# The Observer.

**SAINT JOHN, SEPTEMBER 5, 1848.**

The steam ship *Niagara*, with the English mail of the 19th August, arrived at Halifax on the 29th, in 9½ days, and the mail was received in this City on Wednesday night. The Niagara brought out 112 passengers, five of whom (Rev. Dr. Willis and Lady, and Messrs. Wm. Porter, J. C. Hunter, and McAgy,) landed at Halifax—the remaining 107 proceeded to New York. The next steamer will be the Hibernia.

The Niagara arrived at New York on Thursday afternoon, and the news was telegraphed to Boston upwards of *twelve* hours previous to the arrival of the *express* steamer Buena Vista at that port from Halifax. The Buena Vista arrived at Boston at half-past 8 o'clock on Friday morning.

LIVERPOOL, August 19.

COMMERCIAL.—Whatever tendency there might be towards improvement in trade, consequent upon the visible signs of peace being restored between the Danes and Prussians, is more than counterbalanced by the continued unsettled state of the weather, which is now beginning to engender serious fears as to the result of the harvest. The accounts from the agricultural districts represent that considerable injury is now being sustained by the standing crops, whilst all the reports as to the condition of the Potatoe agree, stating that a considerable portion of the plant has again been destroyed; and should much more rain follow, it is asserted that the disease will be much extended. Under the influence of these causes, the funds have been heavy this week, and as an excess of imports over exports is looked to as the natural result of even a partial destruction of the grain and potatoe crops. Foreign Exchanges have already been influenced, and a large export of bullion is looked upon as probable at no distant period. Large orders for Indian Corn have already been transmitted to the United States, and we have reason to believe that the steamer sailing to-day will convey orders for many additional quantities, and also for some tolerably extensive lots of Flour. It is perhaps only prudent to look a-head, but we believe that as yet there is no real cause for so much alarm. No doubt a portion of the Potatoe crop has been destroyed, and no doubt that in some districts the Wheat crop has suffered, but not to an extent which is by interested parties reported, and by many others confidently believed. A return of fine weather would go far to restore the Wheat, if it did not check the destruction of the Potatoe. Pending the present uncertainty, we have already signs of the evil effects of a deficient harvest—in the fact that foreign Exchanges are becoming adverse to this country.

We have a speculative demand for Indian Corn, and a further important advance in price, the quotations now being 35s. to 38s. per quarter, and some parcels to arrive have been disposed of at 35s. to 36s. 6d. Indian Corn Meal 17s. to 17s. 6d. per barrel. Flour, duty paid, 32s. to 33s., and sour 29s. per barrel. American Wheat 7s. 3d. to 8s. 10d. per 70lbs.

The accounts from Manchester received last night do not vary much in their tenor from those reported on Tuesday. Generally there has been less disposition to purchase at the prices then current. The continuance of wet weather has checked the home trade market, and owing to the uncertainty still existing as to the course which will be taken on the Schleswig-Holstein question, the German buyers seem little disposed to increase their purchases. For India and China the demand is very limited. For Italy and the Levant the business still continues active.

We have to report the stoppage of Mr. George Jones of Salford, whose liabilities are stated at the large sum of £300,000. Mr. Jones appears to have been a large speculator in cotton when prices were high, and his unwillingness to submit to the decline which has since taken place, has brought on his present difficulties. It is said his assets will fall considerably short of his liabilities.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.—Québec Pine has been sold at lower prices this week than usual; at least 1-4d. to 1-2d. per foot lower than the preceding week, owing, no doubt, to the unsettled state of continental affairs, and also feared apprehensions of increased imports. In Deals prices are still retrograding, and there does not appear any prospect of improvement, so long as the large supplies keep pouring in, coupled with the little house-building going forward here and in the country. Only one cargo of St. John Pine is landing, of apparently small sizes, which is not yet sold.—*Duncan & Ewing.*

THE CHARTISTS.—In various parts of England the proceedings of the Chartists have broken out into violence. At Ashton-under-Lyne and other districts round Manchester, considerable excitement has existed for some time past, and the Clubs have been more than usually active. Mobs have paraded the streets armed with pikes and guns, and there can be no doubt that some scheme has been concocted with the disaffected in other parts of the kingdom to get up some insurrectionary movement. On Monday the Manchester magistrates struck a blow against Club organization, by arresting 14 of the chief leaders of the various clubs. At the Hyde, Dukenfield, and Oldham, the Chartists have appeared in considerable numbers, parading through districts, armed with pikes and guns, but in all cases, upon the appearance of the police or military, they have taken to their heels and have dispersed. At Birmingham, the activity of the magistrates has repressed any over acts of violence. In our own town [Liverpool] we have been tolerably quiet.

