Legion, and had served in Canada in Col. Hill's Battalion; he was the last man, he said, who would do any thing against the British Government, and if he had done what the Constable stated, it must have been when he was drunk. It was his intention to proceed at once to New York, for the purpose of going to England, where he designed to publish a book on emigration in order to put himself in funds for the purposes of a voyage to Russia. He also gave an account of his connection with some highly respectable families in this country, whose names it is unnecessary to mention.

Col. Ermatinger told the prisoner, that he recollected having him before him on a previous occasion, for the theft of a book; and that, although there was no doubt of the respectability of his family, the prisoner ... [illegible] ... The affair in which he had been engaged, was of a very delicate nature, amounting to high treason; but as he had no reason to believe that he was serious in ... [illegible]

DISASTERS ON THE LAKES.

The steamer ... [illegible] ... her bow with sheet iron, at Cleveland, so as to withstand the action of the ice, she left, downward bound, on Friday, and on Saturday night, when a short distance west of Erie, fire was discovered issuing in a solid column and the smoke-pipes for some distance above the deck. It was, however, subdued.

We learn that the schooner Favorite, Keeler, master, with a cargo of hardware, stoves, pipes, apples, sugar, and molasses, is sunk in the lake, some eight miles off Monroe. She, in company with the Sizer, and several others, attempted to go west from Cleveland, but encountering much ice, the vessels attempted to make port the best way they could.

Captain Trowbridge sent us the following in relation to the wreck seen on the Canada shore:—

Normandale, Long Point, C. W., December 4th. I learned from a party who have recently returned from the Point, that a large foretopsail schooner went down at her anchor on the night of 18th Nov., and all on board perished. She came too off the point of the Point, on the afternoon of the 17th, having lost her foresail, and, being otherwise disabled, lay there repairing damages, until the next evening, when she was struck by a squall and went to the bottom. Her topgallant yard is out of the water.

The current report in Buffalo when I left, that the wreck of the Texas had come ashore between Gravelly Bay and Long Point, proves to be incorrect. All the remains of her is on the west shore of the Point.

The report of a man coming ashore from the schooner there is ascertained to be untrue. All on board of that vessel were lost.

The schooner ashore at Point Waubashanka were seen by the Cleveland, and supposed to be a lower Lake ..., because have on board the steamer not identifying her. The Pilot is a small new vessel, and left this port on the 25th October.

During the severe weather and blow at Chicago, 27th ult., the steamer Champion, Capt. Ward, rendered good service in getting into port three vessels that had drifted south of the piers, with their rigging frozen, and the wind fresh from the northward. The vessels rescued from their perilous positions by the heroism of Captain Ward, are the O. Richmond, Vermont, and N. Dousman.

The Journal of the 29th says:—"This morning before daylight, Captain Ward left the harbour in search of a vessel, which was seen last evening about five miles from the end of the pier, unable to make the port. In consequence of a heavy fog, the vessel could not be made out, though Capt. Ward searched for some hours, at the same time blowing off steam, occasionally firing guns, ringing the boat's bell, &c." Subsequent arrivals say she proved to be the Ottawa, lying at anchor about 7 miles in a south easterly direction, with rigging frozen and sails covered with ice. The Champion brought the vessel into port upon a conditional ... The schooner Bowen got within the piers at Chicago on the 28th with considerable difficulty. The Captain had several of his fingers frozen. The sails were so stiff that they had to pound them with clubs and put salt on them in order to use them. The master reports six vessels ashore on the east side of the Lake within 30 miles of each other, but did not know their names.—[Buffalo Adv., December 8.

CONTINUATION OF THE NEWS BY THE ACADIA.

Ireland.

Dublin.—The potato disease, the threatened famine, and repeal, are the three great topics which occupy at present in Ireland.

The Irish farmers are, in many districts, withholding their grain in the markets, in the hope of a considerable advance in its price. Many of them are raising money upon usurious terms, to meet their engagements, whilst not a few plead the potato disease, and the low prices, to their creditors, as sufficient excuse for them.

The accounts are conflicting, respecting the potato crop. Some journals say that the crop to be good on average—other journals admit its statement to be correct, but assert that nearly the whole crop will be destroyed before Christmas by the rot, or disease, that has attacked the potato.

