

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Letters have been received by the Hudson's Bay Company, from Captain Sir John Ross and Captain Penny, dated off Admiralty Inlet, Barrow's Straits, August 22nd, giving a singular account of the progress of their expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin. On the 13th of August, the "Assistance," Captain Ommanney, and the "Felix," Sir John Ross, communicated with three male Esquimaux, who were on the ice near the head of the well-known Arctic Gulf, called Baffin's Bay. The natives engaged in conversation for half an hour with the interpreter, who gave such an account of the intelligence as startled everybody on board. Its purport was as follows:—That in the winter of 1846, when the snow was falling, two ships were broken by the ice a good way off in the direction of Cape Dudley Digges, and afterwards burned by a fierce and numerous tribe of natives; that the ships in question were not whalers, and that epaulettes were worn by some of the white men; that a part of the crews were drowned, the remainder were some time in huts or tents apart from the natives, that they had guns but no balls, and that being in a weak and exhausted condition, they were subsequently killed by the natives with darts or arrows. This is the story given by the steward who alone knew "a little" of the Danish language, which language was the only one the interpreter understood. The latter was then confronted with a regular Danish interpreter on board another of the exploring ships, but proceeded forthwith to translate the story by a statement "totally at variance" with the interpretation of "the other," whom, as we are told, he called a liar, and intimidated into silence, though no sooner was the latter left to himself than he again repeated his version of the tale, and stoutly maintained its accuracy.

The communications are so loosely worded that it is extremely difficult to make them yield an intelligible narrative. The Times gives the depositions of the Esquimaux himself, so that the learned philologists of this country may make their brains ache by attempting to solve the problem. Our cotemporary owns to a disbelief in the story from the evidence already furnished, thinking it by no means improbable that the anxious and incessant prosecution of our inquiries in these waters may have suggested motives to the native tribes for inventing or magnifying tales likely to arrest the attention of their eager visitors. It is a rather singular circumstance that all the English ships connected with this expedition met together on the 14th of August, somewhere in the neighbourhood of the Bay spoken of above. No accounts have yet been received of the New York expedition.

Despatches received at the Admiralty, on Wednesday, report that traces of the missing expedition have been found. The "Prince Albert," Commander Forsyth, has arrived, bringing the intelligence in question. Commander Forsyth attempted twice to land at Port Leopold, but was prevented by the ice, over which the boats had to be dragged. When there, he met the American brigantine, "Advance," and, in company with her, went over to Cape Hurd, and up Barrow's Straits. He then proceeded to Cape Spencer, at Wellington Channel. Here there was a great deal of ice. He bore up on the 25th of August, when Mr. Snow was sent to examine Cape Riley. Here he found the "Advance," which was aground. Mr. Snow found traces on Cape Riley of five or six tents, or encampments, which, from certain peculiarities, he knew to be those of a vessel in her Majesty's service. He found that the "Assistance," Captain Ommanney, had been at Cape Riley two days before, and had left the following notice:—

HER MAJESTY'S ARCTIC SEARCHING EXPEDITION.

"This is to certify that Captain Ommanney, with the officers of her Majesty's ships 'Assistance' and 'Intrepid,' landed upon Cape Riley on the 23rd August, 1850, where he found traces of encampments, and collected the remains of materials, which evidently proved that some party belonging to her Majesty's ships had been detained on this spot. Beechy Island was also examined, where traces were found of the same party. This is also to give notice that a supply of provisions and fuel is at Cape Riley.

"Since 15th August they have examined the north shores of Lancaster Sound and Barrow's Straits, without meeting with any other traces.

"Captain Ommanney proceeds to Cape Hotham and Cape Walker, in search of further traces of Sir John Franklin's expedition.

"Dated on board her Majesty's ship 'Assistance,' off Cape Riley, the 23rd August, 1850."

Mr. Snow states that the traces of the encampments of a vessel in her Majesty's service were evident. The seamen who were despatched from the "Assistance" to examine these remains found a rope with the Woolwich mark, evidently belonging to a vessel which had been fitted out at Woolwich, and which, in all probability, was either the "Erebus" or the "Terror." Other indications were also found, which showed that some vessel had visited the place besides the "Assistance." Mr. Snow left a notice that the "Prince Albert" had called off Cape Riley on the 25th of August. When Mr. Snow returned on board, the "Prince Albert" bore up for Cape York, on the eastern side of Prince Regent's Inlet. The ice extended completely across from land to land, and quite blocked up the passage down the inlet. On reaching Cape York Mr. Snow again went on shore, and found a cairn of stones, but no traces of anything. He left two cases of pemmican.

