The Observer.

SAINT JOHN, SEPTEMBER 12, 1848.

The English Mail of the 26th August, per steamer *Hibernia*, in 11½ days from Liverpool to Halifax, was received in this city on Friday.

Some of the passengers by the Hibernia, on their arrival at Halifax, circulated a rumour that the Ministry had resigned, but there is no such intimation in the English papers.

The Hibernia brought 3 passengers for Halifax —60 for Boston, and took 20 from Halifax for Boston.

In the House of Lords, on the 24th August, Lord Redesdale presented a petition from St. John, N.B., against any alteration in the Navigation Laws.

The splendid Steam Ship *Europa*, Capt. Lott, reached Coburg Dock, Liverpool, at one o'clock, a.m., on Sunday, the 26th August, having made the entire run from Boston, including her detention at Halifax, in ten days and eight hours, deducting the difference of time, being the shortest passage ever made across the Atlantic.

LIVERPOOL, August 26.

All departments of trade and commerce have been in a very unsatisfactory position during the past week. The uncertainty which prevails respecting the harvest and the extent of the potato disease has acted most injuriously on the markets for foreign and colonial produce, although holders have been anxious to realise, still from the causes above noted, buyers have manifested unusual caution in their operations, although tempted by lower prices. The Corn trade continues firm, and prices to advance. Money is in more demand, but the rate of discount is not higher at present. Prime Bills are 2½ to 3, and others 3½ to 6 per cent. British Securities are steady, and prices now tend upwards. The Foreign market is languid.

The import of Cotton for the past week amounts to about 39,075 bales, of which 35,686 were American. The stock of Cotton at Liverpool is now 587,880 bales; at the same time last year it was 388,850, showing an increase this year of 199,030 bales. At present there are but few prospects of any improvement in the demand, for, as the value of Breadstuffs is expected to rule at a high figure, there will be a reduction in the consumption of manufactured articles for home use. Should, however, the harvest turn out more favourable than is anticipated, the grain crops having received no material injury by the late rains and stormy weather, it is not improbable but greater activity will prevail in the manufacturing districts, and the raw material find ready buyers at rising prices.

Much anxiety has been felt in the Grain trade owing to the prevalence of unfavourable weather. Although there are large arrivals from the continental ports into London, still the tendency of prices has been upwards. The price of American Flour has advanced 2s. to 2s. 6d. per brl., sellers being able to realise 34s. to 35s. per brl. for Western Canal and Richmond. Indian Meal 17s. to 18s. per brl. Yesterday's Liverpool market was not so active; a moderate business was done in Wheat and Flour, whilst in Indian Corn hardly any sales were reported.

The state of trade in the manufacturing districts does not improve; but we cannot say that it is worse than it was last week. The demand for Woollen goods is limited, and manufacturers, both at Leeds and Huddersfield, find difficulty in obtaining full prices. The usual returns of the state of employment is not so encouraging as reported in our last publication.

The Iron trade is dull; very few transactions are recorded of Scotch Pig, either in London, Liverpool, or Glasgow.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.—Three cargoes of Quebec Pine have been sold at from 14d. to 14½d. per foot, Red Pine, 17d. to 18d., Oak, 21d. to 22d., Elm, 13d. to 14d., Deals, £7 to £7 15s. per standard. A cargo of St. John Pine, 18½ inches average, has been sold at 16½d. per foot. The market is glutted with Spruce Deals, and sales are now effected with difficulty, even at the low prices.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—It is now understood in official quarters that the business of the session will be brought to a close, if possible by Friday, the 1st of September, and that her Majesty will prorogue Parliament in person on the following day; and will afterwards proceed to Woolwich, and embark on board the Victoria and Albert Royal yacht, when, attended by the Black Eagle, Admiralty steam-yacht, and other vessels comprising the Royal Squadron, the Queen and Prince Albert will proceed directly to Dundee, *en route* to Balmoral shooting lodge, Aberdeenshire.

A private of the 30th regiment now stationed at Fulwood barracks, Preston, on Tuesday week, received fifty lashes for assaulting the colonel, and, in addition, he will be imprisoned a year.

The Resistance troop-ship arrived at Portsmouth, 25th ult. from Quebec, with the 93rd regt.

THE CHARTISTS.—The Government having become fully apprised of an organised scheme amongst the Chartists and Irish Confederates in various parts of the country to disturb the public tranquility, and to make a general attack upon life and property, have followed up their previous measures of repression by further extensive arrests. In Lancashire no fewer than 46 persons have been included in one indictment for conspiracy, and a true bill having been found at the Liverpool Assizes, almost the whole have been taken into custody and committed for trial. Various other arrests have taken place in our own town. At Ashton, and in the immediate neighbourhood of Manchester, the arming of the Chartists has proceeded to a great extent, but the most energetic measures will be taken to prevent any further disturbances. In London a poor silly man named Cuffy, a Chartist, who made himself very notorious about two months ago, more by his simplicity than his wicked intentions, has, however, now been arrested, together with a number of Confederates, and the whole will be immediately brought to trial for felony and misdemeanor. Several of the parties have turned approvers, and there is not a doubt but that Government is in possession of the most complete evidence with regard to their designs. Everything is now tranquil.

