The Ten Hours Factory Bill received the royal assent, by commission, on the 8th instant.

The lords of the treasury have ordered Mandioca flour to be admitted without paying duty, until the 1st of September next.

So late was the spring in Sweden, that on the 21st of May snow was six feet deep on the road from Stockholm to Swartwick.

The directors of the Ceylon Railway have called a meeting of the shareholders for the 18th June. This is the first Asiatic railway.

Measures are being taken at Edinburgh, for the erection of a statue of the late Dr. Chalmers, which is to be placed within the new College.

The Lords of the Treasury have ordered foreign hulled barley to be admitted without paying any duty until the 1st of September.

A great fire occurred in a granary at Moscow, about the middle of last month, and nearly 18,000 quarters of corn were destroyed.

The Oxford Chronicle says that a Roman Catholic monastery is about to be established at Ragley Hall, close to the palace of the Archbishop of York.

The Norwegian silver mines at Koingsberg have lately become more productive, and their produce during the first three months of this year has been sold for more than £22,000.

A German newspaper states that the potato rot has appeared, near Heidelberg, and that the potatoes affected by the disease become decomposed sooner than was the case last year.

The Socrates, arrived from Calcutta, has brought, besides 6408 bags of rice in the husk (now free of duty,) 50 bags of wheat. This latter is a novel importation from the East Indies.

The Government, at the instance of Mr. Sheil, have increased the sum payable to the Catholic Bishop of Newfoundland from £75 to £300 a-year.

A dreadful storm of wind, lightning, and rain, occurred on the 21st ult., at the mouth of the Danube. Nearly all the ships in the river were driven ashore, and several were capsized.

The Turkish Government proposes raising 10,000 Christian seamen, to serve in the navy, in conjunction with Mussulman mariners.

Several ships have lately been wrecked in the Baltic among the floating ice, which is found in greater masses than during former springs.

Two stockjobbers have been apprehended at Marseilles, for endeavouring to bribe the man employed at the telegraph, to obtain more speedily the quotations of the public funds at Paris.

During the last eight months more recruits have been enlisted, for the army at Skibbereen, Cork, where distress has been extremely great, that during the previous twenty years.

A correspondent of Herapath's Journal estimates the amount of railway calls for June, at £3.896,756, viz., English £1,998,678, Irish £193,750, Scotch £154,328, and Foreign £1,550,000. The calls already advertised for July amount to £3,000,000.

One of the principal lodges of Prussian Freemasons has struck out of its laws the clauses which prescribed that no person could be received a mason unless he professed the Christian religion, and which particularly forbade the admission of Jews.

The Prussian eagle, says the Sheffield Iris, has waved from several masts in the Trent of Gainsbro', during the last fortnight. Half a dozen Prussian vessels have arrived at that port laden with timber for the railways.

The Admiralty have officially announced that Sir Charles Napier, K. C. B., is to command a squadron of exercise during the ensuing summer, the ships to consist of the St. Vincent, 120; Howe, 120; Caledonia, 120; and Queen, 110.

Baron Solomon de Rothschild, at Vienna, has established a great manufactory of beet-root sugar on his demesne of Ostran, in the district of Odersberg, in Moravia, in order to employ the labouring classes.

Some curious roots, from Prince Edward's Island, where they are called *sea gaaban* by the Indians, were exhibited at the last meeting of the Liverpool Horticultural Society. It is proposed that these roots, which are said to form good and nourishing food, should be grown instead of potatoes.

The French Government has ordered that scientific men in all the departments shall examine microscopically, every fortnight, the growing potatoes in the several districts, with a view to discover if the plant be again tainted, and the cause of the disease, if it should again appear.

A letter from China, says the *Breton* of Nantes, has been received in that town, stating that several captains of French, English, and American vessels have had audiences with the Emperor of Japan, soliciting the opening of his ports to the commerce of their respective countries.

Mr. S. B. Rogers, of Nantyglo, has published a pamphlet on the practicability of constructing 10,000 miles of railway through Europe and Asia, and thus connecting London and Paris with Canton and our East India possessions, and all the great cities and provinces en route.