As it was perfectly obvious, from the state of the ice, that the object of the expedition—the exploration of Prince Regent's Inlet, and the passages connecting it with the western seas—could not be carried into effect Commander Forsyth resolved to return to England, and the "Prince Albert" then bore up to the eastward. Commander Forsyth landed at Possession Bay, in the morning of the 29th of August, but nothing was found there to repay the search instituted. On the 1st of September, the "Prince Albert" got into Pond's Bay. Mr. Snow was again sent on shore to make an examination of four points of land there, but on none of them could any traces be found of the objects of the search. They came out of Pond's Bay on the 2nd of September. There was no ice to the eastward, nor on the whole passage homewards from Wellington Channel. The "Prince Albert" has explored regions which have seldom been reached, and has had a splendid run on her homeward passage.—Weekly News.

IRELAND.

THE IRISH PACKET STATION.—THE TELEGRAPH.—The constantly increasing commerce with America, and our growing relations, social as well as commer-

cial, with her people, render a rapid communication with the American Continent of increasing importance. This necessity of trade and society may be made the means of a great improvement in Ireland; and her geographical position may be turned to use, not simply to increase the rapidity of our correspondence with America, but to her own good. From the west coast of Ireland to America a voyage by steam might be performed in so short a time as to be measured rather by hours than days. If packets were to sail regularly between the nearest harbor on the western coast and Halifax or New York, and there were direct telegraphic communication between that Irish harbor and London, news might be transmitted from the borders of the Mississippi, and ultimately from the western coast of America, to every part of Great Britain and Ireland in less than a week. If, in addition to this telegraphic communication, a railroad were carried across Ireland from east to west, all who prefer travelling by land would take their final departure from the Irish port, rather than incur the inconvenience and annoyance of the longer sea voyage which is necessary if the voyager start either from an English or a Scotch port. The fastest liners would in that case not be those which sail between Liverpool and America, but Irish vessels would enjoy that distinction and advantage. This plan of thus communicating with America has long occupied the thoughts of statesmen and merchants, and now, we are told, engages the attention of our Government, and certainly the executive authority in Ireland could not better employ their power than in ascertaining what are the difficulties in the way of achieving this great national work. A tenth part of the sums that have been squandered upon making and unmaking useless roads, and in perfecting costly and unnecessary surveys, would have enabled us long since to ascertain the proper route for this great national railroad and telegraphic line, and we might now be prepared to begin the making of a road instead of surveying it. Still, entertaining the idea is a great step in advance.

SIGNS OF AMENDMENT.—Amid the gloom that still hangs over Ireland, some faint but encouraging signs of amendment make their appearance. Those trusty registers of the condition of the community, the bank circulation and railway traffic returns, tell of returning health, though the actual amount of way made is not as yet very great. There has been an increase in the circulation both as compared with the last month, and as compared with the corresponding period of 1849. In the former case, the increase amounts to 79,000l.; and in the latter, to 343,000l.; while in both cases there is nearly an equal decrease in the quantity of bullion in the banks. Nevertheless, the total average circulation is still below what it was in the same period of September, 1848, and nearly one-third less than that authorised by certificate. There is paper in use to the amount of 4,153,979l., while the banks might issue notes to the amount of 6,354,494l. The diminution of the stock of bullion would be of better omen as going to prove an increase in small dealings and wages, were it not probable that a considerable quantity has been exported by emigrants. The railway traffic upon all the Irish lines has considerably increased in the last week as compared with the corresponding week of 1849. On the Great Southern and Western line, it has risen from 3,389l. to 5,061l.; on the Kingstown, from 785l. to 1,058l.; and on the others to some extent, more or less. Some of this increase is, doubtless, owing to the inroad of pleasure-seekers, facilitated by the numerous and cheap excursion-trips which characterise the present autumn. But even in this circumstance there is ground for hope. The casual English tourist will often turn out to be the avant-courier of the investing capitalist or commercial trader.—Spectator.

The annual exhibition of farm produce and stock, &c., for the purpose of competition for the prizes of the Ballinasloe Agricultural Society, came off on Saturday last. There was a remarkable falling off in the number of persons formerly so much interested and active in taking part in the proceedings of this Society—in a word, the entire business of the show was meagre in the extreme.—Tablet.