LONDON.—On Monday evening a meeting was held at the South London Chartist Hall, for the avowed purpose of "raising a fund for the relief of the wives and families of the misguided men who have recently been convicted of sedition and treasonable practices." Many of the Chartists went armed; and although they boasted they would "settle" the first policeman who interfered with them, on an announcement being made to them after the proceedings had commenced that the horse police had arrived in the neighbourhood, they quietly dispersed.

Amongst the fire-balls, cartridges, &c., seized by the police at the lodgings of some of the Chartists lately arrested, are some missiles of a diabolical character. They consist of a packet, somewhat square in form, covered with brown paper, and filled with nails, pieces of iron, and coarse gunpowder. Attached to each is a fusee of cotton, which leads to the powder. When ignited, the packet would in half a minute explode, and kill or seriously injure any one near. These missiles, it is supposed, were to have been thrown into the windows of houses the night the ringleaders were apprehended.

Great Storm on the Coast of Scotland, and melancholy loss of Life.—On the 21st Aug., the whole of the east coast of Scotland was visited by a severe gale from south-east, which caused great destruction of property and loss of life. About a thousand boats, each manned by five fishermen, had left the various ports of the east coast of Scotland, betwixt Stonehaven and Fraserburg, for the herring fishery. When at the offing, at about an average distance of ten miles, and the nets down, the wind, which had continued during the day at south and south-west, suddenly chopped out to the south-east with rain. About twelve o'clock it blew a gale, the rain falling in torrents, and the night was so dark that none of the land lights could be seen. As soon as the gale came some of the fishermen began to haul their nets, but the sea ran so high that most of the fleet had to run for the shore to save life.—At Fraserburg, the boats being leeward of Kinnaird's-head, which forms the entrance to the Moray Frith, were less exposed than the boats to the southward, and managed to get a landing without loss of life. But at Peterhead, which is the easternmost point of the coast, and altogether exposed to an easterly gale, seventy out of the four hundred boats that were fishing there are missing, and there is too much reason to fear that most, if not all of them, are wrecked or sunk. At daybreak on Saturday morning, the scene that presented itself along the shore between the Buchannes lighthouse and the entrance to the south harbor, was of the most appalling description. The whole coast for a mile and a half was strewed with wrecks and the dead bodies of fishermen. Twenty three corpses were carried into Peterhead before nine o'clock, and at the time the latest accounts left other were being constantly thrown ashore among the wreck on the sands or the rocks.—Forty boats were wrecked within the circuit of half a mile, and so sudden and awful was the catastrophe that no means of succouring or saving the distressed and perishing fishermen could be devised. How many boats may have foundered at sea or gone to pieces among the precipitous cliffs of Buchan no one at present can tell. One thing appears certain, that the lowest estimate of the loss of life and property by this gale exceeds that produced by any other hurricane hitherto recorded in the annals of the east coat of Scotland. It is calculated that along the coast not fewer than a hundred lives have been lost.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, AUG. 25.

The Budget.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought out his financial statement to-night. The attention of the Government had been directed to a division of the financial expenditure, and they were fully impressed with the necessity of adopting a system of the strictest economy. At the commencement of the session there was a total reduction on the estimates for the navy, army, ordnance, and on the year, of £866,200; but in consequence of the subsequent additions, this sum was reduced to £828,000. He estimated the expenditure for the current year for the consolidated fund at £31,280,600, which, with estimates for the navy, army, and ordnance, miscellaneous ordnance estimates, pensioners, would make the total expenditure £52,422,335, and he estimated the receipts at £52,130,000, leaving a deficiency of £292,335, but to this was to be added a sum of £39,510 for emigration, and £1,738,921 for the Caffre war, making a total excess of the expenditure over the income of £2,031,000, or, in round numbers, £2,000,000, out of five millions and a half which had been advanced for improvement in Ireland and Scotland. Only half a million has been expended, but there was a charge on the consolidated fund of £300,000 for the West Indies, emigration, and other purposes, the sums advanced for the improvement of land would of course be paid. He proposed to repay to the Treasury the £2,000,000 of deficiency, and he proposed to go to the money market and borrow that sum. He intended to raise the amount of the deficiency either by exchequer bills, or by the creation of stock, which was the course adopted by the right hon. gentleman, the member for Tamworth, in 1841. The government deemed it unadvisable to propose any permanent tax in order to meet a temporary deficiency; therefore he thought that the course he intended to pursue was the least objectionable that could be adopted. They had to deal with financial questions in times of unexampled difficulty; they had a famine in Ireland, commercial distress in England, and revolutions throughout Europe; and, therefore, these events necessarily affected the receipts and expenditure of the country most materially and prejudicially. The blockade that was at present carried out by Denmark had also a serious effect upon the state and revenues of the country, and so sensible was the Government of the prejudicial state of the Continent, that nothing would be wanting, on their part, to establish the peace in Europe, and thereby increase and promote the trade and commerce of the country. It was gratifying to him that, under such unfavourable circumstances, the revenue of the country was so large. In the beginning of 1847, they had estimated the revenue at £52,065,000, and, notwithstanding the unfavourable events of that year, the actual receipt amounted to £51,627,000, or only £438,000 below the estimate, and he was happy to say that the prospects of the present year were equally satisfactory; for, on comparing the revenue of the present year, from the 5th of April to the present time, there was a deficiency, as compared with the same period last year, of £115,000, while it is most satisfactory to observe that there was an increase in the customs and excise of £500,000. He was happy to say that trade was increasing, and that there was reason to hope that it would continue to do so. He was also happy to say that the rumours which were in circulation of the failure of the potato crop in this country and in Ireland were exaggerated, and that the failure was by no means general. With respect to the harvest, he regretted to say that it had been considered injured in the north, in consequence of the weather, but the injury was not general; and even if the failure of the crop was as great as it was in 1846, there was abundance of food in the country. While he would not any longer hold out measures of relief to Ireland, still he thought it would be cruel and inhuman to refuse aid to those who were in utter destitution. The right hon. gentleman concluded, by moving several votes.

