

led 'The Great Western Fund.' Said money in the meantime to be deposited in the hands of James Boorman, Peletiah Peritt, Rev. Lewis P. W. Balch, James Lennox and Robert B. Minturn, of New York, as Trustees.

European News.

From Whilmer and Smith's European Times, October 4.

DOMESTIC.

The food prospects of the country form a subject of anxious controversy. The failure of the potato crop is not regarded as quite so heavy a calamity as it was a short time back. The fine autumnal weather we have been enjoying during the last six or eight weeks, which approaches in its mild beauty to the Indian summer of America, has had the effect of arresting the progress of the potato disease. Indeed, it is said that many beds of the esculent in both islands are recovering, in consequence of the weather, from the disease under which they have been labouring. Statements to this effect appear in the provincial papers of each country. Still, the fact is undeniable that a large portion of the people's food has been swept away, and the deficiency has consequently enhanced the price of edibles not only in Britain but over the whole European continent.

The Government seems disposed to do all that it can to meet the evil in Ireland. Every means are being taken to find the people employment, which is equivalent to finding them food, and large stocks of provisions are forthcoming from America and elsewhere. Nevertheless, there have been some famine riots in various parts of Ireland; but they will disappear as the machinery of the Government is brought more immediately into practice to assist the wants of the people.

COMMERCIAL.

There has been an active demand for most of the goods brought to our produce market since the sailing of the last steamer. It will be perceived that the Sugar market has become rather buoyant. Large scales have taken place and advanced prices paid. This remark applies not only to West India descriptions, but almost every other sort. All kinds of provisions are high in price. The potato failure in Ireland has not only affected that country, but, indirectly, the people of England. Our report of the Corn trade in Europe will show its present state. Butter, Beef, and Pork, meet with an excellent demand, and have greatly enhanced in value of late. Wheat, Flour, and Indian Corn are now sold at exorbitant rates, and, from present appearances, there is little prospect of their receding value. There has been an improvement in the Coffee market. The supplies are now being exhausted, and dealers wish to get into stock. These causes have induced holders to act with greater firmness, so that the value of the article has advanced. Besides a good home consumption, there has lately been an excellent demand for exportation.

The state of the Cotton trade is subject of much anxiety and a good deal of comment. Since the beginning of May, five months ago, prices had advanced enormously,—at least twenty-five per cent.; or a penny per pound. This must not only seriously affect the consumption of the article, but also the capability of manufacturing the raw material, nay more, it must have a tendency to cripple the operations of the British manufacturer in the markets of the world and, to some extent, that wholesome competition which is the vitality of commerce. The increased value of this staple now, as compared with its value in May last, is stated, on good authority, to amount to the enormous sum of £40,000 weekly! Taking the average weekly consumption at 32,000 bales of 300 lbs. each, it will nearly give this result. With such an advance, and with the unpropitious state of the Goods market both here and on the continent, it may be looked for, in the nature of things and the consumption will decline.

The Britannia, which arrived on Wednesday was anxiously looked for, as it was believed that her arrival would throw some light on the prospects of a new crop. Some of the public writers on this side of the water fancy that they perceive a tendency on the part of a portion of the American press to exaggerate the damage which the new crop has sustained from the caterpillar and worm; but the same ungenerous statement has been raised before, to the prejudice of American veracity, on grounds equally inexplicable.

It will be seen, by reference to our market returns, that less buoyancy has existed since the Britannia arrived, because it is believed that the state of the

crops is not so disastrous as the previous accounts lead us to expect. The statements, nevertheless, in the American journals show that this anticipation is at least premature. Time will show.

The Iron market has ruled firm since we last addressed our readers. For Railway Bar an extensive demand has taken place, at full and well supported prices. The quarterly meeting, which is to settle prices, &c., will be held next week.

IRELAND.

It is not in our power to record any improvement in the accounts from the sister country since the date of our last publication. The distress and destitution consequent upon the failure of the potato crop is really awful. The law for affording employment to the people is being carried out with alacrity by the Government and the landed gentry of the kingdom. It is now admitted on all hands that the Labour-rate Act is imperfect in its details, and it has been urged upon the attention of the ministry that Parliament should be convoked immediately, to remedy its various defects.

