

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP BRITANNIA.

From the Halifax Recorder.

The Royal Mail Steamer Britannia arrived at 8 o'clock yesterday morning in a passage of 12 days from Liverpool, with 105 passengers—17 for this city and the adjacent Provinces, 91 for Boston. Among the latter are Col. Avey and family, Gen. Armstrong, U. S. Consul at Liverpool, Mr. Hall, editor of the New York Commercial Advertiser, and Mr. Petit, bearer of Despatches from the U. S. Legation at Paris. The Britannia narrowly escaped a fatal disaster on the coast of Newfoundland, having run aground on Cape Race on Tuesday last, but fortunately got off, without much damage, beyond the accident causing her to leak. We have London dates to the 3rd and Liverpool to the 4th instant by this arrival.

Some very heavy failures are occurring among the merchants in the principal cities of the United Kingdom, but the Bank of England, notwithstanding has resolved upon reducing its rate of interest.

The prices of flour and corn have a downward tendency, from a largely overstocked condition of the market.

Her Majesty and suit were still engaged in the Scotch Highlands.

The steamer Hibernia arrived at Liverpool a little past midnight of the 27th, in 9 days and a few hours hence. The Liverpool press says that this is the quickest passage of record, but our memory is at fault if the first homeward passage of the Hibernia was not performed in 81 days.

The Steamer Sarah Sands arrived at Liverpool on the 28th ult.—the eighteenth day after she left New York.

That wonder of the world, the Steamship Great Britain has been removed from the coast of Ireland, and brought to Liverpool. A most unfortunate tragedy has occurred in the first bay of Paris. In the space of one week the Duke of Praslin murdered his own son, committed suicide in Prison, and one of his offspring, a youth in the 7th year of his age, put a period to his life in consequence of the shocking fate of his parents. Italy is disturbed against the Austrian Government, and the Pope is encouraging the people to resist against the foreign yoke, which has so long crushed their political rights. An insurrection has broken out in Greece.

LIVERPOOL, September 4.

The elections are now completed, as far as practically, with the few instances of jumping to disqualify returns can be recalled by the assembling of parliament. The various and conflicting strength of parties uniformly neutralize each other, and the absence of any great party questions baffle every attempt to predict the future course of legislation. The Navigation Laws, the duties on Tea, and the Condition of Ireland, will form some of the most prominent topics of the first session, and there can be little doubt that in dealing boldly and practically with these subjects of national interest, the Cabinet will command an ample working majority.

REFLEX OF GRAIN.—It is reported that the stocks of grain and flour in London are accumulating to such an extent, that the warehouses at command no longer suffice for their reception, and that recourse had been had to Greenwich for partial accommodation. A notice has been posted at the North and South American Coffee House, in London, requiring the consignees of several cargoes of corn, lying in the river Thames, to come forward and claim them. Prices have fallen to such an extent that the responsibility of accepting consignments of corn has become a serious matter, and hence the disinclination of the consignees to claim the property.

THE PROVISION CONTRACT.—The naval contract is announced for 50000 tuns of beef and 11,000 tuns of pork; but it is worthy of remark that this contract is not limited as

heretofore, to beef and pork cured in the United Kingdom, but admits contracts from all parts of the globe. This is the first time that the provision contract has been extended beyond the United Kingdom, and the alteration has been rendered indispensable by the failure of the potato crop in Ireland, and its consequent rise upon the supply and prices of the description of cured meat required, especially pork.

DARING FEAT.—The American frigate Macedonia, formerly captured from this country, and now sent over here with a gratuitous supply of provisions, was waiting on the tail of the bank on the 27th ult., when the Queen arrived in the Clyde. Just when the Queen's steamer was about to pass the Macedonia, and whilst cannons were roaring from the shore in every direction, and the atmosphere resounding with the huzzas of the multitude, two seamen were observed on board the American frigate, the only cool riding on the summit of the foretopmast, and the other of the mizetop royal-mast (immediately a third sailor was seen mounting the mainmast; he also ran up the rigging to the topmast mast, which he slightly ascended, and then standing on its very top with one foot, he deliberately took off his hat, waved it three times round his head, and then threw it overboard. A seaman on board one of the Queen's ships was next seen ascending to the summit of the topmast; but when he had nearly reached the top, he was to appearance overcome with giddiness, and very gradually, we conceive, countermanded the initiation of a most brave and daring, but certainly a very foolish feat.

