

European News.

From British Papers to the 4th August, received by the Hibernia Steamer.

From Willmer's American News Letter, Aug. 4.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

"In the multitude of counsellors," we are told, "there is wisdom." In the arrangement of such a multitude of facts as the record of the events of the last fortnight presses upon us, we fear there must be confusion. At all hazards, we venture upon a sketch of the important and miscellaneous news with which the journals before us are replete.

As to the general character of it—would to God that the general purport of it were as cheering as it is interesting.

The disturbances in South Wales have become really formidable. A reinforcement of military and police have been despatched to the scene of riot. Rebecca and her daughters have become more formidable enemies to the peace of realm than the Home Minister was prepared to conceive. Constituted authorities and defied, and in spite of the eagerness of the skirmishing military to detect the ringleaders and their followers, the rioters have hitherto escaped their grasp. This outbreak is decidedly to be attributed to circumstances peculiar to the district within the vicinity of which it has arisen. The causes of it are altogether foreign to those which might incite a political movement. Fearful and formidable as the movement is, it does not derive its inspiration and its aim from "Chartism," or from the mania for the "League"! The turnpike trusts in South Wales have grievously mismanaged. The magistrates have invested money in them, and in adjudicating any case submitted to them in which a right of toll was the litigated point, they acted in a double capacity—as lenders of money and as judges in the instances of those who refused to pay it. The details of the insurrections possess no attraction for the transatlantic reader. It will be sufficient for him to know that direful as the insurrection is, the instigating reasons for it are local, not general. Rebecca's sorrows are her own. With her the nation at large cannot sympathise, because they neither know nor appreciate the extent of her wrongs.

O'Connell progresses. The Ministry prudently abide their time. The agitator has been feasted and feted in every town he has entered. As to the speeches, we are spared to trouble of abridging them. They have been long since stale, and patent to the whole world. We may note of them as the index compiler would of the word "and," *passim*. His rhetoric is of the cuckoo school; it grievously lacks variety. In spite of all this the rant pours in freely, and notwithstanding their destitution and misery the yelping and breechless Repealers have, by their contributions, enabled the arch-Filcher of peace to declare an excess of £14,000 over the corresponding quarter of the last year.

In the Houses of Parliament much has been said and little done. To be sure, there was a prize ring battle the other night, upon which those who are fond of aimless brawls and rhetorical spewings might gloat. Lord Russell peevishly taunted the Ministry with their imbecility. He was only seconded by Lord Palmerston—the two ex-officio forgetting by the way, that from the sin with which they charged their neighbours they themselves are not purged. Sir R. Peel's reply was calm and manly—Lord Stanley's, stinging.

The fruitless attempt to oppose the "Arms Bill" has been abandoned, and the measure will pass.

The Durham election has resulted in the return of Bright, the well known Quaker Leaguer. It is no triumph after all, lustily as the free traders crow about it. Bright was feebly opposed by a namby pamby chancery barrister, whom nobody knew or cared for. He was a turn-coat whig to boot. Bright's election is no indication of the growing prosperity of the league. If they be content to consider it an omen of a coming victory, they are easily pleased.

In the House of Lords, rigorous speeches have been delivered by the duke of Wellington, and Lords Lyndhurst and Brougham, upon Irish affairs. It is evident that the policy of the duke and is aristocratical colleagues and supporters is to "cry havoc."

The ministerial policy which has, even by the Tories, been denounced as compromising, is at length, however, better understood.

"The patient search and virgil long" of the premier, men do now generally suppose, will more effectually frustrate the purposes of the agitator, than direct opposition or actual onslaught. After all we shall, perhaps, have to applaud Sir R. Peel as heartily for his policy as for his clemency.

The intelligence from France, Turkey and Belgium is not worth quoting.

COMMERCIAL.

During the last fortnight there has been little business doing, and many influential parties have expressed increasing apprehensions of coming difficulties of an extensive operation in the monetary and mercantile world. This has been principally caused by the accounts of almost overwhelming derangement of affairs in the midland counties of England, which now are perceived to have not been exaggerated, as many capitalists wished to believe, for purposes of political party, and the mode of relieving these pressing difficulties no person appears to be able to propose or foresee. Connecting the

