justify the belief that a disposition was felt, on the part of the managers of the Bank, to embarrass the proceedings of the committee, or have them conducted differently from those of the two preceding Committees o. Investigation. On assembling, however, the next morning, at the Bank, they found the room which had been offered for their accomomdation, pre-occupied by the Committee of the Board, with the President of the Bank, as an *ex officio* member, claiming the right to be present at the investigations and examinations of this committee. This proceeding the committee were not prepared to expect. When the appointment of the Committee of Seven was first made, it was supposed that that measure, however designed, was not well calculated to facilitate the examination.

The officers of the Bank were believed to be the most appropriate agents of the Board of Directors to exhibit their books and papers. By them the entries in the books are made, and by them such entries are most readily explained. It is their duty too, to be daily at the Banking house, and on that account they could assist in the examination more readily than the Committee of Directors.

These objections to the special agents of the Board, were felt and expressed, but they were waived, and no disposition had been manifested or felt by your committee, to conduct the examination in any manner not entirely acceptable to the board.

Under these circumstances, your committee did think that a decent respect for their rights and privileges, and much more for the dignity of that body from which all their powers were derived, might have induced the Committee of Directors to forbear to make them feel an entire want of control over their own room. With a previous determination to be present when their books were to be inspected, they could have waited to avow it until these books were called for, and the attempt made to inspect them in their absence. These circumstances are now reviewed, because they then excited an apprehension, which the sequel formed into conviction, that this Committee of Directors had been appointed to supervise the acts and doings of your committee, and to limit and restrain their proceedings, not according to the directions contained in the resolution of the House, but the will and judgment of the Board of Directors. Your committee have chosen to ascribe this claim of the Committee of Directors, to sit conjointly with them, to the desire to prevent them from making use of the books and papers, for some of the purposes pointed out by the resolution of the House. They are sensible that this claim to be present at all examinations, avowed prematurely, and subsequently persisted in with peculiar pertinacity, could be attributed to very different motives, but respect for themselves, and respect for the gentlemen who composed the Committee of Directors, utterly forbids the ascription to them of a feeling which would merit compassion and contempt much more than resentment.

This is a novel position, voluntarily and deliberately taken by the Committee of the Directors, predicated on an ideal equality of rights with your committee under your resolution, & enforced it [illegible] in some measure necessary, [illegible] committee should express its opinions on the relative rights of the corporation and the House of Representatives. To avoid all misunderstanding & future misrepresentations, it was desirable that each question should be decided separately. Contemplating an extended investigation, but unwilling that an apprehension should exist of improper disclosures being made of the transactions of the Bank and its customers, your committee, following the example of the committee of 1832, adopted a resolution declaring that their proceedings should be confidential, until otherwise ordered by the committee, and also a resolution that the committee would conduct its investigations "without the presence of any person not required or invited to attend." A copy of these resolutions was furnished to the committee of Directors, in the hope that the exclusive control of a room at the Bank during its hours of business, would hereafter be conceded to your committee, while the claim of the committee of Directors to be present when their books were submitted for inspection, should be postponed for decision, when the books were called for and produced by them.

On the 28th ult. this committee assembled at the banking house, and again found the room they expected to find set apart for their use, preoccupied by the committee of Directors, and others, officers of the Bank. And instead of such assurances as they had a right to expect, they received copies of two resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors, in which they were given to understand that their continued occupation of the room must be considered a favor, and not a matter of right; and in which the Board indulge in unjust commentaries on the House of Representatives; and intimate an apprehension that your committee design to make their examinations secret, partial, unjust, oppressive, and contrary to common right.

When this communication had been read, your committee adjourned to meet at their own chamber, at the North American Hotel. Notwithstanding all that had occurred, the correspondence with the committee of directors was continued. If in so doing an error was committed, let it be imputed to the belief that great forbearance well became the Committee of the immediate representatives of the People.

While it was thus doubtful whether a room could be obtained in the Banking house, without conditions being attached derogatory to the rights and dignity of the House and a concession in advance of a claim set up by the Bank, which might seriously incommode your committee in their business, they determined to execute your resolution, if practicable, without intruding on the Directors of the Bank. They therefore required of the President and Directors, in writing, to submit for the inspection of the committee, at their committee room, on the 5d day of May, certain books and papers of the Bank which might have been thus produced without interruption to the ordinary business of the Bank. The requisition, in terms implied the presence of the directors or their committee.

