THE BRITISH WHIG,
AND
PUBLISHER for Canada West,
PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY,
Every Wednesday and Saturday Morning,
BY EDWARD JOHN BARKER & SON,
AT THE ATHENÆUM,
Ontario Street, next door to the Lambton House.
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The British Whig being a Journal of the largest Canadian Circulation, no discount will be allowed on advertisements on any pretext whatsoever.
All Letters to be post-paid.
JOHN LOVE, PRINTER.

The British Whig,

AND GENERAL ADVERTISER FOR CANADA WEST.

"OPIFER PER ORBEM DICOR."

VOL. XVII. KINGSTON, CANADA, WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 2, 1848. NO. 10.

The Athenæum Book Store,
IN EAST STREET, NEXT DOOR TO THE POST-OFFICE.
AT this well known Establishment may be had all kinds of Stationery & Blank Books, including those of the Irish Education Society, Bibles, Testaments, Prayer, Catholic Books of Prayer, and Hymn Books. Also, all kinds of New York Publications, together with stereotyped editions of Standard Works; and all the Spencer's editions of Ancient and Modern Works on Fine Machinery. English Newspapers procured.
BOOK-BINDING & RULING done to order. Deeds and Law Blanks, Court of Requests Blanks, always kept for Sale.

JOB PRINTING,
ALL Descriptions of JOB PRINTING executed at the ATHENÆUM Printing-Office, with despatch and moderate prices.
Posters, Handbills, Circulars, Bill Heads, Cards, Bills of Lading, Steam'er Bills, Blanks of all kinds, Funeral Cards, &c. &c.
Printing in Colours neatly executed.
☞ The assortment of Job Type is entirely new and of the very best description.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

T. BRADLEY,
(LATE OF DUBLIN AND LONDON,
HATTER & FURRIER.
PRINCESS STREET, KINGSTON, (C. W.)
Directly opposite McCauley's Chequered Store.
ALL DESCRIPTIONS OF
Ladies and Gentlemen's Furs
Cleaned and Altered.
GAUNTLETS MADE IN A SUPERIOR STYLE.

J. V. CLARKE,
GROCER,
WINE AND SPIRIT DEALER,
LAMBTON BUILDINGS,
PRINCESS STREET, KINGSTON, CANADA WEST.

VIRGIL & CO'S EXPRESS.
WILLIAM WARE—*Agent,*
KINGSTON.

C. W. P. De L'Armitage, GENERAL GROCER, Princess Street, Kingston, a few doors above Dr. Dickson's. Produce taken in exchange.

George Howe, *Painter, Gilder, and Glazier,* Bagot St. Kingston, (near Mr. Phippen's Candle Factory.)—Sign Painting, Wood and Marble Imitations, and Decorated Work in general. z

John S. Clute, Auctioneer and Commission Merchant, corner of Ontario and Brock Streets. All orders thankfully received and punctually attended to.

Thomas Penney's Wholesale and Retail LEATHER STORE, Princess Street, Kingston, Dealer in Native and spanish Sole Leather, Uppers, Kips and Calf Skins, Moroccos and Linings, Boot-Makers' Findings of every description.

Hagan, O'Reilly & Henderson, Barristers, Attorneys at Law, &c. &c., Kingston.
JAMES O'REILLY,
GEORGE E. HENDERSON. } 69-6m*

James Powell, Ironmonger & Tin Ware Manufacturer, Princess Street, Kingston.

The British American Hotel, (Late Daley's) by J. PATTERSON, Kingston, Canada West. 57-z

L. A. McDowall, Furrier & Hatter Brock Street, Kingston. Furs made up to order on the shortest notice. Furs of every description, Bought and Sold.

Matthew Drummond, Grocer, Wine & Spirit Merchant, Wellington Buildings, (next to Mr. W. Wilson's,) Kingston, C. W.

F & B. Kayler, Coach Builders, and Carriage Makers, Princess Street, Kingston.

Robert McCormick, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Wines, Spirits, Teas, Groceries, &c., Princess Street, Kingston.

Messrs. Macdonald & Campbell Barristers & Attorneys at Law, Princess Street, Kingston.
JOHN A. MACDONALD,
ALEXANDER CAMPBELL. }

James McMillan, Teacher of Music. Piano Fortes Tuned. Address Wm. McMillan, Auctioneer.

Thompson & Carey, General Importing and Commission Merchants, 51, Broad Street, New York.

William Ware, General Commission Agent, Broker and Auctioneer. Kingston, C. W.

Macdonald's Hotel, late Stone's, opposite the City Baths, King Street, Toronto.

Francis V. Carey, M. D., Surgeon, Accoucheur, &c. &c., Newburgh, Camden East.

Edward Stacey, Merchant Tailor, nearly opposite the Montreal Bank, King Street, Kingston.

