

FRANCE.

INUNDATION.

The south of France has been the scene of inundations of the most terrific kind, caused by the overflowing of two rivers, the Rhone and the Saone. The deluge has swept away towns and villages, and the extent of human suffering is said to be indescribable. The Emperor has done what he can to alleviate the misfortune; but it has been suggested in various quarters that a national calamity like this might be met by a public subscription in England. 500 houses were destroyed in the neighbourhood of Lyons and 129 at Avignon. Louis Napoleon is a consummate actor. On hearing of the calamity he started immediately to the scene, and was cheered by the people in a way which showed their appreciation of his sympathy.

A Paris letter says:—The Government, I am assured, has received information that the exiled generals, in Belgium; (Changarnier, Bedau and Lamoriciere,) are using all their influence with their respective parties to get them to make an attempt to upset the Government, either by cunning or violence. General Changarnier is represented to be the most active in his efforts, and it is said that he openly boasts that he will very shortly be able to play the part of Monk, by restoring the old royal family, and that he will parade through Paris with the Emperor "tied to his horse's tail!" The government professes to feel no alarm at anything the generals can do, but it is impossible that it can regard their movements with indifference, especially as the secret republican societies in the provinces are more active than ever.

A lottery for the benefit of the army of the East has been got up. There are to be 400,000 tickets at one franc each, and one prize for every 30,000 tickets. The prizes are the objects that were presented for the purpose on the last exhibition.

By decree, the Emperor has ordered that a sum of 30,000 francs should be given as a relief to the victims of the inundation of Lyons. We learn from Lyons that the Emperor has visited the scene of the inundations, riding on horseback along the banks. He has distributed relief with his own hands, and placed the sum of 100,000fr. in the hands of the prefect. The Legislative body has voted a sum of 2,000,000 francs for the victims of the inundations.

The Emperor of the French has written a letter to the Bishops to invite them to attend the baptism of the Imperial Prince.

The honours to be paid the Papal Legate from his arrival to his departure are elaborate:—Battalions of infantry for his receptions; pickets of honour at his door; a guard of honour when he goes out in his carriage; a special service at the Tuileries for the bedchamber. Table and stable indicate the Emperor's sense of the gratification which the cardinal's visit affords him.

Cardinal Patrizi, who is to baptise the Imperial Prince, will, it is said, never go out without having a crucifix carried before him in a carriage.

The Empress visited the cattle show again on the 3rd, and a Tyrolian gallantly offered her Majesty two cows. The Empress having accepted them, the honest fellow took her by the hand and shook it heartily sans facon.

BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

The Paris correspondent of the Post writes:—"I believe I am correct in stating that the French Government has used every effort to prevent those unhappy complications which have led to the suspension of diplomatic relations between England and America. The Government of the Emperor will, I understand, combine to exercise its good offices in the same spirit of reconciliation, and should the two nations be found engaged in actual war, no doubt England may reckon on the active alliance of France."

GIVING LIKE AN EMPEROR.—Gatignani, describing a passage in the Emperor's tour, says:—"On his return from the Charpenne, where nearly three-fourths of the district had been nearly destroyed by the floods, the Emperor, pale with emotion, and with tears in his eyes, approached the groups of victims, and calling to him more particularly the poor women surrounded by their weeping children, distributed to each of them, from a bag which hung at the saddle-bow, money to provide for their first and more urgent wants, and accompanied with a promise of future means of alleviation. The sentiments excited in the breasts of these poor people, receiving so unexpectedly such liberal assistance, dealt out to them in sums of 50fr., and 200fr. from the hand of their sovereign, cannot be described."

THE DANUBIAN PROVINCES.

The Divan of Moldavia has declared in favour of the union of the Danubian provinces under one and the same Government,—a step which it is believed will influence more or less both Russia and Austria, and may possibly induce the Western Powers to support the proposition. England was in favour of separation, and France for the union.

POLISH EXILES.

The Emperor of Russia has granted an amnesty to the Polish exiles; but they must petition to be allowed to return, and then their errors will be forgiven. The Poles in London, through the agency of their secretaries, repudiate this concession on the part of the Czar, and denounce as traitors all who are base enough to accept it.

PRUSSIA.

