

bors, if they choose to try it, and hence this publication. The newness of the discovery, (though it may not be new to all) is claimed only as applicable to the mode of imparting the lime in this case—its use in another form for the same purpose having been previously understood by many.—Wayne Sentinel.

European News.

From English papers to the 19th November, by the Britannia.

COMMERCIAL REVIEW.

Since the 4th of the month, the state of commercial and monetary affairs has so far improved, that confidence is, in some degree, restored, and the general aspect of trade is more encouraging than it has been for some time past.

The Corn market since the Acadia left has not varied to any great extent. On the 5th instant the advance noticed in our last was fully maintained, and the arrivals at Liverpool being comparatively small, the country markets generally showed considerable firmness. On the market day of the 5th inst. prices continued firm, but Wheat was generally slow of sale.

The accounts from the manufacturing districts of England are still discouraging. From Leeds we are informed that the markets of Woollen goods continue exceedingly dull. There are scarcely any goods being sold for shipping purposes; and from the continued mildness of the weather there has been a great falling off in the demand for heavy winter goods for the home trade. A considerable number of buyers had lately attended the Huddersfield market, but their transactions were limited. There is not any general improvement at Halifax; plain goods remain as dull of sale as formerly. At Rochdale the demand for Flannels is limited. Our advices from Bradford state, that the disposition to make stock is almost out of fashion, for looms are stopped and gas abandoned as orders fall off. From Manchester we have the following report of the market held there on the 19th inst.:—We are very slowly improving. Several foreign houses are now buying rather freely, but at a low figure, both in cloth and yarns. In the latter we have heard of an immense lot having been sold at 1d. per lb. above the cost of the staple, of course bought when the article was at its height, some three or four months ago, whilst yarns generally may be said just to pay with cotton at its present low price. In cloth, printing qualities, a moderate business is doing, and prices may be called steady; a good article purchasable at 5s. Our home market is in much the same state as of late; the demand, all things considered, moderate. The Greek houses are doing considerably in prints and other high fabrics. Several large German houses are now considerable buyers of yarns, which fact is all that can well be said that is favourable of the branch of our trade.

The Money market since the 4th inst. has materially improved. Consols were at that date about 82½, and since that period, with occasional fluctuations, have kept steadily advancing. On the 6th instant Consols had almost reached 84, and during the week ending the 13th they improved almost a further one per cent., closing on that day about 85. For the opening on the 18th January they reached 85½. As far as the indications of the Stock Exchange can be taken as proofs of returning confidence, nothing is left to be wished, as the advance in public securities has been regular and steady, without those abrupt transitions which of late have been so frequent. Exchequer bills, which a few weeks ago were at 35s. discount, have risen to about par. The rate of money in the Stock Exchange is easy at 4 and 5 per cent. per annum for short periods; but for mercantile purposes, whilst the Bank rate continues at 8 per cent., private bankers, however abundant their funds may be, have a pretext for keeping up a high price for money. Within this day or two, however, discounts of first class paper have been obtained at 7 per cent., and a parcel falling due in all December has been done at 6½ per cent.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The Imperial Parliament assembled yesterday at Westminster, for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs. Mr Shaw Lefevre was again unanimously elected speaker; and the speech from the throne will be delivered by commission on the 23d instant, the interval being occupied in the preliminary forms of receiving the royal approbation of the speaker, swearing in the new

members and signing the parliamentary roll. It is believed that the subjects that will occupy the earliest attention of the new house will be the state of the country with regard to Sir Robert Peel's Currency Bill of 1844, and the adoption of stringent measures for the protection of life and property in Ireland. These two subjects will doubtless engross, in the first instance, the chief attention of both houses. The debate on the address will, doubtless, elicit from Ministers some statement of the course they intend to pursue. It is generally anticipated that a select committee will be appointed to consider the condition of the nation, as influenced by the currency measure of 1844; but it remains to be seen whether the protectionist party will so far prevail, or whether Ministers may be desirous so to extend the investigation, as to embrace an inquiry into the state of the country as it has become affected, not only by Peel's measure, but by the recent changes of commercial policy connected with the abolition and reduction of import duties. The position of the West India colonies and the Island of Mauritius must also command serious attention. It ought to be borne in mind that the present suspension of the corn laws by which grain is admitted free of all duty, terminates on the first of March, 1848, and the question must also be decided whether the temporary duty of four shillings on wheat shall be reimposed during the short term which will then remain unexpired before the import duties on grain altogether cease on the first of February, 1849. The question of the Navigation Laws will also come under the consideration of Parliament. Little doubt can be entertained but that a proposition will be made to modify these laws, so as to enable our colonist to avail themselves of the competition of foreign tonnage to bring their produce to Europe; but it is very evident that the West India planters are very lukewarm upon this point, as the principle which it involves is diametrically opposed to that which, as regards their produce, they are seeking to re-establish. If the Navigation laws should be altered, it is more than probable that goods and produce of Asia, Africa, and America, landed in Europe, will be permitted hereafter to be brought, under some regulations, to England direct. With regard to Ireland, it remains as yet a complete secret of state whether an Arms Bill, a suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, or an actual enforcement of martial law in some of the disturbed districts, will be proposed. Upon this question the chief parties in the state are placed in antagonism. The Peel Ministry was thrown out by the protectionist party uniting with the Whigs upon an Irish Arms Bill; but however party feelings may influence the great Parliamentary leaders, it is certain that a vast majority will support any minister of the crown in a resolute line of policy to put down outrage, and protect life and property in Ireland.

