

adding also £26,416 to the rest. The "rest" will thus be, after payment of the present dividend, about £3,270,000, which, with the premises of the Bank, may be calculated as the amount of assets over their subscribed capital. Some desultory efforts were made by the proprietors to induce some change in the election of governors and directors, but the flourishing condition of the affairs of the institution tended to check any such reforming views. At a future period, however, some change will no doubt be made; and public opinion tends to the arrangement proposed of a paid official governor, not actually engaged in trade, so as to avoid the public scandal of merchants failing whilst they occupy the posts of Bank of England functionaries.

IRELAND.

Our accounts from the sister kingdom are not devoid of interest or importance. There appears to be a general inclination to resist the repayment of the loans advanced by Government, through the "Relief Commissioners," to several poor-law boards throughout Ireland, for the purpose of alleviating the universal distress which prevailed in that country during the past year. Such conduct will no doubt lead to very serious results, especially if the Government insist upon the repayment of the loan.

Sir John Scott Lillie has addressed a letter to the electors of Dungarvan, to justify himself for not having come forward to oppose the election of Mr. Shiel. The reason he assigns are manifold. In the first place, Mr. Shiel was the steadfast friend of Mr. O'Connell, and his chosen champion in the monster trials; next, personal obligation to O'Connell and respect for his memory forbade Sir John to oppose his friend at the moment O'Connell's remains were about to be consigned to their last home; thirdly, there is no proof that Mr. Shiel is not a Repealer, since he had spoken and voted for Repeal on the only occasion when it was brought before the House of Commons by Mr. O'Connell. The mere acceptance of office is not in Sir John's opinion incompatible with the support of Repeal; and he instances the late O'Connor Don, an avowed advocate of Repeal, who held the office of a Lord of the Treasury; from which fact he infers that Government intended to make Repeal an open question.

Up to this time there have been comparatively few failures in Ireland; but the pressure has been of such long continuance, that many of the traders are totally unable to meet their engagements. One of the most extensive houses in Cork in the whole sale grocery line had lately to suspend payment, although they showed by their books that if they received 10s. in the pound of the debts due to them, they would have property and assets sufficient to pay 30s. in the pound. A meeting of the creditors of the house, however, took place, when it was finally arranged that three months should be given for the payment of all demands on them in full, which was guaranteed by a person of extensive wealth in the city. Other houses have not been so fortunate in the arrangement of their affairs, and it is to be feared that several more failures must follow. In the banking line two or three extensive failures have also taken place during the week.

It would appear that Mr. John Reynolds is likely to enjoy his senatorial honours but a short time. Petitions against his return are preparing actively. It is stated that hundreds of the electors were allowed to record their votes who had paid the taxes to entitle them to the elective franchise.

A monster meeting is announced at Hollycross, in the county of Tipperary, for this day, (Sept. 19.) The movement is in favour of "tenant right."

The Belfast papers, state, according to an official return, the sums advanced by the Relief Commissioners to finance committees on the credit of rates, up to the 14th of August last, amount in the gross to £1,310,758.

Of this large amount all that Ulster required to borrow was £89,762, the other three provinces having a division of £1,211,996. Averaging the three southern provinces, the amount to each would be £403,998 16s. 8d., or four and a half times more for any one than was required for the northern provinces.

At the usual weekly meeting of the Repeal Association, held on the 6th inst., the proceedings were without interest. The rent amounted to £98. On the meeting of the 13th inst. the rent was £67 19s 2d.

Mr. John O'Connell has issued a circular to all the Irish members calling a meeting in Dublin, in the early part of November, to consider the alarming state of the country and of public affairs, and to counsel as to the remedial measures which it will be their duty to press upon the attention of the Government.

The potato disease was said, as heretofore, to have reappeared with sudden and increased destructiveness, but at present these rumours have assumed no authentic shape.

