

If my friends, yea the friends of our common cause will sustain me, I never wish to leave even for a few months these shores again.

On landing we were met by our kind friend and old associate, Mr. Dean, with his accustomed urbanity, and Christian hospitality, and soon we were comfortably housed. Many have been the changes which have taken place during my absence, and yet at every turn I meet with sufficient to remind me that I am again in the land where some of the most important scenes of my life have transpired. Hongkong has much improved in public and private buildings and streets, but the trade and business of the place have greatly declined. Scarcely any missionary remains here, Dr. Devan having left for America not to return. Mr. Dean is solitary and alone. Mr. Lord has joined Dr. Macgowan at Ningpo. D. Hobson and Rev. Messrs. Cleland and Gillespie, of the London Missionary Society, are at present here, but the two former expect to remove to Canton, and the latter return to Scotland. At Canton all is at present comparatively quiet, yet the Government stands in awe of the populace who seem determined to oppose all kinds of foreigners getting a foothold among them.

It is almost impossible for even a missionary to get a house among the people. I have, very little doubt but that the English authorities will have to use fearfully coercive measures in Canton, and that too before a great while. Great military preparations are at this moment going on at Hongkong, the object of which is unknown to the foreign community. Canton is the only one of the five ports where the treaties are not carried out. Rev. Messrs. Hopper, French and Spear, of the American Presbyterian Board, are now at Canton, also Rev. Messrs. Percy and Johnson, of the Southern Baptist Board, and Rev. Messrs. Ball, Bridgman and Bonney, of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. These two latter Societies have missions at Amoy. The Methodist missionaries have located at Foo Chow-foo. At Ningpo is a strong American Presbyterian Mission, also four Baptist missionaries, two English and two American.

Another letter contains the following melancholy intelligence.

**Death of the Rev. Walter M. Lowrie.**—The Rev. Walter M. Lowrie, an American missionary at Ningpo, has been murdered in the Chinese seas by pirates. The Rev. gentleman took his passage in a Chinese boat from Shanghai to Ningpo, and during the voyage was attacked by a piratical vessel. At first, it would appear, that the pirates only meditated robbery, but fearing that Mr. Lowrie might bring them to justice, they resolved to throw him overboard. Two of the ruffians seized him for that purpose, but not being able to accomplish it, a third joined in the murderous attack, and they succeeded in throwing him into the sea. As the waves ran high, though he was seen two or three times, he soon sank to rise no more. Mr. Sullivan, the English Consul at Ningpo, proffered every aid his official station enabled him to render, and steps were being taken to recover the remains if possible.

**SUPREME COURT.**—The St. John Circuit was opened by His Honor Judge Carter on Tuesday morning in the usual form. His Honor addressed the Grand Jury at some length on the state of the Calendar. He said that an attentive observer of the Criminal Records of this City and County would remark, that although offences had not of late been so numerous, yet that the character of the crimes committed, had increased fearfully in point of magnitude; they were chiefly of attempts on the lives of individuals, which had been in too many instances successful. This was a state of things which might be accounted for in various ways, which he did not think necessary to go into—but which all right-minded men must deplore. When these matters were brought before the Court, the parties concerned would be dealt with according to law, but he trusted, that the sound common sense and intelligence of the right-thinking portion of the community, would ere long induce a change for the better. His Honor then explained the law bearing upon the case of *McGovern*, in gaol, charged with the murder of James Briggs, Jr., and that of the persons for aiding and abetting Bowes, the murderer of Gough. We understand that Bills in these cases will be sent before the Grand Jury in a day or two. There are 69 Civil causes entered.

After the usual preliminaries, the business of the Court commenced with an action between William Causey and William Jarvis. This was an unsettled account, upon which a large balance was claimed by Mr. Causey for building a brick barn, and repairing the cellar of a store on the North Wharf. This case occupied two days; the jury finally giving a verdict for the plaintiff. Mr. Ritchie was counsel for the plaintiff, Mr. Hazen for the defendant.

The Court was occupied on Thursday in trying a case of Replevin;—*Sturdee vs. Merritt*. Verdict for Defendant; Wright and Kaye for Plaintiff; W. J. Ritchie and Hazen for Defendant.

**McLENNAN vs. LEAVITT.**—This was an action for damages sustained by Plaintiff in consequence of the steamer *Maid of Erin* coming in contact with his schooner, in this harbour, by which the vessel was sunk. Verdict not given at 7 o'clock last evening; Gray for Plaintiff, W. J. Ritchie for Defendant.

