

**THE PACKET STATION—MR. ARBOTT LAWRENCE.**  
The Limerick papers publish letters from Lord Montague and Mr. A. Lawrence, the American Minister, transmitting the reply of the latter to the address presented to him some time since on the occasion of his tour in Ireland, by the citizens of Limerick. We quote the following passages from Mr. Lawrence's reply:—"I entirely agree with you that we cannot over-estimate the political, the commercial, or the social importance of a rapid, constant, and certain communication between two nations having so much in common as the United Kingdom and the United States. When in Ireland I visited the harbors of Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Bantry, Cork, and Queenstown, all of which offer rare and safe accommodation for ships. Since my return to London I have received various charts, maps, reports, &c., with reference to these harbors, &c., all of which I have transmitted to the President of the Chamber of Commerce, New York, for public use. I did not fail to remark the capacities of your noble river, navigable by steam for two hundred miles, on which you dwell with such just pride. I also made such observations as I could in our rapid passage of the harbor of Foynes, which seemed to me capable of being reached at any state of the tide, and of affording shelter, with a sufficient depth of water, for the largest ships. I observed also a pier and a wharf for large steamers—and I was particularly struck with the magnificent docks under construction at Limerick, which, when finished, must prove of the greatest advantage to your interesting city. The people of the United States are fully impressed with the fact that 'the most secure and rapid communication across the Atlantic is a benefit that cannot be refused or postponed,' and have made, and are making, gigantic efforts to secure it. In my visit to Ireland I saw much to admire. The beauty of your scenery—the fertility of your soil—the magnificence of your harbors—the great resources of your country, as yet undeveloped—the provisions made for the education of your children—all were objects of striking interest. But above all these I felt your generous hospitality, and the kind feeling of all classes towards the United States."