

The Examiner.

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

Vol. I.]

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND, MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1848.

[No. 36.]

POLITICS AND NEWS.

The News by the late English Mail.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

The recent political events which have taken place in France, and are daily occurring in almost all parts of the Continent of Europe, combined with the turbulent proceedings of mobs which have paraded the streets of London, Manchester, Edinburgh and Glasgow, during the course of the last week, have had an injurious effect upon the trade of this country. All parties engaged in manufacturing and commercial pursuits feel a distrust as to the permanency of the present order of things in France. The transactions in all kinds of Produce have, therefore, notwithstanding the easy terms on which it can be obtained—been limited; whilst in most descriptions of goods exposed for sale a decline on our last quotations has taken place. The position and prospects of trade in the manufacturing districts continue dull, but not more so than was to be expected from the turn that political events have taken in those places to which considerable portions of our manufactured goods are exported.

IRELAND.

The election for the representation of the city of Waterford, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Daniel O'Connell, terminated, on the 29th ult., in the return, by a small majority, of Sir H. W. Barron.

Several of the prisoners sentenced to death at the late Special Commissions in Limerick, Clare, and Tipperary, have been executed. On the 1st instant, Henry and Philip Cody, and Michael Lonergan, suffered at Clonmel. The circumstances connected with the execution of these culprits are so very extraordinary that we give the details at greater length than we would otherwise do. About 11 o'clock a large body of military and police arrived. At this hour, as far as the eye could reach, there was a perfect sea of human heads, wedged so closely together, that there was no possibility of leaving the crowd after having entered it, which may be partly accounted for by its being the fair day. Previous to the Sheriff's arrival, the hangman appeared, attired in a gaol dress, his head and face being covered with crape, and, in the presence of the multitude, commenced, with the utmost *sang froid* imaginable, to 'soap the ropes,' and otherwise prepare for his duties. Henry Cody first advanced, with his arms pinioned, and, after a short and feeling address, retired. Michael Lonergan next appeared, looking much emaciated and careworn. After he had uttered a few ejaculations the executioner advanced, unbuttoned the culprit's shirt collar, adjusted the rope on his neck, and fastened his cap. Philip Cody, a young, handsome, and athletic fellow, now came forward, bowed and smiled to the crowd, and, after begging their prayers, turned round and permitted the executioner to adjust the rope and place the cap on his face. Henry Cody immediately reappeared, but with his face flushed and greatly excited. He walked with a rapid step out on the drop, directly to the executioner, and on the latter proceeding to adjust the rope, caught him in his pinioned arms and attempted to throw him over the balcony, in which he would have succeeded, and have thereby killed him, but for the interference of the Roman Catholic clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Power. On finding himself foiled, he kicked the executioner violently, but was at last drawn forcibly in by the chaplain. Mr. Power then reasoned with him, and having, as he conceived, pacified him, led him forth again. The executioner was then standing on the platform with his hands folded. Cody again attacked him, but failing to catch him, kicked him most frightfully, and had again to be taken in, when his hands and feet were placed in heavy irons,—not, however, without the necessary aid of ten men. He was now brought out for the last time. During the scuffle, Phillip got the cap off his eyes, the rope off his neck, and cried most piteously on finding he could not aid his elder brother; whilst the unfortunate man, Lonergan, was obliged to remain in suspense all the time, with his face covered. The younger Cody then, at the entreaty of Mr. Power, though with much reluctance, removed from the centre on the right, and Henry was put in his place. The executioner immediately dashed from the drop, the fatal bolt was drawn, and the three men were soon after in eternity. Henry Cody caught the bars whilst descending, but his weight soon compelled him to give way. The entire scene lasted half an hour; and, during its continuance, loud and deep curses, breathings of revenge in the Irish language, and imprecations awful to mention, were vociferated against the parties concerned by the entire populace.