**CUMFERT vs. KIRK.**—This is an action for trespass with which the Court is now occupied, Wheeler for Plaintiff, McKenna for Defendant.

The Jury not agreeing in the case of *McLellan vs. Leavitt*, were discharged. On Saturday, the Jury in the case of *Cumfert vs. Kirk*, gave a verdict in favor of defendant, Hugh Doherty and his son John Doherty were arraigned on Saturday for stealing rope from a wharf in Indian Town, and were tried yesterday, found guilty without the Jury leaving their seat. Prisoners made no defence. Wright for the Crown.

**Walton vs. Rodgers.**—This was an action of Assumpsit; Jury found for plff. Hazen & Robertson for plff. Gray & H. Gilbert for defd.

**Mail.**—Should be sent out at 10 o'clock.

This morning about two o'clock, we understand an attempt was made to effect an entrance into the Bank of New Brunswick, by raising a ladder to one of the upper windows. The Captain of the Watch fortunately discovered the scoundrel while in the act of ascending the ladder. Upon giving the alarm, the villain fled in the direction of Reid's Point, hotly pursued by the Captain, but without overtaking him. The only means of identifying the burglar is by his cap, which he lost, in his haste to escape. We should think our red collared guardians are slow of foot.—*Id.*

On Saturday night last, a robbery was committed in the Store of Mr. J. Kirk, North Market Wharf. Several valuable articles were taken, and £2 in money. It is supposed the robber secreted himself in the store during the day. He made his escape through the privy by means of a rope. Our merchants had better look to their premises, and render these places secure against the attempts of thieves and burglars.—*Id.*

The steamer *Washington* put into Halifax on Tuesday last, short of coal and provisions. She left Southampton on the 19th ult., and had therefore been out 23 days! This is the vessel that was "to take the change out of the *Cunard Line*." We apprehend that a change has come over the spirit of the dreams of those who predicted this glorious triumph. What are your convictions now, brother Jonathan?—*Id.*

**LATEST FROM BARBADOES.**—By the British brig *Favorite*, Captain Masters, we have dates from Barbadoes to the 11th ult. The West India Bank suspended specie payments on the 1st ult. Its charter allows 60 days to resume payments, but whether it can import specie in that time sufficient to cash its notes, is very doubtful. It has caused much inconvenience and depression in business, and sales are difficult. Vessels arriving at Barbadoes are compelled to seek other markets, and a leading house writes that, in the present state of affairs they must decline consignments. Within the last few days there were several arrivals from the States, bringing large supplies of breadstuffs and provisions, a great portion of which will, from the state of the monetary system have to leave, as offers cannot be elicited for these cargoes. Meal, \$4 60; flour, \$8 50; and nominal bills on England, 30 days, \$480 per £100 Sterling.—*Alexandria Gazette.*

**ENGLISH NEWS.**

From *Willmer & Smiths European Times* of the 1st inst., which arrived in town yesterday in advance of the Mail, we make copious extracts of the most important intelligence. We are under an obligation to Messrs. Adams & Ketchum for the use of this paper, which is one of the only three copies which reached the city.

**STATE OF BUSINESS.**—Since our last, although the manufacturing districts appear more actively employed, the state of trade generally has not perceptibly improved. A slight impulse has been observed in the grain markets, but produce of all descriptions continues depressed in price, and most difficult of sale. The large increased comparative stock of sugar has excited much attention, and tends to render the colonial market heavy. The value of money has declined to about five per cent. accordingly, with the low prices of Cotton, we may fairly anticipate a revival, so soon as the large stocks of the failed houses shall have been realised, or adjusted to the ordinary demands of trade.

The attention of commercial men is wholly directed towards the Government, all parties waiting in anxious expectation the result of the deliberations of the Cabinet and Parliament upon the measures likely to be adopted. Some parties are sanguine that a greater differential duty between British and Foreign will at once be declared, while others anticipate a reduction of the duties on rum by way of bonus to the planter. This latter project would be open to too many objections for the Government to adopt it, whilst the former would again meet with partial objections from the advocates of free trade. All reflecting persons agree, however, that some steps will be taken in order to rescue the colonies from utter ruin, and the present anxiety will doubtless be removed as soon as Parliament re-assembles.

The Corn market since our last has continued firm, and upon the whole, prices are a shade higher. The finer descriptions of Wheat may be said to have advanced about 1s., but Barley and some other Grain have not participated in this improvement. In Liverpool the supplies from Ireland and the English coast have been

limited. Indian Corn and Meal have been in slow request, and the rates now current are 37s. for best corn, and 16s. to 17s. for meal. The price of best Western Canal Flour is about 31s per barrel, while Wheat, here, has participated in the advance established at Mark Lane. We may further add, that at the market held here yesterday the trade was very dull, and hardly any sales were effected.

