One unlawful Solemnization of matrimony may create much trouble and uneasiness as well to the parties so married as to others. I merely suggest thriefore the expediency of the people's generally considering such ministers as disqualified by law for more sacred principles.

This will certainly be the *safer* course for the community to pursue. It will also be rendering *due respect* to the laws of our Land upon that subject, and clearly no injustice to the persons concerned; inasmuch as they themselves will doubtless feel the importance of being secure, above the possibility of a prosecution ere they attempt to perform a solemn ceremony, restricted by the law of the land to regular denominations.

A LOOKER ON.

Belleville, September 22, 1834.

From the Christian Guardian.

In reply to Mr. Secretary Rice's grave charges, Mr. Hume reiterates his scurrilous abuse against us! What had *we* to do with the "baneful domination of the mother country?" Our name was not even mentioned in Mr. Hume's celebrated letter until *after* he had said all he had to say about "freedom and independence from the baneful domination of the mother country,"—until *after* he had exhorted the inhabitants of Canada to keep the *example* and *result* of the American Revolution "*ever in view.*" Yet Mr. Hume makes our name the pretext for introducing all this into his letter! Was there ever a more unmanly and mean evasion! On Mr. Hume's statement, that "he went with Mr. Ryerson to Lord Goderich, and obtained for him a fair bearing of his case, and the redress he sought," we need only say, that Lord Goderich had left the Colonial Office some time before we arrived in England, and therefore had nothing whatever to do with any Colonial "grievance;" we never went to Lord Goderich in company with Mr. Hume—we never had an audience with his Lordship on the subject of any "grievance" whatever—our interview with his Lordship was obtained through the medium of a private gentleman in London, and was solely on the subject of the U. C. *Academy*—and any conversation which took place on Colonial affairs was incidental. So much again for Mr. Hume's veracity in this affair.

The following is a *true* version of the affair. On Mr. *George* Ryerson's arrival in London in 1831, as a bearer of a petition on the Clergy Reserve question, he called upon Mr. Hume, and availed himself of Mr. H's counsel and advice, in his (Mr. R's) correspondence with Lord Goderich, who was then Colonial Secretary. This correspondence resulted in Lord Goderich's sending out a despatch authorising Colonial legislation on the subject of the Clergy Reserves. *Two years* afterwards the Editor of this paper arrived in London; but Mr. H. knew the difference between him and Mr. G. Ryerson, as he made inquiry after the latter. This, however, might have escaped his recollection when he wrote his first letter to the Mayor of Toronto; but it was perfectly known to those who published Mr. Hume's letter, and therefore exhibits their malice and total disregard of truth in a darker light than ever. Mr. G. Ryerson never wrote a line unfavorably of Mr. Hume; and *our* correspondence at the Colonial office, on the Clergy Reserve question, was with *Mr. Stanley*; respecting which we never consulted or intimated our intention to Mr. Hume, as we though his support was worse than no support. Our correspondence has been laid before the Canadian public; and we believe every candid reader of it will acknowledge, that if ever we advocated faithfully, to the best of our humble ability, the wishes of those whom we represented, we did so on that occasion. We did so without any reunmeration, and at considerable expense, besides labor, and at the sacrifice of the pleasure and profit of a visit to Cork, Dublin, attendance at the Irish Conference, and a journey through part of Ireland, in company with that great and good man, Mr. Bunting, to which we received a pressing invitation, and even the offer of having our travelling expenses paid by some unknown but generous friends of Missions in Dublin. Mr. Hume, however, in the House of Commons, from what he had seen in the Canadian papers, must have known that the Editor of the Guardian and Mr. G. Ryerson were different persons; but having found himself involved in difficulty, he seems to have preferred perseverance in untruth to acknowledging his error, in trying to escape from the "baneful domination" dilemma.