In the metropolis, government having received secret information of the Chartist intention to make an attack upon some of the public buildings, took measures to defeat their design. On Wednesday evening strong bodies of police, well armed for an encounter, made a sudden attack upon the Chartist Club in Webber street, Blackfriars, and captured 14 men. A gang of Chartists in York street, Westminster, were waiting to march out to join their comrades, and were captured; and in one or two other parts of the metropolis similar arrests were made. It is reported that the government have complete information respecting the designs of the parties, and have taken the most effectual measures to suppress any further attempts which may be made to disturb the public peace.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Colonel Sir Wm. Macbean George Colebrooke, Knight, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Islands of Barbados, Grenada, St. Vincent, Tobago, and St. Lucia, and their dependencies.

It appears, from a return just made to Parliament, that the declared value of British machinery and millwork, exported from the United Kingdom in the year ended on the 5th of January last, was £1,263,015.

On Thursday morning Lord Palmerston had a lengthened interview with General Cavaignac at the Hotel in the Rue de Varennes.

On Sunday last, her Majesty Queen Adelaide completed her 56th year; on the 17th instant the Duchess of Kent will complete her 62d year; and on the 26th instant, her Majesty's illustrious consort, Prince Albert, completes his 29th year.

A series of dramatic entertainments is to be given at Windsor Castle, immediately after Christmas, by command of her Majesty. Mr. Charles Kean has received directions to superintend all the arrangements. The most distinguished talent is to be engaged.

Prince Albert has consented to lay the foundation-stone of the new docks at Grimsby in October next.

A society, called "The Suburban Village Association" has just been established in London, for constructing houses on the lines of railway in the suburbs for artisans and others of limited income; the rent to include a daily ticket, to and from London.

The period for which Lieutenant Monro, late of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) was sentenced for causing the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Fawcett, in the fatal duel with that gallant officer, expires on Friday.

The existence of the cholera in Berlin was officially announced on the 30th ult.

THE NEW FRENCH MINISTER TO ENGLAND.—The arrival of M. Gustave de Beaumont in this country as the Envoy or representative of the present Government of France is a circumstance favorable to the maintenance of amicable relations between the two countries. M. de Beaumont is a gentleman already well known to the society of this metropolis, both in person and by his literary productions. He shared with M. de Tocqueville in the mission sent out by the French Government in 1831, to examine the penitentiary system in the United States; and some years later he became the author of a book on Ireland, which is one of the best foreign works on that inexhaustible subject, and does credit to his discrimination and his researches. In politics M. de Beaumont has been, since his entrance into the late Chamber of Deputies, an active member of what was termed the dynastic opposition; and he was one of those politicians who on the occasion of the proposed banquet of the 22nd of February gave a blind assent to that terrific conspiracy of the Republican party which was destined in a few hours to mingle all the other divisions of the State and the institutions of the kingdom in universal ruin. The selection of M. Gustave de Beaumont for a diplomatic mission to London at this important juncture is, however, a proof that General Cavaignac is aware of the advantage he may derive from the services of the more moderate members of the Liberal party, and it must also be regarded as a mark of deference to the views and predilections of this country. The duties which M. de Talleyrand assumed and discharged with consummate ability in 1831 are about to devolve on M. de Beaumont's shoulders.—*London Times.*

According to the *Times*, the Duke of Buckingham, whose affairs have gone so completely to the dogs, induced his son, the Marquis of Chandos, to join in cutting off the entail to the princely estates of the family by false representations.

The sale of the effects of the Duke of Buckingham, a bankrupt, at Stowe, commenced on Tuesday the 15th inst., and will extend over a period of thirty-seven days.—The total value is immense.

In the island of Sanday, Orkney, on the 7th instant, seventy-eight whales, commonly called bottlenoses, were driven ashore in the bay of Elsness, not far from the church of Lady parish, and every one of them secured.

The abolition of capital punishment has been voted by the National Assembly of Frankfort by a majority of 238 to 146.

A son of Abd-el Kader has died at Pau, and one of his wives is dangerously ill. The climate of France is not found to agree with the children of the desert.

All the revolutions in France since 1789 have taken place under Popes of the name of Pius.—Louis XVI. was dethroned under Pius VI.; the Directory was overturned under Pius VI.; Napoleon fell under Pius VII.; Charles X. under Pius VIII.; and Louis Philippe under Pius IX.

*The Weather and the Crops.*—The weather, though changeable, has, on the whole been unfavorable to the progress of the harvest since our last, some days having been exceedingly wet, and others rather fair and fine. It has been somewhat less unfavorable in other counties than in Lancashire, but it does not seem to have been good harvest weather any where. Fortunately it has been cool as well as wet, so that the grain is not likely to be injured by sprouting. There is a moderate quantity of grain cut in South Lancashire, but scarcely any carried. The potato disease is spreading rapidly, and is now so general as to render it difficult to find a field free from it. The number of decayed tubers varies greatly on different soils; it is the greatest on heavy soils, but is becoming very serious every where. Those who would persist in attempting to grow potatoes on stiff soils, in despite of all remonstrance, will be punished by the loss of the whole of their crops; whilst those who have grown them in light soil may fare considerably better, as they may save a portion of the crop, and obtain a high price for what they save. After the experience of the present year, even the most obstinate will cease to rely on this dangerous crop as a safe article of subsistence.—*Liverpool Times.*

