

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALEDONIA.

THE WEATHER.

The weather during the past week has been generally fine and warm, especially in the northern parts of the kingdom; so that any fears which may have been entertained about getting in the crops in Scotland are now dissipated, and we may confidently state that the harvest is more productive than the general average of years throughout the whole country. The main drawback upon this satisfactory state of things is the undeniable mischief which is now developing itself in the potatoes. There are such numerous classes interested in creating needless alarm, that we feel a reluctance in adding to the clamour which some politicians are making on the subject; nevertheless we believe that the disease has shown itself to a very great extent in Ireland and sporadically in England, several districts scattered at distances having suffered.—It is of course quite impossible to fix the limits of the mischief so far as it has yet spread. The farmers throwing all their diseased potatoes at once upon the market, and mixing them with sound ones, in order to get rid of them, make it appear, perhaps, that the disease is more extensive than it really is. But well authenticated statements prove that much of the planting is injured, and time alone will show whether the disease will increase in the rapid and sudden manner it did in former years, or whether the injury done will be arrested in its present state. This question will necessarily form an important element in the problem of future prices.

DOMESTIC.

Domestic news continues to be of subordinated interest. The public mind has been greatly relieved by the remarkable improvement in the sanitary reports from all parts of the kingdom, and the benevolent are meditating some comprehensive scheme of charity to relieve those who have been made desolate by the recent great calamity.—A public meeting will shortly be convened for this object. Her Majesty and the court have left Scotland and returned to the Isle of Wight. Almost all the Ministers of the crown continue to enjoy themselves at their respective seats in the country, which indicates that the excitement at the Cape of Good Hope against the "pollution" of the colony by the threatened introduction of convicts does not disturb the serenity of our rulers. The vacancy in the representation of West Surrey by the recent death of Mr. Denison, has been filled up by the election of Mr. Evelyn, the Protectionist candidate.

In the business of the manufacturing districts there is somewhat less activity, and the system of short time has in some cases been resorted to. Manufacturers seem to rely upon our home demand to carry them through their difficulties. The value of money continues unaltered.—At call it is worth about 2 per cent., whilst 3 months best paper is discounted at 2 1/2 per cent. The stock of Bullion in the Bank is about 15 millions sterling.

THE CHOLERA.

We have again the satisfaction to announce that the mortality from cholera has further declined, and that to a degree which would make us confident of the permanent subjection of the malady, but that its re-appearance in many places where it had seemed to have been extinguished makes us still hesitate to pronounce that the danger is altogether passed. The deaths from all causes in the London districts for the weeks of September ending the 22nd were 3160, 2812 and 1981. Thus the cholera deaths decreased from 2026, 1682, to 839 in the same period. The deaths from cholera, which were at the beginning of the month 400 daily, fell on the 19th to 110, and declined on the 26th to 102. On the 27th the further satisfactory report appeared showing the much greater diminution to 79 for all London, 331 for all England, and 57 for Scotland; the cases of diarrhoea being 174. This is the most satisfactory return which has appeared since the first outbreak of the disorder. In Liverpool the disappearance of the disease has been equally signal. For the weeks ending September 1, 8, and 15 the total number of deaths were respectively 728, 591, and 418. From cholera, the deaths for these weeks were 488, 352, 193.—Leeds, Manchester, and Hull, seem now to be the highest numbers, but taking the returns from all the kingdom, we cannot doubt but that the disorder has greatly mitigated its virulence, and the efforts made to stay its progress in the earlier stages have not been unsuccessful. From the report of the Registrar General we learn that more than 5 in 1000 of the inhabitants of London died of cholera; the more accurate calculation being 53 in 10,000 people.—The mortality was three times as great on the south side of the river as it was on the north, taking the number of inhabitants as the basis of computation. Taking 10,000 to each district, the mortality ranged from 8 in Hampstead to 225 in Rotherhithe. The public attention has been almost exclusively directed to the subject, and within these few days a practical discovery has been made respecting the cause of the disease, which completely supersedes all the previous theories upon the subject. It has been placed beyond a doubt by the laborious experiments of Dr. Brittan, and Mr. Swayne, of Bristol, that certain organisms, in very great numbers, exist in the alvine dejections or rice evacuations of persons who have died from cholera; the existence of these organisms has been proved incontrovertibly, and that in no instance do they exist except in the cases described of cholera. This led to further investigation, and it has now been established that similar organisms exist in places affected with cholera, and especially in the foul water of cholera districts; and that these organisms, which are proved to be of the fungus tribe, are assumed to be the cause of malignant cholera, by being taken into the body in the act of swallowing. The new organisms are said to be only developed in the human intestine, and there cause the peculiar flux which is characteristic of malignant cholera. A variety of very strong proofs are adduced to substantiate these allegations; the

organisms having been seen by almost the whole scientific world in London and Bristol. The evidence of these singular discoveries is now before the College of Physicians, and will be shortly published.

IRELAND.

