MAIL FOR ENGLAND.

The Mail for England will be closed at the Kingston Post Office every Friday morning at 5 o'clock.

Agents for the British Whig.

Montreal.....E. Chapman & Co., Booksellers.
Belleville.....Mr. Michael Nulty, Auctioneer.
Cobourg.....Thos. Evans, Esq.
Toronto.....Mr Thos. McLear, Bookseller.
Hamilton.....John Brown, Esq.
New York.....V. B. Palmer, Tribune Buildings
Rochester, N.Y., Mr. G. S. Jenny'ngs.
And Postmasters generally of the Midland District

☞ Agreements for advertising made by any of the above gentlemen, either for Cash or others, will be ratified.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Parties are requested to send in their advertisements by 7 o'clock, p. m. to insure their insertion the following morning. The early hour of publishing the paper, will compel us to enforce this rule rigidly.

Auction Sales This Day.

See Advertisement in the British Whig.

☞ No Sale This Day.

The Daily British Whig.

"Optima per Orbem Dicor."

SATURDAY MORNING, FEB'Y. 8, 1851.

We noticed a short time ago some remarks in the Toronto Globe on the subject of the removal of the Seat of Government from Toronto to Quebec, two years before the time stipulated by the House of Assembly for that purpose, and we were not a little surprised in reading the article in question, as it appeared to us a direct attack upon the supremacy of the man acknowledged upon all hands to be the Leader of the Government, and more particularly so by the Inspector-General, who broadly stated in his seat in Parliament that Mr. LaFontaine was in a position to choose his own colleagues in the Ministry. After such an enunciation as appeared in the Globe, and the query made as to what locality in Upper Canada would be first in the field to commence the storm, which that journal predicted was about to brew against the Ministry for such a breach of faith, we expected before this time to have heard that meetings had been held in some of the cities and towns of the western part of the Province, for the purpose of remonstrating with the Government, not merely for their high-handed measures in violating the agreement, solemnly entered into, that the sittings of Parliament should be held four years in Upper Canada prior to its removal to the Lower Province, but on account of the wanton extravagance and waste of the public treasure, in so frequently and inconveniently changing the Metropolis. As the Globe appears curious to know who will first take up the cudgels in this behalf, we hope that some of our leading people will bestir themselves and call a public meeting at an early day, for the purpose of expressing their indignation at the intended removal of the Seat of Government before the time agreed upon, and we feel confident that when the ball is once set in motion, it will not cease to roll until petitions and remonstrances from all parts of C. West have been presented against the contemplated measure.

We are well aware that the present government could not exist a single day without the support of the French party in the Legislative Assembly, and therefore, we cannot expect that any strenuous exertions will be made by the Anglo party in the Ministry to avert the movement referred to; in fact they are sold body and bones to Mr. LaFontaine and his Lower Canada friends, and we are now as completely under French domination as ever our ancestors were in the time of William the Norman.

The cry of the Reformers, (to which class our present rulers profoundly belong) has usually been against the extravagance and waste of their opponents, the Conservatives, but we defy them to show that ever the latter created so many new offices to reward their political adherents, as has been the case with the so called Reformers, and we wish we could allow that those appointments have at all times been judicious. Instead of fitness for office, subserviency has been the qualification for which promotion has been awarded, and we believe all the world knows, that even the highest posts in the gift of the Government have not latterly been filled with members of the Temperance Society.

But we must return to our first position, viz, the continual change of the Seat of Government, causing an enormous drain upon the public Treasury, or rather we should say a great addition to the public debt, amounting, we believe, up to the present time to £80,000. If our historical recollection is correct, we believe the English Parliament was only removed from London but on two occasions—once in the reign of Charles I., at the time the nation was distracted by civil war, and afterwards during the plague. A perambulating government is the laughing stock of the world, and even our neighbors who are proverbially fond of locomotion, have had the good sense to resist every attempt that has been made to change the location of their capitol.

The additional expense about to be saddled on the Province by another flight of the Government will probably not be less than £30,000; this, however, we suppose the Ministry will consider a mere flea-bite, as they lately declared through their semi-official organ, with what facility they could borrow the sinews to carry on their campaign, and this was boastingly stated as a proof of their stability, although we never before heard that the borrower was equally stable with the lender.

