

European News.

Further Extracts

FROM PAPERS RECEIVED BY THE NIAGARA.

Death of Viscount Melbourne.—This nobleman expired on the 24th ult. They who remember the unpretending, agreeable, and elegant minded William Lamb, whose mansion, the present Dover House, was the resort of the most celebrated poets and politicians during the regency and the brief reign of George the Fourth, will be apt to draw comparisons not over favorable to the present generation, and will deplore the mortal extinction of one of the brightest ornaments of an age which could boast of a Canning, a Huskisson, a Romilly, and a Byron. The total absence of all personal ambition, and the unaffected avoidance of all display, might cast the talents of the late nobleman into the shade, when compared with more practised speakers, or with less unostentatious public men; but they who recollect the hearty laugh of William Lamb, who seemed to regard "life as a jest," and yet beneath this cheerful healthfulness, had a well cultivated mind, enriched with all the stores of elegant literature, as well as by more dry study of "blue books," will be disposed to accord to the late nobleman the full merit of rising to his high political station mainly on account of his eminent abilities. His political career commenced in 1805, under the auspices of Mr. Fox. He remained in opposition till the death of Lord Liverpool in 1827, when Mr Lamb accepted the office of Chief Secretary for Ireland. He continued in office under Lord Goderich, and afterwards under the Duke of Wellington, but succeeded with Mr Huskisson, Lord Palmerston, and Mr. Grant, upon the question of opening the borough of East Retford. By his father's death, in 1828, he became a peer of the realm, and when the Duke of Wellington's administration was broken up in 1830, Lord Melbourne assumed the seals of the Home Office under Earl Grey. In 1834 the Grey administration being endangered by the secession of Lord Stanley and his party on the question of the Irish church establishment, Lord Melbourne was authorised by King William IV. to reconstruct it. With the exception of the short interval during which Sir Robert Peel became minister, after Lord Spencer's death in 1835, Lord Melbourne continued to be Prime Minister until 1841, when the general election brought back a conservative ministry. After this period Lord Melbourne withdrew from politics, and but rarely attended in his place in Parliament. His health gradually declined, and having nearly attained the age allotted to humanity, his lordship expired last week surrounded by his relatives. His wife, the eccentric Lady Caroline Lamb, died in 1826: and the issue by this marriage, a son and daughter, preceded him to the grave. The title goes to the brother Lord Beauvale, many years our ambassador at Vienna. Perhaps the most striking feature in the deceased nobleman's history, was the part which he performed in framing the mind of the present Queen of England and in qualifying her by judicious instruction to wield the sceptre of a constitutional sovereign. The wisdom and understanding thus early implanted in the mind of her gracious Majesty, has been the theme of admiration of every official man who had the honor to approach the Queen for the transaction of public business; and has exerted from a political rival, the Duke of Wellington, no mean judge, an eulogium upon Lord Melbourne's merits which reflect credit upon all the illustrious personages concerned. England is now reaping the solid advantage of the liberal and wise principles thus inculcated by Lord Melbourne. His judicious efforts to lay the foundation of enlightened and just principles in the mind of the Queen exposed Lord Melbourne to the most vindictive attacks from the tory party. These he survived; and he has now carried with him to the grave the esteem and respect of the highest personage of the empire, as well as the regard and attachment of all those who had the privilege to move within the literary and political circle, which he so often enlightened with his wit and influenced by his unassuming judgment.

Murder.—A frightful murder of a gentleman and his son, Isaac Jermy, Esq., and Isaac Jermy, jun., took place at Stanfield Hall, near Wymondham, Norfolk, on the night of the 28th ult., under most singular circumstances. Two females also, one of them the wife of Mr. Jermy, jun., and her maid, were also so severely wounded that their lives are in danger. It is believed that a Mr. Rush, a farmer and auctioneer, was the assassin, and he has been apprehended under very suspi-

cious circumstances. Mr. Jermy was a person of great respectability, and held the office of recorder of the city of Norwich; he was a county magistrate as was also his son. Mr. Jermy, sen., was involved in several legal disputes with the suspected murderer. It appears that Mr. Jermy, Mr. Jermy, jun., and Mrs. Jermy dined together on Tuesday evening; the butler, two female servants had gone to Wymondham, and had returned to the Park, but were not in the hall before 8 o'clock. About half-past 8 o'clock Mr. Jermy, sen., left the dining room, and walked through the hall to the front of the building. On returning, just as he entered the porch, a man wrapped up in a cloak, and wearing a mask, fired a pistol at him, and the shot lodged in the upper part of his left breast, close to the shoulder. He fell down and expired; but owing to what followed, was not removed for nearly an hour. The assassin went to the servant's entrance to the right, passed through the passage across the building, and met the butler. With a pistol in each hand he beckoned the butler to go back. Being greatly alarmed at the apparition of a man in a mask, presenting two pistols, the butler retired into his pantry. The assassin proceeded onwards to the turn of passage, where there was a dark recess and a door opening into another passage leading to the back of the premises. He appears to have arrived in the recess just as Mr. Jermy jun., alarmed by the report of a pistol, left the dining room. The young gentleman went to the door opening into the back passage, and there the man fired at him, and shot him through the right breast. He instantly fell down dead. Mrs. Jermy, hearing a noise, went to the same place, and while standing over the lifeless body of her husband, the assassin fired a pistol at her. The shot shivered one of her arms and wounded her in the breast. Her maid more courageous than the other servants, went to the same spot to see what was the matter, and, while clasping her mistress, the murderer again discharged a pistol and seriously wounded her in the thigh. The other female servants, thinking that they would be all murdered, hid themselves. The man servant, who was then in the stables, hearing the shots, and supposing that the house was attacked by a number of ruffians, swam across the moat, and set off to Wymondham, where he gave the alarm. The apprehension of Rush was the result of the lady's maid of Mrs. Jermy positively swearing he was the party who fired at her and her unfortunate mistress. For identification he was taken to the bedside of the wounded woman. His house was searched, and a cloak quite damp was found upon his bed. The police took the cloak, and also a pair of Rush's boots which were quite wet. The constables also took charge of a couple of loaded fowling pieces and two powder flasks. It was shown that he was absent from his farm at the period of the murders being committed. A coroner's inquest is being held on the bodies.

