SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FROM PAPERS BY THE PACKET.

GLASGOW, SEPT. 3.

We announced on Friday the first of the Ministerial changes by which Lord Melbourne is endeavouring to strengthen the position of the Government, weakened as it is by the tear and wear of the last session of Parliament. The London papers of the same day intimate the following additional arrangements;—

Lord John Russell and the Marquis of Normanby have exchanged places. The former goes to the Colonial Office; the latter to the Home Office.

Lord Howick has resigned the office of Secretary at War, and his resignation has been accepted.

Mr. Robert Gordon is to be Under Secretary at the Treasury, in the place of Mr. Baring.

We repeat the previous announcements, in order that our readers may have a complete view of the arrangements:—

Mr. Francis Thornhill Baring is the new Chancellor of the Exchequer, in place of Mr. Spring Rice, who is elevated to the Peerage, and gazetted as Lord Monteagle (the Marquis of Sligo's title, by the way). Mr. Baring was, unopposed, re-elected member for Portsmouth on Friday.

Mr. Poulett Thomson goes out to Canada as Governor General.

Mr. Labouchere, President of the Board of Trade, in room of Mr. P. Thomson.

Mr. Richard Lalor Shiel, Vice-President of the Board of Trade, in place of

Mr. Vernon Smith, who takes the Under Secretaryship of the Colonies.

Sir George Grey retains the office of Judge-Advocate, and is to have a seat in the Cabinet.

Mr. More O'Ferral, it is said, is to be Secretary at the Admiralty, vice Mr. C. Wood; and

Mr. Wyse takes the Treasury Lordship, vacated by Mr. O'Ferral.

Mr. Charles Wood was to have had the Under Secretaryship at the Treasury, now given to Mr. Gordon. What is now to be made of him does not appear. Perhaps the omission may have some connection with the resignation of Lord Howick, his brother-in-law.

British Association.—By a letter received from Birmingham, we learn that at a meeting of the general Committee of the British Association, held on the 29th August, applications to hold the next, or an early meeting of the Association, were presented from the following places, viz. Glasgow, Hull, Manchester, York, and Devonport. Delegates from these places being heard in support of their respective claims, it was moved by the Marquis of Northampton and unanimously agreed to, that the next meeting should be held in Glasgow, commencing on Thursday, the 17th September, 1840. We understand that the claim of the city of Glasgow was ably supported by Bailie Leadbetter.

Accounts from India will be found in another column. Singapore papers, of the 23d of May, mention that the Siamese authorities, in imitation of the Chinese, had seized a quantity of opium belonging to British subjects. Several Bombay ships with opium were lying off Singapore, waiting the termination of the affair at Canton. About one-half of the opium had been delivered up, and the whole was expected to be in the hands of the Chinese authorities by the end of April. Meanwhile, all business was stopped and the foreigners were kept in confinement.

INDIA.

The accounts from the expeditionary army at Candahar, which had reached Bombay, come down to the end of May, at which date all was well in that quarter. The harvest was just about to commence; and it was calculated that sufficient stores would be collected to admit of the march of Sir John Keane to Cabul about the 15th or 16th of June. No opposition from Dost Mahommed was anticipated. The alternatives presented to him appeared to be to make terms with Sir John Keane, or abandon the country. One report stated that he had already fled to Bokhara.

It appears that the Affghans, reported the bravest and most warlike people of Central Asia, had shown neither courage nor military enterprise in presence of our troops. The only losses suffered by our army in its passage through their country arose from the fatigue and privations to which it was exposed. No fewer than 400 horses perished on the march from Silkapore to Candahar, and the whole army had been reduced before their arrival at the latter-mentioned place to half, and even quarter, rations.

