

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE BRAZILIAN LAW AGAINST THE SLAVE TRADE.—We not long since noticed the adoption in the Brazilian Senate of a law intended to put an end to the slave trade. This law was put in force on the 4th of September last, by decree of the Emperor, Don Pedro. By this decree Brazilian men-of-war are ordered to use special efforts to seize slavers, and to hand over their crews and officers to the civil authorities for trial. The ships and cargoes are to be sold at auction, and the proceeds, after deducting \$40 for the expense of sending back to Africa each recaptured negro, divided as prize money among the officers and crew of the ship making the capture. The party denouncing a slaver to the Government is also to share in the prize money. No Brazilian vessel is to be allowed to clear for the coast of Africa without the owners giving security that it shall not take slaves on board. The introduction of slaves into any part of the Empire is made piracy, and punishable with death. A special law, hereafter to be framed, will determine the punishment to be inflicted on the Captains of slavers. If this law can be made effective it will do more to break up the slave trade than ten new squadrons on the coast of Africa. But we have no great expectation that it will answer the purpose.—Bribery and the high profits of the trade will render it nugatory. Such is notoriously the case in Cuba, the other great mart for slaves, and we see no reason to suppose that the result will be better in Brazil.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

THE FAMOUS ARTESIAN WELL AT KISSENGEN, in Bavaria, commenced eighteen years ago, and which it was feared would have to be abandoned as a failure, has just given the most satisfactory results. The town is located in a saline valley, nine hundred and eighty-four feet above the level of the Baltic sea. Last June the boring had reached a depth of eighteen hundred and thirty-seven feet, and several layers of salt, separated by a strata of granite, had been traversed, when carbonic acid gas, followed again by granite, was found.—Finally, on the 12th inst., at a depth of two thousand and sixty-seven feet, perseverance was rewarded by complete success. A violent explosion burst away the scaffolding built to facilitate the operations, and a column of water four and a half inches in diameter spouted forth to the height of ninety-eight feet above the surface. The water—clear as crystal—is of a temperature of sixty-six Fahrenheit, and is abundantly charged with salt. It is calculated that the annual product will be upwards of 6,000,000 lbs. per annum, increasing the royal revenues by 300,000 florins, after deducting all expenses.—*Paris Letter to the National Intelligencer.*

THE SYNOD OF THURLES AND BIBLE SOCIETIES.—The late address which issued from the Romish synod recently in session in Ireland, contains the following appeal to their flocks: "We exhort you, dearly beloved, with all the fervor of our souls, to be more vigilant than ever, in these days of error and infidelity. Avoid all books in which your holy religion is assailed. Cast away those corrupt and condemned versions of the scripture, those tracts teeming with calumny and misrepresentation, that are so industriously circulated by the agents of the Bible and other such societies."

SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH ACROSS THE MEXICO.—This project, which was brought under the notice of the Dock Committee at their meeting on Thursday last, has created considerable interest in the town. It appears that the wires are to be laid on a new principle, for which the projector has been rewarded with the presentation of a gold medal. By the proposed plan, one or more wires up to fifty, may, it is said, be carried across the river in the short space of six hours, and secured firmly about six feet below the bed of the river, besides which, the plan is not expensive, and may be applied in water at any depth.—*Liverpool Mercury.*

A curious book has appeared in Scotland. It is entitled, "The mystery of God fulfilled, or the Times of the Restitution of all things." One of its predictions is, that twelve years will be given to Britain—"the chosen of the Lord, the nation of the most high God"—to "prepare for dissolving the present bond of union between its sovereign's house and the hosts of its God." It says that Victoria is placed upon the throne, "to declare to all that the time is come when there shall be no more curse; when the woman

shall cease to be in any respect the inferior of the husband." It is on account of this last announcement that the Christian Times recommends the book to the curious.

BRITISH SHIPPING.—The number of British vessels in 1848 trading with foreign parts was 25,000, having an aggregate tonnage of 3,000,000, manned by 180,000 persons, and occupying a space in the water equivalent to 23 square miles. The number of foreign vessels that annually visit the shores of Great Britain, is about 13,000, manned by 100,000 persons.

The total cost of the machinery in the steamers belonging to the English navy is estimated at £3,500,000.

