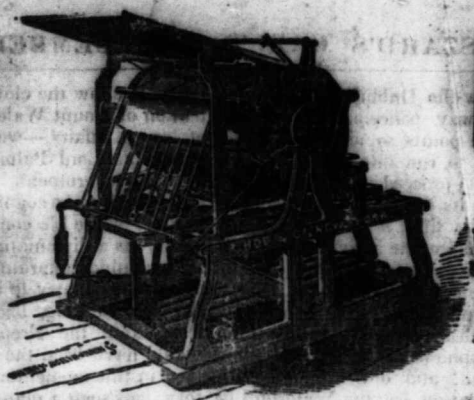


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MISCELLANEOUS.

THE LATE PRINCE OF LEININGEN.—This estimable prince, whose death was announced on Saturday, the 15th instant was the only son of his Serene Highness Emich Charles, Prince of Leiningen, by his marriage with the Princess Victoria Marie-Louise of Saxe-Coburg (now her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent), and consequently stood in the position of half-brother to her Majesty. The deceased was born in September, 1804, and succeeded his father in July, 1814, being then only in his 11th year. On the 12th of September, 1823, he was declared "of age." He then entered the military service of the King of Bavaria, in which army he held the rank of lieutenant-general and colonel-in-chief of the 5th regiment of cavalry. The prince married in February, 1829, Marie (nee Countess of Kletelsberg), by whom he leaves issue—Prince Ernest, born 1830, and Prince Edward, born 1833. The deceased prince is succeeded by Prince Ernest, who is a lieutenant in the British navy, and distinguished himself during the recent naval operations in the Black Sea, obtaining his lieutenancy in April last year, and in May last he was appointed second-lieutenant to her Majesty's steam-frigate *Magicienne*. In addition to her Majesty and her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, the Court of Brussels and several of the German Courts will be placed in mourning by the demise of his serene highness, which has resulted from an attack of apoplexy.

THE STEAM-SHIP GREAT BRITAIN.—This famous vessel is undergoing further alterations of an important character. She has had a new sternpost forged at the Mersey foundry, which is said to be the most ponderous piece of wrought iron ever put together for any purpose; she is to be fitted with a new double-bladed screw, of fine pitch, to be attached to a lifting apparatus; will have a new figure head—lion and unicorn life-size; her masts have been moved forward, and alterations have been made in her rig to enable her to carry a ne-fourth more canvass than heretofore; and a full poop has been built on deck. In consequence of altering the position of her masts she will have one instead of two funnels, and that will be oval in shape. She will be able to carry nearly 600 passengers, about 2000 tons of cargo, 1000 tons of coal, besides stores and water for a voyage to Australia. Her advertised day of sailing is the 15th of February next.

Mr. E. M. Ward has returned to Paris with a portfolio of sketches for the great picture of Victoria at the tomb of Napoleon—commissioned by the Queen. The Emperor and Empress, we understand, are to give the Artist sittings in December.

By an act passed last session the municipal boundary of Edinburgh has been extended to the limits of the Parliamentary burgh, thus enlarging the area of the city by nearly three times, and giving the town-council a population of nearly 200,000 instead of 60,000 to represent.

ARCTIC EXPEDITION.—We understand that an expedition will be prepared forthwith, to proceed in search of further traces of Sir John Franklin's party, *via* Behring's Straits. The command will, it is said, be conferred upon George H. Richards, who has rendered such good services in previous Arctic searches, and who, upon many accounts, is viewed as the most fitting officer to command the expedition.

THE PAVEMENT OF LONDON.—The pavement of London is one of the greatest marvels of our time. It covers nearly 3,000 acres, two thirds whereof consists of what may be called mosaic work done in plain style, and the other third of smooth flagging. Such a series of works far transcends in quantity, as it excels in quality, the Appian Way, which was the wonder of ancient Rome, and which would cut but a poor figure as contrasted with one of our commonest streets. The ancient consular way was but fifteen feet wide in the main, and was filled in with blocks of all shapes and sizes, jointed together and planed only on the surface; the length of its devious course, from north to south of Italy, was under 300 miles. The paved streets of London number over 5,000, and exceed 2,000 miles in length!

ORDINATION OF A FOREIGN MISSIONARY.—The Presbytery of Picton, met in Prince Street Church, Picton, for the ordination of Mr. John Wm. Mathewson, preacher of the gospel, as a missionary to the South Seas. The services of the day were commenced by the Rev. James Weston, who preached from Rom. i. 15, "So as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." The Rev. George Patterson then narrated the steps, and put to Mr. Mathewson the questions of the formula, when the Rev. George Walker in solemn and impressive supplication led the devotions of the Presbytery, as Mr. Mathewson was by prayer and by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery solemnly set apart as a missionary to the heathen.