Mr. Hume, Lord George Bentinck, Mr. John O'Connell, Sir H. Willoughby, and Mr. Muntz expressed their dissatisfaction at the proposed measure; and were replied to by

Lord John Russell, who said that it was the anxious desire of the Government to reduce the expenditure on the navy and the army, so as to equalize the income and expenditure of the country, and be hoped he should be able to effect so desirable an object. He was sorry that the state of the Continent and the disturbances at home had compelled both services to be kept up on an expensive scale during the year.

THE SHIP OCEAN MONARCH BURNT AT SEA.—*Loss of One Hundred and Fifty Lives.*—Never, in our experience as journalists, has it been our lot to record a more painful or melancholy catastrophe than the complete destruction of the Boston packet ship Ocean Monarch, Capt. Murdoch, which took place off the port of Liverpool on Thursday last. That noble ship has become a prey to fire, and an awful sacrifice of human life has taken place.

We have waited upon Capt. Murdoch, and from him we have obtained the following official statement:—

"The Ocean Monarch, 1300 tons burthen, left the Mersey early on Thursday, with about 380 souls on board, including the crew and passengers. We discharged the pilot about 8 o'clock. No incident worthy of note occurred until we arrived off the Ormshead, at which time it was nearly 12 o'clock. Orders were given to tack ship, and while hauling the main yard it was stated that one of the steerage passengers had made a fire in one of the ventilators without reflection. I immediately sent the steward and another man to extinguish the fire and bring up the delinquent who had made it. Immediately after this one of the cabin passengers came on deck and stated that the cabin was full of smoke, which was coming from below. On hearing this I ran down to ascertain the position of affairs, and found that the ship was actually on fire. I then hurried back to the deck and gave orders to have water poured upon it, and directed that the ship should be kept before the wind in order to lessen the draft, but the flames with a rush, almost as instantaneous as lightning, burst forth, and in less than five minutes the whole stern of the ship was completely enveloped in the fiery element. I then gave orders to have the ship brought to the wind. All was now a scene of the utmost confusion, noise, and disorder. My orders could not be heard. Despair had seized almost every soul on board. The scene which presented itself was most awful to contemplate, much less to look upon.

The flames were bursting with immense fury from the stern and centre of the vessel. So great was the heat in these parts that the passengers, male and female, men, women, and children, crowded to the forepart of the vessel. Their piercing heart-rending shrieks for aid were carried by the breeze across the dark blue waves. In their maddened despair women jumped overboard with their offspring in their arms, and sunk to rise no more. Men followed their wives in frenzy and were lost. Groups of men, women, and children also precipitated themselves into the water in the vain hope of self-preservation, but the waters closed over many of them for ever, and fearfully realised the inspired declaration that "in the midst of life we are in death." In vain did I entreat and beg of the passengers to be composed. I pointed out to them that there were several vessels around us, and that, if they preserved order, they would all be saved; that although the case was desperate it was not hopeless. It was of no avail. Howls of lamentations, and cries for help, were the only answers which I could obtain to my entreaties. Finding that every effort which I made was unavailing, and that nothing could be done to avoid the total destruction of the ship, in consequence of my orders not being heard, I directed that the anchors should be let go, so as to allow the ship to get her head to the wind, and thus, if possible, confine the flames to the stern. In a few minutes the mizen mast went overboard—a few minutes more, and the main mast shared the same fate. There yet remained the fore mast. As the fire was making its way to the fore part of the vessel, the passengers and crew, of course, crowded still further forward. To the jibboom they clung in clusters as thick as they could pack—even one lying over another. At length the foremast went overboard, snapping the fastenings of the jibboom, which, with its load of human beings dropped into the water amidst the most heart-rending screams, both of those on board and those who were falling into the water. Some of the poor creatures were enabled again to reach the vessel, others floated away on spars but many met a watery grave.