Some of our readers may probably recollect that about two years ago we mentioned a conversation that took place here between Mr. George Brown of the Globe, and a highly respectable merchant of this city, wherein the former declared that should the Ministry attempt the removal of the Seat of Government to Quebec he would write against them, and we certainly must give him the credit of partly keeping his promise, after reading the article alluded to.

Since writing the foregoing, we learn that in answer to an address from the Grand Jury of the County of York to the Governor General, his Lordship informed them that it was the intention of the Council to remove the Seat of Government during the ensuing summer, although in the first instance he declined to receive such a document from that body, as not coming properly under their consideration, but upon being reminded that the time was when his Excellency was pleased to receive addresses from the Grand Juymen of the Province, in approval of his administration, it appears that he afterwards consented to receive the one in question. We nevertheless recommend the holding of meetings to remonstrate against the proposed change, and if that does not answer, we advise the petitioning the Home Government to dissolve the unholy alliance which exists between Upper and Lower Canada.

Godey's Lady's Book for March, 1851. L. A. Godey, Philadelphia. Three dollars per annum.

We have to thank the attention of the obliging publisher of this very elegant monthly periodical, for a copy of the March Number. No man seems to take so many pains as Mr. Godey, to make his "Book" interesting and popular. He certainly spares no expense in procuring the most expensive engravings to illustrate his subjects, and though the "Lady's Book" may not have the literary pretensions of the "Knickerbocker" and other original American publications, every thing in it is cleverly and nicely written, purposely to suit the taste of the softer sex. The present number contains no fewer than 37 articles, all of them apparently original, and all of them more or less entertaining and useful. Among the contributors, the following somewhat celebrated names appear, viz., Mrs. S. C. Hall, T. S. Arthur, Carl Linley, the Rev. H. Hastings, and others of equal note. The embellishments of this number are more than usually good, to wit: a line engraving of "the Coquette," by W. E. Tucker; a superb vignette colored title page; a mezzotinto engraving, from Murillo, and two wood engravings, exclusive of Fashion Plates, &c. On the whole, "the Book" for March fully maintains its reputation, which is not saying a little.

Persons desirous of subscribing to "the Lady's Book" should communicate directly with Mr. Godey, and by enclosing three dollars, they may be sure of receiving the book for one year. All remittances are at the risk of the publisher.

WINTER ASSIZES.

Tuesday, Feb. 3.

The civil business was brought to a close on Saturday evening.

This morning, Judge Macleon sat to pass sentence on the prisoners convicted during the Assizes.

Jno. Crawford, Jno. Matier, Wm. Magee, Jno. Archibald, Chas. Rich, Jno. Blakeney, Jane Ward, Mary Jane Sloan, and Julia Connolly, were first placed in the dock. The majority of them had previously been convicted of larceny, some of burglary. Their offences in the present instance were of a similar character. Rich and Archibald were convicted on two indictments during these assizes. Crawford for his first offence, to be imprisoned 2 months, with hard labor, in the common jail; for his second offence, three years' imprisonment with hard labor, in the penitentiary, to commence at the expiration of the former sentence. Rich, for first offence, 2 months in jail with hard labor; for second offence, 3 years' hard labor in the penitentiary. In passing sentence on this man, the judge commented on the purchase, by a person in Church Street, of goods stolen by Rich, at a price much below the value. It was to be regretted that the purchaser, under such suspicious circumstances, was not brought here to answer the charge of receiving the property knowing it to have been stolen. Blakeney (a colored burglar), 4 years' hard labor in the penitentiary. The remainder of the group were severally sentenced to 3 years' hard labor in the penitentiary.

Philip Heatley, a youth, for larceny: 3 months' hard labor.

Henry Fields, larceny: 3 months' imprisonment with hard labor.

Alex. Fraser, a private soldier, larceny: 3 months' hard labor, a 4th month in solitary confinement.

Jno. M'Cane, larceny (received a very high character at his trial, and was recommended to mercy by the jury): 3 months' hard labor.

James Meaghar, a youth, larceny: 3 months' hard labor.

Lawrence Burke, receiving stolen goods, knowing them to have been stolen. 4 months' hard labor.

Ann McQuillan, larceny (second conviction): 6 months' in jail; the 4th and 6th month in solitary confinement. This prisoner appeared in the dock with a child in her arms; but for the circumstance, the judge remarked, a much more severe sentence would have been passed.