EGYPTIAN CORN.—We were shown, this morning two heads of Egyptian corn, the patriarchal staff of life, which was cut by Mr. E. Whitney, from a field belonging to Mr. John Firth at Newtown, L. I. The stalk has the appearance of Indian or broom corn, and the heads, drooping gracefully downward by their own weight, are not unlike the tops of broom corn. Highly saccharine qualities are discovered, however, in the grain, which is very prolific, a single head furnishing sufficient to sow many acres. The seed from which this corn was propagated was found in the hand of a mummy brought from Egypt to London. Samples of the English crop were sent to Mr. Firth and he planted a quarter of an acre which produced a thousand fold. Mr. Whitney will be pleased to show this singular product to any persons interested and will retain it for a while at his Daguerreotype rooms. The corn is planted in the spring and is now just coming to maturity on Long Island. Some of our members will perhaps, like to try a small crop next year.—Rochester Democrat.

News by the English Mail!

COMMERCIAL.

The large influx of gold, both from the Australian colonies and the United States, has caused an improved feeling to prevail in commercial circles, and it could not have arrived at a more opportune time. The total imports of the precious metal during the week amount to above a million and a-half sterling. It is expected that some portion of this vast amount will be secured for the Bank of England; but the gold brought by the James Baines has been already sold to the Bank of France, and it is probable, that some of the other arrivals will attract buyers from the same quarter, as the demand for gold on Continental account is not yet satisfied.

Much satisfaction is felt at the arrival of the James Baines, and, although the voyage was a protracted one; no amount of alarm was felt in Liverpool regarding her safety. Anxiety to a certain extent did prevail, but not at all like the feeling entertained in London, where many underwriters and insurance offices made pretty considerable profits.

The Australian advices to hand by the Lightning extend to the 18th of August, and are of a satisfactory character. From the gold fields the accounts are, on the whole, favourable—the escort from the diggings being much above the average, and the prospects of the ensuing summer encouraging. New gold fields had been discovered in New South Wales, and had attracted many persons from the Victoria diggings; but the soil not proving so auriferous as expected, numbers of them had returned. The labour market was dull though wages were fully sustained. Good English female servants were scarce. The demand for gold had been considerable, at 75s 6d per ounce. Wool is in active request, and in some instances an advance had been obtained.

The Money Market has presented a rather easier position, but the maximum rates of the Bank of England are maintained. First class short date bills have been discounted at 7 per cent., but for longer bills higher rates are exacted. In Lombard-street and in the Stock Exchange, the supply of money has improved, owing to the steady investments of the public. It was thought by many parties that the Bank of England directors would have made a further change in the rate of discount, especially on long bills, but the expectation proved unfounded. The exports of specie to the East Indies amounted to nearly £600,000, of which only about £27,000 was in gold.

In the Grain-growing counties, with favourable weather, wheat sowing may be considered as almost concluded in most of the important sections of the kingdom, and a colder temperature improves the condition of what is being brought to market, so that with fair supplies of home grown there is rather less dependence than of late upon foreign drawn from the outports. The trade closed somewhat lower in price, but a disposition existed to purchase rather more freely at the reduction.

In the Provision market, some excitement has prevailed, prices of Irish Butter having advanced 2s to 3s per cwt, owing to needy buyers. The fullest prices asked for southern brands were 115s to 118s per cwt. The stock of old Bacon is now nearly cleared out. Inquiries for new are numerous, and, as English and Irish continue to rule high, early arrivals of American, if fine, will come to a good market. Lard having run very scarce, an advance of 2s to 3s per cwt has been paid by needy buyers. American Beef and Pork for ships' stores are dull and without any improvement.

The *Clonmel Chronicle* gives the following account of a dreadful railway catastrophe which took place on Wednesday—This evening at about two o'clock, a collision took place on the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway, near Dunkitt, about two miles from the former city, by which the lives of five persons have been forfeited. It appears that a ballast train left Waterford to "shoot" at Dunkitt, in

order to allow the Dublin train to pass; but the railway policeman, instead of changing the points so as to allow the ballast train to run into the "siding," permitted it to proceed along the line, to a sand pit on its way, to be filled, thinking, probably, that it would reach its destination before the arrival of the passenger train. Unfortunately, before many moments had elapsed, the Dublin train came up and ran into it, completely smashing both itself and the ballast train. The catastrophe is described as being of fearful extent, and our informant has mentioned that on leaving Waterford he ascertained the number killed and wounded was then not exactly known. Up to that time, however, the bodies of five persons had been found quite lifeless.—Among the wounded passengers is Dr. White, of Dublin, Inspector of Lunatic Asylums, who lies in a precarious state in Waterford.