The dealings in all kinds of British Iron continue limited; and in consequence of the increasing supplies and diminished consumption, makers are willing to accept our quotations.

Our advices from the manufacturing districts throughout England, although not of a buoyant character, are nevertheless on the whole rather more encouraging. At Manchester, the official report of the state of employment of the operatives there shows, that during the week ending Dec. 28, an additional mill has stopped, and two had gone from short to full time. Consequently the increase in the number of mill hands working full time is 651, and there are 1304 fewer on short time; but on the other hand, there are 608 more out of employment. Of the total works included in the table, four more are now working full time, with their usual complements of hands, but three less with a portion of their hands. There are five fewer works on short time, and four more stopped.

**MONEY MARKET.**—The money market has continued to improve since our last. The Bank of England, on the 23rd ult., reduced the rate of interest down to 5 per cent., and the facilities of discount of good paper have become greater. This step of the Bank of England, has been much commented upon as tending to revive undue speculations by making money cheap; but, as we have repeatedly said, the Bank, in the present case, exercised no voluntary action in the matter, as their discount business, which, during the excessive high price of money, absorbed nearly the whole requirements of the country by re-discount, now, as the rate of money falls, leaves them, and is again resumed by private bankers throughout the kingdom, who are in fact, at this moment discounting paper at half or one per cent., lower than the Bank of England. The bill brokers have also reduced the rate of money, at the call of their depositors, to 4 per cent. The example of the Bank of England is expected to be followed by the Bank of France, the commercial circles in Paris anticipating a speedy reduction. The weekly Bank accounts continue to exhibit a rapid progress in the increase of Bullion, and in the general improvement of the position of the establishment. In the last week's returns, the increase of bullion was no less than £565,200, making an aggregate in both the Issue and Banking departments of £11,991,376. The chief importations of gold came from the United States, each packet bringing a considerable amount. Accordingly, the reserve in the Bank has now risen to no less a sum than £8,233,121. These circumstances alone justify the Bank in lowering their rate of interest, which so long as it is above the rate charged in Lombard-street, cannot be said to influence materially the value of money. The Bank has certainly placed itself in a far better position to pay the forthcoming dividends than could have been possibly imagined some few weeks ago. The fluctuations in securities have not been such as to call for any particular comment.

**LIVERPOOL TIMBER MARKET.**—*Pine Timber*—Quebec yellow, 7 cubic foot, 1s 1d to 1s 3d; St. John, 1s 3d to 1s 6d; Miramichi and Bay Chaleur, 1s to 1s 2d; Richibucto, 1s to 1s 2d; Nova Scotia & Prince Ed. Island, 1s to 1s 1d; Quebec, red, 1s 7d to 1s 9d; New Brunswick, & Nova Scotia Spruce 1s; Birch, St. John, 1s 2d to 1s 6d; N. Scotia & P. Ed. Island, 1s to 1s 3d; Masts, Yellow Pine, caliper, 2s to 3s; Red ditto 3s to 3s 6d; Deals or Planks standard hundred, Quebec Yellow Pine, 2nd quality, 38s to 41s; Ditto 3rd 27s to 28s; Ditto, Spruce 28s to 29s; N. B. and N. S. Pine and Spruce, 2 ft. of 2in. 1 1/2 to 2 1/4; Staves, Quebec Standard 1st quality, 24s to 25s; M. 24s to 25s; Middling and inferior, 23s to 24s.

**CORN MARKETS, LIVERPOOL, Jan. 1.**—The Market for most descriptions of Grain, &c., has been firm. In the middling and inferior kinds, little or no advance was attainable, and the operations on the whole were neither lively nor extensive. The States and Canadian Flour are without alteration in prices, and the Market was thinly attended and very little business done.

**IRELAND.**—At no former period has the social state of this unfortunate country been so appalling. Murders, threatening notices, robbers, crimes and outrages of every species and degree, are the order of the day. Added to all this is the extreme destitution of a large number of the poorer classes. It is most painful to be obliged to record, in every publication, the details of such sanguinary and barbarous deeds. The short period that has elapsed since the despatch of the last mail furnishes melancholy proof of the disturbed condition of the south and western provinces. The Lord Lieutenant did not delay an instant after the Royal assent was given to the Irish Outrages Bill, in proclaiming various districts where crimes have been most prevalent. Every military precaution has been taken to preserve the peace of the country; and now that the determination of the Government to maintain

order throughout the disturbed provinces is apparent to every body, it is to be hoped that the misguided peasantry in the sister country will abandon a course which can only tend to aggravate the sufferings of the vast masses who are really suffering from destitution.

