

The account received from Liverpool on Friday morning respecting the arrangement made by the Royal Bank, from which it appears that they soon will be enabled to resume business, gave general satisfaction amongst the commercial circles. The Stock Exchange was quite unsettled by the failures declared on the adjustment of balances. In addition to those mentioned above, three other members were declared unable to meet their differences. Consols for Account 18th January closed at 85½.

#### THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

On Thursday, the 18th Nov., the Imperial Parliament assembled at Westminster. Mr. Shaw Lefevre was re-elected Speaker, and the remainder of the week was occupied in swearing in the new members. On Tuesday the following Royal speech was delivered by commission:—

##### MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN;

Her Majesty has ordered us to declare to you the causes which have induced her to call Parliament together at the present time.

Her Majesty has seen with great concern the distress which has for some time prevailed among the commercial classes. The embarrassments of trade were at one period aggravated by so general a feeling of distrust and of alarm, that her Majesty, for the purpose of restoring confidence, authorised her Ministers to recommend to the Directors of the Bank of England a course of proceedings suited to such an emergency. This course might have led to an infringement of the law.

Her Majesty has great satisfaction in being able to inform you that the law has not been infringed—that the alarm has subsided—and that the pressure on the banking and commercial interests has been mitigated.

The abundant harvest with which this country has been blessed, has alleviated the evils which always accompany a want of employment in the manufacturing districts.

Her Majesty has, however, to lament the recurrence of severe distress in some parts of Ireland, owing to the scarcity of the usual food of the people.

Her Majesty trusts that this distress will be materially relieved by the exertions which have been made to carry into effect the law of the last session of Parliament for the support of the destitute poor. Her Majesty has learnt with satisfaction that landed proprietors have taken advantage of the means placed at their disposal, by the liberality of Parliament, for the improvement of land.

Her Majesty laments that in some counties of Ireland atrocious crimes have been committed, and a spirit of insubordination has manifested itself, leading to an organised resistance to legal rights.

The Lord Lieutenant has employed with vigour and energy the means which the law places at his disposal to detect offenders, and to prevent the repetition of offences. Her Majesty feels it, however, to be her duty to her peaceable and well-disposed subjects to ask the assistance of Parliament in taking further precautions against the perpetration of crime in certain counties and districts of Ireland.

Her Majesty views with the deepest anxiety and interest the present condition of Ireland, and she recommends to the consideration of Parliament measures which, with due regard to the rights of property, may advance the social condition of the people, and tend to the permanent improvement of that part of the United Kingdom.

Her Majesty has seen with great concern the breaking out of civil war in Switzerland.

Her Majesty is in communication with her allies on this subject, and has expressed her readiness to use, in concert with them, her friendly influence for the purpose of restoring to the Swiss Confederation the blessings of peace.

Her Majesty looks with confidence to the maintenance of the general peace of Europe.

Her Majesty has concluded with the Republic of the Equator a treaty for the suppression of the slave trade. Her Majesty has given directions that this treaty should be laid before you.

##### GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS;

Her Majesty has given directions that the estimates for the next year should be prepared for the purpose of being laid before you. They will be framed with a careful regard to the exigencies of the public service.

##### MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN;

Her Majesty recommends to the consideration of Parliament the laws which regulate the navigation of the United Kingdom, with a view to ascertain whether any changes can be adopted which, without danger to our maritime strength, may promote the commercial and colonial interests of the empire.

Her Majesty has thought proper to appoint a Commission to report on the best means of improving the health of the metropolis; and her Majesty recommends to your earnest attention such measures as will be laid before you relating to the public health.

Her Majesty has deeply sympathised with the sufferings which afflict the labouring classes in the manufacturing districts in Great Britain, and in many parts of Ireland; and has observed with admiration the patience with which these sufferings have been generally borne.

The distress which has lately prevailed among the commercial classes has affected many important branches of the revenue; but her Majesty trusts that the time is not distant when, under the blessings of Divine Provi-

dence, the commerce and industry of the United Kingdom will have resumed their wonted activity.

#### STATE OF IRELAND.

We regret to state that crimes and outrages continue undiminished in Ireland. The state of Tipperary, Clare, Westmeath, King's county, Roscommon and Limerick is most deplorable. The offences perpetrated in these six counties, bring a sad stain upon the history of Ireland, and render it absolutely necessary, for the preservation of the peace of the remaining parts of the country, that a rigour beyond the present laws should be exercised by the Government, for the protection of life and property. The details which daily reach us from ill-fated Ireland are almost all written in the same unvarying fatal characters of blood. The pressure of want amongst the people, serious as it undoubtedly is, appears secondary in intensity to the insane desire of destroying human life. The lives of the best benefactors of the people seem more peculiarly devoted to sacrifice. A deputation of thirty-two Irish members, headed by Mr. H. Grattan, waited upon Lord John Russell, on the 25th Nov., on the subject of Irish Affairs. The deputation submitted 357 resolutions on Irish affairs to his lordship, and alluded with satisfaction to the fact of the Government having already adopted four of the recommendations suggested, viz:—An improvement of the law between landlord and tenant; the establishment of food depots; increased facilities for the transfer of incumbered estates; and the disposition to afford the people an opportunity of reclaiming waste lands in preference to the emigration scheme. The deputation, however, chiefly insisted upon its being the first duty of the Government to provide food for the starving people. Lord John Russell intimated that the Government had already made arrangements for the establishment of food depots, and that it was hoped that in a great degree, if not entirely, the Poor Law would answer the expectations which had been formed of it, so that further aid from the people of England would be rendered necessary.—*European Times.*

#### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

**THE DOUBLE RETURNS.**—The three places for which new writs will have to be moved are South Lancashire, Stockport, and Kilkenny; the three Honourable Gentlemen chosen for two places—Mr. Villiers, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. John O'Connell—having elected to sit for Wolverhampton, the West Riding of Yorkshire, and Limerick. The writs, however, cannot be moved for until a fortnight has elapsed after the assembling of Parliament, lest petitions should be presented impeaching the election.