And what does Mr. Hume say to exculpate himself on this point? Why, he says, by "Mother Country," he meant *Mr. Stanley!!!* What would be thought of a man's capacity or candour in this Province, was he gravely to tell the public, that by the words *Upper Canada*, in his writings, he meant *Mr. Secretary Rowan.*

It is admitted both by revolutional, as well as stated by constitutional, reformers, that *Mr. Secretary Rice* is a man of candor, honesty and liberality. Now what does he say of the object and obvious meaning of Mr. Hume's letter? Mr. Rice says, "*he considers that man the worst enemy to Canada, who should promote a separation from the mother country;*" and that "*he is not prepared to say in his own mind whether, if such language had been made use of* (consequently published) *by a subject of the Colonies, he would not be liable to a prosecution for High Treason.*" Nor did Mr. Rice give Mr. Hume the slightest credit for his awkward and contradictory apology, but keenly reiterated his sentiments on the conduct of the author of the letter, and expressed his hope that "the law would lay hold of him," should he persist in thus inciting the colonists. Such is the light in which the candid and enlightened Secretary for the Colonies—the only medium of communication with the British Government—regards Mr. Hume and those associated with him. Are they likely to obtain civil and religious advantages from this same Colonial Secretary who thus views their purposes, from their own showing? We are far from believing that all who support and justify Mr. Hume desire or intend revolution—we believe that many of them would shudder at the thought—but such is the tendency of their proceedings viewed by even the Colonial Secretary who must be the judge on every question agitated in the Colony. Nor does the rash and unsuspecting youth, when he forms his plans and connexions, think that they will yet bring himself to disgrace, and his parents with sorrow to the grave,—yet such have been the consequences more than once to the too-late and unavailing regret of both parties.

Snow.—We learn, says the Boston Gazette, by a gentleman from the White mountains, that there was a heavy fall of snow in that vicinity a week ago last Thursday night; and for several mornings afterwards ice was of the thickness of a dollar at Crawford's.

From the Montreal Gazette.

TRAVELS IN UPPER CANADA, NO. IX.

THE CARRYING PLACE,—GOVERNOR SIMCOE'S CANAL.

The Carrying Place is about five miles distant from Consecon. It is a long, straggling village, situated upon the portage between the head of the Bay of Quinte and Weller's Bay, an arm of Lake Ontario.—The population of this place may be about two hundred. There is here a place of worship belonging to the Church of England, and a school-house, which is occasionally used for religious purposes by the tribes of wandering priests of every denomination by whom this Province is thronged. The accommodation for travellors at this place is miserable. A well conducted inn or hotel, as every wretched tavern is called *per excellence*, would pay well here.

During the last war, this was one of the most important places in the Province, it being necessary to disembark here all the troops and military stores destined for the upper part of the country, before hauling the batteaux in which they had been conveyed, across the Isthmus of Murray, a distance of a mile & a quarter. The Carrying Place must therefore have exhibited formerly a very different appearance from what it now does; for though it is sufficiently neat and clean, it is yet as dull, dreary and desolate a village as any I have visited in Canada. A few years ago, it was enlivened by all the bustling importance which attends military movements, now, however, not a sound is to be heard but what proceeds from the rude revelry of the numerous lumbermen, who, for a certain period of the year, pursue their important avocation at it. Talking of this place a few days ago to a gentleman to whom it has been familiar, he said he never thought of it, but it reminded him of the Deserted Village. In one sense the comparison is just, but I cannot for the soul of me conceive, how in even the best or the worst days of its existence, its dreary sandy road, and its tall, naked looking houses, could justify a comparison with the modest retiring beauties of Auburn, the

"—— loveliest village of the plain,"

It is somewhat astonishing, that notwithstanding the immense sums of money which have been spent by Government for conveying troops & stores across this place, that no means have ever yet been adopted, to bring the waters of Lake Ontario into closer connection with those of the Bay of Quinte,—The very first Canal which it was proposed to cut in Canada, had this for its object, and so thoroughly convinced was Governor Simcoe of its absolute necessity, to preseve the peace and secure the safety of the Province, that it was one of the favorite schemes which he most delighted to bring into notice. I have now before me a letter from one of the most eminent men in Upper Canada, to a gallant officer, who served with distinction in this country during the late war, from which I have permission to extract the following passage: "A Canal at this place was the first ever contemplated in Canada, and it appeared to Governor Simcoe so very necessary, that he advised its completion long before he left the Province. I shall very willingly contribute my humble efforts to forward so desirable a plan, because it is a public improvement which ought to have been made, and which cannot fail of proving highly beneficial, as you have already clearly proved, both in peace and war."