Meantime, I gave orders to get the ship's boats afloat. Two were got overboard, and while in the act of getting the others ready, and cutting away the lashings, the fire reached them and they were immediately enveloped in flames. On seeing this the passengers became more unmanageable than ever. It was a painful moment. The shrieks of terror and alarm baffle all description. Maddened by despair, and in the vain hope of being rescued they knew not how, numbers again jumped overboard. Seeing the sad plight, and the awful sacrifice of life which was going on, despite of every effort which I made, I gave direction to throw every moveable article overboard, so that those who had left the ship might cling by them until help arrived.

The Queen of the Ocean yacht was the first to come to our assistance. Her owner, Mr. Thomas Littledale, with whom were Sir Thomas Hesketh, Mr. Tobin, Mr. Palk, and Mr. Aufrere, ordered the boat to be lowered, and proceeded with an alacrity and zeal, aided by the gentlemen named and the crew of his craft, to pick up all within their reach. I may just here observe that the last thing which I did was to throw over a topgallant-yard, made fast with a rope, to keep it along side. The carpenter and one or two of the men assisted me to do this, and I then told those who could hear me to jump overboard and cling to the spar. A good many obeyed my directions. At this time I was surrounded on all sides, both fore and aft, by the flames, and seeing no possible chance of escape if I remained for a moment longer, I followed the spar I had sent overboard. Several seized hold of the same spar. I entreated some of them to let go, or all would perish, and showed them the example by swimming to a plank, by which I was enabled to sustain myself for about half an hour in the water, when I was picked up by the Queen of the Ocean.

The Brazilian steam-frigate Affonso, the Prince of Wales, coasting steamer, and the New York packet-ship New World, after some time, came up and rendered effective service.

The Queen of the Ocean remained alongside till three o'clock. At that time the vessel was burnt near to the water's edge, and there were only a few of the passengers on board, several boats being alongside endeavouring to take them off.

Finding that the yacht could do no more, Mr. Littledale ordered her to start for Liverpool, where we arrived about seven o'clock in the evening.

Although I did not see the part taken by the officers and distinguished party on board the Brazilian frigate, yet I am bound to return them my grateful thanks for the very laudable and successful efforts in rescuing the lives of so many human beings from a watery grave, or the still more fearful death by fire. Of Mr. Littlehale, and his company and crew, I know not how to speak; their conduct is beyond all praise. May He in whose hands are the issues of life and death, grant them in another and a better world the full reward which such philanthropy and benevolent conduct eminently deserves.

Of the origin of the fire I cannot at present say. My mind has not yet been so fully composed as to enable me to investigate with accuracy the probability of the various conjectures which are afloat. At present I am inclined to say that it arose from some of the passengers smoking in the steerage, contrary to orders.

The Ocean Monarch had a very valuable cargo, the freight of which, together with the passage-money, amounted to about £2600.

JAMES MURDOCH,
Commander of the Ocean Monarch.

The Ocean Monarch had on board when she left the Mersey 307 passengers in the steerage; 9 in the first cabin; 16 in the second do., besides the crew, 43 in number, making, with the captain, a total of 376 souls—out of which we can reckon, from all sources, 225 saved, thus leaving 151 who are supposed to have perished.

The cargo consisted of 200 bales and cases of fine goods, 220 crates of earthenware, 96 tons salt, and about 600 tons iron and dead weight.

The vessel went down at 1-15 on Friday morning.

All the sufferers, the greater part of whom were emigrants from the south of Ireland, have lost their luggage, clothes, and everything which they possessed. Many of them when landed were nearly naked, and had borrowed coats, jackets, and other articles of wearing apparel, in order to protect them temporarily from the effects of the cold.

The greater part of those who were lost consisted of women and children, who, of course, were less able than the men to avail themselves of the means of escape. One person on board lost £800 and his wife and child.

The sufferers consisted chiefly of young men and women, many of them going over to America to join their relatives and friends. Those in the second cabin were principally English.—All the cabin passengers were saved.

IRELAND.

The excitement in Ireland has settled down into a half sullen, anxious, and most unsatisfactory state. The Queen's troops retain possession of all the important points in the south, with the certainty that during the whole of the approaching winter the most rigorous military and police regulations will be enforced, and that any attempt at organising clubs, and otherwise thwarting the endeavours of the Executive to maintain tranquility, will be instantly repressed. The trial of Mr. John Martin has terminated in his conviction, and a sentence of transportation for ten years. A writ of error has been submitted to the Attorney-General. The future fate of Mr. Doheny is still in the balance. The Government having failed to procure his conviction on his first trial, owing to the disagreement of the jury, was not more successful on a second attempt. Notwithstanding additional evidence was adduced, there was a greater disagreement amongst the jury than before, and the jury was again permitted to separate without returning a verdict. Mr. Doheny was remanded to prison, and no bail allowed to be received for his enlargement. These momentary triumphs tend, however, to aggravate the prevailing mischief. Almost all the London journals, supported by powerful men in Parliament, are calling upon the Government to establish courts-martial, in order that the great palladium of liberty, "trial by jury," may not be endanged by such a course as some individual jurymen have adopted. It is said that Government will make some other attempts, in due course of civil proceedings, to prosecute the prisoners who have made themselves amenable to the law, but if they are defeated, they will adopt other more severe measures.