There is no diminution, we regret to say, in the amount of destitution. The accounts which daily reach us from the south and west are really heart-rending—in some cases, horrifying and unnatural. No doubt there is exaggeration employed; but, notwithstanding, there are, we are convinced, entire parishes in these districts in a state of absolute want. Evictions are not latterly so numerous, but one case being published during the fortnight—that of six families, of thirty persons, in the parish of Shruel, county of Mayo.

The French revolution has called forth all the energies of the new journal, lately started in Dublin, called the United Irishman. It expresses itself on this subject in terms the most reckless and imprudent:

"Oh, my countrymen, look up, look up! Arise from the death-dust where you have long been lying, and let this light visit your eyes also, and touch your souls. Let your ears drink in the blessed words—*Liberty! Fraternity! Equality!* which are soon to ring from pole to pole. Clear steel will, ere long, dawn upon you in your desolate darkness; and the rolling thunder of the people's cannon will drive before it many a heavy cloud that has long hidden from you the face of heaven. Pray for that day, and preserve life and health, that you may worthily meet it. Above all, let the man amongst you who has no gun, *sell his garment and buy one.*"

Referring to the conduct of the French people in their conflicts with the troops, the moral is thus set forth:—

"They knew well that if railroads, telegraphs, mails, boards, councils, and centralised institutions of one sort or another, enable a King or Vice-King, a Government or Governor, to sit in a capital, and therefrom rule a whole land, they place at the mercy of the citizens of that capital the whole government of that land—that, in fact, to master Paris was to master the existing Government of France; as if we seized Dublin we would hold in our gripe English rule in Ireland, its head and body and limbs—to choke it, or let it off again, as we pleased. A centralised city, which thus enables a Government to send its orders to every point, and bring its engines and mercenaries by steam from every point, is also, for these reasons, admirably adapted to be cut off from every point by a people within. The Parisians accordingly blocked up or destroyed every road leading into the city, seized on the railway stations and burned some of them, tore up every railroad round Paris, broke down embankments, and cut through bridges with ease and dexterity. Paris was thus isolated, and the citizens and troops within left to fight it out. Should any train, laden with voracious mercenaries, dash on there puffing, and panting, and screaming, it and its burden would tumble down to Erebus of its own accord, without troubling any one."

The city (Dublin is supposed) being now cut off from without, the "work within is simple enough." And here is the "work" suggested by Mr. Mitchell:—

"1. Every street is an excellent shooting gallery for disciplined troops, but it is a better defile in which to take them. In the vocabulary of drilling there is no such phrase as "Infantry—prepare for window-pots, brickbats, logs of wood, chimney-pieces, heavy furniture, light pokers, &c.;" and these thrown vertically on the heads of a column below from the elevation of a parapet or top story, are irresistible. The propelling forces, viz. ladies or chambermaids, or men, who can do no better, have the additional advantage of security; and the narrower the street and the higher the houses, the worse the damage and the greater the security. A military proportion we recommend to the study of the best lady in the land.

"2. Bottles, delph, and such missiles, mixed with these, or of themselves, not only knock down and wound infantry, but render the streets impassible to cavalry and artillery. A horse may dance on eggs, but no squadron can charge over broken bottles. Artillery cannot ride over them, nor indeed can disciplined foot-men keep the step, or tread among them, with ease. These admirable weapons abound in every house; and if any engineering urchin take a soda-water bottle, or small flask of thick glass, dry inside, filled with bits of stone or iron, or metal of any sort—nails, for instance—and with coarse gunpowder thrown into the interstices, cork it tight (the cork being perforated), and then attach a judiciously adjusted fusee, he will possess a domestic bomb or grenade, by which he can either blow his arm off, or act with deadly effect against cavalry. To these missiles, from windows and house-tops, revolutionary citizens add always boiling water, or grease, or better, cold vitriol, if available. Molten lead is good, but too valuable—it should be always cast in bullets and allowed to cool. The housetops and spouts furnish in every

city abundance; but care should be taken, as they do in Paris, to run the balls solid—you cannot calculate on a hollow ball, and that might be the very one selected to shoot a field officer.

