

GREAT BRITAIN.

CRIM CON.—LORD MELBOURNE.—Mrs. Norton.—It would be false delicacy, now that the newspapers have taken up the matter, to pass by the recent occurrence which has been put forward by the Tories, as a pretext for the retirement of Lord Melbourne from office. We allude to the *on dit* that his lordship is to figure, in a court of law, as defendant in a case of *crim. con.*, the Honourable Mr Norton, husband to the poetess, being the plaintiff.

It is worth while to examine into the motives of those who were the foremost and loudest in the attack upon the premier. We trust it is not very treasonable to indicate them, and therefore we name Lord Melbourne's accusers—they are Lord Lyndhurst and the Duke of Cumberland. Think of that—Lyndhurst the immaculate, and Cumberland the beloved! It is said that Mr Norton, suspicious that the lady was not acting with propriety, opened her desk to search for letters from a gentleman whom he suspected of being on too intimate terms with the fair poetess, that he found letters from Lord Melbourne, whom he did not suspect; that he immediately sent his wife from beneath his roof, and took the letters to Lord Wynfield; that his lordship thought it best to make a party matter of the affair, and took counsel with the Duke of Cumberland and Lord Lyndhurst; and that from this noble trio originated the newspaper paragraphs which have made the public acquainted with this curious case of *scam. mag.*!—*Liverpool Journal.*

ASTONISHING INCREASE OF TRADE.—In the *Shipping Gazette* on Monday, the 16th May, there appeared information respecting the movements of upwards of five thousand vessels, chiefly British; comprised in about 12 closely printed columns of the smallest newspaper type.

Great fears are entertained at Falmouth, that a part of the packet establishment will be removed from that town to Valentia Harbour, on the south western coast of Ireland. A memorial from Falmouth is being prepared, praying the Government not to proceed in that step without a full enquiry.

The price of Copper has, within the last week, risen from £3 to £4 per ton.

At this time the price of Staffordshire common bars, at the works, is £12 5s per ton. This is an advance of £4 since November, and a further advance is expected.

Passengers can now be conveyed from London to Dundee, via Hull, 609 miles, for seven shillings sterling.

A patent has been taken out in England for tanning with blackberry bushes in lieu of oak bark.

MANCHESTER, May 9, 1836.

Thursday, as the second class train of carriages with 300 or 400 passengers, propelled by two engines, was proceeding at a rapid rate, near the Wigan junction, at a place called Parkside, a very serious accident took place—in which the life of one human being was lost, and several hundreds endangered. The unfortunate person killed was the engineer of the second engine, who was crushed to death. The cause of the accident appears to have been the not attention to a signal, which there is no doubt the engineer of the first or leading engine must have seen. For some time past the proprietors of the railway have been laying down gradually a new and much stronger set of rails than those originally laid down, and which it would seem will require extreme caution to execute, to prevent similar accidents to that of yesterday. The stone blocks on which the rails rest, are, it seems, about eighteen inches square and twelve inches thick, and which have

no other fastening than the soil well rammed about them, which renders it difficult, if not impossible, during the moment of fixing to keep the two rails quite parallel, and which if not the case, the carriages must necessarily be ejected off the railway.

This was the main cause of the accident, accelerated greatly, no doubt, from the engineer not paying attention to the signal, and also from going at an unusual speed over the part under repair, before the blocks of stone were secured by the earth being closely rammed against them. The consequence was, that the two engines, with their tenders, from the shock, by some means or other, got disengaged from the carriages. By this confusion one of the Engineers lost his foot-hold, and dropped between the engine and tenders, and was instantly crushed to death. When taken up, he presented a spectacle too shocking to describe. All the carriages, with the exception of two, were thrown off the road in the greatest possible confusion, and all of them were greatly injured. The passengers fortunately escaped with a good fright, except a few slightly cut. Had the engines not been instantly liberated from the carriages, it is impossible to what extent life might have been sacrificed, or the persons of the passengers injured. The passengers were detained an hour and a half at Newton before they could proceed to Manchester.

It is a singular fact, that owing to the advance in iron, the old rails will purchase the new ones, weight for weight.

DUBLIN May 10.

