

IRELAND.

Notwithstanding the ministerial favorable reports to the improving state of Ireland, the local papers from the south, middle and western counties are full of the most appalling accounts of the destitution, misery and demoralization of the population—*food is cheap—poor cheap*—but the farmers are absolutely beggared; not merely the smaller farmers—but the gentry also—they have not the means of paying the labourer, and consequently the ground remains untilled. The *Ballinasclogh Star* says:

"We are now in the last week of February, and let us see what progress has been made in tillage and cropping, as compared with last and other former years. There is not yet an acre of oats in the ground in this part of the country, the sowing of spring wheat has also been thrown completely out of season. There are no potato tubers as yet planted, and this is essentially the season for that operation, not only that an early crop may be secured before the period at which the blight usually sets in, but also that too much work may not be thrown in upon the farmer at a more advanced and important stage of the season. The ploughing and digging of the land remains over, as if nothing was intended to be put into the ground this year, except in some rare instances where the people are watched cared for, and spurred on to energy and duty."

In Kilrush, Co. Clare, the people in the Workhouse were actually dying of starvation—The proprietor of the *Limerick Examiner* gives the following terrible description—

"Never, while I live, will the impression of that day leave my mind. 'Merciful God,' said I to the Rev. Mr. Moran, 'is it possible a human body can exist when thus skeletonised?' He replied, that he too, at one time thought it impossible, but that the sights he had lately witnessed, since the relief was cut off, changed his opinion. To describe minutely those 300 starvings is a task I am unable to undertake.—One characteristic, however, seemed to attach to them all—idiotcy. It was depicted in their fleshless features. They all lay motionless; some bread was placed near them, but few could partake of it, so enfeebled and exhausted were they. As the priest approached, they seemed to feel his divine ministry was the last plank left them. I have seen death in every shape—I have witnessed several executions from time to time, but I protest most solemnly I would rather witness a thousand such executions than again pass through the infirmary of the Kilrush workhouse. The skin of some was livid, that of others seemed as if they had been struck with lightning. The clergyman and doctor agreed in stating that of 300 starved creatures, 150 would necessarily die; that no human skill could restore them, and that the sooner their agony was over the better for them. The best illustration I can give you, is the fact that I actually fancied a parcel of women over 20 years of age to be little girls. 'How long,' said I, 'are those children here?' 'Child, Sir,' said the Rev. Mr. Moran, 'they are women, or at least, they had been so; what they are now I cannot tell you.' One old man, who had subsisted for four days on a half penny worth of bread, was actually brought to the workhouse in a state of nudity, covered up in hay.—I shall never forget the peculiar expression of his countenance. I never before witnessed such a sight. As for the little children, they seemed to me to be all idiotic, stunted in their growth, and bearing its close resemblance as possible to the unfledged birds. There they sat, listless and insensible, and seemed to be quite indifferent to everything passing around them; the faces of some quite yellow, those of others dark, as if even before death decomposition was setting in."

At the Assizes held at Ennis, the County town, there were nine persons charged with Murder—and a still larger number with arson.

In Tipperary, matters are equally distressing. In Meath, Chief Justice Blackburne, in charging the grand jury said, the calendar presented a fearful aggregate of crime, that the offence of Whiteboyism appeared to prevail to an alarming extent, and exhibited itself in its accustomed form, by the organization of conspiracies against life and property.

In Cork, Waterford, Limerick and all the other towns, whether seaport or inland, there is the same melancholy reiteration of squalid misery, beggary and starvation.

THE OVERFLOW IN THE WESTERN RIVERS—Our advices from the Mississippi river and its tributaries are of a most alarming character.—The news from Pittsburgh and other points on the upper Ohio, is, that the river is rising, while at Louisville and Nashville, the streets are flooded. In the latter city, the water in some of the streets is of sufficient depth to float steamboats of a small class, and the merchants have been driven from their stores. The Missouri river is also rising, and the probability is that a great amount of damage will be sustained, and the mildness of the spring will, in a great measure, prevent the usual precaution to prepare for the floods. The crevasse at Bonne Carre, below New Orleans, at last advices, was more than a half mile wide, and whole plantations were deluged, entirely destroying many fields of growing sugar cane. What the results will be, it is impossible to conjecture.—*N. Y. Herald.*

VEGETARIANISM—ANOTHER HUNDRED.—The *Vegetarian Journal* are yet full of particulars of the *Vegetarian* expedition, without being able to fix upon the point of departure. The truth of the matter is this—The whole affair is a humbug—a hoax. *Vegetarianism* originated in Washington, and is indebted for its existence to a few credulous correspondents of silly newspapers.

