

We can reap and thresh eight or nine acres per day, in good hot weather. We paid £70 for the machine. There is a comb in front about 4 feet wide, the teeth of which are only wide enough to take the straw below the ears; a drum works on the back end of the comb, and the wheat, as it falls into the machine, is kept by the winnowing machine going at the end of the field, and by this means we have the wheat ready for the market at once. The straw, of course, is left in the field, but that is not so much regarded in this country; most people burn it, but when the weather is very hot and dry it can easily be lawfully left.

### From papers by the English Mail on Thursday last.

#### SCOTLAND.

**THE QUEEN AT BALMORAL.**—Immediately after the arrival of the Queen at Edinburgh, she went for the Lord Provost, Mr. Johnston, upon whom she conferred the honour of knighthood. At eight o'clock on Friday evening, Her Majesty left Holyrood, under a salute from the Castle, and attended by a large concourse of people from the St. Margaret's Station, she proceeded to Torphichen, and thence by the Scotch Midland to Forfar. Along the route to Stonehaven, the royal party proceeded by the Aberdeen Railway, and arrived at 12 45. The new route, which is 145 miles from Edinburgh, was selected to save the Queen the inconvenience of travelling over the inferior roads from Cupar Angus to Balmoral. Her Majesty having partaken of luncheon at the station, proceeded to Balmoral in an open carriage, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal. The other royal children followed in a close carriage alone. Lord J. Russell, Sir James Clerk, Colonel Gordon, and others had no better means of conveyance than an improvised chair.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince Albert attended Divine Service at the parish church of Craithie. The service was performed by the Rev. Mr. Anderson. Her Majesty and her royal highness afterwards visited the Duchess of Kent, at Aberdein. On Monday, Her Majesty and Prince Albert, accompanied by Prince Alfred, drove to the Balloch Buie.

**THE PEDESTRIAN FEAT.**—The feat of walking 1000 miles in 1000 successive half hours, undertaken by Coates, the pedestrian was brought to a termination on Monday evening. The last half mile was accomplished in six minutes, which, considering the fact of a considerable part of the way to show that his powers of endurance were not exhausted. We understand, that during the whole three weeks he has been walking, he did not succeed in obtaining six hours' sleep—a fact, which, taken in conjunction with the unfavorable state of the ground, renders the issue of the performance the more remarkable.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

The weather has been unequal for some weeks, and the progress of the crops has been much interrupted; yet in surveying the large extent of yellowing corn, one must be struck with even the stage at which it has arrived. All around Perth, cutting is now going on, and the wheat branches well. Towards the northern part of the country it is light, and not heavy in the head. Reaping is now becoming common in the neighbourhood of the Borders, but the wet boisterous weather we have had of late has much retarded the operations of the farms, as places where the grain is ready for cutting. The wheat appears to be a fair crop. We are sorry to say, that the potato disease has manifested itself in several gardens in the town and neighbourhood of Leander. Wherever Peruvian guano has been used in planting, however, there is as yet no disease apparent. At Colinton, where guano has been used, the prevailing characteristic of the weather for the week. The crops are late and there assuming an autumnal tint, and in the course of eight days, reaping will have commenced; but it will not be general for at least a fortnight. We regret to learn, that the turnips have suffered serious damage from the ravages of the worm. Some fields have been rendered nearly worthless by it.

#### IRELAND.

The flax crop which has this season been cultivated in the county Waterford, to the extent of 800 acres, has turned out very satisfactory. Government has offered a reward of £100 for the discovery of the murderers of Mr. Edward White, of Abbeyleich. A person named Patrick Maher has been arrested on suspicion.

The latest reports from the provinces are, on the whole, favourable. It is worth while to remark, that many of the country papers are almost respecting the condition of the crops, and in some instances, for if the potato blight, or any other blight, appeared likely to be serious, the fact would be alluded to in some form. A Meath gentleman, who is a deputy-lieutenant, and extensive landed proprietor, states, that after an examination, he is not so far from being able to ascertain any ground for alarm about the potato crop. He says, that in places where every vestige of the fungus had decayed, an abundant crop of perfectly sound potatoes was still to be found.