A despatch, dated Berlin, May 31, has the following: Sir William Williams, of Kara, is to dine at the King's table to-day. The Emperor of Russia, and all about him, treat the General with the greatest distinction, as is also the case with all the military here. The Prince of Prussia, seeing him a few days back, while viewing the interior of a church at Potsdam, manoeuvred so as to come round by one of the side aisles and meet the General face to face, introducing himself to him, shook him by the hand, and entered kindly into conversation with him.

GREECE.

The infanta, sister of the King of Spain, has been formally demanded, in the name of the King of Greece, for the heir presumptive to the crown of Greece.

ITALY.

An exhibition of woolen fabrics and raw silks, produced in the Papal States, is to take place at Rome in September next. The specimens are to be sent in before the end of August. Gold and silver medals are to be awarded to the successful competitors.

Mazzini, disgusted with the ill success of all his efforts to regenerate his native land, is about to emigrate to America, and leave Europe for ever. A telegraphic despatch from Paris, dated Wednesday last, declares that the notes presented by France and Austria to the Neapolitan government were nearly identical. These notes did not demand any specific reforms, but the tone was urgent and even menacing. France, in fact, intimates that any disturbances in Naples or Sicily would probably bring about an intervention very serious to King Bomba.

The foreign troops in the pay of the Pope consist of two Swiss regiments, the second of which is a mere skeleton. The revival of the order of Malta was again talked of. Knights might then be chosen in all the Catholic countries, to constitute a respectable and efficient armed force, but many insurmountable difficulties exist to prevent the realisation of that plan.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In Chambéry (Piedmont) a man has been sentenced to six months imprisonment for "blasphemy." He has asserted that the Virgin Mary had other children besides our Lord.

General Sir W. F. Williams, the hero of Kara, arrived in Paris on the 5th, en route to London.

Said Pacha has expressed his intention of vigorously pushing the works of the railway in the desert between Cairo and Suez after the termination of the present fasting month of Ramadan, so that the line may be completed in the course of next year.

A Paris journal asserts that M. de Lamartine's long struggle to preserve his family mansion and estate from sale by auction by his creditors—a struggle which of late years has caused him incessant labour—has ended in failure; and that he, in consequence, a ruined and broken hearted man, has resolved on emigrating to the United States of America.

RUSSIAN TRAVELLERS.—Many Russian visitors have already made their appearance at Hamburg, where they are highly esteemed by the hotel and shopkeepers, on account of their liberal expenditure, and where they fit themselves out in fashionable style, and pass on to Southern Germany, France, &c. Some of these earlier visitors report that above 5,000 of their countrymen have applied for permission and passports to travel.

THE BELGIAN PRESS.—The project of law intended to be laid before the chambers in Belgium, in pursuance of the engagement given by the Government, applies to three things in particular, viz.:—the stamp, the signing the articles with the author's name, and the power given to the law officers of the Crown to institute proceedings without the necessity of a previous demand from a foreign government.

M. Kossuth received £150 for his two lectures at Darlington.

Mrs. L. B. Wilson, Clapham-common, died lately, aged 83, leaving £15,000, to the British and Foreign Bible Society.

The Post-office has announced its intention of adopting the Saturday half holiday so far as it can be accomplished.

FORWARDING OF GOODS THROUGH LIVERPOOL TO THE COLONIES.—A circular has been issued by the London and North-Western Railway Company to the effect that they arranged a modified rate of carriage for bales and cases sent through Liverpool to the colonies. The name of the vessel is to be inserted in the shipping note at the time the goods are forwarded from London by that railway company, in which case the company undertake to deliver the goods alongside any vessel in the Liverpool docks.

A quantity of flour, adulterated, it is said, by an admixture of plaster of Paris, was seized by the mayor of Kilkenny in a provision shop in John Street.

Another planet has been discovered at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford, by Mr. Puggson, the first assistant. It is a little brighter than a tenth magnitude.



AN ACT

To amend Chapter 63 of the Revised Statutes "Of Surveyors of Highways and Highway Labor," except in Halifax.

(Passed the 18th day of April, 1856.)