France.

Paris.—The French journals have been chiefly occupied with the Oregon question, and railway speculation.

The public attention in Paris was also directed to ... [illegible] ... more formidable appearance than was at all anticipated. The price of railway shares have fallen lower than they were even during the dispute between the English and French Governments, on the Tahiti question, and the greatest alarm existed among speculators. The effect upon the Bourse was to put an end to almost all business, the brokers refusing in many instances, to transact business of any kind, except for the purpose of closing accounts.

It is stated that eight bankruptcies were declared, in the Tribunal of Commerce of Paris, in one day.—The engagements of the bankrupts amount to 2,000,000 f.

Riots on account of apprehended dearth.—The alarm in the provinces of France, on account of the apprehended dearth from the exportation of corn to England appears to have been great. At Cherbourg, St. Malo, Rouen, and other places, serious riots have already taken place, and in other places the excitement is so great that apprehensions are entertained of an outbreak.

A letter from St. Malo, of the 17th ult., has the following:—

"This morning a writing was found posted up at the corner of our fruit and vegetable market, calling upon the populace to assemble and set fire to the house of M. Hovius, the Mayor of the town, and M. ... [illegible]

The same disturbances have occurred along the whole coast of lower Brittany, black wheat being the main resources of the poor, in a season when the growth of potatoes fail.

Poland.

Polish Conspiracy.—Letters from the Polish frontier of the 16th ult., state that several arrests were effected in the kingdom of Poland, more especially in Warsaw and its vicinity, on account of the discovery of an extensive conspiracy. A plot in Posen had its origin in Warsaw.

Prussia.

Berlin.—The news from Prussia is not important. The religious movements of the German Catholics do not receive so much attention as they did some time since.

Some Berlin manufacturers recently addressed the King a letter, for the purpose of obtaining an extension of the protection duties. The King replied that the interest of the national industry will find from his Majesty's Government every attention consistent with the general good, but that to attain this object there is no need of such collective representations, which transgress the prescribed regulations of petitions, and are, therefore, highly displeasing to his Majesty."

NEW ZEALAND.

By the recent India mail, accounts have been received from New Zealand of another defeat of the British by the natives. The following is the account of the affair, in his dispatches, by the English commander on the occasion, who, no doubt, puts the most favourable construction on the circumstances of the case:—

DESPATCHES FROM COL. DESPARD TO GOVERNOR FITZROY.

"Camp, before Heki's Pah, July 2.

Sir,—It is with much more regret than I can express, that I have to acquaint your excellency that an attempt was yesterday made by the troops under my command, in the afternoon, to carry the fortified position, or Pah, of Heki, without success, and we were repulsed with heavy loss. * * *

Finding the guns which I had brought with me from Auckland quite ineffective for breaching, from their very defective carriages, as they frequently upset from their own firing, I requested Captain Johnson, of her Majesty's ship Hazard, to send me one of his heavy guns, which was accordingly brought up to the camp, a distance of 15 miles land carriage, over most execrable roads, with great labour and difficulty, on the 30th; and, during that day, a platform was erected on the side of a hill on the right of our position, the top of which hill was occupied by our allies, Waka Nene, and his tribe. A sergeant's guard of the 58th regiment was also there with a view of taking the enemy's position. The Hazard's gun opened its fire about ten o'clock, a.m., and the attention of every body was occupied in directing its effects, a sudden attack was made on the hill, from a very thick wood close in its rear and Waka's people were driven from it. I was in the ... half way down the hill, when this attack ... when I instantly ordered up a part of ... [illegible] ... under Major Bridge, who gallantly ... up the hill ... to turn the enemy's left ... [illegible] ... the position, with the loss of only ... [illegible]

