The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, DECEMBER 14, 1847.

SECOND NOVEMBER MAIL.—The royal Mail Steam Ship Britannia, with the second November mail, from Liverpool, arrived at Halifax on Monday night, the 6th inst. after a desperately stormy passage of between 17 and 18 days. She brought out 65 passengers, 11 of whom landed at Halifax.

Parliament met on the 18th Nov. Mr Lefevre was re-elected Speaker of the House of Commons without a division. The Queen's Speech was to be delivered on the 23d.

The commercial panic apeared in a great measure to have subsided. Money was daily arriving in large sums from all parts of the world, and better times were confidently anticipated

Mr. Merivale has been appointed Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies. He is said to be an able lawyer, and, as the author of "Lectures on Colonization," is favourably known to the public.

The Queen-Dowager of England arrived at Madeira on the 1st Nov. and was received by the inhabitants of the island with every demonstration of respect.

At a dinner given on Lord Mayor's day, at Guildhall, Lord John Russell, and the Duke de Broglie the French ambassador, were present: the latter delivered a most graceful speech in the French language, expressive of his earnest wishes that the peaceful relations now subsisting between France and England, might endure from generation to generation.

The receipts of the British and Foreign Bible Society, last year, amounted to £117,000, being the largest amount entrusted to its management.

Sir Donald Campbell, the new Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island, and Son, and Mr. Pope, Speaker of the Assembly of that Island, came passengers in the Britania.

LIVERPOOL, November 19.

Since the 4th of the month, the state of commercial and monetary affairs has so far improved, that confidence is, in some degree, restored, and the general aspect of trade is more encouraging than it has been for some time past. Sugar is almost the only article of our imports which continues in demand. The market is still active, with rather better prices, but yet so low as to leave a considerable loss to importers. Parliament having been assembled, the mercantile world anticipate some further relief, especially with regard to the reduction of the interest on money. It is in this hope that the labouring classes continue to bear their extreme privations with patient endurance, in the highest degree praiseworthy. It is generally believed that the commercial condition of the country will be made the subject of an immediate investigation by Parliament, before a select committee; and in our next, we trust, we shall be able to report increased confidence, and a happy issue out of the present difficulties.

The accounts from the manufacturing districts of England are still discouraging. From Leeds we are informed that the markets for Woollen goods continue exceedingly dull. There are scarcely any goods being sold for shipping purposes; and from the continued mildness of the weather there has been a great falling off in the demand for heavy winter goods for the home trade. A considerable number of buyers had lately attended the Huddersfield market, but their transactions were limited. There is not any general improvement at Halifax; plain goods remain as dull of sale as formerly. At Rochdale the demand for Flannels is limited. Our advices from Bradford state, that the disposition to make stock is almost out of fashion, for looms are stopped and gas abandoned as orders fall off.

The Imperial Parliament assembled yesterday at Westminster for the dispatch of divers urgent and important affairs. Mr. Shaw Lefevre was again unanimously elected Speaker; and the speech from the throne will be delivered by commission on the 23rd instant, the interval being occupied in the preliminary forms of receiving the royal approbation of the Speaker, swearing in the new members, and signing the Parliamentary roll. It is believed that the subjects that will occupy the earliest attention of the new House will be the state of the country with regard to Sir R. Peel's Currency Bill of 1844, and the adoption of stringent measures for the protection of life and property in Ireland. These two subjects will doubtless engross, in the first instance, the chief attention of both Houses. The debate on the address will, doubtless, elicit from Ministers some statement of the course they intend to pursue. It is generally anticipated that a select committee will be appointed to consider the condition of the nation, as influenced by the currency measure of 1844; but it remains to be seen whether the Protectionist party will so far prevail, or whether Ministers may be desirous so to extend the investigation, as to embrace an inquiry into the state of the country as it has become affected, not only by Peel's measure, but by the recent changes of commercial policy connected with the abolition and reduction of import duties. The position of the West India colonies and the Island of Mauritius must also command serious attention. It ought to be borne in mind that the present suspension of the Corn-laws, by which grain is admitted free of all duty, terminates on the 1st of March, 1848, and the question must also be decided whether the temporary duty of four shillings on wheat shall be reimposed during the short term which will then remain unexpired before the import duties on grain altogether cease on the 1st February, 1849. The question of the Navigation Laws will also come under the consideration of Parliament. Little doubt can be entertained but that a proposition will be made to modify these laws, so as to enable our colonists to avail themselves of the competition of foreign tonnage to bring their produce to Europe; but it is very evident that the West India planters are very lukewarm upon this point, as the principle which it involves is diametrically opposed to that which, as regards their produce, they are seeking to re-establish. If the Navigation Laws should be altered, it is more than probable that "goods, the produce of Asia, Africa, and America, landed in Europe," will be permitted hereafter to be brought, under some regulations, to England direct. With regard to Ireland, it remains as yet a complete secret of state whether an Arms Bill, a suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, or an actual enforcement of martial law in some of the disturbed districts, will be proposed. Upon this question the chief parties in the state are placed in antagonism. The Peel Ministry was thrown out by the Protectionist party uniting with the Whigs upon an Irish Arms Bill; but however party feelings may influence the great Parliamentary leaders, it is certain that a vast majority will support any minister of the crown in a resolute line of policy to put down outrage, and protect life and property in Ireland.