Notwithstanding, however the obvious utility of such a Canal as that which I have mentioned, and the urgent recommendation to complete it of Governor Simcoe, and other individuals equally capable of judging of its merits, it was not, I think, until 1823, that Sheriff Ruttan first moved for a survey of the tract through which a Canal could be most advantageously constructed. A survey authorised by Act of Parliament, took place in 1824, according to which it was recommended, that a Canal should be cut from Dead Creek into Presq'isle harbour, of such dimensions as would admit of ship navigation, and be regulated by the depth of water at the entrance of the harbour. The estimate for the construction of such a work, is stated by the Commissioners appointed by His Excellency Sir Peregrine Maitland, to amount to £16,624 9s. 8d. Trifling, however, as this sum is, when considered in reference to the anvantages certain to arise from the completion of the work upon which it was to be expended, the object of the survey has never yet been carried into effect,

The subject of the Simcoe Canal, as I shall venture to call it, was never again agitated until the arrival of our present intelligent Lieutenant Governer Sir John Colborne, whose mind, ever since he arrived in this country, has been constantly employed in devising and carrying into effect, the best means for advancing the general prosperity of the Province. Under his wise and energetic Administration, we have observed plans proposed for connecting the great waters of Upper Canada, and for opening up new channels to agricultural and commercial enterprise, which are all upon a scale of such grandeur and extent, as literally to fill the mind with the most cheering anticipations, with respect to the speedy advancement of this magnificent Province in wealth and importance. Among these plans, one for connecting the waters of the Bay of Quinte with those of Lake Ontario has been again revived, and the result was, that another survey, authorised by Act of Parliament, took place last autum.

According to this survey, it is proposed to carry the Canal from the head of the Bay of Quinte into Weller's Bay, whenever there is a passage into Lake Ontario. According to the survey which took place in 1824, it was proposed to carry the Canal directly from the head of the Bay of Quinte into Presq'isle harbour. It is not my present object to make an estimate of the comparative merits of these two routes; I must acknowledge however, that after a careful examination of both, I centainly think the first proposed is decidedly preferable to the last.

My object will have been sufficiently accomplished, if I succeed in impressing upon the minds of the public, a due sense of the benefits which would necessarily arise from a direct communication being opened up between the Bay of Quinte and Lake Ontario.

In a commercial point of view, the advantages to be derived from the construction of such a Canal as that now proposed, are great and obvious.

1st.—It will afford a safe and convenient channel of communication between the extremities of Lake Ontario, free from all the danger and delay attendant upon the navigation of the open Lake.

It is well known to those who have made the winds prevailing upon the Lake their study, that they are subject to certain apparently capricious and anomalous laws.—It has been observed, for instance, that while the wind blew strongly from the east to the westward of Point Peter (a promontory projecting far into Lake Ontario, on the south side of the District of Prince Edward,) it blew a violent gale from the south, at the lower end of the Lake.

Another remarkable circumstance connected with the winds prevailing on Lake Ontario, is that, while during the summer months, a south-west wind prevails at night upon the middle of the Lake, light airs from the north are frequently experienced along the shore. From these two remarkable circumstances then, it is evident that all sorts of vessels sailing between the head of the Lake and Kingston, might avoid a very considerable proportion of the danger and delay to which they are at present subject, by keeping near the shore, entering Presq'isle harbour passing through the projected Canal, and sailing thence to the place of their destination, along the smooth waters of the Bay of Quinte. If vessels were sailing upwards, the same course, only in an opposite direction, would in like manner be the safest and the best.