The papers from this country are filled with reports of meetings held to provide means for the employment of the people. It is a source of gratification that, although Ireland has been torn asunder, her people rendered dissatisfied with their rulers, and their best interests retarded by party and religious animosities, the spirit of charity prevails among the landlords at present. Everything which humanity can suggest for a speedy and effectual alleviation of the hardships and misery so universal throughout the country has been cheerfully adopted. Despite of these exertions, however, there are certain localities in which the spirit of insubordination and reckless despair, on the part of the peasantry, have manifested themselves, which if allowed to proceed, may end in very serious results, not only to the peaceable and well disposed, but also to the lawless themselves. At Youghal serious outbreaks of this description have taken place. Lord Stewart De Decies, Lieutenant of the county of Waterford, had a narrow escape on the 24th ultimo. His Lordship presided at the adjourned extraordinary presentment sessions for the barony of Decies, in the county of Waterford. After the Sessions had adjourned, the mob, which had collected in large numbers, began to hoot, using menaces, threats, and opprobrious epithets, which evidently betokened that extreme willingness to do violence to his lordship. A party of hussars were obliged to escort him to Dromore. On the cavalry returning, the mob attacked them. A ringleader named Power, was very severely sabred, but was carried off by the populace, when their assaults were redoubled. Several of the horsemen were seriously hurt, and the force being small were obliged to retreat for their lives. The Irish papers now before us also contain accounts of outbreaks at Fermoy and Cloyne. At Castle Martyr a number of men, women, and children, entered that village, and, marching through it, to the terror of the inhabitants, commenced an attack on the few bakers' and huxters' shops, and seized all they could lay their hands on. From the village they proceeded to the residence of the Earl of Shannon, contiguous to Castle Martyr. The mob threatened to pull down the castle over the head of his lordship, and that they would return the following day in increased numbers to carry their threat into execution.

The Government have decided upon directing the board of Works not to limit the operation of Labour Rate Act to the making of roads, but to extend it to all works which may prove of great utility and to the general improvement of the district. Payments are to be made weekly to the poor.

On the 28th ultimo, a serious food riot took place at Dugarron. The mob mustered 11 or 12 thousand strong, and were about to attack the merchants' stores but a troop of dragoons, which arrived in time, had to charge them repeatedly. The people, however, continued to throw stones, the state of affairs began to look very serious. The dragoons were then ordered to fire, and it is said that about 20 shots were discharged. Two men were seriously wounded, but we are glad to find they are still living.

The Earl of Bandon has received a letter from Lord John Russell, intimating that the Lords of the Admiralty approved of the establishment of a naval station at Cove, for the repairs of steamers, ships of war, &c. The works are to be commenced immediately.

THE ORELAND MAIL.

By an extraordinary express in anticipation of the Overland Mail, which reached London on the 22nd ult., we have

news under the following dates:—Calcutta, August 9; Madras, August 15; Ceylon, August 19; Aden, September 2; China, July 25. The dates from Bombay are not so late as those already received. This mail reached Suez by the steamer "Precursor."

The intelligence from India is not of moment, but that from China is very important, as an event has taken place which may probably render it necessary to review the arrangements at present subsisting between this country and the Celestial Empire; in so far, at all events, as may be found requisite to assure British subjects of protection from personal injury. On the 18th some English merchants and other foreigners at Canton, were unfortunately brought into collision with the populace of that city, under circumstances disclosed in an article which we annex:—

An English merchant, in walking through the streets, was insulted by a Chinaman; the former caught the offender, and put him in custody in the Hong. A crowd now began to gather outside, forced upon the gates of the Hong, rescued the man, and stoned the foreigners who had taken refuge in the house. The mob which had by this time greatly increased, now began to batter the doors and windows with stones, brickbats, &c., and attempted to fire the building, by throwing in crackers, and other lighted materials. This state of matters continued until half-past seven p. m., when it was decided to throw open the gates of the American gardens, where the greater portion of the foreign residents had collected with fire-arms. One division proceeded towards Old Chinastreet, while another marched round to the front of Migqua's Hong. The mob, having previously overmastered and driven off the Chinese police, stood their ground in China-street and beyond Migqua's Hong, and sent a perfect storm of stones and brickbats at their opponents, who returned the compliment with a volley of balls. This had the effect of clearing the place, and the mob moved off, leaving according to the most probable account, four dead and ten or twelve wounded, though the numbers are variously given, the highest being thirteen killed and twenty wounded. When the fray became serious, information was given to the Chinese authorities, by whom a body of soldiers and armed police were sent, and they were now very useful in clearing the streets; but their influence only began to be felt when the foreigners had proved more than a match for the rabble. To guard against another attack, the foreign community patrolled the streets during the night. The riot was not renewed. The merchants complain that after what had passed upon many previous occasions, they should have found themselves in this instance without the necessary protection. There was no British force at hand; neither steamer, frigate, nor gun-boat available, so that but for the assistance which was rendered by the crew of a Danish man-of-war and some English and American seamen from Whampoa the consequences might have been deplorable. The Chinese authorities had issued a proclamation rather censuring the foreigners for what had taken place, but efficient measures for punishing those guilty of originating this melancholy affray were expected from Keying on his return to Canton from a tour of inspection in the neighbouring provinces.