The statement that two carrier pigeons had arrived at Ayr, from Sir John Ross, is pronounced by the London Times a hoax.

The Sydney papers report the commencement of the first Australian railway.

The Duke of Palmella died at Lisbon on the 12th ult., aged 69 years. The deceased duke was a lineal descendant of Alphonso III., King of Portugal, and also of the ducal house of Holstein, and filled a large space in the history of his country with the records of his acts. He was long minister from his court to that of St. James's. In domestic life he is highly spoken of as an affectionate husband and father, a good friend, and kind master, and his hand was ever open to afford relief to the needy.

The differences between Austria and Prussia are every day assuming a more warlike aspect.—Information has been received from Warsaw, according to which the Prussian proposals have been peremptorily declined. Denmark, too, is not likely to accede to the proposal of a Danish and German Commission to settle the difficulties of the Danish question.

The Archduke FERDINAND, brother of the Emperor of Austria, is about to enter the naval service, and will take command of the Austrian frigate *Venus*, and sail, it is said, for America. Things remain much the same in Schleswig-Holstein. The Danish General, HAIN, has gone to Holstein, for the purpose of treating for an armistice of six months duration. The Schleswig Holsteimers are averse to this.

The rise of the Nile this year has been unsatisfactory. The river has already begun to fall, and it is feared that a vast extent of land will not have been sufficiently watered, and that next year's crops will be short.

It is positively stated, says the Augsburg Gazette, that the Russian Court will pass the winter at Warsaw. The motive for this is said to be the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of the Emperor Nicholas, which it is not wished to celebrate at St. Petersburg, because, according to the Russian laws, after the twenty-fifth year of a reign, the senate must cease its functions, and the Emperor cannot be present at that time. Since Peter the Great, no Russian Sovereign has occupied the throne for twenty-five years.

LATE FROM CALIFORNIA.—The steamer *Crescent City*, Capt. Stoddart, arrived at New York on Thursday last, from Chagres, via Havana, bringing two weeks later news from California. She brought 380 passengers, a large portion of them being from San Francisco, and \$1,500,000 in gold dust.—The *Crescent City* did not stop at Kingston, Jamaica, on her return trip, in consequence of the ravages of the cholera. Over 1500 deaths are said to have occurred in that City in three weeks, and 600 in the interior. Capt. Stoddart consequently considered it imprudent to stop on his return, having so large a number of passengers on board.

Extract of a letter from Kingston, Jamaica, dated Nov. 8th, received at Havana per British steamer of 12th:

"I regret to state that our Island, especially our city, has been and still is suffering from the cholera. We have had over eighteen hundred deaths from Oct. 16th to 7th inst., within the city alone, and other parts of the Island say about 600 more. Business quite suspended, and all parties at work relieving the wants of the poor and sick."

So difficult is it to procure persons to bury the dead in Jamaica, that the convicts in prison have been ordered to do the duty—receiving for reward a commutation of their sentences.

The new Captain-General of Cuba, General Don Jose De La Concha, arrived at Havana in the Spanish Steamship *Caledonia* on the 12th inst., and immediately assumed the government of the island. On Saturday he reviewed 7000 regular troops on the Passo de Tacon.

Loss of Life and Treasure.—Five persons were drowned in Chagres Bay in endeavouring to reach the steamer *Pacific* in an Indian canoe. Another boat capsized passengers, losing baggage and eleven thousand eight hundred dollars in gold dust.

The news of the admission of California into the Union was received at San Francisco Oct. 18th, at 11 o'clock, A. M., by the steamer *Oregon*, through Lieut. Patterson, U. S. A., and caused a universal outburst of enthusiastic joy, which continued with roars of cannon, buzzes, bonfires and illuminations throughout the night, and had scarcely slackened when the *Columbus* left at 4 P. M. of the 19th. The corporation of San Francisco and citizens generally were already making preparations to celebrate the great event with becoming honours.

MARKETS.—*San Francisco, Oct. 15.*—A decided improvement has taken place in trade. Sales have been heavy, and the prices of such articles as the market is not overstocked with, improving. Money, for the usual commercial transactions, can be had at about five per cent. per month.