Much astonishment has been lately created among the Venetian populace, by the circumstance that the water of an Artesian well, which was lately sunk at Venice, burns brilliantly when brought into contact with a flame. This seemingly wonderful combustion is caused by the carburetted hydrogen gas which the water contains.

Three Chinese piratical junks were lately discovered by the English brig-of-war Scout, off Amoy, in the act of attacking a trading junk. The Scout immediately opened her fire, sunk two of the junks, and took the third, with its crew, who were delivered to the Chinese mandarins, by whom 86 of them were sentenced to death.

A return, moved for by Mr. T. M. Gibson, shows that the gross total quantity of grain and meal landed in Ireland during the ten weeks preceding the 22nd of May last amounted to 1,298,074 quarters, of which 900,176 quarters came from foreign countries and British possessions, and 397,898 quarters from Great Britain.

The Spanish Government has resolved to adopt a decimal coinage. The monetary unit will be the real (about 2½d.;) and the other coins will be, the gold Isabelino or centen, of the value of 100 reals; and the silver half-dollar, or decen, of the value of 10 reals; and the copper decimo, or 1-10th of a real. Silver coins of twenty, font, and two reals, will be also struck; and copper pieces of five decens and two decens.

The Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland held a meeting on the 10th inst., and after reading a considerable number of letters from all parts of Ireland, drew up a report to the effect that there are no grounds for apprehending a recurrence of the potato disease of the previous years. Out of several hundred communications, but two went the length of saying the true disease had appeared. The council reported accordingly.

Railways in India.—It is expected that the East India Company are upon the point of taking another step likely to delay indefinitely the effective introduction of the railway system into their territory, it being proposed to send Mr. Simms, their railway engineer, to Bombay and Madras, to examine and report on the lines projected in those presidencies, before any further encouragement shall be given to the respective companies.

Russian Grain.—The following is an extract from a letter, dated Riga, June 1, received by a Liverpool house:—"It is almost impossible to pass through the ships in this river; there are at present fifteen hundred ships in this port, and this only the month of June; more ships than ever were in Riga before in a year."

Phrenology: Dr. Chalmers' Brain.—A correspondent of the Daily News writes as follows:—"Phrenology is rather at fault regarding Dr. Chalmers. From the largeness of his head externally, and the peculiarity of his mental temperament, the leading craniologists have long spoken of him as of necessity possessing a large brain; but the *post mortem* inspection of the encephalon has disabused this idea. Thus, the weight of brain in Dupuytren was 64 oz., in Cuvier 63, in Abercrombie 63, in Chalmers 53; the average weight in persons from fifty to sixty years of age being 50 oz. 2 drachms."

Queen Christina at Naples.—The *Gazette du Midi* publishes the following extract from a letter, dated Naples, 30th ult.:—"Maria Christina leaves to-morrow. She did not meet the reception here she expected. The King was travelling with the Queen, and had taken with him his two brothers—the Counts of Aquila and Trappani; they have not returned, and Christina departs without having seen any of her family except her mother the Queen Dowager, and the Princess Caroline, her youngest sister.—The other sister Christina, the Infanta Amelia, who remained in Naples with her husband, Don Sebastian, abstained from visiting the ex-Regent. Exiled by her, they could not decently appear at her receptions. Even the people turned their backs on her, and nobody paid the slightest attention to her presence."

Silver Ore from Valparaiso.—A very splendid parcel of silver ore was last week received by a mercantile firm here, from Valparaiso. Its value, by different essays, has been computed at the rate of from £1590 to £1600 for the ton of twenty-one cwt. The purchasers, by tender, were, we are informed, the silver ore smelting firm of Mullins and Co., Battersea, near London.

The Two Steamers from America.—The arrival of the last two steam-ships from the United States to England was watched with considerable interest. The Britannia left Boston, calling at Halifax, on the 1st instant, and the Washington New York for Cowes and Bremen on the same day. On the evening of the 13th, the Britannia arrived at Liverpool, and at noon on the 15th the Washington arrived off Calshot Castle, Isle of Wight; the latter was short of coal to take her to Bremen, and did not leave Southampton till the following day, Wednesday.