The accounts from all parts of Ireland respecting the potato crop fill us with the deepest alarm and apprehension. In the southern counties the disease has exhibited itself in the most unmistakeable form in almost every locality. Ill-fated Skibbereen seems threatened with fresh calamities, the destruction in that quarter being most extensive. It is of course premature to assert that the crop of potatoes throughout Ireland is irrevocably lost; fine dry weather may retrieve an immense portion of the crop now in jeopardy. Nevertheless all the accounts which have reached us from Ireland, including not only the southern divisions of Munster, Leinster, and Connaught, but extending also into Ulster, as far as Monaghan, Armagh, and even to Antrim, attest the universality of the danger. It is generally admitted, however, that a greater breadth of potatoes has been planted this season than in any previous year, which may materially affect the result.

The *Times*, of yesterday, states that Lord John Russell will start for Dublin in a day or two, "not to supersede, nor to control, nor to direct Lord Clarendon; but to observe the state of that distracted island, to see its real grievances, to examine their causes, and to confer upon their remedies."

It is said that the executive obtain daily fresh evidences of the extent to which the ramification of the confederacy extended, and they have received startling information as to the countenance and support its objects met with from influential parties in the country—parties supposed to be far removed from sympathy with illegal practices.

In reply to an address from the grand jurors of the county of Cork, promising support to his Excellency Lord Clarendon, approving of his government, and calling upon him to use the full powers committed to him for the repression of insurrection, his Excellency, by Mr. Connellan, his private secretary, says, "It is his firm intention to use the great powers confided to him by Parliament solely for the maintenance of law and order, and the preservation of those institutions which secure the liberties, the properties, and the lives of all the subjects of this great empire." A well-timed and constitutional declaration.

Sentence of Mr. John Martin, of the "Felon."—Before the adjournment of the court on the 19th, Mr. Martin, who was convicted on the 16th, was brought up for judgment. He was asked, in the usual way, what he had to say why the sentence of the court should not be passed upon him, and replied that he would prefer making any observations he had to lay before the court after the sentence was announced.

The Lord Chief Baron said that that was the proper time for him to do so.

Mr. Martin then observed that he did not wish to impugn the verdict of the jury, but he laboured under the impression that he had not had a fair trial.

The Chief Baron proceeded to pass sentence, and alluded to the probable results which might have arisen from the publication of the article on which he was convicted, commenting in a temperate but condemnatory tone upon the principles which it advocated. He stated that, in considering the amount of punishment which the court would award, they had not been unmindful of the recommendation of the jury for the extension of mercy.

Mr. Martin here interposed, and having begged his lordship's pardon for interrupting him, said that he would not condescend to ask for mercy. He might have been legally wrong in adopting the course he pursued, but he was still strongly of opinion that the circumstances of the country required it; and that he was, notwithstanding the enactment of a British Parliament, morally right. All he asked was, that justice should be done to him, convinced, as he was, that he had committed no crime which would stain his character as a man, a patriot, or a Christian.

The Chief Baron then directed that Mr. Martin should be transported for ten years; after which, he was immediately removed in chains to Newgate.

On Wednesday morning, at six o'clock, Mr. Martin was removed from Newgate, to Richmond bridewell. At the hour mentioned, one of the prison vans was in attendance, and Mr. Martin, accompanied by Mr. Mack, one of the turnkeys of the jail, and three constables, entered the vehicle, which was escorted by a body of mounted police. The van drove off to Richmond bridewell, where Mr. Martin was delivered into the custody of the governor.

The *Dublin World* says, it has transpired that Mr. C. G. Duffy has been completely prostrated in mind by the new and darker feature which his case presents, owing to the discovery of his treasonable correspondence. He spends the most of his time in daylight walking up and down the yard of Newgate, wringing his hands and sighing heavily, like a man abandoned by courage and hope. It does not appear that his pecuniary affairs were in so prosperous a state as they were represented, and it is thought that the sale of his effects, which is announced, will not meet the claims of his creditors. Messrs. O'Brien and Meagher display great firmness and good spirits in the interviews which they are permitted to enjoy with their relatives and legal advisers. Mr. O'Brien has been several times visited by his brothers, Sir Lucius and Mr. Robert O'Brien, since his incarceration. An application to the Under-Secretary, on behalf of Mr. Duffy, for removal to a more healthful prison than Newgate, has been made on the certificate of Dr. Stokes, who apprehends the most serious consequences to the health of Mr. Duffy from further incarceration in this crowded and most unhealthy jail, which, our readers may not be aware, is built upon the site of the vast burial ground once attached to the ancient Abbey of St. Mary. Mr. Duffy seems to have suffered dreadfully from his imprisonment.