2d.—It would be the means of affording a direct line of communication between the District of Newcastle and Kingston, and thence by the Rideau Canal or the St. Lawrence to Lower Canada. If even now this rich and fertile District is rising rapidly into notice, it is obvious that an additional impetus would be given to its advancement did it possess a safe and direct means of conveying its produce to other parts of the two Provinces. To the lumber trade of the Newcastle District in particular, such a Canal promises the greatest benefit. At present all the timber which is not floated down the Trent, is conveyed along the lake shore in cribs, into Weller's Bay. Those cribs are then broken up, when the logs are drawn one by one across the Carrying Place into the Bay of Quinte, where the business of rafting is repeated. By the aid of the Canal, rafts from all parts of the Newcastle District, bordering on the Lake shore, could be conveyed directly to Quebec, without the inconvenience or expense attending the operation to which I have just alluded.

3d.—It would be of essential benefit to the interests of the bay of Quinte, and to all the towns and villages lying along the shores of Lake Ontario. A safe communication being once formed through the Isthmus of Murray, and harbours being now in existence along the lake shore, such as those at Cobourg and Port Hope, it is pretty evident that to a certain extent, the stream of commerce would change its course, and benefit all the places through which it passed, by putting them in possession of a free, safe and expeditions water communication to a desirable market, and thereby giving an additional spring to their energies.

The advantages which I have pointed out would be unmingled with the slightest injury to other parts of the Province, there being not a single harbour or village in existence on the lake shore between Presq'isle and Kingston,

In a military point of view, this Canal would add greatly to both the strength and protection of the country. Troops and military stores could then be conveyed from Kingston, or even Montreal, and be brought to bear upon any particular place without the necessity of disembarkation. One great inconvenience which was experienced during the late war, was the delay which often took place for want of the necessary means for farther transportation. Several days, I understand, were frequently lost on this account. Now the power of concentrating troops upon a particular point in the shortest space of time is acknowledged by all military men to be one great means of ensuring victory. Celerity is strength, was the frequent remark of Napoleon. Were the Canal which is now projected once constructed, it is obvious that, in the event of future hostilities, the flotillas which might be stationed for the protection of the Bay of Quinte, and the ports along the lake shore, would be able to co-operate, which, as things are now ordered, it would be impossible for them to do.

Presq'isle harbour possesses more natural advantages than perhaps any other in Canada. The depth of the water is so great and the area of the basin so extensive, that it is capable of affording safe anchorage to all the vessels which are ever likely to navigate Lake Ontario for commercial purposes The point at Presq'isle is beautifully situated for the erection of a battery, and enjoys so advantageous a position, that no hostile vessel attempting to enter it could by possibility escape destruction, it being necessary for them to pass within point blank shot of its guns.

While I am upon this subject, I may remark, *en passant*, that it has often appeared to me somewhat extraordinary, that there is not a single fortification in the whole distance between Kingston and Toronto and that not the slightest means have been yet adopted for keeping open a safe communication between these two places. To effect this nothing more is necessary, than after the completion of the Canal to erect a battery upon Presq'isle point, and another on the heights at Port Hope. This subject has been too long neglected. It is now full time that the Engineer Department should take it into its serious consideration.

It is no argument, as has been often urged, that we are at peace now, and need not therefore such warlike preparations. In answer to this, let it be remembered that the best means of preserving peace is to show our neighbours that we are prepared for war.

But to return to the Canal—I am aware that objections have been urged against its construction by a few interested individuals. One person, indeed, from whom I would have expected a more enlightened and statesmanlike view of the subject, has openly declared that he would give it his decided opposition, because he conceived the interests of the neighbourhood in which he resided would be injured by it. It is to be hoped, however, that when the subject is again brought before Parliament, the views of the majority of the Members will not be so contracted as those of the individual to whom I have alluded, and that the subject will meet with all the attention which its importance demands, no local or selfish interests being allowed to prevent the execution of a work, which has so obvious a tendency to ensure the safety and increase the strength of the Province, and to open up new channels to the enterprise and skill of its inhabitants.

Advices from the different West Indian Islands to the middle of August, represent them very generally in a tranquil state.—In several, the entire emancipation of the slaves had taken place, without apprenticeship; in the others the provisions of the law swere in the course of execution, with every prospect of a happy termination—certainly with no appearance of those bug-bear dangers apprehended by those who, from error or from interest, stove against a principle in itself, just and imperative.

