

THE CHRONICLE.

ST. JOHN, SEPTEMBER 25, 1840.

Arrival of the Britannia.

The Steam Ship Britannia, Lieut. Woodroffe, arrived at Halifax on Wednesday morning, 16th inst., at 11 o'clock, and left for London on Friday evening, 18th inst., at 10 o'clock, and will arrive in London on Saturday evening, 20th inst.

LONDON, Sept. 24. On Tuesday her Majesty prorogued Parliament with the usual ceremonies. The Queen was accompanied by Prince Albert, who occupied a seat in the House of Lords on the left of the throne. The King and Queen of the Belgians occupied seats on Her Majesty's right. Her Majesty appeared in an excellent health and spirits, and delivered the following speech, with a clear and distinct voice:

My Lords and Gentlemen, The state of public business enables me to thank you for your attendance, and in relation to your important duties, I cannot receive from Foreign Powers assurances of their friendly disposition, or of their desire for the maintenance of peace. I congratulate you upon the termination of the civil war in Spain. The objects for which the engagements of 1838 were contracted have now been accomplished, I am in communication with the Queen of Spain, with a view to withdraw the naval force which, in pursuance of those engagements, I have hitherto stationed on the northern coast of Spain.

I am happy to inform you that the differences which have arisen between the Emperor of Austria, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of Russia, and the Sultan, in relation to the maintenance of the integrity and independence of the Ottoman Empire, and thereby afford additional security for the peace of Europe.

The violent injuries inflicted upon some of my subjects by the officers of the Emperor of China, and the indignities offered to an agent of my Government, have compelled me to send to the coast of China a naval and military force, for the purpose of demanding reparation and redress.

I have gladly given my assent to the Act for the Regulation of Municipal Corporations in Ireland. I trust that the law which you have framed for further carrying into effect the reports of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners will have the beneficial effect of increasing the efficiency of the Established Church, and of better providing for the religious instruction of my people.

I have observed with much satisfaction the result of your deliberations on the subject of Canada. It will be my duty to execute the measures which you have adopted in such a manner as without impairing the executive authority, may satisfy the just claims of justice and promote the permanent welfare and security of my North American provinces.

The legislative bodies of Jamaica have applied themselves to the preparation of laws, and of such a nature as to be necessary or expedient by the altered state of society. Some of these laws require revision and amendment, but I have every reason to expect cordial assistance from the Assembly of Jamaica in the improvement of the condition and elevating the character of the inhabitants of that island.

The conduct of the emancipated negroes throughout the West Indies has been remarkable for tranquil obedience to the law, and a sensible desire to improve the relations of social life. Gentlemen of the House of Commons, I thank you for the supplies which you have granted for the service of the year.

I lament that it should have been necessary to impose additional burdens upon my people; but I trust that the means which you have adopted for the purpose of meeting the exigencies of the public service are calculated to press with as little severity as possible upon all classes of the community.

My Lords and Gentlemen, In returning to your respective countries, you will resume those duties which you perform so well to the public benefit and advantage. It is my anxious desire to maintain tranquillity at home and peace abroad. To these objects, essential to the interests of this country, and to the general welfare of the world, my exertions will be incessantly directed; and feeling assured of your co-operation and support, I humbly rely upon the persevering care and continued protection of Divine Providence.

Spanish Active Stock, 24 1/2 3/4; Portuguese Five per cent, 24 1/2 3/4; and the rate of interest on first bills is 3 1/2 to 4 per cent.

To-morrow the daily on Foreign Trade is expected to be 200,000,000 francs, and there being no chance of 60 going to 10 per quarter; the merchants and holders of that grain are actively engaged in making preparations for releasing their respective stocks from bond; and it is estimated that within one week upwards of 750,000 quarters will be taken out of bond in the kingdom, which will, of course, have a great influence on the price of English Wheat. This circumstance will, no doubt, produce a scarcity of money, by which the general will be crippled.

The war in French Africa is vigorously conducted by both parties.

Spain is in a deplorable condition. The Christian troops, under the command of General Trinculo, are at the siege of the city of Girona, which is held by the Carlist forces. The Carlists have killed an inhabitant of Daym.

The Carlists had gained some advantages over the Russians near the Caspian sea.

From China.—The interesting matter of France is the following from the London Times of the 23rd inst.

We have received by the Aden, Capt. Pombury, arrived at Plymouth, a Canton Press of the 25th of April. The following are the only pieces of intelligence which are of any value.

There is a rumor from Canton to the effect, that it is the intention of Governor Lin, in case of a rupture with France, to destroy the suburbs of Canton, and to put the city itself in a state of defence. The city of Canton is surrounded by a wall ten feet high, with small towers at intervals of 100 paces, and is provided with other works of defence; in fact it is, to European eyes, an open town.

The suburbs of Canton contain a population of 200,000 souls, and are surrounded by a wall ten feet high, with small towers at intervals of 100 paces, and is provided with other works of defence; in fact it is, to European eyes, an open town.

admirable throughout the whole affair. The fugitives, however, seized the steamer's boat, which lay upon the shore, and fled; and it is supposed that some of them were drowned, and others tried to escape by swimming. Louis Napoleon was in the boat, and he is supposed to have escaped by swimming. He is now in the hands of the British, and is being held in a state of confinement.

The number of prisoners from the whole number taken, is estimated to be about 200. The National Guards have been named as being among the fugitives with a vindictive fury; but they who are in a case would do well to consider the natural feelings of a man when he finds the peace and security of his hearth threatened by a band of selfish and ambitious traitors.

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Several regiments of the army are about to be employed against the Carlists, who are now in possession of the province of Navarre. The army is being retrained by the Duke of Wellington, who is now in the command of the British forces in Spain.

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