

News of the Week.

EUROPE.

Arrival of the Steamship Atlantic at N. Y.

New York, Dec. 9.

The Collins steamship Atlantic, Capt. West, arrived off the light ship at 9 o'clock this morning, and reached her Dock about noon. She brings dates to the 25th ult, four hours later than the Arabia's advices. The Cunard steamship Asia arrived at Liverpool at 6 P. M., 22d ult., from New York. Her advices had no perceptible effect upon the Liverpool markets, which continued down to the sailing of the Atlantic, extremely quiet. The Atlantic has experienced very strong head winds on the passage.—Dec. 5th, Cape Race N. N. E. 20 miles, saw a large Island of ice.

Liverpool Broadstuffs Market.—The various Liverpool circulars quote the market generally as very quiet, without any material change in prices. Richardson, Spence & Co. quote red wheat 8s to 9s; flour, Western canal not quoted; Baltimore and Philadelphia 32s to 33s 6d; Ohio 34s to 35s 6d; Corn, mixed 33s to 33s 6d white 34 to 35. The market generally closed dull. Bullion continues to increase in the Bank of England, and Money market is easier.—Consols 94 7-8.

Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, the Baptist preacher, was again preaching at the Surrey Gardens; his congregation about 15,000.

The murderer of Mr. Little, of Dublin, the railway cashier, has not yet been discovered.

SPAIN.—Narvaez, who had been seriously indisposed, had recovered sufficiently to meet the Cabinet at his own house.

Malaga was quiet. Twenty of the rioters were killed or taken prisoners. The troops had twelve hours' combat. The disturbance took place on the night of November 12.

NAPLES.—The Neapolitan question is without change. It is stated that Sir Hamilton Seymour, the British Consul, has advised the British Government, with nothing in the matter that would encourage revolutionary purposes or movements.

Intelligence from Naples represented the King as entering upon a course of clemency, and it was expected that an amnesty will follow those special acts of grace that have already been granted. But it is added that the amnesty will only be granted to those who will leave the King in obedience, or will allow themselves to be put under the supervision of the police. Some little administrative reforms are likewise expected in Naples.

TUNIS.—It is again asserted that the differences between the Porte and Montenegro have been settled through the mediation of Austria.

A telegraphic dispatch from Marseilles, dated Nov. 21, announces that a fire had occurred at Pera, by which 600 frame houses had been destroyed. The houses were sheltered by the authorities, aided by the Sisters of Charity.—Another fire had occurred at Adrianople. The dispatch adds:

"The fire at Rhodes was caused by lightning, which struck the immense powder magazine placed in vaults of the ancient fortifications constructed by the Knights of St. John. The Turkish quarter of the city was destroyed, and only three children were saved."

GREECE.—Advices from Athens are to the 14th of Nov. The elections had resulted in favor of the Ministry. The allied troops were to leave Greece on the return of King Otho.

Arrival of the Anglo-Saxon at Portland.

Portland, December 10.

The steam propeller Anglo-Saxon from Liverpool, arrived at this port at half-past 9 o'clock this morning. She was detained by a dense fog in the Mersey, and did not leave until the 27th.

ENGLAND.—In the London Stock Exchange on Wednesday evening, Nov. 26, the English Funds opened rather heavily. Some large purchases of stock were made, and the market gradually rose 1-4 per cent, but closed with rather a weak tone for Foreign Funds.

Consols were quoted at the same as per Atlantic.

The London Globe understands that Major-General Wyndham has relinquished his appointment to the Bengal army, and that Major-General Sir H. Barnard, now commanding at Shorncliffe, will proceed to India in his place.

THE BALTIC.—Riga, Nov. 20.—Navigation is completely closed. Upwards of 200 vessels are frozen in, but steps will soon be taken to cut them out.

INDIA AND CHINA.—Trieste, Nov. 26.—The steamship America arrived here this morning, in 122 hours from Alexandria.

Final arrangements were in the course of execution for the embarkation of the expeditionary corps to the Persian Gulf. The fleet was expected to sail November 10th.

The cash balances in the Government treasuries of India are stated by the Gazette to have amounted to £13,000,000, an inexplicable large sum.

At Bombay the money market was rather more tight, and the Banks had raised their rates of Discount to 1 per cent. The Government and other securities were lower than before.

