

The Standard.

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European Intelligence.

IRELAND.

There is complete tranquillity in this country. Public attention is drawn to the approaching trials which are to be held at the Special Commission in Clonmel. Mr. John O'Connell, not willing to give up political agitation, has made an appeal to the people of Ireland for funds to reopen Conciliation Hall. The society for holding periodical sittings of the Imperial Parliament in Ireland are trying to rivet attention to their scheme. Lord John Russell's visit to Dublin has been a very tame affair throughout.

We are now enabled to state upon the best authority that a special commission has issued for the county of Tipperary.

The judges are to be the Lord Chief Justice (Blackburne), the Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, and Judge Moore.

The commission opens on the 19th; on that day the grand jury will be sworn. There must however, be an adjournment as soon as the bills are found.

The course of trials for high treason is different from that of ordinary trials in the finding of the bills. The prisoners will be required to name their counsel. These counsel not exceeding two in number, will, at the request of each prisoner, be assigned to him by the court. Two counsel will be thus assigned to each prisoner on the finding of the bills; and only these two counsel for each can be permitted to act in his defence. Both counsel for each prisoner will be entitled to address the jury.

On the finding of the bills, a perfect copy of the indictment must be given to every prisoner, and five clear days must elapse before he can be called on to plead after the furnishing the copy. For this purpose the court will adjourn after the finding of the bills; so that it is in possible the trials can take place before the very close of the month.

It is not we believe, finally settled, what prisoners are to be put upon their trial at the special commission. Mr. O'Brien and Mr. Meagher will certainly be among the number. Nothing has yet been determined with regard to Mr. Duffy.

The *Limerick Examiner* contains further and most afflicting accounts of the clearance system in Clare. That journal says:—

"Three hundred houses more, besides the one thousand already torn down in the union of Kiltush, have been levelled since our correspondent's last excursion. Will any limit be put to these ravages?"

"Last week twenty-three families, comprising over one hundred human beings, were evicted from their homes, which were levelled with the ground, in Scariff. The sub-sheriff superintended the operations. In the name of the God of Mercy will any stop be put to these deeds."

"A correspondent, upon whom we can place the fullest reliance, has just sent us the following:—Over one hundred human beings have been cast out on the world's bleak common, from Lisconnor. The houses are tumbled: the unfortunate people are squatted by the road side in huts. They were under-tenants to a middle-man, named Sheahan, who was ejected for non-payment of rent."

We have on a previous occasion intimated that there had been formed in Dublin a Society for the promotion of the annual sittings of the Imperial Parliament in Ireland. The committee held a meeting at 124, Abbey-st. on Monday the 4th inst., Lord W. Fitzgerald in the chair, when the following new members were admitted:—Lord Massereene, Lord O'Neill, the Earl of Castle Stuart, Lord Rossmore, J. Fetherstonhaugh, Esq., the Rev. Sir Harcourt Lees, Bart., James John Bagot, Esq., M. Burke, Esq., W. H. Burton, Esq., W. Johnson, Esq., Sir R. Morrison, Isaac Butt, Esq., Q.C., B. Chapman, Esq., Aubrey Beauclerc, Esq., and W. Atkin, Esq. The following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

"That in order to remove a misapprehension which appears to exist as to the objects contemplated by this society, we feel it necessary to declare that it is not our desire to seek a triennial meeting of the Imperial Parliament in Dublin for general purposes, but that the object of this society is to procure an arrangement, by which the Imperial Parliament shall hold its sittings in Dublin during such convenient portion of each year as may be sufficient for the transaction of business more particularly relating to Irish affairs."

"That the committee meet at their rooms 124, Abbey-street, every Monday, at two o'clock, to receive subscriptions and admit members, and to transact the general business of the society."

It is reported that the Attorney-General will be brought forward for Galway, where a vacancy is shortly expected to take place.

A war steamer arrived in Kingsdown on Tuesday last, from Cork, with two hundred convicts, who are to be placed on board the convict ship now lying in that harbour.—Terence Bailey McManus, the insurgent leader, will arrive in this steamer. He will remain but a day or two in Dublin, and will probably be sent down to Clonmel for trial at the Special Commission.

TURKEY.

A letter received from Constantinople states that another destructive fire broke out in that city on the 27th ult. The writer thus describes it:—

"We have suffered another dreadful fire, which has destroyed the entire quarter of buildings on the Marina, from bridge to bridge. That quarter contained magazines of oil, wood, tallow, wax, tobacco, fruit, and other valuable articles, and about a thousand houses, in value altogether about £500,000. This loss, coming so closely upon the heels of the late conflagration, has been an awful one to the poor and industrious classes living and working on the Marina."

The cholera continues with the same intensity; eighty to a hundred cases per diem are acknowledged by the authorities.

