Dr. Reynolds, the Liverpool pike seller, is said to have arrived safely in America.

The Pope and the Rev. Hugh M'Neile.—The Rev. H. M'Neile, in a letter to the Liverpool papers, says:—"The position of the present 'Sovereign of the Romish States' is well described in the last number of the *Quarterly Review*. After exposing the vanity and weakness of the Pope's measures, the writer says:—'He soon learnt the error of his policy, and lives to repent it, but not to retrace his steps. He has outlived his popular favour, has been accused of the basest duplicity, is virtually dethroned, and vegetates in his palace surrounded by rebellious subjects, at whose mercy he lies, unprotected and unarmed.' This witness is true. The infallible possessor of both swords exists at this moment by the sufferance of a Republican and, it is to be feared, Infidel party. This is the age of barricades, not inquisitions; of street emeutes, not dungeon tortures. Neither Oxford treachery nor Irish treason can re-establish the chair of Hildebrand. What, then, do I fear? I fear God: lest in righteous retribution for the light of His Gospel nationally despised, and idolatry nationally encouraged, and supported in defiance of His sacred commandment, He should withdraw those merciful restraints which humanise our fallen race; and so allow the men of this land, as of other lands, to tear one another with the savage ury of wild beasts."

Destruction of an Emigrant Ship with her Passengers.—We have seen a letter from the master of a vessel at Quebec to his father in this town, which contains some very interesting particulars. The writer says, "On the morning of the 23d September, saw a vessel to leeward, apparently in distress, with loss of bowsprit, which proved to be the *Hampton*, of Grangemouth. Spoke her; he wished me to run down to a vessel to leeward which ran into him on the previous night. This vessel proved to be the *Ann*, of Limerick, full of passengers, abandoned by the captain and crew (which went on board of the *Hampton* before they parted), also lost her masts. I took them all off, with the assistance of the brig *Hibernia*, of Workington, Coatear, master, which brought about twenty five out of one hundred and four, her boats being very small for the sea that was running. If it had not been for the assistance of the brig some of the men would have been left behind, having brought all the women and children first, for it was blowing too hard to make another trip with the boats, the men and boat being in great danger, especially alongside of the *Ann*; the bolts all sticking out of her side—masts and yards all towing overboard. It took all day to take them off, having to work to windward to tow the boat, and not being able to stay. The passengers saved nothing, only what they had on their backs, not being able to return with the boat after they were all off. It was a good job that a ship happened to pick them up with plenty of provisions and water on board; although they all came on board wet through, cold and hungry, I landed them all safe and sound, after having them on board eleven days. The last boat that came brought three infants, which were too small to pull them up with a rope's end, so I ordered them to be hoisted up in the boat; but owing to the quantity of water in the boat, one of the falls broke, so down went the boat, children and all. I fished them all up again in a bucket, and five minutes after they were able to eat gruel (I think they must have been born swimming, for they managed that part like little ducks in the water). The captain of the brig *Hibernia* (Coatear) deserves great praise for the risk he ran with his men and boats in saving them."—*Liverpool Courier.*

MANCHESTER GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Geological Society, was held in the Royal Institution, Mosley-street, on Thursday morning, Mr. Ralph Thicknesse, M.P., in the chair. The meeting was not numerously attended.—Mr. G. W. Ormerod read the minutes of proceedings at the last annual meeting, which were approved of and confirmed.—The **Chairman** said the next business was the reading of the annual report of the Council. He then referred to the subject of the non-attendance of members at the monthly meetings of the society. He hoped that part of the non-attendance was to be attributed to accidental circumstances. He did not think that commercial panics and revolutions abroad tended to dispose men to geological investigation. And it was impossible for persons residing at a distance from Manchester to be regular in their attendance. He thought it would be well if the places of meeting of the society could be altered periodically. He next spoke in favour of owners of mines, and their workpeople giving all the information to the society which they could, with the view of promoting the science of geology.

Capt. **Brown**, honorary secretary, read the following report of the society:—

REPORT.

In the report of last session the council exhibited a full account of the progress of this society and its objects. They showed that its museum and library had been considerably augmented by liberal donors, and that the increase of visitors amounted to 60 and 80 per cent. respectively, in comparison to the years 1845 and 1846; and they are happy to say that during the past year about a proportionate increase has taken place.

The council, however, lament to state that the members have failed to give that co-operation which they so earnestly and respectfully urged, without which it is impossible that the objects of the society can be successfully carried out. Under those circumstances, the council must repeat their entreaties, that the members generally would aid them in their endeavours to advance this most important branch of science. Although they do not ask coal proprietors to unfold any discovery which their interest forbids, yet there must be many circumstances, occurring every day, to the viewers and others, which would be of much value in a geological point of view, although not bearing directly on the mercantile interests of the proprietors. They again repeat, that however trivial any new facts may appear, yet they all tend to throw light upon the science, and consequently they ought to be freely communicated.

