

was reviving in the colony, and the prospect of a better condition of trade is pointedly adverted to. The demand for manufactured goods had increased, and prices were advancing; while, in reference to the general state of the markets, it is said, the tendency was decidedly in favour of improvement.

Hobart-town and Launceston papers have also come to hand. Fine flour at the mills was 10*l.* per ton, and wheat 3*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 9*d.* per bushel. The grain markets altogether appear to be looking up.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The political news from the Cape of Good Hope is of little or no interest. The municipal elections were the only matters of such nature that occupied attention, and these were passing over quietly compared with previous contests. A notice had appeared from the Governor calling in the notes, which are to be exchanged for Treasury bills at the same rate of British silver, and as the amount of this part of the debt of the colony is about £20,000, there will remain after it is paid off £20,950 debentures bearing interest to be liquidated. It is stated that no further issues of notes will take place, the resources of the Treasury being said to be now quite sufficient to meet such demands. All the banks and public companies are called upon forthwith to take these notes in for exchange, the desire of the Executive being that they shall be paid off as speedily as possible.

From a document published in the Cape papers, it appears that the total exports for the year ending the 5th of January, 1844, were valued at £349,438, against £354,095 for the year 1843. Wine, flour, skins, and unenumerated articles show a decrease, while on the other hand, wool, horns, and hides show an increase. The table of imports for the same period shows an excess of £45,477 against 1843, the gross value for each respective year being £807,270, and £761,793. The amount entered for consumption in 1844 was £730,220; and the amount warehoused £77,050. Of this amount, £135,914 were entered at Port Elizabeth. With respect to exports, it appears that the increase in wool has been 178,692*lb.*, Table Bay having shipped 169,495*lb.* less than in the former year, while the shipments from Port Elizabeth have increased to 268,479*lb.*

The first of the Sydney mail-packets (the *Mary Sharp*) arrived in Table Bay on the 20th of April, having left the Downs on the 6th of February, being 2 months and 14 days on the passage.

WEST INDIES.—The whole of the papers are filled with articles against the government measure for the reduction of the duty on foreign coffee and free-labour sugar; and in all the islands meetings were being held to memorialize the Queen

on the subject. Upon the calculation that the alteration in the duty of sugar will cause a reduction of 5*s.* per cwt. on the produce of the West Indies, the planters of Demerara alone, it is said, will annually lose £140,000.

The *Jamaica Morning Journal* thus sums up the general affairs in the island—"The Grand Court is sitting, but there is nothing in its proceedings which demand any particular notice at our hand. The rains have been pretty general, but there are some localities which still require more moisture, and where they have not been as heavy as could be wished. The weather in and out of doors is exceedingly close and oppressive, and June promises to be remarkable for a scorching sun and strong sea-breezes. A serious riot recently occurred at Taylor's Caymanas Estate, in St. Catherine's, between the Creole or native negroes, and some African emigrants located here. The cause of the dispute is the circumstance of the Africans labouring at a lower rate of hire than the Creoles have been in the habit of receiving or are disposed to receive. One of the Africans had his arm broken, and others received cuts and were severely beaten. The ringleaders have been arrested, and will be brought to justice. The Creoles have not succeeded in their object, which was to drive the Africans off their property, and the result will be that the former will have to leave or consent to accept the same rates as the latter are doing. Dry weather continues in the parish of St. Dorothy. In Hanover delightful rains have fallen, and the face of the country presents a most cheering appearance. Westmoreland has concluded with large crops, and a promise (if the seasons continue favourable) of a rich and abundant harvest next year. The ex-president Herard of Hayti has arrived in this city, having been compelled to leave that island to avoid the danger which threatened him. Our island remains healthy, but trade is dull. Money has never been known to be more scarce or difficult of collection than it is at the present moment. The movements in the mother-country, it is apprehended, will make things worse than they are."

Lord Elgin is becoming more and more popular, and has the esteem and respect of all classes.

