

## ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMSHIP BRITANNIA.

The Royal Mail Steamship Britannia, with the second November Mail, arrived at Halifax from Liverpool on the 6th instant, at 11 o'clock, P. M., after a rough passage of 17 days.—Among the passengers were Sir Donald Campbell, the new Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward's Island, and Hon. Joseph Pope, the Speaker of the P. E. Island Assembly.

*From Wilmer & Smith's European Times.*

It is satisfactory to state that the interval which has passed since the departure of the Steam Ship Acadia, has been one of far less excitement than we have had to describe for some time. Numerous failures of mercantile houses and a heavy list of Bankrupts both in England and Scotland, will attest the deep seated mischief which has crept into our commercial system; but, upon the whole, a very marked improvement in public feeling has prevailed. The great discount houses in London have reduced the rate of interest allowed on money at call by one per cent., and money for commercial purposes can now be procured at "a price;" but whilst the minimum rate at the Bank is still kept up at eight per cent., it would be delusive to say that our difficulties are removed. Large importations of bullion are pouring in from all quarters of Europe, the result of our high exchange, and of the vast number of unpaid acceptances which have been returned to the drawers. The accounts of the Bank of England improve accordingly, and indicate that the reserve of notes and the bullion are on the increase. The improvement is slow, and we earnestly trust that we may have no relapse. At the same time it would be wrong to conceal, that in the highest quarters, especially in the banking circles of London, and among the consigners of goods in Manchester, that the next and succeeding accounts from India are looked for with a deep and secret anxiety. The effect, also, of the overthrow of many long established West India houses in London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, must inevitably spread extensive ruin in our transatlantic colonies; and until we are enabled to appreciate the full extent of the mischief, which must in a greater or less degree reach every quarter of the globe with which we have commercial relations, a certain degree of apprehension must prevail, which will tend to check large transactions in trade. The immense imports of produce which are still pouring in, are also the cause of much anxiety, inasmuch as a fearful re-action is anticipated; and if our requirements of grain should be again, this season, to any extent, the exchanges must inevitably turn against us, and withdraw the bullion which is now steadily returning to the coffers of the Bank. Another feature of a most unfavourable character for the future prospects is, that whilst the returns of the Board of Trade continue to exhibit an enormous increase of consumption of all the chief articles which contribute to the necessities of life, or luxuries of the people, a very considerable diminution continues to prevail in all those imports upon which the success of our future manufacturing industry depends. These considerations must weigh with every reflecting merchant, and will doubtless form the grounds for serious deliberation in the new Parliament about to meet.

Parliament met on the 18th ult. C. S. Lefevre, Esquire, was chosen Speaker. The Speech from the Throne was to be delivered by Commission, on the 23d ult.

Since the 4th of the month the state of commercial and monetary affairs has so improved, that confidence is, in some degree, restored, and the general aspect of trade is more encouraging than it has been for some time past. Sugar is almost the only article of our imports which continues in demand. The market is still active, with rather better prices, but yet so low as to leave a considerable loss to importers. Parliament having been assembled, the mercantile world anticipate some further relief, especially with regard to the reduction of interest on money. It is in this hope that the labouring classes continue to bear their extreme privations with patient endurance, in the highest degree praiseworthy. It is generally believed that the commercial condition of the country will be made the subject of an immediate investigation by Parliament, before a select committee; and in our next, we trust, we shall be able to report increased confidence, and a happy issue out of the present difficulties.

In our papers of to-day, a notice appears from the British and North American Royal Mail Steam Ship Company, relative to the future departure of their vessels to and from the United States. On and after Saturday, the 4th December, their ships will sail on the following dates:—

Departures from England.		Departures from America.	
December	4 Boston.		
"	18 Boston.		
January	1 New York.	January	1 New York.
"	15 Boston.	"	15 Boston.
"	29 New York.	"	29 New York.
February	12 Boston.	February	12 Boston.
"	26 New York.	"	26 New York.
March	11 Boston.	March	11 Boston.
"	25 New York.	"	25 New York.

After which the departure becomes weekly from England to America, and from America to England. For the execution of this gigantic contract, this enterprising Company have nearly completed four new

ships of greater tonnage and steam power than their present celebrated Steamers, which will make a fleet of nine vessels, viz: the Britannia, Acadia, Caledonia, Hibernia, Cambria, America, Canada, Niagara, and the Europe, and, without exception, the fastest and finest Steam Ships in the world. We believe that this new and increasing means of rapid intercourse between the two greatest maritime countries in the world will be hailed with delight by the enterprising and active minds of commercial England and commercial America.

