

These partook as customary of the feast, and toasted the memory of their departed companions. Last year, however, there were but two, who solely shared the luxurious but melancholy banquet. The two knew each other but little, and met yearly at this table. Their positions were very different. One was very rich, while misfortune had reduced the other to destitution. The rich and the poor man sat coldly opposite to each other, until, warmed by the wines, they had forgotten their different circumstances. On the 1st of June this year the feast again returned, but the rich man was dead, and the poor and only survivor seated himself at the table laden with silver, with its 21 covers and its delicious viands. There he sat, the victim of poverty, subject to all privations, pervaded by a feeling of sadness and desolation, to a magnificent banquet of 2000fr. Pressed by his wants, he made bold to request that the sum which was supplied to this yearly feast for himself might be appropriated to his daily sustenance. The lawyer showed him the positive clause of the will, which he was compelled to see executed to the letter. The poor man retired in sadness, thinking how many days he would be obliged to go without a dinner, while once a year he was compelled to be surfeited with a feast prepared for 21 persons and valued at 2000fr!

ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE WELSH LANGUAGE.—Her Majesty has named the Prince of Wales to be patron of the next Eisteddfod, at Abergavenny, in autumn next year, and given a prize of 25 guineas for the best essay on the history of the language and literature of Wales, from the time of Gruffydd ap Cynan (and Merlin) to that of Sir Gruffydd (and Gwilym Dhu), accompanied with specimens both in the original, and in a close (English or Latin) translation of the poems most characteristic of that period.

The tunnel through the great mountain on which stands the town of Wieselburgh, in the Duchy of Nassau, formed for improving the bed of the Lahn, has just been terminated after five years' continuous labour. The waters of the Lahn were to be let into the tunnel on the 12th, and 2,000 gas-lamps were to be lighted, and kept burning. The formal inauguration of the gigantic work is to take place on Oct. 15.

A terrible calamity providentially prevented.—As the magnificent steamer *Hibernia*, No. 2, was on her last downward trip, fire was discovered in her hold, and upon raising the hatches, the flames burst out and ascended nearly to the hurricane deck, threatening almost certain destruction. There were *three hundred passengers on board*, men, women, and children, and the alarm is said to have been terrible. The captain, a cool, energetic man, set all hands to work to save the boat, and the lives of the passengers, and by scuttling, &c., the fire was extinguished.

The fire is said to have originated from the explosion of some chemicals that were in the hold. To the horror of all on board, it was discovered that some half-burned casks, marked coffee, contained *kegs of gun powder*, surrounded by coffee, and the *staves of one powder keg were actually charred!* It seems almost a miracle that the boat was not blown to atoms, and 300 souls ushered into eternity. One shudders at the very thought of such imminent peril.—*Cincinnati paper.*

From the Saint John Courier, November 13.

LATER FROM ENGLAND!—We are indebted to Mr. Thomas Hanford for a Boston Courier of Wednesday last, received by the Schooner *Joseph Howe*, containing a Telegraphic despatch of the news by the American steam ship *Washington*, which arrived at New York on Tuesday last.—She left Southampton on the afternoon of the 24th October, and had heavy westerly gales for nine days.

There were continued failures at Liverpool, and no general amelioration in the community. The Bank of England was affording some relief. Flour was steady, and in demand; inferior descriptions dull. Cotton had fallen a half-penny within a week. Corn was down one to two shillings.

There was great distress in the manufacturing districts. In Lancashire there were 50,000 men, with their families, unemployed. In Manchester there were 22,000 on short time, or unemployed. Outbreaks were expected, and Government was collecting a large military force to overawe any insurrection. At a large sale of colonial produce at Liverpool, only two bids were made.

Wilmer & Smith's European Times says, that all clamour about the potato disease had subsided for the present.

The accounts from Ireland are very gloomy.

There were apprehensions of great distress this winter in the Highlands.