IRELAND.

Requisitions are pouring in from the several provinces of Ireland to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, calling upon him to convene a national meeting to take into consideration the most appropriate means by which the memory of O'Connell could be perpetuated in a monument.

A correspondence has taken place between Mr. Smith O'Brien and Mr. Maurice O'Connell, which has been the subject of much conversation. It was rumoured that it was the wish of Mr. O'Connell's family that the Young Irelanders should take no part, as a body, in the publ ic funeral to be accorded their late father. Mr. Smith O'Brien, in order to test the rumour, addressed a letter to Mr. John O'Connell, in which he inquires "whether it is their (the family's) wish that those who dissented from the policy adopted by the Repeal Association during the last twelve months should attend the funeral." The duty of replying was devolved by Mr. John O'Connell upon his brother, Mr. Maurice O'Connell, who replied that "the arrangements for the funeral having been intrusted to the Glasnevin Cemetery committee and the Rev. Dr. Miley, the family leaves it entirely in their hands." Mr. O'Brien interpreted this into an intimation that "he should not attend the funeral;" and it seems indeed pretty plainly to bear that construction.

The Repeal Association have not given up the usual weekly meetings. On the 7th, a large number of members met in Conciliation Hall. Mr. Maurice O'Connell, M.P., eldest son of Mr. O'Connell, deceased, and Mr. John O'Connell, were present. Several addresses and resolutions from various bodies of the Roman Catholic clergy, from several corporations, and other public bodies, were read, proclaiming adhesion to the political conduct and teachings of the late Mr. O'Connell, and promising that they would confide in his son, Mr. John O'Connell, as the expounder of that conduct and policy. Mr. John O'Connell stated that he would not presume to accept of any leadership, but that, with the advantage of his brother's counsel and experience, he would endeavour to walk in the paths of his father. It would seem, therefore, that the two brothers will, for the present at least, assume to guide the movement of the Repealers. The funds of the association have been placed in the guardianship of trustees, that of Aldermen M'Loghlin and Keshan. The rent acknowledged was nearly fifty pounds.

The state of the country is not improved. Crime and outrage still stalk throughout the unhappy land. A Limerick Chronicle of a late date has the following:—"A most daring attack was made last evening upon Ballycunneen House, the residence of Peter O'Halloran, Esq., in the neighbourhood of Clonmoney, when, by the extraordinary bravery and determination of one young gentleman, eleven armed ruffians were repelled, and one at least of the gang must be desperately wounded. About nine o'clock Mr. O'Halloran was sitting at the parlour window, in company with Mr. Jeremiah Canny, when they heard a crash at the kitchen door down stairs, which was burst open by six fellows, who rushed into the servants' room, and, being disappointed at not finding the gun, they ran out immediately. At the same moment, others of the party went round to the front, and one ruffian walked up deliberately to the window, and fired at the two gentlemen. A ball grazed Mr. Cranny's cheek, and the powder scorched his face, and from the same discharge three bullets perforated the opposite wall. Mr. Canny seized a gun (the only one in the house,) and fired both barrels at the fellow outside, no doubt with effect, as this morning blood was traced from the spot in great profusion for a long distance. He immediately reloaded, and dashed out amongst the fellows, who dispersed at the moment, and he pursued three of them until they turned round and fired two shots at him; he returned the fire with one barrel, when one of the three staggered, but the other detonating cap fell off. They then ran away, and the police went immediately in pursuit."

It would seem as if frauds on the relief funds were being perpetrated. A circular has been issued from the Relief-office to the several inspecting officers, which indicates the existence of shameful frauds. The Relief Commissioners state that various abuses exist, "some involving a most unjustifiable expenditure of the relief funds, amounting to fraud; and others to "an abstraction of the food provided as the resource of families that are entirely destitute." The inspectors are recommended to endeavour to fix the culpability on individuals, that they may be punished or exposed, to prevent an opinion gaining ground that such practices acquire an impunity from being common in the country.

