

nine years, 1807-1815, ten per cent per annum was paid on £1,925,9004. In 1818, 3,000,000 was paid by the Bank to the credit of the Government; account, at a charge of three per cent, per annum; a like amount being at the same time proportionally added to the accounts of the ten shareholders, so that for the years 1816-1823, ten per cent per annum was paid on £1,800,000, instead of 11,350,000, equal to 12 1/2 per cent. on the latter amount. Since 1823, eight per cent per annum has been paid on 14,686,8004.

The minds of all men are still turned with anxiety to the affairs of the Bank of England, and the question generally, which the daily publication of the evidence taken before the Committee of Inquiry still naturally continues to excite. It is fully apparent, from the evidence produced before the Committee, that the Bank has been in the habit of contracting or expanding its circulation according to the rate of the foreign exchanges, and the effect of those fluctuating issues has been to create a greater degree of hazard in all commercial and agricultural transactions. Capital thus influenced, has continued dominant, and has caused a stagnation in trade, want of employment, and an insufficient rate of remuneration for labour.

SCOTLAND.

Explosion of Fire Damp and Loss of Lives. One of those appalling subterranean occurrences which the invaluable invention of Sir Humphry Davy, has now happily rendered so rare in the coal mines throughout the country, took place on Friday last at the little village of Nithsil, contiguous to Harlet works, about six miles from Glasgow. The pit in which the unfortunate circumstance happened is the property of Mr. Dove, and is known by the name of Wellington Pit. The experience of the miners detected the early indications of an accumulation of the inflammable vapour, and about two o'clock in the afternoon, they intimated the circumstance to the overseer as a reason for not wishing to continue their labours on that day. He treated what he conceived to be their pretended fears with a bravado: and lighting a common lamp, he ordered the miners to descend the shaft along with him, which they did; the number of individuals being five men and two boys. On reaching the vapour with the lamp, it exploded with tremendous violence, shaking like a volcano, the earth for a great distance round, and making the clusters of cottages tremble to the foundation. While many hurried with looks of terror to the scene of the accident, others anticipating the worst, posted off on horseback for the assistance of medical men. The whole seven were soon raised to the mouth of the pit, all bearing dreadful marks of the shock they had received.

Medical practitioners were on the spot with all possible speed, and every exertion was made to alleviate the wounds of the sufferers. Abraham Thomson, a young man, and John Watson a boy, died that night, and little or no hope is entertained of the recovery of one or two others. The fate of Thomson was characterized throughout by almost unparalleled horrors. When extricated from the shaft, in a state of insensibility from which he never recovered, his flesh was reduced to one unvaried pulp mass, severing from the bones by its own weight. He was conveyed home to his disconsolate wife—to whom he had been united but six short months—when his body was wrapped in cotton, and otherwise treated. In the evening, while his partner was in the act of presenting him a drink, in his phrenzy he upset the candle she held, which in its fall ignited the cotton round his body, rendered doubly combustible by the presence of some medical emollient, and enveloped him in flames! The poor man's tortures were increased tenfold.

Stung to madness, he gathered his sinking energies into one fearful effort, sprang from his bed, darted to the door and thence to the middle of the road, gave a convulsive leap from the ground, which prostrated him with violence, and in about three minutes expired!

—
Sir Walter Scott. The accounts from Abbotsford continue to be very gloomy.—*Scotsman.*

FOREIGN.

The domestic or internal affairs of France in political matters are not improving. Not the most distant attempt to conciliation is made, nor is an intention to make one indicated by Government. The National was seized yesterday, in consequence of an article published in it, respecting the "nightly executions" that take place upon the bridge of Arcole, (at the Place de Greve.) The truth is that the dreadful occurrences on that bridge, on the night of the 28th July last, remain yet involved in mystery. Much of contradictory assertion and belief respecting them continue to be made and to gain ground. On the one hand scores of young men are stated to have been slaughtered and thrown into the Seine, by the Sergens de Ville. On the other hand the Government Journals assert that the affair was a more casual encounter, in which blows were exchanged but that no death ensued. The impression is however, I repeat, and I lament it—nearly general that several lives were lost upon that unfortunate occasion; an impression which cannot be removed by the mere prosecution of newspaper editors.