Lumber.—Vessels had arrived with large lots, and the lumber pressed on an overstocked market. Sales are made at about three-quarters the amount due for freight; we think it will take a year to relieve the market.

Provisions.—A good demand, and market rather stiffer for all kinds.

Building Materials.—Holders of bricks not disposed to crowd them on the market. Many are holding at much better rates, believing them to be a safe article. Lime, Plaster and Cement—stock enough for nine months. These articles are abandoned for freight. Coals are very dull.

CHINESE FUNERAL.—A Chinese funeral took place yesterday. The Chinaman died at the Chinese Restaurant of Macoa & Wosung. The funeral was large, there being over one hundred and fifty Chinamen in the procession, each wearing a piece of white crape. A large number of persons visited the burying-ground to witness the ceremonies, which were as follows: They lowered the coffin as we do. They then threw the white bandages worn on their arms into the grave; the matches and the wax candles, and a bottle of wine. Before covering the coffin, each person bowed his head to the earth and uttered some few words not by us understood. Then each threw a handful of dirt on the coffin, and passed round liquor, wine and segars, &c., of which they invited each American to partake, and the grave was then filled up.—*San Francisco Courier.*

The New York Herald says:—"The commerce of the East, through the enterprise of our people, is undergoing a change, and taking a new direction. We are tapping the Pacific in three different points, and ere many months the waters of that ocean will be united to those of the Atlantic. The commerce of the whole earth will soon be brought to our own shores, and the United States will distribute its blessings to the rest of the world. India, China, and Japan will be as neighbors to us, and we shall carry their products to the utmost bounds of civilization."

Discovery of a Third Ring to the Planet Saturn.—We understand that last night, the existence of a third Ring around this Planet, which had been for some time suspected, was ascertained by the astronomers at the Observatory at Cambridge. It is inferior to the two others, and therefore its distance from the body of Saturn must be small. It was well observed through the great Equatorial, with powers varying from 150 to 900, the evening, for astronomical observations being remarkably fine, perhaps the finest since the establishment of the Observatory, although, singularly enough, the sky was so hazy, that to the naked eye only the brighter stars were visible. It will be remembered that the eighth satellite of this Planet was also discovered at Cambridge, by Mr. Bond about two years since.—*Boston Traveller.*

The N. Y. Correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer writes that an arrangement has been entered into between Mr. P. K. Collins, and Mr. Cunard, that during the winter a vessel of each of their respective lines shall leave New York and Liverpool alternately. We shall, therefore, have weekly communication with the Old World until spring, when, as heretofore, it will be semi-weekly.

Since the first of January, 1849, 1383 vessels have sailed, from the Atlantic ports for California. Of these, 126 sailed from Baltimore.

Col. Richard M. Johnson, died at Frankfort, Kentucky, on the 19th inst. He was elected Vice-President of the United States in 1837, under President Van Buren.

The cane is represented as being in a very flourishing condition this year in Cuba, and it is expected that the harvest will be much more plentiful than the last. In some estates they do not expect to be able to grind up all the cane grown.

EXHIBITION OF FOWLS.—The Fowl Show in the Public Garden has been thronged with visitors to-day, none of whom could fail to be convinced that the exhibition comprised the most extensive as well as the rarest collection of poultry, &c., ever gathered together in New England, if not in the whole country. John Wright's mammoth tent is entirely filled as closely with cages as practicable, after giving the proper avenues between the long rows, and space for Mr. Wright's ample and excellent refreshment stand, which is a great convenience to many visitors.

The number of entries made by contributors is about four hundred, averaging thirty fowls to each; and among these twelve thousand birds it would seem that every possible variety is fully represented. Samuel Jacques, of the "Ten Hills Farm" in Somerville, and President of the Society, has one of the largest lots in the exhibition and of a quality sufficient alone to establish his reputation as a poulterer. In a very handsome cage, which itself attracts much attention, Thomas E. Chickering, of

Roxbury, has a splendid collection of Shanghai, Poland, China and other species, also some wild geese, and a white American eagle 23 years old, having still a proud crest and piercing eye.—*Transcript.*

NEW YORK STEAMSHIPS.—Within the last month seven large steamships have been launched at this port, and five have either gone to sea or made their trial trips. There are now twenty steamships either on the stocks or receiving their machinery, whose aggregate tonnage is about 32,000 tons.