It is satisfactory to state that the interval which has passed since the departure of the steamship Acadia, has been one of far less excitement than we have had to describe for some time. Numerous failures of mercantile houses, and a heavy list of bankrupts both in England and Scotland; still attest the deep seated mischief which has crept into our commercial system; but upon the whole, a very marked improvement in public feeling has prevailed. The great discount houses in London have reduced the rate of interest allowed on money at call by one per cent., and money for commercial purposes can now be procured at a price; but while the minimum rate at Bank of England is still kept up at eight per cent., it would be delusive to say that our difficulties are removed. Large importations of bullion are pouring in from all quarters of Europe, the result of our high exchange, and of the vast number of unpaid acceptances, which have been returned to the drawers. The accounts of the bank of England improve accordingly, and indicates that the reserve of notes and the bullion are on the increase. The improvement is slow, and we earnestly trust that we may have no relapse. At the same time it would be wrong to conceal that in the highest quarters, especially in the banking circles of London, and among the consignees of goods in Manchester, that the next and succeeding accounts from India are looked for with a deep and secret anxiety. The effect, also, of the overthrow of many long established West India houses in London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, must inevitably spread extensive ruin in our transatlantic colonies; and until we are able to appreciate the full extent of the mischief, which must in a greater or less degree reach every quar-

ter of the globe with which we have commercial relations, a certain degree of apprehension must prevail, which will tend to check large transactions in trade. The immense imports of produce which are still pouring in, are also the cause of much anxiety, inasmuch as a fearful reaction is anticipated, and if our requirements of grain should be again, this season, to any extent, the exchanges must inevitably turn against us, and withdraw the bullion which is now steadily returning to the coffers of the Bank. Another feature of a most unfavourable character for our future prospects is, that whilst the returns of the Board of Trade continue to exhibit an enormous increase of consumption of all the chief articles which contribute to the necessities of life, or luxuries of the people, a very considerable diminution continues to prevail in all those imports upon which the success of our future manufacturing industry depends. These considerations must weigh with every reflecting merchant, and will doubtless form the grounds for serious deliberation in the new Parliament about to meet.

We refer to the list, in another column, of failures which have occurred since the departure of the packet, which, although containing a number of names, does not exhibit such a serious aspect as those previously published. In London the failure of the old and respectable West India house of Judah Cohen and Sons, occasioned deep regret. Their liabilities are about £52,000. Thurburn and Co. (formerly Briggs, Thurburn, and Co.), in the East India and Egyptian trade, have also stopped payment. Their liabilities are estimated at £120,000. They were for many years agents for the Viceroy of Egypt. The failure of Johnson, Cole and Co., East India merchants, has been also announced, with liabilities to the extent of £200,000, and Ryder, Wienholt and Co., in the same trade, with obligations to the amount of £60,000. On Monday last the extensive colonial brokers, Trueman & Cook, of Mincing-lane, whose transactions have been of late years second to none in London, suspended payment. Their liabilities are conjectured at about 350,000. Within these few months they have curtailed their business to a great extent. If the failure had occurred a few weeks ago, their liabilities would not have been much less than one million sterling. This failure is greatly to be deplored, as it must inevitably bring down other houses with which the house is connected, and it proves but too plainly that the mischief is not all over.

In Manchester the chief failures have been Kershaw, Holland, & Co. and Marsland, Veltmann, and Co. The liabilities of the latter have not yet been ascertained.

In Glasgow failures continue to take place. Ogilvie, Clark, and Co., Cowans, Smith, and Co., and Campbell and Batty, are the principal. The celebrated Campbell, of Islay, the great landowner of Argyshire, has sunk under difficulties to the extent of £600,000; and the Right Honourable Adam Gordon, Viscount Kenmure, figures in the Scotch Gazette as a bankrupt.

