

as well as from his high scientific attainments, he found himself during his residence of several years at Paris in no common measure courted, flattered, and caressed. A fine verse, one of the noblest which modern Latinity can boast, describes him as having plucked the lightning from Heaven and the sceptre from tyrants.

Descending from such lofty flights to the regions of sober reality, we may observe that Franklin in his later years, and especially in France, adopted to a great extent the Quaker garb. He laid aside the huge wig which he used to wear in England, and allowed his long white hair to flow down nearly to his shoulders. His clothes were of the plainest cut and of the dunnest color. The Parisians of that period, ever swayed by external impressions, were greatly struck with, and in their writings frequently refer to, his venerable aspect, and they compared him by turns to all the sages of antiquity. It is also probable that his Quaker-like attire may have tended to invest him in their estimation with the other attributes which they assigned to the ideal Quaker character, as simplicity, guilelessness, inviolable truth.

WEDNESDAY'S MAIL.

From English Papers to the 17th July.
FROM EUROPE.

DREADFUL RELIGIOUS AFFRAY IN BELFAST —LOSS OF LIFE.

The Belfast Mercury of Wednesday, has the following account of an alarming and fatal riot which took place at that town, and which appears to partake of a sectarian character:—

The most fatal affray that has occurred in Belfast for a long period, took place yesterday evening, it was still more lamentable than the York street riot, both in character and consequences. The origin of the affray seems almost unknown to any person, but as far as we can learn, it arose altogether out of the circumstances of the previous evening in Cullingtree road. A number of Roman Catholics and Protestants who inhabit that street had quarrelled, but the matter seemed to have been quelled. The girl M'Laughlin, who was wounded in that affray, having been removed to the hospital, a rumour of her death was circulated among the Roman Catholic population of Barrick street and Cullingtree road and round about Old Pound. Whether by preconcert we cannot say, but almost in a mass they turned out, and commenced to wreck the houses of the Protestant inhabitants in Cullingtree road. This having reached the Orangemen of Sandy-row, they assembled at once to defend their friends, and the two parties meeting, a most fearful engagement ensued. Both parties appeared to be prepared for a determined encounter, as a vast number were armed with guns and pistols; these who were not so armed tore down brick-bats from the dead walls, and gathered stones from every quarter. The commencement of the riot was about eight o'clock in the evening, and it began so suddenly that before the constabulary were aware several thousand were fighting in Durham street and up to Mill street. The balls were flying like hail, and the aspect of the people was murderous. It was quite impossible for the constabulary to make head against the determination evinced on both sides, and even could they have succeeded for a little, they would have been immediately overwhelmed by reinforcements that poured into the Roman Catholic party from Mullan's corner. In the meantime, fighting was going on in Carrick hill. The rioters were armed with grapes, pitchforks, spades, shovels and every weapon that hand could be laid on. It was apparently the rioters in that locality that poured upon the police in Durham street. The mayor, Mr Tracey, and other magistrates came on the ground immediately they received notice of the encounter, and proceeded to read the Riot Act, but before this was accomplished, a section of what we are informed, was the aggressive party, began an indiscriminate attack on every house from Durham place to midway down Townsend street, and there is scarcely a habitation that is not more or less injured, and some of them are completely smashed, the windows and sashes broken to atoms, and the frames beaten in. It is with regret we have to mention that a young man named Spence, a mill worker, was shot dead by the rioters; and although it is impracticable to arrive at any conclusion as to the number wounded, in consequence of their being carried off as they fell, yet persons who witnessed the fight for some time estimated those wounded at between thirty and forty, but whether fatally or not is beyond conjecture. After the riot act was read, the military, horse and foot, were called out, yet it was with the greatest difficulty that the rioters were dispersed. From the Soho Foundry to Christ Church the causeway and sidepaths are almost impassible from the bricks and stones used by the rioters.

Anything more definite than what we have mentioned no one can state. The neighbourhood of Durham street is in great excitement, though up to midnight, from ten o'clock, it has been comparatively quiet, the military, under the immediate command of the colonel, remaining under arms; the police, commanded by Capt. Flint, traversing from street to street—and the municipal force, under chief constables, Lindsay and Armstrong, patrolling the outskirts of that quarter of the town. It may be mentioned that head constable Henderson found several guns loaded with balls in Roman Catholic houses, but the names of the occupiers we, for obvious reasons, refrain from publishing. Hanlon's hotel, opposite the Ulster railway station, was attacked, and a number of windows broken.

Two o'clock, A.M.—The military are still under arms, and the other forces are disposed of as before. There appears to be no attempt to renew the riot.

Accounts received from Cork describe the riots there as still being of a serious character.

DUBLIN, Wednesday.—A letter received from Cork by the midday mail informs us that the violence of the mob has been directed with most destructive effect against the Protestant places of worship, and the residences of Protestant electors who voted for Colonel Chatterton. The Scotch church did not escape, great mischief having been done to that edifice. Orders have been issued from the despatch of a regiment from this garrison for the south of Ireland tomorrow morning. One person has been killed and two others badly wounded.