John Blackiston, Sail-Maker, No. 4, Hardy's Buildings, Ontario Street. z

Walter Eales, Painter, Glazier, and Paper Hanger, Princess Street, Kingston.

E. & A. Chown, Tin Smiths, Copper Smiths, and Tin Plate Workers, Princess Street, Kingston.

T. G. Butler, Cabinet Maker and Upholsterer, Montreal Street, Kingston. A General Assortment of the latest styles of Furniture, constantly on hand, and for sale on liberal terms. 60

NOTICE.

THE NORTH WESTERN INSURANCE COMPANY, OF OSWEGO, N. Y.
THE Agent of this Company has removed his office to the Exchange Coffee House, in Irons' Hotel, Ontario Street, where he is prepared to grant Insurance against loss or damage to Property, whether from Fire or danger of Inland Navigation.
M. T. HUNTER, *Agent.*
November, 1847.

BLANKS of every description may be had at the Athenæum Book Store.

SHERIFFS SALE OF LANDS.

MIDLAND DISTRICT, To Wit: } BY virtue of a Writ of Fieri Facius, issued out of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench, and to me directed, at the suit of JOHN MOWAT and GEORGE LEVACH MOWAT, against the LANDS and TENEMENTS of RICHARD LOGAN, deceased, in the hands of JANE ANN LOGAN, Administratrix of the said Richard Logan, I have Seized and taken in Execution part of the broken front of Lot No. 19, in the First Concession of the Township of Kingston, in the Midland District, aforesaid, which Lot of Land I shall offer for Sale at the Court House, in the City of Kingston, on Saturday the 18th day of March next, at 12 o'clock, noon,
THOMAS A. CORBETT,
Sheriff Midland District.
Sheriff's Office, Midland District, 14th December, 1847. }

SHERIFF'S SALE OF LANDS.

MIDLAND DISTRICT, To Wit: } BY virtue of a Writ of Fieri Facius, issued out of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench, and to me directed, against the LANDS and TENEMENTS which were of JOHN HAESLIP, deceased, at the time of his death, to satisfy JOHN CARRUTHERS a certain sum in said writ mentioned, which the said JOHN CARRUTHERS had lately recovered against James Williamson and William Ferguson, Executors of the last Will and Testament of JOHN HAESLIP, deceased. I have seized and taken in Execution part of Lot 24, in 1st Concession Township of Kingston, purchased from Hilary Dupuy, Esquire, by the said JOHN HAESLIP, formerly in the occupation of one Thomas Cornot.—Part of Lot 24, in 1st Concession Township of Kingston, conveyed by one Thomas Howe, to the said JOHN HAESLIP. Part of Lot 24, in 1st Concession Township of Kingston, conveyed by one Louis Laporte, to the said JOHN HAESLIP. West-half Lot No. 30, in 2nd Concession of Camden East, 100 Acres. Part Lot No. 46, in 7th Concession of Camden East, 150 Acres.—Part of Lot No. 43, in 9th Concession of Camden East, 80 Acres; and part of the East-half of Lot No. 41, in 1st Concession of Camden East.
All which LANDS and TENEMENTS, I shall offer for Sale at the Court House, in the City of Kingston, on SATURDAY, the FOURTH day of MARCH NEXT, at 12 o'clock, noon.
T. A. CORBETT,
Sheriff M. D.
Sheriff's Office, City of Kingston, Mid. Dist., November 25, 1847. }

Sheriff's Sale.

MIDLAND DISTRICT, To Wit: } BY virtue of a Writ of Venditioni Exponas, issued out of Her Majesty's Court of Queen's Bench, and to me directed, against the LANDS and TENEMENTS of JAMES FRASER, at the suit of HOSEA B. SMITH, I have seized and taken the Northerly half Number 4, and North-Easterly quarter of Number 3, in the 4th Concession of Ernestown; also, the West-half of Number 24, in the 5th Concession Fredericksburgh, Midland District.—All which Lands I will offer for Sale at the Court House, in Kingston, on SATURDAY, the 4th day of MARCH NEXT, at the hour of 12 o'clock noon.
T. A. CORBETT,
Sheriff Midland District.
Sheriff's Office, City of Kingston, Midland District, November 30, 1847. }

SHERIFF'S SALE.

MIDLAND DISTRICT, To Wit: } ON SATURDAY, the fifteenth day of April next, at Twelve o'clock noon, will be sold at the Court House, in the City of Kingston, the undermentioned Lot of LAND, with the TENEMENTS thereon, Seized by virtue of a Writ of Fieri Facius, issued following suit, viz:
WILLIAM C. CLARK,
vs.
CHARLES JOHNSTON.
Lot number 167, in the City of Kingston.
T. A. CORBETT,
Sheriff M. D.
Sheriff's Office, Midland District, Kingston January 11, 1848. }

LONDON STEEL PENS.
JUST RECEIVED AT THE
ATHENEUM BOOK STORE,
A LARGE assortment of Steel Pens, by various makers, including Gillot's Celebrated Magnum Bonums; the New York Ladies' Pens, and several other new articles.
* * A Liberal allowance to the Trade.
October 26.