CROPS IN IRELAND.—The accounts received in Dublin respecting the potato blight, especially from the western parts of Ireland, are most disastrous. The Dublin correspondent of the *Times*, writing on Tuesday, says,—"After just forty-eight hours of dry weather, the rain set in again last night, and this day it has fallen in one uninterrupted shower, accompanied by a cold, ungenial wind from the north east. The fact cannot be blinked that the potato crop is a failure to an enormous extent, and there is not the shadow of a doubt that there will be a fearful deficiency before the close of the year in the staple food of the Irish peasantry. What is to be the result of another season of famine Providence can alone foresee. From the accounts from all quarters, which arrived this day, there is scarcely one to afford any hope of mitigation of this additional calamity.—The Earl of Roden arrived in Dublin on Saturday from a tour in the counties of Tipperary, Limerick, Kerry, and Cork; and it is said his Lordship's report of the condition of the crops in this wide range of country is of the most distressing nature.

CROPS IN FRANCE.—The accounts received from all parts of the country give the most favorable accounts of the state of the harvest in France. In the south, the grain harvest is finished. In the middle and north it may be considered about two-thirds finished. The wheat is of an average quantity, and in quality is excellent. The heads are not so large as last year's, but the grain is plump, heavy, and well ripened. There is not the slightest appearance of the potato malady, which has created so much alarm in England and Ireland, to be found in any part of France. At the present moment the farmers suffer rather from the abundance of produce which they possess than the reverse. The price of corn, cattle, butter, poultry, and other farm produce, has never been known to be so low as at the present time in France.

## IRELAND.

Public attention still continues to be directed towards Ireland. Messrs. Meagher, O'Donahue and Leyne have been arrested, and the police and soldiers are engaged in a hot pursuit after Mr. O'Gorman and those of the confederates who are still at large. A number of arrests continue to be made in all parts of the country, and active proceedings are on foot to bring Mr. O'Brien to trial. The celebrated counsel, Mr. Whiteside, who distinguished himself so greatly in Mr. O'Connell's case, having been retained for his defence.

In the mean time an enemy of even a more appalling character than civil war, has again made its appearance in the form of the potato disease in Ireland; also in England and Scotland. All the indications of destruction which discovered themselves in the autumn of 1845, are now re-appearing, and a luxuriant field of this essential esculent, becomes in twenty-four hours a withered and blackened mass. From a variety of well authenticated quarters, we learn that the destruction is already most extensive, and the pestilential effluvia which salutes the passenger on the road side, indicates but too fatally the extent of the mischief under ground. We earnestly trust that the alarm which has been excited within these few days, may subside, and as the crops of potatoes are gathered in, that the results may turn out quite different to what is now anticipated. At this present moment the prospects in every quarter are dark and dismal, but we do not even now altogether despair.

We are assured that the repeal association will not be permitted to reassemble under any form: and it is generally believed that Mr. John O'Connell will retire from public life, and devote his attention exclusively to the National Bank, with which he is connected as a director. Mr. Hartnett, the leader of the insurgent band, who attacked the mail at Abbeypeake, has been arrested. Doheny and O'Gorman have still eluded the vigilance of the Police. Dillon is supposed to be secreted somewhere, severely wounded in the affray at Boulagh.

The declaration made last week by Lord John Russell respecting the legality of the Repeal Association, provided separation was not advocated, from which it was deduced that the government was making terms with the Repeal party, has been considerably qualified by a more formal statement by the Marquis of Lansdowne.

On Monday his Lordship, upon being urged by Lord Glengal, and other Peers, to put down the repeal association by a renewal of the clause of the bill of 1832, empowering the Lord Lieutenant to suppress any association deemed dangerous to the public peace, refused to sanction the clause upon the ground that the repeal association was not now in existence, and that it remained to be seen what means would be taken to revive it. His Lordship significantly added that the Government felt satisfied with the extraordinary powers already granted them, until after the opening of the *next* session, to suppress any illegal or seditious assembly. That power would be vigorously applied, and he hoped it would be effectual.

The Liverpool Mail says: we have heard, through an individual on whose means of obtaining accurate information, we can rely, that Messrs. O'Gorman, O'Donnell, and Doyle, have positively escaped and sailed for America. It is understood that the Crown prosecutors are determined to abandon the indictment for felony against Mr Gavin Duffy, in order prosecute him for high treason, in consequence of the discovery among the papers found in Mr. Smith O'Brien's portmanteau, of a letter from Mr. Duffey, on the subject of the insurrection.