It will be a bright feature of Earl Grey' Administration—one not certainly outshone by the Reform itself; it will be a memorable trait in the public character of "the tyrant Stanley," that chiefly he, with his collegues, regardless of clamour, cordially resolved to put into execution their honest views in regard to slavery, and that England, whose Magistrates had long ago declared of the Slave—

"They touch our country, and their shackles fall.,"

was the first, under a peculiarly heavy sacrifice of her individuals means, to assert the absolute freedom of man from man—to proscribe distinctions odious to religion, to reason, and to every feeling of justice. In this, her magnanimous people have again promoted that popular liberty which ixists on the globe only where it has radiated from their little Island.—[Quebec Gazette.]

Foreign.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

The packet ship Napoleon, Capt. Smith, arrived yesterday from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 24th of August. Our Liverpool and London papers are of the 23d inclusive. They are exceedingly barren of intelligence.

With the adjournment of Parliament, the "men of note" had quitted the metropolis for the sports of the country, and the fashionable ease of retirement. All was tranquil in the three kingdoms. Mr. O'Connell has gone to Derrynane; and Lord Brougham has departed for Westmoreland. On his way home he passed through Lancaster and honored the bar with his company to dinner. The turtle soup was excellent, and the toasts and jokes were of the old character—not as the parson of Harrow would say, fit to be reported.

Parliament, it is said, will not be called together until the end of next January, and that all the great Ministerial measures will be laid before the House soon after it assembles.

A company is in the course of formation for the construction of a railway from London to Norwich. The line is intended to be through Romford, Brentwood, Ingatestone, Chelmsford, Witham, Colchester, Ipswich, and Barry.

In one of the clauses of the Poor Laws' Amendment Bill, it is enacted "That orphan children shall be educated as the parents shall direct!"

[We presume that this clause of the bill was intended exclusively for Ireland.]

A court martial is ordered to assemble to try A. Lawrence, surgeon of the Buzzard, on a charge of drunkenness.

Medical men we regret to learn, concur in stating that there is more sickness at this time in London, than has been at any preceding period of the year.

The supplies of wheat in Mark-lane, during the week ending Aug. 23, were larger than in any former similar period since the year 1821.

Advices have been received from Gibraltar, under date of 9th ultimo, stating that the cholera had ceased, and clean bills of health had been issued.

A prospectus for establishing a new patent soap company, has been issued at Birmingham, a "valuable substance or compound," for which a patent has been granted, to be employed in the manufacture: the capital to be £250,000, in £5 shares.

The Queen had returned to England from her visit to Holland and Germany.

THE SLAVE TRADE.—On the 14th of June, H.M. brig Charybdis, captured a large brig called the Tamaga, under Portuguese colors, in the Bight of Benin, with 444 slaves on board, with which she proceeded to Sierra Leone.

MONT BLANC.—The summit of Mont Blanc was reached on the 18th ult., by two travellers from Savoy, who in their descent were enveloped in a storm so tremendous that they nearly perished of cold and exhaustion. On Monday, the 18th August, the working builders struck throughout the metropolis, rather than sign a declaration required by the masters, that they do not and will not belong to the Trades Union Societies. The masters are resolved to persevere.

CONVERSION TO PROTESTANTISM.—The Cork Herald states that the Rev. Mr. Nolan, who took such a leading part in the public controversial discussions in Ireland, and who was the intimate friend of Dr. Doyle, is reported to have resigned his parish in the diocese of Leighlin, and conformed to the doctrines of the Established Church. Transubstantiation is the groundwork of his objection to the tenets of the Church of Rome.

A SHORT ASSIZE.—The whole business of the Westmoreland Assizes occupied but two hours. At the termination of the last case, Lord Lyndhurst, Looking at the Jury, said, "Gentlemen, you are discharged;" and then at the Bar, "Gentlemen, I am sorry to say, you are discharged also." The "gentlemen of the long robe," who wore very long faces, smiled, bowed, and retired.

