THE WEEKLY MAIL TORONTO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 23, 1880.

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UR CABLE LETTER. Topics that are Attracting Attention in London. ENGLAND'S BELATIONS WITH FRANCE.

Manitoba as the Wheat Market of the World.

PROSPECTS OF CANADIAN ANNEXATION.

The Unkind Things British Statesmen are Saying of Each Other.

SPLIT IN THE LIBERAL RANKS.

People Dying of Starvation in Ireland.

THE COVERNMENT'S RELIEF PLAN.

Reported Tationing of the Noses of

the sallor Princes.

INT CABLE TO THE MAIL.]

LONDON, Jan. 17. The week has been dull and the weather

The week has been dull and the weather dreary. The uneasy situation of affairs on the Continent has served to rouse the newspapers to a show of activity. France has for the moment absorbed public atten-tion. It is not so much that little confi-dence is placed in the Ministry, or that Germany views it with distrust. It is not that the popular Count de St. Vallier's resignation of the embassy at Berlin is be-liewed to endanger the cause of peace. It is mainly that M. de Freycinet has no stable majority on which he may count, and that Gambetta, who made the Cabinet, is unable to support it. Moreover, there is unquestionably a disposition on the part of France to occupy Tonquin, and assure the execution of the Treaty concluded in 1874 with the Empire of Anam, by which this important artery of commerce was to 1874 with the Empire of Anam, by which this important artery of commerce was to be opened to European trade. France has come to believe that this occupation is essential to the development of her influence in the China seas. Preoccupied with the difficulties of her home politic, she has hitherto given little attention to the grave colonial problems which have arisen in the extreme east, and she has begun to feel that while England fills these lands with her name, her commerce, these lands with her name, her commerce, and her language, her own power has weakened as her neighbour's power was consolidated; hence there is a slightly embittered feeling between the two na-tions, which the late domestic changes were not calculated to engender. Then there is the report of the Russo-German affray which excites universal interest.

POLITICS IN ENGLAND. POLITICS IN ENGLAND. The Pall Mail Gazette taunts the Oppo-sition with mysterious reserve in refusing to discuss national affairs. The people believe that the prospect of Germany at-tacking Russia is daily increasing. Sir Stafford Northeote, at the Conservative banquet at Leeds, after comparing Mr. Gladstone to Zadkiel, of Almanac fame, and declaring that his prophecies are ridi-culous, and always disproved by the event. reminded his hearers that Lord Beaconfield's Cabinet turned Russia in the hour of her triumph from the gates of Constantinople, and said that there was a good time coming, and that it would be folly to bewail the misfortunes of the past. He added that

The motion was carried. NEW PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS. Mr. BADGEROW asked when the re-the second of February, 1877, relative to the second of the present site of the Parlin-mary file. Hicks I off, 18 colly, a short times of the second of the present site of the Parlin-ter of erecting new Parliament build ings. THE TRANSPORTATION OF PRI-SONEES. Mr. HARCOURT moved for a return the distingtion in the february or the file february and left base formed to the second second and ago est deal more before the second county in Ontario to the Beforematories dup the fourte of erecting new Parliament build the fourte of erecting new Parliament build the counties of pronounce upon the the fourte of erecting new Parliament build the fourte of erecting new Parliament build the fourte of the Parliament build the fourte of the popular and eff deal more the the fourte of the fourte fourte second and the table from the second for a second and ago est beauty, and aff the second the table formed to the second for a second for an eff deal more the the fourte of the Counties respectively the the fourte of the counties respectively the the fourte of the counties respectively the the second we the fourte of the second we the fourte of the second we the second the the fourte fourte of the counties respectively the the fourte of the counties respectively the the fourte of the coun

nes of the past. the fears of distress in Ireland were in-reasing, and that the Government was apidly maturing measures of relief. The light Hon. W. H. Smith, First Lord of ight Hon. W. H. Smith, First Lord of he Admiralty, claimed at the same meet-ng that Lord Reaconsfield's policy was peace, and that no annexation of territory has ever been contemplated unless Im-perial interests compelled it. The in-lependence of Afghanistan had been re-pected as long as was possible. Sir William Vernon Harcourt, in a ring-ng speech at Oxford, declared the burden of all the criminal blunders that had been committed lay on the Torices, and prophesied that the first lay of the new Parliament would be the ast day of Tory rule. Sir Charles Dilke writes a letter proposing to hall the attention of Parliament to the executions at Cabul. Mr. Glad-tone attacked Sir Stafford Northcote's 'Blundering misinterpretation of the tone attacked Sir Stafford Northcoto's "Blundering misinterpretation of the inances" on Friday. Mr. Forster wrote o approve the annexation of the Trans-raal, on the ground that the Boers pro-lect slavery, and the English will destroy t. This declaration of Mr. Forster has much annoyed the Liberals. Indeed, Mr. Leonard Courtney, M.P., formerly one of the editors of the Times, writes to that ournal to say the same line of arguments. are calfors of the *Times*, writes to that ournal to say the same line of argument would justify an iniquitous annexation of Afghanistan. There are everywhere indi-tations of a break in the Liberal councils on the question of Lord Beaconsfield's foreign policy.

THE PROSPECTS OF ANNEXATION.

THE PROSPECTS OF ANNEXATION. The newspapers, in discussing the proba-bility that Canada will join the Union, say that Manitoba develops a capacity to supply the civilized world with wheat, and therein lies a source of renewed strength to the Empire. The Conservatives attack Mr. Gladstone for lending his sup-port to the Southern Confederacy, and Mr. Gladstone replies that his sentiments were always friendly to he North, even Hamilton Fish acquitting im of conscious heatility. In a word, the wo Cabinet Councils which met on Thurs-ay and Friday had an extraordinary num-er of momentous subjects to consider,

er of momentous subjects to consider, ut as there is no immediate necessity to alm the public mind on any topic, or lead to any particular direction, one of the business there transacted has een published, either officially or unoffi-ially. DEATHS FROM STARVATION IN IRELAND.

Irish questions also absorb deep attention, and that of the famine more than all else. asses of actual starvation are reported in the papers day after day, proving that the stress threatenes to borres acculte the he papers day after day, proving that the istress threatens to become equally fatal s the fumine in Silesia. A few days ago in woman was admitted to the Killarney a orkhouse bringing one of her children he morning of a woman having died of is wow invaded by great numbers of amps, who have left the distressed dis-mices. They roam about at large, and in inneequence of the inefficiency of the blice, burglaries and robberies are ommitted every day. In Dablin, igo and Mayo large crowds of peo-e are seen daily marching through is streets carrying black flags and poles in mounted by leaves of bread. Canon acDermott says that in Mayo, there are yen or sight thousand people actually without wood or fuel. In Galaren the burger eight thousand people actually ood or fuel. In Galway the lato work at the rate of two

ighteen pence a day. SE OBNOXIOUS PROCESS-SERVERS. THOSE OBNOXIOUS PROCESS-SERVERS, Another serious disturbance is reported having taken place between the police-en and the people at Kelving, Mayo, he cause was the obnoxions process-rver, who had to be escorted in his duty the police. The process-server was ounded and the eviction proces-a were seized by the people and des-oyed. The *Daily News* has a striking der on this case, and the many cases of mistance to the police and process-servers at have ecourred in the West, comment-ish outpreaks compared with those of mat outbreaks compared with those of past ations, the absence of extreme gruel-

