

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA.

The Royal Mail Steamer *America* arrived at Halifax on Tuesday evening last, in ten days from Liverpool, with the mail of the 17th ult. We give below a summary of the news by this arrival, copied from the Boston Daily Advertiser.

The *Asia* arrived at Liverpool at half past 7, on Saturday morning, the 17th inst. The *America* arrived at Liverpool at midnight on Monday the 12th.

The potato disease is spreading in numerous districts in England and Ireland, and it is generally admitted that it will take a large per centage off the crop. The other crops generally promise well. Cutting is now general and the weather is very fine for harvest operations.

Parliament has been prorogued by the Queen.

The National Assembly has adjourned and the attention of the French nation is now principally occupied by the progress of the President, through the provinces. With some few exceptions, he appears to have been very favorably received by the people. Miss Cushman, the celebrated actress, is a passenger by this steamer. Mr. Wilton also a passenger, is bearer of despatches from England and the continent, to the American Government.

Some farther skirmishing has taken place between the Danes and the Holsteniers, in which the latter appear to have come off victors. Arrangements there are still going on for the settlement of the quarrel, under the auspices of Russia, England, and France.

Copenhagen letters report the King of Denmark's left-handed marriage with a dress-maker.

ENGLAND.—The chief feature of English news, is the Queen's speech upon the prorogation of Parliament.—The following paragraphs are all that possess any general interest.

It has afforded me great satisfaction to give my attention to the acts which you have passed for the improvement of the merchant naval service. It is, I trust, calculated to promote the welfare of every class connected with this essential branch of the national interests.

The acts for the gradual discontinuance of interments within the limits of the metropolis, is in conformity with those enlightened views which have for their object, the improvement of public health.

I look for the most beneficial consequences from the measure which has been framed, with a view to give my people in Ireland a fair participation in the benefits of our representative system.

The improvement of the revenue and the large reductions which have been made in various branches of expenditure, have tended to add to our financial condition stability and security.

I am encouraged to hope that the treaty between Germany and Denmark which has been concluded at Berlin, under my mediation, may lead, at no distant period, to the restoration of peace in the north of Europe. I continue to maintain the most friendly relations with the foreign powers. A leading London paper, commenting on the business of the session, says the ministerial management of the Legislature has not been very sagacious, very systematic, or very business-like. The reasons for this may be traced, in a considerable degree to the second rate qualification of the Cabinet, but these reasons do not supply the whole truth. The Whig ministers are not selected by the House of Commons, but forced into office by circumstances; not a desire, but a disaster gave them place. In any case they would not have been good governors. They have not the intellect to command respect, nor a policy to insist on attention. But because the House of Commons were not their constituents, they had to follow the House, for the House would not follow them.

Among the more important bills introduced by the Minister, which have fallen through, is the Jew emancipation bill, the Savings Banks bill, the Lord Lieutenantcy of Ireland, Abolition bill, and the Marriage bill.

FRANCE.—The Assembly was prorogued on the 10th inst., and Ministers have now all things their own way.—Most of the members have left Paris, and altogether, though more peaceful, Paris is less gay than it was some months ago. Previously to separating, the Mountain presented the public with their promised report on the Parliamentary proceedings of the session. This document has become the great topic of the day. It is drawn up in a style remarkably free from the common defects of inflation and violence. It is signed by 68 members.

In some respects, the President has not been so fortunate in his present, as in his late tour. At Lyons, the people were worse than apathetic. There was no address, and no public rejoicing, and the town council refused the supplies for his suite.

Under date of Paris, Thursday, it is stated that since the President left Lyons, his progress has been satisfactory; and impartial reports declare that public feeling generally, is decidedly in his favour. A telegraphic despatch from Paris of Friday, contains similar advices.

Accounts from the provinces state that the weather is exceedingly wet and unfavourable for harvesting; in consequence of which, there had been an advance of 2s. 6d. the sack on flour.

The commerce of Paris still continues to progress favourably. The manufacturers have a sufficient number of orders on their books to occupy all their hands, whilst some branches find a difficulty in procuring operatives to supply the demand.

Paris Bourse, Aug. 16, 5s, 96, 85.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.—Our accounts from headquarters represent that a slight engagement had taken place on the 8th. It was a mere affair of outposts, though at first it was supposed the whole Danish line were in

motion. The attack on the part of the Danes was precipitated on account of an explosion of the laboratory of the Artillery of General Willisten, by which there was great loss of life, and property; 91 persons killed by the explosion have been buried; 35 wounded—some severely, and 11 put down as missing; many bodies are so mangled that they cannot be identified. Twenty-two cadets of the artillery school are among the killed. Scarcely a house in the town has entirely escaped from the concussion.—The effect of the catastrophe on the public mind had been very depressing.