On the day named, the Board addressed a written communication to the committee, declaring "that they cannot comply with that part of the resolution of the committee of investigation which requires that certain books of the bank be sent to the North American Hotel, this day, at 11 o'clock."

Your committee are of opinion that this refusal of the board of directors to submit the books of the Bank to the inspection of your committee, is a violation of the Bank charter, and a contempt of the laws and authority of the House of Representatives.

The reasons for this opinion need not be here repeated or enlarged.

It has been maintained, and is insisted, that the right to inspect the books of the Bank, carries with it the power to perform that office out of the banking house, if it cannot be done conventently and effectually therein, and your committee cannot perceive that just ground of complaint exists against a claim of power, in a committee of either House, of Congress, which, by the laws, and with a wise regard to the public interest, is conceded to the judicial tribunals of both the Federal and State Governments.

The facts already stated, demonstrate that a room could not be procured in the Bank for the use of the committee, without a concession not to be recalled, which would have made your committee dependent on the courtesy of the Directors of the Bank at every step of the inquiry, and the various communications received from the directors and their committee, annexed to this report, will fully corroborate this statement.

Having failed to accomplish the object of procuring the books of the Bank for inspection at their committee room, your committee felt it to be their duty to demand their submission for that purpose, at the Bank, of the President and Cashier of the Bank, the usual and general agents of the corporation. For that purpose on the 5th day of May, having apprised the committee of directors of their intention, at one o'clock they repaired to the Bank and then required the President and Cashier, each of them respectively, to produce certain of the books of the Bank, for inspection of the committee. This was refused by each of those officers, for reasons stated in writing, and to be found in the appendix to this report.

In this refusal your committee believe there was a substantial violation of the Bank charter, and a contempt against the authority of the House committed.

They are of opinion, that your committee were under no obligation of right to recognise any agent of the bank other than those generally known as such, and make their duty and right to inspect the books depend on the convenience or caprice of such deputation.

If such be the fact, then the examinations of the Bank will, in all cases, depend on the disposition of the Directors to have their proceedings examined.

Having been thus denied, by the officers of the Bank, and having been informed by the Directors, that they were not aware of having declined to furnish a room for the exclusive use of the committee, your committee sincerely desirous to meet the wishes and directions of the House, believed it to be their duty to seek another interview with the committee of Directors, and by arrangement, met the committee of the Board, at the Bank, on the 7th day of May, at an hour fixed by themselves.

Your committee then and there, in writing, required of the Committee of the Board, to produce to your committee, for inspection certain books and papers of the Bank, to enable your committee, to inquire into the truth of representations made by the Government Directors to the President of the United States and to Congress: and to ascertain whether the Board of Directors had violated the charter of the Bank, by authorizing the exercise of illegal powers by their committees or officers, and whether the Bank had any agency, through its management or money, in producing the present pressure, or has used its corporate power or money to control the press, to interfere in politics, or influence elections.

Without giving a specific answer to these calls for books and papers, the committee of directors presented a written communication, which was said to be indicative of the mode of proceeding deemed right by the Bank."

The committee of the Board in that communication, express the opinion, that the inquiry can only be rightfully extended to alleged violations of the charter, and deny virtually the right of the House of Representatives to authorize the inquires required in the resolution.

They also required of the Committee of Investigation, "when they asked for books and papers, to state specifically in writing, the purpose for which they are proposed to be inspected: and if it be to establish a violation of the charter, then to state specifically in writing, what are the alleged or supposed violations of charter, to which the evidence is alleged to be applicable."

To this extraordinary requirement, made on the supposition that your committee were charged with the duty of crimination, or prosecution for criminal offence, and implying a right on the part of the Directors to determine for what purposes the inspection should be made, and what books or papers should be submitted to inspection, your committee replied that they were not charged with the duty of criminating the Bank, its Directors, or others; but simply to inquire, amongst other things, whether any prosecution in legal form should be instituted, and from the nature of their duties and the instructions of the House of Representatives, they were not bound to state specifically in writing any charges against the Bank, or special purpose for which they required the production of the books and papers for inspection.

A specific answer was requested to the calls which had been made.

The Committee of the Board, after deliberation, made a communication to your committee, in writing, in which they announced their purpose to adhere to their resolution, and refused to submit the books and papers of the Bank, required by your committee to be produced for their inspection.