ARREST OF MEAGHER, O'DONAHOE, MAURICE AND LEYNE.—These individuals were brought to Dublin on Sunday morning, arriving at half-past 9, from Thurles, at the terminus of the Cashel Railway, Kingsbridge. Their arrest took place under the following circumstances: About 3 o'clock on that morning a police patrol on the road to Thurles, and near Rath Cahill, 4 miles from that town, came up with a party of three persons, dressed in the usual garb of peasants. The police saluted them in passing, saying "Good night, boys," and were replied to in the usual terms. Having proceeded some twenty yards or so, it occurred to the police that these might be persons against whom an accusation rested, or at least capable of affording information. They therefore returned and overtook the party, who did not appear at all anxious to elude them. Having come up with them, the police sergeant closing on them, thought he knew the person of one, and said instantly, "You are Mr. Meagher." Mr. M. made no reply, either in assent or denial, and was instantly arrested as the Queen's prisoner. His companions were also taken into custody. The police, not more than six in number, proceeded in the direction of Thurles with the prisoners, and were re-inforced on the road—there was, however, little fear of any attempt at rescue, as there was not a soul astir. They reached Thurles about 4 o'clock, A. M. The party immediately proceeded to the quarters of Maj. Gen. McDonald, before whom the prisoners in custody were brought, when it appeared the companions of Mr. Meagher, were Mr. P. O'Donahoe, clerk to a Solicitor, and a most ardent and prominent member of the Confederation, and Mr. Leyne, American student.

Mr. Leyne has been always connected with Conciliation Hall, but joined the League when it was proposed that that organization should swallow up the other two. A person named Sexton, conducting clerk to an eminent solicitor, has been arrested in Dublin on a charge of treason. Richard Franks Ryan, an American, in whose possession papers were found appointing him a delegate for England, Ireland and Scotland, was also arrested.

A younger brother of Mr. John Martin, was on Monday lodged in Kilmainham jail, having been arrested on Sunday morning in Londonderry, charged with being engaged in treasonable practices. A Mr. Dillon, brother of a respectable coach maker, in Dublin, was lodged in Kilmainham jail, having been arrested in Derry shortly after the capture of Mr. Martin. Several arrests have taken place of American sympathisers. On Monday a Mr. Timothy Sexton, supposed to act in that capacity, was arrested in Dublin. Five sympathisers, 3 Americans and 2 Frenchmen, have been arrested at Belfast. A paper of that town says "we have not been able to learn the particulars, but we understand that a sum of money, amounting to £1750, was found on their persons, and that documents were discovered in their trunks and portmanteaus, sufficient to establish a charge of high treason against them all. "They were arrested in one of the Hotels, by the constabulary, and were immediately conveyed under a strong escort of Police, to Dublin. We have not learned the names of the parties."

The special train had scarcely passed the station at *Templemore, when Mr. J. F. Lalor* arrived there in custody of two metropolitan police and a strong escort of the constabulary. He was brought on a car from Nenagh Gaol, and sent on by the mail train to Dublin. His appearance is greatly altered for the worse, and looks very haggard and dejected. Mr. Lalor has been brought up for the purpose of being examined as a witness for the defence in the case of the Queen *v.* John Martin.

Mr. Meagher, it is stated, refused to comply with the most urgent entreaties to escape from the country when the means of escape were offered to him, and this because he had determined to share in whatever penalty awaited his friends.

The *Dublin Packet* of Saturday night publishes a letter from Mr. Meagher, and another from the Rev. J. Mackey, both denying the imputation cast on the rebel chiefs of making stipulations with the Government for their lives. Mr. Meagher says that "the statement has *bitterly, most bitterly*, cut him to the heart's core;" and Mr. Mackey says that "his communication did not propose any advantage special to the insurgents."

THE STATE TRIALS.—At the sitting of the Commission Court on Saturday last, the jury in the case of the Queen v. O'Doherty, were called to the box, and the Court inquired if they had agreed to a verdict. The foreman said there was not the slightest chance of their agreeing. Baron Pennefather then intimated to the jury that they were discharged. In the cases of prosecution against S. D. Reilly and J. F. Fitzpatrick, the traversers, the Chief Baron ordered the sureties to be estrated, and Bench warrants to issue.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday was occupied with the trial of Mr. Martin, proprietor of the *Felon*. He was found guilty, but was recommended to mercy.

On Thursday morning, at ten o'clock, their Lordships took their seats on the bench, when Mr. R. O'Doherty was put into the dock, to stand his trial for felony, under the new act.

The Clerk of the Crown proceeded to call over the panel from which the jury to try Mr. O'Doherty was to be taken. Mr. Butt challenged the array, on the ground that it had not been well, equally, and impartially selected by the sheriff. The Crown joined issue and persons were appointed, who subsequently found that the array was fair and impartial. The jury were at length sworn, when the trial proceeded.

A rumor reached us late last night, that Mr. Martin, who had been found guilty of sedition, was sentenced yesterday to transportation for life. Our despatches via Holyhead, have however not arrived to confirm or contradict this statement, and we can therefore only give it as we received it.—Andrew McDavid and Hugh McMenamin, suppposed to be American sympathisers, have been arrested.

