

## European News.

Gleanings from Papers received by the last British Steamer.

**The late Mr. Clowes.**—The stock in trade and personal property of this celebrated printer has been valued at £90,000. With the exception of a few bequests, he disposes of the whole of his property amongst his eight children, in certain proportions, and the residue equally. To his sons, William and George, he leaves the business, stock and materials, the steam-engines and apparatus, printing machines and presses, and type, machinery, and foundry, and the premises both at Charing-cross and Duke-street, Stamford-street, the latter, perhaps the largest of the kind in Europe; and as a compensation to his son Edward, for not having a share in the business, he leaves him £6,000, and an annuity of £400. His private library of books he leaves to his sons, Winchester and Edward, and daughter Ann. The plate to his four daughters, for each of whom he has made a liberal provision. The deceased was in his 68th year, and was a native of Chichester, in which town he served his apprenticeship. It was most appropriately termed of him, in a record of his death, that he had been "the architect of his own fortune."

Greater activity now prevails in the shipbuilding trade at Perth than has been witnessed for several years past.

It is said that Government intends to introduce a bill for the entire prohibition of burials in towns.

The central relief committee of the Society of Friends in Dublin have received £7000 per Cambria, from their brethren in America.

The Pope has ordered general gas works to be constructed beyond the walls of Rome, in order to light the streets and supply private consumers.

The Queen of the French has forwarded some articles to be sold at a grand bazaar, which is to be opened at Cheltenham, in aid of the distressed Irish.

**GERMANY.**—Almost every day the 'Sabbian Mercury' brings accounts of the increase of emigration. A few days ago a procession of two hundred and forty emigrants passed through Heilbronn to embark in the New Hampshire vessels for New York; and it was remarkable that there were none that could be called poor among them, but several possessing comfortable property. They appeared to leave their native country with good hopes of their western homes, as the waggons containing their furniture were dressed with evergreens. The agents in Heilbronn can hardly secure berths for the people who wish to emigrate. Within two months 2000 permissions have been given. Lately in the hurry of embarkation, one family left behind them a child, which was kindly adopted by some charitable persons. It is a sign of the times in Germany that a new word—*Europamide*, tired of Europe—has come into fashion to express the discontent of the people. From the 1st to the 17th of March, 26 vessels sailed from Bremen for New York, carrying out 3304 emigrants.

**Russia.**—A paragraph in a Hamburg paper states, that the mode employed in proselytising the peasantry of the Russian provinces, is by an appeal, not to their understanding, but to hungry stomachs. As the last harvest was deficient in some parts, the peasantry have suffered from scarcity. Accordingly, the Greek church offers there to every convert to its creed a plot of ground rent free, and other material privileges. The peasants of course, have been converted by thousands; but it is said that in very numerous instances their wives have refused to follow the example, and consequently religion has been made the cause of domestic dissension and unhappiness.

**WALACHIA.**—It appears that the general assembly of Walachia had adopted on the 23d ult., a project of law of the highest importance, in virtue of which, 14,000 families and 6000 Bohemian slaves belonging to the state, to the clergy, and to all the public establishments, have been emancipated. This magnificent act of philanthropy is ascribed to prince Bibesco, the hospodar of Walachia, who took the initiative, and to the general provincial assembly, by which the measures were unanimously voted.

The only remains of slavery now in Walachia, are about 48,000 individuals, who are private property. The hospodar, prince Bibesco, the day following these proceedings, gave his formal sanction to project of law, and addressed a rescript to the general assembly expressing his satisfaction at the result. He thanked also the head of the church and

the members of the assembly for having passed a law which, as he said, the spirit of the age and the progress of civilization had so long demanded. 'This day' concluded the prince, 'will constitute an epoch in the annals of Walachia.'

## IRELAND.

**The Steamship Great Britain.**—The breakwater to the Great Britain still continues to attract attention. An eye witness states that several engineers and officers of the navy visited the ship on Monday and Tuesday, some of whom, on the spot, stated their opinion, that, after such a gale as that of Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, when the wind was in the worst possible quarter, and the sea terrifically high, they fully expected to see her destroyed. The contrary, however, has been the case; and if we except a large spar which was broken in two, the whole has stood well, and the seamen assured us the breakwater had admirably protected the ship. Two artists were sketching the ship at high water, where she affords a striking object to those who are desirous of seeing what, in most cases, would be a dreadful case of shipwreck. The sea rolls along her deck in awful grandeur, occasionally breaking as high as her masts. The noise of the seas rebounding and meeting could be distinctly heard amid the roar of the wind and noise of the breakers on the beach. The tides, with the wind at the south, are expected to be the highest of the year, and we understand Captain Claxton has given orders that the crew should not remain on board during the night tides of the remainder of the week, not because of any fear for their safety, but solely on account of their health and comfort.