RIOTING IN DUBLIN.

Up to a late hour on Saturday night the streets of Dublin were the scene of disgraceful rioting. A mob of boys and some grown persons, from the purlieus of the city, proceeded through the streets shouting for Reynolds, and attacking the houses of some of the Roman Catholics who were known to have so shamefully deserted their principles as to have voted for the orange candidates, Grogan and Vance. The exultation of the orangemen also helped to exasperate Mr Reynolds's mob so far that they proceeded to attack the windows of St Peter's Church, in Augier Street, some of which they completely demolished. It is well known that great numbers of the freemen, by whom the election was turned in favour of Messrs. Grogan and Vance, had been taken out of the work-houses, and shaved and cleaned in such a way as to make them presentable at the polling booths; and several of them who reside altogether away from Dublin came from a considerable distance, some even from Scotland, for the purpose of voting. All this has naturally aroused a good deal of indignation among the liberal party. It may be observed that there has been no other rioting of the slightest moment since the commencement of the elections.

SERIOUS RIOTS AT LIMERICK.

The following letter appears in Dublin Saunders' of Tuesday morning:—the occurrences of this day will never be forgotten. Anything to equal the awful results are not upon record, and as time presses, I will merely mention that the 3rd Dragoons and Infantry were pelted with stones, and severely injured by the female portion of the mob, which amounted to at least 20,000 persons favourable to the Roman Catholic candidates, Sergeant O'Brien and Mr Potter. Five of the dragoons were unhorsed, and two officers wounded in the face by missiles thrown at them. There are thirteen persons under treatment at Barrington Hospital, consequent upon the conflict. The court was opened at half past ten o'clock, when the candidates and their friends were admitted to the galleries.

To depict the scene would at this moment be impossible. Benches, bars and seats were torn up by the mob in the Liberal interest, and hurled with tremendous violence at Mr Russell and his friends, several of whom were cut and wounded. A man was flung from the gallery, and piked on the rails beneath. Not one word could be heard from either proposers or seconders, and the candidates at either side were not allowed to speak a word. This evening the windows of every Roman Catholic in Limerick who had promised to support Mr Russell were shattered to atoms by the mob, and the military and police are in requisition in all quarters.

The Limerick Reporter, of Tuesday contains the following under the heading—“The city in a state of siege:—Artillery with lighted matches make an exciting display as they go through the streets with their guns of heavy metal. Dragoons parade the streets with drawn swords and carbines loaded. The approaches to the city in every quarter are occupied by strong detachments of military and police.”

Saunders' News Letter, of Wednesday contains the following—“Limerick, Tues-

day night.—The excitement throughout the country continues unabated. After my despatch last evening the mob traversed all quarters in search of such of the Roman Catholic electors as were pledged to support Mr Russell, and used such intimidation as to cause many to give way thro' terror, rather than sacrifice not only their property but the lives of themselves and families. Lieutenant Knatchbull, 3d dragoon guards, was one of the officers badly wounded in the conflict yesterday. Mr Barron, stipendiary magistrate was also struck, and Mr Thompson Russell, brother of the candidate, was knocked down and maltreated. The mob gutted the residences of several respectable freeholders. This day they visited the liberties, to intimidate the voters, but were repulsed by the military. Two field pieces of artillery were called into requisition, in addition to the force, and the magistrates held a meeting. At the hour I write—nine o'clock—tranquility prevails, and Mr Russell's friends are yet sanguine of his return, arrangements having been made to protect the voters from violence during the poll, which commences at eight o'clock in the morning.”

FRANCE.

The excessive heat which has prevailed throughout France, and indeed the whole of Europe, during the week has paralysed all political action. In Paris the centigrade scale has ranged about 33 deg., equal to 91 of Fahrenheit; but this excessive heat has given an impulse to the backward vegetation throughout the country, and if no destructive storm of rain supervene, the quantity of grain, hay, and all kinds of agricultural produce, promises to be very abundant. We have heard nothing further of the ‘Gas Pipe plot.’ As the laws of France authorise the detention in prison of any person suspected of, and charged with, crime against the state, there are at this moment lingering in dungeons whose fate will be for ever unknown to their dearest relatives. But these deplorable facts are lost sight of in the general whirl of pleasure in which the coterie of the court exist; and political indifference has succeeded in Paris to the phrenzy of revolution. The President will leave Paris this day for Nancy, where he will sleep, and the following day he will proceed to Strasburg, the theatre of one of his early exploits. He will then proceed to Alsace, making the tour of the eastern Provinces. He was to be accompanied by three Ministers; but as no speeches and no public banquets are to be given, his journey will be devoid of political interest. M. A. Fould was specially invited to form part of his ministerial retinue, but the hon. gentleman excused himself under pretext of having made arrangements for another journey; a second invitation is said to have been sent to him, but this was evaded by his immediate departure from Paris.

MORE FIGHTING IN INDIA.