The council have noticed, with deep regret, the gradual decline in the attendance of members at the meetings of the society.

The small attendance which now takes place cannot but be most mortifying to those who have kindly expended both time and trouble, and frequently incurred expense in laying highly valuable information before the society.

The council have endeavoured to discover the cause of this non-attendance, and the remedy for the same, but, as yet, without success. They feel convinced that the same is not caused by the nature of the subjects treated upon, they having been both of local and general interest, and also from the fact that no complaint has been made to them on that subject.

To this matter they invite the attention of the members, and will feel obliged by suggestions of changes which may render the meetings more available.

By the regulations of the society, it is required that meetings should be held on the last Thursday in the month, from October to Jnne, both inclusive. The preparations made for those meetings, though now reduced as much as possible, have for a considerable time caused an outlay of the funds of the society far exceeding the amount proportionate to actual attendance of the members, especially in May and June. Thus, on every account, it is most desirable that the attention of the members should be speedily drawn to this fact, both on account of diminishing the expenditure thereby incurred, without any beneficial result, and for promoting the general objects of the society.

The following donations have been received during last year:—A series of geological papers, by Mons. L. Frapollie, by the author; geological specimens and fossils from Van Dieman's Land, by Thos. Moore, Esq., of Bolton; a quantity of fossils from the Himalayah Mountains, by the Manchester Natural History Society; some specimens of shells of the genus Unio, by Captain Langshaw; John R. Lingard, Esq., of Stockport, one of the secretaries, £10, to defray the expenses of putting the parts of the Ichthyosaurus together.

The following papers have been read during the session 1847-8:—Notes on a Section from Parkgate to Buxton, by G. W. Ormerod, Esq.; a Catalogue of Geological Specimens from Van Dieman's Land, with some observations on them, by Thos. Moore, Esq., Bolton; a Short Account of the Geology, &c., of the Orange River, South Africa, by Captain Miller; an Account of Excursions in Van Dieman's Land, and notices of its geology, by Thomas Moore, Esq., Bolton; an Account of the Geology of the Island of Labuan, East Indies, by Thos. Bellot, Esq., surgeon, royal navy; an Account of the Coal District of Tyrone, by Richard Griffith, Esq., mining engineer to the Royal Dublin Society; Notes on the Coal Districts of Munster and Tyrone, by Mr. Elias Hall.

Mr. **Hall** moved that the report be printed and circulated amongst the members.—Mr. **Ogden** seconded the motion, which was carried *nem. con.*

Mr. J. F. **Bateman** moved the appointment of a number of gentlemen as office-bearers for the year ensuing. He suggested that seven o'clock would be a desirable hour for the monthly meetings.—Mr. **Ogden** thought that hour would not suit the convenience of country members.—Mr. **Livsey** seconded the resolution proposed by Mr. Bateman. He thought that if the monthly meetings were held in the afternoon, they would be better attended.—Mr. **Ogden** said meetings in the afternoon were tried before and failed.—Several country members suggested that three or four o'clock in the afternoon would be a favourable hour for meetings.—The motion was put from the chair and carried unanimously.

Mr. J. **Moore** moved a vote of thanks to the donors to the funds, the library, and museum.—Mr. G. W. **Ormerod** seconded the resolution, which was carried *nem con.*

Captain **Brown**, hon. secretary, read an interesting paper by Mr. Griffith on the Tyrone coal district, which is situated in the barony of Dungannon, in Ireland.