These calls were made in the Bank, and in the presence of the Committee of the Board, and then and there a compliance with them was refused. Not feeling authorised to regard this unexpected & unequivocal refusal as the act of the Board of Directors, your committee submitted the proceedings of their committee to the Board, & they were by the Board "fully approved and sanctioned."

In this act of refusal, which nothing that had occurred had prepared them to anticipate, your committee are of opinion, that the charter of the Bank was violated, and a contempt of the House of Representative committed.

Your committee, acting under the instructions of the House of Representatives, without power to modify or enlarge them, charged to inquire and not authorized to accuse or arraign, except in their report to the House itself; armed with but the limited authority of a committee unauthorized to punish, were necessarily compelled to the conclusion, that, in the face of the obstructions already detailed, they could not efficiently prosecute the inquires with which they were charged, without the aid of the power of the House of Representatives.

Anxious, however, to perform their duty without complaint to the House, and in conformity with the proceedings of the Committee of 1819 and 1832, your committee called on the Bank, in a series of resolutions, to furnish statements and certain extracts and copies from their books and papers, which, in the opinion of your committee, were all intimately connected with their duties, and many of them indispensable to afford to the House of Representatives the information which they had directed your committee to obtain.

The first of these was responded to by the Committee of Directors, and the information furnished.—Though useful, it was comparatively unimportant.

The Board of Directors, after deliberation, refused to comply with the other calls, for reasons which will be found in their resolution in the Appendix, and which reasons deserve examination, as manifesting the deliberate purpose of the Directors to resist all attempts to examine into the proceedings of the corporation in the latitude required by your resolution.

They say, that the Board of Directors do not feel themselves at liberty to comply with the requisition of the Committee of Investigation, because "part" of the copies called for "relate to matters over which the Board have no control."

These reasons, it is plain, cannot have had much weight in producing the decision of the Board. If only a part of the information desired was beyond the control of the Board, that fact could have been stated, and this committee would have cheerfully received the residue.

2d. The Board say, they cannot comply, because it would be impossible for them to do so "within and reasonable time, having ascertained, by a careful examination, that the copies and statements called for by the resolutions of the 29th ultimo alone, would require the uninterrupted labor of two clerks for at least ten months."

This reason, it is also fair to presume, could not have materially influenced the decision of the Board. If, in truth, an entire compliance with all the resolutions would require great labor, still that did not justify the refusal to comply with any one of them. Besides, the whole objection could have been obviated by the employment of more clerks than two, the compensation to whom, if paid either by the bank or this committee, would have been well expended in gratifying the requirement of the House of Representatives.

3d. The Board say they cannot "comply, inasmuch as in respect to a part of the papers called for, the effect would be the same as the surrender of their books and papers to a secret *ex parte* examination."

Who can read this last reason for refusing, given by the Directors, and fail to perceive that this committee is justified in declaring, that without the aid of *compulsory process*, they cannot obey the directions of the House. If extracts from their own books, made by their own clerks, will not be furnished because they *might* be used to conduct an *ex parte* examination, what benefit could this committee expect to derive by access to the books themselves?

Permission to take extracts for themselves could, and probably would, be deemed for the same reasons; and a committee of the House, without power to compel obedience to its demands, would have power to make no use of the books, which was not approved by the Directors themselves. And the House will be at no loss to determine what latitude they would be willing to give their inquiries. And without authentic extracts, such as were unhesitatingly furnished by the Bank to both the former Committees of Investigation, your committee could very imperfectly convey to the House the grounds of their conclusions, or the result of their inspection and examination.

In what condition, then, is your committee placed? The House have commanded them to inquire "what corruptions and abuses have existed in the management of the Bank," whether it has used "its corporate power, or money, to interfere in politics, or influence elections."

To do this, they have attempted to use the only means that can, by possibility, enable them to fulfil this duty; and they are refused by the Directors access to those means which are in their custody, and which, by their charter, they are bound to furnish.

Because, say they, the inquiry this committee has been charged to make, "can only be rightfully extended to alleged violations of the charter." And even these violations of charter are not to be inquired of until the Board is furnished with "a specification of all the charges intended to be inquired into?" Should supposed violations of charter be specifically charged, then the Directors are to decide whether the facts, if true, as stated, would amount to technical violations of charter, and then, and not till then, will your committee be permitted to "proceed with them in order as stated." It must be said, that those pretences, by which the Bank would justify its bold disregard of the provisions of its charter, are, in themselves, derogatory to the dignity, and contemptuous to the authority of the House, to which it in fact owes its being.