The London Gazette of Tuesday night contains the following announcement:—"The Queen has been pleased to appoint Daniel O'Connell, Esq., to be her Majesty's Consul at Para."

ENGLAND.

THE EXHIBITION OF 1851.—According to the latest returns sent in to the Commissioners, the space required by exhibitors in the whole of the metropolis is 42,834 square feet of floor and counter, and 29,306 square feet of wall, or hanging space, the total number of intending exhibitors being 725. The productions of Manchester will include, among a variety of other articles, spinning and cotton machines, calico-printing, agricultural machines, warping mills, steam-engines of all kinds, and of high and low pressure, printing machines, models of state and other railway carriages, iron model cottages and houses, musical instruments, envelope machines, hydraulic presses, gas meters, lathes, soda water machines, printed goods of all descriptions, glass, picture-frames, silks, cutlery, paper-hangings, with the process of manufacture and printing, woollen goods, work-tables, and an immense variety of fancy articles.

ARRIVAL OF ANTIQUITIES FROM NINEVEH.—The brigantine "Apprehentive" has arrived from Bussorah, on the river Euphrates, having on board a great quantity of Assyrian and other antiquities and marbles, consigned to the trustees of the British Museum. Among them are the great bull from Nineveh, with a man's head and dragon's wings, weighing twelve tons, and a lion, sculpture in the same manner, weighing nine tons.

CAPTAIN WARNER ECLIPSED.—A letter from L'Orient gives the following description of a lately-invented bullet of a most destructive nature:—"M. Lagrange, an apothecary, residing in this town, has been for the last fifteen years labouring at the preparation of a bullet of the most destructive kind. Although it appears that he had completed his labours for some time, he did not communicate his discovery to the Government until within the last few days. An experiment has been made under the inspection of Admirals La Susse and La Guerre, Lieutenant-General Laplace, of the Artillery, and of a commission appointed by the Government. The success exceeded all expectation. Each bullet bursts instantly on striking any object which opposes resistance, whether it be earth, wood, or stone. At the conclusion of the trial, the members of the commission, addressing the inventor, said, 'Sir, your name ought to be inscribed amongst the mem-

bers of the Peace Congress, for, after your invention, it will be impossible to think of making war.' M. Lagrange asserts that, with a gun-boat, armed with four pieces of cannon, he could sink a ship of 120 guns in twenty minutes. He is in treaty with the Government for the sale of his secret."

PUSEYISM IN LONDON.—At the Chapel of "Saints Peter and Paul"—(both saints being painted on the front of the gallery)—in Charlotte-street; Pimlico, Mr. Harper "washes his fingers" at the communion, and performs nearly all the ceremonies of the Mass. After the "words of consecration" have been pronounced, the choir commence singing the Romish hymn, in adoration of the sacrament, Tantum ergo Sacramentum, &c. (as at High Mass); whilst Mr. Harper finishes the prayer almost in silence, as the Romish Priests do the "canon of the Mass." This chapel used to be called "St. Peter"; but in the Romish calendar the name of St. Paul is united with that of Simon Peter, and hence the alteration. Doctor Pusey connects them also. Mr. Harper was initiated into the mysteries of Puseyism by Mr. Page, of Christ Church, Westminster, whose communion table is adorned with a large red cross, gilt candlesticks, &c., towards which the congregation turn and bow (including the children and teachers of the National Society's Central School), at certain parts of the service! It is said that Mr. Harper preached the doctrine of transubstantiation whilst he was curate to Mr. Page, which was more than even some of the congregation of Christ Church, Broadway, could digest. His present practice is a pretty plain indication that he believes it. A "Novena" was observed at the opening of the chapel. Mr. Irons, of Brompton, preached there last Sunday. Mr. Harper is an occasional visitor to the "Oratory," and was an attendant there during the delivery of Father Newman's "Lectures" against the Church of England: hence his intimate acquaintance with the mode of performing "Masses" to Romish hearers. It is understood that Archdeacon Manning was not able to obtain more than one thousand signatures to his "Declaration," and that some of these were far from being unqualified approvals. They evidently consider the "Declaration" a most signal failure, and the inference they draw is, that the case of the Church of England is now "quite hopeless;" and they are, therefore, beginning to act upon this conclusion. Many will "thank heaven" (with the Bishop of Winchester) that so many "traitors" are departing from her camp.—Correspondent of the Church and State Gazette.