accounts from Staffordshire with those from Wales and Ireland, the general condition of the nation is believed to be rapidly approaching to the possibility of very serious political troubles, and on this account so much more depends upon the result of the harvest, that the weather is now the subject of universal attention, nor is any improvement in business or confident investment of capital to be anticipated, unless the autumn should prove to be favourable in an extraordinary degree. The reports on the present state of the crops are various, but it is not doubted that a deficiency in the general quality of the grain will be the result; but it is still hoped that the large quantity of miscellaneous agricultural productions of the year will prevent the advance in the corn markets from becoming much greater, as, unfortunately for the population, the advance in the markets for provisions have been the only symptom of any advance in prices, at a time when so contrary a state of the markets is so pressingly required. The intelligence from the United States, China, and India, has been favourable as to the general existence of peace, but the overland mail has not brought mercantile accounts of much importance to the commerce of this country, as the stagnation which is so general in Europe and America prevades also the markets of the eastern world. The funds have not been so materially depressed by the unsatisfactory state of political affairs, but though the quotations are nominally sustained, the market for consols exhibits all the symptoms of suspense, and the speculative operations for time are on a very limited scale. The business has been also considerable in Mexican Bonds, in consequence of intelligence of a truce between the governments of Mexico and Texas, which, if ending in the final recognition of the independence of Texas, will remove the principal cause of the financial embarrassments of Mexico.

The London and Liverpool Produce Markets have been tranquil, and large parcels of good of all sorts having been pressed for sale, prices have declined for nearly all articles adapted for home consumption and shipping; buyers have been cautious in their operations, and not taking more than their present wants require, notwithstanding prices rule very low for nearly all articles. Speculators are prevented from making investments, owing to the increasing supplies from all our Colonies, and the heavy stocks of goods in this country. Many ships have arrived from all quarters during the past week. The auctions declared are of importance.

In the manufacturing and iron districts there continues to exist the greatest depression, and matters are assuming a very serious aspect. How the working classes have existed for some months past is a matter of surprise and wonderment; and the feeling that they will not much longer rest contented is fast gaining ground.

The Liverpool Cotton Market is very healthy and the business during the past fortnight has been on an extensive scale.

India and China.—The India mail has arrived. The news which it might communicate has been anxiously expected. We were prepared to expect that the recalcitrant Ameers of Scinde were about to challenge Sir C. Napier to confront the fiercest array which the frantic populace could muster. A defeat in India we could ill afford at this juncture to sustain, and in consequence the result of the threatened encounter was invested with especial importance. The intelligence with which the overland mail supplies us is not merely satisfactory but gratifying. The vigour and vigilance of Sir Charles Napier have deterred the chiefs from refusing the terms of pacification which he offered; and the most pertinacious and pestilent among them, Meer Sher Mahomed, agrees to submit to British authority, provided he be secured the possession of his private estate.

As to the future prospects of the newly acquired territory, the most flattering expectations are indulged. Like Egypt, the country is visited with periodical inundations, and a trivial attention to tillage secures a teeming harvest. The revenue at one period was quoted as exceeding £1,000,000, an amount which it is expected the exchequer will again speedily realize.

We regret to learn that the miasma consequent upon the subsiding of the waters had issued in a fever, under which many of the troops have perished. The gallant Sir Charles Napier has sustained a severe attack of it. Several of his officers died. It is presumed that the experience which the commander in chief has gained during his residence in the territory, will enable him either absolutely to prevent, or materially to mitigate the mischiefs of the climate.

A paltry attempt to attach to the officers of the army at Hyderabad, the odium of having dishonored the Zenana of the Ex-Ameers, has been indignantly repelled, and successfully dispersed by the officers themselves.

The Ex-Ameers have been removed to Sasoor, near Poonah, with the exception of the most indomitable of their body, who has been escorted to, and carefully imprisoned in, the castle Surat.

Dost Mahomed has resumed the government of Afghanistan. He is suffering from severe indisposition. Upon the allegiance of the chiefs he cannot rely, so that his situation is especially precarious.

It is supposed that the excesses and aggressions of the minister who was appointed to manage the affairs of the late Scindiah's dominions during the minority of his son, will compel the British to send troops into the district in order to protect the young sovereign, whom is faithless guardian is seeking to depose.

It is confidently asserted that a stringent order from the Home Government enforces upon Lord Ellenborough the necessity of abandoning his

whimsical wanderings through India, in order that he may, by a steady location at Calcutta, avail himself of the advice of that council whose assistance he deems studiously to have scorned. Some rumours, indeed, would induce us to imagine that so soon as the south west monsoon shall have expended its fury, he of the Somnauth Gates will return home—"a consummation most devoutly to be wished."

