

thus early was attributed to the measures taken in England with respect to immigration from India. The West India body in this country having guaranteed the cost of sending 5000 Coolies to Jamaica during the approaching season, the opinion of the House of Assembly upon the scheme was required, as also upon the proposition to raise a loan in England, with the guarantee of the Government, of half a million sterling for carrying on such immigration in future.

Since the year 1818, there has not occurred such a dreadful visitation at Montego bay as was witnessed on the 5th instant, (October.)

The following is a list of the vessels and other property destroyed:—The schooner Africanus and the Rachel, the property of Captain Bates, completely wrecked; four boats, the property of Captain Bates; the schooner Exertion, and the sloop Isabella, the property of Mr. J. G. Jump; the sloop Sisia, the Wave, and the Mary, the property of Captain Selley; the sloop Magna Charta, the property of Captain Brown and Son; the sloops Hunter and Tom Smith, the property of Messrs. Watson and Mowat; the sloop Glassinia, the property of Mr. Peter Watson; a sloop boat, the property of James C. Hart and Co.; a schooner boat, Mr. D. Levy; a lighter, Mr. Garth; a lighter, Mr. Manderson; a lighter, Captain Heslop; a lighter, Mr. Thompson; a lighter, Messrs. Watson and Mowat. A large number of small boats and canoes, and Mr. Lindo's bathing-house, a considerable quantity of lumber, staves, heading-boards, and scantlings, the property of Mr. J. G. Jump, washed off from Gun-point-wharf. Several wharfs are considerably injured.

On Wednesday afternoon last, the 16th of October, a frightful conflagration took place at Demerara, (the work of incendiaries,) which continues to rage up to the moment that we are now writing. The first property that fell a prey to the infatuation, or the fanaticism, of the incendiaries, was Uitkomst, the property of Mr. C. J. Visser, one of the resident planters. After desolating Uitkomst, the fire kept on its course in a direction due west towards the head of the canal, next threatening with destruction Java, the fine property of Messrs. Murray, Brothers, and Co., of this colony and Liverpool. It next proceeded to a third estate, bordering Java on the west, the De Kinderen, once the well-cultivated property of Mr. Revers, the entire of which it has laid waste. From De Kinderen the flames successively traversed plantations Mon Bijou and Two Brothers, both coffee properties, committing the most dreadful havoc on them; and by accounts received from the canal up to a late hour

yesterday evening, were every hour expected, as they had then become quite irresistible, to invade the next estate to the west, Vreed-en-Vrindschap. Nothing but heavy rain, of which there are not the least symptoms, can, we fear, save the whole of the northern, and by far the most valuable, bank of the canal, from its centre to its head, from complete destruction.—*Georgetown Gazette.*

It appears from the *Royal Gazette* of George-town, British Guiana (October 4), that the Court of Policy of that island, to whom had been referred by the Colonial Secretary certain grave charges against Mr. T. Bagot, late acting colonial registrar, had resolved that the charges had been proved, and that he be not retained in or restored to any office.

The Island of Cuba was, on the 2d of October, visited with a most terrific hurricane, which continued, however, only a few hours, passing over without doing much damage from that time until the morning of the 4th.

On the morning of the 4th it commenced raining, and continued so during the day. The wind at first blew right from N. E., veering afterwards to E.; and at dusk it became a calm. At this time the thermometer was at 19 of Reaumur. It began to blow at 8 p. m., and also rained. At 9 and 10 p. m. the wind blew a hurricane, and increased during the whole night, with occasional flashes of lightning, accompanied with great destruction of property in the city of Havannah.

The principal damage to the houses was sustained in the suburbs, but scarcely a house escaped without injury.

The *Courrier Français* states, that since the sixteenth century 161 earthquakes have been experienced in the West Indies—viz., in the 16th century 1; 17th, 9; 18th, 43; 19th, 108; of which 12 were in January, 9 in February, 11 in March, 11 in April, 10 in May, 10 in June, 7 in July, 15 in August, 17 in September, 25 in October, 14 in November, and 10 in December; 32 in winter, 31 in spring, 39 in summer, and 41 in autumn.

CANADA.—Advices from Canada and the United States, arrived at Liverpool, on Saturday Nov. 23, bringing Montreal papers of the 4th inst., and Toronto of the 5th. The total return of the election in favour of the governor-general, is stated at 42 against 27 radicals, with 4 doubtful, making a total of decided election of 73, and the whole number is 84. This we think is decisive, Sir Charles Metcalfe has presented £100 in aid of the funds of the Montreal temperance society.