JUST RECEIVED
AND FOR SALE BY THE SUBSCRIBER.
A SUPPLY of "Jules Hauel's" celebrated Depilatory Powder, for removing hair without injury to the skin.
"Patey's" Old Brown Windsor Soap,
"Williams's" fine Almond Soap,
"Ede's" Indelible Ink, for marking Linen, &c.
Hair and Tooth Brushes, &c.,
And a general assortment of English Perfumery. ROBT. BARKER,
Druggist & Apothecary,
Brock Street.
Kingston, Oct. 8, 1847.

NOTICE.
THE Undersigned having been appointed Agent for the
COLUMBUS MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY,
Is now prepared to take Marine Risks of every description, at moderate rates of Premium.
THOMAS BRIGGS, Junr., *Agent.*
Office—Princess Street, Kingston. } 32-tf

Fall Importations.
OF
SUGARS, TEAS, WINES, SPIRITS
AND
Groceries,
BY
ROBERT ALLEN,
BROCK STREET, KINGSTON.
THE Subscriber respectfully begs leave to inform his Town and Country Customers, that he is now receiving his Winter Stock of
SUGARS,
Loaf and Muscovado.
TEAS, GROCERIES, WINES, SPIRITS, &c
Carefully selected by personal inspection in the Montreal and New York Markets.
His present Stock comprises among others, the following Articles:—
TEAS:
Gunpowder, Hyson, Young Hyson, Twankay, Hyson Skin, Pekoe, Caper Souchong, Souchong, Congou and Bohea.
SUGARS:
Muscovado, Superior Moist, East India do., Double Refined, Crushed, Molasses.
COFFEE:
Green, Roasted and ground, Plantation, Havana, and Mocha—Cocoa.
CHOCOLATE:—Best Spanish, Plain & Prepared
WINES:
(IN WOOD OR BOTTLE,)
E. J. Madeira, L. P. do. Sherry, Pale and Brown, L. P. Teneriffe, Hunts' Port and Sherry, Benesarlo, Claret, Malaga, superior Old Port.
SPIRITS:
Old Jamaica, Long Island, Cognac Brandy, Bordeaux Brandy, Holland Gin, Common Gin, Canada Whiskey, Scotch Whiskey, Scheidam Gin in 1 doz. cases, Cherry, Peppermint, London Porter and Pale Ale in quarts Stoughton's Elixir, Maraschino, Eau de Vie de Dantzic, Curaco, and other Liqueurs.
GROCERIES:
Cheese.—Platt's Bay of Quinte, Jefferson County Dairy, Fresh Butter, Fine and Superfine Flour and Oatmeal, Plain Crackers, Pot and Pearl Barley, Best Carolina Rice.
Paste &c.—Vermicelli, Maccaroni, Sago, Arrow Root, Patent Barley and Isinglass.
Mustard.—Wix's in 1 lb. and ½ lb. bottles, Durham in Jars.
Soap.—Windsor, Castile, white and yellow
Candles.—Wax Sperm, Wax Wicks, Mould.
Oils.—Sperm and Fine Olives.
Salt.—Onondaga, Liverpool, Fine and Basket Refined and Paste Liquorice, Brown White and East India Sugar Candy
Fruits.—Oranges and Lemons, Best Jordan soft shelled hard shelled and Bitter Almonds, Barcelona, Brazil, Walnut and Hazle Nuts, Malaga, Turkey, Valencia, and Muscatel Raisins, Best Zante Currants, Plums, Best Turkey Figs, best fresh Plums in Jars.
Preserved Fruits.—Citron, Orange and Lemon Peel, East India Ginger.
Bottled Fruits.—Damsons, Greengages, And Peaches
Pickles.—Mixed Onions, Walnuts, Piccalilla, Gherkins, Cauliflowers, Red Cabbage, Cucumbers, Hot Peppers.
Sauces.—Mushroom Ketchup, Walnut do., Harvey, Universal King Onde, India Soy, Reading, Beefsteak, Essence Anchovies, Salad Oil, Capers, Olives, Anchovies, and Curry Powder.
Sundries.—Starch, Blue, Glue, Chalk, Whiting, Liquid and Paste Blacking, Twine, Wafers, Wrapping and Writing Paper, Shoe Thread, Night lights, Bath Brick, Tobacco and Pipes, Castor Oil, (in quarts and pints,) Window Glass, Cordage, Fishing Lines, Beer and Wine Corks, Hair and Cloth Brooms, Inkpowder, Indigo, Copperas, Alum, Saltpetre, Epsom and Glauber Salts, Cream of Tartar, Sulphur, Brimstone, Rope Mats, all sizes.
The Subscriber assures the Public that the whole of the above Articles are of the very best quality, and will be sold for Cash or prompt pay, on the lowest possible terms.
ROBERT ALLEN.
Kingston, November, 1847.

