

be seen—every thing having been destroyed or carried away by the impetuosity of the waters. But when there was added to this, the wailings and lamentations of the poor inhabitants, without food, and homeless, and mourning over deceased relatives, the scene was the most exquisitely wretched that can well be conceived. In Stanners' Lane, scarcely a single house could be entered in which loss of life had not occurred—in several, three and four had fallen victims—and, in one little apartment, no fewer than six! Of that little district of Cartsdyke, the words of Scripture, given in reference to Egypt, might well be applied,—“And there was not a house in which there was not one dead.” We cannot possibly relate all the individual cases of suffering in this catastrophe, nor enumerate all the hair-breadth escapes which were made in the course of that dreadful evening; but a few of the more prominent we will here subjoin, as adding very considerably to the interest of our narrative. In Stanners' Lane, a poor man informed us, that, on finding his house filled with water, he seized one of his children, and pushed it into a place, formed like a sailor's hammock, near the ceiling, where it remained in safety. He then laid hold of two more of his children, and his wife laid hold of another, with whom they attempted to escape, but, finding it utterly impossible, they remained in the house for the most part of an hour deep in water, and holding the children above their heads. These they saved, but one poor little thing, which was left in bed, perished. Their nearest neighbour, Peter Douglas, a shoemaker, with his son and daughter, were drowned. Widow Ferguson resided in the same lane, with her son and daughter and a lodger, named Macfayden. On finding the water rushing into her house, she alarmed one of her neighbours, and called on him to make his escape. He replied, that it was safer to remain within. The widow, however, with the persons above-mentioned, viz. her son and daughter, and lodger, went to the door with the view of escaping, but they were all carried away by the torrent, the widow and her lodger were drowned, the daughter caught hold of a piece of timber, by which she hung till she was drifted to an amazing distance, when she was picked up by a boat; the brother was saved he knew not how. A man named Alexander Currie, seized upon a large nail in the ceiling, by which he hung till the water subsided—his wife was carried down the street, where she was fortunately rescued from her perilous situation. A lodger in the same house secured his safety by getting upon the top of a tent-bed. In the adjoining house no less than six persons perished—Laurence M'Comie, his wife, and two children, and two lodgers. Five of these unfortunate people were found lying on the floor, and one child in bed—one of the lodgers was in life at the time; but he died in three hours afterwards. The fate of this family excites deep sympathy. Next door, Mrs Gomen and an old man named Robert M'Watters, were drowned. Mrs. Allison, a daughter of the latter, kept hold of two children, and remained deep in water for so long a period, that she was on the point of sinking when she was relieved from her distressing position. A person in the same neighbourhood, in his anxiety to escape from the flood of water that rushed into the house, broke through one of the pannels of the door, and leapt out into the street, but was instantly carried away by the current. At the foot of the lane he rose to the surface, and in attempting to swim, came in contact with a horse also swimming, by which he clung for some time, and latterly caught hold of a beam of wood, which he hung by till picked up. In another house, five small children were saved by being thrust through a trap door into the garret above. Edward Carrigan, who was surprised while in bed, by the sudden rise of the water, attempted to carry out his three children; but finding that impossible, he upheld them in his arms as much above the surface as he could, and in that position stood till the water reached his lips, and again subsided. The tear stood in the eye of this hero of humble life as he described the cries of his children, who, during his painful position, were continually crying that they were drowning. In a house on the ground floor at the present part of the same lane, nine people who resided in it, were forced to fly to the flat above; but the water following even there, they were compelled to take refuge in the garrets, and fortunately all escaped. A case of remarkable preservation occurred to a boy, who was carried down the stream in the Main Street of Cartsdyke, when a man who chanced to put up his window at the moment, thrust out his hand and seized him by the hair of the head, and drew him in from the water. The case of Mr. Paul, plasterer, was also a very remarkable one. His wife and one child perished; he was in bed with other three of his children; on the water entering the house, he leapt out, when the bed almost immediately floated with the three children in it, and continued to do so till the water subsided. The agitation of the water was so great, that Mr. Paul would have been unable to keep himself up, had

not his feet got entangled in a hole torn up in the floor, which held them fast, while his body was beaten about by the action of the water. To these, numerous cases of an affecting character might be added, did our time and limits permit. On the dreadful scene terminating, it was truly distressing for those who first entered the houses to see persons lying drowned in their beds, who apparently had made no effort for self-preservation, the water and mud having, in all likelihood, suffocated them on the instant.

In St. Andrew Street, a female named Mrs. MacLatchie was carried off by the water, and perished. Her husband, with a child in his grasp, was also carried away; he held the infant closely till, coming forcibly in contact with a lamp-post, it was forced from his arms, and afterwards picked up at a considerable distance.—MacLatchie was also fortunately saved.