The Roman Catholic clergy of Tuam have got up a memorial to the Queen on behalf of the state prisoners, praying that the prerogative of mercy should be exercised in favour of the persons who recently took up arms against the Crown. The following is an extract:

"We have witnessed with pain the proceedings of a few inexperienced young men for some months past. We disagreed with them on principle, we denounced them as the enemies of order, religion, and country. Yet we now feel commiseration for their folly as intensely as we felt indignant when we beheld them carried away by the impetuosity of their ardent but erroneous aspiration for liberty.

"We then confidently hope that your most gracious Majesty will be pleased to take into your merciful consideration the unfortunate situation of Mr. Smith O'Brien and *the other unreflecting persons* who have so foolishly embarked in the late lamentable outbreak, thereby proving to the world their utter insanity."

The last news from the south of Ireland reports every thing tranquil, and all add that the people had mostly returned to their ordinary occupation in the fields.

The Cork papers announce that it is the intention of Mr. John O'Connell to take up his permanent residence in London, for the more efficient discharge of his duties as a director of the National Bank. The hon. gentleman, it is stated, means to retire from politics.

FRANCE.—General Cavaignac, and M. Bastide, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, presented themselves on Friday to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. They were first requested to explain the object of the mediation of France and England between Austria and King Charles Albert. General Cavaignac replied, that it was necessary for the interest of France and of Italy that this negociation should remain secret. He consequently refused to enter into any other explanation on that subject. He was then asked whether the mediation was in conformity with the wishes already expressed by the National Assembly in favour of the emancipation of Italy? To which he replied, that the will of the Assembly would ever be the rule of his conduct; but he repeated his resolution not to give any other answer, adding that the committee might be assured that he would ever act for the interest of France and for her honour and dignity. He was, in conclusion, asked whether, in case the mediation produced no result, he proposed to declare war? General Cavaignac replied, that he firmly expected to be able to maintain peace, in concert with Great Britain, and that he would not declare war except at the last extremity. This declaration elicited the approbation of the committee.

The committee on the constitution has at length completed the project amended in consequence of the suggestions of the bureaux. It would, seem that the committee adheres to the much-disputed clause, which declares that every one has a right to demand employment from the state, a right expressed by the words, "Le droit du travail."

A report was prevalent on Monday that General Cavaignac, oppressed with the weight of his public duties, had resolved to resign at the end of the present month.

The state of siege still continues in Paris, about 1700 more persons have been found guilty of having part in the insurrection, and 2000 have been set at liberty. Two new frigates, the Belle Poule, and the Uranie, have been ordered to be fitted up at Brest, for the reception of the Insurgent prisoners.

The greatest anxiety continues to prevail respecting the disclosures which the printed evidence of the late insurrection is expected to unfold. The delivery of the papers to the members is expected hourly. No portion has been suppressed, and the debate on the question will take place on Monday next. It will probably lead to great excitement, but the arrangements of General Cavaignac will prevent violence and bloodshed.

The latest news from Paris describes an unsettled state of things, owing to the doubt which exists, even up to the last moment, whether the evidence respecting the insurrection shall be published. A difference of opinion seems to prevail in the French Cabinet on the subject. The non-intervention policy of Gen. Cavaignac is expected to create for him a vast number of enemies; but it is to be hoped that the cause of good sense and order will triumph.—Numerous arrests continue to take place. At Lyons there has been a serious riot, but it does not seem to have been of a political character.

On Wednesday, Lamartine delivered an energetic speech in the Committee of Foreign Affairs, in favor of an armed intervention in Italian affairs, by France, as the only way by which she can observe the solemn engagement which Lamartine made in the name of the country, and with its evident approbation. If it should succeed, an European war becomes inevitable, as most assuredly Austria, flushed with victory and backed by the German Confederation, will never yield to French violence alone.

The wise pacific counsels of England and France united may bring about a far different result, and our only hope is in the firmness of Gen. Cavaignac. The moment is in the highest degree critical.

CONTINENTAL.—Continental news is still of deep importance. All the preliminaries for an active renewal of the war in the Duchies have taken place; but with the exception of a slight skirmish with the Prussian outposts near Hadersleber, in which six Prussians were killed, no further hostilities have taken place. The blockade would recommence on the 15th, and we wait the next accounts with great anxiety. The combined troops on the frontier already amount to 12,000 men, and these will speedily be joined by 10,000 more in reserve. "General Wrangel was expected to cross the frontier on the 14th inst. However, before that date, the loud expression of opinion by France and England will have reached Frankfort, and we have now some hopes that the Germans who have embarked in this quarrel will seriously reflect before they pass the Rubicon, as assuredly the combined forces of France, England, and Russia, with the secret support of Prussia, will undoubtedly be employed in putting an end to this most unprovoked war.

Some trifling disturbances have taken place at Hamburg. No fresh outbreaks have occurred at Berlin. Hanover seems to be on better terms with the Central Executive at Frankfort than heretofore. The parliament in that city is still engaged in the discussion of what States shall or shall not be included in or detached from the Germanic Confederation.