The capture of Candahar, and the restoration of the Schah under such extraordinary circumstances, had produced on the whole country a moral effect difficult to describe. The natives are represented as a fine, frank, manly race, unsparing in their strictures upon all our acts, but on the whole well disposed towards us, although they could not be brought to regard us as simple "allies." At Herat, where Lieutenant Pottinger had become all-powerful, the success of the expedition had produced a great sensation. A party was about to proceed for that city from Candahar, under the command of Major Todd, who would convey a number of guns, and be accompanied by engineers to put the place in a complete state of defence. No credit was given to the rumours that the Persians were again marching against Herat.

The state of our affairs with Persia remained unchanged. Karah remained in the possession of our troops, but Bushire was unoccupied. Kourschid Pasha still remained inactive on the banks of the Gulf, and would, it was expected, retrace his footsteps, without attempting hostilities against Bussorah or Bagdad.

The *Bombay Courier* publishes a general order of Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane, dated headquarters, Candahar, May 4, 1839, expressive of his satisfaction at the admirable and soldier-like conduct of the officers and soldiers in their difficult but triumphant march to that city from distant and distinct parts of India.

LONDON, SEPT. 2.

According to a letter from Odessa, published in the Augsburg Gazette, the Russian fleet off Sebastopol had been ordered to hold itself in readiness to sail, and several large bodies of troops were on their march to join the corps stationed along the Pruth, where a considerable force was to be assembled.

The Commerce publishes a letter from St. Petersburgh, dated the 14th ult. which states that a conspiracy had been discovered among the officers of the first *corps d'armee*, and of the Hussars of Imperial Guard, in consequence of which numerous arrests had taken place. The commanders of both corps were moreover removed and placed on half pay.

We are enable to state, on the best official authority, that the alleged refusal of Mehemet Ali to give up the Turkish fleet on the requisition of the five Powers, is altogether untrue.—*Globe.*

FRANCE. Several persons have within these few days been arrested for participation in the insurrection of the 12th May last. Among them is a hatter named Bozior, and a young man who lost an arm while fighting on the side of the insurgents, and remained ever since in the hospital of the Hotel Dieu. Admiral Baudin landed at Brest on the 27th ult. and was expected in Paris on the first days of September.

September 3.

THE HARVEST.—Most of the wheat in South Devon and East Cornwall has been stacked in a very fair condition. The yield also is good. The barley promises to be an abundant crop. As far as the two western counties are concerned, we feel ourselves authorised, from the information we have received from various quarters, to state that the produce on the whole will be beyond an average.—*Devonport Independant.*

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 4

The Paris papers of Monday announce the receipt of despatches by the French government from Constantinople, of the 10th, stating that a fire had destroyed a great part of Pera and Galata, the suburbs of Constantinople. In the former were the residences, and in the latter the counting houses, of the Christian merchants.

SPAIN.—The last accounts from the north has excited the greatest enthusiasm. Every body regards the civil war as at an end.

According to accounts from Alexandria, of the 6th ult, Mehemit Ali has accepted the Mediation of the Great Powers, but has repeated his demand of the inheritance of Egypt and Syria, as well as of the dismissal of Khosrew Pasha.

SEPTEMBER 5.

The Paris papers of Tuesday are, as might have been expected, occupied a good deal with the present state of affairs in Spain. Maroto has not, as it would appear, altogether abandoned the cause of Don Carlos although that cause is now hopeless.

The Courier de Bordeaux of Sunday states—"A report was current yesterday that peace had been concluded in Spain. An aid-de-camp of Maroto's, now at Bordeaux, affirms that a treaty had been signed by Don Carlos, Lord John Hay, Maroto, and Espartero. Don Carlos is to leave Spain, but is to have the enjoyment of his property and to retain his titles. It is also said that the prince, after having signed the treaty under the influence of Maroto, threw himself into Navarre. This intelligence is said to have been brought by a telegraphic despatch to the commandant of the 11th military division."

We learn that army officers of thirty years' full pay service will be allowed to retire on the full pay of their regimental rank.