WINES AND LIQUORS.
THE attention of the public is respectfully requested to the large stock of
WINES AND LIQUORS,
Recently imported direct, and for sale at the Store of
WILLIAM J. MARTIN,
Corner of Market Square, Kingston.
They consist in part as follows, and are genuine and free from adulteration:—
Fine old Pale Port,
Hunt's Sardinian's and other Port,
Blackburns, Lewis, and Welsh's Madeiras,
Fine Pale and Gold Sherries,
D. G. and B. Pale and Brown Sherries,
Medium "three grade" Sherry,
St. Julian, Chateau de Beycherville, Chateau Margeaux, } Clarets,
Champagne of various brands,
Martell, Otard, and Hennessey's Brandy,
Superior Old Brandy, in Bottles,
Fine Pale Brandy,
Geneva and Hollands Gin,
Genuine Scotch Whiskey,
Jamaica and Leward Rum,
Canadian Whiskey, &c.
Kingston, Nov. 20, 1847.

FOR SALE.
THE new Schooner RACHAEL, of between 1800 and 1900 Bbls. Flour burthen.
She will be sold on advantageous terms.
Apply to
M. T. HUNTER.
Kingston, Oct. 18, 1847. 85-tf.

FOR SALE,
BY the Subscriber, at his Ship Chandlery Store, No. 1, Hardy's Buildings, Tar, Pitch, Rosin, Tarred Rope, Manilla, and everything in the Ship Chandlery Line.
WM. DONALDSON.
Oct. 23, 1847. 87.

CALEDONIA WATER.
THE Subscriber has received a consignment of the above excellent Water, which he will sell in quantities to suit purchasers.
M. T. HUNTER,
Exchange and Insurance Office,
Ontario Street.

COW IN POSSESSION.
CAME into the premises of the Subscriber, near Waterloo, about the 20th of November, a middle sized RED COW. The owner is requested to remove the animal, and pay charges.
W. G. MACLEAN.
Kingston, Dec. 31, 1848. tf.

JOHN HORSEY,
BRAZIER, COPPERSMITH, IRON AND TIN PLATE WORKER,
Wire Worker, &c. &c.,
BEGS respectfully to inform his Friends and the Public in general, that he has opened an Establishment in the above line, in
BAGOT STREET,
Opposite the Athenæum Book Store,
Where he has on hand a large assortment of
Copper, Block Tin, Japanned Sheet Iron, and Plain Tin Wares.
—ALSO,—
COOKING AND BOX STOVES,
DUMB STOVES,
Which he will sell at exceedingly low prices.
All kinds of BATHS, such as Shower, Slipper, Hip, and Foot Baths, &c.
GARDEN ENGINES, of different patterns.
CHIMNEY TOPS of various descriptions, &c., &c.
All orders in the above line, thankfully received and punctually attended to.
P. S.—From J. H's long experience in Business in several of the principal Manufacturing Towns in England, he flatters himself that by good workmanship and moderate charges, he cannot fail to give satisfaction to those who may favor him with their orders.
Kingston, Dec. 15, 1847.

SAMUEL MORLEY & Co.
GENERAL IMPORTERS
OF ENGLISH AND AMERICAN
Hardware,
WOULD intimate to their Friends and the Public, that they have received an Extensive and well Assorted Stock of
Heavy and Shelf Hardware, Fancy Goods, &c. &c.,
COMPRISING PARTLY,
English Banks, Swedes & lowmoor Bar Iron, Hoop and Band Iron, Cast, Spring and Blister Steel, Canada Plates, Sheet Iron and Tin, Blacksmiths' Anvils, Vices, and Bellows, Deck Spikes, Wrought and Cut Nails, Coil, Logging, and Trace Chains, Sheet Brass, Copper, Lead and Zinc, Window Glass, Paints and Oils, Hair Seating and Curled Hair, Ship Carpenters', Joiners', and Coopers' Tools, Double and Single Fowling Pieces.
An elegant Assortment of Silver Plated And Britannia Metal Ware, Fine Cutlery, &c.
Hot Water Dishes and Plates, and Dish Covers,
COOKING, BOX, AND FANCY STOVES.
Fenders, Fire Irons, Fire Dogs, &c. &c.
Sign of the Crosscut Saw, Princess Street,
Kingston, Nov. 5, 1847.

