

## POLITICS AND NEWS.

## News by the last English Mail.

## STATE OF TRADE IN ENGLAND.

Since our publication of the 5th instant, up to the present moment, the commercial distress described in our last number has gone on increasing,—each day discloses the fact of some widely spread mercantile disaster; and it is most difficult, amidst the general gloom which prevails, to discover any mode by which we shall get speedily extricated from the difficulties which surround us. In Liverpool, consequent upon the failure of the Royal Bank yesterday, distrust prevails to such a fearful extent that business is paralysed, and no sales of any kind of produce can be effected on our quoted terms, or without a considerable reduction from them. In the manufacturing districts a general stoppage of the mills is threatened; and the very great decline in the revenue for the last quarter indicates that a change is coming over the condition of the people, which cannot but influence the future consumption of articles of luxury and necessity.

Participating in the general gloom which pervades all other branches of trade, our Cotton market during the past fortnight, has been very dull and languid. Hardly anything was bought on speculation, and very little taken for export. The trade, of course, limited their operations to immediate wants, so that the sales since the 5th instant are of small amount. In the general stagnation of trade, and the adoption of "short time" in the manufacturing districts, combined with the severe money pressure, prices have given way, so that during the fortnight we have to note a decline of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d to  $\frac{3}{4}$ d on American; Brazil,  $\frac{1}{4}$ d to  $\frac{3}{4}$ d; Egyptian,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d to  $\frac{3}{4}$ d per lb. These were the closing quotations of last week; whilst yesterday the sales, which however were only 1200 bags, were made at a further decline of  $\frac{1}{4}$ d to  $\frac{3}{4}$ d below Friday's prices.

In a second edition of our paper published for the Cambria on the 5th inst., we announced a rise in the price of Wheat and Flour at the Liverpool Corn Exchange on that day. The advance, however, was not sustained. On the next market day at Mark-lane, London, prices had a downward tendency. Since that date large arrivals of foreign corn, and the depressed state of the money market, have thrown a gloom over the London and Liverpool Corn Exchange, and prices have fallen to and below the currency noted in our last. Yesterday, at Mark-lane, the previous prices of last week were asked, but before sales could be effected a decline of from 2s. to 3s. per quarter was submitted to by the sellers. Foreign Wheat was difficult of sale; the finer sorts fetched last week's prices, but the inferior descriptions were unsaleable. The millers fixed the top price of Flour at 46s. per sack. American Flour was about 1s. per barrel cheaper than the previous week. The quotation for American Flour in Liverpool is 24s. 6d. to 26s. 6d. The accounts from the Lincoln and Hull markets, received at the moment of going to press, report a decline of 2s. and 3s. per quarter.—*European Times*.

**MONEY MARKET, FRIDAY EVENING.—THE LIABILITIES.**—The English funds continue depressed, and have again undergone some violent fluctuations, but no new feature has to-day been manifested, and on the whole the agitation has somewhat subsided. Consols for money opened at 80 $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$ , being a decline of nearly a-half per cent. from the closing price of Thursday, and at the close, after much fluctuation, the price was 80 $\frac{3}{4}$ . We have to-day to announce the suspension of Messrs. Laurence Phillips and Sons, merchants and East India agents. The liabilities of the firm upon acceptances (running over the next six months) are understood to amount to about 70,000*l.* The assets are stated at from 120,000*l.* to 125,000*l.* The failure, also, of Messrs. Knapp and Co., bankers, at Abingdon, has been announced. This bank was one of issue, but its fixed circulation was only 29,316*l.* It was established in 1802. Letters from Liverpool this morning report the suspension of Messrs. Brown and Todd, provision merchants, and Messrs. W. Steele, and Co., soap manufacturers. The liabilities in both cases are said to be moderate.

**DISTRESS AMONGST THE FACTORY OPERATIVES.**—At a meeting of the unemployed operatives at Warrington the following resolution was passed, and the succeeding remarks made on it by the proposer, whilst they exculpated the manufacturers from all blame.—"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the past and present position of the factory operatives is a state almost bordering on starvation, and our prospects for the future are starvation, disease, and death." He said it was now nearly twelve months since the stagnation began; the winter was coming on with far worse prospects, hundreds who then had credit had now none—hundreds who then had comfortable clothing and bedding now had pawned all—many who then had a house to shelter them had now no home. Unless something were done there would be more disease than ever. Employers and employed, wealthy persons and shopkeepers, all ought to unite in devising plans for relief. Many families had not more than 6d. per head per week to live upon, for month after month; but he would rather be in the condition of those persons than of those wealthy ones who, with a knowledge of these things, incurred the responsibility of refusing to assist them.—Serious riots have

occurred in some parts amongst those who have "turned out" in consequence of reduction of wages.

