

THE OBSERVER.

St. John, Tuesday, November 25, 1815.

ENGLISH MAIL.

The steam-ship Britannia, with the first November Mail, arrived at Halifax on Tuesday evening last.

That reflects in the tide of Railway speculation, which all the reflecting portion of the community perceived to be approaching, and which the course of events had for some time foreshadowed.

The deficiency of the Harvest is now admitted by all parties, and the universal impression seems to be, that the portion of the United Kingdom most to be immediately affected is the Colonies.

The failure of the Potatoe crop, to the extent of one third, throughout Ireland, has excited serious apprehensions of a famine in that part of the Empire, and the Government has in consequence appointed Commissioners to inquire into the state of the existing distress; and to investigate the nature of the disease which the potatoe is affected.

Under the united influence of the depressing causes to which each of these trades, in the manufacturing districts, has with the exception of Iron, been sensibly affected, though not perhaps to so great an extent as might have been expected.

Two overland mails from India had been received. The Punjab still continued in an unsettled state. The Government had proceeded in that direction with a formidable army, doubting that he might be prepared to act as circumstances should require.

Hostilities still continued to be carried on in New-Zealand between the British and the Islanders. A post occupied by John Heke, the native chief who was Kororarua, had been attacked without any decisive advantage being obtained, though much blood was shed on both sides.

There is no news of any importance from the European continent. The Paris papers give the particulars of some skirmishing between the French and the Arabs in Algeria, in which the former were victorious, but the results are admitted to be unimportant.

The existing House of Commons may continue in being till the autumn of 1847, and from actual appearance there is no probability that it will be dissolved before that time.

The Lords of the Admiralty have directed Mr. F. Wrighton, of Birmingham, to make an analysis of the different kinds of iron in Great Britain, and to report the result of his inquiries.

The Revenue for the last quarter has decreased £800,000 below the receipts of the same quarter in 1844.

The Iron trade continues brisk, and masters and men are well employed. In the price of Pig Iron a slight decline has taken place; it is now quoted at £4 15s in Glasgow.

West India Sugar is in good request; the stock on hand is decreasing, and prices have rather an upward tendency.

The Lord Provost and Magistrates of Glasgow have memorialized Her Majesty's Government to open the ports for the admission of grain duty free.

The Rev. Drs. Simpson and McLeod and Mr. N. McLeod, the delegates of the Church of Scotland, were received at Liverpool in a complimentary manner by the elders of the Scottish Churches in that city, on their return from America.

The West India Steam Company have at length declared a dividend of 5 per cent on the profits of the last 8 months which was £24,000 tons.

Four beautiful Arab horses have recently arrived from the East Indies, as a present to the Queen.

The Mutineers of the barque Champlain, from St. John for Cork, were landed from the steamer Cambria, from Halifax, and underwent an examination before Mr. Ruskell, the Police Officer.

This year the sale of Prince Albert's live stock realized £1,600; last year, £1,400.

The Pope has thrown the library of printed books in the Vatican open to the public, and ordered the preparation of a catalogue for their use.

M. Thiers, the French ex-minister, accompanied by the travelling companion, Count W. de Montebello, has just returned to London for Paris.

The name of Mainwaring (Cheshire) is spelled one hundred and sixty-three different ways in the deeds, &c. belonging to the family, and can be spelled in one hundred and ninety-four different forms.

Report says that arrangements have been for some time in contemplation for the retirement of Lord Chief Justice, Lord Campbell, &c.

A few days ago Mr. Christopher Swall, of Boston, a chemist, and a young man of good parts, died from the effects of an inveterate habit of smoking opium.

The Railway Panic.—The common opinion of sober-minded men is, that the panic, if we may so term it, by which we are just visited, is but temporary.

Capture of a Slave.—The Hydra, steam sloop, Com. Young, captured on the 31st July, off Lagos, a fine slave brig named the Africana, with a cargo of 589 slaves on board.

The Edinburgh Advertiser.—The total subscriptions at Calcutta already exceed £50,000, of which only £10,421 remain uncollected.

London to Dublin direct in 14 Hours.—It is now ascertained that a connection has been established between the Great Junction Company and the London and Dublin Company.

Trade with China.—We understand from Mr. Court of the Underwriters' records, in Liverpool, that the letters directed by the mail from China, on the 25th inst., amount to the extraordinary sum of less than twenty-one vessels.

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Mechanics' Institute.—Last evening, the Rev. Mr. Walsart lectured with usual ability, originality, and promise, to a large, respectable, and attentive audience, on the "Features of New Countries."

The health of His Excellency the Governor General has, of late, been decidedly improving, and he continues to take a airing daily in his carriage, when the weather permits.

The weather.—The rain which continued with an easterly wind from the night of the 23rd instant, ceased on the afternoon of the 10th, when the wind came to the west.

On Monday, November 22nd, the Rev. Gentleman will lecture next Monday evening, on "The Peculiarities of Science."

The following party remarks, on the same subject, and the grasping disposition of the United States Government, as from Nelson's Quebec Gazette of the 14th instant.

It is an error to extend to some persons, that the present difficulties relate to a mere question of title to a wilderness. They are connected with something far more important.

That England should ever voluntarily abandon her position, the most west coast of America, is any nation, particularly to one putting her such pretensions as the United States, appears to us impossible.

The Quebec papers contain accounts of several vessels of the British fleet, which arrived in the St. Lawrence, during the early part of the present month.

The Royal mail steam ship Hibernia, Capt. Ryrie, which left Halifax on the 3d inst. for Liverpool, Montreal, and the Clyde, arrived in Liverpool, on the 1st inst.

The sugar crop of Louisiana, this year, is expected to amount to from 150,000 to 175,000 hogsheads, which is less by about 30,000 hogsheads than the crop of 1844.

There was a heavy fall of snow in the interior districts of the State of New York on the 10th inst.

The "Toronto" has arrived at New York from London, having on board the manager of Van Degrift, who returned to the United States after an absence of several years, with a family.

More New Vessels.—On Tuesday, a very fine ship of 200 tons was launched from the shipyard of Mr. D. G. Clark, in Carleton Place.

On Tuesday last, at twelve o'clock, Miss Mary Jane Stevenson, aged 15 years, died at her residence, in the Parish of Portland, Margate Ave.

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