

winter-travelling, which was very dangerous in consequence of the river being still open in some places. The thermometer being two degrees above zero, inspired the hope that this danger would soon disappear. On the 29th we came to Slave Trade River, a very rapid and perilous stream. The day was rainy and extremely cold. God graciously watched over our little company and we reached Lesser Slave Lake at sunset.

27th.—The ice on the Lake perfectly smooth. Blowing a terrible gale of wind. Neither men nor dogs could keep on their feet. Sometimes in falling we would be driven several yards, but unfortunately in the wrong direction, before we could rise again. On Sunday, the 29th, we encamped on a small island. I have made it a fixed rule never to travel on the Lord's day.

29th.—Started about one o'clock in the morning, and breakfasted thirty-two miles distant; then pushed on thirty-two miles further before sunset. On the 1st of December reached Slave Lake House. Here I remained ten days, and had school and preaching daily. The people's hearts were truly broken up and prepared of the Lord. I married nine couples, and baptized seventy-four persons, about half of whom were adults, and the remainder children of all ages. During the religious services several found peace with God. And in the short period of ten days many of the children learned to read, and to sing two hymns. Since that time I have been informed that they have made such proficiency as to be able to read the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and some other translations which I left them. I left this establishment on the 9th, accompanied by all the men, except two. Their object in going was to hear once more the word of God. I preached to them at our encampment in the evening. We were greatly blessed. I feel amply repaid for all my trials, and many stout-hearted fellows wept much lest, as they expressed themselves, they should never again hear those great and good words.

11th.—Crossed Smoky River, flowing in an immense ravine. This stream takes its name from three craters, which constantly emit much smoke with a strong sulphurous smell. Here some of the roots of the Rocky Mountains present themselves above the surface. We encamped upon Burned River. The banks of all these rivers near the mountains are from 400 to 1000 feet high. It requires much care to descend them, and no little labour to recover the height of the opposite bank.

15th.—Reached Dunvegan Fort, on Peace River. Here I saw some of the Beaver Indian tribe. They speak a dialect of the Chippewyan (not Ojibway), language. It is an exceedingly disagreeable cackling jargon, but is very extensively spoken over a tract of country extending from Churchill to near the Pacific, and from the Equinox country to the Cree's lands on the Prairies. These people are extremely anxious for religious instruction, and earnestly beg to be supplied with a missionary. They are a large tribe, and I hope to be able to comply with their wishes shortly. I have endeavoured to put matters in train for their early benefit. The people connected with the fort, excepting the gentleman in charge, are Romanists. I baptized his wife and married one couple."

Civil Intelligence.

DISASTROUS REPORTS FROM INDIA.

Some alarm was created last night by the publication of what purported to be disastrous news from India. It was conveyed in the following extract, for whose authenticity the Standard vouches, from a hurried letter written on the 27th of August, at Bombay, by Major Messiter, of the Twenty-eighth Regiment:—

Bombay, 27th August, 1842.

"The Colonel is going away in command of a brigade, I therefore fall into the command of the regiment. We take the field immediately. Most disastrous news [have] arrived [from] the interior. The Forty-first cut to pieces.

[A reference to some private affairs follows.]

Yours &c., JOHN MESSITER." Without disparaging the word of Major Messiter, the Standard at once doubted the correctness of his intelligence, and enumerated various considerations to establish its improbability. The first alarm has subsided,

and the morning brings confirmation of the Standard's doubts. The Times says—

"We feel peculiar pleasure in being enabled from the best informed sources, to contradict this painful report. An official statement from the highest authority in Bombay, dated August 24th [one day later], and professing to give 'the latest news' from Candahar, makes no mention of such an occurrence, and from the perfect silence of the Indian press upon the subject, it would seem to be rather an individual fiction than even a current rumour. Its extreme improbability has been ably exposed by our contemporaries, and we need only now call attention to the circumstance that Major Messiter professes to be acting upon orders issued on the receipt of intelligence of which those from whom alone the orders could have emanated know nothing."

It appears from the Morning Post that the writer of the letter of the 29th is Sir George Arthur, the Governor of Bombay.

It is reported that Lord Stanley, Secretary of the Colonies, is to be removed to the House of Peers, there to lead for the administration in the absence of the Duke of Wellington, whose age and infirmities render such duties heavy and arduous.

A bronze medal has been struck to commemorate the completion of the Thames Tunnel.

