

adopted for the line he considered very appropriate, as it would be a great national work, and would justify its friends in calling for aid from both continents for its construction. Maine would do her part in this great work, and if the effect of the Convention abroad was such as in Portland, the success of the enterprise was certain.

Mr Washburn, of Orono, expressed his belief as to the paying qualities of the line, and described the facilities for constructing the road from the Penobscot to Calais; he gave very substantial reasons why he thought this line would be built without delay.

Wm. Wright, Esq., Advocate-General, presented some important statistics as to the trade and resources of this province, and also several valuable tables to show that the railway, when completed, would be a profitable investment. He alluded to the great importance of the fisheries of the Gulf, and the facilities which would be given for prosecuting them to any extent, by means of this railway. Mr Wright also stated the present value of the trade in fresh salmon, which would likewise be greatly increased; and concluded an able and very convincing speech, with an allusion to the beautiful aspect of this meeting, where the subjects of Great Britain and America sat side by side in Convention, for the first time in three quarters of a century. There sat the Governor of Maine side by side with a distinguished British Admiral; and throughout the meeting, men of rank and distinction, from both sides of the boundary, mingled frankly and freely together, animated by the same earnest desire to advance an enterprise which was well calculated to benefit the whole human race.

Mr James McFarlane, of St. John, next addressed the Convention in a very pleasing style. He stated, that he represented the trading classes of St. John; that among his brethren there was a very strong interest felt in this undertaking, to which, he was authorized to say, they would contribute to the full extent of their means. Mr McFarlane advocated a free interchange of commodities between the United States and the Provinces, not only as a means of fostering that great change in public sentiment which had taken place between the two countries of late years which would result in enlarging the feeling of amity and brotherly kindness between the people of both nations.

Noah Smith, Esq., of Calais, member of the House of Representatives, said he could not of course, pledge the Legislature as to the appropriation for a survey; but he could say, that he did not know a member in either branch who would not be ready to grant a full appropriation for that object. His own town of Calais, he was authorized to say, would pledge itself to a hearty co-operation in the work, of the success of which he had no doubt.

Mr Smith observed that a previous speaker had stated, that New Brunswick had sent all her best men. He was well acquainted with the people of that Province, from being their next door neighbor. He was ready to admit that New Brunswick had sent her best men, but not all of them; he well knew, and could say, as did the Yankee pedlar when selling off his razor strops—there is no more of the same kind left.

Stephen Binney, Esq., of Moncton, interested the Convention with some able remarks respecting the importance and value of the route which had been adopted, in opening up to citizens of the United States, a vast agricultural country, and giving easy access to the unlimited fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Mr Binney strongly advocated reciprocity in trade, and pointed out forcibly, the many advantages which would follow from such a desirable arrangement. He concluded by expressing his firm conviction, that the Railway through New Brunswick would be a profitable undertaking, from local traffic alone, without reference to the vast stream of travel and traffic which must pass over it, as a great highway between the old world and the new.

The hon. Mr Shepley, of Portland, a member of the senate of Maine, alluded to the manner in which the Petition for a survey had been received by the Legislature, and stated that a growing interest in its favor was manifested as the magnificence of the enterprise unfolded itself to the minds of the members. They delayed action until they could come to the Convention and see what spirit was manifested there. They had come and had heard what had been said, and if they could go back, and not be willing to enlist their hearts and hands in the work, they must be less than men.

European News.

Arrival of the Steamer America.

From *Wilmor & Smith's EUROPEAN TIMES*, August 17.

The dearth of Cotton, and the shortness of the supply, are producing the same results on the other side of the Atlantic as on this side—dissatisfaction at the present state of things, and a determination, if possible to find a remedy. The Cotton manufacturers of the United States, like those of Lancashire and Lanarkshire, feel keenly where the shoe pinches; and as advancing prices and diminished products disorganise the ordinary operations of trade, the evil must necessarily become greater in proportion to the expansive power of that machinery, moral and mechanical, which the cotton trade in both, he

mispheres has been the means of calling into existence.

