

The sales in the month amount to 81,400 bales—12,300 on speculation, and 7,700 for export, leaving 15,300 per week for the trade, which is less than even the present reduced consumption. The import in the same time has been 87,300 bales, and the stock is now 418,490, against 570,900 last year."

The commercial intelligence from India by the present mail is not of a character to lessen anxiety as to the state of things that may ensue when the news of our recent disasters shall reach that country. Money being comparatively easy, the purchase and shipment of produce to England is actively going on, and we have consequently still the unpleasant fact of freights being firmly maintained. On the other hand, it appears that the demand for several descriptions of manufactured goods continues to present signs of revival. That this revival, however, will greatly extend, cannot be expected, while the present price of cotton and iron, and the pressure for money here shall prevent its being stimulated by sufficiently large and cheap arrivals to counteract the possibility of a rise of prices.

Public Sale of the Presbyterian Church, Rodney Street, Liverpool.

—This edifice was lately brought to the hammer at the Clarendon-rooms, South John-street. As has been stated, the disruption caused by the Free Church secession has fallen heavily upon the financial position of the establishment, until at length a sale of the building seems to have been rendered necessary in order to satisfy the claims of certain legatees. The sale took place, by order of Mr. Harmood Banner, the representative of the mortgagees, who have advanced £2000 upon the property. On Saturday a meeting of the shareholders in the church was held, who were dissatisfied with the conduct of the trustees. The meeting was adjourned to yesterday afternoon at one o'clock, but the attendance was so limited that no business was transacted. The sale was announced for two o'clock, and soon after that hour, several parties had arrived. At half-past two, when Mr. Branch, the Auctioneer, commenced reading the conditions of sale, the room was densely crowded with interested parties.—Mr. Branch (the auctioneer) in rising to read the conditions of sale, stated that he had instructions to say that the mortgagees regretted having to bring the property to the hammer, but they had no alternative.—Mr. Hall, solicitor, of Manchester, here observed, that if the mortgagees were so anxious for their money, why did they not issue a writ against the trustees.—Mr. Harmood Banner said that he merely acted for others. It was now necessary for him to divide the money among certain legatees, and he had taken what he thought the best means to obtain the money which had been advanced upon the building, by offering it for sale. He had no wish to commence actions against any one. No doubt that might have been very profitable to his son, but he had an objection to do it.—Mr. Hall said the legal trustees of the building had never received notice of the sale. Mr. Bogie only had been informed of it, and he had not communicated it to the rest.—Mr. Banner did not consider he was to blame for the neglect of the trustees. He was not acting for himself, but for others.—Mr. Hall: It would only have been fair to give all the trustees notice of the sale. To pick out one person looked as if there was some collusion. He wished them to understand that they must take upon themselves all the consequences which might arise out of the sale. They might depend upon it he would have an eye upon them.—Mr. Banner begged that Mr. Hall would be cautious in the observations he made. He did not understand the meaning of the reflections he had made.—Mr. Branch (the auctioneer) did not see that the present discussion had anything to do with the sale.—Mr. Hall seemed to be intent upon a personal attack on Mr. Banner. The conditions were here read, and several questions were asked upon them, and as to the terms of the lease on which the property is held from the Corporation.—Mr. Hall wished to know from Mr. Banner, solicitor, whether he was not aware that the Trustees had the power to sell the property for the purpose of paying off the mortgages, which might have saved them the trouble of the present sale.—Mr. E. Banner, solicitor, was not aware of it.—Mr. Hall felt much surprised at that.—On the suggestion of Mr. Hall, the conditions of the lease referring to the purposes for which the building was to be used, were read. They stipulated that it was to be used only for the celebration of divine service according to the forms of the Church of Scotland.—Dr. McIntyre thought that a building which had cost £14,000 ought not to be sacrificed for a mortgage of £2,000. The mortgagees had sent notice to certain of the trustees, six or eight months ago, of their intention to sell, and the meeting would easily imagine the consternation of the shareholders when he said that only within the last week or two had they been made acquainted with it. What had taken place at the opening of the sale might have appeared irregular, but he thought the gentlemen present would agree with him that the shareholders had a right to complain of the conduct of the trustees. He made this explanation to satisfy Mr. Banner. He regretted Mr. Hall had insinuated any collusion on Mr. B's. part. It was evident that gentleman was only acting for others, and if the property was sacrificed he could not be blameable.—A Shareholder here asked if £3 18s. per annum, payable to the Corporation, had regularly been paid.—Mr. E. Banner: No; for I have received a notice from the Corporation, stating that there is 23½ years' rental due. (Laughter.)—Mr. Branch here put up the property. The first bid was £2000 from Josias Booker, Esq., followed by a bid of £2100 from Mr. Andrews. These gentlemen had, indeed, all the bidding to themselves. The bidding ran up to

£4000 by Mr. Booker, and £4050 by Mr. Andrews, and after a pause of some duration Mr. Branch endeavoured to obtain another bid from Mr. Booker, when that gentleman observed—"No, I have done, and since I have found out that the gentleman bidding is doing so for its being made into a Wesleyan chapel, I am sorry I bid so much. I live near the place, and was afraid it might possibly be converted into a foundry, or some other such nuisance." (Laughter.) The property was ultimately knocked down to Mr. Andrews for £4050, who, it is understood has purchased it on behalf of the Wesleyan Methodist body.

