

IRELAND.

DUBLIN, APRIL 25.

DREADFULLY DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

This morning, about four o'clock, one of the most appalling and ruinous fires that has occurred in any city in Ireland for many years, took place in the Royal Arcade Bazaar, which extends from Suffolk-street along the rear of the Grafton-street houses into College-green, directly opposite to the cash-office door of the Bank of Ireland.—The awful element was first discovered committing its ravages on the Suffolk-street end, nearly opposite to the grave-yard of St. Andrew's Church, and laid that side of the often thronged thoroughfare speedily in ruins. At five o'clock, hopes were entertained that the ravages of the fire would be subdued, for the rain promised its beneficial aid; it did not descend, however, beyond a slight shower. The wild alarm spread with the flames, and the consternation of the whole of the thickly-peopled vicinity, became general. The apprehension of those assembled at that lonely hour for the safety of the adjoining houses, proved but too well founded; more were doomed to perish than was dreaded on the first alarm. There was no water to be had for a long time, therefore the entire of the Arcade was destroyed, in a space of time almost incredible. The Royal Hotel, the Bank, the Eagle Insurance office, and even the Bank of Boyle, Low, Pim, and Co., soon felt the influence of the destroyer. As usual, the engines were for a long while found unavailing, the hose being too short, and the power limited. The want of water was severely felt. Several inmates of the hotel would have perished miserably had they not been relieved by ladders from the Bank of Ireland. One gentleman from Clonmel, who occupied an upper chamber, observing the advance of the fire, tied bed sheets together and descended in safety. Mr Spring Thorpe, who occupied the exhibition room, has lost £500 in cash, and a vast number of public characters.—Fieschi again suffered execution. He could not save Leopold, King of Belgium, nor Earl Grey, any more than Lord Brougham. The Bishop of London and Canterbury perished in company with Lord Nelson and Shaw, the life-guard's man, Henry VIII., Lord Byron, Sir Walter Scott, and Cicero. The Siamese youths, and Julius Caesar, Paul Jones and Daniel O'Connell shared the same melting fate; and as if to display the mixture of the awfully sublime with the ridiculous and grotesque, a board remained in front unscathed, and still containing these original words, "Curious exhibition of wax-work." Boyle's bank is insured for £2,500 Mr Williams, who was the proprietor of a billiard table, had renewed his insurance for £4,000 yesterday. In Suffolk-street, Westbrooke's book establishment, Peeverill's, the florists, Young's cheap publication office, and Swaine and Walpole's drapery establishment have suffered dreadfully. Two children who had slept in the hotel, with two others are at present missing. In the ample area before the college, a vast deal of property has been preserved; but much has been also lost. It is conjectured that £60,000 worth of property has been destroyed in the 30 arcade and the other shops and ware rooms.

Five o'Clock.

The flames have been stopped, but the houses near those which have been burned are still played on. The arcade was the property of Mr Thompson, of the Treasury.—The melancholy occurrence is said to have originated in a small toy manufactory in the arcade, and to have communicated with some gas pipes running under the long promenade and giving lights to each shop. The appearance of the scene of destruction is strikingly like that of the street in Limerick, where the late awful gunpowder explosion proved so destructive.

ADMIRALTY COURT.

(Before Sir John Nicholl.)

THE EXPERIMENT SALVAGE.

This was an appeal from the decision of the magistrates of Scilly, in a cause of salvage. The Experiment, of Newfoundland, with a cargo of oil, bound to Poole, shipped a heavy sea on the 12th of October last, which filled the cabin, and drowned the captain and three men, the others on board saving themselves by running up the rigging. On the following morning a number of boats went off the Scilly Island, and brought the vessel into a place of safety. The case was heard before the magistrates, and awarded £800 to the salvors for their services, from which decision an appeal was promoted.

Sir J. Nicholl, without hearing the case, said the Court was not disposed to interfere with the decision of magistrates, where the facts were thoroughly examined. In this case, for all the facts stated, he thought the magistrates had not given too much, and he should pronounce in favour of the award, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent from the period it was made.