There is an easy credulity in the public mind of England, says the *London Morning Advertiser*, which is often productive of incalculable mischief. We display a wonderful alacrity in believing what people say, even where the antecedents of the party making the avowment, show that they have no right to expect that any asseveration which they may make should be received as true. It is thus with the assurances which the French government are now giving us of thoroughly friendly feeling towards this country, and of the consequent cordiality of the alliance.—We do not believe a word of it. There is no real friendship on the part of the head of that Government towards us. There is, on the contrary, a decided, though covert, hostility. He never yet said or did a single thing because he regarded it as calculated to promote his interests. And it is because he knows that, were the alliance with England to be broken up, he could not himself survive a month, that he keeps an outward appearance of friendship for this country. With us his professions of friendship go for nothing. What can be the worth of the bare word of one who has again and again violated his most solemn oath?

Though in words the Emperor is with us, yet, at heart, he is with Russia. If it were otherwise, he would not have lost a moment in ignominiously dismissing Count Walewski from his councils, after the fact had been made patent to all the world, that the latter is the veriest creature of Russia, and was doing the work of the Czar more effectually in the foreign office in Paris, than if he had been the prime minister of Alexander in the Chancellery of St. Petersburg. Louis Napoleon can not pretend to be ignorant of the fact that Count Walewski was surely and systematically selling France to Russia.—Yet Louis Napoleon continues to repose the same confidence in him as before.—And not only so, but instead of at once dispensing with his services, he lavishes on him unmistakable proofs of undiminished friendship. So long as Count Walewski remains where he is, or occupies any post whatever in the Napoleonic Government, so long have we "confirmation strong," that the Chief Magistrate of France is playing false to us,—is, in reality with Russia, and only awaits what he may regard as a favorable opportunity to appear in his real colours.

Even were Louis Napoleon now to dismiss Count Walewski, we should not regard the circumstances as any proof of the abjuration of his Muscovite predilections, or of his sincere friendship for England; we should look upon it only as a measure which he had adopted from considerations of sound policy. It is a fortunate circumstance that, in times like the present—when efforts of the most ingenious and persevering nature are made by Russia, to overspread this country, and when our "August Ally" still con-

tinues to show the cloven foot by his retention of Count Walewski at the head of foreign affairs,—we should have such a man as Lord Palmerston at the head of the Government. He is too clear-sighted not to be cognisant of what is going on; while his consummate skill and ability as a diplomatist furnish us with an undoubted guarantee that he will not allow this country to be overmatched by Russian cunning, backed by the faithlessness of the French Ruler. What would have been the condition of England in this momentous crisis of her history, had such a man as Lord Aberdeen been still at the head of affairs? Why, this country would, in that case, by this time have been, in effect, a province of Russia,—another addition to the overgrown dominions of the Czar.

Charley Napier, writing to the *Times*, says:—"The next time you honour me with one of your unprincipled attacks, it will be more creditable to you if you will adhere to the truth."

We see that Kossuth is still lecturing in England on the present state and future prospects of Italy.

Colonel Gordon Drummond, of the Goldstream Guards, is dead. He proceeded to the Crimea in May, 1855, to command the first or Crimean battalion. He was in his 48th year.

The *Arbroath Guide* mentions, that a few days ago, farm labourers were carrying stocks of corn from a field a few miles from Arbroath with three inches of snow on the ground.

NEW FIELD-MARSHALS.—There is a rumour in London to the effect that four new field-m Marshals are about to be created, namely, the Duke of Cambridge, Lord Seaton, Lord Gough, and Earl Cathcart. As for the Duke, his promotion is only a question of time, and the other three officers named have well earned the highest honours of their profession. The only additional expense caused would be in the case of the Duke of Cambridge, who, being on the staff, would gain additional pay to the amount of £3000 a year by the promotion. The other officers, not being actively employed at present, would merely receive their present emoluments as colonels of regiments. Thus the King of the Belgians is a field-marshal, and he receives no pay; Prince Albert only that of Colonel of the Grenadier Guards; and Lords Combermere and Strafford that of the 1st Life Guards and Coldstream Guards respectively.