MONTEVIDEO, Sept. 14, 1850.—The final treaty between Rosas and Oribe and France, has been completed and goes home in the steamer *Prony*, which leaves here to-day. It is generally supposed that France will not ratify this treaty, as it is more objectionable in many points than the former ones. Upon the conclusion of this treaty, the French troops which had been in the harbor for eight months, were allowed to come ashore for the first time. There are about 2,000 of them, and they are very fine looking fellows, being all picked men from the army that served in Algeria. They are drilled every morning from six to eight o'clock, and go through their motions in a very soldier-like manner.

It is expected that a large squadron will soon arrive here from Brazil, to blockade Buenos Ayres, as Don Pedro Segundo is determined to go to war with Rosas.

Of course this is good news for the Montevideans, as it will throw an immense amount of business into their hands.

There is at present about a dozen French men-of-war in the harbor, including the fine steamer *Prony*, which sails to-day for France, and the steamer *Flambert*, and propeller frigate *Pomona*. The latter is the largest man-of-war here. There are also two American, four Brazilian and two Italian, but no English men-of-war here.

Last Saturday, the 7th, was the anniversary of Brazilian Independence. The Brazilian vessels in the harbor were beautifully decorated; they fired a salute at sunrise, noon, and sunset, and at noon the salute was returned by the different men-of-war in the harbor, and by the fort on shore.

CULTIVATION OF TEA IN BRAZIL.—Our last advices from Brazil informed us that the production of tea in that empire is rapidly increasing, and becoming an important article of growth. It is thought that in a few years, tea will be produced in Brazil as easily and as largely as coffee, and that that country will furnish the world with its two favorite beverages. The cultivation of tea is attracting the attention of planters throughout the empire, many of whom are dividing their plantations—one part to be devoted to the production of tea, and the other to coffee. The Consul-general of Brazil, in this City, has samples of gunpowder, young hyson and black, which were raised in the Province of Rio de Janeiro, the quality of which, in many respects, is equal, it is said, to the production of China. We believe that this Continent, from the great variety of soil and climate, is capable of producing everything necessary for the happiness and comfort of man.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The Brazilian Emperor, Pedro II., has authorized the government to establish a line of steamships on the river Amazonas and the waters of Para.

CANADA.

The Corporation of the city of Toronto has resolved to subscribe £50,000 towards the Lake Huron and Ontario Railroad, provided the citizens take a similar amount, and also to guarantee the stock taken by the citizens. Whenever 10 per cent. is paid up by the citizens on the £50,000, the Corporation will issue debentures for £100,000.

The Municipal Council of Oxford, Canada West, has determined to take stock in the Great Western Railway to the amount of £25,000. The resolution was carried by a vote of 10 to 2.

The Corporation of London, Canada West, has subscribed for £25,000 in the stock of the Great Western Railway.

PROSPERITY OF QUEBEC.—There is certainly neither ruin nor decay in this city. We are progressing slowly it may be, but yet surely. Store upon store is built; the last exceeding the one before in grandeur. We have now shops of which any city might be proud. There are Henderson's, Scott's, and Benjamin's, which are equal to the very best shops in the world; and Mr. Bilodeau has just completed for himself a business house—it is too stupendous a concern to be called a shop—superior to any thing of the kind that we ever saw. In connection with this we may observe that the increase of Customs duties at Quebec for the year ending 10th Oct. inst., exceeds by £15,857 the amount received up to the corresponding period last year.—*Quebec Chronicle.*

The World's Exhibition.—We lately noticed that certain shipowners in Philadelphia were advertising "cheap passages" (\$100 to go and return) for intending visitors to the great International Industrial Exhibition, to be held in London in July next, and we are glad to see, by an advertisement in the last *Witness*, that our ship owners are not behind our "dabcoated" friends of the south, either in enterprise or liberality. Mr. James R. Orr states that he is ready to grant passages to and from Liverpool or Glasgow, during the whole of next season, on board of any his "Line of Traders"—Montreal to either place, for \$40, and for passage both ways, \$75. Mr. Orr's ships are too well known to require our