#### ENGLAND.

Since our last the weather has undergone considerable change, and during the past week we have had a quantity of rain with cold nights and frosty mornings, which in some measure have retarded the progress of the harvest. Still we have not heard of any complaints, the greater part of the wheat crop, &c., having been carried, and in good condition, and should fine weather continue for a few days, the whole crop will have been abundant. So far as it has been tested, the wheat crop is not only abundant but of first-rate quality. We have it from millers, through whose hands quantities of the new crop have passed, that the weight varies from eighteen stone to eighteen stone and a half, and some samples even exceed these weights. But, taking the crop at eighteen stone on the average, there is ample reason to be satisfied, especially when the light weights of last year are fresh in our recollection. True, much of the wheat crop, is still about in the northern parts of the kingdom, which, in the present unsettled state of the weather, is rendered somewhat precarious. There is, however, no ground for despondency, as it is not yet late in the season; nor has the rain that has fallen done, as yet, any material injury. A week of fine weather would set every thing to rights, and we can even expect that has been endangered by the short interruption that has taken place.

The Queen's drawing-room in Holyrood Palace, is being fitted up in a superior style. Her Majesty is expected to hold a levee on her return from the north.

The Cunard Company are building four iron screw steam-ships of upwards of 1,600 tons each. The builders are under contract, that the first shall be ready for sea in January, and the others in quick succession. We have not heard what names they are for.

The new vessel of the Admiralty, which is now being constructed; that beautiful craft has been purchased in England, for £7,000, and has already hauled down the Stars and Stripes, and hoisted the Meteor flag "that has braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze."

**SALE OF THE AMERICA.**—This famous clipper yacht has been sold for £7,000 to Captain De Blesquier, of the Indian army, who will at once proceed with her on a voyage of pleasure to the Mediterranean.

Consumption is more fatal than any other disease in London. It destroyed 1815 in the second three months of the present year.

The Times of yesterday says—"There seems to be but little doubt that the Duke of Norfolk has left the Church of Rome, the hereditary faith of the noble house of Howard, and become a member of the Church of England."

Among the official appointments we notice that of Donalrick Daly, Esq., formerly Govt. Sec'y, and Member of Council in Canada, to the Lieut. Governorship of Tobago; also, of R. D. Wilnot, J. H. Gray, and G. Hayward, Esqs., to the Executive Council of New Brunswick. Among the promotions, we notice that Sir George Westphal, to be Rear Admiral on the reserved Half-pay list, and Provost W. Parry Wallis, to be Rear Admiral of the Fleet. Both these highly distinguished officers are Nova Scotians; the former was wounded at Triguar, and his blood mingled with Nelson's in the cockpit of the Victory; the latter won his promotion in the gallant action with the Chesapeake, Am. frigate, while serving as Lieutenant in the Shannon.

#### FOREIGN.

**EARTHQUAKE IN SOUTHERN ITALY.**—A dreadful earthquake occurred on the 14th ult., in the province of Basilicata, in the kingdom of Naples, and about 100 miles from the capital. A list of more than 50 villages is given, in which greater or less damage was done, in more than one place the principal buildings having been destroyed, and in all, several lives having been lost amidst the ruins of fallen houses. The greatest sufferer, however, was the town of Melfi, a place containing 10,000 inhabitants; three quarters of the city are a mass of ruins—the archbishop's palace, the college, the municipality, the barracks, and the police-station, having been all levelled to the ground. The known deaths amount already to 700, besides 200 wounded, among whom the principal families count victims. A rich and populous district has been destroyed, and the loss of life has been immense. It does not appear that the ground opened, but all the injury was done by the houses falling from the repeated shocks of the earthquake, the rapidity of which, was such, that the persons in the houses and passing in the streets had not time to escape. The king on receiving this dreadful news, immediately ordered the sum of 4,000 ducats to be sent from his private purse, to which the Queen added 5,000 in addition to the sum of 5,000 ducats contributed by the Treasury. Temporary hospitals have been erected, and detachments of soldiers and nurses have been sent to the different places to assist in clearing away the ruins and discharging the undertaker's duties. Private subscriptions have been opened in the towns near to the place where the earthquake has occurred, and no doubt the active charity of the city of Naples will not be deficient.