A circular has just been issued to the engineers in charge of the several districts in which public works have been hitherto carried on, announcing that the Lords of the Treasury having given instructions that all the works whether they consist of roads, bridges, thorough drainage, &c., shall be finally discontinued on or before the 15th of August. Wherever it may be found impossible to complete the works before the specified time, plans and estimates are to be prepared for the country surveyors, so as to obtain presentments in the ordinary way for the execution of such unfinished works from the grand juries of the countries in which they may be situate.

The prospects of the crop are in general of a gratifying character. The rumour of the re-appearance of last year's disease in the potatoes appears to have incited a general examination of the crop, and the result is such as to inspire a confident hope that the produce will be far and every way greater than was at any time this year anticipated, wile in no single instance were true symptoms of the disease discovered. Occasionally blighted plants are found, but the most healthy fields of potatoes have always exhibited such cases of failure. On the whole the farmers are in the best possible spirits at the prospects of the coming harvest.

THE OFFERTORY.

The following case having been recently submitted to Dr. Addams, that learned Civilian has given the Opinion which is subjoined.

Case.

About six weeks ago, the Minister of the Parish of Hurst gave notice in his Church that he proposed preaching a sermon for the benefit of the Berkshire Hospital, and that a collection would be made whilst he read the Offertory on the ensuing four Sundays.

Although this repetition of the call upon the congregation was unusual, yet no particular objection was made to it from respect to the Minister: but when the four Sundays of collection had expired, the minister intimated that the success of his appeal induced him now to notify that he should read the Offertory on every succeeding Sunday, appropriating the contributions to the purposes expressed in a card, which was subsequently placed in every pew, and which is herewith left; having, however, stated in the pulpit, that the collection on the fifth Sunday would partly be applied to make up for scantiness of wages in the case of large families.

Mr. Walter, an inhabitant of the parish, feels aggrieved by the proposed monthly collections for the Berkshire Hospital, his family being regular subscribers to that institution; for although the giving is stated to be optional, yet it seems an indecorum to refuse a contribution sanctioned by clerical authority. Mr. Walter being also engaged in erecting a Church in another pant of the parish, feels it a grievance to be continually called on in the meantime to subscribe for building Churches elsewhere. He entertains, besides, great doubts as to the utility of some of the other objects contemplated by the Minister, between whom and his parishioners the greatest harmony has hitherto prevailed.

A suitable representation has been made to him in the most amicable spirit, but ineffectually.

As there is reason to apprehend that further novelties may be introduced if the system now adopted shall be acquiesced in, and as such changes are liable to lead to disunion in the parish, Mr. Walter is desirous to learn whether the minister and the Chruchwardens can legally order collections for objects not parochial, without the sanction of some superior authority, such as a Queen's Letter.

In the event of your considering that the words "pious uses" comprehend such objects as the Minister assumes according to the words of the Rubric:

Dr. Addams is requested to peruse the accompanying card, and to give his opinion as to the curate of Hurst's proposed course of proceeding; and whether any—and if any, what—steps can be taken on behalf of Mr. Walter, or any other parishioner of Hurst, to put a stop to it.

The Card:

Rubrics from the Prayer Book, referring to the Offertory.

(After the Nicene Creed, and direction about Notices, &c.)

"Then shall follow the Sermon, &c.

"Then shall the Priest return to the Lord's Table, and begin the Offertory, saying one or more of these sentences following, &c.:—

"Whilst these sentences are in reading, the Deacons, Churchwardens, or other fit persons appointed for that purpose, shall receive the Alms for the Poor, and other devotions of the people, in a decent basin to be provided by the Parish for that purpose; and reverently bring it to the Priest, who shall humbly present and place it upon the Holy Table."

(Heading of the Collects at the end of the Communion Service.)

"Collects to be said after the Offertory, when there is no Communion, every such day one or more."

(Rubrics at the end.)

"Upon the Sundays and other Holydays (if there be no Communion) shall be said all that is appointed at the Communion, until the end of the general Prayer [for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here on earth,] together with one or more of these Collects last before rehearsed, concluding with the blessing."