OUR FUTURE PROSPECTS.—The famine is over. Nothing could be more beautiful than the appearance of the crops, and the Lord has favoured us with the most magnificent harvest weather; in fact, it is all that the farmers could desire. The consequence is that an

astonishing reduction has taken place in the price of provisions; Indian meal is now only £8 a ton, and the price is merely nominal. There are no purchasers in the market. We really think that Indian meal could be bought for £5 a ton in the Sligo market at the present moment, provided it was paid for in cash. And this is not to be wondered at; since the memorable year of '98, we have had no such harvest weather—no such prospect of future abundance. The scourge of famine—sent upon us, no doubt, for an all-wise purpose—has been removed, and we are, once more, about to be blessed with plenty.—*Sligo Champion.*

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—At Paris, on the 3rd inst., the Sardinian ambassador resident at the French court presented, at the office for Affairs, a diplomatic note from his Government, of which the following is the substance:—"In case his Holiness Pope Pius IX. should claim the armed assistance of his Majesty the King of Sardinia against Austrian invasion, his Sardinian Majesty will consider himself bound not to refuse the Sovereign Pontiff that assistance, it being his duty, as an Italian Power, to cause the independence of all the states of the Peninsula to be respected, as guaranteed by the treaties of Vienna." The communication was immediately forwarded to the King and M. Guizot, both of whom were absent from Paris. In the chief political and diplomatic circles this movement of Sardinia in favour of the Pope excited the greatest sensation.

It has been announced in the *Gazette de France*, and reproduced by the *Debats*, without contradiction, that a resolution had been taken by the Government to supply twelve thousand muskets to the Pope.

It is stated that M. Peyron, formerly pupil of the Polytechnic School, the brother-in-law of M. Alfred de Montesquiou, who lately committed suicide, had entered the novitiate of the Jesuits, and given his entire fortune, amounting to 4,000,000f., to the religious order.

ITALY.—The *Alba* of Florence, of the 8th, states that Count Ferretti on his arrival at Pavia, was arrested.

The *Nouvelliste de Marseilles*, of the 13th inst., mentions that an insurrection took place at Naples on the 8th inst. One account stated that the King had fled, and another that he had fallen into the hands of the insurgents. The *Censeur de Lyons* contains the same announcement.

Bologna letters of the 9th inst., announce that the Duke de Modena and his family had left their dominions and retired to Parma. It was currently believed in Bologna that Austria would take military possession of the Duchy, and was determined to interfere in Romagna and Tuscany.

DENMARK.—Two royal proclamations of the 28th of July have just been published, by which the decrees of the King of Denmark in 1846 for the emancipation of slaves in the Danish West Indian Islands are brought into force. Both proclamations are addressed to Major-General Von Scholten, Governor of the Danish West Indian Islands. The first states that from "motives of justice and humanity, as well as considerations of the welfare of the West India colonies, and the interest of the planters, the existing regulations respecting the slaves shall cease; in such a manner, however, that the complete emancipation shall not take place till after the lapse of 12 years, so that meanwhile the proper measures may be taken for making the arrangements for the consolidation of the necessary changes. On the other hand, all children of slaves who shall be born after the date of the decree shall be free." The second proclamation commands the Governor-General to institute a commission which shall make proposals relative to the necessary administrative and legislative arrangements consequent upon these proclamations.

RUSSIA.—Letters from St. Petersburg of the 7th instant state that the city has been visited with the most terrific storm of wind and rain ever experienced within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. It rained incessantly for forty-eight hours, whilst the wind blew with intense violence. The result of this visitation was the destruction of above 400 houses. At one period fears were entertained for the safety of the entire city, and some timid and superstitious persons apprehended that the end of the world was at hand.

LUCCA.—In consequence of several arbitrary arrests effected by order and under the eyes of the Hereditary Prince, the population of Lucca rose tumultuously on the 1st inst. The Hereditary Prince is married to the daughter of the Duchess de Berry. The Prince having departed for the summer residence of the Duke of Lucca, at San Martino, a body of 5000 to 6000 men proceeded in the same direction, and meeting his carriage, pelted it with stones. The rising having assumed a dangerous aspect, the Ministers of the Duke strongly insisted on his giving some satisfaction to the public opinion, declaring in case of a refusal, that they would resign their posts. The Duke acceded to their wishes, and issued a proclamation, instituting the civic guard, and pledging himself to adopt the improvements contemplated by their neighbours in Tuscany. This calmed the popular agitation and the persons arrested were set at liberty; in the evening a solemn *Te Deum* was sung in the cathedral, and the town was illuminated. Insurrectionary movements also took place on the 3rd inst. at Messina and