The Surgeon-General held a medical examination into the state of health of Mr. Martin. The result is not known. Mr. Martin has always been of feeble constitution, and studious habits have not lessened it. His chest looks very much contracted, and his extreme roundness of back denotes great weakness there.

Messrs. Smith O'Brien and Meagher enjoy good health. They are permitted, we understand, to occupy the same cell in Kilmainham, in consequence of the limited accommodation of the building, in its present crowded state. Mrs. O'Brien provides the meals, and visits her husband daily.

Mr. Henn, Q.C., with Mr. Whiteside, will defend Mr. O'Brien in the coming trials for treason. Mr. Butt will defend Mr. Duffy. It is not stated whether Mr. Meagher has engaged any counsel.

An auctioneer's bill, announcing the sale of Mr. Charles Gavan Duffy's moveable property is before us. As an inventory of the effects of an *enslaved Irishman*, it is worthy of a wider circulation than amongst the mere lovers of bargains. It shows the owner to have been a man of elegant tastes and luxurious habits, which he had acquired ample means of indulging. In his pretty country seat, not more than a mile from the dust and bustle of the city, he was lodged and provided like a Nabob. There, if he lay not upon roses, he might at least have reclined upon down, with all the appliances which wealth and artistic skill could supply,—*Dublin Evening Mail.*

MR. RICHARD O'GORMAN.—The *Limerick Examiner* states that this rebel lately arrived in a steamer at Kilrush, but that, in the dress of an old woman, he escaped, Mr. Little, the magistrate, who was in attendance with a body of police to search the vessel, having gallantly offered the *old dame* his arm and politely assisted her across the gangway.

It is currently reported that Mr. John Dillon, for whose apprehension a reward of £300 has been so long offered in vain, has effected his escape seaward.

Mr. J. B. Dillon, one of the chiefs of the Irish insurrection, has arrived at Havre.—*Daily News.*

ARRIVAL OF THE STATE PRISONERS IN BELFAST.—About half-past twelve o'clock on Saturday, the Government screw-steamer Trafalger landed fourteen of the state prisoners at Dunbar's Dock, where a large attendance of police, with Mr. Jenkins, R.M., at their head, waited their arrival.

The *Limerick Chronicle* says,—"The Right Reverend Dr. Ryan, of this diocese, has published no letter in favour of a general or partial amnesty to political offenders. The Roman Catholic clergy of this and the other dioceses in Ireland, repudiate, as most inconsiderate and ill-timed, the address of the Roman Catholic clergy of Tuam in favour of the malcontents now in custody and their adherents."

DISTRESS.—An English commercial traveller, just returned from a tour of business in the south, and who speaks from personal observation, states that in the town of Clonmel, on Saturday last, he saw at least a thousand able bodied men offering their services to the farmers to do a full day's work for their diet and one penny per diem wages. In Kilkenny he also witnessed large bodies of the peasantry willing to give a day's labour for their food and two-pence wages, being about one-fifth of the sum paid in ordinary times, even in the most remote parts of the country, where all the necessaries of life are cheaper in proportion to their distance from the neighbourhood of large towns. In the metropolitan and adjacent counties the average rate is 1s. 6d., without diet.

DONNYBROOK FAIR.—The fair of Donnybrook commenced on Monday. Compared with former years there is a great falling off in every respect. The tents and "shows" are miserable in the extreme, and very few in number. The visits of the citizens to the far-famed green were, indeed, like angels', and altogether the whole affair seems bereft of the interest which used to characterize Donnybrooke in the olden time.—*Freeman's Jour.*

FRANCE.—The events in France are proceeding silently and almost imperceptibly towards some violent catastrophe, which will test the strength of the present order of Government. All Europe has been amazed at the disclosures which have been made by the publication of the report on the late insurrections. Never in the history of the world has such a mass of folly, crime, secret villainy and open violence, infatuation and reckless daring been presented to the world. It is quite impossible, from the vast prolixity of the report, which occupies three huge volumes, to give to our readers anything like a summary of the contents; we must limit ourselves to describing the effect which the perusal has produced in our minds. MM. Arago, Cavaignac, Lamartine, Ledru-Rollin, Caussidiere, Marrast, and all the chief actors in the revolution, have severally been examined; and it is plain, from the concurrent testimony of almost all, that the revolution was effected by a combination of the lowest of the people, chiefly connected with the *National* and *Reforme* newspapers. The money raised by loans and taxes has been squandered amongst the vilest of mankind, for the double purpose of creating terror and alarm in Paris whenever a political point was to be carried, and for the still more mischievous purpose of propagandism in foreign parts. The evidence given is loose, vague, and desultory. Each witness represents a principle. You see the purest principles of Republicanism and order in Arago, Marie, and one or two others. Lamartine figures like a weak double-faced half-cracked poet, who would be a politician, whilst he is the dupe of those around him, and of his own vanity. Caussidiere, who before the revolution was a hanger-on at a low newspaper office, and occasionally employed to collect orders in the provinces, formed the plan of making himself President of France, and he was not far from success. No wonder the first thing they did was to vote for the abolition of capital punishment for political offences. We must not say, therefore, what punishment Caussidiere deserves; but it requires no sagacity to perceive that if he and Louis Blanc and Ledru-Rollin escape conviction of treason, we will not say against royalty, but against the Republic, then all government in France is a downright farce. One witness, named Chenu, a police agent of the vilest character, in the pay of Caussidiere, reveals all the proceedings of the conspirators before and after February; and a more hardened, thorough-paced villain has not appeared since the days of Robespierre. Ledru-Rollin, if the evidence is to be believed, has taken care of the future, and has contrived to remit about £14,000 sterling to London, for investment in the funds.