**THE COAST DEFENCES.**—Orders have been received at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, to expedite with all possible speed the armaments for the coast defences of the country and the colonies which are still incomplete, viz., Portsmouth, Gosport, Portsea, &c.—Three 8-inch guns of 60 cwt., twelve 8-inch guns of 50 cwt., twenty-seven 32-pounder guns of 56 cwt., three 24-pounder guns of 50 cwt., and three 8-inch howitzers; total, 48. Gravesend—Fifteen 32-pounder guns. Tilbury Fort—Fifty 32-pounders. Medway District—Twenty-six 32-pounder guns of 56 cwt. Guernsey—Eleven 24-pounders of 50 cwt. and one 18-pounder gun. Gibraltar—Fourteen 8-inch guns of 56 cwt. Malta—Twelve 8-inch guns of 56 cwt. and fifty-four 32-pounder guns of 56 cwt. Halifax—Nineteen 23-pounder guns of 56 cwt. Hong Kong—Fourteen 32-pounder guns of 56 cwt. and three 24-pounder guns of 50 cwt.

The whole of these guns (267 in number) are to be mounted on dwarf traversing platforms, and the Board of Ordnance have decided, on the recommendation of Lieutenant-Colonel Hardinge, K. H., director of the Royal Laboratory Department, that in all cases where the batteries are sheltered, and the guns not directly exposed to the fire of an enemy's force, the platforms shall be constructed of iron, on account of its superior lightness and durability; but where the carriage is exposed, then it is to be made of wood, as iron platforms are immediately destroyed by a shot striking them. The platforms of the guns at Gravesend, Tilbury, Hong Kong, the Medway district, &c., to the number of 140, are, therefore, to be constructed of iron, and the remainder of wood.—*Morning Chronicle.*

A rumour was current on the Paris Bourse on the 29th ult., that the French Government had that morning received a telegraphic despatch, announcing that the Austrian troops had entered Parma, Piacenza, and Modena. No such despatch has been published by the French Government, but as the rumour was generally believed in quarters usually well informed, we think it right to mention it.

Intelligence has reached us by way of Malta that a revolution has broken out in Greece. It is said that Grivas is again at the head of the rebellion. Some fighting has taken place at Patras, and the consequence has been a loss of life of five soldiers fighting against the insurrectionists. The governor is a prisoner. The Grivas party, struggling for new political existence, has, it is said, improved in strength.

It is with extreme regret that we have to add to our list of mercantile failures during the present crisis, that of Messrs. Thomas and Joseph Sands of this town.

**SLAVE TRADE.**—By a Parliamentary paper recently printed, an estimate is given of the expense of her Majesty's ships of war employed for the suppression of the Slave trade and of all their appointments, so as to exhibit the aggregate charge to the country for their support in the year 1846-47. The aggregate charge is returned at \$301,623.

A reward of £50 has been offered for the apprehension of Lord William Paget. It appears that a true bill was found by the grand jury, at the Central Criminal Court, on Sept. 20, against "Capt. Lord William Paget, R. N.; for obtaining money under false pretences."

The Emperor of Russia is, at present, occupied with legislative reforms in Russia. One of his aides-de-camp, specially charged with the task of studying the criminal legislation of France, was on Friday present at the proceedings of the Correctional Police.

In all the towns of Prussia on the frontiers of Russia, the authorities have received instructions and money to take measures against the cholera. No case has, however, yet occurred in Prussia.

The exportation of rye and other grain from Poland has been interdicted from the 13th of January next.

The good service-pension, at the disposal of the Admiralty, has been given to Captain Maryatt, C. B.

It is said that the Duke de Montbello will succeed the Duke de Broglie in the English embassy.

More than fifty five slave vessels have been taken on the coast of Africa within the last twelve months.

The Dublin Corporation has voted £150 for a portrait of the late Mr. O'Connell.

Some French engineers have just finished taking the surveys and levels necessary for the formation of a canal through the Isthmus of Suez.

**FROM JAMAICA.**—By the arrival of the brig *Speedwell*, we have been put in possession of dates from Kingston to the 11th ult. They contain little that would be interesting in this quarter. The Coolies appear to give a great deal of trouble. They wander about the country in large numbers, and in a complete state of vagrancy and destitution. They are idle and vicious, and have proved a complete pest to the planter.—*N. O. Commercial, Jan. 3.*