It is satisfactory to state that the interval which has passed since the departure of the Steam Ship Acadia, has been one of far less excitement than we have had to describe for some time. Numerous failures of mercantile houses, and a heavy list of bankrupts both in England and Scotland, still attest the deep-seated mischief which has crept into our commercial system; but, upon the whole, a very marked improvement in public feeling has prevailed. The great discount houses in London have reduced the rate of interest allowed on money at call by one per cent., and money for commercial purposes can now be procured "at a price;" but whilst the minimum rate at the Bank of England is still kept up at eight per cent., it would be delusive to say that our difficulties are removed. Large importations of bullion are pouring in from all quarters of Europe, the result of our high exchange, and of the vast number of unpaid acceptances which have been returned to the drawers. The accounts of the Bank of England improve accordingly, and indicate that the reserve of notes and the bullion are on the increase. The improvement is slow, and we earnestly trust that we may have no relapse. At the same time, it would be wrong to conceal that in the highest quarters, especially in the banking circles of London, and among the consignees of goods in Manchester, that the next and succeeding accounts from India are looked for with a deep and secret anxiety. The effects, also, of the overthrow of many long-established West India houses in London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, must inevitably spread extensive ruin in our transatlantic colonies; and until we are enabled to appreciate the full extent of the mischief, which must in a greater or less degree reach every quarter of the globe with which we have commercial relations, a certain degree of apprehension must prevail, which will tend to check large transactions in trade. The immense imports of produce which are still pouring in, are also the cause of much anxiety, inasmuch as a fearful re-action is anticipated.

The failures which have occurred since the departure of the last packet, does not exhibit such a serious aspect as those previously published. In London the failure of the old and respectable West India house of Judah Cohen and Sons, occasioned deep regret. Their liabilities are about £52,000. Thurburn and Co. (formerly Briggs, Thurburn, and Co.,) in the East India and Egyptian trade, have also stopped payment. Their liabilities are estimated at £120,000. They were for many years agents for the Viceroy of Egypt.—The failure of Johnson, Cole, and Co., East India merchants, has been also announced, with liabilities to the extent of £200,000, and Ryder, Wienholt and Co., in the same trade, with obligations to the amount of £60,000. On Monday last the extensive colonial brokers, Trueman & Cook, of Mincing-lane, whose transactions have been of late years second to none in London, suspended payment. Their liabilities are conjectured at about £350,000. Within these few months they have curtailed their business to a great extent. If the failure had occurred a few weeks ago, their liabilities would not have been much less than one million sterling. This failure is greatly to be deplored, as it must inevitably bring down other houses with which the house is connected, and it proves but too plainly that the mischief is not all over.

Mr. Robert Farrand, an old respectable corn factor in Mark-lane, has also suspended payment. His business was considered very safe, and was at one time very extensive. He sat in the House of Commons during the two first Parliaments after the passing of the Reform Act, and was much respected.

In Manchester the chief failures have been Kershaw, Holland, and Co., and Marsland, Veltmann, and Co. The liabilities of the latter have not yet been ascertained.

In Glasgow failures continue to take place.—Ogilvie, Clarke, and Co., Cowans, Smith, and Co., and Campbell and Batty, are the principal. The celebrated Campbell, of Islay, the great landowner of Argyleshire, has sunk under difficulties to the extent of £600,000; and the Right Honourable Adam Gordon, Viscount Kenmure, figures in the Scotch Gazette as a bankrupt.

The following provincial banks have stopped payment since the 4th:—The Honiton Bank, (Flood and Lott,) and the Bridport Bank, (Gundry's;) they were both banks of issue, but not to a great amount.—Great endeavours are being made to resuscitate the Royal Bank of Liverpool, and it is confidently expected that the institution will resume business on the 1st December next.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.—There is some mitigation of the pressure which the trading interests has been so long undergoing, and there is more activity in business generally; it is, however, not yet practicable to make progress in sales of Wood, unless at prices under the quotations given, which must be considered in some measure nominal. Notwithstanding, they are 2d per foot for Timber under what they were at this time last year, and so in proportion for other Wood. During the month sales have been effected to a small extent only, both by private and by auction. A cargo of St. John Spruce Deals, of prime quality, brought 2d to 2 5-16d per foot; a fair cargo 2d to 2 3-16d; a cargo of Bathurst yellow and Spruce at 2d to 2¼d; Miramichi Spruce and Yellow 1 11-16d to 2¼d; a cargo of St. John Yellow Pine, of good quality, 14½d to 18d; one of middling quality 14½d to 16½d; a cargo of new Carlisle yellow and Spruce Deals 2 1-16d to 2 15-16d. On the quay a cargo of St. John Pine Timber, of rather over 20 inches average, has been sold at 17d per foot, with Birch at 14d, and Spruce Planks at 1½d; and a cargo of Quebec, of prime quality, the prices of which have not transpired, but supposed to be about 15d per foot for yellow Pine.—*Duncan and Ewing.*