TELEGRAPHS IN THE BRISTOL CHANNEL.—We learn from the Bristol Mirror, that the town council of Bristol have under consideration the propriety of establishing a line of telegraphs in the channel, in contemplation of its becoming the station for the South American and West Indian steamers.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK, SEPT. 24.

THREE CHURCHES AND THE NATIONAL THEATRE DESTROYED.

Yesterday afternoon, about five o'clock some of the persons employed in the National Theatre, corner of Leonard and Church streets, discovered a fire in the vicinity of the gas room, which they endeavoured to extinguish with a small force pump, but were soon obliged to relinquish it, and make good their retreat. The building was soon enveloped in flames, which communicated to the adjoining rear of the French Episcopal Church, "De St. Esprit," corner of Franklin & Church sts, and to the African Methodist Church opposite, on the corner of Church and Leonard streets. The inside of the buildings with their contents were entirely destroyed. The rear gable and a part of one of the side walls of the Theatre fell, destroying the rear part of the two story brick front dwelling, No. 14. Leonard street, setting fire to the Stone Dutch Reformed Church in Franklin street, between Chapel and Church streets, the inside of which together with the roof of the two story school house next adjoining and belonging to the Church, were destroyed. The walls of the French Church and of the Dutch Reformed Church do not appear to be injured, particularly the former, the walls and pillars of which are of white marble. The walls of the African Church and Theatre will probably have to come down. The Churches are supposed to be insured. The Theatre was owned by Messrs. Aymar, & Co. and O. Mauran, and is leased by Mr. James Wallack, whose loss is estimated at about $25,000—no insurance. The building was valued about $60,000, and insured in this city for $40,000,

The N. Y. Commercial estimates the property destroyed at $220,000, of which probably not more than a quarter part was insured.

THE FEVER. We may safely pronounce the fact that the epidemic is diminishing. The report of deaths by the yellow fever in the different hospitals, and that of interments in the cemetaries for the last week, prove that its mortality has abated very materially. For the week ending on the 8th, the entire number of deaths in the city was 252. During the last week the whole number did not exceed 172—a decrease of 80.—*New Orleans Bee, Sept.* 17.

HEALTH OF THE CITY. We deeply regret that we are still unable to announce to our readers any improvement in the general health of the city. The epidemic still continues its frightful ravages without any symptoms of mitigation. During the past week some of our most useful and respected citizens have fallen victims to the disease, which has already nearly entered every dwelling in our city. The number of interments in the first sixteen days of the month, was 249.—*Mobile Register, Sept.* 17.

COLONIAL.

MONTREAL, SEP. 17.

We publish to-day, for the general information of our readers, "An Act to amend an Act of the last Session of Parliament for making temporary provision for the Government of Lower Canada" and which received the Royal sanction on the 17th ult. It will, at the first glance, be perceived, that this Act does not very materially enlarge the powers conferred upon the Governor and Council by that of last Session of Parliament, which it affects to amend; and that its provisions come far short of permitting local legislation upon some of the most important remedial measures stated by His Excellency the Governor General to be absolutely necessary, in the present situation of the Province. This is much to be regretted; and it may at once be admitted, that it will be felt as a great disappointment, if not an absolute evil, by the loyal population of the Province, and especially by those who are convinced, that some fundamental changes and improvements ought to be made in the laws and institutions of LOWER CANADA, before its legislative union with an adjoining Province, more advanced in civilization, or before it is individually endowed with a more popular Constitution of Government of its own. It is true, that both regret and disappointment on this subject, are now unavailing; but it appears to us to be the bounden duty of those whose interests and prospects are most deeply at stake, candidly to express their sentiments on a point involving so great a portion of the future welfare and prosperity of this part of the Colonial dominions of the Crown. It is with this view that we have, ourselves, embraced the first possible opportunity to record our serious regret at the miscarriage of our expectations—the expectations, we have every reason to believe, of every well wisher of the country. The calamitous effects of such a sinted and illiberal policy, are self-evident; but this is neither the time nor the place to dwell up-