Be it enacted by the governor, council, and assembly, as follows:

- 1. Persons owning one working ox shall perform the same labor for such ox as is now required by persons owning a pair of working oxen.
2. Persons usually owning working oxen, or a working ox, and pasturing the same, shall not be relieved from statute labor in respect of such ox or oxen, unless such ox or oxen shall have been out of their possession bona fide for two months previously to the time for performing such labor.
3. The same labor shall be performed in respect of mules as of horses.
4. The penalty for non-performance of labor, under sections 6 and 7 of the act hereby amended, is increased to three shillings and sixpence for each day's omission.
5. The commutation for statute labor, under section 15 of the act hereby amended, is increased to three shillings for each day's labor, and for the labor of one ox shall be half the amount now chargeable for the labor of a pair of oxen.
6. Two justices of the peace for the county, on a statement under oath (see appendix A) of persons applying for remission of statute labor, may, by a certificate endorsed on such statement, (see appendix B) remit such part of statute labor as in their opinion, the applicant may be entitled to; and such statement, so endorsed, shall be returned by the surveyor to the clerk of the peace and be by him laid before the sessions.
7. Absent persons shall be notified after the return required by section 13 of the act hereby amended.
8. Each surveyor of highways, after six days' attendance, shall be entitled to retain four shillings per day out of any statute labor money he may have in his hands, or be credited there for the following year.
9. Each surveyor who shall, by neglect or misconduct, cause the loss of any statute labor, shall be liable to pay double the amount of such statute labor, to be recovered as debts of that amount are now recoverable; such amount to be proceeded for within two years, and when recovered to be applied as follows:—One half for the roads within the county or district, and one half to the prosecutor.

APPENDIX A.

I, A. B., do swear that I am of the age of years, (here insert with or without a family) am sick or infirm—own real estate of the value of £—, and personal estate of the value of £—, So help me God.

APPENDIX B.

We, —, and —, justices of the peace for —, hereby authorize the remission of — days' statute labor to the within named —. June 1856.

BOOKS.

THE following works have been received at the "Christian Messenger" Office and will be sold for cash at Boston prices:

Table listing books and their prices: The progress of Baptist principles in the last hundred years, by T. F. Curtis, 6 3; Jewett on the Mode and Subjects of Baptism, twelfth thousand, 1 3; Judeon on Baptism, fifth edition, 1 3; Harris's Active Christian, 1 9; Wedding Gift, By John Angel James and H. A. Graves, 2 6; The Young Christian's Guide, By James, Edwards and Harris, 2 6; The Mourner Comforted, Daily Duties, 2 6; Church Member's Guide, thirteenth thousand, 1 9; How to be a Man, do do, 2 3; How to be a Lady, do do, 2 6; Anecdotes for Boys, seventh thousand, 2 6; do for Girls, do do, 2 3; The Psalmist in various sizes and bindings from 5s. to 16s.; Orders received for Religious publications generally. Persons in the country sending orders with the price may have any of the above sent by mail at 4d per ounce.

JUST PUBLISHED.

REV. JOHN CAIRD'S Sermon, preached before the Queen and Prince Albert, 48 pages, 4d. each; postage free, or 20 copies for one dollar.

Christian Messenger Office, Halifax, May 14.

WANTED

THE MINUTES of the NOVA SCOTIA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, for the years 1810, 1817, 1818, 1819, 1822, 1827, 1828, 1840, 1841, 1844, 1846, and 1847. Also, the Minutes of the Eastern Association, for 1851 and the Central for 1851 and 1852, and the Minutes of Convention 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th sessions. Any person having any of the above will confer on us a favour by sending them to the Christian Messenger Office. We will send a copy of Caird's Sermon for each year's Minutes previous to 1851.

BAZAAR at PUGWASH.

THE LADIES of PUGWASH, intend holding a BAZAAR at Pugwash, on WEDNESDAY, 16th July next, for the purpose of repairing and filling up the Baptist Meeting House at that place.

There will be a large and varied assortment of useful and ornamental articles for sale.

Contributions to the above object by Friends at a distance, will be thankfully received by MRS. PINEO, Mrs. BURRIDGE, Miss PAGE and Miss EATON. Pugwash, May 21st, 1856.



Notice to the Public.

MUCH disappointment and inconvenience having been experienced by the Public, in consequence of the Mail for England having been closed at 8, instead of 9, p. m., on Thursday last,—the Royal Mail Steamer from Boston having been opened at an earlier hour than usual,—it has been considered desirable,—to prevent a re-occurrence of the disappointment,—to change the hour of closing the English Mail at this Office.—Commencing, therefore, on THURSDAY next, the 22nd instant, the Mail for England, will,—by directions of the Government, be finally closed for the receipt of letters at the window at 8, P. M., instead of 9, p. m., as heretofore.