The British merchants had addressed a remonstrance to Sir F. Davis, the Governor of Hong Kong, through the consul, and as soon as his excellency had returned from Chusan, whether he had gone to conduct the surrender of that island, it was hoped that something decisive would be done. There was some idea that the governor, when leaving Hong Kong, intended to extend his voyage as far as Japan.

There is but little news furnished from the continent of India. In the Punjab matters unsettled, so that we are not surprised to find the government of the Maharajah soliciting the continued presence of a British force at Lahore for a period longer than was originally agreed upon. From Jullander, under date of the 27th, we find Gholab Singh, who had largely increased his army of late, had been called upon to reduce it, give up possession of certain forts, and alter his line of policy, particularly as to Cashmere, to all of which he had refused compliance. His son was intriguing with Akhbar Khan, and had publicly reproached his father for his treachery to the Khalsah. In consequence, therefore, of the unsettled state of affairs, the different corps at Lahore and in the Jullundur Doab will not be relieved this year; at least such was the report at Simlah. Indeed, letters from the north-west state the general belief that a large army will be col-

lected upon the frontier immediately after the rains, and some do not hesitate to express the opinion that another march to Lahore, will take place next Christmas. A bridge is to be built over the Sutlej at Belaspore, and a military road made to connect Simlah with Jullundur.

Intelligence was received in Madras on the 30th of July from Cuddapah, from which it appears that the small force sent against Nursima Reddy and his party of 4000 men has been defeated, and driven back with some loss: fears were entertained that Cuddapah might be visited by the insurgents. It was further known on the 11th ult. that Reddy's followers were pretty well dispersed, himself a fugitive in the jungles, and that a reward of 1000 rupees had been offered for his capture.

LATER FROM INDIA AND CHINA.

Just as we were about to go to press, we received by Lieut. Waghorn's extraordinary express, via Trieste, letters and dispatches from Bombay to the 27th of August.

The news contained in papers before us is not of an important character. The Sikh Government was in a tottering state, for the Queen Mother and her paramour, Wuzeer Lall Singh, had no hold on the affections of the people. The British authorities, in anticipation of a convulsion in the Sikh territory, were busy in preparing for the emergency, and putting down the expected revolt. Lords Harding and Gough were at Simla. Gholab Singh was reported to be in a very unsatisfactory state, and the Sikh province of Moulton was still at war with the Wuzeer Lall Singe. Scinde remains tranquil, with an abundant harvest. It was rumoured that Sir Charles Napier was about to retire, in consequence of ill health, which is said to have been seriously affected by the climate. In the Affghan territory there seemed a desire, on the part of the notorious Akhbar Khan, who is anxious to have an opportunity of regaining possession of Peshawar, and even Cashmere. Intrigues and counterplots were in full play at Cabul. The cholera, after having ravaged Kurrachee and Hyderabad, attacked the villages along the Indus. The rainy season had not terminated when the mail set out.

FRANCE.—Paris, September 28.—Despatches have been sent to the Prince de Joinville to make all sail to the eastern coast of Spain with his squadron, in order to prevent, by active surveillance, the landing of the Comte de Montemolin and other Carlist chiefs.

The Government has ordered that the two steamers, the Uloa and the Darien, both of 450-horse power, belonging to Cherbourg, shall be put in commission for making regularly packet service between New York and that port.

The Paris Constitutional contains the following:—"We have just received a letter from the frontiers of Spain, stating that 80 insurgents, amongst whom are several priests, have been taken and shot. At Seu d'Urgel several priests have been strangled, amongst whom is the Vicar Gazi."

SPAIN.—Madrid, September 22.—The marriage of the Queen with her cousin the Duke of Cadiz, and of her Majesty's sister the Princess Louisa, with the French Duc de Montpensier, has been sanctioned by the Cortes by immense majorities.

The queens marriage is not disapproved of, but that of her sister has excited a storm of indignation which every body expects will lead to extensive bloodshedding, if not to a long and terrible civil war.

GERMANY.—Berlin, September 20.—The marriage of the Infanta of Spain with the Duke of Montpensier did not cause an agreeable sensation at Vienna. The imposing attitude which France is aiming at in the south and in the north, makes persons reflect that Louis Philippe is perhaps, drawing out a plan which it will be task of the regency to carry out.

Destructive Conflagration—Twenty-two Houses Burned—at least One Hundred Families Houseless.—The Philadelphia North American, of Sept. 30, says:—A fire broke out yesterday afternoon, a little after two o'clock, which swept almost the entire row of the two story brick dwelling houses on the south side of George street, between Schuylkill, Sixth and Seventh streets, destroying 22 out of the 29 houses in the row.

The scenes of fright and horror among the poor Irish and coloured families, that followed the breaking out of the flames, was indescribable. Some of the children came near perishing, and one or two sick females had to be carried out from their beds.