The special commission have terminated. No one was capitally convicted, but many—indeed—have been condemned. The sentences have been to transportation or for imprisonment. Feasus O'Connor & Co. have put off their trial until the assizes in March. The steamship Acadia, Capt. Rylie, Boston, arrived in the Mersey on the evening of Friday, the 13th ultimo. The Great Western arrived at Bristol on the 12th ult. Charles Dickens' Notes on America, will appear in London to-day—so as not to go to America by the Halifax and Boston steamer. The Queen and family are going to Brighton. Nothing can be more quiet than they all have been at Windsor of late. Queen Victoria is again eccentric. She has relinquished her equestrian exercises, and her accouchment is expected in March. A letter was received at Bristol on Saturday morning at the Commercial Rooms, stating that the new iron steamer Brigand, had been lost on Wednesday on the Scilly Islands.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.—Review for the week ending Oct. 15.—The statement of the revenue for the quarter ending the 10th instant, was published on Tuesday, and has disappointed the general expectation of a favorable return. Under the operation of this feeling, the prices of the Funds declined; and on Tuesday morning were 3-8 per cent below the closing quotations of the previous day. Prices recovered again towards the close of the day; and though the re-action was checked by the sale of £100,000 on Wednesday morning, the price has since further improved, and is now at 1-1 per cent above the closing price on Saturday last.

October 18. There has been no change whatever in public securities and the quotations of yesterday may serve for to-day. Consols have sold at 93 1-2 and 1-8 for money, and Exchequer Bills are fixed at 55 5/7 pm. There is no feature in the market deserving a single line.

MANCHESTER.—A perfect retrogression from a state of activity to a panic may with truth be reported, for in every branch of the Manchester trade here for the last two weeks, (but more particularly this) a complete cessation is visible to all; and consequently prices for any quantity of goods may be said to be nominal. We perhaps ought to except low 40 inch shirtings, and other low goods suited for the Indian market, for they, we learn, are in good demand.

Canadian pork realized 43s. to 46s. per barrel, duty paid. Of Canadian beef there was little offered, which realized for prime 46s. to 48s. and one lot of prime mess 50s. per barrel, duty paid.

From the European.

NEW ROUTE FOR THE OVERLAND MAIL.—We understand that, in consequence of the vexatious impediments thrown in the way of the transmission of the mail from India through France, arrangements are now making for bringing it by the route of the Adriatic Sea and the Austrian territories. We learn that Mr. Waghorn, who is employed by the East India Company to make

these arrangements, and who is now in Germany for that purpose, is quite confident of being able to save fully five days by the adoption of the new route, and we understand that he has engaged (if nothing would occur to delay the arrival of the mail in Egypt) to deliver in London on the 1st of December next, letters despatched from Bombay on the 1st of November. We have not learned what is the precise route proposed to be adopted, whether the mail is to be landed at Venice or Trieste; but we presume that the object will be to adopt the nearest and best route to the Lower Rhine, with the view of taking advantage of the Belgian lines of railway. We understand that the Austrian government enters very warmly into the proposed plan, and that Mr. Waghorn receives all the assistance which that government can render him. If Mr. Waghorn's views should be realized, and the mail should regularly reach London on the 1st of the month, a very great point will be gained, inasmuch as letters received by it can be answered by the outgoing mail, which is not usually the case at present.

SPAIN.—The Madrid papers of the 9th inst., contain the decree for convoking the Cortes on the 13th November.

Financial measures occupied the attention of government beyond all other subjects.

The government contemplated to reduce the provincial militia by 2,000 men. According to advices from Valencia, the authorities were again fearful of another nocturnal attack being made on the salt pits of La Rossa, and therefore the authorities had ordered a battalion of the Bergara regiment, and a squadron of cavalry, to protect that establishment.

The political chief of Cadiz has informed the government that the band of the notorious Romerito, one of those which infested the Serrania de Ronda, has been defeated, and wholly dispersed. The troops made seven prisoners.

The Regent has not accepted the resignation of municipality of Madrid, which that body had tendered him.

We have received Madrid papers of the 8th. On that day a grand Te Deum was chanted at the cathedral, in commemoration of the failure of the Christiano conspiracy of last year. The young Queen and her sister were present, but it is asserted that Espartero gave great offence by taking possession of the post of honour, which even the Queen Regent, on public days, declined doing. The young Queen was to complete her twelfth year on the 9th.

Madrid was tranquil, but it is said that the republican party are forming plans to overturn the existing government. Several secret societies are formed, but no plan supported by influential persons is as yet determined on.