Severe gales on the Coromandel coast have strewn its shores with wreck. Serious losses in shipping are stated to have occurred at the Mauritius. We are sorry to add that the incendiaries of Bombay have resumed the burning of the teak ships in the harbour.

The news from China is, so far as it goes, not unwelcome. No recurrence of outbreak or misunderstanding is noted. Sir H. Pottinger, as to whose illaesa some exaggerated reports had been spread, is awaiting at Canton the arrival of the Commissioner whose presence was expected in the early part of June. In a few months we shall know the result of the anxiously awaited negotiation.

SPAIN.—It is utterly impossible in the space which is allotted to us to detail the incidents of the insurrection which distracts Spain. As we stated in our last number, the Regent has proved callid. To the utter dismay of his friends, and to the undisguised astonishment of his foes, he has never dared, backed as he knew he was by the peasantry, to unsheath a sword. It may be that the man did not possess the nerve and the ability which the exigency required; it may be that his troops were ill disciplined and worse paid; or it may be, as some surmise, that Philippe of France has not forgotten the pith and efficacy of the oracle which of old was delivered to Philip of Macedonia: "Fight with silver weapons, and you will conquer the world!" Let us leave the development of the causes to time, and content ourselves with a rapidly sketched statement of events. On the 15th of July, the insurgents attacked the suburbs of Madrid. An attempt to confront them, the incidents of which would be "sad to tell and slow to trace," issued in inextinguishable confusion. The defences which the city offered were badly devised and worse executed. As if it were determined that mischief should be heaped upon mishap, a quarrel arose among the foreign ambassadors. Mendizabal threatened to place the Queen in the centre of the troops, and to force an escape for the girl. To this the ambassadors demurred, and for the pains they volunteered were complimented with the assurance, that if the diplomatic body dared to interfere, their passports should be sent them and that if, after the delivery of them, if they presumed to remain in Madrid, they should be shot. Honied terms with a witness! How the quarrel was adjusted does not appear. We are not authorized to report the murder of an ambassador.

Well—on the 22nd the opponent forces met at Torrejon. The fight lasted fifteen minutes. The Regent's army, commanded by Soane, "fraternized," that is to say, deserted to the insurgent forces. Soane himself, and the son of his coadjutor Zurbarana, were taken prisoners. Thereupon the municipal authorities surrendered the city to its besiegers.

Later advices inform us that Espartero had bombarded Seville, and had reduced one portion of its suburbs to ashes.

It is said that Mr. Aston has advised the Regent to abdicate. Espartero is either a profoundly cunning man, or an utterly mistaken man. He may be alluring his antagonists into a decoy from which they cannot escape, or he may be "scattering his fame and fortune to the winds recklessly and for ever"—"results," says an old moralist, "test-ability," and results we must await.

Meanwhile all sorts of rumours are afloat as to the marriage of that implicit and incapable stripling the Queen. If, as one party assume, French intrigue and French gold should secure an alliance with the House of Bourbon, will the allied powers stand calmly by and submit to an act which it has been for years their policy to deprecate? There is a coil now being twisted which it will puzzle the most dexterous diplomatist to unravel. There was but one means of severing the gordian knot—the sword. It remains to be seen whether the entanglement in which Europe is likely to be emmeshed, can be cut off by any other means.

PORTUGAL.—By the Lisbon mail, which arrived in London on the 1st instant, we learn that an outbreak in Portugal is expected to occur.

A rumour which has not obtained much credence, has it that the British minister has renewed his negotiations with the Portuguese government.

From Willmer & Smith's European Times, of August 4.

An order from the Treasury has been issued that every person holding a situation connected with the revenue, and who may have subscribed to or have become a member of the repeal association, must immediately withdraw his subscription and name on pain of instant dismissal.

The Standard states that the Queen had ordered £30,000 to be paid to the Earl of Haddington out of the Crown Land revenues, as compensation to the right which he resigns to the Hereditary Keepership of Holyrood Park. The Park is to be annexed to the Crown lands. The Earl had waived pecuniary compensation.

The Royal Navy at the present time consists, says the Hampshire Telegraph, of 230 vessels of all descriptions, amounting 3471 guns, namely, 3 yachts, 14 sea going line of battle ships, 31 frigates, 35 sloops of war, 34 smaller vessels, 68 steam vessels, 25 surveying vessels, (including 9 steamers,) 9 troop ships, 1 hos-

pital ship, and 10 stationary guard ships. The force at home consists of 780 guns, Mediterranean 653, Brazils, 451, East Indies 566, Cape and Coast of Africa 293, North America and West Indies 315, Particular service 232, Surveying 120, Troopers 59, Lakes 3; total 3471. This is an augmentation of 3 vessels, but a reduction of 384 guns since the commencement of the year.