DREADFUL LOSS OF LIFE.—An account has just reached a mercantile friend of mine from Cape Clear detailing some particulars, as far as they could be hastily collected, of a horrible catastrophe just discovered to have befallen an American trading vessel, on board of which three hundred passengers (Emigrants) who have lately sailed out of the port of Liverpool, bound for the United States of America. I believe the vessel is called the "Charles," and belonged to Charleston. It seems she foundered in the night, owing to the starting of a plank, and that nearly all the passengers were suddenly hurried into eternity, so rapidly was the accident followed by the sinking of the Ship. As far as can be learned, twelve or fourteen individuals alone escaped in a small boat.

COLONIAL.

TORONTO, June 14.

To His Excellency Sir Francis B. Head, Knight Commander of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order, and of the Prussian Order of merit, Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, &c. &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We the undersigned Electors of the City of Toronto, have read in Your Excellency's answer to the Address of certain Electors of the Home District the following language; "They (the people of Upper Canada) are perfectly aware that there exist in the Lower Province one or two individuals who inculcate the idea that this Province is about to be disturbed by the interference of foreigners, whose power and whose numbers will prove irresistible. In the name of every Regiment of Militia in Upper Canada, I publicly promulgate, LET THEM COME IF THEY DARE!" We do not doubt the readiness with which would be answered, upon any emergency, your appeal to the Militia, which appeal, we are satisfied, would not have been made without adequate cause.

In a matter so seriously affecting the peace and tranquility of the Country, and the security of its Commerce, we beg to learn from

Your Excellency from what quarter the invasion is alleged to be threatened.

Signed by T. D. Morrison, Mayor, and a number of the Citizens.

REPLY:

GENTLEMEN,—The idea which is inculcated by one or two individuals in the Lower Province, "that this Province is about to be disturbed by the interference of foreigners," is too notorious to be denied, and I have therefore no farther observations to make thereon.

Great quantities of counterfeit half-pence have long been in circulation in this Province. Our copper coin is not worth half its nominal value, and we are told large quantities of the vilest stuff have lately been imported, on which the importers must make more than a hundred per cent profit. The consequence of the circulation of this depreciated copper is, that the labouring classes who buy with this copper, pay more than double the price for everything they buy with it than they would otherwise pay. They are, in fact, defrauded out of their honest earnings, and it has a tendency to drive small silver and all good copper coin out of circulation. The remedy would be to refuse every copper coin, but those of the realm; but they are driven out, or prevented from coming in, by the base circulation. We ought to have coppers, a hundred and twenty of which would bear the same proportion to the silver dollar and its parts, as 120 British half-pence bear to the crown piece; or perhaps it would be better to declare at once, that no money shall be a legal tender in the United Kingdom and in the United States, leaving all other coins to be disposed of as bullion. The matter has long been before the Legislature; but they have done nothing to prevent the labouring classes from being swindled or robbed of their hard earnings, suffering the country to be exposed, by degrees, to the evils of a depreciated currency.

The currency is essentially connected with the regulation of trade. Why should not the Imperial Parliament pass an Act to regulate the currency of the British North American Provinces?—*Quebec Gazette.*

ST. ANDREWS, N. B., June 30.

THE WEATHER.—We have seldom much to say about the weather, particularly when we can say so little in its favour, as has been lately the case. And on midsummer day, an evening sent by the fire was by no means uncomfortable. The upland meadows are parched, and the present appearance of the grass gives a miserable prospect of the hay harvest—Potatoes, where care has been taken to procure good seed, look well. The United States' Reports give very opposite accounts of the crops; and in the South, it appears, they have had heavy rains. Here the weather has been remarkably dry; during the whole spring we have had only a few showers, and vegetation is weak and tardy for want of moisture.

MIRAMICHI, July 5

THE WEATHER.—The weather during the greater part of the week, has been excessively warm—the thermometer standing at noon, on Wednesday last, at 110 in an exposed situation. What has added to the heat, is the extensive fires that have been raging in the woods, which, on the afternoon of the above mentioned day, assumed a very threatening appearance, and the people wisely made preparations for any emergency, by placing puncheons and other vessels near their dwellings, which they filled with water. On Friday night we had a thunder storm, which was accompanied with a heavy fall of rain: this damped the fires considerably—but yesterday the settlements were again enveloped in smoke. Every thing in the fields look parched and withered for want of moisture.—*Gleaner.*