W. L. STEWART,
PROPRIETOR OF
Head Quarters,
SAINT DENIS STREET,
OPPOSITE DONEGANA'S HOTEL,
MONTREAL,
BEGS leave to intimate to the Public, that with a view to Comfort and with a total disregard of Expense, he has FITTED UP his ESTABLISHMENT in the most LUXURIOUS STYLE. His extensive travel and experience in the business has enabled him to judge of every thing that can add to the comfort of his friends, and no exertion will be spared to secure them every luxury.
The Proprietor also begs leave to add that he has attached to the above Establishment
A LADIES' SALOON,
For the accommodation of PRIVATE PARTIES.
November, 1847. 93-3m.

CHEAP GROCERY STORE.
THE Subscriber begs leave to inform the Farmers, and others resorting to Kingston Market, and the Public generally, that he has just received a Prime assortment of
GOOD TEAS, COFFEES,
SUGARS, FRUITS, &c.,
AT HIS
GENERAL GROCERY
AND PROVISION STORE
IN PRINCESS STREET,
A few doors above Dr. Dickson's, and next door to Forsyth's Blacksmith Shop.
He would earnestly draw the attention of those wanting a good, sound, well-flavored article of TEA, and a delicious COFFEE, to his present Stock; and would request them to call and examine for themselves, and if, after trial, they do not find he can give them a better article, at a cheaper price, than they have hitherto been accustomed to get, he will let them have the Goods for nothing. This is not what people call *flummery*, but downright *fact*, which any one calling will be able to find out. All articles in the Grocery Line will be sold as low as possible.
Produce of every description will be taken in exchange at *Cash* prices.
One call is solicited.
C. W. P. DE L'ARMITAGE.
Kingston, Dec. 29, 1847. 3m*.

NOTICE.
THE Subscriber has commenced the GROCERY BUSINESS, where he now resides, next door to Mr. Harkes' Crockery Store, King Street, Kingston, where he hopes by strict attention to business and moderate prices, to meet a share of public patronage.
JOHN FOSTER.
July 20, 1847.

LEMONS! LEMONS!!
FOR SALE by
M. DRUMMOND.
Kingston, Dec. 11, 1847. 99.1m

Extracts from late English Papers.

IRELAND.

THE MURDER OF MAJOR MAHON.

From the London Times, Dec. 16.

SIR,—In your Journal of the 11th inst. appears a letter from priest M'Dermott, of Strokestown, county of Roscommon, who is accused of having denounced the late respected Major Mahon. He says:—"I have now to assure the public, by the most solemn asseverations a clergyman can utter, that the Late Major Mahon was never denounced, nor even his name mentioned, from any chapel altar in Strokestown, or within twenty miles of Strokestown, in any direction, on any *Sunday* before his death."

The Rev. priest is quite right as to the word "Sunday." The late Major Mahon was denounced from the altar on "Monday" previous to his assassination; that "Monday" was a saint's day on which the Roman Catholic population attend mass as regularly and in as great numbers as in the Sabbath. This fact is known in Dublin Castle.

I make no comment whatever upon this circumstance. I leave the people of England to form their own judgment of it.

In the same journal Mr. Scully, the member for Tipperary, is reported to have said in the House of Commons—"The outrages, as had been proved, arose from the relation between landlord and tenant and he contended that before they proceeded to our repression of crime they should seek for the cause of that crime, and introduce measures for its removal."

Mr. Scully ought to be a good judge of these matters. Not long ago his very near relative (Maurice Mr. Scully) then residing at Kilfeacle, county of Tipperary, was fired at in his own house, and wounded in the face most severely; soon after time afterwards, though armed with a double-barrelled gun, he was shot dead, and to this our no one has even been brought to justice for an inhuman deed. He was murdered near his house, in the midst of his tenantry, yet no one has been found to bear witness against the assassin.

His brother, the present proprietor of the property, has been threatened, and no doubt he will fall the villains can get a fitting opportunity.—It is given out in the country, that he has made a will, stating that he leaves his property to his brother, but should he be murdered, he orders that the brother shall, within two years, eject all the tenantry, or the property shall go to the next brother, and so on till the next skin. That is termed a "safety will."

I ask hon. member aware that such is the combination among the tenants of this property not to say rents that the present owner has been obliged to distrain to a great extent; that a considerable force of armed men are at this hour guarding over 50 stacks of distrained corn standing near the house of Kilfeacle?

The late Mr. Scully exercised the rights of property, and fell; the present Mr. Scully is doing the same, and unless he is most watchful, he will (as he well knows) meet the same fate.

I call upon any magistrate residing in the barony of Clanwilliam to deny these facts, if he can; and yet this gentleman votes against the Arms Bill!

Mr. Keating, M. P. for Waterford, who resides in the county of Tipperary, has spoken most highly, and deservedly, of the late Mr. Roe, who was murdered so close to Mr. Keating's house that he heard the shot, and ran to the scene of murder, a few minutes after it occurred, when he found his friend in the throes of death, at 11 o'clock in the noon-day, on the high road, close to several houses!

I ask this gentleman how many persons in his and his father's employment have been murdered and fired at, &c., because they were honest servants!