The Committee believe that these proceedings of the Bank Directors, denying vital and essential powers to the two Houses of Congress, and asserting, in effect, a paramount and controlling authority over both in executing a power, devised as a check upon the Bank itself, would justify a more extended comment. But confiding in the disposition of the House to maintain its own rights and dignity, and to sustain your committee in the faithful discharge of their duty, they present as a part of this report the various resolutions adopted by your committee, with those received from the agents of the Bank, as an appendix, declaratory of the powers believed to be possessed, and the purposes of your committee.

They believe that these resolutions will of themselves vindicate their conduct and proceedings from all those imputations which are to be found in the various communications of the Directors, and their committee, and will serve to show that they have afforded no justification whatever for the extraordinary position ultimately taken by the Committee of Directors and the Board. But that their determination not to permit any conduct of theirs not involving breach of charter, to be investigated, must have been entertained long before it was made known to your committee—and that it was not communicated until every other means of preventing the examination had proved unavailing. But for this conduct, which your committee cannot regard as distinguished by frankness and candor, the absence of your committee, from their duties in the House would have been of much shorter continuance.

Believing they had now exhausted in their efforts to execute the duty devolved upon them, all reasonable means depending solely upon the provisions of the Bank charter, to obtain the inspection of the books of this corporation, your committee were at last reluctantly compelled to resort to the subpœnas which had been furnished to them, under the seal of this House, and attested by its Clerk. They, thereby, on the 9th inst. directed the Marshal of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania to summon Nichols Biddle, President, and thirteen other persons, Directors of the Bank, to attend at their Committee-room on the next day, at 12 o'clock at noon, to testify concerning the matters of which your committee were authorized to inquire, and to bring with them certain books therein named for inspection. The Marshal served the summons in due form of law, and at the time appointed, the persons therein named appeared before the committee and presented a written communication signed by each of them as the answer of each, to the requirements of the subpœna (which is in the appendix of this report.) In this paper they declare "that they do not produce the books required, because they are not in the custody of either of us, but as has been heretofore stated of the Board," and add, "considering that as corporators and Directors, we are parties to the proceeding—we do not consider ourselves bound to testify, and therefore respectfully decline to do so."

Your committee will not dwell long to answer these technical excuses for this contempt of the lawful mandate of the House. They are to be found at large in the written document above referred to. Most of them, it is believed, have been already satisfactorily answered.—The two novel excuses herein set forth, cannot but be condemned as insufficient. The first is founded on a very refined distinction between the power of the Directors as persons and as corporators. The same persons have and have not power to submit the books. As corporators the custody of the books is in them; but as individuals, although collectively, asssembled, the same books are not under their control. Thus, by an attenuated technicality, the lawful authority of the House is to be defied. If, in one room of the bank, they must be esteemed as "individual citizens," who may lawfully disregard a subpœna duces tecum, because they have not the books demanded—if, in another room of the same house, by a transmigration not known to Heathen philosophy, their identity is gone; they have become mere ideal creatures, on which not even a subpœna ad testificandum can be served. To make this excuse still more extraordinary let it be remembered that seven of the gentlemen by whom it is offered had been appointed by the Board of Directors to exhibit the books of the bank for inspection, and of course must have had the right to that exclusive possession for that purpose.

The reason assigned for the refusal to be sworn is parallel with that which has just been considered—that, as corporators and directors, they are parties to the proceedings of the House and therefore not bound to give testimony. It is a humane rule to be found in the criminal law, which decrees that no man shall be compelled to criminate himself, and one which this committee would be unwilling, under any circumstances, to deny, but your committee are not aware of any principle of evidence which will excuse a person for refusing to give testimony, simply because it may subject him to a civil action.

There are provisions in the Bank charter, making the Directors liable to a civil suit, proved to have participated in certain transactions therein mentioned. But it seems not to be supposed that any thing can be sought on the books of the Bank that would subject the Directors to a criminal prosecution. Even if the latter supposition be not entirely without foundation, still it is insisted that a witness called on to testify, must do so, unless the court or other tribunal before which he appears, shall adjudge that he is interested. That question the witness cannot be permitted to decide for himself, otherwise evidence might be withheld without good cause. As to the supposition that the Directors, or the corporation under their control, are to be considered parties to the inquest this committee was directed to institute it has already been answered in this report, and needs no further reply.