Freights continued high. The import market was steady.

A good harvest was reported from the interior.

At Calcutta the import market had impro-

ved. Money was plentiful. Freights to Europe firm.

At Madras there was no change in imports. Money was very abundant.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, the eminent novelist, has been elected Lord Rector of Glasgow University. The baronet succeeds the Duke of Argyle, the present Postmaster General. He was opposed by Lord Stanley, eldest son of the Earl of Derby, but elected by a considerable majority.

NOVA SCOTIA.

We observe that at a late dinner at Quebec, Mr Harding, M. P. P. from New Brunswick, made a speech on what seemed to be the general feeling of the party that the time had arrived when it was essential for the prosperity of the B. N. A. Colonies, that the iron bands of a great Inter-colonial Railroad should bind them together. It is natural that as the representative of New Brunswick, Mr Harding should make the most of her claims for an Atlantic terminus. Accordingly he held up to the convivial party, St. John, as the right "Key to the Atlantic Ocean—equally in summer as in winter." Not a word about the dangerous Bay of Fundy—bad enough in summer, but frightful in winter. Not a word about the Sister City of Halifax, with its splendid harbour easy of access at all seasons, and frequented by Atlantic steamers and vessels of every size—and with its Railroads in course of completion East and West, and projected to the Northern line. It is a pity no Nova Scotian had been at his elbow to refresh his memory on these points.

The missing Steamer.—The Merlin from St. John's Nfld, reached our harbor on the evening of Wednesday last, rather to the surprise of many persons, for fears that she would never be seen here again were becoming prevalent.—The Merlin left St. John's on the 28th ult., having thus accomplished the voyage in 12 days. It had not been the Master's intention to touch at Sydney; but in consequence of being blown so far out of his course by the violent gales encountered, he was under the necessity of running for that place or the nearest port where supplies of coal and provisions could be procured. On arriving there, the steamer was nearly if not quite, destitute of both. She reached Sydney on Monday last; but, owing to the Telegraph lines being down, her arrival there was not known in this city until she brought the news of it herself. The Merlin had, in all, 75 passengers on board during this long and boisterous voyage. The Merlin sailed again on Thursday evening, on her return trip to St. John's.

We understand that her passengers on the recent long voyage, are making a demand upon the proprietors of the boat for repayment of their passage money, on the ground that the trip was made unnecessarily long and that they suffered great hardship in consequence of the vessel being insufficiently supplied with coals and provisions.—*Halifax Recorder.*

Our shipping list shows the arrival of 242 German emigrants short of provisions, having been 80 days out from Bremen. Poor people, they must be glad to set their feet on terra firma.—We hope the general question of Immigration, and its encouragement in connexion with our Crown Lands will be taken up by our Legislature at its next Session. Some able articles on the subject have lately appeared in the pages of our contemporaries, the substance of which would have a more opportune influence if repeated during the Session.

Bermuda papers brought by the Delta report the Fever as nearly abated.

The Bermudian says—In case Sir Houston Stewart should not accept the appointment, it is stated that Rear Admiral the Hon. F. Grey, would be our new Naval Commander-in-Chief. The new Collins steamship Adriatic will make her trial trip within a few days.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company has declared a dividend of fifteen per cent.—*Halifax Journal.*

The New Flag Ship.—Indus, 78, fitting at Devonport for the flag of Rear-Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, K. C. B., Commander-in-Chief on the N. A. and W. I. Station, was built at Portsmouth in 1839, is 2095 tons, and has a compliment of 521 officers and men, 53 boys, and 125 marines. She was last in commission about ten years since in the Mediterranean. Extra workmen are engaged, from ships building, to fit her for sea with all possible despatch. Indus is a sailing ship, without the screw.—*Nova Scotian.*

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Our readers will recollect that a bill to legalize synodical meetings of the clergy and laity of the Church of England in Canada, passed both branches of the Legislature of that Province at its last session, but was specially received by the Governor General for her Majesty's consideration. The friends of the measure were highly indignant that his Excellency should have pursued this course in the bill was brought forward, they argued, at the suggestion of the Imperial authorities, and it was therefore an unnecessary exercise of power. It appears now that the Governor General was right. The Queen has withheld her sanction to the bill, and it is consequently a dead letter. We may add however, for the consolation of our synodical friends, that a bill on the subject, to apply to all the colonies, is under the consideration of her Majesty's Government, and is to be introduced into the next session of Parliament.—*Church Witness.*

UNITED STATES.