There has not been so much dullness in the Cotton market during the last two weeks as we have had to report on some previous occasions; still, as trade in the manufacturing districts keeps dull and gloomy, and the manufacturers are indisposed to operate to any extent, the sales are yet of a trifling character. For the fortnight ending Nov. 12, they did not exceed 47,980 bales. With respect to prices, there is a slight advance on the quotations given in our paper of the 4th instant, not more than 1-8d. to 1-4d. on American descriptions.

We regret to state that the serious decline in the prices of Sugar is now producing in Amsterdam, the seat of the great Sugar refineries of Europe, considerable embarrassment. A Sugar house, beyond all comparison the most extensive in the world, whose transactions are immense with Germany and the Mediterranean, and, indeed, with every spot where Sugar is consumed, has been compelled to seek assistance from Government, which has been accorded to a great amount.

The Corn market since the Acadia left has not varied to any great extent. On the 5th instant the advance noticed in our last was fully maintained, and the arrivals at Liverpool being comparatively small, the country markets generally showed considerable firmness. On the market day of the 8th inst., prices continued firm, but Wheat was generally slow of sale. On Monday last, at Mark-lane, there was a liberal supply of grain; and although the best parcels of Wheat were readily taken off, the common runs could not be sold unless at a reduction of 2s. to 3s per quarter. The operations in foreign are quite upon a restricted scale; holders are unwilling to effect sales at a reduction of more than 1s to 2s per quarter. The exports to Ireland continue to be very large. The price of best Western Canal Flour has reached 30s., at which price holders are not disposed to make a sacrifice. At Mark-lane on the 17th the trade was very inactive and rather depressed; lower prices would have been submitted to if buyers could have been induced to make purchases.

DEATH OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.—The Right Hon. and Most Rev. Edward Harcourt, the 83rd Archbishop of York, died at Bishopthorp on the 5th inst. He was born on the 16th of October, 1757, and had, shortly before his death, entered upon the 91st year of his age. His school education he received at Westminster, and in due time he was transferred to Christchurch, Oxford, which University conferred on him the degree of D. C. L., in 1786; and he was for many years a Fellow of All Souls College. In August 1791, he became Bishop of Carlisle, on the vacancy which was created by the translation of Dr. Douglas to the see of Salisbury. For 16 years he administered the affairs of the see of Carlisle with the quiet good sense and discretion which marked the general tone of his character, and which throughout life protected him from many anxious cares, though such qualities seemed little calculated to raise him to eminence or fame. Before his advancement to the episcopal bench he had been married seven years. It was on the 5th of February, 1784, that he espoused Lady Anne, the third daughter of the first Marquis of Stafford. This union, of which fourteen children were the fruit, continued until 1832, when Lady Anne Harcourt died, in the 72nd year of her age.

New Archbishop of York.—Dr. Musgrove, Bishop of Hereford, has been translated to the Archbishoprick of York; and Dr. Hampden, Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford, will, it is said, be raised to the vacant see of Hereford.

CONFIRMATION.—Malta, Oct. 24.—Yesterday a confirmation was held in the English Church of St. Paul, in Malta, by the Bishop of Gibraltar, for the officers and seamen of the Mediterranean squadron. The squadron, consisting of six line of battle ships and two frigates, was at anchor in the great harbour, and it was a beautiful sight to see the candidates landing from the ships and proceeding through the streets of Valetta, headed by the chaplains and officers, to the noble edifice in which the confirmation took place. They were between 300 and 400 in number, including a good many officers, some of them lieutenants of mature age, who had never before had the opportunity of being confirmed. The demeanor both of the officers and men showed that they were impressed with the solemnity due to the occasion. The Bishop made an earnest and affectionate address to them, as Christian officers and seamen, warning them against the temptations peculiar to their particular station in life, to which they listened with profound and serious attention.

GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.—On the 4th inst. the usual farewell entertainment was given to the Earl of Dalhousie, the new Governor-General, on the eve of his departure for India. Lord John Russell and other Cabinet Ministers were present. Lord Dalhousie proceeded on the 10th inst., in the steam-frigate Sidon, to Alexandria, on his way to India, to take possession of his new government. Lieut.-Colonel A. Mountain, C. B., military secretary to his lordship, and Lieutenant the Hon. F. H. Fane, aide de-camp, accompanied his excellency. The Sidon is to be at Alexandria by Dec. 4, in readiness to embark Lord Hardinge and suite, *en route* for England from Calcutta, and to convey him to Marseilles or Portsmouth, as he may desire.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—It is stated that in the event of nothing being heard of Sir John Franklin next year, the Government will fit out three separate expeditions very early, to be despatched different routes in quest of him. Dr. King has offered his services to Government to go in search of Sir John and his gallant crew, which he supposes to have been shipwrecked.