**SINGULAR CAUSE OF SHIPWRECK.**—On Monday, intelligence reached Lloyd's that the schooner Marie Antoinette, Vincent Latribourt, Master, bound from the Isle du Nord to Neath, has been wrecked on the Cornel Sand, near Pimbury, in Carmarthen Bay; the vessel was boarded by a pilot, but he could not speak French, and the master of the Marie Antoinette was totally unacquainted with English, hence they were unable to communicate, and the French skipper shaped a course for Golden Island with the above result.

**EMBEZZLEMENT.**—The police reports are crowded with cases of embezzlements by shopmen and clerks, and some of them to a large amount.

**TERRIFIC BOILER EXPLOSION.**—On Tuesday, a boiler explosion, attended with serious injury and loss of life, occurred at a machine manufactory, formerly occupied by Messrs. Fenton, Murray, and Jackson, situate in Water-lane, near Victoria-bridge, Leeds. Two persons have been killed, and three more or less seriously injured.

**CHARGE OF MURDER.**—At the Dowlais Petty Sessions, Margaret Davis has been charged with the wilful murder of Anne Davis, her female infant daughter, by forcibly immersing it in a pail of water. The prisoner who appeared wholly unconcerned, declined saying anything in her defence or putting any question to the witness who gave evidence against her. The magistrates fully committed the prisoner for trial at the next assizes.—*Hereford Times*.

**SWINGING AT OXFORD.**—William Wilmenurst was on Monday brought up for final examination, on the charge of obtaining several large sums from bankers, by means of forged letters of credit. He was fully committed for trial.

**CHARGE OF MURDER.**—William Joseph Clifton, aged 42, was placed at the bar before Mr. Trywhitt, at Clerkenwell, charged with the wilful murder of Matilda Clifton, his wife, aged 38. The court was crowded to excess and considerable interest was manifested. A quarrel had taken place, the deceased had been very violent, and the prisoner, it appears, had kicked her violently.

**PREVENTION OF FIRES IN CHIMNEYS.**—Fires in chimneys in France have been prevented by placing three frames of wire-work, one foot above each other, near the base of the chimney; no flame will pass through them, while the draught of the chimney will not be impaired; consequently no fire can ever happen in the chimney.—*Guardian*.

**FEVER IN SCOTLAND.**—In one of the Burrowin huts a whole family, comprising nine persons, were lately all lying at once ill of fever. Two of the Children died of the malady, and the corpse of one of them lay two days before any person ventured in to separate the dead from the living. Some of the inmates of the neighbouring huts, who visited this abode of affliction on Thursday morning, found that the father of the family had also breathed his last. A few hasty arrangements were made, a cart was procured, and four individuals conveyed his remains to the grave-yard on the same day. While on the way, by some mismanagement, the cart was upset, and the coffin was thrown out and burst open. The few who formed the funeral party got the coffin replaced on the cart, and the grave soon closed over it. The deceased belonged to Rothsay.—*Witness*.—We are sorry to intimate that fever still continues rapidly on the increase. The disease seems to have broken out with renewed virulence in the course of the present week in particular.

**INCREASE OF CRIME IN SCOTLAND.**—By the trials at the different circuit courts of judiciary, the number of cases of child murder by mothers, and connubial assaults by husbands, is painfully evident. In towns, the winter campaign of pocket-picking and housebreaking is commencing with unusual vigour.—*Daily News*.

**DROUGHT IN SCOTLAND.**—The greatest suffering prevails in Scotland from the want of water.

**MEETING OF THE IRISH MEMBERS.**—An adjourned preliminary meeting to the proposed conference of Irish members was held on the 30th ult., in Radley's Hotel, at twelve o'clock. It was attended by Mr. John O'Connell, M. P., Mr. D. O'Connell, M. P., Mr. James Fagan, M. P., Mr. J. Reynolds, and Mr. H. Grattan, M. P., Mr. Grattan occupied the chair, and read several communications from Leitrim, Berehaven, and different parts of the country, to show the absolute necessity of immediately calling on Government to give relief of some kind, stating that the prospect of distress this winter was worse than ever it was. He also urged the necessity of making a move at once, by addressing the people of Ireland, as the great bulk of Irish members would not attend, because they hated the names of O'Connell and Grattan. The reason he would suggest addressing the Irish people was, that the Lord-Lieutenant had no power and Downing-street had no heart. Mr. O'Connell thought the small attendance was owing to gentlemen not knowing that they were to meet. He would approve of an adjournment to Tuesday, and have them all summoned for that day; and if they did not then attend, they should go on without them. Thirty-eight gentlemen had promised to attend, and he was sure they would. Mr. Rey-

nolds, and Mr. Fagan having expressed similar opinions, and advised the prudence of going up as a deputation to the Castle, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday.—*Times*.

