

# The Standard,

OR RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL RECORD.

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## SUMMARY OF NEWS.

**Aid to the Scottish Railways by the Bank of England.**—In relation to this subject, which, at the present time, is of such paramount importance, the *Globe* of Tuesday evening says:—"We hear general complaints still of the dullness of trade in town, and at Liverpool, cotton is quiet, and shares have been considerably lower. As a means of employing the people, the Bank of England having such large reserves at command, it is in contemplation by Government, we understand, to support the application of one or more of the Scotch lines for an advance from the Bank, repayable in two or three years. If the affair can be conveniently arranged, it will be desirable in many respects, and the main lines of communication should be first cared for."

**Crossing the Clyde.**—We understand that the Caledonian Railway Company have now agreed to pay L.15,000 instead of ten as formerly arranged, in compensation to the river trustees for the privilege of crossing the Clyde.—*Glasgow Constitutional.*

**New South Wales.**—The following extract of a private letter from a leading colonist in Sydney is encouraging. The hint about the destination of emigrant ships is important, and worthy of the attention of those charged with this important public duty:—

"Sydney, Feb. 25, 1848.  
"With respect to the price of labor, taking the relative price of provisions as a basis, we pay a shepherd equal to L.200 a-year in England; that is, a poor man, by coming here, lives as well on the wages we pay, and rations given, as a person can do with you on L.200 a-year. There is a great disadvantage in sending emigrants direct to the pastoral and agricultural districts direct to Sydney, where they get obstinately located, and will not accept the highest rate of wages and abundant rations to go into the country districts. They ought to be landed at the ports adjacent to the pastoral territories, such as Moreton Bay, Two-fol Bay, Portland Bay, &c. &c., where they would at once get most advantageous employment. Steam navigation is most remunerative here, and it brings us within a few days' communication of Adelaide. Mr. Boyd has got a steamer (the Juno) running constantly from this to Adelaide, calling at the intermediate ports. Only give us labour, and we can supply very shortly the whole world with fine wool, and at such prices that would defy all foreign competition."

**The Shear Water and John Mitchell.**—The assistant-surgeon of the Shearwater, who gave Mitchell his breakfast during his passage in the Shearwater to Spike Island, has received the option of resigning or standing a court martial.—*Sunday Times.*

**India Rubber Pavement.**—On Thursday the court yard of the Admiralty, Whitehall, was being covered with a paving of India rubber. It is laid down in pieces about 12 inches square and one in thickness. The quadrangle at Buckingham Palace, formed by the erection of the new wing, will also be covered with this material, which its projectors have named "Kamptulite." Its chief recommendation is, that it deadens all sound, rendering the passage of a vehicle or horses perfectly noiseless.

**Candelabra for her Majesty.**—Messrs. Osler, of 41, Oxford Street, and of Birmingham, have just completed two magnificent glass candelabra, ordered by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, as a present to her Majesty on her birth-day; and these handsome productions, by permission of his Royal Highness, will be on view, by cards, at the manufacturers' warehouse, as above, for some days to come. They are entirely made of glass, stand eight feet high, will hold fifteen candles each, and weigh together upwards of a ton and a half. They are, indeed, magnificent articles of furniture, and are intended, we understand, to occupy a recess in one of the apartments in Osborne House.

**Movement amongst the Italian Clergy in favour of Matrimony.**—The following short notice appears in *L'Eco de Savonarola* of last month:—"We have heard, by letters, that there are upwards of fifty priests in Italy who intend to leave the Church of Rome, if the Pope will not permit them to take lawful wives. God grant that this example may be followed by that portion of the ecclesiastics who have not been plunged into the darkest criminality by the law of celibacy!" Now, the Pope cannot possibly grant his priesthood this freedom. He cannot change the system of Romanism, and therefore we must understand that an appeal to him in this case would be merely a matter of form; but that this necessary refusal might be taken as a grievance, and made the fulcrum on which to rest a movement for ecclesiastic reform. Whatever be the issue of this proposal of the Italian priests, it may be hailed as another symptom of the disorganization of Popery on the Continent, and is at the same time a challenge and an encouragement to the friends of Italy to pour into that country a constant stream of evangelical instruction.—*Patriot.*

**NEW IRISH FISHERY COMPANY.**—The prospectus of a new Irish Fishery Company has been published. The Earl of Clarendon is patron, and a long line of noblemen form the committee. The following is an outline of the objects of the company and the measures proposed:—"To provide first-class boats from 41 to 70 tons for deep sea fishing, beginning with the most suitable localities on the western coast. These boats will be fully equipped, carrying apparatus for the take of sun fish. Each will be under the command of an experienced master and mate. Stations will be established at the most convenient points of the coast, to be supplied with all requisites for the company's boats, as well as curing-houses for the preparation and storage of fish. Regular markets will be held for the sale of fresh fish at the stations, and for the conveyance of supplies to the interior. The capital of the company is to be L.100,000, at L.25 per share.