MILITIA FORCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.—An able article has appeared in the *Naval and Military Gazette*, respecting the embodying, arming, and training a municipal civic and county force; in which it is positively asserted that it is the intention of Government to introduce a bill in the next Parliament for the purpose of raising and training a national constitutional force of 100,000 men for the defence of the country.

A mutiny took place in the night of the 31st ult. at Malta, on board the Superb, 80 guns, in consequence of an order of Commander Wilmot forbidding the men to smoke. The mutineers extinguished the lights, broke the crockery belonging to their messes, and insulted their officers. At 10 o'clock, however, they had returned to their duty, thanks to the firmness of Commander Wilmot, and several of the mutineers were placed in irons.

SUGAR.—In reply to the representations of a body interested in the prosperity of the West India Colonies, Earl Gray has declared his belief that if the cultivation of sugar by free labour cannot be sustained on the principles of Free Trade, it cannot be sustained at all. His Lordship says that it is essential to the welfare of all parties to commence to bring the principles of Free Trade, by progressive steps, into full action, and to maintain the cultivation of sugar with a reduction and early extinction of the discriminating duties.

DESERTION OF SEAMEN.—The magistrates of London and at the outports are using every exertion to prevent the desertion of seamen from merchant vessels, by inflicting the severest fine which the law allows in all cases where desertion is proved. Imprisonment follows in all cases where there is a default of payment.

WRECK OF THE SHIP STEPHEN WHITNEY.—The New York packet-ship Stephen Whitney, Capt. Popham, from New York, bound to Liverpool, with 110 souls on board, 76 of whom were passengers, (six in the cabin and 70 in the steerage,) was totally wrecked in thick weather, on West Calf Island, near Cape Clear, Ireland, on the night of the 10th November. In ten minutes after the ship struck, 92 souls, including the captain and all the cabin passengers, had perished. The survivors, 18 in number, including the mate, 4 steerage passengers, and 13 of the crew, bruised and naked, succeeded in scrambling up the rock, which overhung the sea to the height of nearly sixty feet, and after searching about for some time, arrived at two miserable huts, the only human tenements on the island.

DISCOVERY OF THE REMAINS OF CHARLEMAGNE.—A letter from Aix la-Chapelle, of the 28th ult., says;—"A discovery has just been made here of the highest interest in a religious and historical point of view, viz., the remains of Charlemagne. It is known that in the year 1000, Otho III. caused the vault of the emperor to be opened, and that Frederic I., Barbarossa, on the 29th December, 1165, took up the bones of this great prince after he had been placed among the number of the saints by Pope Pascal III. Frederic kept these mortal spoils in a chest. The vestments and insignia of the emperor became the coronation robes and insignia of the Franco-Roman empire, and after, in 1792, Francis II. invested himself with them as King and Emperor elect, they were conveyed to Vienna, where they are still preserved. But the relics of Charlemagne were lost, except one arm, which was enshrined in a reliquary; and, although great pains were taken, they could never afterwards be found. A few days ago, however, the old chest was found in a place adjoining the sacristy, where it was left entirely abandoned in a dark closet. The discovery was made while two other beatified bodies were being removed in the presence of the director of the Royal Museums."

The largest ship which has yet reached the port of Gloucester is now lying in the canal—She is the Lesmahagow, of 740 tons register, or about 1100 tons burthen, of and from St. John, and laden with timber.

Captain Grover, whose generous and unwearied exertions in the cause of Colonel Stoddart and Captain Conolly will be fresh in everybody's recollection, died at Brussels on the 7th instant, after a brief but painful illness.

Advices from the Cape of Good Hope to the 17th Sept. state that Sir H. Pottinger had declared war against the Gaika Caffres.

Important intelligence has reached England from Switzerland. All hopes of avoiding a civil war in that country are said to be at an end, and that hostilities had actually commenced.

SUICIDE OF COUNT BRESSON.—This nobleman, whose name will be for ever linked in history with the Montpensier marriages, has committed suicide at Naples, at which court he was ambassador from the King of the French.

It is said that the Commander-in Chief has decidedly set his face against moustaches for the infantry.

The Free-trade Society at Berlin has been dissolved.

The Indian Government has despatched several active and scientific officers to explore the countries of Lassa and Thibet.

STOPPAGE OF RAILWAY WORKS.—By the suspension of railway works, consequent on the depression in the money market, it is believed that nearly 10,000 railway navigators will be put out of employment within the next ten days, within a distance of ten miles round Manchester.

The Good Service Pension, vacant by the death of Captain Willes, has been given to Sir John Ross.

It is reported that Mr. George Rennie, formerly M. P. for Ipswich, has been appointed Governor of the Falkland Islands.

Her Majesty's steamer Cormorant is daily expected at Portsmouth with 1,800,000 dollars from the western coast of South America.