**Dublin, March 29.**—There are very unavourable accounts of the spread of pestilence in the county of Sligo, where the discharge of labourers from the public works has greatly augmented the general destitution. Nothing could be worse than the conduct of the landlords of the county, as described by the 'Sligo Champion,' whose previous statements on the subject have received no contradiction. With the exception of Lord Palmerston, Sir Robert Gore Booth and a few others, the lauded proprietors of the county, it is stated, are doing little or nothing for the relief of the destitute, but on the contrary, are proceeding to extremities for the recovery of their rents.

We are informed on official authority that there are at present engaged in the transport and storage of provisions on this station and cost no less than thirty six of her Majesty's ships.

A meeting of the merchants, clergy, and magistrates of Waterford, was held on Thursday, to adopt measures for checking fever, and other diseases, caused by the great increase of poor from the country, when Mr J. W. Strangman (a member of the society) was of opinion that the increase was altogether from the country districts in which famine, and as a matter of natural consequence, fever was increasing with awful rapidity. He had a letter from the Secretary of the relief committee at Dungarvan, and he says that the country people are swarming in there in large numbers. This was the case with regard to Waterford; they were crowding into it from all localities, from which they were driven by hunger, and what was still worse was that on some estates the agents were actually giving the poor miserable creatures five pounds each for tearing down, burning, or otherwise destroying their cabins, and thus sending them in droves into the towns and cities, and with them came fever and pestilence also. It therefore was their bounden duty to take some precautionary steps to prevent the city from being inundated with these peasant paupers. A resolution was adopted to the effect, that they apply to the Lord Lieutenant to have a board of health established in the city.

**Emigration.**—From every county in Ireland there is a perfect stream of emigrants to the shipping ports for America. A journal published in Mullingar—on the great highway on the trans-Shannon counties, Leitrim, and Roscommon, and also from Longford, and portions of Cavan, as well as Westmeath—states that the progress of emigration is perpetual; and adds, what is lamentable for this country, though it must prove advantageous to the colonists, as well as to the colonies.

**Cultivation of the Land.**—The intelligence received with respect to the continued neglect of tillage, and the apathy and despair which appear to have cramped all the energies of the peasantry, shows no symptoms of amendment. The Tipperary Vindicator thus gloomily refers to the subject:—

We have seen statements relative to the distant parts of the country, particularly Connemara, Carrick-on-Shannon, Longford and other places, of the most frightful character. Those places are not only in a great measure wholly neglected with respect to tillage; but all who possess the means are daily abandoning them and flying to other countries. Our own fertile country is not without its grievous afflictions, in several districts the smaller farmers are offering their little holdings for sale, endeavouring to raise a sufficiency to enable them to emigrate. The chapel gates in many parishes are posted each Sunday with notices from persons desirous of disposing their small farms, and of quitting them on any terms that may be offered. Whilst this is the case the land is idle; no effort is made to prepare it for the spring crops—the landlords, in the majority of cases, either will not or cannot interfere. Undoubtedly doubt and confusion prevails, sickness is destroying thousands, whilst the survivors are reduced to a condition which those who do not see them can scarcely credit.

The Waterford Chronicle speaks in a similar desponding strain:—

There is a universal break up in Ireland this season. All rural persons who have no great prospects here are selling their smaller places and farms, and quitting the country. These small possessions are at once engulfed into large farms. Never was there such a number of sharks of the land-buying class as at present. It is a sad thing that it is the poor man who was comparatively comfortable that was forced to emigrate. His fields remain unsown, and he has no hope from government; he must go out for he can pay no rent. The famine gives him an unmistakeable notice to quit; he sells his bit of ground, and with the money received for it, intends to emigrate. When this class is totally reduced, and Ireland left to the 'quire, the obsequious large farmer, and the fugitive labourer who has no home, will she be better? No indeed, but quite the contrary: she will be 'a prey to hastening ills,' and to a dreadful downfall.

The Cork Examiner draws a still more gloomy picture—if that were possible—of the prospects of the future:—