**THE BISHOPRIC OF CORK AND CLOYNE.**—The Rev. James Wilson, D.D. Preceptor of the Cathedral of St. Patrick, Dublin, has been appointed Bishop of Cloyne and Cork, vacant by the death of the late Right Rev. Dr. Kyle. The income of the new bishop will not amount to L.2500 per annum, the compensation of L.1500 granted by act of Parliament, to the late bishop, on the annexation of the diocese of Cork and Ross to Cloyne, having lapsed to the ecclesiastical commissioners on his diocese.

**A MAD ELEPHANT.**—On Saturday a painful feeling was excited in Liverpool, by a report that the stupendous elephant Rajah, at the Zoological Gardens, had become outrageously mad, and destroyed two men, and was in the act of demolishing the house in which he was located. On learning the rumour we immediately proceeded to the gardens, where Mr J. Atkins, with this usual courtesy, expressed his willingness, to give every information respecting the unfortunate accident which had that morning taken place, but which had been, as usual, greatly exaggerated. The facts of the occurrence were these:—"On Saturday morning about 10 o'clock, Richard Howard, the keeper of the elephant, was in the den with Rajah. One of the holiday visitors from some of the neighbouring towns was in; the animal having displeased his keeper, was struck by him. Rajah resisted the blow, struck the man to the ground, and, crushing him with one of his feet, broke almost every rib in his body. The stranger immediately gave the alarm, but it was too late—poor Howard had ceased to live. Our readers have already been informed that Mr Atkins, the proprietor of the gardens, died but a few days ago, and that the management had devolved upon his son, Mr J. and Mr E. Atkins. The melancholy circumstance was immediately communicated to them. It was instantly determined that the animal

should be destroyed. Mr J. Atkins waited upon the mayor, and received from him an introduction to the commanding officer of the district, who at the request of Mr Atkins, immediately despatched a company of rifles from the barracks for the purpose of destroying the elephant. In the mean time several medical men had been consulted, including Dr O' Donnell, and Messrs Own and Cooper, surgeons, with the view of administering poison to the animal. Two ounces of prussic acid and 25 grains of aconite (monk's hood) were administered in buns and treacle. For a few minutes Rajah betrayed symptoms of sickness, but no other effect was visible, and he appeared soon after to recover his usual health and activity. After the lapse of three-quarters of an hour, it was deemed advisable to despatch him by shooting him. The house was ordered to be cleared of all save the soldiers, 12 of whom presented their arms. Rajah turned round when he saw the rifles presented at him, but on again presenting a fair view for a shot the pieces were discharged, and he reeled, uttering at the same time a loud growl. Twelve other soldiers immediately took the places of those who had fired, and, presenting their pieces, fired at the first fair opportunity. This brought the animal to the ground. Another body of soldiers entered the house, but it was found a vital place had been touched, and one of the most magnificent elephants in Europe, whose docility and intelligence had been the theme of admiration, was dead. After the melancholy accident, the elephant betrayed no symptoms of restlessness. He was tractable and quiet as usual, and the rumour that he had gone mad was, without the slightest foundation. He had been for about a dozen years in the possession of Mr Atkins, who paid L.800 for him when but very young, and his value at the time he was shot must have considerably exceeded L.1000.

**One of the Surgeons of the Army,** (who has since been dangerously wounded,) writing to a friend after the battle of Conterros and Churubusco, says:—"After operating, with my assistants, till three o'clock in the morning, I left the building of which I had made a temporary hospital, to take an hour's rest in the open air. Turned round to look at my amputating table; under it was a PERFECT HEAP OF ARMS AND LEGS; and, looking at myself, I found I was covered with blood from head to foot."

We learn with much pleasure, that Lord Blantyre has again allowed his tenantry a deduction of 10 per cent. from their rents, on account of the potatoe crop of 1847. His Lordship has twice done this act of seasonable and considerate generosity without being solicited; and we are assured his kindness is warmly appreciated by a body of men who have always had cause to regard his Lordship's house with affection and respect.—*Greenock Advertiser.*

**MEANS GRASS.**—Prof. Russell, of Hingham, Mass., has been experimenting with a new species of grass, which came originally from Syria, and is of the same genus as the broom-corn. Planted on moist rich land, it grew coarse, and reached the height of seven feet. It was recommended by Dr. Ward, of Georgia, as being suitable for soiling, as it might be cut several times in a season. Prof. R. left the roots exposed to the last winter, and we should be happy to hear how they stood the freezing.

Edward, Haley, Esq., who has been Cashier of the Frontier Bank, of this place, since its organization, has resigned his place, and has been elected Cashier of the Bank at Framingham, Mass., to which place he will soon remove.

Lorenzo Sabine, Esq. was elected as Mr. Haley's successor, but declined, and Charles H. Hayden, Esq., has been chosen to fill the vacancy.—*Eastport Sentinel July 12.*