Letters, &c., for England which may be dropped into the Box after the hour of closing; and up to the arrival of the Packet, will be forwarded in a Bag, loose;—but the Public are requested in all practicable cases, to post their correspondence in time to be made up in the Regular Mail, and thereby insure greater security.

A. WOODGATE, P. M. G. General Post Office, Halifax, 14th May, 1856. May 21.

MAIL CONVEYANCE

From Halifax to Guysboro',

Via the Great Eastern Road.

PERSONS desirous of entering into a Contract for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails from HALIFAX to GUYSBORO', via the Great Eastern Road, passing through and serving the settlements of Middle and Upper Musquodoboit, Gleneg, (St. Mary's) and Country Harbour, once a week each way, are requested to send in SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster General, stating the sum per annum in Halifax Currency, for which they would agree to perform the service.

The Conditions of the Contract are that the Mails shall be conveyed on such days and at such hours from either end of the route, as may from time to time be pointed out by the Post Master General, the rate of speed to be not less than Five Miles an hour, and the Mails to be conveyed by Horse and Wagon or on Horseback.

A notice of Three Months to be given on either side to terminate the Contract.

Security will be required for the due and faithful performance of the Service.

Tenders (which must be made out in the proper form supplied by the Department for the purpose, and which can be had on application at the General Post Office, Post Offices Guysboro, Middle and Upper Musquodoboit, will be received until MONDAY, the 14th of July, next, (at noon) and the Service to commence on the 1st of August, 1856.

A. WOODGATE, P. M. G. General Post Office, Halifax, May 27th, 1856. Ains. e. w. until 14th July.

An Act to constitute Argyle, in the County of Yarmouth, a separate District.

(Passed the 31st March, 1856.)

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows:

- 1.—The District of Argyle shall comprise the Township of Argyle.
2.—The Sessions for the District of Argyle shall have the same powers within the limits thereof as if it were a separate County, but shall exercise no control over the affairs of any other portion of the County of Yarmouth.
3.—The Sessions for Argyle shall be held at Tusket, on the third Tuesday of April and the third Tuesday of October in each year. The Grand Jury shall only attend at the October Term.
4.—A Custos Rotulorum shall be appointed for the District of Argyle, who shall have power to appoint a Clerk of the Peace.
5.—All monies assessed and collected in the District shall be laid out solely therein.
6.—Separate Grand and Petit Jury lists shall be drawn for the District of Argyle, as if it were a separate County; and the Sessions for the District shall appoint a Committee to revise the lists therein; and the Juries shall be drawn at the Supreme Court at Tusket, at the next Term thereafter.
7.—The Grand Jury for Argyle are empowered to fix the Salary of the Clerk of the Peace at such amount as they shall think proper.
8.—In case the Jury lists shall not be perfected, and the Jury drawn at the next Term of the Supreme Court at Tusket, the Grand Jurors drawn during the past year, and resident in the District of Argyle, shall form the Grand Jury of that District to attend the next October Sessions at Tusket; but in case there be not a sufficient Grand Jury in attendance, the Justices may appoint District and Township Officers to serve for the year then next ensuing.
9.—The Grand and Petit Juries now drawn and required to attend the next Supreme Court at Tusket, shall attend and perform the Duties of their respective Offices as if this Act had not passed.
10.—The Sessions may appoint a Committee of three Justices, who, with a Committee of three Counsellors, to be appointed by the Municipal Corporation of Yarmouth, shall, at the April Term of the Sessions at Tusket, make Regulations for the Fisheries of the County of Yarmouth in which the District of Argyle, and the other parts of the County, are jointly interested, and for carrying out, with respect to such Fisheries, the Provisions of Charter 95 of the Revised Statutes and the Acts in amendment thereof. May 28. I m

RECEIVED

At 145 Granville Street, Per Ships "MIDMAC," "ALLIANCE," and "WHITE STAR," a large and varied Stock of STAPLE AND FANCY

Dry Goods,

Which will be found well worthy the attention of purchasers. SAMUEL STRONG. Halifax, May 14. G w