"This attack showed me the necessity of coming to an immediate decision, and accordingly determined on attacking the Pah by assault in the afternoon, as soon as a few shots brought up from the Hazard (twenty-six in number) were expended; which, I expected, would so loosen the stockades as to enable the men attacking them to cut and pull them down. In pursuance of this resolution, a storming party was ordered to parade at three o'clock, p.m., for this purpose; and I issued instructions for its guidance, as detailed in the accompanying memorandum. The parties for the attack were enabled to advance within sixty to one hundred yards of the point of attack and there remain, unperceived by the enemy, in a ravine under cover. When the advance was sounded, they rushed forward in the most gallant manner, and every endeavour was made to pull the stockade down. They partially succeeded in opening the outward one; but the inward one resisted all their efforts; and being lined with men firing through loopholes on a level with the ground, and from others half way up, our men were falling so fast, that notwithstanding the most daring acts of bravery and the greatest perseverance, they were obliged to retire. This could not be effected without additional loss, in the endeavour to bring off the wounded men, in which they were generally successful. The retreat was covered by the party under Lieutenant-Colonel Hulme of the 96th regiment; and too much praise cannot be given to that officer for the coolness and steadiness with which he conducted it under a very heavy fire.

"I must here remark, that the hatchets and axes, as well as the ropes for pulling down the stockades, and the ladders, were all thrown away or left behind by those appointed to carry them; and to this circumstance I attribute the main cause of the failure.

"I trust that it will not be thought that the character of the British has been tarnished on this occasion. One-third of the men actually engaged fell in the attack; and, during the eight days that we have been engaged carrying on operations against this place, one-fourth of the whole strength of the British soldiers under my command (originally not exceeding four hundred and ninety) have been either killed or wounded."

A private letter, dated July 12th, 11 days after this repulse, states that the English had succeeded in getting some of their large guns up to the top of the hill, not far distant from the pah; whence they fired down on it, and caused its evacuation. This statement, however, as it is not borne out by any official document, requires confirmation.

ENGLAND & THE OREGON QUESTION.

A London correspondent of the *Boston Atlas*, writing under date of Dec. 3, says:—

War with the United States has been the leading and most exciting topic of the press and the public during the last fortnight; although the more pacific tone of the American papers received by the Caledonia, on Saturday last, has within the last three days considerably allayed the war panic. Government is, however, I am assured by different well informed parties, *making the most active and extensive preparation in the dock-yards, that this country may be ready at a moment's notice, to maintain the rights of Great Britain to the Oregon Territory.* It is agreed that British Ministers should no longer suffer themselves to be trifled with by the caprices of an "American rabble"—that however strongly opposed to war the more reflecting population of the Atlantic cities may be, and however willing to compromise a most difficult question, yet, as it is not in the power of President Polk and his advisers, even if it were their wish, to settle the Oregon question upon the terms proposed by Great Britain, it is imperative on the British Government to be fully prepared to maintain her rights, whatever the consequences may be.

I think I have stated the case in a simple manner. I look at the question from different points. I study attentively the popular feeling on this subject in the United States, and I watch the effect of the expression of that feeling in the American government paper upon the public mind in England; and I am firmly convinced, that *neither Sir Robert Peel, nor his political opponents, will submit to be tossed about by every wind and wave from America.* They will not submit to the demands of President Polk, nor will they heed the ever-changing war-cry of his party. *They are preparing for the worst that may come;* and whether the President's message, which is now probably on its way to this country, breath peace or war, the Oregon question *must be settled, and speedily settled.* There must be no delay, no tampering.—*Upon this point, I repeat, the Premier and his Colleagues have decided.* They feel, and ... [illegible] ... that they have been trifled with. It is far from my intention to call forth ... [illegible] ... ment in the United States. It is my earnest wish to allay it; but at the same time, it is my duty to warn my countrymen of their dangerous position—rendered more dangerous by their own injudicious, not to say wicked, threats towards a powerful nation, like Great Britain.

The Corn Trade in Europe.

London.—Since our last publication the "Corn Trade" in London, has been rather more animated, and prices, since fully understood that the Government did not interfere with the operation of the Corn Laws, have been on the advance. The trifling nature of the supply of Wheat at Mark Lane, the 19th ultimo, rendered important operations impossible.—Fine qualities sold on that day at prices fully above those alluded to in our last paper. On the 21st ult., the turn was decidedly against the buyer.

The trade was quite firm at the market held on the 24th, and prices improved 1s from the currency of that day se'nnight. The sale of flour was pretty free, and prices well supported. There was little business done in English Wheat on the 24th ult., owing to the want of good fresh qualities. Foreign free Wheat commanded quite as much money, and bonded parcels were held very firmly at previously reported prices.