If the inquest had been prosecuted, and had satisfied Congress or the President that a scire facias ought to issue, then, and not till then, could the Bank Directors become parties to the proceeding, and under that principle, attempt to conceal transactions known only to themselves and even then their books might be used as evidence against them. Justice requires us to add, that the Directors, while they protested against our right to examine them, declared they had no knowledge, which, if a necessary regard to their duty and the rights of others permitted, they would not willingly expose without reserve.

Under such circumstances, it is to be regretted that they have not imitated the course of the Directors of 1819 and 1832, by waiving their supposed technical rights, and inviting an unrestrained examination of their proceedings. Such conduct could not but have gained public approbation; and it is humbly conceived could not have been reasonably objected to by any persons having business with the institution. If such had been the course of the Directors, the committee hope to be pardoned for saying it was their purpose to have performed the duties which had been enjoined thoroughly, impartially, and with a rigid adherence to the immutable principles of truth and justice.

Thus, your committee conclude, the just power and authority of the House of Representatives have been set at naught, defied, and contemned.

Thus, the charter of the Bank of the United States has been deliberately violated, by repeated refusals of the Directors of that corporation to submit their books and papers to the inspection of this committee.

Thus have the just expectations of the House and of their constituents been disappointed, and all means of obtaining the best and most accurate information concerning the operations of a controlling moneyed institution, been cut off and denied.

It remains for the House and the country to decide how far this conduct of that directory has been dictated by their solemn duty, as declared, to protect the interests of others committed specially to their protection. How far it conforms to those principles of action which are based on conscious integrity & uprightness of purpose, which defies scrutiny, and invites investigation; and how far it shall be received as a plea of guilty to the high misdemeanors which they insist have been charged against the corporation of which they have the management and control.

These grave questions, with others growing out of the transactions and proceedings, are left to be decided by the House of Representatives.

To elicit those opinions, the following resolutions are most respectfully submitted,

1. *Resolved*, That by the charter of the Bank of the United States, the right was expressly reserved in either House of Congress, by the appointment of a committee, to inspect the books, and to examine into the proceedings, of the said Bank, as well as to ascertain if at any time it had violated its charter.

2. *Resolved*, That the resolution of the House of Representatives, passed on the 4th of April, 1834, for the appointment of a committee, with full powers to make the investigation embraced in said resolution, was in accordance with the provisions of the charter of said Bank and power of this House.

3. *Resolved*, That the President and Board of Directors of the Bank of the United States, by refusing to submit for inspection, the books and papers of the Bank, as called for by the committee of the House of Reprerentatives have contemned the legitimate authority of the House, asserting for themselves powers and privileges not contemplated by the framers of their charter, nor in fairness deducible from any of the terms or provisions of that instrument.

4. *Resolved*, That either House of Congress has the right to compel the production of any such books or papers as have been called for by their committee, and also to *compel* said President and Directors to testify to such interrogatories as were necessary to a full & perfect understanding of the proceedings of the Bank at any period within the term of its existence.

5. *Resolved*, That the Speaker of this House do issue his warrant to the Sergeant-at-Arms, to arrest Nicholas Biddle, President, Manuel Eyre, Lawrence Lewis, Ambrose White, Daniel W. Cox, John Holmes, Charles Chauncy, John Goddard, John R. Neff, William Platt, Matthew Newkirk, James C. Fisher, John S. Henry, and John Sergeant, Directors of the Bank of the United States, and bring them to the Bar of this House, to answer for their contempt of its lawful authority.

EASTON, MD.

SATURDAY, MAY 31, 1834.

U. S. Bank.—We offer to our readers in this morning's Whig, the report of the majority of the Bank committee; the report of the minority we received yesterday, and shall give it, in part, or entire, in our next. When both reports have been carefully examined, we shall probably give our views on them; until then, we abstain from any remarks.

The Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church, for this Diocese, which commenced its session in this town on Wednesday last, adjourned yesterday, to meet the next spring in Washington.