LIEUTENANT MUNDY.—Justice Earle, who has tried this case, has recommended the Home Secretary to remit the sentence to twelve months imprisonment. The Marquis of Antrim, at the trial, spoke highly of the gentlemanly conduct and military bearing of the lieutenant Mundy, and after his conviction recommended to him a check for a hundred pounds. So highly esteemed was this gentleman by his fellow-officers, and so confident were they of his acquittal, that they subscribed a sum of £1000 to purchase him a commission in their regiment, the Royal Horse Guards (Blues). The result of the trial caused a general gloom throughout the regiment.

GENERAL SIR GEORGE COLBURN died at his late near home, on the 15th inst., aged 85. He was well known as a reformer, and for his attachment to the late William Cobbett.

THE CHURCH BUILDING COMMITTEE.—Mr. John Hamilton, advocate, read the Report on Church Building, of which the following are the chief points:—

"The number of places of worship reported to last General Assembly, as being completed, and occupied by congregations of the Free Church of Scotland, was 621. The number completed and occupied at the present date, according to the returns made to the Committee, is 675, showing an addition of 54 made within the past year to the number of our completed churches."

"Of the 621 churches completed at the date of last Report 440 were stated to be then entirely free from debt. Of the 676 churches now completed, 457 are reported to the Committee as at that situation, being an addition of 47 made within the past year to the number of churches which are entirely free from debt; there are only 185 churches which are not entirely free from debt in any of our Churches, the debt remaining upon many of these Churches are small; but on others, especially some of the more expensive, there are very considerable in amount, and the debt very considerable."—[Free Church Miss. Rep.]

IRELAND.

LANDLORDS AND TENANTS.—A NEW DUTY.—An Act of Parliament recently passed, abolished the power of Irish landlords to serve growing crops for non-payment of rent; a reform in the law which circumstances had commended in the regard to Lord Devon's commission. It appears by accounts from various parts of the country, that several of the tenants, taking advantage of the altered state of the law, are getting their crops cut down by night, and removing them out of the reach of the landlords. This has occurred in many instances in different counties. One case of this kind is noticed by the Tipperary Vindicator. It appears that on Friday night last, a large party of men assembled at Carrigkeel, and cut down

a corn field, bought last spring by a man named Ryan, from the tenant. The landlord's driver, with some of the police, proceeded to the field to prevent the removal, but they arrived too late, the crop was gone. In this case the crop was sold as soon as it was cut, and the tenant, in all probability, retained with the money he received. In any event, the landlord is without a remedy. This practice of making away with the crops by night, is a sad illustration of the formidable difficulties in which the whole landlord and tenant system is involved.

FOREIGN.

PARIS, September 1.

MURDER OF THE DUCHESS OF PRASLIN IN PARIS.—On Wednesday, the 18th ult., the population of Paris were thrown into the highest state of consternation by a report that the Duchess of Praslin, daughter of Marshal Sebastiani, had been barbarously murdered in her bed at her hotel, Rue Fanebourg St. Honoré, a few doors from the British embassy. As no robbery was committed, the act was attributed to private vengeance, and the authorities having instantly repaired to the hotel, took the necessary steps for the discovery of the murderer, who was alleged to have been hiding in the back gardens into the Champs Elysees. The Duke of Praslin, her husband, was at that time to be absent in the south of France, and whilst all Paris was excited in the highest degree with indignation against the murderer, it transpired that the Duke of Praslin was actually in the hands of the police, under the most overwhelming suspicion of having been himself the murderer.

The Duchess was married to the Duke of Praslin, a descendant of the Choiseul-Praslin family; they were both connected by alliances with almost all the ancient nobles of France. She was born in Constantinople, whilst her father was ambassador there; and during Marshal Sebastiani's diplomatic functions at the French embassy, she was loved and respected by all who knew her. She was the wife of a general, and was about forty years of age. The duke and duchess arrived in Paris from the country at one o'clock on the evening of the 17th ult. and the duchess having retired to her hotel, the duke went with three or four of the children to visit a Mademoiselle de Luze, a lady who had resided in the family as governess, but who had recently been dismissed on account of some alleged improper liaison with the duke, which had caused such serious differences between the duke and the duchess, that they had since slept in separate beds. This visit occasioned high words between the duke and duchess, who both, however, retired to rest. At four o'clock on the morning of the 18th, cries of murder were heard from the duchess's room, and upon an entrance being forced by the attendants, the duchess was found expiring from blows and stabs of an assassin, who had escaped. It is said that the duchess received no fewer than thirty stabs in various parts of her body, and that, still struggling for life, she succeeded in ringing a bell, when the assassin cut the bell rope, and finally dispatched his unhappy victim by blows with the butt end of a pistol, careworn with the family arms, in various parts of the head and region of the forehead. The pistol was loaded with ball, and was found near the duchess, but it is supposed the murderer refrained from firing it, lest the report should alarm the house. Some