William Burns, a colored man, convicted of keeping a disorderly house: 1 months' hard labor; also to pay a fine of £3, and to remain in prison until paid.

Donald Sinclair, stabbing with intent to do bodily harm: 6 months' hard labor. The demeanor of the prisoner at his trial raised doubts as to his sanity, and the judge expressed his own uncertainty on the subject, adding that he should feel it necessary to report the case to the Governor General, with a view to a medical examination been instituted. If found to be insane, the royal prerogative would doubtless be exercised.

Chas. Stephens, common assault on Mr. R. Reid: to be fined £3, and to remain in prison until paid. Judge Macleon said that Mr. Justice Burns, before whom the case was tried, had expressed his belief that the decision of the jury was correct, although the charge alleged was of a much more serious character.

The fine was paid at once, and the prisoner discharged.

LATE DEFALCATION AT THE CITY BANK, QUEBEC.

The trial of Thomas Hamilton, as an accomplice with Robert Coles in the recent defalcations in the City Bank, has occupied the Court the whole of this week, and probably will not be closed for several days yet. Hamilton is indicted as principal in the second degree and necessary before the fact in assisting Coles, by a series of fraudulent entries, to extract the Bank of upwards of £20,000. The evidence on the part of the Crown is not yet closed. From that already before the Jury it is attempted to be proved that Coles could not have carried on his fraudulent schemes without the co operation of Hamilton.

There are two counts in the indictment. The first is the alleged fraudulent suppression of a deposit of £1200; made on the 5th July, 1849, by Forsyth & Bell, which deposit, although entered in their pass-book in the regular way, by Coles, on that day, was not entered in the books of the Bank. Hamilton afterwards balanced the pass-book, including the deposit to the credit of Forsyth & Bell, and at the same time balanced the Bank ledger, excluding it there, thus showing one balance to their credit on the pass-book and a different balance in the Bank ledger. In the meantime, the checks of Forsyth & Bell were honored at the Bank as if the deposit had gone to their credit in the regular way, whereas the deposit had been kept back.

The second count is the alleged alteration of checks drawn by Forsyth & Bell. On 6th July, 1849, three checks were drawn on the City Bank by that firm, the respective amounts being £30, £21 and £25, £76 in all. These checks were entered against the firm, as £776, the £30 check having been changed in the books of the bank to £230, and the £21 to £521. Thus in these two transactions alone, the sum of £1300 would appear to have been suppressed in two days. Many collateral facts have been stated in evidence, which will appear in our report. From them it would seem the notes discounted have been deficient for a long time, and that the want has been concealed at various examinations of the books and assets, by alterations in the ledger; which alterations could not, it is affirmed, have been made without the knowledge and concurrence of the book-keeper. A complete system of changing the amounts of checks, and so, pressing deposits and other payments, seems to have been carried on.—Quebec Gazette.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES & ENGLAND.

The propriety of establishing a steam-packet station on the western coast of Ireland, so as to accelerate communication between America and Great Britain, has for some time past engaged the attention of the British government, and a commission was recently formed to inquire into and report the place that should be found most eligible for such a purpose. The result of the commission is anxiously looked for; and as this is a matter which ought to concern the United States as much as it does England, we shall give a few particulars showing the immense advantages that can be gained by the proposed change.

From Halifax to Galway	2,240 miles
From Boston to Galway	2,815 "
From New York to Galway	2,815 "