Cologne is the scene of the great commemoration of their Cathedral. The people of Vienna seem fully sensible that the victories of Radetsky must either lead to a general pacification or an immediate general war.

The Russians having retired within their own territories, leaves the Danubian principalities without fear, and the Hungarian Croation question is expected to be amicably adjusted. The return of the Emperor from Innspruch to Vienna is announced as likely to take place immediately.

The news from Italy of last week will have prepared our readers for the final evacuation by Charles Albert of the whole of Lombardy. Having retired within the City of Milan, he found his position wholly untenable; accordingly, he was compelled to capitulate, but was permitted to withdraw his troops across the Ticino. The populace considering themselves betrayed, opposed his withdrawal from the city, and he only contrived to make his exit amid the execrations of the mob, after having fired blank cartridges over their heads in order to intimidate them.

We learn from authentic sources that while Radetsky commands Northern Italy, from Milan, Gen. Wrangel has crossed the Po, and has penetrated into Romayna. He issued a proclamation declaring that he would destroy any town which offered the least resistance to his troops as he had destroyed Sermida, and he advanced without opposition as far as Bologna. Considerable slaughter ensued, and the Austrians were beaten out of the town as far as Montagnola.

From this spot the Austrians bombarded the town, which was set fire to, but the people again attacked the Austrians and took Montagnola by assault. The violation of the territories of the Pope by Gen. Wrangel is under the plea of releasing the Pope from political tiraldom. Ravenna is already occupied by the Austrians, and we cannot suppose that the brave Bolognese will be able long to resist the superior forces brought against them.

Charles Albert having retired to Novara, was by the last accounts at Alessandria. Milan was held by Radetsky, who has appointed Prince Felix Schwartzenberg, governor.

At Naples, the meditated expedition against Sicily, is still suspended until the return of the Neapolitan embassy from London and Paris. England is doing all in her power to prevent Sicily from falling again into the hands of the King of Naples; but whether the English Admiral will prevent the Neapolitan fleet from sailing by force of arms, is still doubtful.

From Spain and Portugal we have no news deserving especial mention. The Cabrera movement seems to be put down.

THE ALLIANCE OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE.—The *Paris Journal des Debats* of the 13th August, has the following leading article on the intervention of France and England in the affairs of Italy:—"At the moment when, at several opposite points of the continent of Europe, questions of international policy appear to be complicated by fresh difficulties, and to enter into unexpected crises, we are happy to find the Governments which exercise the larger share of influence simultaneously protesting their firm intention to maintain peace. Yesterday we found England, through the organ of her Prime Minister, expressing her lively desire to remain on good terms with France, and to solve, in conjunction with her, the difficulties which might compromise the repose of Europe. To-day the *Moniteur* publishes an article which fully confirms the language attributed to the head of the Executive power. The country will favourably receive the assurances given it by the official organ of the Government. Never has there been so imperious a necessity for peace; never has the sense of that necessity been more widely diffused throughout Europe: and the solution of the internal problems which have been raised in almost all countries requires the exclusive devotion of all the energies and resources of each. The first minister of England declared in Parliament that England had recognized the Government of the Republic, that formality having been already anticipated by a community of mediation in the affairs of Italy. But it is not only in Italy that the friendly mediation of the two Governments has been exercised; it is at this moment contributing to re-establish peace in the north as well as in the south of Europe. We are much mistaken if the serious question of Schleswig-Holstein has not just been amicably solved; and we are assured that the last communication of the Minister of Foreign affairs of the Republic with the National Assembly of Frankfort have not a little served to hasten that conclusion. The union of the two principal Powers of the West of Europe most naturally exercise an important influence on the dispositions of the rest of Europe. We are not, therefore, surprised to hear that the Republic, as the official journal declares, is on the best terms with the very Government which its name alone was calculated to inspire with prejudices. The English Minister is more explicit, for he tells us that Russia, no less than England and France, is firmly desirous of the maintenance of peace. We deeply regret that, generally speaking, the language of the English press for some days past has ceased to be as liberal as that of the English Government. In the estimation of these writers, mediation in the affairs of Italy would appear to have become far less opportune since the re-conquest of Lombardy by the Austrian troops. This change of fortune may certainly have conferred on the Austrian Government a right to hold out more obstinately than before, and to refuse now the conditions which it offered of its own accord a few months ago. But we hope that the Government of Vienna will have retained sufficient prudence and *clairvoyance* to forbear from a manifestation of the obstinacy thus imputed to it beforehand. The commander of the victorious army has already belied the apprehension expressed with respect to his conduct by consenting to the armistice demanded by the Ministers of France and England. Why should this first success of the mediations be also the last? We have more confidence than the English journals appear to repose in the prudence of the Austrian Government, and we are persuaded that the great powers which are desirous of peace wish to obtain it on the terms which can alone render it substantial and permanent.