Prussia.—The Berlin Gazette publishes the following details of the fire which lately raged in that city, dated Cassan 9th ult.:—"Two trailing fires, which occurred in the latter end of August, were merely the precursors of the dreadful catastrophe which befel this city on the 5th of September. At ten o'clock on the morning of that day the fire was issuing from the Town-House. The wind being high at the time, the flames spread quickly through the town. In the course of twelve hours, 1,309 houses, nine churches, and one convent had fallen a prey to the flames. The very pavement of the streets, being of wood, becoming ignited, all access became impracticable. Of the vast magazines, filled with merchandise, but four warehouses were saved. The scientific establishments suffered considerably. The observatory is but a heap of ashes, and it was with difficulty that the astronomical instruments were preserved. On the morning of the 6th, the half of this flourishing city was consumed, nor was this the conclusion, for on the same afternoon the flames burst out afresh. On the 7th and 8th the fire again appeared in certain quarters. There appears no doubt but this calamity was the work of an incendiary. The damage is estimated at 15,000,000 roubles banco, of which 800,000 silver roubles are insured."

SERBIA.—We have news from Simlin to the 4th. Belgrade appears to be in a state of greater anarchy and confusion than ever. The German papers anticipate the return of Prince Milosch, the father of Prince Michael; but such an event is highly improbable. The English and French consuls for Servia are required for the fu-

ture to reside at Belgrade; had they done so hitherto, the late revolution would, in all probability, have been averted.

The Augsburg Gazette of the 12th instant states that letters from Belgrade represent the new government as having established a system of terror throughout Servia. Arrests continued to be made, and amongst others the Bishop Thaback had been incarcerated. The persons arrested on suspicion of having conspired to poison Prince Michael are Peter Miloskoritch, Gloascha, Terabascha, and Stovexa, Terzia.

A dangerous accident happened to Sir William Geary, at Oxenheath, on Thursday week. On entering his dressing-room, he fell over a glass screen, and a large pointed fragment inflicted a bad wound behind the right side of the jaw, severing a principal branch of the carotid artery. By the direction of Lady Geary, her maid, a Swiss, tightly compressed the wound with her hands, until medical assistance arrived. The carotid artery was tied. Sir William remains in a dangerous condition.

The Morning Herald says that all the numberless tales about the hundreds and thousands of barrels of foreign pickled or salted beef and pork retailed out to the people here and there all over the Kingdom at the terrible rates of 2s. 3d. or 3s. per lb., in order to affright the graziers of England and Scotland, and the provision merchants of Ireland, and persuade them they would all be ruined to a man, were all falsehood and fudge, and nothing better. The piggery and bovine stuffs so retailed, doubtless by cunning liberals anxious to make hay whilst the sun shone, consisted of the garbage and refuse of Irish markets, which could not meet a sale in regular markets, and was, therefore, pushed off as the cheap foreign commodities a great, talked about and expected.

The Chinese appear to be improving in their knowledge of the art of war. We may mention, as one proof among many of the fact, that when our troops first disembarked in China, the guns of the Chinese were clumsily mounted on logs of wood in such a manner as to preclude the possibility of their either elevating or depressing them. They have since attained the art of manufacturing as good gun-carriages as our own, and have almost wholly abandoned their wooden blocks; they have, moreover, acquired much greater dexterity in the use of their guns.

(From the N. Y. Sun of 24th Inst.)

LATE FROM THE WEST INDIES.—By the way of New Orleans we yesterday received advices from Jamaica to the 3d ult., and later news from Barbadoes and Trinidad. Jamaica continues to be visited with seasonal showers, and the agricultural prospects are good. The Royal Gazette, however, deeply regrets to be obliged to repeat its old complaints against the continued crime and indolence of the black population. The Earl of Elgin has infused quite a spirit into agriculture by attending and giving premiums at ploughing matches, and has invited competition by offering £100 premium for the best treatise on the culture of cane. The June Quarter's return of receipts and expenditures exhibits a terrible falling off in the revenue of the island. The Legislature has failed providing for the year's exigencies, in the sum of £150,000, while the Receiver General is receiving "Deposits on Interest," to meet the public expenses. No provisions, however, had been made for the repayment of these. Trade is excessively dull and commercial distress very serious. The papers are full of "Bankrupt Notices." The taxation of the country has become so onerous that meetings upon the subject have been held in divers towns. Dr. Nathaniel Bancroft, a most eminent physician, is dead. He was the chief of the Army Medical Staff. The light house on the east end of the island is finished. "With this Beacon," says the editor of the Gazette, "the highway to Mexico and New Orleans will be fixed." Mr. Groves, the superintendent, was presented with one hundred guineas as a compliment. The negroes have got up what they term "Mysalism"—a series of religious, maniacal, riotous dances. These are interspersed with songs, the most popular of which is, "John baptise in de river." Sixty-four warrants were issued on the 25th Sep. for the apprehension of as many blacks. In the parish of St. James the ramifications of this doctrine has extended from the Spring Estate to Moor Park.—"Mysalism" a circuit of "sixteen" plantations. These