During the whole of yesterday there was an unusual degree of activity prevailing amongst the *corps diplomatique*, and which was said to have been caused by important despatches received from Vienna, Berlin, Brussels and Holland. Prince Lieven arrived in town at an early hour from Pausanger, and shortly afterwards meetings were held of the Prussian Minister, Baron Bulow, the Dutch Minister Extraordinary, Baron Zuylen de Nyevelt, the Austrian Charge de Affaires, Baron de Neumann, &c. In the evening there was also another assemblage of their Excellencies, but no conference was held, we believe, at the Foreign Office. There were reports in circulation directly opposed to the assertions lately put forth by the Ministerial Journals with respect to the amicable settlement of the affairs of Holland and Belgium.

COLONIAL.

More Steamers. A new Steam boat is building to ply across the harbour of St. John, to Carleton. The Proprietor of the Henrietta, has made arrangements for another boat on the Bay, to run between St. John and Windsor. Mr. Foulis has also issued a Prospectus for a similar enterprise.

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Fire. The town was agitated by a alarm of Fire about 8 o'clock on Saturday evening; by the exertions of the inhabitants, efficiently aided by the military and naval force promptly called to the scene, it was soon suppressed, but not before three small dwelling houses, to the south of Messrs. Canard's stores, were consumed. We have not heard how the fire originated.—*Nouvelles.*

THE BRITISH AMERICAN,

OCTOBER 20, 1832.

His Majesty's packet Raynard, arrived at Halifax, with London dates to September the 10th,—our advices however, contain little of importance.

CHOLERA.

We are happy to learn by late papers from the United States, that the Cholera in all parts of that country, had materially abated.

EMIGRATION.

13,266 Emigrants arrived at New-York, in the months of July, August, and September last.

THE CHOLERA.

Council Office, Whitehall Sept. 5,

New Cases, 775; died, 255; recovered, 452; remaining at last report, 2,424; remaining at present, 2,492; total cases from commencement, 26,812; total deaths from commencement, 17,310.

CENTRAL BOARD OF HEALTH FOR IRELAND.

Council Office, Dublin Castle, Sept. 2.

Remaining at last report, 260; new cases, 37; died, 13; recovered 36; remaining, 268; total cases from commencement, 10,353; total deaths from commencement, 2,964

Total for Ireland, new cases, 233; died 81; recovered 133.

(Signed) Francis Barker, Sec.

Death.

In the Island of Jersey, August 17th, after a short illness of one day, Mr. John Cabot, in the 77th year of his age. August 18th, also after one day's illness, Elizabeth, consort of Mr. John Cabot, in the 34th year of her age, after a union of 53 years.

Shipping Intelligence.

ENTERED.

Brig Amyntas, Matthewson, Penance; schr. Catherine, Coffin, Halifax; shallop Jean Ann, Langler, Tatamagouche; schrs. Betsey, Wood, Fox Island; Three Friends, M'Donald, Newfoundland; Argyle, Kinninmont, Halifax; Elizabeth Ann, Murray, Picotou.

CLEARED.

Schrs Alice Jane, M'Callum, Miramichi; Equity, M'Lure, Halifax; Three Brothers, Chessong, Halifax; Chandolen, Webster, Newfoundland; brig Amyntas, Matthewson, Pogois; schrs Active, Lavache, Halifax; Rambler, Barclay, Halifax; Leander, Groux, Halifax; Mary, Moore, Halifax; Elizabeth Ann, Murray, Miramichi.

THE TIME FOR RECEIVING Tenders for erecting a GOVERNMENT HOUSE is postponed to the 1st of December, and for an ACADEMY to the 10th of the same month.