Mr. Bonham, who was formerly the Governor of Singapore, is to be the new Governor of Hong Kong, in the place of Sir John Davis, who has resigned.

It is said that scarcely a single new railway scheme will be brought before Parliament next session. What a blessing for over-worked members.

A master of a vessel, just arrived from Bombay at Liverpool, was fined this week in a mitigated penalty, for not having on board lime juice of proper quality for the use of the seamen during the voyage.

In 1844, the number of French foundlings supported at the expense of the state was 123,394, demanding an annual outlay of 6,707,829f. 12c, or 54f 6c a head.

An Italian newspaper asserts that Napoleon's widow, the Archduchess Maria Louisa of Parma, has been formally married at Vienna to the Count de Bombelles, one of her ministers.

It is said that Victor Cousin, hitherto one of the Parisian arch-priests of infidelity, has embraced Christianity, and is about to become a monk of La Trappe.

A continental paper states that M. Rydni, proprietor of a great dyeing establishment at Boras, near Gottenburg, has invented a mode of dyeing cottons without indigo. The blue colour obtained by the substance employed by M. Rydni is said to be as clear and as fixed as that obtained by indigo; while it resists the strongest lye, potash, and even sulphuric acid, and costs but one-sixth the price.

RUSSIA.—According to the latest intelligence from Moscow, the number of cholera patients in that city on the morning of the 16th of October amounted to 105. On that same day thirty-seven others were attacked, of whom twenty-three had died. On the evening of the 17th of October the number of patients was 135, which is considered an insignificant proportion for 300,000 inhabitants.—Great uneasiness prevailed in the mercantile circles at St Petersburgh, owing to the scarcity of money.

IRELAND.—The state of Ireland continues to excite the deepest anxiety and alarm amongst all classes. The assassinations and violent breaches of the law committed in various parts of the country have called forth a proclamation from Lord Clarendon, which plainly gives notice that if the modes he indicates for the suppression of crime and outrage be disregarded, other more stringent measures will be adopted. His lordship appeals with great earnestness to the gentry, and to the well-disposed farmers and peasantry, to aid him in the repression of crime.

His Excellency admonishes those who harbour criminals, and favour their evasion of justice, are, in the eyes of the law, criminals themselves, and will hereafter be dealt with accordingly. No means will be left untried to extinguish the present wicked spirit abroad.

PROCLAMATION.

"The numerous outrages which have lately taken place and the lawless spirit which has been exhibited by the people in the disturbed districts, make it necessary that the lord-lieutenant should announce his determination to exercise all the power with which he is invested by law, as well for the suppression of disturbance as for the prevention and detection of crime.

"His Excellency deeply deplores the destitute condition of a large number of the people; but although outrages have been committed under the plea of distress, yet it is notorious that the robberies of arms and the night attacks, so constantly occurring, in the counties of Limerick and Clare, as well as the atrocious assassinations which have also disgraced Tipperary, King's County, and Roscommon, are not induced by the pressure of want, but are the acts of habitual disturbers of the public peace, who seek by the perpetration of such crimes to intimidate all other classes.

"The lord-lieutenant, while affording to the well-disposed the protection of the law, and the support of the executive government in their efforts to maintain order, earnestly asks for their co-operation in suppressing such violations of the public peace as have recently occurred in the county of Limerick, and in other places, and in endeavouring to detect and convict those who are engaged in the commission of similar offences.

"There is no class, save the guilty themselves, which is not interested in bringing to punishment the highwayman, the burglar, and the assassin, and the lord-lieutenant hopes that a vigorous and energetic co-operation on the part of those whose properties and lives may be sacrificed at the hands of these offenders, will enable the authorities to carry out successfully the endeavours of the executive government to vindicate the law and protect her Majesty's peaceable subjects.

"The lord-lieutenant, therefore, confidently appeals not to the gentry alone, but to the well-disposed farmers and industrious peasantry who seek to earn their livelihood by honest labour, to aid his efforts in suppressing a system of terror, which he feels satisfied is exercised by the few, but which may be overcome by the energy and determination of the many, whom it is intended to overawe.

"His Excellency hopes that the misguided people who are often led into crime by a few wicked men, may be persuaded to listen to better advice, and shun the companionship of the felon and the murderer, whose course through life can often be traced by the misery which he has drawn down upon those who have unwarily joined him in a career of crime.

"His Excellency is resolved by every means in his power to suppress the wicked spirit which now disturbs the public peace, and retards the social improvement and the prosperity of the country.

"The constabulary will be increased in all disturbed districts (whereby an additional burden will be thrown upon the rates,) military detachments will be stationed wherever necessary, in aid of the civil authorities, and efficient patrols maintained; liberal rewards will be given for information leading to the arrest of offenders, and ample protection to all who come forward and prosecute them; in short, no exertion shall be spared for rigorously enforcing the law against those by whom it is violated.