Important Trade to Hong Kong.—It is stated in the Loudon Mercantile Journal, that the value of the three cargoes of British manufactures, lately sent out from this port to China, in the John O'Gaunt, Emperor, and John Dalton, will not be less than £700,000.

The Ulster Times of Saturday week announces that Dr. Cooke, of Belfast, has seceded from the jurisdiction of the Irish General Assembly.

The Emperor Nicholas is employing the Russian army in the construction of railroads.

The Glasgow underwriters are the principal sufferers by the loss of the Columbia. Their loss exceeds £40,000.

The British Bible Society has just presented to the Royal Library a collection of Bibles in 82 different languages, consisting of 119 volumes.

The National publishes a third list of subscriptions in France in favour of the Repeal agitation in Ireland; it amounts to 412 francs 50 centimes, making the total amount subscribed 1,137 francs 50 centimes.

It was reported at Bona, by a merchant vessel that the Bey of Tunis had been murdered by his nephew.

Between two and three hundred additional labourers have been entered at Portsmouth dockyard, and are busily employed taking down the old boat houses and other buildings, and clearing away timber, now occupying the site of the proposed steam basin which is about to be constructed.

The Steamship Hibernia.—When issuing our last publication we had little idea of having to record an achievement such as that performed by the royal mail steamer Hibernia, on her last return to England. She ran the distance in less than nine days. As will naturally be expected such an amazing performance caused the greatest astonishment to the whole public, and the English papers are all commenting on this successful and wondrous passage.—We find the London daily papers giving details of the intelligence she conveyed in the publication of the very same day's date as that containing the news received by the Great Western—an extraordinary and seemingly incredible fact, seeing that the Hibernia did not leave Boston until three days after the departure of the Great Western from New York, and then had to make the Halifax voyage before running home. A London daily journal has the following just remarks with reference to the Hibernia's passage:—

"Of all the extraordinary passages we have ever noted as having been accomplished by the steamers between this and America none have ever equalled that of the Hibernia. It is a memorable feat, and must completely set at rest the question of success and of safety in ocean steaming. We have here a steamer arriving from the shores of North America within a period of nine days, an accomplishment scarcely to be credited, and which, when announced by telegraph, could hardly be believed. Captain Jenkins cannot but feel proud of his noble ship and her wondrous passage—a passage the shortness of which had been talked of by some but believed by few.

The following arrangements have been decided on for the conveyance of the troops from Canada to Barbadoes:—The first battalion of the 23rd is to embark in the Resistance, and the first Battalion of the 71st in the Java, and the 85th Regiment in the Boyne, and Princess Royal, from Quebec in September, and their arrival in the West Indies, the same vessels will bring home the 47th, 59th, and 92nd, to be landed at Portmouth.

Sad complaints are made in Switzerland of the destruction caused by the overflowing of small rivers.

LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKETS.

Review for the month ending July 31. AMERICAN PINE TIMBER.—The arrivals this month consist of 45 vessels from Quebec, 21,796 tons, and 32 vessels, 15,710 tons, from St. John's and the lower ports. Several of the cargoes from Quebec have been on account of the trade or timber merchants, who are retailing them. By the importers the early cargoes have been very generally sold at 13d per foot one small parcel at 13½d, and several of the latest sales have been made at 12d, 12½d, and 12¾d.

NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA FIRE PLANKS AND BOARDS.—In the early part of the month a cargo of Halifax Planks was sold by auction at 1½d to 2d; a parcel of St. John's 2d to 2d 1-6th; another lot at 2d 1-6th per foot of two inches, and a large parcel of Boards of 1½d per foot of one inch, with Deals of good quality, and desirable dimensions, at 2d; 9 16ths per foot of two inches; another parcel of Boards per foot of two inches, and Deals at 2½ per 1½d per foot of one inch, and several of the large cargo, sales have been made at 2d to 2d 1-16th, and one cargo of choice St. John Deals was sold at 2½d per foot. Halifax Planks have been sold at 1½d per foot, with liberal allowances on the stowage.

Loss of the Pegasus, Hull Steamer, and frightful loss of Life.—Another appalling steam boat disaster has taken place, near the place where the Forfarshire was wrecked a few years ago, and where the late Grace Darling so heroically distinguished herself by saving five lives, at the imminent risk of her own. By the present disastrous occurrence, no fewer than from fifty