

the eventual solution of this important question. We feel that the commercial interests are indissolubly linked with those of the agriculturists, and one class cannot suffer without affecting the other.

The army and navy estimates have been carried by majorities quite as large as heretofore. The long threatened opposition of Mr. Hume and Mr. Cobden has subsided into the meekest disclaimer in the House of Commons against the present alleged excessive number of troops and seamen; the most insignificant minorities have supported the financial reformers, the vast body of the nation perceiving clearly that Government, with the restricted power it has, is doing everything to cut down expenses, without impairing the general efficiency of the public service. The events in India have roused the British feeling so long kept in abeyance; and that same spirit of valour which has raised England to her present height of glory is breaking forth only with more ardour, because it has been of late years so much suppressed. It is quite plain that the cry of "ships, colonies and commerce," was never more popular than at this moment; and Mr. Hume and Sir William Molesworth, who think our colonies incumbrances, have taken especial care to repudiate any intention whatever of parting with any of "the jewels of the British crown," however they condemn the practice of keeping so large a military force for their defence and maintenance.

The Insolvent Members Bill has struggled through the committee, but so many serious objections seem to be taken against it, although the principle is undeniably good, that we doubt whether it will become a statute of the realm this session. The Lordlord and Tenant Bill, with some alterations, is less objected to, and there seems a disposition to pass it into a law. We doubt whether much further interesting business will be carried through the House previous to the Easter recess. Up to this period of the session the state of parties in the house has not undergone any material change. There exists on all sides a sincere desire to support the Executive Government upon all national grounds. Mr. Bouverie's Bill to 'dicerigify' gentlemen of the church, so as to enable them preach in dissenting chapels without incurring the penalties and costs, for the non-payment of which the Rev. Mr. Shore is now in Exeter gaol, is referred to a select committee, and is likely to pass the Commons.

We rejoice to say that the Cholera is fast disappearing. The total number of cases has reached 14,304, of which 1200 were in the metropolitan districts, about 1100 in the country, and more than 12,000 in Scotland. The total deaths have been 3464, bearing about the same proportion in the several districts as the total number of cases. Limerick seems to have suffered severely, but we have no official reports to guide us in forming a correct opinion of the ravages of the disease. In Paris the malady has again appeared, but not to an alarming extent. Upon the whole the health of the metropolis and the country has decidedly improved, and in Scotland the mortality has correspondingly decreased. We trust that this satisfactory improvement will be maintained, and render unnecessary any further especial notice of this dreadful malady. The weather has been uninterruptedly fine and mild for the season.

The importance of the news from the continent of Europe predominates still over all other intelligence. The King of Holland has been removed from the scene of impending strife. He expired on the 17th inst., in the 55th year of his age. His son, now King William III., was in London at the time, but has proceeded in a Dutch man-of-war to Holland, where, from all that we have learned, he will peacefully ascend the throne. From the Duchies we have no authentic intelligence of the steps likely to be taken by the belligerent parties. The notice for the cessation of the armistice and of the blockade of the Schleswig-Holstein ports has been officially published; and, certainly, however sanguine we may be that the negotiations going on in London may lead to a pacification, if we turn our attention to Frankfurt and perceive that one of the deputies formally proposes in the chamber to give the sovereignty of Germany to Prussia, upon express conditions that she will declare war against Russia, we really must wait before we conclude that a general pacification is at hand. In fact, at Vienna, at Berlin, at Frankfurt, Milan, Turin, and Rome, everything is utterly disorganised. Austria has taken the most extraordinary and unlooked for step. The Diet of Kremsier, which was convoked by the late Emperor, and has occupied the few months of its existence in "theoretical discussion," has been dismissed, and its task has been done for it, in a constitution promulgated, not only for the countries represented at Kremsier, but for the whole Austrian empire. The great object which has been kept in view by the designers of this constitution, is the making of all Austria into a "free, independent, indivisible, indissoluble, constitutional monarchy."