It will appear, therefore, that the difference between Halifax and Galway, and New York and Liverpool, is eight hundred and sixty miles, or three days sailing for a first rate steamship. Now, we have a continuous line of telegraph between New York and Halifax, and this distance would be saved, as far as communication is concerned. A similar saving would be made on the other side. By means of an electric telegraph, communications between Galway and London would be instantaneous. New York and London would therefore be within twenty-two hundred and forty miles of each other, a distance which in ordinary weather, a first class steamship would perform in eight days. But this is not all. A railroad is being constructed between Galway and Dublin, which will be opened for travel during the coming spring. The distance is 140 miles. From Dublin to Holyhead the distance is some sixty-three miles, which passengers could go in a few hours; and from Holyhead to London, the distance by the railroad is in the neighborhood of 263 miles. A great many people would prefer this route to going to Liverpool direct from New York by steamship, for they would have the opportunity of seeing a great deal of Ireland and England, which is the main object of many who cross the Atlantic. The most important part of the proposed change, however, is the facility with which news could be speedily transmitted between the capital of England, London, and the capital of America, New York. This, as we have seen, could be effected within eight days; whereas it cannot be done by the present arrangement in less than twelve, on an average, during the summer season, and fourteen or fifteen during the winter. A very great saving in time would thus be effected. In the transmission of freight, however, we do not see that any benefit would be gained. We do not suppose that it would pay to send merchandise, from Liverpool to Galway, and thence to New York. But steamships might touch at Galway, or some other port on the western coast of Ireland, and leave there mails there and such passengers as preferred to proceed to London by way of the Galway and Dublin railroad, by steamship to Holyhead, and thence by railroad to London. It is not to be supposed that every person who takes a trip to the Old World does so for business purposes. Many go on pleasure alone, and during the time they appoint to remain abroad they wish to see as much as they can. By making Galway a packet station, they could see a great deal of both England and Ireland, and when they reached London they could proceed at once to the continent. We are strongly of the opinion that, before many years, this project of shortening the time of communication between New York and Liverpool and London will be carried out.—N. Y. Herald.

Extracts of Late English News.

From Wilmer and Smith's Times.

EXTENSIVE ROBBERY OF JEWELLERY.

On Monday morning one of the most extensive and extraordinary robberies that have been perpetrated in this town was discovered on the premises of Messrs. Clark & Morris, silver-smiths, Church-street, at the corner of Tariston-street. The circumstance having become known, the greatest excitement was occasioned, and the shop of Messrs. Clark & Morris was surrounded during the whole of the morning by persons anxious to learn the particulars of the robbery, which was stated to be very extensive, amounting to thousands of pounds. The facts of the case are these:—Messrs. Clark & Morris closed their shop about eight o'clock on Saturday night. Everything was, to all appearance, made secure, and every precaution having been taken to insure safety as far as bars and bolts could do so, the partners left the cares of business to enjoy the advantages of a day of rest, in the fullest confidence that their property was safe. On Monday morning, shortly after eight o'clock, the shop was opened by Mr. Clark, who was astonished to find the shop in the utmost confusion. A quantity of morocco and roan jewellery cases were strewn upon the floor, and everything appeared to have been ransacked or disarranged. It was at once evident that a burglary had been committed, but it was some time before an estimate of the extent could be arrived at. The shop of Messrs. Clark & Morris is somewhat extensive, and has a double frontage, in Church-street and Tariston-street. The firm also occupy a cellar, which is entered by a trap-door, from the back part of the shop.—This door was found open, and an iron plate fixed for security against the partition wall of the next cellar had been partially bent down so as to admit the body of a man, the brickwork behind having been removed, to a considerable extent. The adjoining cellar, it appears, is used for storing coals by Mr. Jones, lithographer, who occupies offices in Tariston-street. These offices, which are part of a range, and are variously tenanted, are immediately at the back of Messrs. Clark & Morris's establishment, and the entrance to Mr. Jones's cellar is at the end of a ground-floor passage at the side of the shop. The wall of the passage which adjoins Messrs. Clark & Morris's shop is protected by iron bars; but, strange to say, the entrance to the cellar had been completely overlooked. The lock of the door to Mr. Jones's cellar appears to have been picked, and also that of the door communicating with the street. The burglars then removed the bricks of the partition wall alluded to, bent down the iron plate, and thus gained access to the shop. As we have stated, the shop was in the greatest confusion.—The show-cases had been opened, and seals watch-keys, brooches, chains, studs, rings, &c., were strewn about in great confusion.—The morocco and roan cases to which we have referred, had all been emptied of valuable articles of jewellery. It is estimated that watches and chains to the value of £600 were stolen, and diamond brooches valued at £300 which were only received last week, having been ordered by a customer, were also missing. Besides these, a variety of studs, bracelets, brooches, and other articles were carried off. Although the loss is estimated at from £1500 to £1800 at invoice prices. The thieves appear to have been disturbed, for they left behind a case of valuable diamond rings, and several other articles small in bulk, which were conspicuously placed. Their object appears to have been to take only those things which were portable and might be readily concealed about the person. Many conjectures have been hazarded as to the precise way in which the robbery was perpetrated.—Some think that the thieves must have been concealed in Mr. Jones's cellar on Saturday night; whilst others are of opinion that the burglars did not commence their operations till Sunday. It is stated that four or five suspicious characters were seen loitering in the vicinity on Sunday evening. The following is a list of the articles stolen:—65 gold watches (many of them of a very valuable description); 37 gold bracelets, 8 necklace chains, with ornaments; about 30 gold, &c., brooches; 12 sets of fancy shirt studs, diamonds, &c., set in gold; 24 gem rings, composed of diamond, emerald, and ruby; 28 ladies' mourning rings, set with pearls and diamonds; 38 fancy rings, set with pearls and gems; 60 signet rings, diamond pins, 43 gold pencil cases, gold pens, brooches, neck chains, and wedding rings. A reward of £100 has been offered for the apprehension of the thieves and the recovery of the property.—European Times.