From the melancholy accounts which we receive day after day, from gentlemen of undoubted accuracy and intelligence, of the general neglect of this propitious season for the cultivation of the land—of the extensive tract of country that are still untouched by the plough, spade or harrow—of the stupid apathy and sullen despair that seems to hang, like a dark cloud over the minds of all classes—landlords, middle men, and farmers—we are reluctantly compelled to believe that the present season of calamity is but the precursor of one more terrible, more appalling, more destructive to human life. No later than yesterday we were informed by two gentlemen—one from the east, the other from the west of this county—that throughout extensive districts through which they have passed there was scarce a trace of cultivation observable, and that where a plough was, in any other year, to be seen on every farm, there is not more than one in a whole district. There is to be sure, a kind of dismal, ruinous activity in road making, but on the land, in which lies the hope or the despair of Ireland, there is utter idleness and inactivity. It is readily admitted that in the immediate neighbourhood of the towns there is something like the activity and preparations of former years; that wheat has been sown, and the potatoes, oats and barley are now being planted and sown. It is also certain that on some estates the utmost energy is observable; but it is unfortunately true that the small farmers, with very few exceptions, are neglecting their usual occupations, and that the same apathy and apparently reckless indifference to the future, characterise the once strong farmer, and in too many instances the proprietor. So that, taking all the accounts that have reached us into calculation, and limiting our statement for the present to this county of Cork, our opinion is, that not more than one half—if so great a proportion—of the land usually laid down in tillage, is in progress of cultivation for the coming harvest. And if our calculation be unfortunately true, as we sincerely hope it may not be, their could scarcely be any announcement so full of horror—nay, of despair.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—Cape Town papers to the 23rd of January have arrived. They state that the operations of the force under Colonel Somerset against the chief Pato, and in the capture of cattle in Crellie's country, have been very suc-

cessful, and that reasonable expectations are entertained of a speedy end to open war. The number of cattle captured was considerable, but far short of the number lost by the colonists, and in all probability, far short of the number of colonial cattle still held by the Kaffirs.

**New South Wales.**—We are in receipt of papers from this colony to the 9th of December. They contain the results of the census for 1846, taken on the 2nd of March. The total population of New South Wales on that day was (exclusive of Port Essington), males 114,769, females, 74,840; total, 189,609. The population (of both sexes) within the limits of location amounted to, in the middle districts, 138,883; in Port Philip districts, 23,458; in all, 162,351. Beyond the limits of location it was, in the middle district, 15,651; in Port Philip district, 9411, in all 25,062. The crews of colonial vessels at sea was estimated at 2196. The gross increase of population during the five years ending the first of March, 1846, was 58,758; the increase of males was, 27,471; of females, 31,282. The excess of males over females was, within the limits of location, 25,269; beyond, 12,464. To equalize the sexes, nearly 88,000 females were required. The increase of females during the last five years had only been 3011, in excess of the increase of males. The governor has set out on his promised tour through the colony. On the 14th of November he arrived at Bathurst where he was received with enthusiasm. Lady Mary Fitzroy accompanied him. The expediency of resuming the exportation of convicts was being keenly debated. A petition to the legislative council, praying that steps might be taken to reduce the upset price of land in the colony was in the course of signature at Sydney. Twelve men were executed at Norfolk Island on the 13th of October, for the murder of John Morris.

**Austria.**—A correspondent writes from Venice, on the 22nd, to the Journal de Francfort:—"In consequence of the continued dearth of provisions, there were riots on the 20th at Funtams, a village in the environs of Vienna; the bakers and other shops were forcibly entered, and a quantity of bread and other provisions was carried off, but a detachment of hussars soon dispersed the mob. No act of personal violence was committed. The government is taking all possible measures for relieving the general distress. It is increasing the public works and urging the formation of railroads with redoubled vigour. Nevertheless all the hospitals, prisons, and houses of correction are full, and it is evident that all human resources will not suffice to remedy an evil so general. Every one is persuaded that if the next harvest is not abundant, the government will be compelled to interdict the exportation of corn. At the last market there was a great number of French buyers. The government has ordered the issue of 500,000 florins in Treasury bills for the benefit of the town of Brunn, celebrated for its industry; and particularly for its woollen manufactories. These bills bear 3 per cent. and may be made at any time. A similar issue at Prague has been perfectly successful. The Cologne Gazette states from Vienna, that it is not intended to make any formal reduction in the Austrian army, but to give unlimited furloughs to 30,000

**Disaster amongst the Alps.**—The journal des Debates of Paris has the following account of a fatal disaster in the well known valley of the Chamouni.

A letter from Chamouni, of the 17th of Feb. states that a great quantity of snow which had fallen during the last few days, made us apprehend some great calamity. On the 15th, at seven in the evening, a horrible crashing was heard. An avalanche descending from the heights of Alguilles Rouges, covered the hamlet of Chable, a dependence of the hamlet of Prats, at the distance of two kilometres from the Priory. This hamlet composed of five houses, and several manufactories supplied by the river Arve, is situated at the bottom of a rapid outlet. The avalanche carried everything before it, filled up the plain to quite a distance. Eleven persons of one family, assembled in the common room of their house, were by the resistance of a wall and were able to save themselves and escape through their broken roof. Others have been rescued alive from under the snow and ruins of their houses. But the rest were buried beneath the enormous mass.

**Switzerland.**—The New Zurich Gazette of the 25th, speaks of a letter written from one of the great capitals of Ger-