A serious riot is reported to have taken place in Quebec on the occasion of an Irish procession in honour of the

liberation of O'Connell. Some parties having refused to illuminate, their dwellings were attacked; they fired from the windows, and several of the assailants were wounded.

The following is the state of the Montreal markets, up to the 2nd of November.

Ashes, both descriptions in good demand; pots readily find buyers at 24s. 3d., and pearl at 24s. 6d. to 24s. 9d. Shipping parcels of pots could not be obtained this morning under 24s. 6d., and several large lots have changed hands at that price.

Flour, Canada fine, is taken for consumption here, and for Quebec account, at 23s. 6d. to 24s. 6d. per barrel, while United States commands 25s. 3d. to 25s. 6d.

Grain, Upper Canada wheat is worth 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d. per 60lb., and peas 2s. 6d. to 2s. 7d.

Exchange, the banks draw on London at 11½ to 11¾ per cent. premium; the latter rate was paid this morning for £5,000. Draughts on New York are 1½ to 2 per cent.

Freights, for ashes, to Liverpool and the Clyde, the rate is 35s. to 37s. 6d.; and, for flour, 4s. 6d. to 5s., but we cannot learn that any flour is now being shipped to Great Britain.

Throughout Canada we have tidings of the near approach of winter.

CANAL OF PANAMA.—A canal across the isthmus which connects North and South America has always been looked upon as a thing of great importance. Puerile efforts to cut a canal have long been made from time to time by individuals or companies, but nothing has been done, and probably nothing will be done until it is made a national business. It seems to us that the great nations particularly interested in the matter should at once unite in the enterprise, cut the canal, and declare it under the same laws which regulate the open ocean; and even more than that, making it neutral water under all circumstances. America, England, France, and Russia, could accomplish the undertaking at small cost, and we should expect would all readily unite for the purpose, if it were but proposed. No Government could more properly lead in this enterprise than our own. Why should it not be brought before Congress at the approaching session? As to the constitutional power of Congress to appropriate money for the purpose—if nothing better can be found, let it go under the power to "regulate trade," to "coin money," or to "do whatever may be necessary" for the establishment of "post-offices and post-roads." It is, at any rate, a proper matter for the great nations to agree about, fixing some plan

by which it may be accomplished. — *New York Journal of Commerce.*

UNITED STATES.—Letters and papers from New York are up to the 9th of Nov. the intelligence is ample and important. The contest for the Presidency, esteemed so doubtful, is decided—we may almost say unexpectedly—in favour of Mr. James K. Polk, foremost in whose policy are the annexation of Texas to the United States, the support of the institution of slavery, and, to use his own words, "such a tariff for revenue as will yield a sufficient amount to the treasury as will defray the expenses of Government, economically administered." Other questions are likewise involved in this decision given by the citizens of the United States—the bank question, the distribution of the surplus revenue, affecting the repudiating States, Native Americanism, and other minor matters. According to the *New York Herald*, the tariff may be somewhat modified at the next session, though it never can be essentially altered; no bank, no distribution, can take place for the present; new negotiations may be opened for the annexation of Texas, but as the Senate will be Whig for two years at least, nothing can be done effectually as regards that matter for some time to come. This journal regards the Whig party as utterly and for ever disbanded, and conceives that on their ruins will spring up the American Republicans.

In another article it reviews the effect of the election upon the repudiating States in respect of the settlement in the negative of the question of distributing the surplus revenue among the States—a measure of great importance both to this country and to the United States; and considers it a result most fortunate for the character of the country and the prospects of the stockholders, as compelling them to depend solely upon themselves in order to redeem their character. It conceives that a moral feeling will now be awakened throughout the Union, which will operate so powerfully as to lead to the adoption of an honest and upright course. Why this reformation in moral feeling is to be, we are not informed. The triumph of Mr. Polk is a triumph of the South over the North, and opens a vast field for speculative opinions; but the time has not arrived for commencing them. He was 49 years of age on the 2nd of November.

As soon as the result of the Presidential election was known, Texas bonds rose, nominally, 15 to 20 per cent, while United States stocks were depressed.

The following official return from the Treasury Department of the receipts into, and expenditure from, the Treasury during the quarter ending the 30th of

September last, will be interesting. They are as nearly ascertained as can be:—

	Dollars.	Cents.
From Customs, about	10,750,000	0
From lands, about	450,000	0
From miscellaneous sources	25,500	0
Total	11,225,500	0
The expenditures for the same period were—		
On account of the Civil List, miscellaneous and foreign intercourse	1,411,052	05
On account of the army	1,245,682	75
On account of the Indian department	907,968	76
On account of the fortifications	200,627	24
On account of the pensions	923,717	50
Total	2,277,996	25
On account of the navy	1,906,206	89
On account of the interest of public debt	81,404	62
On account of the reimbursement loan of 1841	284,600	0
On account of the reimbursement and interest on Treasury notes	322,584	61
Total	7,233,844	42

Thus the receipts, over and above the expenditure, amount to within a few dollars of being nearly four millions for one quarter of the year. It was considered a very satisfactory state of things.