We wish we could find any excuse for omitting our customary weekly article upon Ireland. It is painful to dwell upon the sad incidents which fill up the history of that unhappy country. Disturbances of the most unruly kind in the south; secret confederacies, having for their objects plunder and robbery; political agitators, both in the field and in the closet, resorting to the old revolting follies of past times to drive an ignorant peasantry into fatal courses; and, lastly, a revival of the potato disease, which threatens to be of a very serious character, which misfortune is even seized upon by political agitators as a fresh pretext or excuse for invading the rights of property, and thereby adding to the general insecurity which prevails. During the last week the Irish papers have teemed with accounts of the corn plunder movement, each instance furnishing some deplorable illustration of the laxity of all moral feeling on the part of the tenantry, or of the sharp practice of the landlord in aiming at all hazards to secure his arrears or his rent. Whilst such a state of barbarism prevails, it is quite hopeless to expect an improvement in the condition of the country. Between Tipperary and Kilkenny there have been assemblages of armed men amounting to several hundreds, all of the lowest class; and as their designs appear to be shrouded in mystery, and the conspirators who lead them on keep concealed, after having bound their victims by secret oaths, it is very much to be deplored that the power does not exist to put them down at once. The respectable inhabitants complain bitterly of the ruin which is brought upon them by the restless machinations of these bodies of armed ruffians. Of course, an effective military and police force is now organised in the district, and the confederacy will be utterly broken up; but our regret is, for the sake of Ireland, that any such mischievous conspiracies should exist at all, at a time when every man in England is desirous to raise the country from its miserable state. Mr. Bright has returned to England after his late visit to many of the Irish counties, and has, it is said, become convinced of the necessity of a tenant law by which the occupier may be secured a return for the improvements he may make upon the land; whilst we cheerfully will accede to this, what remedy shall we propose for that state of things where the tenant refuses to pay any rent at all, and is goaded on by agitators to seize upon the land altogether, under the pretence that the famine does not affect the landlords?—In Tipperary a state of communism seems to exist, and certainly it is not a flourishing one. With regard to the progress of the potato disease, there is now no doubt that it exists to a very alarming extent. It is deeply to be deplored that Mr. Duffy should suggest that the landlords should be the safe causes of the misery of Ireland. Heaven knows that many of them have enough to answer; but we do not like the threats of famine, and beggary, and massacre, all placed in juxtaposition, merely to swell a cry against a class whose misdeeds, however great, do not merit extermination no more than the unhappy wretches whom they so often unmercifully evict from the soil. An idle report has been put forth by the *Limerick Examiner* that a conditional pardon has been granted by the Government to John Mitchel, leaving him at liberty to go where he pleases, but restraining him from returning to the United Kingdom. It is added that the exile intends to settle in Germany, where his wife and family will immediately join him. At present this report has not gained the smallest credit. The Dolly's Brea investigation has ended in smoke; the spirit of party which occasioned the riot has been carried into the Court of Inquiry, and Lord Roden and all the participants in the affair will escape punishment. By the latest news from the south of Ireland we are told that fresh attacks have been made upon the isolated police barracks, and that more lives have been lost; but the originators of these affairs appear to have fled, and the ignorant wretches who are their willing victims will be left to pay the severe penalty of the offended laws. These periodical disturbances are purely local.

CONTINENTAL.

We were enabled last week, in a postscript, to announce the resolution of the Porte not to yield up the Hungarian refugees to the demands of Austria and Russia. Nothing has since transpired upon the subject, except that we learn that a Russian officer of high rank has arrived at Constantinople to demand their extradition. There is no doubt that the chief leaders are still at Widdin, in Wallachia, and the probability is, that as soon as the requisite facilities can be furnished to get them out of the Turkish dominions, that they will be allowed to go where they please. A great many Polish exiles meditate crossing the Atlantic with the design of establishing Polish colonies in the United States. Concern has not yet yielded; but whether the garrison holds out a month or a year, as they must finally surrender, and as their resistance has not the smallest effect upon the fate of the empire, for humanity sake we should be glad to see the sword of war sheathed. A frightful and unavailing loss of life must attend either a prolonged resistance or a final bombardment; the probabilities are, that among those who persist in the resistance are to be found men who are hopeless and reckless of their lives, and that their influence protracts an unavailing defence. Nothing definitive has yet been arranged with regard to Hungary; but from the schemes of arrangement thrown out apparently as feelers, there does not appear any insurmountable difficulty in the way of a final pacification, upon the basis of a complete union with Austria, Hungary retaining her old institutions for her future provincial administration. As might be expected, after such a frightful ordeal as Austria has passed, there are a great many executions, many trials, many intrigues; but certain it is that the imperial party are now as popular as a year ago they were unpopular, and thus have secured a fresh lease of power. Whether that power is to be, as heretofore, irresponsible, is at present in the

womb of history. The Emperor of Russia has returned to St. Petersburg, and his troops are gradually withdrawing within the Russian frontiers; and at present we see no indication of any desire of pushing those frontiers beyond their present limits.