IRELAND.

Dundrum, Nov. 25.—A murder has just been committed in this neighborhood under circumstances of peculiar atrocity. A farmer of the name of Jam's Hennessey, of Gaffin, near Dundrum, having risen Thursday morning rather early, for the purpose of detecting some persons who were in the habit of stealing his turnips, was assailed by a number of men, who literally riddled his body with slugs, and not content with that, beat, cut, and stabbed him in the most dreadful manner. He lay for two hours within a field of his own house, and his wife must have met a horrible sight, as she stumbled over his body on her way to milking. It is supposed that the savage manner in which they treated the body arose from their desire to finish their job in a more, business-like manner than they did on a former occasion to his still more unfortunate brother. The latter was fired at in open daylight, both his legs broken, and left for dead. He recovered however, after a long illness, and the miserable cripple, scarcely able to crawl, might have been spared, but the murderers were again sent on his track, and exactly on the same spot he saw four armed men running over the field. Being hardly able to move, he screamed dreadfully, and some men ran to his assistance; but the villains with cocked guns, ordered them to lie down and witness that they this time did their work more effectually. Three of them held the unfortunate wretch, while the fourth actually hacked his head off with a billhook. This occurred some time previous to the murder I have mentioned above, and explains the unusual pains they took to extinguish life. Hennessey was an industrious farmer, and generally esteemed, especially by his landlord, Lord Hawarden, one of the best and most

indolgent landlords in the south of Ireland, who (ably seconded by his agent, Mr. John Stewart), is untiring in his efforts to benefit his tenantry, and introduce such a system of agriculture as may conduce to comfort and respectability.

The provincial papers received during the past week from the south and west, are teeming with reports of cases of the most frightful destitution, disease, and death. The potatoes have nearly disappeared from these doomed regions—the harvest earnings are spent in purchasing food down to a recent period—the poor houses are crowded to overflowing, and, notwithstanding the extent to which outdoor relief is administered, the poor in the mountainous and boggy districts are suffering all the horrors of famine. Starvation rages in the counties of Mayo, Cork, Sligo, Kerry, Clare, and Galway, to a fearful extent, and more or less in several other counties nearer to the metropolis.

The following case, from the *Clare Journal*, requires no comment. 'Tis frightful:—

On the townland of Doora, near this town (Ennis), four deaths have occurred in one house from starvation, under circumstance of the most horrifying nature. It appears that two families of the name of Linnane and Quin, were residing in the same cabin. Linnane, the father of one of these families, is at present undergoing a lengthened imprisonment in Ennis gaol for sheep stealing. He held two acres of land, on which there was a small quantity of potatoes. Previous to harvest, this family, having no means of support went into the workhouse, but left it shortly afterwards, that they might use the potatoes which they had planted. After these were consumed the family did not obtain relief, which was the immediate cause of the tragical events which followed. The other family named Quin, who resided in the same cabin, were obtaining a stone and a half of meal per week, which, however, they divided with Linnane's family. One of the Quins took fever, and, on being removed to hospital, half a stone of the weekly quantity of meal was stopped from the family, but on recovering from fever, and again joining the family, their rations were not increased to the former quantity, and thus nine individuals (of which number the two families consisted) were left solely dependent on one stone of meal per week; and were in the habit of gathering turnip tops or anything they could collect to add to their scanty fare. The consequence was, that on the 6th ult. one of the children, Susan Linnane, died and was buried by the others in the garden adjoining the house. Bridget Quin died on the 16th, Mary Quin on the 19th, and Mary Linnane (the mother) on the 20th; and these three corpses remained lying in the house with the surviving children until the 24th ult., when the shocking condition of the family was discovered. On approaching to the door of the cabin the stench proceeding from it was so great as to render it impossible to enter, until a small window in the back of the cabin was broken open to allow a current of air to pass through it. When the remaining members of the family made their appearance outside the cabin, they presented such a horrible spectacle that it would be in vain to attempt a description of it. On entering the cabin it was found that part of one of the corpses had been eaten away by rats.