"The lord-lieutenant, therefore, warns all who engage, either in resistance to legal authority, or in attacks upon life and property, to abstain from such crimes, which will be followed by the severest punishment. He cautions the people not to join with the habitual perpetrators of outrage, nor to listen to the evil councils of men who encourage opposition to the law for their own ends, and who will leave those they have deluded into crime to suffer its punishment.

"Above all, he thinks it his duty to make known the penalties that will be incurred by accessories to crime, and that all persons are by law considered accessories who protect criminals against their pursuers—who afford them the means to escape—who aid in their disguise—who mislead those who may be in search of them—or who harbour offenders in their houses.

"The hand of every one should be against the perpetrator of crime; and the law will pursue with rigour, not alone the culprit himself, but sentence to transportation or imprisonment all who give him aid, shelter, or protection.

"By his Excellency's command,

"W. M. SOMERVILLE.

"Dublin Castle, Nov. 9, 1847."

It is reported that military officers stationed in the disturbed counties will be invested with civil authority to enable them to suppress the lawless bands which infest those districts, and even the "liberal" journals of London concur in the propriety of passing an arms bill, suspending the Habeas Corpus Act, or, indeed, conferring upon Government the most unlimited powers for the protection of life and property, and for the repression of the atrocious acts which threaten the utter disorganisation of all law and public order.

The accounts which have been received from Ireland during the past fortnight, continue to create, in the minds of all peaceably-disposed people, serious alarm. The terrors of "Captain Rock" and the murderous mandates of "Lady Clare" are carried out to a greater extent than ever. Among the recent assassinations we have to record the following:—A poor inoffensive widow, named Keros, was barbarously murdered in a field adjoining her residence at Boherbee, near Borresleigh, county of Tipperary, on the 2nd instant. The ill-fated woman's head was frightfully fractured with stones—a portion of her brains protruded through the wounds inflicted. A Major Mahon was shot dead on the same evening near Stokestown, in the county of Roscommon. A poor man named Michael Walsh, steward and care-taker to Charles O'Callaghan, Esq., of Ballynahinch, in the county of Clare, was murdered on the high road near Fort Anne, by a ball, which carried away the roof of his skull. There are several other murders recorded, but we forbear the further augmentation of such an atrocious list.

It appears that the resistance to the payment of rent has manifested itself in the north as well as the south. The county in Ulster thus noted for its illegal combination against the claims of landlords is Fermanagh.

There still continues a combined movement against the payment of rents and taxes. The Nenagh Guardian of a late date has the following:—Mr. James Sammon, a poor-rate collector for the electoral divisions of Borrisokane, Cloughjordan, and Ardcroney, was, on Friday week, assaulted at Garryard, while in the act of serving notices for the payment of the rate. He was prevented by a large number of persons from issuing the notices. Four persons are to abide their trial at the approaching Nenagh quarter sessions, charged with the assault.

Mr. P. V. Fitzpatrick, the indefatigable promoter of the O'Connell tribute, and his personal friend, has been appointed by Lord Clarendon, Assistant Registrar of Deeds—an office worth about £500 per annum.

A meeting of thirty-four Irish members, mostly repealers, termed the National Council, was opened at Dublin on the 3rd instant. The proceedings were held with closed doors, but the following is the substance of the proceedings agreed upon, and also of those discussed, which though not acceded to, yet were not rejected. In the first category stands a resolution, that the Government be called upon to finish the roads undertaken under the Labour-rate Act, and now useless, the funds to be obtained from the unappropriated moneys of the grants to Ireland made by the authority of Parliament last year. Also that Government be called upon to employ the people in constructing the earth-works of railways, and to make advances to railway companies the construction of whose works is now in progress. It was agreed to *nem. con.* that these propositions be communicated to the ministry; and that unless they should be acceded to, or some others manifestly more advantageous proposed by Government, an amendment should be proposed on the address to the crown on the meeting of Parliament. Mr. J. O'Connell submitted a proposition that Ireland should have the advantage of her fair proportion of the national expenditure upon the navy, the army, and the other public departments. Mr. Reynolds submitted a proposition for the assumption of the waste lands by parliament, their sale by public auction, in small parcels, and the encouragement of the location of the people upon them. These have not yet been agreed upon, nor have the further propositions that it is the imperative duty of the state to afford remunerative employment in the developement of the resources of Ireland, the fisheries, mineral wealth, &c. It was also resolved to suggest to Government the systematic encouragement of all land improvements. A resolution calling on Government to establish granaries was also adopted; and it was proposed that if the ministry should not accede to all the recommendations made to it by the council, a systematic opposition should be offered to all their measures, whether Irish or otherwise. This, however, was not acceded to. The Council again met on Thursday, the 13th instant, to continue the discussion on tenant-compensation and tenant-right. The attendance was thinner than ever, the landlords staying away almost to a man. A fresh resolution was adopted, setting forth the expediency of an alteration in the law of landlord and tenant, so as to insure compensation for permanent improvements. The meeting then adjourned *sine die.*