... [illegible] ... and although fine quantities of old wheat supported former prices, the general run of new was 1s per qr. cheaper than on this day week. Free foreign met a fair retail demand, as also bonded for consumption, but there was nothing on speculation, and the value of either remains unaltered.

Liverpool.—The trade in Grain, at this market, is without much excitement since the sailing of the last steamer. At some of the markets which have since been held a fair amount of business has been transacted. Prices, which had somewhat receded at the date of our last publication, have rallied, but not so much as most persons expected. The trade was so very dull on the 28th instant that the prices of most articles was little more than nominal, however, by the improving state of the markets in the interior, and looking forward to the revival in the demand, holders appeared in no wise over anxious to force sales at any material reduction, and we have, therefore, no important decline to report from the general currency of the previous market.

The foregoing observations, applicable to all sorts of English, Irish, and foreign free produce, are equally so to any floating, or under bond, in which no sales transpired. At the market on Tuesday the 16th instant, the trade exhibited a dull aspect in all its bearings. From the rates upon a very limited scale, restricted wholly to needy buyers, new wheats indiscriminately, receded 2d or 3d, and old 1d to 2d per 70 lbs, from the rates of the previous Tuesday. Bonded Wheats, though without inquiry, were held nominally at late prices. Irish flour was 2s per sack, and Canadian 6d per barrel cheaper—each moving slowly to customers at the abatement. Flour under lock also declined fully 1s per barrel—about 200 of States having changed hands at 22s. Oats notwithstanding the supply at hand is small, were difficult of sale and the turn cheaper.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.

(From the Circular of Messrs. Chaloner and Fleming, Nov. 29.)

The arrivals from British America amount this month to 52 vessels, 32,250 tons, and although less than the corresponding month last year by 10,593 tons, still the total import of the year, so far, reaches the extraordinary amount of 391 vessels, 912,000 tons, or an excess of 23,000 tons over the whole of last year's imports to the end of January. It is not yet known accurately how many vessels may still be expected from Canada this season, but however few, the stocks here, we think, will be found amply sufficient until the commencement of next year's imports.

Pine Timber.—In Quebec, the transactions have not been extensive. One cargo was sold at 17½d, and two others at 17d per foot.

Red Pine.—Quebec, of large average, say 50 feet, has been sold, with cargo, at 2s per foot; apart, a parcel of 12 feet average at 24d, and from the yard, another parcel, of same average, at 2s per foot.

Quebec Oak, with cargo, has been sold at 2s 3d per foot, and, apart, a parcel of good quality and large size, at 2s 7 1-2d per foot; from the yard, one parcel has been sold at 2s 8d, and, by auction, another at 2s 5d to 2s 6d per foot; some old inferior quality at 18d per foot.

Quebec Ash has been sold by auction at 19½d and 20d to 21d per foot.

Quebec Elm, with cargo, has been sold at 17 1-2d per foot, and apart, by auction, at 19½d per foot.

Quebec Deals, with cargo, have been sold at £8 to £9 per standard, and, in one instance, at £10 per standard; apart, by auction, one lot was sold at £9 10s, and another at £10 12s 6d per standard.

Masts and Spars.—A parcel of about forty choice large Yellow Pine Masts was sold at 2s 9 3-4d per foot calliper, and a lot of Spruce Staves at 15d per foot.

Lathwood.—St. John, with cargo, has been sold at 30s to 40s per fathom, and Quebec at 60s per fathom; both kinds, by auction, have been sold at from £4 2s 6d to £5 per fathom.

Staves.—The business done has not been extensive. Quebec Standard, with cargo, have been sold at £45, and apart, by auction, at £49 5s to £50 per standard, and short lengths at £30 per standard. Quebec W. O. Puncheon have been sold at £14 15s to £15 5s per M.

Handspikes.—Some rough Quebec have been sold at 18s per dozen.