The revenue collected at the port of New York during the month of October is \$1,334,675 dol. 43c.

The first steam-vessel ever despatched from the United States for any parts beyond the Cape of Good Hope had sailed from New York on the 4th. It was the steam-propeller Midas.

FRANCE.—The usual annual report of the commercial movement of France, has been published for the year 1843. From this it appears that the commerce of France with her colonies and with foreign powers, has embraced, during the year 1843, merchandise, to the amount of 2,179,000,000f., divided into imports, 1,187,000,000f., and exports 992,000,000f.

The following is a statement of loans contracted in France for the last thirty years:—

Year	Amount	Rate	Negotiated at	Produce
	fr.	per Ct.	fr. c.	fr.
1819	3,500,000	5	51	35,863,200
1816	6,000,000	5	57	62,763,800
1817	659,755	5	59	7,924,035
1817	30,000,000	5	57	345,065,000
1818	14,925,500	5	66	197,509,400
1818	12,343,433	5	67	165,000,000
1820	24,401,912	5	87	7,000,000
1821	12,514,220	5	85	211,118,304
1823	23,114,516	5	89	413,980,991
1830	18,134,950	4	102	40,000,005
1831	107,412,858	5	84	20,000,014
1832	7,611,213	5	98	150,000,000
1841		3	78	160,000,000
Total				1,956,623,939

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

LOCAL RATES AND TAXES.—Of the yearly total levy of £12,000,000, sterling for "local rates and taxes" in England and Wales, £10,750,000, are raised in England; of that, above 30 per cent are upon houses, and 52 per cent or £6,000,000 are levied upon (£30,500,000, sterling as net value or rental of) land in cultivation, comprising 25,500,000 acres of cultivated land. The Report on Local Taxation says—"This burden was so intolerable as in some places to throw land out of cultivation." These local rates extend over above 14,000 parishes, and engage above 180,000 persons in their collection and expenditure, which the Poor Law Commissioners (report) recommend should be placed in their hands! On 27 English railways, 1,200 miles in length, and averaging 12,000 acres, the statistics (taking the actual figures on six months of 1843 as a guide) are as follows:—For one year, gross receipts, above £5,000,000; working expenses, £1,500,000; interest on loans, &c., £750,000; Government duty of 5 per cent, £161,081; local rates and taxes, £111,000, (besides tithes, land and assessed taxes, &c.) leaving only £2,000,000 for dividend, which was subject to some deductions, the income tax being about £60,000. The yearly assessment to the poor-rate of those 27 railways was £555,000, being an average of £48 an acre, and a yearly payment of £9. 2s. per acre (at 4s. in the pound) towards local rates for a quantity of land, which, as such, averaged less than £8,000 assessed value, or 15s. per acre, and would have paid (at 4s. per acre) less than £2,400. Every year the traffic and the taxation increase. There are above 2,000 miles of railways now in work, with a capital of above £100,000,000; another 1,000 miles in progress of formation, and another 1,000 to be applied for next session. This enormous difference in local taxation arises from including the profits of the railways and their trade—a principle from which canals, Irish, Scotch, and continental railways, are exempt. This contribution is, besides that to £5,000,000 of tithe (the commutation increasing it from £3,500,000, under the old law, and a portion of which was never recovered), £1,250,000, of land tax and sewers, assessed, and state taxes, &c., and for which and all other taxes the poor rate assessment is the guide.—*Railway and Land Taxation.*

EXPORTS TO CHINA.—The demand for China (according to letters from Manchester) is, at the present moment, prodigious for shirtings. The export in this article alone will, it is said, exceed that of last year by 1,500,000 pieces.

OBITUARY.