With regard to the social and political regulations guaranteed under this constitution, the liberality of their nature can hardly fail to excite surprise. Individual liberty is secured; the press is not allowed to be put under censorship; the right of petitioning, and the right of assembling and forming associations, belongs to everybody; the private domicile is inviolable, and the police are bound to liberate, or produce before a judge in forty eight hours, persons whom they have apprehended. The complete equality and toleration of all religions, the independence of every church and sect in the management of its own property and affairs, the

extension of education to all languages, and its prosecution as a government work, are specially secured. The Imperial Diet is to consist of two Houses, whose constitution approaches nearer to that of the American Senate and House of Representatives than the Legislative Assembly of any other state. The local government of the Crown lands will be administered by their respective Diets. And the Upper House of the Imperial Diet will be composed of deputies chosen by the crown lands from the members of their provincial Diets. Members returned to this House must be forty years of age; and they sit for ten years. The members of the Lower House are to be chosen by direct suffrage, among the population at large, the qualification for a vote being the payment of annual taxes, from one to two pounds. The constitutional number of members in this House is twice as great as that in the Upper; but they sit only five years. The diet must be convoked every year; and in case of its dissolution, only three months must elapse before the convocation of another.

How this constitution may work when reduced to practice, must of course, depend upon the people themselves; but it must be admitted that it places in their hands ample means of securing an amount of political freedom scarcely inferior to that of any other country in Europe. In the meantime the Hungarian war proceeds with unrelenting fury. The Magyars have adopted a guerilla warfare, and Prince Windischgratz, no longer taking the field but remaining at Buda, shows that the war has only just commenced. In fact the King of Sardinia, in secret communication with Kossuth, trusts to the prolongation of the war in Hungary, to reconquer the lost fields of Lombardy. The weak unfortunate King, hemmed in between his own people, who urge him to war, and his enemies, the Austrians, has had no alternative but to declare the armistice with Radezky at an end; and during the last week we have been in daily expectation of hearing either that Charles Albert has crossed the Ticino to encounter his ruin in the field, or that the Austrians had themselves crossed the Ticino and marched to Turin. Whatever may be the course of the campaign, hostilities appear inevitable. Genoa, Turin, indeed all Piedmont, seem ready to fight, while the Austrian general, Radezky, has issued proclamations to his army at Milan that he accepts the challenge, and the sword must once more decide who shall be the possessor of the fair fields of Lombardy.

At Rome there appears no stability in the perpetually changing ministries. The Pope continues at Gaeta, waiting the upshot of events which cannot remain long in their present state. The English and French squadrons have arrived off Palermo, and the admirals are making a last effort to induce the Sicilians to accept the ultimatum of the King of Naples. The Sicilians still hang back, but, perhaps, when they find that their liberties are secured, they will not rashly embark in a further contest; at any rate one of their vessels, which was being armed and equipped in the river Thames, has been embargoed by the English authorities, and similar steps have been taken in France to prevent succours being sent from the French arsenals. Should, however, hostilities actually break out in Piedmont, the Sicilians and Genoese, and in fact all the Italians, will take a part in the war, and the consequences of which will, we fear, be very different to their wild anticipations. But, besides these struggles on the Italian soil, there is a growing feeling of pugnacity amongst the Germans which threatens to end in bloodshed. On one side Austria is jealous of Russian intervention, which she is compelled to solicit; whilst the Central Power at Frankfurt, with the wild hope of uniting Germany, is coquetting with the King of Prussia, seeking his aid and protection as "Emperor," at the same time that he knows that the condition of his title to the throne must be to unsheathe the sword, and come to blows with Russia, and perhaps also with Austria. The conduct of Russia is exciting considerable alarm. That she has increased her forces on the Prussian and Austrian frontiers there can be no doubt; and the Emperor has declared in a manner not to be misunderstood, that the treaties of 1815 shall not be infringed upon, except with the entire consent of those powers who were parties to that great settlement. Therefore, if the Sardinians attempt to wrest Lombardy from Austria, and the Germans persevere in their insensate scheme for detaching the Duchies from Denmark, with a full knowledge of the contingent rights of Russia, it is mere self-delusion to expect that Lord Palmerston, however great his talents, can much longer preserve the peace of Europe. We look less to the momentary excitement which prevails than to the resolute determination of so many powerful bodies, under one pretext or another, to involve themselves into aggressive enterprises. Russia herself is now suspected of this spirit of encroachment. She has her eye steadily fixed on the Dardanelles, and if she is called upon to interfere in German disputes, we have no doubt that, true to her invariable policy, she will end in adding to her own dominions, whilst she is calling upon other people to abide by the treaties of 1815.