Lord Chief Justice Denman, on pronouncing sentence of death upon Sampson, at the late Wells Assizes, did not conform to the judicial custom of putting on the black cap, an omission which, having also occurred in other parts of the Western Circuit, affords a presumption that this feature of the Judge's awful duty is in future to be dispensed with.

The Munster Summer Assizes circuit has terminated, and the result is—two executions only; one for murder at Ennis, another man for the same crime at Tralee.—None at Limerick or Cork.

The Oxford Circuit has just concluded. Although it extends over eight counties, no person has been sentenced to death.

HOPS.—All the advices from the plantations are very favourable. The vines are daily gaining strength, and there was every prospect of an abundant picking. Bets on the duty were done on Wednesday in the Borough at £135,000.

The accounts of the progress of the harvest both in Scotland and Ireland are most encouraging.

CHOLERA IN DUBLIN.—The authorities in the city have been compelled to re-open the Metropolitan Hospital at Grange-Gorman lane, for the reception of cholera patients. No less than one hundred and fifty eight new cases in the city were announced on the 16th of August. One of these was a poor woman expired on the footpath in Marlborough-street, having been refused all ingress by the affrighted inmates of the houses in whose vicinity she was seized with the symptoms of this dreadful disorder. Accounts from castlebar, county of Mayo, speak of the speed with which sufferers are now carried off there with astonishment.—The physicians say, that the attacks of this season much more resemble the Asiatic cholera than those of 1832.

The King of England completed his 69th year, Aug. 21, on which occasion the standard was everywhere displayed.

SPAIN.

The French papers contain copious details of the progress of affairs in Spain, but nothing of great moment. The *Gazette de France* asserts, with its usual accuracy, that Don Carlos has entered Vittoria (for the second time;) but, somehow or other, the readers of newspapers, both French and English have come to the determination of disbelieving every thing recorded in the *Gazette de France*. It is true that Don Carlos has not yet been expelled Spain, but there is no prospect of his remaining there except as a fugitive much longer. A telegrapic despatch received at Paris, August 20th, states that he was at Bermeo on the 15th. The despatch further states that Rodil had left Marquina on the same day, at the head of seven thousand men, in pursuit of Don Carlos; and that Jauregui had left Durango with three thousand men. According to another telegraphic despatch, also referred to in the *Moniteur*, two members of the Junta, who had returned from Biscay to Elisondo, have brought intelligence that Don Carlos was endeavoring to embark.

A third telegraphic despatch, however, states that the Governor of Tolosa had sent word that Don Carlos had gone through Aramayona, on his way to Onate, with very few followers. Aramayona is a village situated about 10 or 12 leagues in the rear of Bermeo. "The night," adds the Moniteur, "not having allowed us to learn more, we are left to mere conjecture as to the cause of the retreat of Don Carlos. It is most probable that Rodil and Jauregui had succeeded in placing themselves between Don Carlos and the coast, where the Pretender intended, no doubt, to embark, and they have compelled him to retrace his steps." Rodil is proceeding against his adherents with a spirit sufficiently sanguinary, for every prisoner made is forthwith shot; and it is possible that his prisoners by and by may be somewhat numerous, for he has cut off the supplies of the enemy, and diminished their chances of escape.—Such, at least, is the latest and best intelligence; but upon matters of Spanish news, the reader will loose nothing by being a little sceptical.

The presence of Don Carlos, at this moment in Spain is the result of a holy alliance manœuvre, for it was thought that a civil war in the Peninsula would embarass the parties to the late treaty, or create enmity between them. It has certainly forced them prematurely into an avowal of principles, for they have agreed to adopt measures to restore peace to Spain. They have agreed to prevent Don Carlos from receiving all military succours; and of course the next step will be, should he maintain his ground, to adopt measures to compel him to withdraw. In the meantime, the Cortes has commenced its labors; and unless the Spaniards are more debased than even their enemies allege, there are hopes for the regeneration of their country.

INSURRECTION IN SYRIA.