Apprehended Slave Insurrection.—Some excitement has existed in Charles County, Maryland, caused by rumours of an intended insurrection of the slaves. Two negroes have been arrested. Two white men, suspected of having been engaged in the plot, have absconded.

NASHVILLE, TENN., Dec. 10.—**Slave Insurrectionary rumours.**—There have been rumours current here of an expected insurrection among the slaves, but all is quiet now. There has been no outbreak, and there is no anxiety on the subject.

Synopsis of the President's Message.—The Treasury.—Alluding to the last fiscal year, he states that the receipts from customs were, for the first time, more than \$64,000,000 and from all sources, \$73,918,141; which, with the balance on hand up to the 1st of July, 1855, made the total resources of the year amount to \$92,850,117.

The expenditures, including £3,000,000 in execution of the treaty with Mexico, including sums paid on account of the public debt, amounted to \$69,172,401, and including the latter, to \$72,948,792; the payment on this amount having amounted to \$12,776,390.

The Revenue Laws.—The revision of these laws is earnestly recommended.

The Army.—The army during the past year has been so constantly employed against hostile Indians in various quarters, that it can scarcely be said with propriety of language, to have been a peace establishment.

The Troops.—A more rapid increase of the military armament is suggested.

The Navy.—The condition of the navy is not merely satisfactory, but exhibits the most gratifying evidences of increased vigour.

The Public Debt.—On the 4th of March, 1855, the account of the public debt was \$69,129,937. There was a subsequent increase of \$2,756,000 for the debt of Texas—making a total of \$71,879,937. Of this sum \$45,525,319 including premium, has been discharged, reducing the debt to \$30,737,121; all of which might be paid within a year, without embarrassing the public service.

The Public Expenditure.—On examining the expenditures of the last five years, it will be seen that the average, deducting payments on account of the public debt and \$10,000,000 paid by treaty to Mexico, has been about \$48,000,000.

The Public Lands.—The aggregate sales of the public lands, during the last fiscal year, amount to 9,227,873 acres, for which has been received the sum of \$8,821,414.

The Post Office.—The report of the Postmaster-General presents fully the condition of that department of the Government. Its expenditures for the last fiscal year were \$10,497,868, and its gross receipts \$7,620,801—making an excess of expenditure over receipts of \$2,787,046. The deficiency of this department is thus \$744,000 greater than for the year ending June 30, 1853.

The Apprenticeship System.—The apprentice system recently adopted is evidence destined to incorporate into the service a large number of our countrymen, hitherto so difficult to procure. Several hundred American boys are now on a three years' cruise in our national vessels and will return well trained seamen.

The New Frigates.—The new frigates ordered by Congress are now afloat, and two of them in active service. They are superior models of naval architecture, and with their formidable battery, add largely to public strength and security.

Our Naval Force.—An increase is demanded.

On Privateering.—The President has expressed a readiness on the part of the Government, to accede to all the principles contained in the declaration of the Conference of Paris, provided that relating to the abandonment of privateering can be so amended as to effect the object for which, as is presumed, it was intended, the immunity of private property on the ocean from hostile capture.

Great Britain.—When the last Message was transmitted to Congress, two subjects of controversy, one relating to the enlistment of soldiers in the country for foreign service, and the other to Central America, threatened to disturb the good understanding between the United States and Great Britain. Of the progress and termination of the former question the members of Congress were informed at the time; and the other is now in the way of satisfactory adjustment.

The British North American Provinces.—The exports of domestic articles to these Provinces during the last year amounted to more than \$22,000,000, exceeding those of the preceding year by nearly \$7,000,000; and the imports therefrom, during the same period, amounted to more than \$21,000,000—an increase of \$6,000,000 upon those of the previous year.

Mexico.—An effort will be made to secure the adjustment of the wrongs done to our citizens.

Nicaragua.—As regards the question of recognizing the government of Walker, the President refuses to commit himself for the present. He avers that the political affairs of Nicaragua have undergone an unfavorable change since the early part of the year, when this Government held diplomatic relations with that State by accrediting its minister, Padre Vivil; (who, it will be remembered, was the representative of the native government under Rivas, rather than of the present one, which is revolutionary) and are now involved in such un-

certainty and confusion that it is impossible to decide which is the government de facto. So he proposes to await further developments; presumes that nothing will be lost by a little wise delay.