SINGULAR RECOVERY OF LOST PROPERTY.—A singular circumstance lately occurred to a passenger, who, having accumulated a quantity of the precious metal at the diggings in California, was about to sail from Boston for Liverpool. It appears that he took a passage in the ship Daniel Webster, and placed on board his things, comprising only a small portmanteau and a box. Unfortunately he missed his passage, and the ship proceeded to sea without the Californian adventurer. On discovering his unfortunate position, and calling to mind that his treasure was on board a ship far away on the Atlantic, he began to entertain doubts as to its security. He immediately started for New York, and took passage in the packet-ship Waterloo, and reached Liverpool. Meanwhile the Daniel Webster entered the Mersey, and his luggage, for want of a claimant, was taken by the Customs officers to the depot. It at length transpired whose it was, and when the lost passenger made his appearance, he soon had the portmanteau opened, and, to his joy, found the hidden treasure—no less than 15 lbs. of the precious metal, worth at least £4 3s. 7d. per oz. It appeared that the greatest care had been taken of the luggage by the officers of the ship.

BRANDING BY A SURGEON.—For several days considerable excitement has prevailed in Blackburn, by a report that Mr. Rogerson, surgeon, had branded a boy's forehead with a large letter B. For some time past Mr. Rogerson had been considerably annoyed by boy's continually ringing his bell, and running away. On Sunday week, hearing a lengthy pull at the bell, he immediately ran out and caught a boy named William Wood, and shut him up in the surgery for a short time; he then got some caustic, and held the boy whilst he rubbed on his forehead the letter B. At the police office, on Monday, before W. Rostron, Esq., Mr. Rogerson was charged with the above offence, under the 1st and 2nd Vic., chap 38, wherein it is enacted "That whoever shall apply to any person, any corrosive destructive matter, with intent to burn, maim, disfigure, or disable, or to do some grievous bodily harm, shall be guilty of felony." It was stated that from the opinion of several medical men, the mark would never be erased from the lad's forehead during his life. Mr. Rogerson contradicted his assertion, and stated that all appearance would be entirely obliterated in about twelve months. Dr. Maitland was of the same opinion. Mr. Eccles said that whether the mark would be then obliterated or not made no difference, he should be under the painful necessity of ordering Mr. Rogerson to enter into recognizances to appear at the next Lancashire assizes. The punishment for the above offence is transportation for life, and not less than 15 years' imprisonment, with or without hard labour for more than three years.

IMPROVED PROSPECTS FOR IRELAND.—If we anticipate anything for the next year, it is that steady industry will go forward; that men will learn to depend more and more upon themselves and less upon Governments; that our trade and commerce will advance under an average season; and that the slow but effective passage of the nation on behalf of free education will be felt, and will advance the cause of enlightenment. The railway and the steamship, the flax-grower and the flax-spinner, the spinner and the bleacher, are all in activity. We therefore entertain strong hope and take high courage; and much as Ireland is advanced, compared with what she was at the beginning of the century, that advance is little in comparison with what may be anticipated from the career which seems to be opening for her as she glides into the second half of this great centenary cycle of our race.—The Northern Whig.