DOMINICA.—We learn from the report of the mail-agent the extraordinary fact, that the island of Dominica is in a state of open insurrection, and is under martial law, the cause being an attempt to take the census. If this information had not been confirmed by private letters received by the steamer, we should not have credited the existence of such a feeling amongst any British colonial population.—*St. Lucia Independent Press.*

CANADA.—All accounts, both public and private, represent the condition of Canada as highly prosperous, and as requiring nothing but internal peace to secure a long continuance of prosperity.—An announcement is made in the official gazette, that the provincial parliament stands again prorogued till the 3d day of August, but not for the despatch of business.—The papers speak of the reception of Sir Charles Metcalfe on his arrival at his new seat of government, Montreal, as very warm and highly flattering to him. He arrived on the 22d, and made his public entry on the 24th, amid great splendour and enthusiasm.—The nomination of J. S. Green as Secretary of the Treasury had been unanimously rejected.

From the opening of the canals to the 15th of June, 304,624 barrels of Canadian and 46,408 barrels of American flour, and 111,021 bushels of Canadian and 95,227 of American wheat, had been received at Montreal. This is more than three times the quantity received in that port to the same date of the previous year, when it was not more than 111,801 barrels of flour and 48,211 bushels of wheat; and this extraordinary increase furnishes a striking proof of the impulse given to the Canada corn-trade by the Government Bill of the session before last. The quantity of flour shipped to this country up to the same date from Montreal and Quebec, was 140,600 barrels of flour and 136,248 bushels of wheat. With regard to the prospect of the present year's harvest, a Montreal paper of the 27th ult. says—"All the accounts represent the breadth of land laid down in both provinces with wheat as unprecedented, and the crops as looking remarkably healthy. Strong hopes are entertained that the ravages of the fly will be very much circumscribed, and from the formation of agricultural societies, and the increased attention devoted by the journals, in both languages, to agricultural topics, we think a reasonable hope may be entertained of a permanent improvement of the culture of the soil." With regard to the Canada timber trade, which was said to have been ruined by the reduction of the duties on Baltic timber, we learn that it is in a healthy and prosperous state, means having been found of bringing the timber down from the interior at more moderate rates.

The Halifax papers contain accounts of a great fire at Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, which commenced on the evening of

the 5th ult., and was not subdued until half-past 2 o'clock on the following day. The loss on this occasion is stated to be 30,000*l.*, and but little of the property destroyed was insured.

Orders were received by the last mail from England, directing the fortification of several important points of defence in Newfoundland. The works on Partridge Island, at the entrance of St. John's harbour, which are to be on an extensive scale, will be commenced the coming week, as will also those at the Grand Falls, on the route to Canada.

LORD LIEUTENANCY OF IRELAND.—At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 10th day of July; present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council. Her Majesty in Council was pleased to declare the Right Hon. William Lord Heytesbury, Lieutenant-General and General Governor of that part of the United Kingdom called Ireland.—*London Gazette*, July 12.—His Excellency has since arrived at Dublin.

SIR HENRY HARDINGE.—The Queen has been pleased to nominate and appoint Lieutenant-General the Right Hon. Sir Henry Hardinge, Knight Commander of the Most Hon. Military Order of the Bath, to be a Knight Grand Cross of the said most Hon. Order.—*Downing Street*, July 1.

THE REVENUE.—The quarterly return of the revenue presents the same favourable results which have distinguished the returns of several quarters past. The four important items of Customs, Excise, Stamps, and Taxes, present an aggregate increase over the corresponding items of the quarter ending July 5, 1843, of 448,574*l.*, distributed with some inequality between these four several heads, the Customs' department alone appropriating no less than 312,029*l.* out of that entire increase; and the department next in importance as an index of the monted prosperity of the country, viz., the Excise, appropriating 85,479*l.* out of the remainder. The increase respectively on these heads on the entire year ending July 5, 1844, is the somewhat startling sum of 835,349*l.* for the Customs, and 420,073*l.* for the Excise.

With these elements of increase, our readers will not be surprised to learn that the total income of the year just ended exceeds that of the year previous by a sum of no less than 2,440,336*l.*