

# The Examiner.

"THIS IS TRUE LIBERTY, WHEN FREEBORN MEN—HAVING TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC, MAY SPEAK FREE."—EURIPIDES.

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CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1849.

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## THE EXAMINER.

CHARLOTTETOWN, FEBRUARY 5, 1849.

### Later News from Europe.

The Steamship Canada arrived at Halifax on Saturday the 27th ult., and the Mail for this Island reached town on Tuesday morning, the 30th ult. Latest dates are to the 13th. The intelligence is chiefly interesting in a commercial point of view: almost every branch of trade is represented as steadily, though slowly, reviving. "The aspect of commercial affairs," says the European Times, "during the last two weeks, has been very encouraging; and, from present appearances, a good trade during the course of the ensuing spring is anticipated. The Colonial markets are in a healthy state, and prices, in most instances, are not only firm, but have an advancing tendency. The Iron trade is also improving; and Money continues easy, discounts being from 2½ to 3½ per cent. The accounts from the manufacturing districts are, on the whole, of a satisfactory character."

For the details of other British and Foreign news, which are not important, we are mainly indebted to the journal last-quoted.

### REVENUE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The quarterly abstract of the Revenue up to the 5th January is much more satisfactory than we could have anticipated under the dispiriting events of the past year. During the last quarter the duties received from foreign Corn have continued to maintain the Customs at the same favourable range as that of the October quarter, making £570,533 increase on the last three months, and £914,062 on the whole year. The Excise, on the last quarter, exhibits a trifling increase of £6279, but on the whole year the increase is no less than £1,101,394. The decrease on Stamps, Property-tax, Post-office, and Crown Lands is, together, £150,390 on the last three months, whilst on the items of taxes and miscellaneous receipts there is severally an increase of £6230 and £9963. The total leaves an increase on the quarter of £686,827, whilst on the year there is an excess of £1,533,957. This satisfactory result is partially accounted for by a sum of £808,047, which has been received during the last quarter from the China and Imprest moneys, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer has thereby been enabled to meet his payments without the issue of deficiency bills, and still retains a surplus in the Exchequer to the amount of £560,543. It is the next and succeeding quarters which will test to the uttermost the present financial system of the country. The cessation of the Corn duties, and the termination of all remittances from China, will now throw the Chancellor of the Exchequer upon the ordinary means of income; and we hope that the recent improvement of trade will bring substantial results into the public treasury, as well as into the pockets of the people, so that any great ill-considered fiscal changes either one way or the other may be avoided at present. In the meantime there is a salutary improvement in the official returns of the Board of Trade. The exports of our manufactures continue to increase upon a comparison with the corresponding month of November, 1847, and there can be no doubt the improvement has gone on up to the present moment. During the eleven months of 1848 the total exports are, however, but £42,158,194 against £47,345,254 in 1847, which were only about £200,000 less than 1846. It has been the trade with the continent which has most deeply suffered during the last ten months. The imports continue upon the same increased scale as during the whole year, and the consumption of Sugar, Coffee and Tea has considerably increased in the last official month. The imports of Grain for the eleven months are 5,771,306 quarters (including 2,058,726 quarters of Wheat), besides 1,403,884 cwt. of

Flour and Meal. All the articles of Provisions which now come in free of duty show a corresponding increase. Upon the whole, the year which has now commenced furnishes enlarged prospects for a very considerable trade in almost every branch of manufacturing industry and foreign produce; and we trust that the hopes generally entertained for a continuance of the present activity in business will be fully realized. The public treasury cannot fail to be correspondingly benefited when trade shall have recovered its former level.