In Spain there seems a prospect of the Progressista party succeeding to power. M. Olozaga has proceeded suddenly from Paris to Madrid, and the general impression is that a change of Ministry is at hand. Cabrera has met with further discomfiture, but still contrives to keep alive his predatory warfare. Portugal continues tranquil.

Another overland mail from India has bro't dates from Bombay to the 17th, and from Calcutta to the 8th of February. The political

news may be briefly recapitulated. No further battle has taken place on the banks of the Jhelum; and Lord Gough has relapsed into his previous inactivity. He seems to be adopting a Fabian system of warfare until the division of General Whish shall have joined him. Under all the circumstances, considering the nature of the ground, and the difficulty the Sikhs must have in maintaining their numerous troops in the field, every day must improve the position of the British Commander. We have still the repetition of the reports of the accession of the Affghans to the cause of Shere Singh, but we cannot yet be convinced that Dost Mohammed has espoused the cause of the rebels. He seems more disposed to hover over the flanks of the contending armies, in order to avail himself of circumstances, and regain possession of Peshawar. The British army continues in good health, gathering strength for a fresh conflict with our intrepid foes.

The general tone of commercial affairs during the past fortnight, although not of an active character, has been satisfactory. Much of the gloominess which had been caused by the news from India, which reached London in the beginning of the month, has been dissipated by subsequent accounts from Bombay and Calcutta. The Cotton market has been quiet, and prices are again a point lower. The sales, also are to a limited extent. In the market for Broadstuffs there is not any improvement to report.

From the manufacturing districts there are satisfactory reports, and, although there has been less activity in the market for manufactured goods, there is not any diminution in the extent of employment.

The Irish news still continues pregnant with excitement and interest. The 'rate in aid' agitation has been marked with a violence wholly disproportionate to the importance of the alleged grievance. Noble Lords in the county of Down have vied in scurrility of language with the most rabid speakers of the quondam Conciliation Hall, and the ministers of the crown and parliament have been deluged with petitions couched in the most abusive and threatening language. Some of the leaders, however, begin to perceive that they have carried the excitement too far; and the Marquis of Londonderry, in a very plain address, tells his tenantry in the county of Down, that although he has the most reason to complain, he will, as an old soldier, gird on his sword against them to execute the laws passed by an united parliament. Some indiscreet letters from Irish members in London, announcing that the government is afraid of the threats of the Ulster boys, have tended to nourish vain hopes that the Government will relinquish their designs, but we deem this illusory, and we have already said that it is quite certain that if an income tax were imposed in Ireland, and it is suggested by some of the opponents of the 'rate in aid' project, the clamour that would be raised in the south, as well as in the north would be tenfold greater than the present agitation. All we hope is, that the landlords of Ireland will 'set their houses in order' in time. We hope that the present lesson will not be lost upon them. That by a better administration of the poor-law they will render the 'rate in aid' superfluous. Any Irishman must be blind to the present temper of the time if he thinks the Imperial Parliament will be allowed by the people of England to go on voting sums for Irish relief any longer.

The west and south of Ireland appear to be in a deplorable state. Several frightful murders are reported. The cholera is committing extensive ravages in Limerick. To compensate for these sad and distressing visitations the farmers have commenced tilling the ground to a vast extent, and the potato is again planted to a greater breadth than heretofore. The attachment of the Irish to this, their precarious mode of sustenance, cannot be eradicated. It is hoped that as early sowing has been adopted throughout the country that the chances of failure may be diminished. The friends of Ireland, however, view with considerable alarm this recurrence to a system which has cost so much life and treasure. In spite of all the reports we have heard of want of seed and capital to work the land, the seed has been produced as if by magic, and Englishmen are led to believe that the distress, which undoubtedly exists to an alarming extent, has been nevertheless exaggerated.

The French Government continues to receive the respect of all men who desire peace and order, and the homage of the press of England to the peaceful disposition of Louis Napoleon is, perhaps, one of the most significant signs of the times. Twelve months ago the events now going on in Italy would have convulsed France to the centre, but the present French Ministry seem, in conjunction with Lord Palmerston, to be loyally and disinterestedly exerting themselves to bring about a more harmonious feeling amongst the contending princes and factions in Italy, and to pave the way for a general pacification without a further effusion of Christian blood. The Red Republicans are the only promoters of war in France; and the excitement which they betray as they see their power cut from under them, and the assassins, the instruments of their guilt, brought to the scaffold, threatens some wild outbreak, which we earnestly hope will be vigorously and effectually suppressed.