Captain **Brown** then read the following paper on the late Mr. Cumberland:—

George Cumberland was born in London, on the 9th day of December, 1752. He was grandson of John Cumberland, the inventor of bending ship timber by the agency of steam, which has been the means of saving millions of money, and for which a patent was obtained and is still in the Cumberland family. The inventor spent the whole of his fortune, about £16,000, in experimenting, before he brought the invention to perfection. He was uncle to Richard Cumberland, the celebrated Bishop of Peterborough, author of "Sanchoniatho's Phœnician History," and various other works. John Cumberland retired to Manningtree, in Essex, where he built a vessel on this new plan; and which, on being launched, met with the approbation of all who saw it, and was found to be not only superior in form to those in ordinary use, but also for its fast sailing. It was sent to sea, and was soon afterwards lost in a storm; and unfortunately being uninsured, was a serious loss to him at a time he could ill bear it. It was natural that ship-builders at the time should be anxious to know the process by which he bent the planks, and to prevent which caused him much expense. It was so highly approved of at the time that it was said he refused £20,000 for the discovery. He first offered it to the East India Company, and afterwards to the South Sea Company, of which offers, part of his terms were that they should make him a director. A patent was granted by the government, with a privilege of receiving a certain tonnage on all vessels that should, during the patent, be built in the five river yards belonging to the crown. George Cumberland, the more immediate object of our notice, was well connected, and among his kindred were persons of distinction, both as authors and defenders of their country. By his mother's side he was descended from the gallant Admiral Balchen, who was lost in the *Victory*, off Scilly. He was created a knight and admiral of the white squadron of his majesty's fleet in 1744 He was interred in Westminster Abbey, and a monument was erected by order of the government, with a statue and bas-relief tablets emblematical of his services. He was also related to Richard Cumberland, Archdeacon of Northampton, and Denison Cumberland, Bishop of Clonfert, in Ireland, both distinguished for their theological writings; and was cousin to the celebrated Richard Cumberland, the dramatic poet. George Cumberland had an only brother, Richard Denison Cumberland, rector of Driffield, near Cirencester, Gloucestershire, who died in 1825, aged 72. In the early part of his life George Cumberland attended as an honorary student at the Royal Academy, where he formed an intimacy with Banks, Stothard, Cosway, Flaxman, Blake, Howard, Fuselli, Collins, and that great and distinguished writer on art and artist Barry; which, at a future period, led him into the field of art. Late in his life he devoted much of his time to landscape painting, in water colours, depicting all that was beautiful and romantic in the neighbourhood of Bristol, Clifton, and surrounding country. The pictures possessed much truth and freshness, from the circumstance that they were all finished on the spot. These amount to many hundreds. Among his literary and most intimate friends, he had the good fortune to number John Horne Took, Samuel Rogers, Colonel Johnes; and he also corresponded with Mr. Francis Donce, F.A.S., and many other celebrated men. He spent several years in Italy, and returned to this country about the year 1792. He early turned his attention to geology, and in making a collection of geological specimens, succeeded in forming that valuable collection which he ultimately sold to our valued member Mr. James Heywood for £200, who, with his usual munificent liberality, presented it to the Museum of this society, of which it is its principal feature. He was elected an honorary member of the Geological Society of London in 1810, and contributed largely to their proceedings, which were published in the transactions of that society. For the last ten years of his life, he was deprived of his sight, which is supposed to have been occasioned by his constant application to reading and writing by candle and lamp light. Under this great and trying affliction he retained his faculties to within one day of his death, and expired without a groan on the 8th of August, 1848, being in the 95th year of his age.—He retained his cheerfulness of disposition and playful manner to the very last, and his family say, they hardly ever knew him to be out of humour. He has left two sons and three daughters.

Mr. **Davies** proposed that a vote of thanks be given to the authors of the papers read.—Dr. **Black** seconded the resolution. He approved of the suggestion of holding the meetings of the society in various towns in the county.—The motion was carried unanimously.

The chair having been vacated by Mr. Thicknesse, Mr. Black was called to it, when, on the motion of Mr. Alderman **Harvey**, seconded by Mr. **Bateman**, a vote of thanks was passed by acclamation to Mr. Thicknesse for his conduct in the chair.—Mr. **Thicknesse** returned thanks, and the meeting separated.

THE ANNUAL DINNER

Took place in the Queen's Hotel, Piccadilly, at five o'clock in the evening; Mr. Ralph Thicknesse, M.P., in the chair, and Mr. G. W. Ormerod in the vice-chair. Amongst the gentlemen present were Captain Brown, Mr. George Hadfield, Mr. J. F. Bateman, Mr. Ogden, Mr. Thomas Moore, Mr. H. M. Ormerod, Mr. J. R. Lingard, Mr. Henry Bowman, and Mr. Higson.

The cloth having been removed, the **Chairman** proposed, in succession, "The Queen;" "The Queen-Dowager, Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal Family;" "The Army and Navy;" and "The Royal Society."

The **Chairman** next proposed, "The London Geological Society," and, in doing so, alluded to the labours of the secretary, and to the lustre shed on the Manchester Society by it. He concluded by calling on Mr. Bateman, who was a fellow of the society, to respond.

Mr. J. F. **Bateman**, in acknowledging the compliment, said there were few societies in the kingdom that had contributed more to forward geological research than the London Geological Society. He hoped to be better acquainted, before another meeting of the Manchester Society, with the proceedings of the London Society.

The **Chairman** proposed the "British Association" for the advancement of science. He believed that that association had answered its purpose, and he was happy that he could call on one of its officers to respond, Mr. Ormerod.