RUSSIA.—A report is prevalent that Schamyl has quite retrieved his late losses, and has dreadfully cut up the Russians in several engagements. The losses of the Russians are said to be immense.

The Colonies of Great Britain made Ingrate Parts of the Empire.—The *Glasgow Daily Mail* contains a communication from the pen of a correspondent, proposing that a free trade league be adopted between Great Britain and her Colonies, including all countries which do not charge more than 10 per cent. duty on British goods. The *European Times* attributes the article to Mr. Isaac Buchanan. The following are the principal features of the scheme:—

No duties between Great Britain and her colonies, including all countries which do not charge us more than 10 per cent. duty on any article.

By a British act of Parliament all countries to have the privilege, at any time, of joining this British League, with which it is intended to counter-march the German Zollverein and North American Union of States.

All foreign countries which do not join the British League to be charged 20s. on timber, being the difference of freight betwixt Quebec and Memel; 14s. on sugar; 10s. on spirits, in addition to excise duty on the native article.

Present corn law to be perpetuated, except that there will be no duty when the price rises to 54s.

All articles not in the tariff, excepting cotton, sheep's wool, hemp, and raw silk, to pay 10 per cent. on the value in this country.

The foreign price of gold to be done away—the prices hereafter to be that indicated by the foreign exchanges, so that bad times will hereafter raise the price of the commodity, gold, in which foreigners and annuitants are alone interested, instead of, as at present, the price of money.

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In the "Charlotte Gazette," of the 6th instant, under the head of "Murder of Joseph Thomas at Grand Manan," the sapient editor of that print, says:—"We have received a communication from an intelligent correspondent on the island, which, throws a little more light on the origin of the quarrel which led to this sad affair." The following is an extract from the communication:—"Perhaps a little information respecting the sad event that has recently occurred on this island will be acceptable. You may depend upon what I state to be as correct an account of the unfortunate affair as can be collected under present circumstances, as I had it from an eye witness. It appears that Joseph Thomas had been drinking for two or three days previous to his decease with Gilmore and Mr Dragan, (who is Gilmore's father-in-law," &c.) Without copying any further, I will state, that that is a gross falsehood to commence with, as I can vouch for the fact, and unquestionably prove also, that the deceased was at home the day previous to his death, and perfectly sober during the day. It then goes on in a false manner to state, that Joseph Dragan and the deceased set upon Gilmore with sticks, &c.; whereas Joseph Dragan (as it appears from positive testimony) had no stick.—The extract from the intelligent correspondent still sets forth another gross falsehood, namely, "That the friends of the deceased were sent for immediately, (one of whom, Mr Joy, his son-in-law, is a medical man,) and arrived before he was dead: they did not bleed him or give him any thing, I believe," &c. So far from such being the case, it appears from the depositions taken at the inquest over the body of the deceased, that he must have died nearly an hour before my arrival at the spot. Mr Eldridge, in his testimony, who saw the blow struck which caused his death, sets forth, "That he left the spot a few minutes afterwards, and went up the lane in which the deceased was killed, as far as the highway road, (some seventy rods,) and saw Mr Murphy and Joseph Dragan, jun'r., and related the circumstance of the quarrel, &c. to them. They immediately (agreeable to the testimony of Mr Murphy), went down the lane to where the deceased was lying, and saw Mrs. Gilmore, wife to the murderer, endeavouring to bring the deceased too; and further states, that he believed him to be dead, as he put his hand in his bosom, and could see no signs of life. Joseph Dragan, jun'r., was then sent to the friends of the deceased, near a mile distant, to inform them that Mr. Thomas was dead or dying.—When I arrived on the spot, he was dead, his hands and feet being cold, &c. The person who sent the above information to the Charlotte Gazette, must have been influenced by some bad and wilful design of injuring my character: The eye-witness he speaks of deriving his information from, must either have been related to the murderer or guilty of a gross and wilful falsehood, as there was no trouble in getting a correct account of the affair, spectators being admitted in the room with the jury when each evidence was examined at the inquest, &c."

I feel pleased to know that the Government has thus far acted promptly in the matter, by ordering an investigation of the circumstances connected with the escape of the prisoner, taking testimony relative to the death of the deceased, the manner of conducting the inquest &c., all which will contradict the false imputations cast upon my character. Had the Correspondent above alluded to, signed his name to his letter, I would have personally confronted him, and not repired through the medium of the press.

Grand Manan, Sep. 23, 1848. HOLLIS JOY.

The Royal mail steam ship *Europa*, which sailed from Liverpool on the 2nd instant, was searched by detective officers, for fugitive confederates, but without success.

The committee of the London Peace Society have addressed a memorial to the Government against the arming of the police force.

A joint-stock company is being organised for the erection of dwelling houses for the working classes in Edinburgh.