PROGRESSIVE RISE OF THE BOTTOM OF THE MEDITERRANEAN.

M. Theodore Viret lately addressed a

note to the French Academy of Sciences, in which he directed the attention of geologists to the probability of the speedy appearance of a new island in the Grecian Archipelago, in consequence of the progressive rise of a sunken solid rock (composed of trachytic obsidian?) in the gulf of the volcano of Santorin. The following are the author's observations on the subject:—

"Towards the end of the last century, at the period Olivier visited Santorin, the fishermen of that island asserted that the bottom of the sea had recently risen between the island of Little Kaimeni and the port of Thera; in fact, the soundings did not give a greater depth than fifteen to twenty fathoms, where formerly the bottom could not be reached. When Colonel Bory and the author visited this island in 1829, they were able not only to confirm the truth of Olivier's statement, but also to ascertain, by various soundings, that the rise of the submarine land had continued, and that at the point indicated the depth was not more than four fathoms and a half. In 1830 the same observers made new soundings, which enabled them to determine the form and extent of the mass of rock, which in less than a year had been elevated half a fathom. It was found to extend 800 metres from east to west, and 500 from north to south. The submarine surface augmented to the north and to the west, from four to twenty-nine fathoms, while to the east and south this augmentation amounted to forty-five fathoms. Beyond this limit the soundings indicated in all directions a very great depth. I have lately been informed that Admiral Lalande, who, since 1830, has twice returned to Santorin, ascertained that the rock still continues to rise, and that, in September 1835, the date of the last visit, the depth of water amounted to only two fathoms, so that a sunken reef now exists which is dangerous for brigs to approach. If the rock continues to rise at the same rate, it may be calculated that in 1840, it may form a new island, without, however, those catastrophes which this phenomena seems to presage for the gulf of Santorin, being a necessary consequence of the epoch of its appearance to the surface of the water. Since the eruptions of 1707 and 1712, which produced the new Kaimeni, the volcano seems at the present date quite extinct. Nevertheless, the rise of a portion of its surface seems to demonstrate continual effort to make an eruption during fifty years; and that whenever the resistance shall not be strong enough to offer a sufficient obstacle, the volcano will again resume its activity."—Edin. New Philosophical Journal.

**HORRIBLE MURDERS.**—Two horrible murder cases are coming on for trial at Trichinopoly; the one is that of a Pariah woman, who with the help of her paramour, murdered her husband, cut off his head, and disembowelled the body, sewed up the head in the place of the entrails. The other, that of a Bramin woman, who was surprised by her son, a boy about ten years of age, with a gallant; the boy threatened to tell his father, and she threatened to murder him if he did; the boy returned to school in the Fort, and told the schoolmaster what had passed; an hour or two after he was sent for home before the usual time—the father of the lad, on his return, wonders that his son has not come home; the mother pretends to wonder likewise, when, perceiving some drops of blood fall from a basket affixed to the ceiling, the father takes it down and finds in it the poor child with its throat cut; whilst he is contemplating the piteous sight in the extremity of misery, the wretched woman, rushing out into the street, exclaims that the father is murdering his child!—the man was seized, but fortunately the schoolmaster cleared up the truth of the matter, and the mother, it is said, has made a confession of her guilt.—Madras Examiner.

(From the Conservative, April 12.)

EXTRAORDINARY AND FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE MANCHESTER THEATRE.

During the performance at the Queen's Theatre last night, (Wednesday) a singular accident occurred, which has unhappily been attended with loss of life. The second piece represented was announced in the bills as "The intensely interesting drama of *Lilian, the show Girl*," in which Mr Egerton, in the character of *Everard*, has to fire at some robbers in a scene in which they incidentally appear on the stage. The performer in question presented the pistol accordingly, and pulled the trigger, but the weapon (unfortunately, as the result will show) missed fire. It is customary, it seems, for the "property man" to be stationed at one of the wings when fire arms are discharged, in order that, in case of such a failure as the one just described, he may be ready to fire a piece to keep up the illusion of the scene, which would otherwise be destroyed, as it would of course be ridiculous for an actor to assume the appearance of one who received mortal injury from a bullet when no discharge has taken place. In conformity with this practice, when Mr Egerton's pistol missed fire, a person named Finlayson, the property man of the theatre, immediately