An inquest was subsequently held on the bodies by Mr. Martin, coroner. In the cases of Mary and Bridget Quin, the following verdict was returned:—

That the deceased, Bridget Quin, and Mary Quin, came by their deaths from want and destitution, and we believe the relieving officer, James Lynch, guilty of neglect of duty in having refused to give back to this family the remainder of the rations which were stopped on one of them going to the hospital, and although seven weeks have elapsed, said James Lynch has not increased the quantity. We also think said James Lynch guilty of neglect in not having gone to see this family when called upon.

In the cases of Mary and Susan Linnane also the verdict was—that deceased had died from starvation and want. Is unnecessary to offer a single word of comment upon these melancholy details. The further inquiry will of course, be instituted by the guardians on the subject. The sub-inspector of police, H. G. Meley, Esq., has made a special report on the subject to the castle.

TERRIBLE ERUPTION OF A VOLCANO.—According to accounts just received from Batavia, a recent most terrible eruption had taken place of the volcano Klori, which had been inactive for a great number of years. This unfortunate event had spread desolation and death throughout the Province of Passarouan, one of the most fertile and salubrious districts of Borneo. This devastating cataclysm was preceded by frequent and irregular detonations, which were heard at a very considerable distance. For several leagues around the volcano, the sky appeared covered with black clouds, which produced the thickest darkness in mid-day: showers of burning cinders were thrown up from the crater, which fell within an hour afterwards on the surrounding country, burning to cinders the crops, carbonising the plantations, and rendering the most luxuriant plains in the world an arid desert. At the same

time torrents of inconspicuous lava rushed from the sides of the volcano, and inundated the delightful district of Kedirie, and enveloping in its waves the farms and villages, as well as the cattle and men who were surprised and overtaken by it.

United States News.

Halifax Novascotian, Dec. 20.

The *Britannia* arrived on Friday, noon, in fifty hours from Boston.

By New York papers we learn that most of the cases of Cholera that had been reported had proved to be nothing more than Dysentery. A few deaths by the former disease had, however occurred, but not a sufficient number to create any alarm.

The gold mania still continues. A New York paper says that since October 7, no less than three steamers, seven ships and a barque had cleared from that port for California, and that half a dozen others had sailed from Boston, Baltimore and Salem for the same destination.

The *Boston Post* gives us the following:—

More Riches from California.—Among the specimens of the mineral wealth of California, which were brought to Washington on Thursday by Lieutenant Loesser, were some grains of metal supposed to be Platina; one of the heaviest of metals; and also a rich specimen of cinnabar, or the ore of quicksilver, (very heavy.) They are transmitted to the mint with the gold of California, also to be submitted to analysis. Some suppose that the quicksilver mines of California, may prove more valuable even than its placers of gold.

The Washington correspondent of the *Baltimore Sun*, says:

The specimens of gold sent from California to the War Department by the Governor of California, Colonel Mason, are now exhibited in the President's house. Their commercial value is about four thousand dollars; their geological value is incalculable; for they show that there must be a vast and inexhaustible deposit of gold in the mountains of Sierra Nevada. Washed down from this mountain, and on both sides of it the gold is found in the plains below, in grains, dust, scales and lumps. Most of the specimens which I saw looked like scales; others were in dust and in grains. There were some lumps of pure gold, and others were mixed with quartz.

They are beginning to discover copper mines also. Some specimens of that article obtained near the gold district, have been left at the office of the *Baltimore Sun*. The ore is said to yield ninety-five per cent. of pure metal, and it is found in such abundance as to be perhaps as valuable as the gold mines themselves.

A Mr Parker recently wrote from San Francisco, to one of his friends in Boston, that he had about one hundred thousand dollars worth of California gold, and was going to Mazatlan with it to purchase goods.

The latest telegraphic information from New York to the *Boston Post*, gives the following very important news:

Brig Francis Hall arrived at New York on Tuesday forenoon, from San Juan, Nicaragua. A revolution broke out on the 14th November in the state of Costa Rica, among the Indians, and Nicaragua had declared war against Costa Rica in consequence. The people had sent an envoy to England to obtain assistance.

Advices from Vera Cruz to the 25th states that Paredes was still at large, and the government had sent expresses to Tampico for his arrest. The account of another pronouncement at Mazatlan is contradicted. In Coahuila, the Indians committing terrible devastations, and there were no available troops to be employed against them. Congress had passed a decree that the standing army of Mexico shall never exceed ten thousand men.—The armed force does not include military colonists to be established along the line of the frontier.

Colonial News.

West Indies.

Halifax Nova Scotian, Dec. 20.

The Steamer *Ospray* which arrived at one o'clock, on Friday afternoon, brought files of Bermuda papers to the 8th inst.

The Editor of the *Bermuda Herald*, has been confined to prison, for having published a communication reflecting upon the members of the House of Assembly. The sentence of the judge was as follows:

That you be imprisoned in the Gaol at