About noon on Thursday, the day on which the explosion took place, the Danish General advanced large bodies of men to the very verge of the right wing of the Schleswig Holstein position. The latter retreated to the main body behind the bridge, and a sharp struggle ensued, which gradually extended itself along the right wing to the eastward as far as Duanstedt. It lasted for some hours. The Danes outnumbered the Schleswig Holsteniers, but the latter advanced upon the Danes with fixed bayonets, and with loud huzzahs, and drove them from their shelter. The Danes fled in such a hurry that they left behind all their killed and wounded, which is with them, a most unusual circumstance.

Dates from Hamburg of the 13th state, that it has been determined to remove the department of War from Kiel to Rendsburg. Intelligence from the seat of war is to the effect that a cessation of hostilities had taken place between the belligerent parties, and that negotiations were on foot at Schleswig, between the English, French and Russian Envoys, in order to put an end to the effusion of blood.

FROM COPENHAGEN.—It is stated that the King of Denmark, amid all his broil and trouble, has been pursuing his usual amours and dissipations, and that a denouement has been his clandestine marriage with a lively and fascinating young dressmaker of that city.

FROM ST. PETERSBURG AND CRACOW we learn that the population of those places were actively engaged in repairing their respective cities from the effects of the late conflagration. The damage done has been found to be greater than was at first reported.

AUSTRIA.—The news from Austria present little of general interest. The court of Vienna appears to be struggling hard to gain a preponderance in German affairs; but as yet without much success. The butcher Haynau, has retired from the Austrian dominions to join the traitor Georgy in his exile.

SPAIN.—The Cortes has been dissolved and new elections will take place. Lord Howden, the English Minister, has been well received by the Queen. Her Majesty has completely recovered.

THE ROMAN STATES.—It is said that a note of the great powers recommends the Pope to grant a Constitution to the States of the Church, on the model of that which Austria has given to the Lombard-Venetian Kingdom.

We have nothing new from Portugal or other parts of the continent.

RAILWAYS IN NEW BRUNSWICK.—In the House of Lords on the 8th, Lord Stanley presented a petition from magistrates, freeholders, and other inhabitants of the county of Westmorland, New Brunswick, praying for the establishment of railways throughout the Province, and mainly from Halifax to Quebec. The petitioners felt that it was unnecessary to dilate on the establishment of such a line, and therefore contented themselves with stating that the Province had offered a guarantee of £60,000 a year for twenty years, or as much of that sum as should be necessary to make up a dividend of 4 per cent. to the shareholders, in addition to which they offered to give up 4,800,000 acres of land for the purpose and as an emigration field. They prayed that government would guarantee another £60,000 a year, making in the whole £120,000 a year, in case such sum should be necessary to make up the dividend before mentioned. At the same time they begged not to be understood as intimating that such sum would ever be called for. On the contrary, their conviction was that the proposed railway would be a most useful undertaking. He (Lord Stanley) would not ask the government to express any opinion on that occasion, but would content himself with expressing his warm concurrence in the prayer of the petition, and with recommending it to the serious consideration of her Majesty's ministers.—Petition ordered to lie on the table.

RUNAWAY NEGROES.—RIOT AND EXCITEMENT.—Harrisburg, Pa., Aug. 20.—The Court which was occupied during yesterday hearing testimony on the Habeas Corpus of the Negroes charged with stealing horses in Virginia, rendered their decision this morning. It appears the Negroes were slaves and had stolen horses to escape with,—the Court decided that a slave who steals a horse to escape with commits no crime, no criminal offence. The prisoners were thereupon ordered to be discharged.

About a dozen men from Winchester, Virginia, assembled at the prison door and attempted to seize and handcuff the slaves on their coming out. A great crowd of whites and free blacks also assembled, and a general riot immediately commenced. One slave effected his escape amidst a shower of stones and clubs.—the other two, their masters with assistants succeeded, despite all resistance in handcuffing. Several negroes were stabbed, others wounded—the owners of the slaves were slightly hurt.

The Court immediately issued warrants against the owners and all engaged for assault and battery with intent to incite a riot. The slaves and masters are now in gaol, and a large number of other arrests have been made which the Court are now engaged in disposing of. The Court also ordered a posse to be employed for dispersing the mob assembled in front of the gaol, at all hazards, which they succeeded in doing without much resistance.

The Town is now comparatively quiet.