THE ROYAL FAMILY.—At the grand banquet given by Her Majesty at Windsor Castle, upon the occasion of the anniversary of the birth of the heir apparent, the Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, and the Princesses Royal and Alice, were introduced to her Majesty's illustrious and distinguished visitors. The Prince of Wales was splendidly attired in the Highland costume, wearing the Royal Stuart tartan; Prince Alfred was dressed in the Victoria tartan—an entirely new plaid from Her Majesty's own design.

Sir William C. Ross, R. A., by command of Her Majesty, is in daily attendance at the Castle, taking the likenesses of their Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, in full length, in the beautiful Highland costume.

Mr. Winterhalter's "Royal Family" Picture.—Mr. Moon was on Friday honoured with Her Majesty's commands to Mr. Samuel Cousins, A. R. A., to engrave the "Royal Family" Picture by Mr. F. Winterhalter.

Capt. Grover, whose generous and unwearied exertions in the cause of Col. Stoddart and Capt. Connolly will be fresh in everybody's recollection, died at Brussels on the 7th Nov. after a brief illness.

Sir John Franklin's Expedition.—Private letters have been received from Fort York, Hudson's Bay, announcing the safe arrival of the detachment of the Royal Sappers and Miners, who left England on the 1st of June last, to be engaged as a boat party in search of Sir John Franklin and his gallant company. The party will winter near Fort York, and in the spring of the year pursue their search after the missing voyagers, should no intelligence of the Erebus and Terror reach any of the settlements of the Company before that time.

According to the *Catholic Directory* for 1847, there are in Ireland 2,735 Roman Catholic clergymen, 2,205 chapels, 25 colleges, 59 convents, 93 nunneries, and 42 monasteries.

It is stated that a son of Mr. Dempster, of Nenagh, succeeds to the Assistant Surgency of the 33d Regiment, vacant by the lamented death of Dr. Andrews.

Partial Stoppage of Railway Works.—The contractors for the London and North-Western Railway have already discharged 2,500 men, and are about to discharge a still larger number. On Saturday last one contractor on the Great Western line gave notice to 1,400. In Lancashire the works in hand are almost wholly stopped, and above 10,000 men are already dismissed. On the whole, up to Saturday last, at least 30,000 navigators had been discharged; and it is estimated that, before the end of the present month, that number will be doubled. Besides these there will be 10,000 mechanics thrown out of employment, most of whom have families dependant on them. Taking the whole into account, we may reckon on having to support, this winter, about 150,000 persons of the railway class either by poor-rates or by rapine.—*Morning Herald.*

Cleansing and Purifying the Dwellings of the Poor.—On Saturday a general meeting of the committee of the baths and wash-houses for the labouring classes was held at the institution in George Street, Euston Square, when it was resolved, in addition to the benefits conferred on the poor by the baths and wash-houses, that the poorer classes in the north-west district of London be supplied by the society with disinfecting agents—lime-wash, brushes, pails, and other necessary means, to enable them to cleanse and purify their dwellings. The report respecting the baths and wash-houses states that, since the opening of the establishment in August, 1846, up to the present period, 131,568 males, and 14,377 females, have bathed, and that the present average of women and their families provided with clean linen, by means of their washing, drying, and mangling, and getting up the same, is 4,000 weekly, or nearly 40,000 articles of clothing.—*Observer.*

CONFIRMATION.—*Malta, Oct. 24th.*—Yesterday a confirmation was held in the English church of St. Paul, in Malta, by the Bishop of Gibraltar, for the officers and seamen of the Mediterranean squadron. The squadron, consisting of six line of battle ships and two frigates, was at anchor in the great harbour, and it was a beautiful sight to see the candidates landing from the ships and proceeding through the streets of Valetta, headed by the chaplain and officers, to the noble edifice in which the confirmation took place. They were between 300 and 400 in number, including a good many officers, some of them lieutenants of mature age, who had never before had the opportunity of being confirmed. The demeanour both of the officers and men showed that they were impressed with the solemnity due to the occasion. The Bishop made an earnest and affectionate address to them, as Christian officers and seamen, warning them against the temptations peculiar to their particular station in life, to which they listened with profound and serious attention.