To meet this impending evil many ingenious schemes have been devised; but all that we have seen propounded fall short of any immediate practical result. One of the most feasible has been put forward by Mr G. R. Porter, a gentleman well known by his able contributions to the commercial and manufacturing statistics of the country. Mr Porter's substitute is flax. He advocates the growth of flax by the farmers of England and Ireland, and shows that it could not fail to pay; while the partial adoption of new machinery would be more than counterbalanced by the advantages of a regular trade and a uniform supply. We have given elsewhere the reasoning on which Mr Porter bases his conclusions. How far this reasoning will operate upon the manufacturers we have no means at present of knowing; but as regards the farmers, they will doubtless be ready to fall into any arrangements which, while it promotes their own interests, will advance that of the country. Flax was formerly an important article of home growth, but it has been almost driven from the field by the superior cheapness of cotton. During the intermediate stage through which we are now passing our necessities may possibly compel a return to the cultivation of a staple once so important to the farmers and manufacturers of this country. We invite attention to Mr Porter's clever communication, read before the British Association the other day. In the present and prospective state of the cotton trade every suggestion is worthy of attention, and this especially deserves perusal and reflection.

In whatever quarter we look the elements of prosperity surround us. Society in this country at the present moment shows evident signs of improvement, and all the symptoms of material advancement are before us. The returns of the various public departments, which have been published within the last few days demonstrate the fact. The Whigs—a rare thing in their history—find themselves presiding over a plethoric exchequer. The state of the revenue is so flattering that the excess of income over expenditure will probably leave a surplus in the hands of the Financial Minister exceeding three millions sterling when he again faces Parliament. There will be plenty of claimants for its appropriation, but the fact that he possesses such a surplus will enable him to silence the clamours of the most sturdy sticklers for a remission of taxes. It is gratifying to observe that while Government has diminished its expenditure, as compared with the previous year, more than two millions and a quarter, the excess of income for the present as compared with the past year also exceeds a million; and with this handsome surplus the Chancellor of the Exchequer may be said to sleep on a bed of roses. No better evidence can be adduced of the comforts enjoyed by the productive classes. Indeed, the Customs and the Excise returns are always justly regarded as the best index of the national pulse.

The Trade and Navigation returns, as we noticed last week, also exhibit the general progression. In the first six months of the present year, the exports exceed by upwards of nine millions the declared value of the exports during the same period two years ago. In the month of June alone, nearly six millions of manufactured goods were sent out of the country. This expansion of trade has no parallel in our commercial history; and judging from the feeling in the manufacturing districts, where new mills are now being erected in considerable numbers, the belief evidently is that the prosperity will be enduring. The shipping interest, too, which ought to have been ruined by the repeal of the Navigation Laws, in order to bear out the dismal prognostications which preceded that measure, has been running gallantly with a prosperous breeze. Our maritime supremacy increases with each succeeding year. The tonnage returns keep all the other returns in countenance. With a brisk import and export trade this was to have been expected, and that the ship owners do not expect to be 'squealed' yet is tolerably evident from the fact that a greater number of vessels are now building on the principal rivers of England than ever was known at any former time.

The session of the Legislative Assembly of France has now closed. The chief Legitimists have proceeded to Wisbaden to offer their loyal homage to the future Henri V.; some of the Orleanists have come over to England to confer with the Duke de Neully and his family about their future plans and hopes and fears, whilst the indefatigable members of the Mountain party remain in Paris to concoct fresh schemes of revolution, and to be ready to seize upon any advantages which may arise. The President of the Republic left Paris on Monday last on his grand tour through the Provinces. At Lyons, a cabal of by no means an agreeable character threatens to render his visit to that city not very pleasant. The municipal body of one of the chief suburbs has refused to join in the collective visit to the President on his arrival, and this open mark of insubordination leads naturally to the expectation that his reception altogether at Lyons by the people will not be very friendly. No puffery, however is omitted by Louis Napoleon, or the journals in his interest, to keep out of view these marks of public displeasure. A drunken body of sergeants in the army, who had been treated to a dinner at Versailles, proposed, when the wine got into their heads, to