of the length and nature of the duke's wounds, and other portions on the ear, consanguineated with blood, and a small quantity of water tinged with blood was also discovered in a basin, and after many ineffectual searches, successive proofs were disclosed, all tending to implicate the duke himself as the murderer. In a chimney the remains of paper, linen, and a silk handkerchief were found. The handle of a couteau de chasse, supposed to have been the weapon used, was found in the duke's cabinet, covered with blood, and the blade, which was broken off, was at length discovered in a cess-pool, after two days search for it. Sufficient proofs having been obtained to implicate the duke, it was deemed proper at once to keep

him in custody. But here some difficulty occurred, the charter expressly declaring that a peer can only be arrested by order from the House of Peers. The Chancellor, M. Pasquier, the Prefect, and all the chief police authorities having examined the facts, not a moment was lost in despatching an express to Eu to the King, who signed a royal ordinance convoking the House of Peers immediately, and that body assembled on the 21st inst. The Duke of Praslin was then formally arrested. But, before this, he had contrived to take poison, but in such excessive quantity that it failed in its effect; and in an act of utter prostration the unhappy wretch was transported to the palace of the Luxembourg, there to await his trial. The body of the duchess, having been embalmed, was deposited on Sunday morning, the 23d, in the vaults of the Madeleine, her parish church. It was accompanied by her uncles, the Duke of Guigni and General Sebastiani, and two other members of her family.

The duke, as we have said, was taken to the prison of the Luxembourg on the 21st, where his health rallied till the 23d, when, in the evening, all the most violent symptoms of poison again returned; he expired about 5 o'clock on the afternoon of the 25th. Whether the duke took a second dose of poison remains yet a mystery. It is clear, however, that a large quantity of arsenic, "sufficient to kill a dozen persons," was found in his intestines, after his death; whereas the first poison which he took, the day after the murder at his own house, was lead. The whole case is pregnant with suspicion. The whole expected conclusion of the most fruitful tragedies of modern times, excited correspondingly exasperated language from almost all the Paris press. The feeling of the people were roused deeply. Years of misadministration scarcely have excited such lively emotions as this surprising and bloody tragedy. The Government was sought to be re-estimated by a violent brood, poured the way for this most horrible deed in the highest ranks of life. Nothing further has occurred, except that the duke's remains were, after a formal autopsy, buried on the 26th inst.

SUICIDE OF THE ELDEST SON OF THE DUKE OF PRASLIN.—Another act has been added to the great tragedy which has caused so much sensation not only in Paris, but throughout Europe. The eldest son of the Duke of Praslin committed suicide on Tuesday. He was only seventeen years of age. He shot himself with a pistol. "The late horrible events in his family no doubt led to the rash act. It seems as if the vengeance of Heaven had fallen upon this illustrious family."

The French nobleman whom we alluded to yesterday as having attempted to kill his mistress—the Prince de Eckmuhl, hereditary Peer of France. This young man has been for a length of time, from excesses of various kinds, troubled in the brain. About a week back his conduct became so extravagant that it was considered necessary to have him carefully watched; he, however, contrived to escape on Monday evening from the hotel where he was confined, and rushed through the streets with head bare and in slippers. In this state he called on a young woman to whom he was attached, and from some provocation attempted to kill her with it, and a knife falling on the table of her room. Fortunately he possessed so little steadiness of purpose at the time that, after inflicting two slight wounds on her, he again rushed out of the house and continued a wandering about the street until one in the morning, when he was taken up by a patrol as he was about to enter the house. He was confined by the family, and his sinew been sent off to the country under the charge of a medical attendant. The sensation caused by the events is something indescribable.

FIGS.—On Monday a fatal duel with pistols was fought near Brighton, between two pupils of the Military School of St. Cyr. One of the duellists, and was carried to the hospital at Brighton, where he expired a few minutes after he was brought in. They were attended by the ground by two other pupils. The deceased is said to be the son of a colonel, and his adversary is only twenty years old.