The *Augsburgh Gazette* of the 17th inst. has the following from Constantinople of July 28:—"The insurrection in Syria assumes a most serious aspect. Ibrahim Pacha will have difficulty in maintaining his ground in that Province. The greater part of the population, especially in the mountains of Libanus, is in movement.—He is endeavoring to concentrate his forces in order to put an end to the insurrection at one blow; but the Druses are a warlike people, who will oppose a stronger resistance than he met with on the part of the Porte in Natolina. The Porte, although aware of what is going on, remains inactive, and seems to be waiting the result.—The news that the Viceroy has caused some regiments to be embarked for Syria, and will repair thither in person, has caused a powerful sensation here. All the Faubourg of Pera is in movement, and couriers depart in every direction. The maintenance of the occupation of Syria, is a vital question for Mehemet Ali. If he should lose the Province, there is an end to his projects of aggrandizement and his independence. It must be confessed that he possesses great means for maintaining his ground, but whether he conquers or not, he must abandon the line of policy which he has hitherto pursued. He must cease to treat his new subjects as slaves.

It is supposed that the intrigues of the European Powers are at the bottom of these events. The Ambassadors of England and France are struck with them, and are watching their progress. The Porte has evidently regained confidence, and the intrigues of the Divan, which sought to detach it from Russia, are more and more neutralized. The Sultan often repeats his favorite saying—'I know what I have at present, but I know not what I should have if I listened to those who would detach me from Russia. I prefer the certain to the uncertain. I find a friend in Nicholas, but I know not what I could expect from the friendship of those who offer it to me.'

RUSSIA.

DREADFUL CONFLAGRATION.—Tula, one of the largest handsomest, and most populous Russian provincial capitals, was desolated on the 11th of July, by a dreadful conflagration. Nine churches, 670 private buildings, and numerous manufactories, markets and magazines were reduced to ashes. Many thousand inhabitants have lost all their property. The Emperor has given 190,000 rubles to relieve their wants.

English Extracts.

The conduct of Mr. Hume, with regard to the Canadas, is perfectly indefensible. It will be seen, from our Parliamentary report, that his letter, in which he called upon the Canadas to throw off the baneful domination of the mother country, was alluded to in the House of Commons on Monday night by Mr. Secretary Rice, who strongly remarked upon the language of that letter and its treasonable tendency. He also intimated that the Honourable Member for Middlesex would have acted, at least, a more manly and courageous part, if he had taken the field and exposed himself to the consequences, instead of playing the trumpeter at home in perfect safety in his parlour in Bryanston-square, and stimulating others to danger which he was not willing to share. Indeed such conduct is characteristic of all our leading agitators of the present day. They are great excitors of the courage of others, but very economical of their own. They invite their dupes to be as heedless and rash as they are themselves cautious and circumspect; they admire those who can be induced to devote themselves as victims to principle, but they have an especial repugnance to martyrdom in their own persons. Mr. Hume states, indeed, that his letter has been garbled in some journals, but does he venture to deny that it contains those words addressed to a party already sufficiently inflamed, and willing to inflame others against British dominion—"A crisis is fast approaching in the affairs of the Canadas, which will terminate in independence and freedom from the baneful domination of the mother country?" He cannot deny that it contained those words, which if spoken or written by some poor, ignorant and powerless individual, would have brought upon him the whole crushing weight of a Government prosecution. It is in vain for Mr. Hume to say that those words only applied to the measures of Mr. Stanley, then Secretary for the Colonies, and not to the dominion of Great Britain over her Canadian possessions. Unless we are to suppose that Mr. Hume is wholly ignorant of the language which he uses, we cannot believe he intended any thing else than what the words according to their obvious meaning, signify. "Independence of the baneful domion of the mother country" is as strong a phrase to imply a total separation between the Canadas and Great Britain, as could well be made use of. If Mr. Hume only meant the "dominion of Mr. Stanley" and not that of "the mother country," why did he not say so, in his own mind, whether, if such language had been made use of by a subject of the colony, he would not be liable to a prosecution for high treason." Though spoken words never can be treason by the law of England, yet written words have been held to constitute an overt act of treason under particular circumstances. Our own opinion is that, properly speaking, no words whether spoken or written, can amount to more than *sedition*—but we do not like to see the multitude stimulated to seditious acts, by men whose enthusiasm in the cause of liberty never makes them forget their own personal security, and who, while talking the language of the Gracchi, act upon the maxim of Falstaff—that the "better part of valour is discretion." [Lon. Morn. Herald, Aug. 6.]