DISTRESSING CASUALTY.—We regret to state that Capt. George Briggs, of the ship *Ann Dashwood*, of this port, met with a serious accident last night, by falling from the deck into the ship's hold. It appears that the after hatchway was incautiously left uncovered, and about half-past ten o'clock Capt. B., in walking across the deck from the cabin door, where he had been talking with one of his officers, with the intention of going on the wharf, was tripped by a rope across the hatchway, and fell to the bottom of the hold upon his head. He was taken up insensible, in which state he has since remained, and, we are sorry to say, that the injury done to his head is so serious that but little hope is entertained of his recovery.

Captain Briggs is the eldest surviving son of Mr. James Briggs, of Portland—whose late melancholy bereavements are fresh in public recollection. He was a young man of much promise, having returned last week from his first voyage as Master of one of his father's vessels. We, in common with their numerous acquaintances, sincerely sympathise with the afflicted family in their repeated trying visitations.—[Courier.

We regret to state that Captain Briggs expired on Sunday morning, deeply lamented by his family and friends, and the community at large. His remains were interred this afternoon, followed to the grave by the Sons of Temperance and a great concourse of other citizens.

At the annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Mechanics' Whale Fishing Company, held yesterday at the St. John Hotel, the following gentlemen were re-elected Directors for the ensuing year:—Messrs. Thomas Nisbet, John Duncan, John Wishart, James Kirk, D. J. M'Laughlin, William Lawton, and J. W. M. Irish.

An Address, "which (says the Gleaner) bore the signature of every mercantile firm on the river, as well as that of almost every individual of standing in the community," was, on the 23d ult. presented to John Wright, Esq., late Collector of Her Majesty's Customs at Miramichi, expressive of regret at his retirement from office, after a service of upwards of thirty years as chief officer of Customs at that port, and wishing himself and family prosperity and happiness through life,—to which Mr. Wright made a suitable reply.

A recent heavy freshet on the Stewiacke River, N. S., destroyed a large amount of valuable property. A new grist mill, carding mill, and stone dam, belonging to D. & A. Fisher, were swept away; a grist mill belonging to Mr. Wm. Newcombe, was also destroyed; the crops were injured, bridges swept away, &c.

At Musquodoboit the grain and potatoes on the low lands were swept from whole fields by the heavy rains about a fortnight ago; and houses and mills were carried away or greatly injured.—At Kempt, near Yarmouth, also, much damage has been done to the hay and other crops by the freshet.

The Light House on the Cape at Yarmouth, N. S., was struck with great force by lightning during a thunder storm on Sunday the 20th ult. One of the huge corner posts was split, one of the knees shattered almost to splinters, four of the studs were knocked out of place and destroyed, every pane of glass was broken in three of the windows, boards and shingles were removed, &c.

The last Halifax Royal Gazette announces Her Majesty's assent to the Judges' Tenure Bill, passed by the Nova Scotia Legislature at their last session.

Arrivals at American ports from Jamaica, furnish rumors of an insurrection having broken out among the blacks in that island, and that from 400 to 500 of them had been slain by the whites. The report was not credited.

The population of Prince Edward Island, by a late census, is ascertained to amount to nearly 60,000. Charlotte-Town and Royalty contain 4,500 inhabitants.

The net proceeds of the Horticultural Bazaar, recently held at Halifax, amounted to £246 17s. 10d. The managers passed a vote of thanks to the Ladies for their valuable assistance on the occasion.

Hunt's (N. York) Merchants' Magazine says that about one-half the fresh Salmon sold in the American markets are brought from St. John.

Mr. Barnum, of the New York Museum, has produced to the public a dwarf three years older, three inches less, and by many degrees more sprightly, than Tom Thumb.—He is called "Major *Little-Finger*."

INGENIOUS FRAUD.—An ingenious mode of defrauding the Revenue was detected on board the steamer *Senator* yesterday, by the Officers of the Provincial Revenue. Two tierces apparently filled with onions, and three barrels with beans, and three with flour, were opened, and inside of each was found a cask containing American rum, which fitted so tightly as to afford only room for a small quantity of the articles mentioned. The fraud was most skilfully planned, and aptly illustrates the tricks of old smugglers.—*New Bruns.*

We are informed that the Stebon-Heath, Troop Ship, among her other passengers, brought out 28 pensioners from Malta and other places, who are to settle in the Sister Provinces, and that others, loyal men and true, will from time to time be settled in the British Colonies. The 28 men referred to left on Thursday morning for New Brunswick, and are the first instalment.—*Halifax Colonist.*

We are sorry to say that one short week has made woful havoc among the potato fields in this vicinity. Vines which a few days ago were in a healthy state, are now withered down; and most of the potatoes brought to market are diseased.—*Fredericton Reporter.*

On Saturday last, the 29th anniversary of Prince Albert's birth, was celebrated here with the usual Military honours.—After the usual salute from the Royal Artillery, the 1st Royal Regiment, under the command of Colonel Brown, paraded on the Square in front of the Officers' Quarters, and performed a number of the most beautiful, and we thought complicated evolutions. In these performances, the whole Regiment seemed as if actuated by the spirit of one man; thus affording us another strong example of the extreme point at which Military discipline has arrived in the British Army.—*Ib.*