#### UNRIVALLED PIANOFORTE PLAYER.

—We find the following extraordinary statement in the *National*: "Count Orloff has presented to the Emperor of Russia an extraordinary musical phenomenon, in the person of a young Wallachian called Frederick Reitz. This man has been born with four hands, each having ten fingers. He was brought up by a clergyman, who taught him to play on the organ, but the young man, in the course of time, made a pianoforte for himself, of considerably greater power than that of ordinary instruments. He enjoys excellent health, and the strength of his hands, prevents nothing, strange in his person. It is only from the elbow that the information commences. The arm then divides into two limbs, each ending in a hand with a double supply of fingers. These additional arms are regularly made, and the only remarkable point observed by medical men is the immense development of the deltoid muscle at the summit of the shoulder. The clergyman who had brought up Reitz, at his death, left him his small property, and the young man immediately purchased diamond rings, with which he loaded his twenty fingers. It was with them so adorned that he performed before the Emperor of Russia, who expressed his surprise at the musical powers of the young man. Reitz, it is said, is shortly to visit Paris."

#### FRANCE.

PARIS, September 4.—Further arrests had been made to-day, and the total number of prisoners is reported to be 125. A general Socialist Revolution was the object of the conspirators. There is little or no excitement on the subject in Paris. It seems certain that the Prince de Joinville will stand for the Presidency, although such a candidature is considered highly injurious to the country, and will have fatal effects on the interests of the Orleans branch.

The Pope is about to erect the city of Hamburg into a diocese. An article appears in the *Journal des Debats* of Tuesday, which writes rather obscurely, is considered as an official announcement, that the Prince de Joinville will be a candidate in 1852 for the Presidency of the Republic.

Two violent shocks of earthquake were felt at Legano on the 23rd ult., about two o'clock in the morning. The direction was from south to north, and the motion undulatory. This is the third shock felt in that town in the course of this year.

#### THE LONDON MERCANTILE GAZETTE FOR THE 8th INSTANT.

The London Mercantile Gazette for the 8th instant, contains an article on Government patronage in these words:—"Another reason why we throw out these hints at present is to show, that while patronage, to a certain extent, must be allowed—and indeed, is absolutely necessary for the well-working of the state machinery—there are interests in the country which ought, for the sake of the nation, to be allowed to be independent of any influence, or at least from that patronage which has to depend upon mere ministerial office and power. We shall only mention two of these interests at present—the Colonies and the Navy; and it is only to the first of these to which we shall now direct attention. It is only necessary to read our Colonial history, to direct attention to the manner in which the Colonies have been sacrificed, and their interests injured, by the vacillation of the whole system upon which they have been conducted, and the frequent ignorance and inebriety—aye, and too often the obstinacy—of the individuals who were appointed to preside over the Colonial department of the empire. It is for this we wish to see a remedy; but the difficulty is great, from the immense patronage which the Colonial Office has at its command. As we have said, neither whips nor tortures would be likely to inspire the patronage of such a public department. We point, however, to it as one wherein, above all others, a more independent, a more consistent, and a more uniform rule would be required; and if it were possible to enlist public opinion upon any question irrespective of party feeling, we should wish to enlist it in this cause. The British Colonies ought to be reorganized; they are yearly falling more and more into poverty and decadence; they ought to be, as they once were, sources of productive wealth to the country; they are yearly becoming more and more an expensive burden to it; they ought to feel a warm and affectionate interest in the land to which they are attached, and to be a source of pride to the nation; they are yearly becoming more and more alienated from us, and are taught to feel that the interests of England and her Colonies are no longer bound up together. It is impossible that such long continued neglect, and want of consequence—result and consequence, which can only be avoided by adopting a new system of Colonial rule; one that will emancipate the Colonies from the dictatorial sway of the Colonial Minister of the day, and the influence of a party which upon its existence, and has to depend for its continuance upon the patronage which is at the disposal of Ministers."

#### CORRESPONDENCE OF THE N. Y. HERALD.

TORONTO, August 28, 1851.—The present Parliament will close its session and exist on Saturday next, and the Province will then be all in view of the coming elections. The earlier part of the session presented little worthy of notice in the way of legislation; but that part of the closing period. A large number of private bills have already become law; still more remain to be sacrificed at the shrine of hurried legislation, in the course of to-day or to-morrow. The clergy reserves, the rectories, the representation, and other topics of moment to western Canada, have been staved off, or positively smothered, for a season; and hence a feeling of discontent has sprung in this section of the Province, which, if fostered, may be appreciated by the political desire of more than one of the present leaders of the so-called liberal party. 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