DECLINE OF POPERY IN IRELAND

At a meeting of the Irish Church Mission Society, on the 17th of December, the Rev. Messrs. Dallas and Gregg, of Dublin gave a sketch of their observations during a tour in Connaught. They found that in some parts of that district entire villages had left the Roman Catholic Church and joined the protestant establishment. Between two and three thousand persons now attend the visits of Scripture readers. The Protestant Bishop of Tuam had publicly confirmed four hundred converts. Mr. Gregg last summer visited fifty-one localities in Ireland where Divine worship was performed in the presence of congregations, nineteen twelfths of whom had been Roman Catholics; he also met thirteen Protestant Clergymen of the Establishment, all of whom had been Roman Catholics, three of them priests. We subjoin the following extract from a letter in the London correspondence of the Christian Advocate:—

The Bishop of Tuam had confirmed more than four hundred converts, and now it is affirmed that this same prelate is prepared to declare in his place, in the House of Lords, that he has, within the bounds of his diocese not less than ten thousand converts from Popery. In the city of Dublin also many are becoming readers of the Bible, and many are claiming themselves Romanists no more

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At the Central Criminal Court, on Thursday, Mr. Samuel Rendell surrendered to take his trial upon a charge of having feloniously assaulted Elizabeth Reed, who confessed on her cross-examination that she had brought charges of rape against every master with whom she had ever lived. The prosecuting counsel threw up the case, and the Justice told the defendant on his acquittal that he left the court without a stain on his character.

There has been an inquest on a man named Barnes, a pauper lunatic in the Peckham lunatic asylum, who appears to have died from violence. The attendant was accused as the party, but the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against some person or persons unknown.

At the Reading Quarter Sessions the chairman, Lord Barrington, sentenced a young man named Dace, a teacher of music, to transportation for life, for stealing a silver pencil case! The severity of the sentence excited the greatest surprise in court.

An old man, seventy-six years of age, living at Bawtry, near Doncaster, discovered, about ten year ago, an exuberance growing near the top joint of the third finger on the left hand. Its growth proceeded till the form of an additional finger was perceived, with a perfect nail, making five fingers and a thumb on the left hand at the present time.

GOVERNMENT CLERKS.—A re-classification of the officials in some of the departments at Somerset-house has just been made known. By the new arrangements facilities are presented for the advancement of those clerks whose talents for public business, diligence, and industry deserve notice; and it is understood that the claim of seniority will in future pass unregarded unless supported by the qualities above referred to. Reading the "newspapers" by the clerks during office hours is expressly prohibited by the terms of the Treasury order received at Somerset-house.

Lord Ashley amused the company at a Mayor's dinner at Bath, the other day, by a statement that the shirt which he then wore had been worked by the young women in Mr. White's factory, and that it had been presented to him by them with many compliments. That shirt, he said, he kept for gala days.

William Brown, Esq., M.P., with his characteristic liberality has placed at the disposal of the stipendiary magistrate the sum of £100 for the ragged schools.

A drunken farmer at Brechin, insisting on spurring a spirited horse through a doorway, the animal gave a sudden bound; the farmer's head came in contact with the lintel, and his scalp was torn off to the very bone.

A ferret, kept by a man in Manchester, escaped from its box and found its way to a bed in which slept a little girl, 4 years old. It wounded the child so severely that she died on Saturday.

The Rev. Mr. O'Leary, chaplain of Manchester Borough Gaol, has been charged before the recorder and magistrates with exercising his influence to induce prisoners to plead guilty.

Admiral Sir Edward Codrington, G.C.B., has entirely recovered from the complaint (water on the chest) which at his time of life (above 80) it was expected would have been fatal.

The military authorities have decided that the reduced cost for prisoners, which has been in operation since the first August last, is sufficient, both in quality and quantity, to maintain the prisoners in health.

RAILWAY CALLS.—The amount of railway calls for the present month of January is £674,621. In the corresponding period of 1849 the amount was £3,926,342; and in 1848, £4,860,220. In 1847 it was £6,137,-852.

A daring burglar last week mined under the outer wall of the prison at Spilsby, crept into the yard, broke into the under turnkey's apartment, regaled himself, and stole £11 3s. a gold chain, &c. He was captured a few days afterwards with some of the stolen property.

The Duke of Wellington has transmitted the sum of £20 2s. 6d. to Margate to be divided amongst the old widows of seafaring men. The money is the Duke's share of the proceeds of a whale some time since captured by some fishermen, and paid to his Grace as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

A well attired man entered a spirit shop, in Edinburgh, on Saturday, and, calling for a dram of spirits, deliberately swallowed five large mould candles and four dips, all of which, except the wicks, he ate with apparent relish, consuming with them a pennyworth of bread.