From Rome the news is most unsatisfactory. The Papal Government continues to exclude from office all those who had favoured the Republicans. The promotions made by Durando and his colleagues are made void, and 120 officers who submitted to General Oudinot are dismissed. It is evident that the cardinals rely upon the Austrians and Neapolitans to revive and perpetuate the old state of things; further deceiving themselves by the hopes that M. Falloux and his party will have influence sufficient in France to maintain the ancient Papal power in its integrity. This is a complete delusion. The French ministry dare not openly attempt anything of the kind; and although France will be very glad to wield "a legitimate power" in Italy, Louis Napoleon perceives very clearly that it can only be secured by giving liberal institutions to the Romans. The Pope remains at Portici; his manifesto, to which we have referred in our French article, must prove a fresh stumbling stock in the way of adjusting this most complicated affair.

RAIL ROAD MEETING IN WOODSTOCK.

At a Public Meeting of the Inhabitants of Woodstock and its vicinity, holden at the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, in Woodstock, on Saturday the 13th Oct., 1849.

PRESENT.

The High Sheriff of the County; John Dibblee, John Bedell, George W. Cleary, P. M. Bedell, A. S. Carnan, Charles Perley, and Charles Connell, Esquires, Justices; and upwards of 300 other persons.

On Motion of H. E. Dibblee, Esq., seconded by E. A. Cunliffe, Esq.,

*Resolved*,—That the High Sheriff do take the chair.

On Motion of John Dibblee, Esq., seconded by J. R. Tupper, Esq.,

*Resolved*,—That A. K. S. Wetmore Esq., do officiate as Secretary.

The Chairman briefly opens the object of the Meeting, and is followed by the Hon. Harris Hatch and John Wilson Esq., President of the Saint Andrews & Quebec Rail Road Company, severally setting forth, fully and in detail, various interesting matters, affording prospects the most cheering, and communicating intelligence deeply gratifying, from the Local Board in London relative to the projected Saint Andrews & Quebec Rail Road, Where upon,

Moved by Charles Perley Esq., seconded by H. E. Dibblee, Esq., and

*Unanimously Resolved*,—That from the favourable state of the Saint Andrews and Quebec Rail Road, achieved by the passing of the Facility Bill, giving the valuable Tract of land, upon conditions therein expressed, and the great zeal and confidence in the undertaking, evinced by the local Board in London, in placing certain funds, at the disposal of the Directors here, and in sending out an Engineer of high scientific attainments. It is the opinion of this meeting, that the said Road should be proceeded in, with all convenient speed, in taking levels and Sections, and cutting out the wood and brush, the whole distance preparatory to grading the same, to receive the Superstructure.

Moved by A. K. S. Wetmore, Esq., seconded by H. M. Garden, Esq., and

*Unanimously Resolved*,—That in order to ensure the completion of the Road, embracing the first Section from Saint Andrews to Woodstock, it will be necessary for the County of Carleton to take Stock to the amount of

pounds; and that ten per cent be paid upon that sum, into the hands of the Committee, to be hereafter named, with as little delay as possible; and that this meeting pledge themselves to carry out the spirit of the foregoing Resolution:—

And on motion of Charles Perley, Esq., seconded by John Dibblee Esq.,

Further *unanimously Resolved*,—That the above Blank be filled with the sum of £50,000 five thousand.

Moved by Dr. Wood and seconded by E. A. Cunliffe Esq., and

*Unanimously Resolved*,—That a Committee of three persons be appointed, with power to add to their number, to obtain Subscribers to the said Rail Road Stock—and further *Resolved* that Charles Perley, Charles Connell, and J. B. Tupper Esquires, do constitute said Committee.

Moved by D. L. Dibblee, Esq., seconded J. R. Tupper, Esq., and

*Unanimously Resolved*,—That this meeting pledge themselves to obtain Grants to the Saint Andrews and Quebec Rail Road Company, of the Right of way and free use of the lands, over which the projected Rail Road may pass, for the purposes of the said Road.

Moved by George W. Cleary Esq., seconded by W. T. Baird, Esq., and

*Unanimously Resolved*,—As the opinion of this meeting that the principle adopted by the Cities and Towns in Canada of issuing Bonds payable at a future day, for Stock, in the several Rail Roads, is one that might be safely and advantageously adopted in this Province.

Moved by A. K. S. Wetmore, Esq., seconded by John Dibblee Esq., and by acclamation,

*Unanimously Resolved*,—That the thanks of this County are most justly due to John Wilson Esq., Col. the Hon. Harris Hatch, and Admiral the Hon. W. F. W. Owen, and their associates in Charlotte County, for their untiring and unceasing perseverance in the cause of the projected Rail Way.

On motion, *Resolved*,—That the Chairman do leave the chair and that John Dibblee Esq., do take the same—and therefore further *Resolved* that the thanks of this meeting be given to the High Sheriff for his able and impartial conduct while in the Chair.

The Meeting adjourns without day.

J. F. W. WINSLOW, Chairman.

A. K. S. WETMORE, Sect.