Every day now discloses some fresh instances of the indefatigable zeal of the Socialists to overturn the present order of things. The journal of M. Proudhon, to the extent of 30,000 to 40,000 per day, is actively circulated in

all the barracks of France, and the non-commissioned officers and men are tempted from their allegiance by every imaginable means. The "morality" of assassination is boldly taught in these Socialist organs, and ample means seem to be not wanting for the spread of these mischievous doctrines. We very much doubt whether matters will settle down without some outbreak. In various parts of France the soldiery are publicly insulted by the Red Republicans, which, however, does not hinder the authorities from removing all the caps of liberty from the public places to the extreme indignation of the Socialists. At Toulon there are great preparations for embarking troops; and in consequence of the movements in Piedmont and Italy the army of the Alps has been again recruited, and every arrangement made so that a large division of troops may cross the Alps should an armed intervention be resorted to. Up to this moment, however, there seems a cordial and complete understanding between the French and English Governments in respect to the affairs of Italy; but, on the other hand, there are many unpleasant feelings arising with respect to Russia, whose movements and policy complicate to an extreme degree the already sufficiently embarrassed affairs of the continent. Never at any previous period during the past year were European politics more pregnant with alarm, if not of actual danger.

TIMBER.—All kinds of Woods are improving in demand, and as no arrivals have come to hand the stocks are decreasing, and prices for the lower sorts improving.

SHIP NEWS.—Loading at Liverpool.—For Resaugouche, Ada: Richibucto, George.

LEGISLATIVE.—The Saint John Courier has the following paragraph. "On Monday last the question of the Great Trunk Railway from Halifax to Quebec, was brought before the House by the Hon. L. A. Wilnot, and Resolutions passed, granting a breadth of way thro' Crown Lands of ten miles on either side of the line, and interest to the extent of £20,000 a year for twenty years. It is said that the Sheldiac line will again be brought under the consideration of the house, with what success remains to be seen."

St. John.—We copy the following paragraphs from the Courier:

The English mail of the 24th March, by the steamship Niagara, arrived at Halifax on Thursday last at half-past two o'clock, and the Express, by horses to Granville, and thence by the steamer Herald, reached this city at a quarter past eight yesterday morning. The news was communicated forthwith by Telegraph to the United States.

Telegraph from Halifax to Quebec.—We understand that Mr. Gisborne, Agent of the North American Electric Telegraph Company, who arrived in this city on Tuesday last, has succeeded in getting the whole of the Stock for the Line of Telegraph from Halifax to Quebec subscribed for. Of the amount required—£16,000—£10,000 have been taken in Canada, and the principal part of the remainder in Halifax. It is expected that the line will be completed by September next.

The Company in this City will doubtless take the necessary steps to connect with the line at Amherst, Novascotia.

No Tavern Licenses in the County of St. John.—On Saturday last, the Justices in Sessions, by a vote of 18 to 3, came to the determination not to grant Licences for the sale of Spirituous Liquors in the County of St. John during the present year.

RESTIGOUCHE COUNTY, SS.

In the matter of JAMES McNAIR, a Bankrupt.

Notice is hereby given, that I appoint a further general meeting of the creditors of the above named Bankrupt, to be held at my office in Chatham, on WEDNESDAY, the eighteenth day of April next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of receiving proof of, or of allowing or contesting any claim presented against the said Bankrupt; at which meeting the said Bankrupt will be examined on oath touching his estate and dealings, and such other business relating to the said estate will be transacted as may be deemed necessary.

And Public Notice is also hereby given, that upon the application of the said James McNair, I appoint a public sitting to be held on FRIDAY, the twenty seventh day of April, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon, at my office aforesaid, for the allowance of a certificate of conformity to the said James McNair, pursuant to the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly in such case made and provided; when and where any of the creditors of the said Bankrupt may be heard against the allowance of such certificate, and the same will be allowed, unless cause be then and there shown to the contrary, or such other order will be made as the justice of the case may require.

Given under my hand, the fifteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty nine.

W. CARMAN, Commissioner of the estate and effects of Bankrupts for the county of Restigouche.

Henry C. D. Carman, GENERAL AGENT AND Commission Merchant, HALIFAX, N. S.