Mr. G. W. **Ormerod** returned thanks. This last year as in all former years one of the greatest attractions of the Royal Society, was the advancement of geology. At Swansea they were in a rich country, and the inhabitants of that district were very kind to the members of the society. The British Association had done much good in imparting information to parties connected with mines. Next year the association would meet at Birmingham, where there would probably be a greater field for them than at Swansea.

The **Chairman** next proposed the "Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society."

Mr. **Bowman** returned thanks. The society referred to was about the oldest in Manchester, and as far as he was aware, perhaps one of the oldest in the kingdom. There was no doubt it ranked as one of the highest.

The **Chairman** said, he believed the Manchester Natural History Society had got in many respects the best museum in England. (Hear, hear).—He had much pleasure in proposing the Society, coupled with the name of Captain Brown.—(Applause.)—Captain **Brown**, in acknowledging the compliment, stated, in reference to the allusion made by the chairman, that he had the honour of entering the army in 1805. Reverting to the Natural History Society he was sorry to say that it did not meet with that encouragement in Manchester which it deserved. The gallant captain afterwards complained that the Natural History Society was in the face of an act of parliament passed to protect it and similar institutions, compelled to pay £150 a-year of taxes. He thought it was very unhandsome on the part of any collector to expect such a payment.—Several of the gentlemen present spoke strongly against the payment of taxes by the Natural History Society.

The **Chairman** then proposed "Prosperity to the Manchester Geological Society. He thought that by management and perseverance they could conquer the difficulties under which the society laboured.

Mr. **Higson** returned thanks.

The **Chairman** proposed the Town and Trade of Manchester; calling upon Mr. George Hadfield to respond.

Mr. **Hadfield** acknowledged the compliment.

Mr. G. W. **Ormerod** then proposed the Health of the President, and in doing so stated that there was a balance of £80 in the bank in favour of the society.

The **Chairman** returned thanks, and spoke in favour of having the meetings of the society in the afternoon.—"The Ladies," "The Press," and other toasts were proposed, after which the meeting broke up.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND MANUFACTURES—VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

The following is a memorial which the Chamber of Commerce has addressed to the committee of privy council for affairs of trade and plantations, protesting against the transfer of Vancouver's Island to the Hudson's Bay Company. It may be remembered by our readers, that inquiries by Mr. Christy, the member for Newcastle-under-Lyne, brought to light, towards the end of the last session of parliament, the negociations for a charter, which had been going on for two years between the colonial department and that company. On the 18th of August, the subject was brought formally before the house of commons, when, after a smart debate, and a most effective attack on the company from Mr. W. E. Gladstone, so small a majority coincided with the government, that an assurance was given that no further step should be taken until the whole subject shall have been submitted to the privy council. Hence originated the following memorial:—

To the Right Honourable the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council.

The Memorial of the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures at Manchester,

Sheweth,—That your memorialists have seen with deep regret that the colonial department of her majesty's government has consented to vest "for ever in the governor and company of adventurers of England trading to Hudson's Bay, and their successors, in free and common soccage, the whole of Vancouver's Island, with the fishing of all sorts of fish in the seas, bays, inlets, and rivers, within or surrounding the same; together with all royalties of the seas upon the coasts, and all mines royal thereto belonging;" and "to create and constitute the said governor and company and their successors, for ever, true and absolute lords and proprietors of the said territories, limits, and spaces." That this proceeding of the colonial department did toward the close of the late session of parliament (on the 18th August) excite a strong remonstrance in the House of Commons, when, in a house of 140 members, the measure escaped condemnation by a majority of only 18; since which time an assurance has been given by her majesty's government that no further steps shall be taken in the matter until the subject shall have been brought under the consideration of your lordships, and your opinion thereon obtained. That your memorialists, therefore, approach your lordships to express firmly, but with due respect, their condemnation, on principle, of every such annihilation of the common rights of all for the special benefit of favoured individuals, as is contemplated in the measure herein alluded to; and they do not hesitate to declare their conviction, that every charter for exclusive trading heretofore granted, has been, on the whole, mischievous, and that not one now exists the abrogation of which would not be beneficial to the people of this country, as well as to the people of the countries assigned by charter. That your memorialists cannot conceal their surprise that so valuable a possession as Vancouver's Island should be handed over for a rental of seven shilllings per annum, to so inert a body as the Hudson's Bay Company, and at a time, too, when heavy charges of maladministration of their old trust are hanging over them. Abounding in excellent coal, and timber fitted for naval purposes, Vancouver's Island presents now, almost for the first time, a cheering prospect to the free emigrant. Settlements are so rapidly increasing about the Columbia River, as to induce the American government to establish