The Papal States.—Extract of a letter dated Ancona, 18th September:—"The church festivals having just terminated in commemoration of the pretended miracle performed by a painting of the Madonna in the cathedral church of this town, in opening and moving its eyes, I send you for publication, if you think proper, with the Cardinal's pastoral invitation to this diocese on this wonderful miracle. My object in addressing you on this subject, though an Italian and a Catholic, is to show that we are not all blinded with the superstition with which our priests would overwhelm our people. With much mortification I shall see this subject discussed by the free and enlightened press of Europe [through in my channels] to the disgrace and degradation of my own country; but pray allow this letter to appear as the protest of one, in the name of many nurturing the same sentiments, which must for the present remain buried in our own bosoms, or otherwise expose ourselves to persecution—sentiments agreeable to the true first faith of our fathers and opposed to the present superstitious veneration of images, with its accompaniment of debasing credulity and tendency to ignorance and tyranny. My handwriting is disguised and my initials are feigned (for the sanctity of private correspondence is no more respected by our rulers, civil and spiritual, than the consciences of individuals), and should you refuse this anonymous letter a place in your valuable columns, you will perhaps have the kindness to keep it, as a proof of its date, until a few months hence, when I will convince you, with documents ... [illegible] ..., that the severance of M. Ronge in Germany is but a foreshadow of what will inevitably occur in Italy on a larger scale on the first occasion; for the mass of the population is now irresistably travelling to two equally extreme points, viz.,—fanaticism and infidelity,—driven thereto by the excessive corruption of the church, now no longer Catholic but Roman, from which calamitous condition we hope to behold it ere long raised by skillful and curative hands. With sentiments of respect I subscribe myself, &c.

Chronicle & Gazette.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1845.

The news by the *Acadia* gives note of warlike preparation in England of a still more formidable nature than that received by the *Cambria*. This complexion of affairs appears confirmatory of the general belief, that Great Britain now considers that having gone to the utmost limits, consistent with her own honor and her just rights, to effect an amicable settlement of the Oregon question, and having arrived at this *ultimatum*, she has assumed a position demonstrative of her will and readiness to maintain those rights at every hazard—at even the hazard of war, which, in all the negotiations that have been maintained between the two countries on this most complex question, she has ever evinced the utmost anxiety to avoid.

... [illegible] ... on the part of England may be but a *ruse de guerre* in order to obtain the admittance of her claim through intimidation, and overrating that country's estimated value of the commercial intercourse subsisting between the two countries so far as to suppose an interruption of it by war would be too disastrous an occurrence to England to admit of her putting her present belligerent preparations into actual operation. But the question now arises—which of the two countries would suffer most in the event of a war; it is estimated that the United States has 600,000 tons of shipping engaged in her fisheries alone; her magnificent line of sea-board enables her to furnish forth an abundant supply of that description of craft so beautifully adapted for the carrying trade, which may be seen swarming the ocean in every latitude, and may well warrant the assertion made so often by her admirers, that were she permitted she could carry for all the world. Of the number of these it would perhaps be difficult to obtain an accurate account, but certainly it must be immense. Now the query is, if involved in a war with England, what would become of her fisheries?—what would become of her Carrying Trade?—what would become of her Steam Packets which ply in such numbers between the various ports along her extensive coast?—how would her sea-board towns and cities fare, that are exposed to the first fury of invading fleets and armies? The gigantic Naval force which Great Britain has now ready for service independent of that now in preparation, completely equiped and adapted for every contingency of the service, and the undivided strength of which may now be directed to any one particular point, must lead to the instant conviction that, her trading vessels would be swept from off the face of the seas, and her seaport cities and towns laid in ruins.

Her Cotton and Tobacco exportation trade with England would of course be suspended, and the same with other countries would be so harassed and impeded by the cruisers of England, as to render it in every direction nearly nugatory. The extensive business in Staves, Flour, and other articles of her home produce, which she carries on with our West India Islands would be at an end, in short, the entire extent of her exportation and carrying trade would be annihilated, or so endangered as nearly to amount to the same thing.

The successful termination of the Texas affair which seems to have infused so much confidence throughout the United States, as to the prowess of the Country, both as relates to war, as to state policy, may not, in the event of a war with England, afford a long continuance of the profitable results anticipated from the achievement. For it is not very probable that Mexico would neglect taking advantage of so favorable an occurrence, to make another strenuous exertion to recover the possession of Texas, particularly when knowing that England had already opposed her influence to the annexation of that country to the United States. If such an event should happen, and Mexico attempt a movement of the kind, it is by no means improbable that England might lend a helping hand, and in that case, the United States tenure of Texas would be in a very dubious condition.