raise the cry of 'Vive l'Empereur' and 'Aux Tuilleries'; but the folly of the thing was too apparent. However, as the revolution was carried by a surprise, we are quite prepared for the advent of Imperialism upon any fine morning, or, indeed, of any other change which it may please our excellent neighbors to bring about. The problem in French philosophy now is—how to turn a president into an Emperor? and genius will be wanting to effect it. The President arrived at Dijon on Monday evening late, and on Tuesday, wherever he appeared, the general enthusiasm drowned any cries of 'Vive la Republique' which were raised in some quarters.—The President visited a monument erected to the Emperor! gave a splendid dinner, and so far his tour appears to have been satisfactory. In the meantime, in the south of France, the Red Republicans driven from Paris still carry on their machinations; and in the department of La Drome forty persons have been surprised in deliberation under pretext of forming a fraternal association, and the usual revolutionary emblems have been seized, and some arms and ammunition. In fact, the precariousness of the present state of things is but proved by the continual publication of assurances that the great generals like Cavanac, Lamoriciere, Changarnier, and several others have each sworn to stand by the Constitution, if any attempt is made to overthrow it by a *coup de main*. The Royalists, however of all degrees view the journey of Louis Napoleon to the provinces with the deepest jealousy and alarm, as they will consider their chances infinitely diminished if the President is received throughout his tour with unquestionable marks of popularity.—Count Molé has been seized with an alarming fever but was better by the last accounts.

The armies in the Duchies are once more breaking ground. The Danes on the 8th, advanced as if to make a reconnaissance of the whole line of the outposts of the Holsteiners, and a smart partial engagement ensued, which as the Danes retired without accomplishing any object, has been claimed as a victory by the Holsteiners. Their own scouts, however, tell us that the inhabitants of Rendsburg are sorely depressed, and they have reason to be so, having been goaded on by the Germans to rise in arms, merely to serve the ambition of distant states more secure by their position, who, now that the Holsteiners are plunged in all the horrors of war, leave them in the lurch. If Germany really means to fight, why not do so at once, instead of leaving the Duchies to contend against Denmark single handed. Rendsburg has been the seat of a frightful calamity worse than a battle itself. The magazine of gunpowder, situated on the little island, formed by two arms of the Eder, called the laboratory, has blown up, and destroyed more than a hundred lives, filling the whole town with sorrow and mourning. General Willisen declares in a proclamation that the destruction of the gunpowder has not crippled his resources; but, however that may be, the blow to the cause has been severe. The Danes now occupy Husum, Sonningen, and the surrounding country. They are throwing up intrenchments near Friedrichstadt, and the latest accounts intimated they were proceeding to make another reconnaissance in an easterly direction towards Darnstedt, and the Holstein general was anxiously watching their movements. We are now prepared to hear every moment of another serious engagement, and all the vague rumours of diplomatic intervention by England and Russia, have as yet led to no results. Nothing now seems likely to put a stop to the war, except a combined European force, supported by an adequate fleet at sea, and the great powers are slow in carrying out their intentions.

The crisis which has been so long threatening between Prussia and Austria, seems now most imminent. It is positively declared that Prussia has intimated to Austria that if she persists in convoking the Diet, and invites Russia to take a part, she will refuse; and if Austria attempts to force the resolutions of such a body on the States of Germany, that Prussia will resist by force of arms. The reply of Prince Schwartzburg is expected with great anxiety. It is indeed a curious anomaly that Austria should put herself forward as the real champion of free trade, which Prussia opposes, whilst the latter pretends to patronise the democratic principle which Austria repudiates by every means in her power. All the various envoys of France, England, and Belgium, are uniting to demonstrate to Prussia the folly of her anti-free trade proceedings, but without success.

TRADE.—There is not just so much activity in business circles since the date of our last notice. The markets of foreign and colonial produce are still well attended, and the value of most articles has been well supported, indeed the price of Sugar has rather advanced than otherwise, seeing that extensive orders have been received for shipment to the American ports, but is uncertain whether they will be executed either in this country or the continent. The Cotton market has been less buoyant this week, and holders have conceded one eighth of a penny per lb. in most descriptions. The reports of the manufacturing districts are still satisfactory, although less business appears to be done in Manchester. The money market is steady at the late rate of discount.

Freights remain with very little alteration though the tendency is still downwards.