discharged a pistol from the wing nearest the right hand stage door, and, as a usual precaution, he elevated the weapon, so as to run no risk of striking any one on the stage with the wadding. The care taken by the poor fellow, however, with a view to prevent accident, was productive of the most disastrous consequences; a performer, named Campbell, who personated *Mr Felton* in the piece, was at the moment preparing to descend from a scaffolding to the stage, as from an upper apartment, but at a distance of ten or twelve yards from the person who fired, when he received the contents of the pistol, whatever they were, in his left side, and fell to rise no more with life. He groaned feebly for a few minutes; and before a surgeon, who happened to be in the boxes of the theatre, could arrive on the spot, he had ceased to exist. On opening his vest, a frightful wound of considerable depth, and in which three fingers could easily be introduced, was discovered, just in the direction of the heart. The body was carried into the green-room, and laid upon the floor, where it remained decently covered, when it was removed to the Concert Tavern, next door. But little blood, considering the apparent nature of the wound flowed from the body; but the shirt and dress of the deceased were sufficiently saturated with that stream of life, to denote all the horror which sudden and violent death is calculated to produce. The fancy dress in which he was attired—the rough yet fresh upon his cheeks and forehead—were in sad contrast with the tide which was slowly swelling from the heart, and the livid hue—the livery of death which overspread his features, blanched his hands, and invested the limbs with a fearfully cold rigidity.—The wife of the unfortunate man is an actress, and was in the theatre at the time, preparing for the part she had to sustain in the next piece. She soon heard of the accident; but a knowledge of its fatal effect was kept from her until some time after she had been conveyed home in a coach. Of course the fulfilment of her duties in the next piece was out of the question, and she was removed in a state of distress bordering upon distraction on being assured that her husband had been taken to the Manchester Infirmary for surgical assistance. Mr and Mrs Campbell only joined the company on the previous Monday, when the theatre opened for the season under the management of Mr Henry Beverley. Mr Campbell had very recently recovered from a long and serious illness and has left three young children, besides his widow, to lament his loss. The unhappy man who loaded and fired the fatal pistol, was taken into custody to await the coroner's inquest. His distress is also pitiable in the extreme. The deceased was a young man of remarkably mild and gentlemanly manners; and he and the wretched man who deprived him of life were intimate friends. Finlayson says that in the hurry of loading the pistol which he fired, he recollects picking up a piece of wet paper and using it for wadding. Whether that would be sufficient to inflict such a wound at such a distance, or that he had inadvertently introduced some more dangerous substance, will be shown on examination of the body. Mr Beverley has very liberally declared that he will not only pay the expenses of the funeral, but continue the salary of the deceased, for the benefit of the deceased, for the benefit of his widow, until the end of his engagement. As the immediate actors in this truly tragic scene were neither of them in sight of the audience, it was known to few, and Mr Beverley was very properly advised not to shock the feelings of those who were ignorant of the melancholy affair, by unnecessarily announcing its occurrence.

**DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT THE MECHANIC'S INSTITUTION IN LIVERPOOL.**—We regret to state that a destructive fire broke on Thursday evening in this splendid building, which was to be opened on Thursday next, with an address by Thomas Wyse, Esq., M.P., on the advantages which must result to the town from the plan of education to be adopted in its schools. Mr Whitty was soon on the spot with several engines, but such was the degree of violence which the flames had attained, that for some time very little impression was made upon them; indeed the interior presented the appearance of a vast furnace. The two principal engines were well supplied with water, and by their instrumentality a great part of the roof was preserved from destruction. The two other engines had to be brought from a considerable distance, and was very insufficient in quantity. By half-past two, the fire had considerably subsided till seven in the morning. The theatre and the whole of its roof are completely destroyed. The south entrance is also destroyed, but the houses of the keepers on each side are uninjured.—Part of the roof on the west of the building is also destroyed; but the whole of the exterior of the building including the beautiful portico, is quite uninjured; a circumstance which shows the care with which the operations of the firemen were directed. In the vestibule of the four statues; one of these representing the Goddess of War, is supposed to be about 2,000 years old, having been found in the ruins of Pompeii. It was