Reggio in the kingdom of the Two Sicilies. These disturbances however were productive of no serious results, two regiments of infantry having been sufficient to suppress them. Reinforcements had been sent to Sicily. Letters of the 3rd inst., state that on the 2nd the Duke, accompanied by his son, made his entry into that city amidst the acclamations of the people, who had flocked thither in multitudes from the neighbouring towns and states to congratulate him on his accession to the cause of freedom. The Prince issued, on the same day, a decree of amnesty, and ordered all prosecutions instituted against political offenders to be suspended.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

680 houses were burnt by the recent fire at Archangel.

A rumour is current that several more Catholic bishops are to be added to the episcopal body in England.

Sir Harry Smith has been gazetted as Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, with the local rank of Lieutenant-General.

On the 1st of January next Poland will officially be incorporated with Russia.

Advices from St. Petersburg state that cholera prevails in the Francaucasian provinces, but not to a very great extent.

The only two English papers prohibited in France are the *Weekly Dispatch* and *Punch*.

Sir Walter Scott's grandson has been allowed to change his name from Lockhart to Scott.

Twelve hundred Chinese criminals are said to have been beheaded in Canton during the past year.

It is said that Mr. More O'Ferrall has been appointed to the vacant Governorship of Malta.

It is currently reported that Jenny Lind will bestow her hand on the Rev. Mr. Grote, with whose family the "nightingale" passes much of her time at Burnham Beeches, near Slough.

The Queen's steamer *Victoria* and *Albert* struck on a rock at Fort William, in Scotland, and on her arrival at Portsmouth will have to go into dock for repairs.

A proclamation by order of the Queen in Council will be issued at the proper time, directing a general thanksgiving for the blessings of the present bountiful harvest.

Mr. Macdonald, who was formerly an officer in the British army, and now resides at Montreal, is said to have been declared heir to the title and estates of the celebrated Marshal Macdonald, who was created Duke de Terente by Napoleon.

In Rome a report is current that an envoy from the court of St. James's, in the person of Lord Minto, is on his way to the papal court. A similar report has been confidently repeated in London by parties who ought to be well informed on such a subject.

On the 9th inst., a sale took place of Mr. O'Connell's effects, which consisted chiefly of household furniture. No books or pictures, or any property that would suggest a memento of Mr. O'Connell were brought to the hammer. The rooms were crowded and the auctioneer realised good prices.

Mr. T. S. Duncombe, who was arrested on the 2d of September, at the suit of Elizabeth Goudy, for £3,400, he having been elected M. P. for Finsbury on the 28th of July, has been discharged by order of Mr. Justice Williams, the arrest being contrary to his privilege as a member of Parliament.

The Queen and her Consort have been passing the last fortnight in seclusion at Loch Laggan, and they are expected to return to London about the first of October. It is now decided that the royal party will sail from Scotland to the port of Fleetwood, in Lancashire, and proceed thence by railway to the metropolis.

Mr. Constable, publisher, of Edinburgh, has given the large sum of £10,000 for the manuscripts left by the late Dr. Chalmers. Amongst them is a commentary on the Bible as far as the book of Jeremiah.

The fever bill of Glasgow was last week 759, being an increase of 72. The Edinburgh was 546, the daily average of new applicants having for some time been 30. The average number of inmates had wont to be 277, now it is 270; the latter, of course, including convalescent patients.

THE BLOCKADE OF BUENOS AYRES.—In reply to a mercantile house in the city, Mr. Addington of the Foreign Office has confirmed the news of the raising of the blockade of Buenos Ayres by the British squadron, but declares himself unable to state whether the French authorities concurred in that measure.

SPANISH AFFAIRS.—A great number of military men of high rank, not only in France but from England and Germany, are at the present moment attracted to Compeigne by the great camp assembled there under the command of the Duke de Nemours. These operations will last till the 28th instant. In the meantime there will be reviews, sham fights, &c. every day. The num-