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

The United States Congress met at Washington on Monday the 6th instant. The Hon. Mr. Winthrop, of Massachusetts, was chosen Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The President transmitted his Message to both Houses on Tuesday last.—We take the following Telegraphic abstract of the Message from the Boston Daily Advertiser of the 8th instant. It will be seen that the President casts all the blame of the war on the Mexicans;—

After returning thanks to Providence, the President says:—

No change has taken place in our relations with Mexico since the adjournment of Congress. The war in which the United States was forced to engage with the Government of that country continues. It is sufficient for the present occasion to say, that wanton violations of the rights of persons and property of our citizens committed by Mexican repeated acts of hostility through a long series of years, and disregard of solemn treaty stipulations for indemnity to our citizens, not only constituted ample cause for war on our part, but were of such aggravated character as to justify us before the world, in resorting to the extreme remedy of nations. With an anxious desire to avoid a rupture between the two countries, we forbore for years to assert our rights by force, and continued to seek redress for the wrongs we had suffered by amicable negotiations, in hope that Mexico might yield to pacific councils and the demands of justice. In this hope we have been disappointed. Our Minister of Peace who was sent to Mexico was insultingly rejected, the Mexican Government refusing to hear the terms of adjustment which he was authorized to propose, and finally, under unjustifiable pretences, the Government of Mexico involved the two countries in war, by invading the territory of Texas, and striking the first blow, and shedding the blood of our citizens on our soil.

The United States were the aggrieved nation. Mexico commenced the war, and we were compelled in self-defence to repel the invader, and vindicate the national honor and interest, by prosecuting it with vigor until we could obtain a just and honorable peace.

The existence of war having been declared by Congress, it became my duty, under the constitution and laws, to continue to prosecute it. And this duty has been performed through every stage of its progress. I have manifested a willingness to terminate it by a just peace, but Mexico has refused to accede to any terms which could be accepted by the United States.

The President speaks of the loss of brave officers, &c., recommends that the government should take care of their families. He recapitulates the victories of our armies, and states that the Peace Commissioner was appointed with no power to interfere with the military operations.—He was authorized to exhibit his instructions to the General in command, and in the event of a treaty being concluded and ratified on the part of Mexico, he was directed to give him notice of the fact.

The commissioner took with him a project of a treaty, by the terms of which the indemnity required by the United States was a cession of territory, well known as the only indemnity in the power of Mexico to make, for the just and long deferred claims of our citizens, and to reimburse the United States for the expense of the war.

To reject an indemnity by refusing to accept a cession of territory, would be to abandon all our just demands.—A Treaty of Peace, without providing for indemnity would enable Mexico to relieve herself from her just liabilities. No treaty which does not provide ample means of discharging these demands, can receive any sanction. That Congress contemplated the acquisition of territorial indemnity when it made provision for the prosecution of the war is obvious.—It is manifest that Congress contemplated a territorial indemnity, from the fact that an act passed upon an executive recommendation appropriates three millions of dollars to that express object. The entire sum remains in the treasury still, applicable to that object.

The doctrine of no territory the doctrine of no indemnity; its sanction would be a public acknowledgement that our country was wrong.

The terms of treaty proposed were not only just to Mexico, but were deemed of the most liberal character. The commissioner was authorized to agree to the establishment of the Rio Grande as a boundary, and to obtain the cession of New Mexico, the Californias, and the privilege of a right of way across the isthmus of Tehuantepec.

The boundary of the Rio Grande and the cession to the United States of New Mexico and Upper California constituted an ultimatum that might be manifest not only to Mexico, but to all other nations that the United States was not diposed to take advantage of a feeble power. The commissioner was authorized to stipulate for the payment of such additional pecuniary consideration as was deemed reasonable.

The terms of the treaty proposed by the Mexican Commissioners were wholly inadmissible They negotiated as if Mexico was victorious and not vanquished. The cession proposed by the Commissioner of the United States was believed to be more in accordance with the convenience and interests of both nations than any other cession which Mexico could be induced to make. The Mexican government could not long continue to hold and govern them, especially Upper California. The sagacity of European nations directed their attention to that province, and should we relinquish our claim, an effort would be made by some foreign power to obtain a possession, which might involve us in more expensive war.

The President recapitulates the advantages to those provinces if brought under our rule. He states that but an inconsiderable portion of the Mexican people would be transferred by this arrangement. Believing his continued presence with the army would be productive of no good, he determined to recal Commissioner Trist, and say—I shall not deem it proper to make any further overtures of peace, but shall at all times be ready to consider any proposal which may be made by Mexico. Our arms having been everywhere victorious, negotiations having failed, questions arise as to what manner the war ought to be prosecuted, and what should be our future policy. We should secure and render available the conquests made, should hold and occupy all which may fall into our possession—should press military operations and levy contributions to defray the expenses of the war.