LORD ELGIN.—The rumor is still kept up in the Montreal papers, that the Earl of Elgin has tendered his resignation as Governor General. The retirement of His Excellency would be regretted by men of all parties in Canada, particularly if the reason assigned be the true one, the continued illness of his amiable lady.—*Quebec Gazette.*

We are happy to learn that Her Excellency the Countess of Elgin and Kincardine has returned to Monklands in much improved health. We take this opportunity of stating that there is not the slightest foundation for the silly rumours circulated by some of our contemporaries regarding the probable retirement of His Excellency the Governor General from the government of this country.—*Montreal Pilot.*

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—The Governor General shows a laudable anxiety to contribute to the advancement of education in Canada. Last year his Excellency presided with much ability at the Annual Exhibition of the High School. This season he attended to the College at St. Hyacinthe, and took much interest in the examination of the students there. Prizes—the gift of the Governor General—are, we believe, next season to be given to the most successful pupils, both in the High School and in the College.—*Montreal Pilot.*

A heavy blow to the commercial prosperity of Montreal is likely to be inflicted, we are sorry to say, by allowing goods to proceed to Upper Canada without being warehoused and paying the duties in the metropolis; so that the importers will no longer be under the necessity of employing agents, commissioners, &c., there. But such things must be submitted to for the general good.—*Quebec Gaz.*

THE CROPS IN CANADA.—The progress of the crops during the last fortnight has been almost marvellous. The accounts from the various parts of the surrounding country, agree in stating that the farmers are pushed very hard to find labor and time to get them in, as they are ripening so much together. About ten days ago a report was current that the spring wheat was threatened with rust, but we have not yet heard it confirmed.—*Toronto Patriot.*

TEMPERANCE IN CANADA.—The progress of the Temperance cause among the French population is most astonishing. In the County of Berthier, 12,000 persons were recently added to the Total Abstinence Society by the exertions of Father Chinquy, and in Sorel 4,300. This society is now stated to number not less than 100,000 adherents among the French Canadians.

THE MORALS OF THE CITY.—Intemperance, licentiousness, poverty, and crime, seem to be rapidly on the increase amongst our population. Every stranger visiting the city is struck with the number of inebriates and beggars wandering about our streets in the day, and the hordes of abandoned women prowling about them by night—while the daily scenes at the police office give fearful indication of the crime and wretchedness which prevail. There can be no doubt that a large proportion of all this vice and misery is the direct fruit of the immense number of taverns and grog-shops which are either sanctioned by law, or permitted by our authorities to demoralize the community, and to provide victims for our prisons, hospitals, and lunatic asylums. The recent murder of O'Brien and another victim, are but isolated instances in the vast catalogue of crime and misery which intemperance is entailing upon the city from year to year.—*Toronto Examiner.*

DESERTION.—We have heard with regret, that six of the bandsmen of the Rifle Brigade deserted on Wednesday night last, taking with them their instruments. The names of four of them have been handed to us—Wright, Trueman, Blake and Phelan.—*Toronto Patriot.*

IRISH ARRESTS IN QUEBEC.—Some stir was excited yesterday among the Irish population of this city by the arrest, at an early hour of the morning, of three persons who have taken a prominent part in the support of Repeal doctrines among their fellow-citizens. The three, John Giblin, John Hearn (the secretary of a Quebec Emmett Rifle Club) and John Feore, were arrested by the police shortly after midnight, for shouting and being disorderly, and in their possession were found five 12-pound cannon balls, said to have been taken from in front of the now vacant officers' guard room near the old chateau. Six shot are missing from that spot.

They yesterday underwent a private examination before W. K. McCord, Police Magistrate, and were committed to stand their trial for larceny, at the next Criminal Term, in February.

They were not liberated on bail, but we understand that an application for their release, on *habeas corpus*, will be made to-morrow morning. In the meantime they remain in confinement.—*Quebec Mercury, 25th.*

DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION.—About two o'clock yesterday afternoon, the works of the New York Gas-Light Company, at the corner of Centre and Hester streets, were accidentally set on fire, and the principal portion of them entirely consumed.

Some workmen were engaged in repairing a gas-ometer, and, having occasion to use light to assist them in their operations, one of them carelessly let a candle fall upon the tar with which the meter was coated. The flame instantly ignited the tar, and in a moment the dense cloud of black smoke which rolled upward showed that the fire had spread with fearful rapidity. Before assistance could arrive, the works were enveloped in flames, and the adjoining edifice, used by the company as a gas fitting establishment, offices, &c., was threatened with destruction.

The firemen speedily arrived, and their efforts were mainly directed so as to prevent the flames from spreading, and they succeeded so well that, by extraordinary exertions, the surrounding buildings were, with one exception, saved.

The fire presented a grand spectacle, which drew many thousands together, Canal street and all the avenues leading to the scene being blocked up with people. The heat was so intense that two large gasometers in the building were alm