### THE CHOLERA.

We regret to state that the hopes which were generally entertained that the cholera had reached its most destructive limits in the British dominions have been falsified during the last fortnight. The mortality in the London district has again reached about its previous highest range of seven weeks ago. In the provinces the mortality is still comparatively insignificant; whilst in Scotland, especially in Glasgow, the official reports of the numbers attacked daily are upon an alarming scale. The total number of cases throughout the country, from the first appearance of the malady, had reached, on Wednesday, to 6506, whereof 2948 had died, 1249 had recovered, and 2819 were under treatment, or the result not stated. The inhabitants of London were beginning to breathe again, after the first feeling of alarm of the cholera had subsided, when last week this insidious fatal malady appeared in a very aggravated form at the establishment for the farming of the pauper children of the metropolitan districts, at the little village of Tooting, five miles south of the Thames. About 120 children were taken ill at the first breaking out of the disorder, and the deaths have been so numerous that the weekly metropolitan report of deaths has been swelled from 30 the preceding week to 61, during the last week; and the last daily report of deaths at the establishment at Tooting was no less than 16, whilst 14 new cases had appeared. Next week the number of deaths in the weekly report will be thus considerably increased. The various parishes of London withdrew their pauper children from the house at Tooting, a step of questionable prudence; and the result has been that the disease has appeared in Gray's Inn-lane Hospital, on the north side of London, where some of the children were received, and many deaths have ensued in that locality, besides isolated cases of children who had no connection with those removed from Tooting. In the worst part of Somersettown, a filthy locality, the disease seems to be breaking out, and a good deal of alarm prevails. The disorder at present has been limited to the humblest classes, and everything tends to prove that the disease commits its greatest ravages amongst the ill-clad, poorly-fed classes of the people. No expense or energy of purpose seems to be wanting amongst the guardians of the public health to meet and counteract this frightful visitation. It is satisfactory to add the general health of the metropolis is good; only 1131 deaths occurred last week, against the five years' average of 1169. In the provinces the returns may be deemed very satisfactory, the number being generally limited to between 5 and 10 daily throughout England. In Scotland, however, the disease seems to make rapid strides, especially in Glasgow. Last week the cases in that city frequently exceeded 150 daily, but during the present week the number has alarmingly increased. On Tuesday the official cases were 180 in Glasgow, and 246 for all Scotland. On Wednesday the Glasgow report had risen to 318, 109 of which had been fatal, and 111 had recovered, whilst in all Scotland, including Glasgow, the number of fresh cases was 347. In Belfast we are happy to add, the malady has not made great progress; in the last two days reported there were but 3 new cases, and no deaths. The alternations of the temperature have been extreme during the last fortnight. From a very severe frost we have now

milder weather, and yet no apparent change has taken place in the disorder. The mean temperature of last week was 30 deg. 7 min., the highest being 34 deg. 2 min., and the lowest 27 deg. 1 min. The barometrical pressure is now higher, and a good deal of rain has fallen in the south of England. France seems to have escaped the malady hitherto; it would be a frightful aggravation of the sufferings of the poor in Paris if the cholera should appear in that capital. We trust that the indications of an increase of cholera reported for this publication, will assume a different aspect during the next fortnight, and that the disorder, both in London and Glasgow, will be confined to the localities where it has appeared.

### DEATH OF THE EARL OF AUCKLAND.

Since our last the Administration has lost one of its members by the death of the Earl of Auckland, thus creating a vacancy in the office of Chief Lord of the Admiralty. His lordship, without being a brilliant genius, has received from the press the well-deserved panegyric of having been an upright and honest man both in public and private life. Several names have been suggested to fill the vacancy, the chief of which are Lord Hatherton and Sir Francis Baring, M. P. for Portsmouth, formerly Chancellor of the Exchequer. Another report has got wind in the London clubs, and has found its way to the press, that Sir James Graham has been offered the vacancy, with a view to bring over a large body of the Peel party to the present Government. It is said that a small fixed duty on corn is even contemplated as the basis of this coalition, and that Lord John Russell meditates some such proposal. The Brussels journals, in giving out this extraordinary report, add that one of the reasons which induces his lordship to propose a small fixed duty for revenue is "for the purpose of increasing the importation of grain into the Mersey." It is needless to add that the report has not received credit in any quarter. There is, however, a general belief that Sir Robert Peel is not disposed to resume the cares of Government; and the accession of Sir James Graham would not in the smallest degree surprise us; his talents would materially strengthen the Government. The conditions, however, of his acceptance of office would not be likely to transpire beyond the walls of the Cabinet. Another arrangement is mentioned, that Sir F. Baring will resume the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, and that Sir Charles Wood will go up to the House of Lords. From the strong feeling evinced throughout the country for some extensive change in our system of taxation, the future Chancellor of the Exchequer, whoever he may be, will not be allowed to repose upon a bed of roses.

### IRELAND.

The accounts from this part of the United Kingdom are, we regret to say, of a discouraging character; and from present appearances, the great bulk of the peasantry are likely to be subjected to privations of the direst character ere the ensuing summer sets in.

With respect to the trial of Mr. Charles Gavan Duffy, we have to report that judgment was given on the demurrer on the 5th January. Mr. Justice Perrin first pronounced his opinion in favour of the crown. The prisoner had demurred to the form of the indictment, and a variety of authorities had been cited, but on considering the whole of the first objection his lordship did not think it tenable. It was, however, his opinion, that the second count contained matter "repugnant and insensible" on the face of it; but it had been ruled by Lord Holt, that where the first portion of a count set forth the offence with which a prisoner was charged, the latter or repugnant portion should not vitiate the whole count. He was of opinion that the repugnant portion only of the count should be quashed, and the other portion allowed. The decision on the first count,