**Jews in PARLIAMENT.** It is stated that the West of England Protestant Alliance intend to petition Parliament against the admission of Baron Rothschild into the House of Commons, who, an unconverted Jew, cannot take the oath prescribed by statute, "on the true faith of a christian."

Mr. R. More O'Ferrall, the new Governor of Malta, has been sworn in a member of the Privy Council.

It is intended for the future to keep a permanent naval force at New Zealand. It will consist of one frigate, one sloop of war, and a steam sloop.

Mr. Sheil, the Master of the Mint, has stated, in the House of Commons, that the new silver coin, the first of a decimal character, of the value of two shillings, will be issued in a few days.

By a statement made by Lord John Russell, it is explained that the retirement of the Right Hon. James Stephen, from his duties at the Colonial Office, is only temporary, on account of ill-health, and that Mr. Mirivale is only appointed Assistant Under Secretary.

A circular has been issued from the Colonial Office, instructing the authorities in the colonies to address the Roman Catholic prelates in such colonies by the title to which their rank in their own church may appear to give them a just claim, officially styling them 'Your grace,' or 'Your lordship,' as the case may be.

The Government of Vienna has, it is said, interdicted all the Roman journals from entering the States of Austria.

England pays annually to Holland, Belgium, and Holstein about £700,000 for butter.

An invention has been discovered, and is in operation in Manchester, for making casks by machinery.

The 'Maidstone Journal,' says that a labourer cut in one day five acres of oats, and drank 32 quarts of strong beer while doing it.

A young butcher in Northamptonshire, yawned so widely, that he was unable to close his mouth, and it was necessary to summon a surgeon, who found his jaw dislocated, but succeeded in resetting it.

**A PLAIN QUESTION.**—'Now, my Lord, what do you intend to do about things in general?' Lord John: 'Well, upon my word, I cannot say exactly; but as near as I can guess—I do not know.'—*Punch.*

The city of Venice is about to send a present to the Pope, consisting of eight remarkably fine pieces of cannon! What would St. Peter have said to such a present from St. Mark.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

#### FAREWELL TO 1847.

Fast fleeting year, just stay a while,  
And listen to a simple chiel,  
Who hail'd thy birth wi' mony a smile,  
O' friendly glee,  
And would before ye "pass the stile,"  
Shak hans' wi' thee.

Your infant plaintive wail I heard,  
When Winter wild your cradle stir'd,  
Ere yet one pretty painted bird  
In time of flow'rs,  
Warbling thy growing praise, was heard  
In scented bowers.

And when the Southern breezes blew,  
And to our shores Spring softly flew;  
When Chanticleer with vigour crew,  
And lambies play'd;  
I mark'd thy growth with pleasure, too,  
In leafy shade.

I saw June crown thy forehead fair,—  
Which erst in winter months was bare—  
The best *boquet* July could spare,  
By Summer's hands  
Was wreath'd with other chaplets there,  
Which she commands.

I watch'd when August did adorn  
Thy harvest fields with waving corn,  
And in September saw them shorn  
To stubble ground:  
A rich supply from "Plenty's horn"  
Pour'd all around!

When Autumn's wind disturb'd the air,  
And tore the garlands from thy hair,  
And stript once more thy temples bare  
With blustering hats,  
I read the pointed moral there—  
Man's early fate.

But who shall tell, brief passing year!  
What changes saw thy fleet career?  
What hearts have throbb'd 'twixt hope and fear?  
What grief or joy  
Has glisten'd through a pearly tear  
In many an eye?

And when the tempest loud did rave,  
And human skill was weak to save,  
How many—sunk beneath the wave  
To rise no more?  
Have found a wat'ry coral grave  
Far from the shore.

While some more fortunate than these,  
Have safely cross'd the roaring seas,  
Or wafted by the favouring breeze,  
Or urg'd by steam,  
Have pass'd in Neptune's car with ease  
The Atlantic stream.

Sir Henry's gone, you understand,  
To see once more his native land,  
Heav'n guide him from a foreign strand,  
In safety home,  
Sir Donald's here to take command—  
The Campbell's come!

And thy successor, too, is near,  
Heav'n soon will send another year;  
But ere it comes, I'll drop a tear  
Of tribute due,  
Upon the time-worn sable bier  
That carries you.

And now thy race is almost run,  
Soon Forty-Eight will be begun—  
The rays of thy last setting Sun  
Are shining clear—  
One hearty squeeze, and I have done—  
Farewell old year.

P. L. I.

31st Dec., 1847.

*The News Boy or Carrier* presents his compliments to the Patrons of *The Examiner*, and begs to apologise for the non-appearance this morning of his New Year's Address, to prepare which he stole last night an hour from Morpheus which he devoted to Apollo, and in which he has endeavoured to express his sense of the obligations that he owes—and is likely to owe—as Carrier of *The Examiner*, to those who brighten its onward course by their generous patronage and encouragement. Not having sufficient leisure, however, to put his Address in type, he is compelled to postpone its issue; but he trusts that those—for whom he now wishes all the happiness that a full bright year can afford, with many a glad return of the same—will smile not the less encouragingly, and believe that in withholding for a time his "scallop shell," its music may become like wine, and improve from being kept unused.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor has been pleased to accept the Office of Patron to the Charlottetown Mechanics' Institute.