The most extensive military arrangements are continually in force to suppress any disorders in Paris; the *Garde Mobile* in large detachments parade the city, and rumours are industriously circulated that the Red Republicans and the Legitimists have coalesced, with a view to bring about a counter-revolution. After the disclosures made by the Insurrectionary Report, we could hardly think such rumours could be believed by any one, since therein it is proved that the funds of the Provisional Government were actively employed to circulate mischievous reports, in order to create alarm. But the fact is, a large body of men, more or less implicated in the late insurrection, see their friends transported to the hulks, and conscious as they are of the equal guiltiness of many members of the late and present Government, they burn to avenge their comrades.

Our latest news from Paris describes the general alarm which prevails that a legitimist outbreak is at hand. The cause of royalty is gaining ground in many departments, whilst at Avignon Socialist processions are taking place, with cries of "*Vive Barbes!*" "*Vive Blanqui!*" "*Vive Robespierre!*" We still have our doubts respecting the character of the threatened outbreak; we deem it far more probable that the agents of the Government, or the parties in the National Assembly circulate these reports for their own political ends.

The courts-martial, appointed to try the leaders of the insurrection of June, and the murderers of General Brea, held their first sitting on the 18th inst. Two cases came before them, that of M. Testulat, a wine cooper, who commanded at the barricade of the Rue St. Paul. He was clearly convicted, and sentenced to imprisonment and hard labour for life. The second was M. de Jusseau, a lieutenant of the national guards, who joined the insurgents and fought at the barricade of the Rue Neuve Chabrol. He was also convicted, but the court sentenced him to three years' imprisonment only. The court will continue to sit till the whole of the cases are disposed of.

The extent of the influence and ramifications of Socialism in Paris is frightful. In Lyons it is even comparatively more formidable. Unhappily it extends to all the great towns. In the peaceful city of Tours the number of Socialists is said to be no less than 4500. The body is said to be in correspondence with the Chartists of England, and that the affiliated are pledged to support each other. In Paris, at least, there is for the present no danger of their getting the upper hand, and if the hopes of the country be realised, that is, if General Cavaignac be elected President, it will be long before they or disturbers of any kind will have the power to do extensive mischief.

On the 19th inst. the Marquis of Normanby had an interview with General Cavaignac, and presented his credentials as ambassador extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the Queen of England, on a special mission to the Republic. It is now understood that Lord Normanby will remain permanently as ambassador.

M. Marrast has been chosen President of the National Assembly of France for the next month, by 611 votes out of 708.

A report is current in Paris that a letter has been received, by one of the legitimist leaders, from the Duke of Bordeaux, in which he disavows in the strongest terms all measures which have been or may be taken in his name, having for their object the destruction of the Republic, and declaring that he never will consent to adopt any views towards the French crown unless it should be by the general and spontaneous invitation of the country.

In Germany the festivities at Cologne have brought the Vicar-General of the Empire and the King of Prussia upon the scene together; but no perceptible political results have followed from their communication. All is calm and apparent trimming to catch the breeze of popularity, but the real aim and objects of the great leaders are still but in the perspective.

We are afraid that another insurrection has broken out at Warsaw, and on the Russian frontiers. The outbreak was said to have been put down after a conflict of five hours' duration. Some accounts state that vast numbers of the insurgents have been transported to Siberia without trial. The Emperor of Russia seems disposed to recognise the new Republic of France, and has consented to receive a diplomatist from General Cavaignac, Count Leflot has left Paris for St. Petersburgh as the envoy of the Republic. In Hungary and Croatia extensive armaments seem to be going on for the purpose of civil war; but the accounts are so wilfully falsified, that it is quite impossible to give any authentic statement of what is passing in the Austrian outlying provinces.

In Italy all is still in confusion and alarm. The Genoese seem resolved to have a struggle for their independence, and to shake off the yoke of Charles Albert. The city, which is very strong, is being placed in a formidable state of defence, and the people are destroying the two celebrated forts which menace the town. In a month they will be raised to the ground. The Austrians have possession of Bergamo, Brescia, and Como. Milan has been respected by the Austrians. Garibaldi, the Italian general, has retired into Switzerland, after some vain attempt to cope with a body of Austrians. In Venice all is confusion.