A deputation of the London Bankers had had an interview with Lord John Russell on the 23d of last month. A deputation from Liverpool had also had an interview with him. The impression prevailed that Government would not interfere. Sir Robert Peel had had a conference with the Ministers, and then went to Windsor. During the week ending on the 24th, there was an unabated pressure in the Money Market in Liverpool, and at Manchester it was more severe than before. One Bank at Manchester, and another at Newcastle had failed. The Bank had given relief to Mr. Little-dale, of Liverpool, who is connected with the Royal Bank, which

sgave rise to a better feeling in the public mind. The failures noted are Berry, Young & Co., Livingston & Co., Perkins, Schussens & Mullens, and Barton, Irlam & Higginson. The liabilities of the latter firm amount to a million pounds, and are calculated to do much mischief. Napoleon Bertrand, Brook & Wilson, Grarebrook & Son, W. Jones & Co., James Logan, Molyneux & Hurlburt, Scholes, Tetlow & Co., Verriën & Gielis, Warden & Co., have also failed. The Bank returns give an increase of bullion of £22,000.

The London papers are full of the monetary crisis. Consuls have touched 78, and closed at 79 3-4. The Observer thinks that the pressure is a little relieved. There were rumors of changes of the Ministry in England. Outrages upon life and property in Ireland were of daily occurrence.

The Bishop of London had had a stroke of paralysis.

A Bridge over the Danube gave way when the Arch Duke Stephen of Hungary was passing, and 80 persons were missing.

The account of a reconciliation between the King and Queen of Spain is confirmed.

Two Black Plenipotentiaries from Hayti had presented letters to the French Government.

In Switzerland war appears imminent, and a dissolution of the Sonderbund was determined on, by force, if necessary.

It is stated that the three Northern Powers would interfere. Accounts from Naples lead to the inference that the insurrection had been crushed. Italian affairs were still unsettled. In Greece the Insurgents maintained themselves in strong positions. The Cholera was advancing North and East.

The evacuation of Ferrara had been indefinitely postponed.

OVERLAND MAIL.—Another conspiracy had been discovered at Lahore. Canton was quiet.

The discouraging intelligence from England by the 19th of Oct. Mail, is likely to have a serious effect upon the trade of this Province. A number of persons now employed in Ship-yards, at Saw-mills, and in other departments of the Wood trade of the country, will in all probability, be thrown out of employment. This added to the great influx of pauper emigrants this season from Ireland—particularly the last cargo by the ship *Æolus*, which has been landed upon the payment of £250—betokens a hard winter for our over-burthened citizens. The Common Council have taken up the matter of the distressed emigrants, and passed some resolutions, which we subjoin.

At a Common Council holden at the City Hall of the City of Saint John, on Wednesday the 10th day of November, A. D. 1847—

Read a communication from Dr. William Harding, Health Officer of the Quarantine Station, relative to the Passengers by the Ship *Æolus*, from Ireland, as follows—

"Saint John, 4th November, 1847.

"TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR,

"SIR—Having been called upon by your Worship for a Report to represent the alleged peculiarities of the Passengers of the "*Æolus*," I beg to state that I consider any verbal description would but very inadequately convey the true features of the case; but these peculiarities are strikingly apparent by inspection, which will at once inform the beholder that ninety nine of every hundred must be supported by the charity of this community, or otherwise, as justice demands.

"As reasons for this conclusion, I can only make the assertion as above,—they must be seen to be fully understood. Among these reasons, however, I will enumerate one or two: There are many superannuated people, and others, of broken-down constitution, and subjects of chronic disease, lame, widows with very large helpless families, feeble men (through chronic disease, &c.) with large helpless families; in fact, all those causes which rendered them paupers upon the hands of their landlords, are now in existence, with added force, from recent disease, &c., to fasten them upon us. And that nearly four hundred, so glaringly paupers, are thus sent out; who so tame as would not feel indignant at the outrage?

"I am your most obedient servant,

"W. S. HARDING, Health Officer."

And thereupon the following Resolutions, submitted by His Worship the Mayor, are unanimously passed:—

Resolved, That this Board are wholly unable to suggest measures by which this already grievously overburthened community can shelter and support such an unheard of mass of misery thus heartlessly thrown upon our shores, at this inclement season of the year.

Resolved, That as all the Public Buildings erected for Alms House purposes are already filled to overflowing with Irish Pauper Emigrants, and no other houses being available for their accommodation, either in this City or the adjoining Parish, this Board cannot but apprehend the most fearful consequences from the want and exposure to which these distressed people will necessarily become subject; and no other remedy, in the opinion of the Common Council, can be had to arrest the evil, except by inducing a large portion of those lately arrived in the *Æolus*, and others, begging from door to door, to return to their native country.