"After the Divine service ended, the money given at the Offertory shall be disposed of to such pious and charitable uses as the minister and Churchwardens shall think fit; wherein if they disagree it shall be disposed of as the Ordinary shall appoint."

Arrangement of "pious and charitable uses" to which the money so collected in this Church is to be applied, as agreed upon by the Minister and Churchwardens:

On those Sundays (usually the 1st in the month) and Holidays, when there is a Communion,—to the comfort of the "sick and needy" in the Parish.

On the *second* Sunday in each month (if there be no Communion),—to the general Fund of the Royal Berks Hospital.

On the *third* Sunday,—for the assistance of the Church in our own country—namely, in aid of the Society for building Churches; the Society for the employment of additional curates in populous places; or the National Society for the Church Education of the Poor.

On the *fourth* Sunday,—for the support and extension of the Church in our possessions abroad—namely to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign parts.

On the *fifth* Sunday (when one occurs),—as on the *first*.

N. B. When there is a communion, the collection will be made *from the whole congregation*; and a pause will be made *after* the prayer 'for Christ's church militant on earth,' for those who are *not* "minded to come to the holy communion," to depart.

"He that soweth little, shall reap little; and he that soweth plenteously shall reap also plenteously, *Let man do according as he is disposed in his heart; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver.*"—(2 Corinthians ix.)

"Be merciful after thy power. *If thou has much give plenteously; if thou hast little, do thy diligence gladly to give of that little*; for so gatherest thou thyself a good reward in the day of necessity."—(Tobit iv.)

Hurst, Oct. 1, 1744.

A. A. CAMERON, Perpetual Curate.

Opinion.

"I certainly cannot undertake to say that the Curate of Hurst's intended weekly 'Offertory' (to dispose of that, in the first instance,) is illegal. On the contrary, I think that it is, *probably*, strictly legal, as in accordance with rubrical directions on that behalf contained in the Book of Common Prayer. I say *probably*, because I think it must be admitted that the rubrics, as to this whole matter of the 'Offertory,' &c., are anything but clear and consistent. At the same time, a weekly offertory, or indeed any offertory, save at the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, (and the alms *then* to be collected from the communicants only), has now so entirely fallen into disuse—if, indeed, it ever was in use, which is by no means certain—that its introduction at the present day, as proposed by the curate will *really*,' to all intents and purposes, be a perfect innovation—and it is one which I am surprised that any individual (private) clergyman should venture to attempt on his own responsibility. Its *probable* conformity with the rubrick, no doubt countenances the attempt. But is the Curate of Hurst prepared to carry out *all* the rubrical directions contained in the Book of Common Prayer? Is he prepared to carry out the whole even of that portion of them—viz., as to 'the order of Administring the Sacrament'—out of which the rubrics as to the 'Offertory' (printed in the annexed 'card') have been *selected*? For, unless he is so prepared, I cannot think that, either morally, or perhaps legally, speaking, the probable conformity of his intended weekly offertory with the rubrics on that head fully warrants its adoption on his part. In short, legal or not, what the Curate of Hurst proposes as to this weekly offertory appears to me in the highest degree *injudicious*;' though a statement, in detail, of the *reasons* of such my opinion is out of the question, as it would far exceed the limits to which I must necessarily confine myself. But in saying this I beg to be understood as imputing nothing to the Curate of Hurst beyond what appears to me at least, very 'injudicious' conduct. It may be perfectly well intentioned—his motives may be irreproachable—I would neither say, nor suggest, nor insinuate anything to the contrary.

"So much as to the intended weekly 'offertory.' Next, as to the intended disposal, (as to be collected from the annexed 'card.') of such alms as may be given at the offertory.

"Now, according to the letter of the rubric, the intended disposal of such alms, the minister and churchwardens agreeing, is, doubtedly, legal. For each of the 'uses' specified in the card is, no doubt, a pious or a charitable use. But I very much doubt whether, within the true meaning of the rubric, as to the disposal of such alms, 'pious and charitable uses' ought not to be understood of such uses 'within the parish,' and not as the Curate of Hurst plainly understands them, of such uses, 'at large;' though the rubric, differing in that respect from the corresponding rubric in the Scotch liturgy, does not so express it.