DUBLIN PROTESTANT ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of the above society, held on Tuesday, the Rev. George De

Butts moved the following resolution, which was adopted unanimously:—

"That the conduct of Lord Clarendon's government, in allowing several Ribbonmen to be discharged without a trial, at the late assizes at Downpatrick, who were arrested in the act of murderously and treacherously assailing both the Queen's troops and a body of her Majesty's brave, and devoted subjects, who were on the 12th of July last, in the county of Down, engaged in the peaceable and legal commemoration of the great event which gave her Majesty the right to the British throne, is, in thus allowing assassins to go free while honourable and honoured men have been degraded from the magistracy, for no other reason than that they were loyal to the British throne, and true to British principles, is subversive of justice, honour, and truth, and calculated to encourage strife, bloodshed, and rebellion in the land. That we repeat our conviction that the dismissal of those magistrates was an unjust, unconstitutional, and tyrannical act, and has stamped for ever its author, Lord Clarendon, with the brand of treachery, ingratitude, and disgrace.

CANADA, August 6.

DARK PLOT.—It is stated that the Government had actually contemplated placing Sixty Thousand Acres of the finest lands in the valley of the Gatineau at the disposal of some corporation or fraternity or Sodality of Monks (Jesuits for all we know,) and for what purpose do our readers think? For the accommodation, ostensibly only, of course, of a few Indian families. We trust that this intended villainy has been nipped in the bud by a somewhat unexpected exposure of the "arrangement" in the Legislative Council by the Hon. Mr. McKay. Now, we simply ask any man of common sense, even if there were a thousand Indian families in the Gatineau valley, is that a reason why sixty thousand acres of the very choicest lands in the Lower province are to be made over to a corporation of Monks! We must protest against the mad scheme of locking up sixty thousand acres of fine land from public use, and placing it in the power of an irresponsible corporation.—*Montreal Courier*.

SURVEY OF THE CALAIS AND ST. JOHN RAILWAY.—We, last week, mentioned that we had heard incidentally that the Survey of the Railway from St. John to Calais, and from Fredericton to a point intersecting that line, would not be proceeded with, without legislative authority.—We are happy now to be able to contradict that report, on authority which we cannot doubt. It is, we understand, decided upon that the survey, or *reconnaissance*, of the country will be proceeded with as originally intended, but we believe it was and is the intention of the Government to accomplish this survey as economically as is consistent with the attainment of the knowledge which the applicants for the survey, and the public desire to obtain. All the information already in possession of the Crown Land Department, relative to the character of the country through which the line must pass, has been placed in the hands of the able engineer who has charge of the work, and from these surveys he is left to choose what he may consider the best line. We also learn that his instructions are to note every engineering difficulty he may meet with, as well as the facilities which the country presents for the erection of a Railway, with a view to such information being fairly laid before the public. These precautions on the part of the Government may have given rise to the rumor mentioned in our last, and it came from a source which we thought at the time was likely to be correct. We are glad, however, to find that our informant was mistaken.—*Head Quarters*.

SURVEYOR GENERAL'S SALARY.—Some weeks ago we noticed that a despatch had been received from Earl Grey, confirming the reduction of the Surveyor General's salary from sterling to currency, and also leaving it for the House of Assembly to say whether the amount paid as difference between currency and sterling, in conformity with a former decision, shall or shall not be refunded by that officer. Since that time we have seen original documents, and copies of others, which we think places it beyond a doubt that Mr. Baillie should not be called upon to refund a single shilling of the money paid to him previous to the resolution of the Assembly under which the Government acted. We understand His Lordship has again been appealed to by the Surveyor General; the fate of this appeal is not yet known, but if we are not much mistaken, Mr. Baillie will present such a case to the Assembly as will satisfy them that he is entitled to retain the amount of his salary up to the time to which the resolution already noticed refers. We have no intention of fighting Mr. Baillie's battles, but as we noticed the fact of the decision of the Colonial Officer on this matter having been had, a regard for fair play obliges us to notice that Mr. Baillie has strong reasons to urge for the modification of his Lordship's decision.—*lb.*

The *America* is the next Mail Steamer due at Halifax, we may, therefore, expect to hear, by telegraph, of her arrival there, next Tuesday; and, as she proceeds to New York, it will afford a good opportunity of testing her speed with that of the American steamer *Atlantic*, which would leave Liverpool for the same place, four days after the *America*. It appears that the *Atlantic* has made one of the shortest passages home on record, and there is every appearance of the new American line entering into a successful competition with the old and favourite Cunard Steamers.

Although the American boats may prove their equality to, or even their superiority over the British boats in smooth water and in fine weather, yet it is generally supposed that the winter months will show that the sea-going qualities of the former are not superior if even equal to the latter, which have already acquired their character. As the new line has yet to earn a reputation, we trust they will be equally successful during the dreadful gales that sweep the Atlantic in the winter time, as they have already been, and we wish them all due success in their undertaking.—*St. John Courier*, Aug. 24th.