The Revd. Lucien B. Wright, the Revd. Hugh T. Harrison, the Rev. F. R. Hanson, and the Revd. James McGregor Dale, received Priest's orders. Charles B. Dana and Alfred Holmead, were ordained Deacons.

A report has reached us from Dorchester county, which gives Steele, (the opposition candidate for the lower Congressional district) a majority of 305, in six election districts of that county, over Stewart, the administration candidate. Two districts in Dorset, and the two lower counties, yet to be heard from.

There can be no doubt of the election of Mr. Steele, but it will probably be with a majority, very little, if any greater, than has been heretofore given against the administration in that district.

The Store of Mr. James M. Stanton, at Stanton's landing, in this county, was broken open on Tuesday night last and robbed of Goods to the amount of about a hundred dollars. Two men have been arrested on suspicion, and committed to Jail.—*Caroline Advocate.*

A good Fleece.—Mr. George W. Leonard of Talbot county, sheared, this spring, from *six sheep forty-two* pounds of clean, washed wool! Making an average of seven pounds to each sheep! Three or four pounds, we believe, is a common average.—*ib*

The U. S. sloop of war Peacock, Capt. Geisinger, arrived at New York on Sunday night last, from a long cruise, last from Rio Janeiro, April 18th.—Passenger, the Hon. E. A. Brown, U. S. Charge d'Affaires at the court of Brazil.

Officers of the Peacock.—David Geisinger, Esq. Commander; Rob't. B. Cunningham, H. Y. Purviance, Edward H. Boutwell, Thomas W. Brent, Lieutenants; Francis B. Stocton, Purser; Benajah Ticknor, Fleet Surgeon; George Hurst, Sailing Master; Augustus S. Baldwin, George R. Carroll, Charles Thomas, Wm. Reynolds, D. R. Crawford, H. T. Wingate, John B. Weed, A. H. Wells Robert Patton, Midshipmen; H. M. Fowler, Lieut. of Marines; H. N. Robinson, School master; Frederick T. Poor, Captains Clerk; Jno. Barr; Acting Gunner; Wm. Conly, Acting Carpenter; Charles H. Haven, Purser's Steward.—*Balt. Repub.*

From the Baltimore Republican of Wednesday.

THE TURF.—Trifle, with Col. Johnson's stable, started this morning for New York, to meet Shark; Alice Gray, and Black Maria, at the second meeting, that takes place the 3d of June. The expected contest between Trifle and Shark, has, we understand, produced an excitement unknown for many a day, in the sporting circle. Shark, to the North, stands without a rival, and Trifle is no less renowned in the South.

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

FROM EUROPE.

VERY LATE AND IMPORTANT!

This morning we received by express, via Long Island, our files of English papers, brought by the packet ship Napoleon, Captain Smith, from Liverpool. Our London dates are of the 23d of April, and Liverpool of the 24th, the day on which Captain Smith sailed. Our extracts are as copious as time and limits will admit.

ENGLAND.

A rumor was rife in London at the latest dates, and confirmed by the Times with a significance of expression denoting knowledge, that it was "not without foundation, that a treaty had been concluded between Great Britain and France, to which Spain and Portugal were parties, for the settlement of the affairs of the Peninsula. There is no doubt, adds that semi-official journal, that England and France, in conjunction with Spain and Portugal, have come to the just determination of disencumbering the peninsula, both of Don Pedro and Don Miguel, as the preliminary step to the tranquil arrangement of the government of Portugal. But whatever measures may be deemed necessary to the accomplishment of this desirable object, armed interference will not be resorted to.

Her Majesty, Queen Adelaide, held a Drawing Room on the 17th ultimo, at which a great number of distinguished personages were formally ushered into the presence of Royalty.—Among them we perceive the name of "The Rev. Calvin Colton, of New York, by Mr. Vail."

Mr. O'Connell, made his first set speech in the English parliament, on his favorite subject of Repeal, on the evening of the 22d ultimo.

Mr. O'Connell was the only speaker and upon the conclusion of his speech the debate was adjourned.

Dreadful Shipwreck.—The fine ship Shenandoah, Rose, which sailed from Bremerhaven on the 16th of April, bound to Baltimore, with 100 passengers, was cast away the same day, or the following night, on the Mellum, near the Bremen beacon, and went to pieces, with the loss of thirty passengers drowned! The remainder have returned to port.