And yet this hon. member votes against the Arms Bill!

The time is come when the people of England shall know the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; heretofore "the talk" has been all on one side.

The British public, from the occurrences which have lately taken place in the House of Commons, are now fully competent to discriminate between the two classes of members who are supposed to represent Irish constituencies—between those who are "the priests' members" and those who represent the property of the country. No attention whatever should be paid to the orations of these "priests' members." They are compelled to assert and vote exactly what their reverences dictate. They are essentially a spreechifying class; it is delightful to be intoxicated with the ether of conceit, and not to see what an ass you are making of yourself.

Remedial measures are the burden of their song—nothing is more simple—let the present Government repudiate all connexion with "the priests' members;" no longer give them places for themselves or their relations—no longer let them be toadied for their votes; it was the Lichfield-house compact which turned out Lord Melbourne's Administration and will yet destroy this Government unless they cast off these people.—Let the Government also by a short enactment, such as was formerly passed by Lord Grey for a time, put down the Priests' Repeal Association. How can the country be at peace as long as there is a seditious Popish Parliament sitting in Dublin, vomiting forth treason to an ignorant, unemployed, bigoted, and ferocious peasantry, who under the guidance of their priests are endeavoring to "stand fast"—that is, to plunder the landlords of their estates—who tell them. "True, you have the title deeds, but we have the land."

Such is Ireland in 1847.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
AN IRISH PEER.

Dublin, Dec. 13.

The Rev. Mr. M'Dermotte appears to be well versed in the special pleading of assassination. He may be said to be the Tidd or Chitty of Irish Thuggee. The case of the unfortunate Major Mahon has been connected with a denunciation from the altar. For reasons best known to himself the Rev. gentleman has warmly espoused the cause of the present priest. The merits are against him. Major Mahon was denounced from the altar; and immediately after the denunciation Major Mahon was shot. This is the state of facts with which counsel have to deal, and yet save their client from the gallows. Mr. M'Dermott closely examines the manner and form in which the accusation has been laid. From many quarters in Ireland, and from all quarters in England, the voice of the accusers has been constant to the same story. On the Sunday preceding his death Major Mahon was denounced from the altar, and on the next day, Monday, he was shot. This is the tale which has come to us on every side from the press. This is the account that was given of the deadly anathema by Lords Fitzhardinge and Stanley in the House of Peers. The very words used by the priest were cited:—"This man," meaning Major Mahon, "is worse than Cromwell, and he still lives!" Let us hear Father M'Dermott in reply. We published his whole letter on Saturday last:—

"I have now to assure the public by the most "solemn asseverations a clergyman can utter, that "the late Major Mahon was never denounced, "nor even his name mentioned, from any chapel "altar in strokestown, or within 20 miles of "Strokestown, on any Sunday before his death." How sure the Rev. gentleman is of his facts! What a strict vigilance, what an accurate knowledge of the statistics of denunciation in his own parish and 20 miles round! Fouché Voloeq could not be more keenly alive to what is going on about them than is Father M'Dermott. We pray our readers, however, to remark how he saves his credit, and what is the value of the "most solemn asseverations a clergyman can utter." Instead of a bold and manly denial of guilt, this sweeping assertion would seem to be a mere demurrer of the most special paltry description. We all know, and the afflicted family of Major Mahon know, that the fact of the dastardly assassination was true enough. We are now assured by an Irish Peer, whose letter we publish to day, that the fact of the denunciation from the altar was true also. The only misstatement consisted in the averment of the day on which the priestly curse was uttered. Major Mahon was denounced *on the Monday*,—on the morning of the day of his death. We should be glad, however, to repeat here the assertion of the Irish peer in his own words:—

"The rev. priest is quite right as to the word Sunday;"—the late Major Mahon was denounced from the altar on the 'Monday' previous to his assassination: that 'Monday' was a saint's day, on which the Roman Catholic population attend mass as regularly, and in as great numbers, as on the Sabbath. This fact is known in Dublin Castle."

If this be so, Father M'Dermott, even with all his special pleading, cannot escape condemnation on the comparatively venial charge of a breach of truth, for in the very next sentence of his letter we find him writing thus:—"I can, under the same sacred pledge, declare that a single sentence was never spoken from the altar which, by misconstruction or otherwise, could tend to stimulate the peasantry to the atrocious murder which has been perpetrated." This is broad enough, at least. If Father M'Dermott be right, the "Irish Peer" is a discredit to his order. It would be well he [illegible] by the evidence, not only for his private credit's sake, but for the sake of the Attorney General for Ireland. After what fell from Lord Lansdowne the other night, we can entertain no sort of doubt that the authorities in Dublin would be too happy to proceed against the priest who denounced Major Mahon on the "Monday," if they could get any of the congregation to come forward and bear witness to the fact.