NEWS FROM EUROPE.—OCEAN STEAM NAVIGATION.

In the course of a month of six weeks, we shall have a semi-weekly steam communication with Europe. The following steamers will run as regular packets—

Collins Line.	Cunard Line.
Atlantic,	Asia,
Pacific,	Africa,
Arctic,	America,
Baltic,	Caledonia,
Adriatic,	Cambria,
Glasgow Line,	Europa,
City of Glasgow,	Hibernia,
Hamburg Line,	Niagara,
Helena Sloman,	Canada,
Bremen Line,	Havre Line,
Washington,	Franklin,
Hermann,	

Here are twenty splendid steamers to connect America with Europe; almost enough to bridge the Atlantic.

The Weekly trip of the Cunard steamers will begin on Saturday next from Liverpool, and on the 1st of May from New York and Boston. The Collins steamers will commence their semi-monthly trips on the 27th instant, and their weekly trips about the 1st of June. The Franklin will begin her trips to Havre next month, and her mate will be ready in the fall. The Bremen line now leaves Southampton and New York once a month. The City of Glasgow will leave Glasgow on the 16th instant for New York, and thereafter leave each port in alternate months. The Helena Sloman is to leave Hamburg on the 10th instant, and her trips will be bi-monthly.

According to this arrangement, we shall, in about a month hence, receive news every three days from Europe. It is expected that in a few weeks, the New York branch of the Cunarders will run direct to this port. Then we shall obtain our advices from the other side of the Atlantic via Halifax but twice a month. News from Europe by that route, in that event, will be an expensive article. *Three days foreign intelligence, compressed into a few hundred words, as it necessarily will be, will then cost you dollars per word.*—*N. Y. Herald.*

FURTHER NEWS by the EUROPE.

GREECE.

On the 1st of March three hours after the departure of the French steamer for Marseilles, the English Consul at Athens issued the following circular—

"I am instructed by her Majesty's Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Greece, to inform you that Her Majesty's government, having good hopes of obtaining a satisfactory settlement of their demands on the Greek government through the good offices of the French Republic, has given orders to Vice Admiral Sir William Parker, to suspend for a reasonably limited period of time, the coercive action of Her Majesty's squadron, but nevertheless, to retain a Greek vessel actually in his possession, or pledges in deposit, until a final arrangement shall have been made. Orders have consequently been given to Vice Admiral Parker, for the present free ingress and egress of all vessels actually in possession of Her Majesty's squadron."

This circular caused great satisfaction in Athens, the trade appears to have immediately resumed its usual course.

The correspondent of the *Times* stated that, on the 2nd instant, Mr. Thouvenot wrote to Mr. Wyse, proposing that Sir W. Parker should give up the Greek ships into his possession, and that he the representative, would guarantee the payment of the claims of her Majesty's government on Greece.

Mr. Wyse replied that he regretted being unable to comply with Mr. Thouvenot's proposition; that the instruction which he had received from Lord Palmerston did not permit him to accept of such an offer.

FRANCE.

The elections have closed without any disturbance whatever. The official declarations of the members returned from Paris took place on Friday morning, when the three socialist candidates—Carnot, Vidal, and Defflotte—were declared duly elected. The numbers polled were as follows: Carnot, 132,697; Vidal 128,439; Defflotte, 126,932. M. Defflotte, lowest of the successful candidates, has a majority of 1,339 over Mr. Fove, the highest candidate of the unsuccessful list. Very few persons were present at the ceremony, and little excitement was manifested.

The *Patrie*, which is looked upon as a semi-official paper, intimates that the government will adopt prompt and effective measures, by which the ultra democratic party shall be restrained. The *Monitor* also announces the appointment of M. Ferdinand Barrot, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Turin, on a special mission, in the place of M. Lucien Murat.

The retail trade of Paris has suffered a severe check, in consequence of the agitation accompanying the election. The accounts from the departments are favourable the manufacturers in the principal towns being fully occupied. There is some difference between the Minister of Finance and his colleagues, as to the amount of caution money to be deposited by the press. Some of the conservative journals are denouncing, by name, the shop-keepers who voted for the democratic candidates at the recent election, and calling upon the public to withdraw from them their custom, and never to enter their shops.

Letters from Strasburg mention that an association is immediately to be formed there for the propagation of anti-socialist doctrines among the peasants.

The news from Paris on Tuesday and Wednesday was of a more tranquil character than for some days past, and all appearances of an insurrection at Lyons, had disappeared.