"3. The Parisians never fall into this mistake, viz., to attack barracks or forts in the first instance. Their plan is to draw the soldiery into the narrow streets, where they can only advance a few abreast; and where lanes, alleys, and streets, running at angles, afford excellent opportunities of taking them in flank or rear. Street-fighting is most harrassing on disciplined troops, especially when subject to the attention of heads of families from housetops and windows, as we have shown above. They are divided—disjointed—worn out doing nothing."

A special meeting of the Confederation was held in Dublin, on the 9th instant, Mr. Crean, an operative, presiding. Mr. W. S. O'Brien, M. P., Messrs. Duffy, Dillon, M'Gee, Barry, and other ruling spirits, were present. An address to the people of Ireland was resolved on, the sentiments of which may be inferred from the following closing paragraph:—

"We are ready to forget our party, our injuries, and our pride, for the sake of our country. In her service, humiliation, and danger, and sacrifice, and death, are welcome to us. Wherever we are required we shall be present, indifferent as to whether our post be humble or exalted. Whoever leads on we shall follow, insisting only that we shall go forward,—FORWARD THOUGH GRAVES WERE TO YAWN, AND GIBBETS TO FROWN ACROSS OUR PATH."

Resolutions, expressive of a desire to forget all differences, and to unite with all sections of Repealers, were brought forward and unanimously adopted.

FRANCE.

On the 26th, the National Guards were augmented by the addition of 20,000 young men, as National Guards *mobiles*. Several chateaux and bridges were burnt, and a large number of the soldiers deserted. All political prisoners were liberated. M. de Lamartine addressed the people on behalf of the Provisional Government, and made a most favourable impression. A large number of the people attempted to destroy the printing offices, but their intention was overruled by the Government. A Proclamation was issued, declaring France a Republic, on the ground that the Government had betrayed its trust. By this proclamation every citizen was declared an elector. The admirals of France declared their adherence to the Republic, and Admiral Baudin was appointed to the station at Toulon. His instructions were to take possession of any ships he might find in the port of Algiers, and to proclaim Algeria an integral of the French Republic. The Palace of the Tuilleries was formed into an hospital for workmen. M. de Rothschild intimated his intention to observe his engagements to the state for a new loan, and also sent to the Mayor of Paris 50,000 francs for the wounded.

On the 27th, the Republic city became more tranquilized. M. de Lamartine appeared before the people, surrounded by the other members of the Provisional Government, and addressing the citizens, declared that Royalty was abolished—the Republic proclaimed—the right of the people to exercise their political rights—that national workshops were opened for the unemployed—that the National Guards were united with the people, and that the death penalty for political offences was abolished. The organisation of 50,000 citizens as National Guards was completed. Public confidence was greatly restored. M. Portalis issued a warrant to arrest all the late ministers then in flight. A grand demonstration took place.

On the 28th, all the Banking-houses resumed business. The hospital list showed the number of wounded at 428, of which 350 were civilians, and 78 military. Funeral ceremonies in commemoration of the victims of the revolution were conducted in all the churches.—The press was unanimous in opinion that monarchical government in France was for ever overthrown.

On the 6th, there was a monetary crisis—the failure of the great house of Gouin & Co. produced a panic. A decree was issued, declaring universal suffrage and vote by ballot.

On the 7th, the money panic was more extended. M. Lambert, who was attached to the household of the King, blew out his brains. Mr. John O'Connell, then in Paris, sent in his adhesion to the new Government. The Government received a deputation of 200 citizens of the United States, who expressed their congratulations, and presented the flags of France and the United States as an emblem of alliance. On the presentation of which the deputation exclaimed *una voce*, "We swear it by our blood!"

On the 8th, 9th, and 10th, the commercial depression