PARIS SWINDLERS.—The Paris swindlers, or *chevaliers d'industrie*, as they are whimsically termed, are certainly the most accomplished professors of the art of thieving to be found in any European capital. A case has just occurred which shows the cleverness, address, and cunning of this class in a striking light. An old gentleman, stopping the other day on the Boulevards to examine the engravings displayed in a shop window; used a very handsome eyeglass to assist his vision. In a few moments, having ceased to employ the glass, and being about to do so again, he found that only the string to which it had been attached remained. The glass itself disappeared, abstracted by some skilful hand. Upon discovering this loss, the old gentleman grew much excited, and drew upon himself the attention of the bystanders near by his agitated manner. A stranger among the crowd, seeing his embarrassment, politely offered his arm to the old gentleman until he had recovered himself. The offer was gratefully accepted, with all the unsuspectingness of an old man who suddenly finds himself disturbed from his usual state of mind by an untoward occurrence, and the two walked away along the Boulevards. On the way the old gentleman grew confidential, charmed by the sympathetic conduct of his companion. He entered into details about his domestic matters; gave his address; described very minutely a service of plate that had been pre-

sent to him some time before; told the name of his servant; and stated, where and with whom he was going to dine that day. The stranger listened very attentively, and after seeing the garrulous old man to the door of the house occupied by the friend with whom he had engaged to dine, bade him adieu, and promised to call and see him in reply to the invitation of the other. He kept so firmly to his word that he immediately went to the old gentleman's house, addressed the servant by her name; said he had been requested by her master to ask for several items of the service plate, which he minutely described, and as credentials showed the eye-glass of the old gentleman. The servant imagining that everything was right, gave the articles required to the stranger, who carried them away. Almost directly after he had left the house, however, with his valuable parcel, he was accosted by an officer of justice, who had been watching his movements, and who recognised him as a man of good education and family, who had for some time become a skilful member of the honorable fraternity swindlers. The chevalier is, of course, safely lodged in prison, and awaits his condemnation.

AUSTRALIA.

Messrs. James Baines and Co.'s "Black Ball" clipper Lightning arrived in the Mersey on Thursday morning, the 20th inst., bringing advices from Melbourne to the 28th August. From Melbourne to Cape Horn the run was made in 14 days 16 hours, Cape Horn to the Equator 19 days 8 hours, Equator to Pico, Western Islands, 19 days, Western Islands to Liverpool 11 days. Total, 84. The winds during the run were 31 days fair, 13 days light, 4 days calm, and 24 days head winds. There is not much important news. The requirements of the new Constitution Bill had rendered it a difficult matter to obtain candidates professing the "property qualification." As to the ultimate result of these elections nothing definite is said in the advices brought by the Lightning, although it was suspected that the ministerial party in the new Legislative Council would find itself in a minority. Our Sydney advices inform us that a ministerial crisis was imminent. Upon this subject a Sydney correspondent writes:—"Ministers have announced a set of measures which they are prepared to bring forward, but they have not yet laid their bills on the table, or even described them, so that we are not yet in possession of the full ministerial policy. Their scheme for the re-arrangement of the public offices has been propounded in order that they might get leave to create a new department of land and public works, and transform the Auditor General from a political into a judicial officer. The opposition, wishing to bring on a discussion on the general question of administration, objected to consider the resolutions of the Ministers, which related only to the one department, to be changed. Donaldson gave way and substituted a resolution declaring it expedient to have five departments as specified in their plan. Mr. Martin brought forward an amendment, containing the scheme he propounded in the draft report brought up by himself as chairman of a select committee on the subject last year. The opposition, having no better ground to take, adopted Mr. Martin's scheme, but after a long debate it was rejected, on a division, by 29 to 14. At the same time, ministers freely admitted that their own programme was by no means satisfactory to themselves, but they were partly held in bondage by the Constitution Act. They agreed to the impropriety of having the Solicitor-General in the Cabinet, especially if that officer had to perform the duties of crown prosecutor. They also, in opposition to Lord John Russell's express request, declared their desire to have the ministerial salaries subject to annual vote. Amongst the projects for departmental reform laid before the ministers, was one connected with the Surveyor-General of your colony, proposed by him and Sir William Denison, for they appear to have been heads together on the question. The inhabitants of South Australia are determined upon the construction of a railway to the Murray. Meetings had