The mountain have proposed an amendment to the budget for the reduction of one million five hundred thousand francs in the allowance to the parochial clergy.

ITALY.

The *Paris Univers* has the following.—Cardinal Antonicelli has made known to M. Durayreval, that the Holy Father resolved to leave for Rome in the beginning of April, and that resolution was about to be communicated officially to the diplomatic corps.

The *Constitutionnel*, of the 9th inst., states that the British government has presented a notice to the Tuscan cabinet, demanding compensation for the losses sustained by the British residents in Leghorn, during the bombardment of that city by the Austrian troops at Leghorn.—They are apprehensive of a visit from the British fleet.—Advices from Naples state that the municipality of Naples presented the king a petition, signed by 20,000 persons, praying that the constitution might be abolished by law, as it was *de facto*.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

Five columns of the *Frank Zetung* are filled with the sentences passed by courts martial upon the persons who have been compromised in the late Hungarian revolution. All the sentences of death have been commuted to terms of imprisonment in irons in the fortifications for periods of twelve and sixteen years. The Austrian government has repealed Baron Haynau's tax on the Hungarian Jews, and even promised to indemnify those who have already paid the assessments.

An inundation of the Danube has caused immense injury in Hungary, especially at Comorn, Raab, and the Kaspardistricts. Fifteen thousand persons have taken refuge at Raab, in the greatest destitution.

PRUSSIA.

Advices from Berlin, inform us that the negotiations between the courts of Austria and Prussia, for the definitive constitution of a central government for Germany have entirely failed. The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, says that the French government has received advices from Switzerland, from which it appears that Prussia has abandoned all claims upon Neuchatel, stating explicitly that she abandons all claims, only because she considers the sacrifice one which she is bound to make for the preservation of the peace of Europe.

RUSSIA.

Accounts from every part of the empire speak of the remarkable state of the weather. The alterations of that and frost have been quite unusual and severe, as the winters in Russia generally are; the cold has been more intense this year, than in the memory of man. It is stated from St. Petersburg that a ukase has been issued, according to which the Russian and Austrian governments engage reciprocally to surrender the Jews who have passed from one country into the other.

GERMANY.

At the opening of the Chamber, on the 15th, the King of Wurtemberg declared, that a Unitarian state of Germany will be nothing but a chimera, and that if attempted to be carried out, it would lead to the separation and dissolution of Germany itself.

The speech was greatly cheered, and produced a favourable effect upon the people.

A letter from Berlin, dated the 16th instant, says:—"We learn from an authentic source, that the mission of Court Gennyssen to Vienna has failed completely."

Hanover has taken the decided resolution to place herself in the face of the rivalries of Austria and Prussia, and to act a passive part amid the internal complications of Germany. It is reported that a Congress of German sovereigns will be held in April, at Dresden, to hold Council on German matters. The Emperor of Austria, and the Kings of Bavaria, Hanover, and Saxony, will be present.

SWITZERLAND.

The Swiss, of Berne, says the Federal Council have decided to accord a subsidy of from 20 to 100 Swiss livres to the refugees gravely compromised, who should select asylums there out of Switzerland. The most necessitous are to be transferred to the frontier.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The overland mail from Bombay to 16th, Calcutta to 17th February, and Hong Kong to 30th January, arrived in England on the 22nd March. The political news possesses no interest—the whole of India was perfectly tranquil. At Bombay business was still flat.

The weather for January has been unusually cold and wet. Canton and Shanghai markets are satisfactory; sales of imports have been large at Liverpool prices generally.

PROSPECTUS OF "THE WATCHMAN."

RELIGIO AND LITERARY JOURNAL,

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE CITY OF TORONTO.

This Journal will vindicate the great principles of Protestantism; but especially that form of Protestantism termed dissent or non-conformity. The equal civil rights of the several sections of the Christian Church, the support of the Gospel Ministry by voluntary contributions, the introduction of lay agency into all the Councils of the Church, are some of the positions which will be advocated in the *Watchman*. Error and sin, wherever existent, or however high the earthly authority by which they may be sanctioned, will be fearlessly exposed; but party politics will never be admitted in the columns of the above Journal.

The *Watchman* will not be the official organ of any religious community; yet the undersigned will feel great pleasure in inserting brief notices (if furnished) of the progress of evangelical denominations. Especially is it expected that in the absence of a connexional organ, the Canadian Wesleyan Methodist New Connexion Church will consider this Journal their medium of acquainting the public with their operations and progress.