A proclamation, dated Aug. 11, has been published at Rome, in which after announcing the events at Bologna, the ministry informs the people that troops are on their way to defend the Papal States by order of Pius, *who is intent upon the defence and redemption of the common fatherland.*

AUSTRIA.—The Emperor issued the following proclamation on his return to Vienna:—

"*To my faithful Viennese.*—Yesterday, the day on which I returned to you and received the proofs of your unalterable love, will never be forgotten by me and the members of the Imperial house. May it for ever shine in history as the day of a new covenant between a free people and its constitutional Emperor! May peace, concord, order, and legality establish their reign amongst us, and may the fabric of a new constitutional state be reared and consolidated under their protection. Co-operating with the representatives you have elected, and assisted by my responsible councillors, I hope to succeed in completing the arduous task Providence has assigned me, namely the reconstruction of the Government of the country on the basis of a representative constitution. "FERDINAND."

PORTUGAL.—The Cortes were closed by the Queen in person on the 15th inst. By the closing of the Cortes the greater number of the "deputies of the nation" may literally be said to be thrown out of work. Few amongst them have a single sixpence to depend upon, or means of livelihood, beyond their daily wages as a member of Parliament. This will explain the interminable spinning out of their sittings.

EGYPT.—A letter, dated Alexandria, August 1st, states that the cholera had broken out throughout all Egypt with more or less intensity. It made its first appearance about the middle of last month in a town of the Delta, called Tantah, where an immense number of people, amounting to about 165,000, were assembled in pilgrimage from all parts of Egypt and Syria to celebrate the festival of a Mahommedan saint. In Cairo during the last week there have been about 300 cases daily; here, about 120; in most of the villages on the Nile there are daily cases, and it is much feared that the number will materially increase during the present month of Ramadan, which began yesterday, when the natives fast all day and commit excesses during the night. Before the people dispersed at Tantah, it is said that there must have been upwards of 3000 deaths from this disease.

Ibrahim Pasha had sailed for Rhodes on the first appearance of the disease.

ANOTHER SHOCKING MURDER.—On Sunday afternoon last, between the hours of 4 and 5, it was discovered that a murder had been committed in a house in Portland, known as the Barracks.—From the evidence which has been elicited, it appears that Wm. Andrews, a labourer, who was in a state of intoxication, struck his wife on the head with his fist, knocking her down, and in her fall her head struck a table, which caused her death soon after. A Coroner's Inquest was summoned yesterday, but the investigation has not yet closed. From what has been adduced, however, it is evident that the deceased came to her death from the effects of a blow on the head, in all probability by the fist of her unnatural husband.

Since writing the above, we learn that the investigation closed last evening, and that the Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of *Wilful Murder* against William Andrews, who is now in custody in the Common Gaol, awaiting his trial for the offence.—*New Bruns.*

At a meeting of the Directors of the Mechanics' Whale Fishing Company, yesterday, Thomas Nisbet, Esq., was re-elected President, and Alexander Robertson, Esq., re-appointed Secretary.

A Bazaar for the benefit of the Woodstock Mechanics' Institute, was held at that place on the 31st ult. and 1st inst., the proceeds of which amounted to the handsome sum of £105. There was a ball on the evening of the second day. The bazaar and ball were held in the building now in course of erection for the institution.

A bull and six young heifers, of the pure Ayrshire breed, have arrived this week in the brig *Magog*, from Ayr. We learn they are intended for Mr. Jardine's farm at Oak Park, near Fredericton.

The transport ship *Java*, 30 days from Gibraltar, with the 97th Regt. on board, arrived at Halifax on Saturday last. The 23rd Regt. are to go home in the Java.

The new ferry steamer *Transit*, built for the Lancaster Steam Ferry Company, to ply from Indian Town to the opposite side of the river, made a trial trip on Wednesday, and gave great satisfaction. Her machinery is of domestic manufacture, having been constructed at the Foundry of Mr. John Smith, Courtenay Bay.—*N.Br.*

A Soldier belonging to the First Royal Regiment, had his hand dreadfully shattered this morning, by the bursting of a Fowling piece, while in the act of firing at a flock of Pigeons.—*Fredericton Reporter.*

A meeting composed of 700 children, pledged to the principles of Total Abstinence—or in other words *a Cold Water Army*, lately had a procession in Halifax, and were most courteously received by His Excellency Sir John Harvey, who responded to their cheers with great kindness.—"His Excellency" says the Nova Scotian, told them "he truly rejoiced to meet them—they were united together in a good and noble cause—one that would lay the foundation of morality, loyalty, and every qualification which would make them respected in after life. 'Total Abstinence in youth,' said His Excellency, 'will ensure temperance in old age.' He understood they were about to enjoy a day's pleasure—he trusted the weather would be favorable, and should any deficiency in money arise from the day's excursion, desired the General to wait upon him in order that he might give his assistance. Three hearty cheers for His Excellency followed, and three for Lady Harvey. The Lieutenant Governor again kindly responded, and as the children tur