In the British House of Commons, Sir Samuel Whalley gave notice that he intended to move, at the next Session of Parliament, to bring in a bill *for the abolition of the Hereditary Peerage*. The London Morning Chronicle of the 13th ult. observes:—

"We defy the Tory lords ever to recover from the consequences of their vote of Monday last, against the *Irish Tithe Bill*. We do not recollect any public event—excepting only the rejection of the English Reform in 1831—which has created so much sensation as the destructive majority of the House of Lords against the Irish Tithes Bill. The decision of the infatuated Tory Peers will penetrate the public mind, from one end of the kingdom to the other. Every reflecting person entertained sanguine hopes that this mimportant measure would have been the commencement of an area of peace and good government in Ireland. But the Lords have decreed otherwise, and their suicidal vote gives satisfaction only to those who seek the utter destruction of the Irish Church Establishment * * * * * *

"We have implicit reliance on the characteristic firmness and good sense of Lord Melbourne; and that without being driven into collision with the people of Ireland—the apparent object of the Tories—he will if necessary, call Parliament together at any period; and we shall then see whether the *Hereditary Legislators* can successfully oppose the *King*, the *Commons*, the *Government*, and the *People*. In the meanwhile our anxious hopes are now fixed on the public course of Mr. O'Connell and the Irish nation. A fearful responsibility rests on that popular individual. If judgment and discretion guide his steps—if he turns this temping opportunity not to a bad but a good account, he will, by making the welfare of his country his care, cause himself to become as popular here as he is in Ireland."

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE The 91st Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Methodists commenced on Wednesday morning se'nnight, at six o'clock, in City-road chapel London. The legal Conference was first arranged, by supplying in the place of superannuated and deceased preachers, the following, viz.—by seniority, the Revds William Pearson, John Simmons, George Thompson, and John Fairbourne; and, by vote, the Revds. Hugh Hughes and Barnard Slater. The Revd, Joseph Taylor was elected President of Conference, and the Revd Robert Newton, Secretary. Several important topics are expected to occupy the Conference during its present session. The Rev. J. R. Stephens is in London awaiting his trial. He took his seat at the opening of Conference, but a preacher who observed him rose to a point of order as to his right to be present. A discussion ensued, which ended in casting him out until his case shall be brought forward. We understand the several leading preachers will support him. It is however, confidently expected that he will be expelled. On Friday the emancipation of the slaves was commemorated in open conference, from twelve to one o'clock, by a public prayer meeting. There is an average attendance of preachers.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE The increase of members during the past year is—Great Britain, 12,002; missions 2618; Ireland 1211; total 15,731.—The increase in the former year was 26,339. During the sittings an attempt was made to open the doors of Conference to the public the Ministers were, in consequence, compelled to dispense with singing and prayer to avoid the necessity of compliance.

FIRE.—On the night of Aug. 16, a fire broke out in the yard of Clark & Nixon shipbuilders, Cornhill, Liverpooll, which destroyed a large shed or house filled with pitch, tar, cordage, and other inflammable materials. The greatest difficulty was experienced in saving a new ship which was on the stocks and on which 5000*l*. had been exended. She took fire three times, but was finally rescued from the devouring element.

STATE OF TRADE.—May 22.—Silk Trade.—The silk trade at Leigh continues good, but wages are low.—Fancy weavers in the neighbourhood of Manchester have within the last fourteen days experienced slackness in the trade. Weavers have had to wait two or three days for a warp. Plain sarsenets keep steady.

ROCHDALE.—The woollen weavers and spinners at Rochale are fully employed, and some of the masters have promised an advance of wages. The market on Monday was again well attended, and goods of all descriptions sold readily. A good deal of business was done in the wool market. [From a Correspondent.]

COTTON HAND-LOOM WEAVERS.—The cotton hand loom weavers at Todmorden