—There was a further preliminary meeting of the Irish members on Tuesday, when the following gentlemen attended:—Mr. H. Grattan, Mr. J. O'Connell, Mr. John Reynolds, Mr. James Fagan (Wexford county), Mr. Alderman O'Brien, Mr. Francis Scully, Mr. John Greene, and Mr. Daniel O'Connell. Mr. John Greene was called to the chair. Mr. John O'Connell read a list of thirteen propositions, forwarded by Alderman Fagan, M. P. for Cork, and which he gave notice he would offer for the adoption of the council on its assemblage. Mr. O'Connell stated that one of those propositions was a pledge to obtain the Repeal of the Legislative Union, and as they had invited the attendance of gentlemen not Repealers, the placing of a notice of that nature on their books thus early might cause some embarrassment. It was after some discussion decided that the notices should be referred for future consideration. The council then discussed the best period for the first meeting, also whether they would enter into communication with the 'Irish Council,' which had called another meeting of the Irish members of Parliament and Peers, and whether or not the Irish members should call on the Peers to assemble with them. It was decided, after a long conversation, that the first meeting should be fixed for Tuesday, Nov. 2; that as that council of members had been suggested and called before the Irish Council had taken any steps for a like purpose, they should continue in their course without reference to it; and that they should invite the representative Peers of Ireland to join in their assembly.

**IRISH COUNCIL.**—This body held an adjourned meeting on Saturday. Resolutions were passed stating that the condition of the country would be as bad, if not worse, this year than last, and insisting on the necessity of Parliament meeting immediately.

**PROGRESS OF DISTRESS.**—The accounts from the west of Cork already show signs of another season of famine, and destitution. In consequence of the distress in the large and impoverished district of Berehaven, it was proposed, at a general meeting of the committees of the entire union, to send a deputation to wait on the representatives of the Government, and apply for some assistance towards feeding the poor in this terrible crisis, and thus to avoid a re-enactment of the scenes of want, misery, and death, which have given to the next union of Skibbereen a fearful notoriety. The gentlemen forming the deputation arrived on Saturday evening, and on Wednesday were accorded an interview with Sir W. Somerville, having been written to previously by the Rev. Mr. Enright. The rev. gentleman stated that the district which the deputation represented contained a population of 21,000, three-fifths of which were in absolute want, one-fifth in a struggling state between existence and want, and only one-fifth really able to maintain themselves comfortably. Sir William Somerville said that he would lay the affair before the Lord Lieutenant.

**MAYO.**—Within half-an-hour's walk of our office the keepers have followed the labourers along the ridge, according as they moved forward in their reaping process. There is not a barony, parish, or townland in Mayo now exempt from the visits of the drivers or the vigilance of the keepers. In some instances the property of squires have been seized on by the agents for rent; the squire, in his turn, has seized upon his under-tenants, and in this manner the war of extermination progresses. The country people, goaded by oppression, and the terror of death by starvation staring them in the face, have formed themselves into night brigades—marching and counter-marching through the country, spreading terror and consternation around. A party of these legislators paid their court a few nights since to a man named O'Donnell, a driver of Lord Lucan's, and, if report be true, they chafed him a la militaire; they also fired some shots when leaving the premises. Poverty in Mayo is now so great that in the town of Castlebar dead bodies remain unburied for days for want of coffins, and on Tuesday morning the inhabitants were thrown into a state of consternation by beholding the revolting spectacle of a human dead body carried through the town on wattles, without a coffin, wrapped up in a piece of dirty sack-cloth, bound round with two straw ropes—one round the neck and the other round the feet.—*Mayo Telegraph*.

**GALWAY.**—In Galway both the fever hospitals erected by the relief committee are not only full to overflowing, but numberless applications for admission are obliged to be day after day refused from the want of sufficient accommodation.—*Galway Vindicator*.

**TULLAMORE.**—Fever is still very prevalent in Tullamore. On Friday last the fever patients in the temporary hospitals were in a deplorable condition, without any food, as the Poor Law Guardians had not made the necessary arrangements to take these hospitals under their care.

**DESTRUCTION OF LISSANOURE CASTLE BY GUNPOWDER.**—AWFUL CATASTROPHE.—An awful and almost unprecedented occurrence took place on Tuesday last, at Lissanoure Castle, near Ballymoney. Mr. G. Macartney, the proprietor of Lissanoure, previous to the reduction of the yeomanry force, was captain in the body, and was in the habit of storing large quantities of gunpowder in the castle for the use of the small staff