With the exception of the pending strife in Switzerland, European politics are upon the surface calm and unruffled. In France two more domestic tragedies have been enacted on the great theatre of human life. The diseased state of social feeling in the highest ranks of society has furnished two more lamentable victims of insanity and suicide. Count Bresson, the chief promoter of the unfortunate Montpensier marriage, has put a period to his ill-fated existence, by violent means at Naples. This fatal act has been produced by an overwrought mind not finding "ample room and verge enough" for the scope of its ambition in the subordinate station of ambassador to an Italian State. Being disappointed in obtaining the London embassy, where activity might have stifled "the still small voice" of conscience, Count Bresson expatriated to Naples, could no longer bear the misery of his own thoughts, and so rushed to self destruction.—Count Mortier, ambassador from the Government of France to the Court of Turin, has also been stricken with insanity. In a paroxysm of the most frantic lunacy, this unhappy man nearly sacrificed the lives of two of his children, but fortunately the poor innocents were rescued from his violence. These events happening so close upon other similar examples of murder, suicide, and frightful corruption amongst the circles immediately surrounding the French throne, cannot but leave a most painful impression upon public opinion in every civilized country in the world. A frightful fatality seems to haunt the progeny of the chief actors in the great social revolutions of which during our time, France has been the scene.

In Switzerland the rival Catholic and Federal forces seem drawn up ready to give battle, and rumours have reached Paris that hostilities have actually commenced; but with the exception of a slight skirmish between the Tessinese and the Uri troops, in which two officers were killed, the main bodies of the armies have not as yet struck the blow, which will probably bring this intestine quarrel to an end. All endeavours at pacification have hitherto failed. The foreign ambassadors have retired to the frontiers; and in these days of non-interference, even on the score of humanity, they must passively look on and see the people of a free republic slaughter each other in a civil war, rather than stretch out the hand of power to prevent it. As far as we can see at present, the Swiss are to be left "to fight it out" without interference from any quarter.

*Death of the Archbishop of York.*—It is our painful duty to announce the demise of our venerable and highly esteemed Diocesan, his Grace the Archbishop of York. The melancholy event took place on Friday week, at the Palace, Bishopthorpe. His Grace was in his usual good health up to within a very recent period; and on Monday he visited the city, and inspected the magnificent Chapter House, in our Cathedral, expressing his great gratification at the manner in which the restoration of that noble fabric had been conducted. On Wednesday morning his Grace was taken seriously ill, and medical assistance was called in—Dr. Simpson, and Richard Hey, Esq., being consulted. On Thursday the venerable Prelate was no better, and, considering his very advanced years, fears were entertained for his recovery. His Grace continued to sink rapidly; and, notwithstanding every effort on the part of his medical advisers, it was evident yesterday morning that his long and valuable life was fast ebbing to a close. His Grace died at one o'clock.

Dr. Musgrove, Bishop of Hereford, has been translated to the Archbishoprick of York; and Dr. Hampden, Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford, will, it is said, be raised to the vacant See of Hereford.

It is said that the Commander in Chief has decidedly set his face against moustaches for the Infantry.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA.—On the 4th inst. the usual farewell entertainment was given to the Earl of Dalhousie, the New Governor-General, on the eve of his departure for India. Lord John Russell and other Cabinet Ministers were present. Lord Dalhousie proceeded on the 10th inst. in the steam-frigate Sidon to Alexandria, on his way to India, to take possession of his new government. Lieut. Colonel A. Mountain, C. B., military secretary to his lordship, and Lieutenant the Hon. F. H. Fane, aide-de-camp, accompanied His Excellency.

ITALY.—The affairs of Italy are proceeding favourably, but Austria has not evacuated the city of Ferrara, which she occupies with the troops as well as the citadel. The reforms in the Papal States are assuming consistency, and public tranquillity is unimpaired. The *Diaria di Roma* of the 4th instant quotes a letter from Naples of the 28th ult., stating that tranquillity being completely restored in Calabria and Sicily, the royal troops had re-entered their cantonments, and the extraordinary powers given by the King to General Landi and other military commanders, had been withdrawn.

The Augsburg Gazette of the 6th, states that a total change will take place in a few days in the Pope's Cabinet.