New Granada.—In reference to the Central American question, the Message informs us that a treaty has been negotiated, through our minister, with the Court of St. James, in the spirit of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and on a basis of mutual rights and interests—more especially in regard to the common use of any transit way or inter-oceanic communication across the Isthmus of Panama—which is to be immediately submitted to the Senate, for its consideration.

But the Message seems to imply, when it speaks of 'this arrangement being concurred in by all the parties to be affected by it,' that the assent of the new government there will be conditional to its adoption. Mr Walker, therefore will have to be consulted before the matter is finally disposed of. Negotiations have been opened by means of a special commission, to obtain from New Granada, full indemnity for injuries sustained by our citizens on the Isthmus, and satisfactory security for the general interests of the United States.

SOUTHERN MAIL.

This mail did not reach Chatham until five o'clock last evening. The delay was beyond the Bend. We copy a few items of news from the papers received.

Heavy Defalcations.—**Disappearance of the Defaulters.**—New York, Dec. 11.—The first teller of the Bank of America mysteriously disappeared about a week since. An examination of his accounts has brought to light the fact that he is a heavy defaulter to the Bank. His sureties came forward to-day, and paid over to the Bank the amount for which they were bound.

A Wall street operator absconded in the Persia, after defrauding certain parties out of cash and securities to the amount of \$20,000.

Insurrection among Slaves in Tennessee.—Cincinnati, Dec. 9, 1855.—The Louisville Journal correspondence of to-day says there is great excitement at Franklin, Tennessee, owing to the projected insurrection among the slaves there.

Twenty-four muskets and two kegs of powder had been found in the possession of a gang of negroes at Columbia, Tenn. In Perry, Tenn, fifteen negroes had been killed by their owners.

The Evansville Journal, of the 6th inst., learns that there was much excitement in the neighbourhood of Dover, on the Cumberland river, among the negroes. Many of the ring-leaders had been arrested, and eleven hung. One white man, disguised as a negro, had been sentenced to nine hundred lashes, but he died before the penalty was fully inflicted. The whites were arming and organizing for defence. An opinion prevailed that a general uprising would take place among the negroes during the holidays. Escapes of slaves were unusually numerous.

New York, Dec. 10.—Steamer Lyonnais.—A letter received from Capt. Peabody, of ship Neptune, hence at Liverpool, states that on his passage he picked up a steamer's boat, well filled with provisions, hams, meats, brandy, wines, two chronometers, \$500 in silver, and a spyglass, on which was engraved the name of the steamer Lyonnais.

Destruction of Christ Church Cathedral Montreal.—About midnight of Wednesday last, a fire broke out in Christ Church (English) Cathedral, which gained such headway that assistance could be rendered that it was totally consumed. It was some time before the firemen mustered in sufficient force, and there was a deficient supply of water; consequently the flames gained rapidly, and the edifice was burned to the ground. The Montreal Gazette says:—

At about 2 o'clock the steeple fell over Mr. Mussen's house, breaking in the roof, and setting fire to the upper story. Every one had already abandoned the upper story. The lead with which the spire had been covered melted and ran down in streams, threatening injury to the firemen beneath, but fortunately all escaped without accident. The church was insured, we understand, for £15,000 or £16,000 with the Royal and Hartford offices. Mr Mussen's loss, consisting of damage to the roof and upper story of his premises by fire, and to his goods by water, is also fully covered. The church can readily enough be replaced by a finer structure, on a better site; but the loss of the organ, the finest, perhaps, upon the continent, cannot easily be replaced. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Great exertions were made in removing every thing of value. The library was principally saved, as well as the grand Painting of a copy of Leonardo Da Vinci's Last Supper, over the altar. Loss £30,000, of which £17,000 is insured.

Shortly after two o'clock the Spire of the Cathedral toppled over and fell, the wind was just sufficient to give it an inclination to the eastward, and the summit fell on the roof of Mr Mussen's large buildings. It appeared to crash through the roof, and must have done considerable damage within. We believe however, that the building will be saved, as there is now a copious supply of water.