- Allen, Richard, Esq., Registrar of the Court of Requests, on the 16th July, at Sydney, New South Wales, aged 44 years.
- Begbie, Clarence, son of John Begbie, Esq., of Camberwell, senior ensign of the 1st Madras Native Infantry, on 29th August, at Secunderabad, aged 22, in consequence of injuries sustained the day previous through a fall from his horse.
- Champain, John, Esq., third son of the late John Champain, Esq., of London, on 12th June, at West Martland, New South Wales.
- Cochrane, Rear Admiral, on 16th November, at Bathford, the seat of his brother, at an advanced age. The admiral, when commanding the "Kingfisher," sloop, captured a French privateer of fourteen guns and one hundred men; was present and rendered important service in the action off St. Domingo.
- Dallas, Lieutenant Henry, 98th regiment, on 25th July, at Hong-Kong, China.
- Dance, Colonel Sir Charles Webb, K.H., on the 13th November, at Bar House, near Taunton, in the 59th year of his age.
- Dunne, General Edward, in November, at his seat in Queen's County, Ireland, in his 83d year. The deceased had rendered particular service during the rebellion in Ireland in 1798. His commissions were dated as follows:—Ensign, September 9, 1780; Lieutenant, May 24, 1784; Captain, February 28, 1785; Major, September 30, 1791; Lieutenant-Colonel, December 31, 1793; Colonel, Jan. 26, 1797; Major-General, September 25, 1803; Lieutenant-General, July 25, 1810; and General, July 19, 1821.
- Dyett, Lieutenant Malcolm R., Royal Navy, on 6th November, at London.
- Greenwell, Major-General Sir Leonard, K.C.B., and K.C.H., on 11th November. The deceased general, who was third son of the late Mr. Joshua Greenwell, of Kebblesworth, was born in 1781.
- Gunton, Henry, Esq., late Captain in her Majesty's 50th regiment of Foot, on 15th July, at Keshnaghur, near Paramatta, New South Wales.
- Haining, Captain James, of the 3d West India regiment, formerly of the 65th foot, on 23d July, at Sierra Leone, aged 39 years. Whilst in South America, Captain Haining volunteered and travelled along with Dr. Schomburg, for the Geographical Society, in order to explore the unknown regions to the interior of the Guianas.
- Jenkins, John Edward, Esq., of her Majesty's 31st regiment of foot, eldest son of John Jenkins, Esq., surgeon, of Gosport, and of the East Suffolk light infantry, on 24th August, at Umballa, East Indies.
- Macdonogh, Montague, Esq., late of the 4th or King's Own regiment of foot, on the 12th Nov., at Boulogne-sur-Mer, aged 48.
- Nicolls, Commander Jonathan, Royal Navy, on 19th November, at Coleraine, in his 62d year.
- Ottley, Captain Osbert Davenport, of the 1st Bombay European regiment of fusileers, on 19th September, at Lallee, near Ahmedabad, East Indies, aged 37.
- Ram, Komul Sen, the dewan or treasurer of the Bengal bank, died in the early part of August, at Calcutta. Of the native gentlemen who have raised themselves to eminence in the native society of Calcutta, by the acquisition and distribution of wealth within the present century, Ram Komul Sen will be freely acknowledged as the most remarkable. Others have risen from equal obscurity to greater wealth, but none have been more distinguished for their intellectual attainments. There is scarcely a public institution in Calcutta of which he was not a member, and which he did not endeavour to advance by his individual exertions. He was one of the chief instruments in the establishment of those institutions which have diffused European science among the natives, and so greatly raised the tone of native society.—*Friend of India*, Aug. 15.
- Ross, the Rev. William H., M.A., on the 7th August, at Calcutta.
- Saye and Sele, the Right Hon. Lord, on 13th November, in the 76th year of his age. He is succeeded in his title and estates by his only son the Hon. William Twisleton Fienes, who was born in April, 1798.
- Scotland, Thomas, Esq., eldest son of John Scotland, Esq., of Glen Douglas, Roxburghshire, on 10th July, at Macao, China.
- St. John, the Hon. General Frederick, on 19th November, at Chailey. This remarkable general officer was the second son of Frederick, second Viscount Bolingbroke, and brother of the late and uncle to the present Viscount. He was born on the 20th of December, 1765, and entered the army in August, 1799; at the time of his death he was the senior general in the army, with the single exception of Sir G. Nugent, Bart. He served with much distinction in India under Lord Lake.
- Udny, Charles Grant, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, on 3d November, at London, aged 38.
- Western, the Right Hon. Lord, on 4th Nov., at Felix Hall, Essex, in his 78th year.
- Whitmore, Charles, Esq., of the Bengal Civil Service, on 19th August, near the Neilgherry Hills, aged 36.
- Wilkinson, Charles, eldest son of Edward Wilkinson, Esq., of Regent's-Park, London, on 23d September. He was crossing the St. Lawrence, Canada, with three companions, when a violent tornado burst upon them, and all perished.
- Wilson, Captain William Thomas, of the 58th regiment of Bengal Native Infantry, on his return from Europe to join his corps, on 3d August, near Dinapore. He was the son of Major-General Thomas Wilson, C.B., of the Hon. East India Company's Service.