Mr. Rendal, a dentist and a married man, is in custody in London, charged with a rape upon Elizabeth Reed, his servant, a young woman about eighteen years of age. Miss Reid confessed, on her cross-examination, that she had brought similar charges against five different masters with whom she had lived during the last two years.

BRAZIL AND BUENOS AYRES.—Admiral Grenfell left Liverpool on Wednesday last to take the command of the Brazilian fleet, in anticipation of a war between Brazil and Buenos Ayres. It is said that the Brazilian Government is raising a foreign legion, three thousand strong, on the continent of Europe, to serve in Rio Grande.

Two stone coffins, of very ancient workmanship, were dug up in Kensington Park, last week, by the men engaged in the excavations for the Great Northern Railway. They also found, ten or twelve feet below the surface, a stratum of petrified wood, (oak or ash,) which looks like a coat.

One of the most remarkable results of our registration of deaths during the last twelve years, is the discovery that the duration of human life in England is, on an average, 15 or 16 years longer in the country than in the town.

The Belfast Chronicle states that Government intend to organize a police force in Australia, and to withdraw the British troops entirely from that colony. Liberal offers have been made to a number of the Irish constabulary to induce them to volunteer to go out.

Captain Harris the Abyssinian traveller, when introduced, by especial favor, into the lady chapel of the cathedral of Shoa, is stated to have found the walls of that holiest of Abyssinian shrines hung round with colored prints of the great Leicestershire steeple-chase.

The Queen has sent to Mr. Dampier, Vicar of Coggeshall, a donation of £3 for the use of the parents and sister of the late John Carter, the weaver, who having lost the use of his limbs, supported himself by making beautiful drawings, holding the pencil with his teeth.

The Times says that only a short time since an immense quantity of hay was carried by railway from the midland and southern counties of England to London, where it was shipped and conveyed to Oran, and thence many miles to the interior, for the use of the French cavalry.

The number of bankrupts in England last year was 837 against 1326 the year before, and 1603 in 1848. The average of the last seven years was 1300. There were 26 bankrupts in Liverpool last year and 113 the year before.

The Society of Friends have agreed for the future to pay tithes due to lay impropriators; but to such imposts, when demanded by clergymen, they will offer the same strenuous opposition they have hitherto done.

Her Majesty has granted pensions on the civil list of £100 a year each to Mrs. Belzoni, the aged widow of the celebrated traveller, and to Mr. Poole, author of Paul Pry, and of several contributions to periodical literature.

On Sunday W. J. Livingston, aged fourteen years, preached in the Phonetic Institution, Stanley-street, Bury. It was stated that he commenced preaching when he was only seven years of age. There was a large congregation.

Lord John Russell has issued a circular to his supporters in the House of Commons, requesting their attendance at the meeting of Parliament on the 4th of February, as "business of importance will be brought forward without delay."

Ninety boats of Boulogne, 1478 tons, with 979 men on board, have been this year engaged in the herring fishery, on the coast of Scotland. They have brought home 17,966 tons of salt herrings.

London has 300,000 houses, which cover an area 14 miles of long and 7 miles wide. Between the 1st of January, 1839, and Jan'y. 1850, 14,038 new houses were built, forming 1652 streets.

A Greenock shipbuilder has offered, if provided with an unlimited order, to build a ship which shall flag the celebrated United States clipper Oriental out and home, on every tack, and in all weathers.

Mr. Angus B. Reach, the well-known comic writer, is the author of the letters respecting the present state of agriculture, manufactures, &c. in France, which are now publishing in the Morning Chronicle.

The oddfellows of Cambridge have constructed a hearse for funerals, so as not to require a horse. It is impelled by four or six persons, who officiate as bearers, and is let to the public at 6s. each funeral.

It is said that a Scotch railway director has lately bought an estate which cost him from fifty to a hundred thousand pounds. He was not known to be a man of much property before he became a railway director.

The total sum expended by the emigration commissioners during the last three years was £677,419, and the total sum received by them was £735,194.

A native of Dumfries, son of a late respectable tradesman in the burgh, is at present