This, however, is Father M'Dermott's strong point. The priest is sure of his men. He has brought up his little ones in the way they should go. A wink is as good as a nod to them, in a converse sense to the mode in which those signals affect blind horses. The peasant who was but so much as suspected of an intention to bear testimony against his priest would not have six hours to live. This, however, is the last part of the story. The stronghold of the priest is in their subject and superstitious notions of his power over their future destiny. This it is which makes them pliant as wax in his hands, and enables him to laugh to scorn the provisions of the law and the indignation of his countrymen. "Why do you not prosecute me," says the rev. gentleman, "if I have used these words?" The legal process is simple and inexpensive—hireling serfs will be found in Roman Catholic congregations. Why do not some such characters come forward and denounce the denouncer? This is Father M'Dermott's position. The answer is obvious. It is because the voice of an approver or two of bad character—Mr. M'Dermott, not we, suggest these means—could not weigh with a jury against the united testimony of a congregation fully prepared to perjure themselves in platoons, in order to save their spiritual instructor from the gallows.

This, we take it, is the main reason why the Irish Attorney General has not already made acquaintance with the rev. gentleman who is said to have denounced Major Mahon on the "Monday." There are many things in this world of which you may have the most perfect moral certainty, and yet be unable to establish them according to the strict forms of the law. The denunciation of Major Mahon belongs to the class. The apologetic or explanatory letter of Father M'Dermott is an anathema in itself—a worthy pendant to the murder-suggesting speech of Archdeacon Laffan. The two rev. gentlemen are just the men to keep the peasantry to their romantic employment through the long winter nights. They have only got to implore them to desist in the style they have used hitherto, and there will not be a respectable man in the country-side whose life would be worth two days purchase. Could poor Major Mahon be called to life again, the explanatory letter of Mr. M'Dermott would be quite sufficient to consign him again to a bloody grave, without any second denunciation from the altar on a "Monday."

THE FRENCH STEAM NAVY.

To the Editor of the Times.

SIR,—Considerable apprehensions have been expressed lately, lest, in the event of a war with our continental neighbours, the naval superiority which preserved us from invasion in 1804 should be lost by the introduction of the equalizing power of steam. It was very sensibly remarked in an article in *The Times* a few days since, that what ever steam does for others, it does sixfold for us, and the following little sketch of the actual performances of the French steam-frigates may serve to exemplify the truth of this remark and allay the fears of the timid.

The first instance in which French steam-ships have been fairly tried in comparison with our own is in the Transatlantic mail service that has been in operation for the last six months. This is composed of four steam frigates, which were handed over to a company by the Government for the space of ten years, on condition that the company carried the mails during that period gratis—performing the same number of trips annually as the Cunard Company under their original contract. The ships were built about the year 1840, the same year as the four original steamers of the Cunard line—so that the comparison is perfectly fair.

After innumerable delays the first ship (the Union) was dispatched from Cherbourg on the 22nd of June, and made one of the few tolerable passages, arriving in 15½ days. The hopes created by this auspicious commencement were doomed to complete disappointment. The next vessel, the Pennsylvania, took 16 days, and was beaten five days by the Hibernia. The next (the Missouri) burnt all her coal by the time she had reached the Banks where she lay helpless. When a British gun brig luckily spoke her and sent a coal laden vessel to her aid, by the assistance of whose coals she reached Halifax, coaled, and got to New York in 23 days, her mails having been forwarded by the Caledonia from Halifax. The New York which followed, was somewhat more fortunate. She also exhausted her coals in about fifteen days, but contrived to reach Newport, Rhode Island, in two days more, and eventually reached New York in about 21 days.

The disasters since have gone on in an increasing ratio. The Philadelphia left Cherbourg on the 10th of October. On the 25th of October she was passed by the Zurich, American sailing packet going 11 knots to the steamer's 7. Four days after she struggled into Halifax with broken machinery and exhausted fuel, and also reached New York on the 4th of November, 25 days out, the Zurich having preceeded her 5 days. The New York sailed from Cherbourg on the 24th of October and made out as wretchedly as her companions being out of coal again, and sailing into Newport, as she had done before, on the 19th day, and got to New York on the 15th of November or 22 days out.

Descending still, the last attempt is the most melancholy of all. The Union left Havre on the 24th ult., and after being out about eight days returned—having sprung a leak, and being one-third full of water.

In returning these unhappy vessels have been somewhat more fortunate, having come direct principally because there was no port on this side of the Atlantic so convenient as Newport or Halifax. The time taken has been generally about 16 or 18 days. The last arrival, the New York, left New York on the 25th of November, and arrived at Havre on the 12th inst., 18 days, but was preceded by the Admiral, American sailing packet, which sailed three days after her.