Great care will be taken to render the *Watchman* not only unobjectionable, but interesting and instructive, as a

family newspaper. It is intended that this periodical shall maintain a position equally distant from the dry region of romance and the spiritless monotony of an uninteresting compilation. The following plan of Departments has, after much consideration, been adopted.

1. THE MISCELLANY—containing original and selected articles—religious, moral, literary, scientific, &c.
2. THE FAMILY CIRCLE—in which the duties, responsibilities, advantages, &c., &c., of this most ancient compact will be discussed.
3. THE GEOGRAPHIC AND HISTORIC—which will furnish notices of the position, history, habits and customs, &c., of the various nations of the earth.
4. THE PRESS AND GENERAL REVIEW—Here the sentiments of the leading periodicals on the great topics affecting the interests of the Church and the world, will be inserted; also occasional reviews of late works.
5. ECCLESIASTICAL—of an index of the progress or decline of evangelical Christianity in the world.
6. THE WATCHMAN of principal editorial department—containing a faithful testimony for the truth, a solemn protest against the prevailing errors in the doctrines, practice, polity, &c., of professedly Christian Churches; also a review of news.
7. GENERAL INTELLIGENCE—containing Provincial, American, British and Foreign news. Special attention will be paid to the proceedings of the Canadian parliament.
8. THE AGRICULTURAL department will contain general selections, notices of the latest improvements, &c., in this most important branch of Canadian industry.

By engaging in this enterprise, the undersigned places himself under heavy responsibilities—moral, literary and financial; and he is fully aware that without divine assistance and the hearty co-operation of brethren in Christ and personal friends, those responsibilities will be extremely burdensome.

The *Watchman* will be published every Monday evening, by and for the undersigned.

TERMS:

Annual subscription for a single copy, in advance, 10s. Ditto ditto, not in advance, 12s. 6d. 12 papers to one address, per ann., each, in advance, 8s. 9d. Each Agent furnishing ten subscribers, who pay in advance, will be entitled to a copy for one year gratis; and for every additional five pounds, remitted in advance, a copy of the *Watchman* will be furnished. Ministers of the Gospel, and other responsible parties, are respectfully requested to act as Agents.

Communications to be addressed to T. T. HOWARD, Box, 321, Toronto, P. O., and invariably post paid, unless from parties who act as Agents gratis or who furnish literary articles for publication.

For rates of advertising, see last page.
T. T. HOWARD,
Proprietor and principal Editor.
Toronto, Jan. 21, 1850.

GREAT INDUCEMENTS TO BECOME SUBSCRIBERS TO THE WATCHMAN.

The PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE is to assemble on the 14th of May; and we imagine from the almost restless anxiety which the public mind has evinced relative to the assemblage and work of our Legislators at the ensuing session of Parliament, that every one will be desirous to know, at least weekly, what the people's Representatives are doing. We are aware, however, that the majority of our Agricultural population do not desire to plod through everything that each speaker advances on any particular subject, in order to ascertain what is being done. Nor do they wish to be misled by the discolored versions too frequently emanating from interested parties. On the contrary, every inhabitant possessing a spark of patriotism will feel anxious to peruse, from week to week, a brief summary of the proceedings of our law-makers; and when subjects of unusual interest occupy attention in our Legislative Halls, they will desire a pretty full report of what may be said by the principal speakers. In order, therefore, to adapt the *Watchman* to this numerous and influential class we shall furnish a weekly summary of the business of Parliament, and a carefully condensed report of debates on great public questions. To afford still further inducement to parties to avail themselves of PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE we have resolved to make the following

Reduction in our terms:

- New Subscribers, from this date, requiring back Nos., in advance, for Vol. 1., 8s. 9d.
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- Any person remitting 10 dollars (post paid), will receive eleven copies of the *Watchman* from No. 15 to the end of Vol. 1., addressed separately, if required.

For the accommodation of Subscribers who have taken the *Watchman* from the commencement of the Vol., the advance term is farther extended to the 1st of next month.

With these inducements and a vigorous effort on the part of Agents to collect subscriptions and obtain subscribers, we hope to obtain still stronger assurances of future prosperity in our enterprise. A little more effort would, we are confident, increase our present subscription list, at least two or three hundred. We now wait for a response; and earnestly hope that our expectations may not be disappointed. It will readily be perceived by any one acquainted with the heavy expenses connected with the publication of a weekly Journal, that any reduction in our regular rates, can only be warranted by a largely increased circulation. We therefore appeal to the public for an answer to the question—**SHALL WE BE SUSTAINED IN THE ATTEMPT TO FURNISH TO THE INHABITANTS OF CANADA A SOUND AND CHEAP LITERATURE?**