"Have the Parishioners of Hurst, however, which is the other question, any means of trying the legality of the Curate's intended proceedings, and of putting a stop to them if illegal? Now, in the present state of the law, under the Church Discipline, Act 3 and 4 Vic. 86, I am not aware that they have any such means, save at the option, or in the discretion, of the diocesan. They may, and I advise them to, invoke the Bishop's interference with the Curate (in the way of remonstrance, or recommendation *at least*.) in the premises; but if the Bishop declines to interfere, neither Mr. Walter nor any other parishioner of Hurst has any *remedy*, so to call it, that I am aware of; other than the remedy, such as it is, which, of course, is in his own hands, namely, that of withholding his contributions, and which, if generally adopted in the parish, would, no doubt, induce the Curate soon to desist from his weekly 'offertory.'

"J. ADDAMS."

"Doctors'-Commons, Oct. 16, 1844."

ODD FELLOWS' CORNER.

The "Odd Fellows' Corner" will be nothing more or less than a portion of our paper, weekly, set apart to satirize the follies of the times. Some of the articles will be from the pen of the Editor, and others from several talented and highly-esteemed correspondents. Domestic inzidents and private character will be held too sacred for ridicule or comment, but general customs and manners, political manœuvres, the public acts of public men, and whatever that is crude, ultra, nonsensical or ridiculous, emanating from the contemporary Press of this Province, will be considered just and lawful prey, and we give all concerned timely warning to look ahead. In fact we look upon most of the political productions of our "Liberal" cotemporaries, about this time, as too insignificant for serious editorial refutation, and only deserving to be quizzed, accordingly quizzed they shall be; the overgrown schoolboys, who are arguing upon theological matters, may also claim a portion of our notice. To sum up all, the "Odd Fellows' Corner" will aim at moral reformation and purity of Government.

ANOTHER NURSERY STORY.

In the animal world, every farmer knows that his stock, in order to be healthy and profitable, should be bred from proper parents. The same rule should hold good with politicians. If a Physician, judging from the constitution and habits of the parents, is warranted in predicting that the child yet unborn will be sickly and troublesome, surely the politician may predict that the off-spring of those who are rash, reckless, and revolutionary will be weak and lame. In either case the health of the *baby*, and the chances of his arriving to a healthy maturity, depends upon his *nursing*. What, for instance, would a doctor say to a puny sickly mother? would he not say "*Madam*, if you wish that baby to live you must procure a healthy nurse for it?" To be sure he would! And thus it is with our political parties. "Responsible Government" was born of weak parents,—weak numerically speaking, and of weak and unsound mind, inasmuch as they were then labouring under a *mania*, or hallucination. The Physician (the people) steps in, and thus addresses the precocious dame,—who has lost her little sense which yet remained, in rejoicing over the safe delivery—"Mapam, this is too much for you; if you go on this way, and attempt to nurse that puny, imperfect, ill-formed creature yourself,—it will not only perish without arriving at maturity, but will also endanger your own *precious* life! There is your neighbour Madam Conservative, I know you are not on the best of terms with each other; but what of that? you speak, and keep up appearances. Let the baby be placed in her hands; she is healthy and vigorous, and will nurse and educate the child so as to ensure it health and longevity. You need not look so alarmed; the baby will not be *throttled*; and although it may not, in the hands of your neighbour, become that rollicking, devil-may-care, *revolutionary* fellow you desire, with a hat set on one side, a rakish look, and a cudgel wherewith to to break heads, it will certainly be made a better man; it will be taught the virtue of sobriety, the conventionalisms of society, *and a due reverence for the experience of the past, and all that is wise and good in our laws and constitution.*"

Madam cannot dispute the Physician's (*the people's*) orders, and so the *baby* is yielded up; but with a very bad grace indeed, and she commences sobbing and complaining, that the dear one should thus be torn from her