The Season and the Crops.—The latter part of last week was unfavourable to harvest operations, but since Monday we have had a return of splendid weather. Cutting is now

general. All that we have seen and heard confirms us in the opinion which we expressed last week, that the wheat crop will be fair, but not large, and the spring corn very good. The potato disease is spreading in numerous districts of England and Ireland, and seems likely to take a large per centage off the crop. The turnip crop, on the other hand, is most abundant, and, as far as cattle are concerned, will cause the loss of the potato to be much less felt.—*Liverpool Times*.

IRELAND.—The number of English tourists now in this country is far greater than in any previous season.

Mr John O'Connell's property has been sold by the Encumbered Estates Commission at an average rate of 15½ year's purchase.

A small insect of a bright yellow color, and about the size of a cheesemite, is supposed by the Irish farmers to generate the potato disease, as it has been ascertained that wherever it lodges and bites the stalks blacken and shrivel up.

The Potato Crops.—The latest reports from Ireland are altogether more favorable than those of the last ten days, and the impression is daily gaining ground that the disease is nearly confined to outward appearances, and that in four cases out of five it will be found that the blight has not extended beyond the stalk.

The Potato.—The potato crop is as yet quite safe in this district of Tipperary; up to this moment we have not seen a diseased tuber. We have heard rumours and fears expressed; but we have not seen sufficient evidence to warrant us in concluding that the crop will be lost, nor indeed do we think that it will be injured to any serious extent. Our markets continue to be abundantly supplied with prime potatoes, which are selling at 4d. and 5d. per stone.—*Clonmel Chronicle*.

Colonial News.

New Brunswick:

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—About 9 o'clock on Sunday evening, a fire was discovered on board a new ship of about 800 tons, on the stocks in Mr Fisher's building yard, Lower Cove. The fire was first seen by the sentry on duty at the Government Stores, who immediately gave the alarm, but so quickly did the flames spread, that before the Engines could arrive on the spot, the ship was in a complete blaze. An old dismantled brig called the Joseph Hume, lying in the adjoining dock, also took fire, and was nearly destroyed. Owing to the great exertions of the Artillery Engine and our City Volunteer Engine Companies, the fire was prevented from extending any further, although at one time it was feared that the Government Stores and the buildings in the vicinity would fall a prey to the flames, in consequence of the scarcity of water, the tide being nearly low at the time. The ship was nearly finished, and Mr Fisher's loss is therefore very heavy, he having, we regret to say, no insurance on her. The fire is generally thought to have been occasioned by design, as it spread so rapidly after its first discovery, and it is difficult to account for it in any other way.

OPENING OF THE FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—This new and finely proportioned Church, situated in Sydney-street, was opened for Divine Worship on Sunday last. The services were conducted by the Rev Mr Forrester, of Halifax, and the Rev Mr Thomson, Pastor of the Church, who preached very impressive sermons to large and attentive congregations. This edifice, with its tall and graceful spire, is quite an ornament to the section of the city, and together with the new Church at the next corner of the same street, being built by the Rev. Mr Stavely's congregation, and which is in a state of great forwardness, will make a decided change in the appearance of this locality. Situated on elevated ground, their spires will be seen pointing heaven-ward from almost every section of our thriving city.—*St. John New Brunswick*, August 27.

THE FISHERIES.—M. H. Perley, Esq., has been appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council to inspect and report upon the Fisheries of the Bay of Fundy, during the present season. Mr Perley has also been commissioned by His Excellency Sir John Harvey to extend his inspection to the shores of Nova Scotia, within the Bay of Fundy, and has directed all the public officers to assist him in his enquiries. Mr Perley left town last week for Campo Bello and Grand Manan, where he will commence his inspection; whence he will proceed up the Bay, and then down the Nova Scotia shore to Brier Island, &c.—*St. John Observer*.

FREDERICTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY.—We are happy to notice that the affairs of the Fredericton Gas Light Company continue to be managed with zeal, and that their works are being prosecuted with a vigor which is highly creditable to all concerned, but more especially to the President, Directors, and Manager of the Company. The brick building for the reception of the retorts is now being roofed in with a roof formed altogether of iron. The coal house is nearly completed, and other portions of the works about the Company's premises, are in an equal state of forwardness.

Yesterday morning the workmen began to lay down the pipes leading from the Gas Works to the principal streets in the city, and made such progress in digging the trench