It is impossible to estimate properly the amount of damage sustained in property; but, as far as can be ascertained, the loss, it is said, will amount to about £30,000. The tan works of Mr. M'Farlane, and Mr. Arbuckle, were nearly wholly destroyed; and, adding to these the immense destruction of other buildings, &c., with the injury done to the embankments of the reservoirs, we are not inclined to think the amount too large.

With regard to the living sufferers by this calamity, we have no doubt that every means will be taken to alleviate their condition, and restore them, as much as can be, to their former comfort.

At a meeting of the Town Council, it was agreed to give immediate assistance in food, clothing, and lodging, to those who had been left destitute, and, at a public meeting of the inhabitants, it was resolved to open a subscription for the same purpose. The subscription list was headed by Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, who set down £200 for the Shaws Water Company, and £100 for himself; and before the meeting broke up the sum subscribed amounted to upwards of £600.

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON, December 12.

Within the last few days several British vessels have been taken up at an advance of 15 or 25 per cent. to be engaged in the American trade should a system of non-intercourse be adopted by America towards France.

The transactions in the public securities today have been upon an extremely limited scale. Money continues pretty abundant, the accommodation afforded by the Bank of England, by advances upon deposit stock in approved securities, having wholly prevented any scarcity which might otherwise have been occasioned by the large amount of money which is locked up awaiting the decision of the Commissioners for the West India Claims. Consols for account have only fluctuated during the day between 91 1-4 and 91 3-8, the latter being the quotation at the close. Exchequer Bills are a shade lower than yesterday, closing at 17 premium.

The favourable tenor of the advices from Madrid produced but little effect upon the market for Spanish Stock to-day.

GENERAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S VESSELS.—One of the immediate effects of the anticipated rupture between France and the United States has been to greatly increase the business of ship insurances. Policies have been signed on American bottoms at 10 per cent., which includes the war and common risk. There is also a good deal of activity among the principal shipbuilders on the river, chiefly confined, however, to steam shipping. Several of this class of vessels, of a very superior description, are now on the stocks, the largest and finest of which are for the East India Company, the General Steam Navigation Company, and the Peninsula Trade. The General S. Navigation Company are said to be preparing vessels also for the river trade, of a class and character calculated to excel the surprising performances of some of the present river steam-packets.

Parliament is to meet for the dispatch of business on the 4th of February,

Severe gales were experienced on the English, Irish, and Scotch coasts during the month

of November, which proved very destructive to vessels on the coast, and to property on shore. The papers also contain melancholy accounts of the loss of life.

Mr. Macan, of the Irish bar, has been appointed Justice of Prince Edward Island.

Vice Admiral Sir Peter Halket, G. C. B., had been appointed to succeed Sir George Cockburn in the command of the West Indian and North American stations. He is expected to hoist his flag on board H. M. ship Melville.

THE COMET.—On the 7th of October, a little before midnight, 0 hours, 32 minutes, Sidereal time, there was observed at the Observatory of Milan an occultation by Halley's Comet of a very small but very bright star in the constellation of the Lynx. Notwithstanding the light of the Moon, the star was visible not only through the tail, but also through the nucleus of the Comet.—*Extra Supplement to Allgemeine Zeitung, Oct. 27.*

UNITED STATES.

From the Halifax Gazette.

We received by the Hibernia on Saturday, Boston Papers to the 12th inst. They contain nothing of much interest. The European accounts are of the same date as those brought by the *John Porter*. Mr. Barton had arrived at New York and proceeded to Washington. An important Message was expected by Congress from President Jackson, in reference to the existing state of affairs between France and the United States. Payment of the Indemnity has been refused, Mr. Barton has returned—the French have prepared for war—and it remains to be seen whether the American Government will succumb to the demand which has been made of an apology for the language applied by Mr. Jackson towards France, or, refer the point at issue to the decision of the God of Battles.

There are those who think the alternative will not be adopted, and that it would be better for the United States to put up with the loss of the whole Indemnity than go to war with France. We are not of the number. A fair claim should never be yielded or abandoned under any circumstances: we consider that the Americans have the vantage ground as respects the question at issue. Their demands have been acknowledged. The French Government ought not to hesitate performing an act of justice from any motive whatever.—If an insult has been offered by President Jackson to the dignity of France, let reparation be demanded and insisted upon, but we contend again and again, that it ought not to interfere with the settlement of long standing claims, which have been solemnly and publicly admitted.

MEXICO.—We learn that information has been received by private letters, in this city of the ports of Mexico having been shut against the vessels of the United States; a measure induced probably by the embarkation of so many of our citizens in hostilities against the authority of that country in Texas. We have no further information, however than the naked fact of the shutting of the ports.—*Nat. Int.*

ADMINISTRATION NOTICE.

All Persons having any just demands against the Estate of the late
JAMES CARR,
of Carriboo River, deceased, are hereby requested to render the same duly attested, to the Subscribers, within eighteen calendar months from this date; and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to
MARY CARR, Administratrix.
ROBERT McCONNEL, Adm'r.
Pictou, Dec. 26th, 1835