The Slave population in the Southern States is estimated at nearly three millions. The emancipation of their coloured brethren in all the British Colonies has no doubt created a desire in the minds of the former, of partaking of the same blessing, and this being withheld from them, even after the liberal example offered for their imitation by the British Government, must undoubtedly have had the effect of infusing in their minds an encreased period of hatred for their enslavers, which might break out in open hostility if encouraged by the proximity of the armies or fleets of the liberators of their Countrymen.

On the other hand, the commerce of Great Britain and her Colonies would no doubt suffer to a certain extent by this anticipated war, but her wide spread resources, and powerful defences both on land and at sea, would place the amount of injury she might experience in a trifling point of view, to that which the event would inflict on her adversary. Independent of the immense stock in hand of American produce, which the enterprise or necessity of this Continent is continually pouring into her markets, additional supplies of similar commodities are always within her power to obtain through neutral channels, either the actual growth of America, or that of other Countries. In the article of Cotton for example—the produce of Egypt, though unequal in point of quantity, is of a quality much superior to that of the American growth, and is used in preference by the English manufacturers. We shall resume the subject in our next.

The following advertisement appears in the Montreal Herald of Thursday last, in a subsequent number of the same paper, the word "..." is stated to have been inserted by mistake instead of "drill."

TO VOLUNTEERS.

"The Undersigned beg to inform those men who are desirous of serving under them during the approaching War, that they will meet them at the Office of Ross & Colburn, Point au Calliere, on Friday Evening, the 19th instant, at eight o'clock.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

E. E. Colburn,
J. Hutchins.

Dec. 18, 1845."

A Correspondent of the Montreal Times states, that by the new Militia General Order for the city of Montreal, of the 12th instant, it appears that the battalions are officered by 201 Gentlemen of British birth or extraction, and by 71 French Canadians.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Haines' new system of "Canadian Arithmetic," published at Picton by Mr. Douglas. The author seems to have compiled his work upon the most simple principles the science will admit of, and has succeeded admirably in rendering the book suitable for the use of pupils of a tender age, or of weak comprehension, being divested of the difficult to be understood technicalities generally used in similar works, and the explanations couched in familiar language.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the "Montreal Pocket Almanac," a very ... [illegible] ... formation. It is embellished with a number of wood cuts, executed in a very superior style. For sale in this Town by Ramsay, Armour & Co. and N. Palmer.

To Correspondents.—"E." has been received and will appear in our next.

For the Chronicle & Gazette.

Query.—At what degree of Fahrenheit's scale will Mercury freeze and become solid?

Does it require more or less heat for keeping that substance in fusion than for spirit of wine?

For the Chronicle & Gazette.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and Tax-payers resident in the Township of Kingston, held at the Inn of Mr. James Gardiner, Lot 24, on the 26th December, 1845, for the purpose of choosing a fit and proper person to represent the interests of the Township in the District Council the ensuing year,—Mr. John Alexander being called to the chair, and Mr. John Berry appointed Secretary, it was

Moved by Mr. John Gray, and seconded by Mr. Adam McMahon,

Resolved,—That John Heaslip, Esq., is a fit and proper person to represent our interests, as Councilman, in the Municipal Council of the Midland District. Carried unanimously.

Mr. Heaslip, being called for from the chair to state to the meeting whether he should again be willing to represent their interests in the District Council, the Chairman stating at the same time their wish to come forward and support him without a dissenting voice, and their indignation at certain reports which had been circulated that he would not again come forward.

Mr. Heaslip assured the meeting it was his intention again to solicit their suffrages at the approaching election, and offered to his friends his most zealous exertions.

Moved by Mr. John Flanagan, and seconded by Mr. Wm. Graham,

Resolved,—That John Heaslip, Esq. is entitled to the support of all who feel an interest in the improvement of this Township. Carried without a dissenting voice.

Moved by Mr. Arthur Hooper, and seconded by Mr. Wm. Graham,