saved principally by the exertions of Inspectors Kerr and Cochrane. The statue after the Mendicean Venus and another statue were also saved, and the fourth escaped with the loss of its nose. The damage is estimated at £2,000, and the building in the Liverpool Fire-office to the amount of £6,000. By this calamity, the intended opening of the building is, of course, indefinitely postponed. The origin of the fire is as yet unknown, and various conjectures are afloat on the subject.

HALIFAX, N. S.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S ANSWER TO THE ADDRESS OF H. M. COUNCIL. Mr President, and Gentlemen of His Majesty's Council.

I receive this address with peculiar satisfaction, and can with truth assure you, since I have administered the Government of this Province, that both in your Executive and Legislative capacities I have had every reason to be satisfied with your conduct, and I should consider myself unworthy of the trust which His Majesty has been pleased to confer upon me, if I did not make this honest and candid avowal, and bear testimony to your unremitting anxiety to promote the public good and welfare of your native land. Feeling this, I shall have great pleasure in forwarding to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the observations which accompany your address, with a request that they may be laid at the foot of the Throne, at the same time with the address of the House of Assembly.—Halifax Journal, May 8.

(From the Chicago Advertiser.)

BOSTON, MAY 1.

We learn from a gentleman, James Kinzie, Esq., of this city, who has just ascended the Illinois river, that a most melancholy occurrence took place on Saturday, the 18th ult., at about five miles from its mouth where, through the obstinacy of the captains of two steamboats, one of their boats was sunk, and the lives of all the deck passengers, amounting to more than twenty, lost, and the freight and baggage entirely destroyed.

The Captain of the Wisconsin, which was then ascending the river, had repeatedly stated that if he should meet the Tiskilwa, and her captain would not give him a clear channel he should run her down. This, it seemed provoked the captain of the other boat, and he became as obstinately determined not to turn out of his course. Both boats met at about five o'clock in the morning, at a time when all the passengers were in bed, and steered directly for each other until within a few rods, when the captain of the Tiskilwa endeavoured, but too late to avoid the concussion, and turning out of her course, gave a fair broadside to the ascending boat which took her just behind the heel, and she sunk in less than three minutes after she was struck. The first notice of their extreme danger, which the cabin passengers received, was the screams of those below, who were drowning, and without even time to get on their clothes, they merely escaped by jumping thro' the windows of the cabin, which fortunately for them, had been completely separated from the sinking boat by the shock.

Mr and Mrs Garret, and Mr and Mrs Pomeroy, of this city, were among the cabin passengers and were saved.

The captain of the Wisconsin is stated to have acted, even to the ladies, in the most brutal manner, having put them ashore barefooted, at more than a mile and a half from any habitation, and with nothing but their night clothes on. Report says, that the men were even worse treated, as he endeavoured to prevent their getting on board the Wisconsin at all.

A large sum of money belonging to one of the ladies named had been recovered subsequently from the ladies' cabin, and one gentleman was fortunate enough to find his coat floating on the river, with his money, amounting to about four thousand dollars in his pocket.

**DEPLORABLE STATE OF THE ISLAND OF LISMORE.**—Fever and other maladies follow in the train of the want of the necessaries of life; and so prevalent and fatal has fever been in Lismore, that the light-keeper writes that the doctor can only give medicines without attendance, and that the affected houses are shunned by the nearest relatives of the inmates. A distressing case occurred where the father and mother of four children died, when the minister of the parish got a woman to take charge of the orphans. The poor woman died, and no person could be found to enter the house, though the brother of the deceased offered a premium to any one who would put the body into a coffin. At length a fatuous person went into the house and performed the task.—Edinburg Courier.

**THE LATE PRESIDENT JACKSON.**—The President has directed Dr. Lawson, surgeon-general of the United States army, to accompany General Jackson as far as Wheeling, and if the state of his health should require it, the whole distance.