A serious riot occurred at Oldham, the borough appropriately represented by William Cobbett, on the 15th of April, arising out of a strike for higher wages. It seems that a large number of operatives assembled and took the administration of law into their own hands by marching around and compelling all the laborers in the various cotton mills to join in the strike. It happened that one of them, belonging to a Mr. Taylor, was closed against them. It was surrounded by a high wall—but such was their eagerness to effect their purpose that they undertook to scale it. In the attempt a man by the name of Bentley was shot at and killed. The mob increased immediately both in numbers and in fury, and proceeded to the work of desolation by pulling down the buildings of all who were obnoxious to them. For two days Oldham presented a melancholy scene. Not a female moved in the streets. By the active measures however, of the civil and military authorities, order and tranquility were restored.

CHURCH REFORM.

On the 21st of April, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a Committee of the Commons on Church rates brought forward his proposal on the subject.

The first portion of the plan was, that these church rates should, after a day to be named, be entirely abolished. He should propose, instead of the present church rates, that £250,000 a year should be raised as a charge on the land tax. The sum thus raised was to be appropriated, not in the same manner as it was now applied, but chiefly if not entirely to the sustaining and repairs of the fabric of the churches. This fund so made a charge on the land tax, was to be invested in the hands of the Church Commissioners, not now a permanent body, but which it would be necessary should be made so, if this plan were adopted, by them to be distributed to the purpose of supporting the edifices of the churches throughout the country.

Mr. Hume objected strongly to the plan, as calculated to afford no relief to the Dissenters, who paid the land tax, and therefore would still continue to pay church rates in a different form. He also objected to making the church commissioners permanent. "The first resolution proposed that church rates should cease and determine. In this he entirely agreed.—The next resolution proposed that part of the money should be paid out of the public revenue. From this he altogether dissented. He therefore thought that the best course would be to take the sense of the House on the first resolution, and should now move that all the words after the word "determine" should be omitted."

Sir R. Inglis approved only of that part of the proposition which recognized the necessity of a State religion. A long and animated discussion followed in which Mr. Divett, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Stanley, Mr. D. W. Harvey, Lord John Russell, &c. took part. The House then divided, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer's motion was carried by a majority of 256 to 140.

CANADA.

A debate occurred in the House of Commons of the 15th ult. of much interest in relation to the affairs of Canada. Mr. Roebuck concluded a long speech by a motion "that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the political condition of the Canadas." He hoped, he said, that whatever else the Right Honorable Secretary, (Mr. Stanley) might say on this occasion, he would not oppose the resolution.

"Let, him, said the honorable gentleman, recollect that the great republic of America, with her swarming citizens, adventurous, wary, and sagacious, was the close neighbor of the Canadian subjects; that 13,000,000 of enthusiastic republicans would watch with intense interest, and with selfish views, any dispute that took place between the colonies and the mother country. Let him also be certain that if any rupture took place between them, the colonists would ask, and would indubitably receive assistance from their all-powerful neighbors.—And on what terms would that assistance be granted?—But on one only; that the Canadians become part of the great federal republic.—And when this event should take place, who was there that on surveying the vast possessions of that already but too formidable power, but would tremble for the fate of England?

"With a coast unequalled in the whole habitable globe—with wise and beneficent institutions—with a well instructed and sagacious people, where should that country fix the limits of her power—where find a check to her overwhelming force? The fleets of England would dwindle into insignificance; her naval supremacy would shrink into obedient servitude to her transatlantic offspring. The day was not far distant which would see this prophecy fulfilled, if we rashly drove into rebellion the provinces of Canada. Yield to their wishes, on the other hand, and it would bind them to England by the gentle but firm bonds of friendship—erect in the more northern territories of that happy continent a rival to the U. States in force, in commerce, and in happiness. Gentle treatment, wise conciliation would effect this; but any rash and impetuous contempt of their desires would revive the disastrous days of 1774.

The motion was seconded, when Mr. Secretary Stanley rose and expressed the great satisfaction he felt from the opportunity afforded by the motion to explain and bring under the consideration of the House not only the constitution, but also the present state of the province of Lower Canada. He then proceeded, in a speech of three columns, to discuss the subject, and went far into details relative to the late proceedings of the Canadian parliaments. He concluded his observations by moving an amendment for the appointment of a select committee to inquire and report whether the grievances complained of in 1828, by certain inha-

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