With the exception of the pending strife in Switzerland, European politics are upon the surface calm and unruffled. In France two or more domestic tragedies have been enacted on the great theatre of human life. The diseased state of social feeling in the highest ranks of society has furnished two more lamentable victims of insanity and suicide. Count Bresson, the chief promoter of the unfortunate Montpensier marriages, has put a period to his ill-fated existence by violent means, at Naples. This fatal act has been produced by an overwrought mind not finding "ample room and verge enough" for the scope of its ambition in the subordinate station of ambassador of an Italian State. Being disappointed in obtaining the London embassy, where activity might have stifled "the still small voice" of conscience, Count Bresson, expatriated to Naples, could no longer bear the misery of his own thoughts, and so rushed to self-destruction. Count Mortier, ambassador from the Government of France to the Court of Turin, has also been stricken with insanity. In a paroxysm of the most frantic lunacy, this unhappy man nearly sacrificed the lives of his two children, but fortunately the poor innocents were rescued from his violence. These events happening so close upon other similar examples of murder, suicide, and frightful corruption amongst the circles immediately surrounding the French throne, cannot but leave a most painful impression upon public opinion in every civilised country in the world. A frightful fatality seems to haunt the progeny of the chief actors

in the great social revolutions of which during our time, France has been the scene.

IRELAND.

The accounts which have been received from Ireland during the past fortnight, continue to create in the minds of all peaceably disposed people, serious alarm. The terrors of "Captain Rock" and the murderous mandates of "Lady Clare" are carried out to a greater extent than ever. Among the recent assassinations, we have to record the following.—A poor inoffensive widow named Keros, was barbarously murdered in a field adjoining her residence at Boherbee, near Borlesleigh, county of Tipperary, on the 2nd instant. The ill-fated woman's head was frightfully fractured with stones—a portion of her brains protruded through the wound inflicted. A major Mahon was shot dead on the same evening at Strokestown, in the County of Roscommon. A poor man, named Michael Walsh, steward and care taker to Charles O'Callaghan, Esq., of Ballynabinch, in the county of Clare, was murdered on the high road near Fort Anne, by a ball which carried away the roof of the skull. There are several other murders recorded, but we forbear the farther augmentation of such an atrocious list.

It appears that the resistance to the payment of rent has manifested itself in the north as well as the south. The county in Ulster thus noted for illegal combination against the claims of landlords in Fermanagh.

There still continues a combined movement against the payments of rents and taxes. The Nenagh Guardian of a late date has the following.—Mr. James Sammon, poor rate collector for the electoral divisions of Borrisokane, Cloughjordan, and Ardcroney, was, on Friday week assaulted at Garryard, while in the act of serving notices for the payment of the rate. He was prevented by a large number of persons from issuing the notices. Four persons are to abide their trial at the approaching Nenagh quarter sessions charged with the assault.

His Excellency has issued a proclamation, warning the people against the commission of crime, and admonishing them that those who harbour criminals, and favour their evasion of justice, are, in the eyes of the law, criminals themselves, and will hereafter be dealt with accordingly. We have reason to believe that an Arms Act, of an extremely stringent character, is in course of preparation, and will be laid before Parliament at as early a period as possible. The Evening Mail says, suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act is the only measure adequate to the crisis.

PROCLAMATION.

"The numerous outrages which have lately taken place, and the lawless spirit which has been exhibited by the people in the disturbed districts, make it necessary that the lord-lieutenant should announce his determination to exercise all the power with which he is invested by law, as well for the suppression of disturbance as for the prevention and detection of crime.

"His Excellency deeply deploras the destitute condition of a large number of people; but although outrages have been committed under the plea of distress, yet it is notorious that the robberies of arms and the night attacks, so constantly occurring in the counties of Limerick and Clare, as well as the atrocious assassinations which have also disgraced Tipperary, King's County, and Roscommon, are not induced by the pressure of want, but are the acts of habitual disturbers of the public peace, who seek by the perpetration of such crimes to intimidate all other classes.

"The lord-lieutenant, while affording to the well-disposed the protection of the law and the support of the executive government in their efforts to maintain order, earnestly asks for their co-operation in suppressing such violations of the public peace in the county of Limerick, and in other places, and in endeavouring to detect and convict those who are engaged in the commission of similar offences.

"There is no class, save the guilty themselves, which is not interested in bringing to punishment the highwayman, the burglar, and the assassin, and the lord-lieutenant hopes that a vigorous and energetic co-operation of those whose properties and lives may be sacrificed at the hands of these offenders, will enable the authorities to carry out successfully the endeavours of the executive government to vindicate the law, and protect her Majesty's peaceable subjects.

"The lord-lieutenant, therefore, confidently appeals not to the gentry alone, but to the well-disposed farmers and industrious peasantry who seek to earn their livelihood by honest labour, to aid his efforts in suppressing a system of terror, which he feels satisfied is exercised by the law, but which may be overcome by the energy and determination of the many, whom it is intended to overawe.

"His Excellency hopes that the misguided people who are often led into crime by a few wicked men, may be persuaded to listen to better advice, and shun the companionship of the felon and the murderer, whose course through his life can often be traced by the