The news from Cabul is important. Herat has for some time been in dispute between the son of Yar Mahomed, backed by the Persians, and the Kandaharee Sirdars, backed by Dost Mahomed. Ten thousand Persian troops were on their way to assist Yar Mahomed's son, and Dost Mahomed had despatched his own son, Gholam Hyder, with a large body of troops, to the assistance of the Kandaharee faction. The factions, however, joined battle without waiting for their respective allies. The Herattee army, under Yar Mahomed's son, numbered twelve or thirteen thousand, the Kandaharee force rather less. After eight hours' fighting the latter were defeated, with a loss of two thousand men, and obliged to retreat to Kandaharee. On learning the result, both the Persian and Afghan forces halted for further orders. It may be hoped, therefore, that a collision between them will be avoided.

Sir Colin Campbell is carrying on a little campaign in the valley of the Swat river (the principal northern affluent of that of Cabul) with about four thousand men and ten guns. The forces have had some hand-to-hand fighting, in which both officers and men have behaved with distinguished gallantry. On the 13th the hill fort of Pranghur, on the threshold of the valley, was stormed. On the 17th the enemy came down in force into the Ranezad valley to attack us. On the 18th Sir Colin Campbell moved forward to attack them. They stood their ground well for some time, but at length gave way and fled, leaving 130 dead bodies on the field. Sir C. Campbell intended to march into Swat on the 23d May. His force was not expected to return to camp for some time.

Calcutta, with the south and east of Bengal was visited on the 14th and 15th of May by a violent hurricane, which has done immense damage to household property.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 1852.

RECIPROCITY.

Last week we copied from an American paper, the substance of the Bill which the Committee on Commerce intended to bring before Congress, for establishing a reciprocal trade with the North American Colonies. It appears by later papers, that they have made some alteration in this Bill, as it is to embrace “all articles being the produce of the sea, the field and the forest,” and that it is to take effect whenever the British Government shall assent to the following measures, viz:

1. To grant the United States the free navigation of the River Saint Lawrence.
2. To grant also to the United States the free navigation of the River Saint John.
3. To exempt from duty the American lumber shipped by the St. John.
4. To open to the inhabitants of the United States, in common with those of the Provinces and of the British people, the right of taking and curing fish of every kind to the same extent to which the inhabitants of the United States enjoyed such right under the articles of the treaty of 1783.

Our neighbors have been proverbial for driving a hard bargain, and if they make any concessions, it is for the purpose of securing to themselves fourfold advantages.

In the former schedule of articles to be admitted duty free, *Fish* was omitted; now it is included; but we hear nothing of Colonial built vessels being admitted for sale into the ports of the Union, while American built ships, if purchased by Colonists, can obtain registers. Why is this privilege withheld from us? Surely if the American people are desirous of reciprocating freely with us, and also claim an equivalent beside, in the free navigation of the Rivers St. Lawrence and St. John, the exemption from the Provincial duty of all their lumber shipped from St. John, and equal privileges with British subjects in fishing in our bays, harbors, &c., and the curing of their fish on our shores, they should not hesitate to admit every article, of the field, sea, or forest, manufactured, or otherwise, which we can send them in exchange. Should they even do this, they know full well they will have the best of the bargain.

We are not aware what progress is being made in any negotiations that may be going on between the Governments, but one thing is certain, if such important concessions as those enumerated above are to be made, the Colonists will not be satisfied without they obtain free access in ports of the Union, duty free, of all articles which they can produce in the Colonies, whether they be manufactured or otherwise, and an equal right in the coasting trade.

The St. John Morning Times in commenting on this subject says:

“The Treaty of 1783 permitted the Americans to take fish on the Grand Bank and all other Banks of Newfoundland, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and all other places in the sea where the inhabitants of both countries had been used to fish before, and the liberty to fish on such parts of the coast of Newfoundland as British fishermen used, but not to dry or cure fish there, and on the coast, bays, or creeks of all other British dominions in America.” The Americans also obtained liberty to dry and cure fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbours, and creeks of Nova Scotia, Magdalen Islands and Labrador, but if any of them was settled this liberty was to cease, unless continued by agreement with the inhabitants.

Our American exchanges seem to have no doubt but this bill will pass, and they have hopes of thus settling the difficulty if Lord Derby's Ministry is defeated. But whether they pass the bill or not, we do not believe the Colonies will accept such unequal terms.

Our neighbours do not apparently wish to give us fair play, but even this much could hardly have been anticipated a few months since, for although there are many interests in both places, to a certain extent, dependent on position, which will be materially assisted by reciprocity. Trammelled as we have been, and neglected and overlooked by a Whig Home Government, we had but an indifferent chance of obtaining terms from Americans which would open a road to Colonial prosperity. When questions like these are beginning to be agitated, however unpromising matters may appear at first, they generally improve as they progress, and we have no idea that we will be sacrificed, and consider things are beginning to wear a different aspect. The darkness that enshrouds us is melting into day, and with a Home Government that will do us justice, or allow us to do it ourselves, we need not fear the result.

This change in the tone of our neighbours