I think, Sir, it would be an injustice to the North American Royal mail steamers, even to institute a comparison between them and these wretched vessels, which are unable to compete with sailing ships. Badly built, ill found, and worse managed, these French frigates have exhibited, in a lamentable manner, the worthless material of which their steam navy is composed; and have most satisfactorily proved that the overwhelming superiority which we possessed before the use of steam, has been in no degree impaired by its introduction, but exists in full force under the new system.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully, A. W. J.

Lloyds, Dec. 15.

NEW ZEALAND.

From the London Times.

New Zealand, since the date of the treaty of Waitingi, has been the subject of a succession of the most cruel experiments. A rabbit in the hands of Dr. Majendie could scarcely have met with harsher treatment. From Captain Hobson to Captain Fitzroy; from Secretary Normanby to Secretary Stanley, and from him to Secretary Gladstone, these unfortunate islands have been tossed about like a shuttlecock to the entire and perfect ruin of every white settler who has had the misfortune to be connected with them. It is difficult to see one's way clearly through the history of New Zealand. First came the original scheme of the missionaries to steal a march upon the Government, and erect the colony—if so it should prove at last—into the likeness of one of the proprietary colonies of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in the North American Union. Mr. Dandeson Coates and his fellows, thanks to the good sense of the House of Commons, were foiled in that attempt. Then came the era of Captain Hobson, and the first establishment of the New Zealand Company under the auspices of the Wakefields. The capital of the colony was fixed at one of its most distant points. Between the bickerings of the Colonial Office and the company it was impossible for the settlers to obtain title to a single inch of the land in the purchase of which they had expended their fortunes. These were the halcyon times of protection of the aborigines and of Waitangi massacres. Then came Captain Fitzroy and his assignats. Everywhere the natives were in revolt against British authority. John Heki in the Upper, and Rauparaha and Rangihaeta in the Lower districts of the northern island, kept the flame of rebellion in a glow. Hostile natives hemmed in on every side the rising town of Wellington, and yet the white inhabitants were forbidden to form themselves into an armed militia for their own security. The original settlers were fast disappearing. Their means had long since been exhausted. They had gone out on the faith of promises,—they could find nothing but good intentions; at last not even those remained. Such, we believe, is a pretty fair statement of the condition of the colony during the time Governor Fitzroy administered its affairs, and the disputes between the Company and the Colonial Office were at their height.

In a moment of blissful inspiration the happy thought occurred to some fortunate statesman, that what New Zealand wanted had not yet been discovered. Many things had been tried—they had all failed. The civilization of Great Britain got spoiled and rusty in the sea voyage to the Antipodes. There was no need of any very nice theological dispositionist—the natives had to be instructed in the first rudiments of Christian practice and belief. There was no need of equity lawyers, nor of common lawyers, of currency doctors, nor of any of the various quacksalvers of civilization. New Zealand had occasion for one thing, and one thing only—to be governed by a *man*. It was under these circumstances that Captain Grey was appointed, and as far as the conduct of a Governor at the Antipodes can be criticized with safety, he seems to have been eminently worthy of the trust.

The event has happened in his case which invariably happens when a man of real ability and force of character takes the place of a more pretender to these qualities. A sort of spell has fallen on the island. Hostile aborigines are conciliated, native chiefs shake hands with each other. We hear little or nothing of insecurity to life or property, yet if such should unfortunately exist it rapidly disappears. By the last dispatches, for instance, we received the official intelligence of the disturbances which had been *suppressed* by the rigour and decision of Captain Lave. It is difficult of course to find a reason for everything, but some way or other a man like Governor Grey always finds or makes efficient subordinates. He inspires all around him with his own spirit. Every one knows that if he would win the approbation of his chief, he must endeavour to emulate his vigor of purpose, and energy of character. So far all was well.—The man for New Zealand had been found. It was too much to expect that he would be left to carry out his task without interference from home. We dare say, there never was a Secretary at the Colonial Office who has had the good of the colonies more earnestly at heart than Earl Grey. In Mr. Hawes he has found a painstaking & enlightened coadjutor. Between them, however, last session they manufactured a spick and span constitution for the island of New Zealand, which was to be the complement of the practical activity of Capt. Grey. There were to be municipal bodies, and electoral bodies, and district bodies, and districts, House of Assembly, and a united House of Assembly. The gradation of votes was a subject of the closest calculation. All the nice and delicate machinery, in short, which revising barristers and the Common Pleas, and Parliamentary Committees can scarcely maintain in its vicious perfection at home, was suddenly to be transplanted into New Zealand. Jeremy Bentham & the Abbe Sieyes could not have been more ingenious or more unwise than Earl Grey & Mr. Hawes. Luckily for them, and for all parties concerned, when their new Brummagem constitution arrived at the Antipodes, there was a man there of sufficient sense and sufficient determination to pack it up in a blue box & send it home again to Downing street. Its originators deserve the highest credit in this respect. They have not taken offence at the conduct of the distant Governor. They have had the courage and discretion to come