Meantime, as Mexico refuses all indemnity, we should adopt measures to indemnify ourselves by appropriating permanently a portion of their territory. I cannot favor the policy which has been suggested, to withdraw our army altogether to a designated line, and simply hold and defend it.—To withdraw would disgrace the nation in its own estimation, and in that of the world. To recede to a line, and simply hold and defend it, would not terminate the war; on the contrary it would encourage Mexico.

Never has it been contemplated by me as an object of the war, to make a permanent conquest of the Republic of Mexico, or to annihilate her separate existence. We demand an honorable peace, and that peace must bring indemnity for the past, and security for the future. It may be deemed proper for our commanding Generals to give encouragement and assurances of protection to the friends of peace in Mexico in the establishment and maintenance of a free republican government, to those who, by their own choice, are able and willing to conclude peace. This may become the only mode of obtaining a peace. Could such be the result, the war would thus be converted into an enduring blessing to herself.

If we ultimately fail, we must continue to occupy her country, taking the full measure of indemnity in our own hands, and to do this for our own safety and our established policy. It may be that the Mexican Government have misunderstood our forbearance—the prosecution of the energetic policy proposed must soon undeceive them. They may have drawn false inferences from a supposed division of opinions in the United States, the Mexicans having shown themselves incapable of appreciating our forbearance.

For the remainder of the present fiscal year, a loan of $18,500,000 will be sufficient, provided Congress taxes tea and coffee, and graduate the price of public lands. Should these measures be adopted early in the session, the loan may be reduced to $17,000,000. Should the war be continued till June 30, 1849, a further loan of $20,500,000 will be required for the fiscal year ending on that day, in case no duty be imposed on tea and coffee.

The tariff of 1846 is said to have worked admirably, and the President recommends that it be not disturbed. The warehousing system is said to have worked well, and an adherence to its provisions is recommended.

The coinage of the Mint and branches the past year is over $20,000,000. The converting of foreign coin into American is estimated at $10,000,000. The public lands will be surveyed and ready for market during the year 1848. The President recommends a graduation and reduction of price.

A reciprocal and satisfactory postal arrangement has been made with Bremen, but nothing satisfactory has been arranged with England.

The President asks authority to increase the regular army and volunteers.

The Imports of the year ending 30th June, amount to $146,545,000. Exports, $158,648,000, of which $150,000,000 are domestic produce. The benefits to the Treasury are $26,346,000, of which from customs, $23,747,000; land, $2,498,000. Expenditures, $59,451,000, of which $3,522,000 are on account of public debt. The estimate of receipts for the year ending June 30, is $48,425,860, including balance in the treasury, if peace is not concluded, or $56,615,000, if vigorous measures are taken to augment contributions from Mexico.

The President recommends strongly a duty on tea and coffee, and he estimates $3,000,000 income from this source.

Imports of specie for the fiscal year $24,121,000. He recommends a Mint in New York, urges the establishment of a territorial government in Oregon, and grants of land in that country to actual settlers. He states that the revenue of the post office department has been sufficient the past year to defray all expenses.

The remainder of the message embraces statements in regard to the Indian tribes—operations of the navy—contracts of mail steamships—postal arrangement with Great Britain—and sundry other matters not worth telegraphing.

He concludes by referring to the words of the first and most illustrious of his predecessors relative to the danger to our Union of characterizing parties by geographical discriminations, Northern and Southern, Atlantic and Western.

STEAM TO FREDERICTON!—We learn that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and Lady Colebrooke and family, will leave the City this afternoon for Fredericton, per steamer, in order to spend the Christmas Holidays at Government House.—We think it would puzzle the memory of the "oldest inhabitant" to recollect an incident of this sort in any previous year since the era of 1783, of a trip to Fredericton by water in the middle of December.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last Friday evening, Mr. Foulis, in his Introductory lecture, gave a view of the *general objects of Chemistry*, and announced as his next subject, *Attraction* and *Repulsion*.

Last evening, the Rev. Mr. Wishart lectured to a full house on the *Features of New Countries*.

Next Friday evening, Dr. Patersons' subject will be *Inertia* and the laws of Equilibrium and Motion.

Next Monday evening, the Rev. Mr. Lawson will lecture on *Habit*. We hope to see on this occasion a large assembly of young people of both sexes, as the subject is one which particularly affects them.

☞ *Bowes*, the assassinator of Gough, the Policeman, in Portland, has not yet been captured, notwithstanding the large reward of £250, ($1000 dollars,) has been offered by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor for his apprehension.

The funeral of Mr. Gough took place on Wednesday last, attended to the grave by several divisions (comprising several hundred members) of the Sons of Temperance, of which body he was a member, and a large number of other inhabitants. He was a native of Fredericton, and was a married man, with a small family.

☞ The Examination of the Public Grammar-School will take place next Monday, at 10 o'clock.

☞ We understand the Philharmonic Society intends giving a Concert on the evening of the 20th instant, assisted by other Amateurs and a number of Professional Gentlemen.

The weather during the last week has generally been wet and disagreeable, (except Sunday, which was a delightful day