DOCTOR FORBES'S CONVERSION CONTRADICTION.—The rumored conversion of the Rev. Doctor Forbes, Bishop of Brechin, to the Roman Catholic Faith, has been authoritatively contradicted by one of his friends writing from Dundee, who states that the Right Rev. Doctor is at present in the active discharge of his pastoral duties in that town, whence he has returned after a few weeks' relaxation. The Bishop, it is said, did not think it necessary himself to contradict the rumour referred to.—Glasgow Scottish Guardian.

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S HABITS.—"The Last Man in Town" writes thus in the Weekly News:—"The Duke is the creature of method. He suffers nothing to disturb the even tenor of his course, either in official or in household existence. There is no occasion for him to weigh himself every day, or to take a greater amount of exercise to-day than he did yesterday, for the equilibrium of his health is rigidly preserved through the uniformity of his regimen, the unvarying duration of his rest, and the punctuality of his hours of equitation. Rising at four o'clock in the morning, he lights his own fire, performs his own toilette, and proceeds to read or write—if that may be called writing which has become to the unpractised eye a mass of curious hieroglyphics. But these are not the materials of the "page." I meant to speak of Apsley House. Beneath the road which runs under the archway, contiguous to the Duke's residence, is a great excavation, walled-in with the strongest masonry above, below, and at the sides. It is divided into apartments, papered, warmed, and kept dry by means of flues (when necessary), with hanging lamps. In each subterranean apartment are shelves, drawers, and cupboards, all locked and secured after the most approved methods. To one chamber are devoted all the documents connected with the Duke's early career, before he went to India; in another, all the documentary illustrations of his Indian life; a third contains the papers (and how voluminous they are may be guessed) referring to the Peninsular War; a fourth is appropriated to the operations in the Netherlands—the occupation of Paris by the Allied Armies; a fifth to the Duke's Missions; and a sixth to his political life at home. All this vast mass of documents is arranged with precision, endorsed, lettered, numbered, and indexed; so that when the curtain shall fall upon this great man, the biographer and the historian to whom he may bequeath the office of writing his life may know where to lay his hand upon every paper which may serve to elucidate both the most striking and the most insignificant events."

UNITED STATES.

THE FUGITIVE SLAVE BILL.—The passage of this bill has caused a tremendous excitement among the runaway slaves, particularly in the Eastern States. Meetings have been held denouncing the bill, and incendiary resolutions passed. The blacks have armed themselves, and their rallying cry is—"Liberty or Death!" Many of them escaped into Canada. Few if any arrests have been made. The Free Soilers are making considerable capital out of the business.

WHAT NEXT?—Last Tuesday night some person entered St. Mary's Cemetery, and having gathered some combustible matter around the large cross, set fire to it. It was not seen until morning, when the steps and all the light wood work were destroyed, and the cross itself much injured. Were we to look upon this as a mere isolated outrage, it would be almost sufficient to disgrace any community; but we are pained to say that it is manifestly only the result of the efforts, and a mark of the spirit, now being propagated in this community.—Pittsburgh Catholic.

FATHER MATHEW.—This benevolent and good man is now in St. Louis. At the special request of the Right Rev. Dr. Kendrick, he remains his guest during his stay here, and will administer the Temperance pledge at the Cathedral, in the mornings at 8 o'clock, and in the evenings at 6 o'clock. His success at Memphis, which has been the last field of his operations was highly gratifying; his disciples there amounted to nearly a thousand, including several professional gentlemen, and many ladies who have thrown the weight of their edifying examples in favor of the good cause.—Boston Pilot.

CANADA.

INQUEST—AWFUL WARNING!—On Saturday last an inquest was held before H. B. Bull, Esq., Coroner, in the Township of Saltfleet, on the body of a child named George Glover, that was accidentally killed by its mother falling over a cradle on to a hearth-stone, with the infant in her arms, while in a state of intoxication!—Hamilton Gazette.

The Canada Gazette of the 5th inst. contains a proclamation, constituting a new Township in the District of Quebec, of the name of Simard. It is to be bounded on the South-east, by the township of Tremblay; on the South-west by the river Saguenay; and on the North-east and North-west by the waste lands of which it has hitherto formed a part. The towns named below are also gazetted, as "towns with municipalities only, or without any municipal organization." The "first division" includes Amherstburg, Chatham, Guelph, Perth, Simcoe, and Woodstock. The "second division" includes Barrie, L'Orignal, Queenston, and Sandwich.

THE SOURCE OF THE NILE.—M. Antoine d'Abbadie and M. Armand d'Abbadie have, on the recommendation of the Minister of Agricultural and Commerce, been nominated by the President of the Republic, members of the Legion of honor, for "the services they have rendered to geographical science and to commerce by their journeys in Abyssinia." In a long report to the President, the Minister recapitulates the efforts made by the enterprising travellers to trace the Nile to its source, and their observations on the different African tribes with whom they came in contact. They endured many hardships, and braved many dangers, but succeeded, amongst other things, in collecting a mass of curious information on the literature of the Ethiopians, whose language M. Antoine d'Abbadie spent some time in studying. The result of this gentleman's observation was that "the principal source of the White River or the real Nile is in the forest of Babia, on the southern frontier of Inaria," and there, he says, he had the satisfaction of planting the tri-coloured flag on the 19th of January, 1846.—Galvani.

We take the following story from the proof-sheet of a Work newly translated from the French, by Mrs. J. Sadlier, entitled, "The Castle of Roussillon," that is now in course of publication, by Messrs. Sadlier, of New York.

THE CONFESSION.

Madame de Roussillon was seated on her bed; a mortal paleness was on her face, but her eyes were lit up with a strange, bright light. On seeing the priest she shuddered involuntarily, as though the sight came upon her by surprise, but quickly saluting him by a slight motion of her head, she made a sign for her women to retire, and was accordingly left alone with him.

"Father!" said she, at length, "you behold me divided between hope and fear; for I trust that the God who hath conducted you here as it were by a miracle, will have mercy on my poor soul, and will accept my penitential tears—but, on the other hand, I tremble when I think of the magnitude of my transgressions!"

"There are none so great as to exceed the mercy of the Lord!" replied the priest, in a grave but sweet voice.

"Even treachery and murder?" said the countess, with a visible shudder.

"If Judas had solicited forgiveness from that God whom he betrayed, even he would have obtained it," returned Father Alphonse again, without raising his eyes which he kept studiously cast down.

"There was a time," resumed the countess, somewhat encouraged, "when I succeeded in concealing from myself the enormity of my crime, but death, which is now so near, hath effectually torn away the veil which I had wilfully drawn over the foulness of my conscience—already hath the wrath of God fallen heavily on my family, and the blood of my victim hath been revenged!—Father! will not that wrathful voice be louder in cursing than yours in absolving me?"

"If Heaven forgives, who would dare condemn?" said the man of God, making the sign of the cross—"Go on, poor wandering-child of God! lay open the secrets of thy conscience!"

"Yes," replied the countess, "the moments are precious, for Death awaits his prey. Sit down, then, father! and hear the recital of my crime and its punishment—the history of my woes, and sufferings!"

The priest drew near, and Madame de Roussillon continued:—"At twenty-five I was left an orphan—heiress of a large fortune, and my own mistress. Many lords and knights there were who aspired to my hand, but I disdained their homage, for none of them had touched my heart, which I had resolved should only be given to him who could give me a name and title that might satisfy my pride and ambition, the dominant passions of my soul. A year had passed in this manner, when the Viscount de Vaillac came to demand my hand for his nephew, Count Galliot Roussillon de Biron. I knew not the young count in person—his fortune, I heard, was much impaired, and he was my junior by some years; but, for the rest, he possessed all that I could desire in a husband—an illustrious name, and a high reputation for valour and all knightly accomplishments. The campaign once ended, his uncle) who was also his guardian, recalled him from Italy, where he had served with much distinction, and the first time I saw him was when we met before the altar to be united in marriage. All seemed propitious, for Count Galliot appeared both handsome and amiable. My marriage, performed by the Bishop of Cahors, was attended with all possible pomp, and the noblest knights of the province thought themselves honored by assisting at the ceremony. But my happiness was speedily blighted, for a circumstance which I need not now mention, occurred on the very day of our union, to show me not only that I was not the chosen of Galliot's heart, but that he had been already married to a mere plebeian—a poor, mean creature, whom he had secretly espoused; I know not where or how—

"Go on with your confession, without reviling your rival, at such a moment as this!" said the priest, interrupting her with some warmth.

"Alas! what right have I to revile her?" resumed the countess, in a more humble tone—"I only meant to say that the woman was not of noble birth; and that, in my eyes, was a grievous reproach, and made such a marriage degrading to Galliot. I might, nevertheless,