NEWS OF THE WEEK.

(*From Willmer's European Times of Oct. 11.*)

The Crimean banquet in Dublin promises to be a very telling affair. It will be a monster dinner—1000 soldiers and 2000 civilians. The tickets, a guinea each will make the company somewhat exlcusive, and it will take place on Wednesday, the 22nd inst. The Lord-Lieutenant will be present, and many of the nobles and gentry in Ireland. The subscriptions for the purpose are likely to reach £3000, so that as far as the mere feasting goes there will be nothing to desire. Turning to another and more permanent phase in the history of Ireland, the seventh report of the Encumbered Estates Court shows that nearly twenty millions sterling have been obtained by the sales therein. The exact sum is £18,299,350 14s. 9d., but what is still more surprising is, that only a *ninth* of this amount has been paid by English, Scotch, and foreign purchasers.—a reform which the public on this side of the channel will hardly be prepared, recollecting how much we have heard of recent years respecting the introduction of British capital into Ireland. Nevertheless, the country is progressing. Many of the small farmers are making money, and the squalid misery of the peasantry is fast disappearing. In the South and West the wretched hovels, unfit for human habitations, are still numerous, but even in this respect we are told the future is hopeful, and when the soil gets into more energetic hands this evil will be greatly diminished.

The interest of the week centres in France. The financial position of that country is alarming, and a belief current that the suspension of specie payments is inevitable. Public confidence is evidently shaken, and the habit of hoarding has become general—the best proof of the unhealthy condition of society. The drain from the Bank of France serious, and much distress has arisen from the absence of a silver coinage to meet the the requirements of society. France is rapidly drifting towards a panic, and a financial writer of authority gives this gloomy view of things—"A few days will determine whether the evil is about to assume fatal proportions. Should the next week pass quietly over, so as to allow the more favourable accounts from Germany and China to produce an effect, while the high rate of discount is checking importations and inducing sales of produce and manufactures, the crisis will perhaps be found to have been surmounted. If this result should not be witnessed, and the people in blind confusion should still rush to the Bank, there can, of course, be no termination other than a suspension of specie payments. At present the Emperor is said to have an insurmountable aversion to a suspension of cash payments." The population of Paris is in a very feverish state. The artisans of the faubourgs are deeply incensed against the Government. The high price of the necessaries of life, the pressure of house-rents, and the want of employment, are producing deep and general discontent. The long absence of the Emperor from Paris has added to the complications, and as Louis Napoleon is considered to be himself the Government, this unfortunate condition of things sorely imperils his popularity. In fact, matters appear to have come to such a pass in the French metropolis that nothing which can possibly occur there will occasion surprise. Hitherto the genius of the Emperor has proved strong enough for any emergency, and the present is the time for testing the strength of his resources. Never since the *coup de' etat* was he in such peril. M. Magne, the French Minister of Finance, has submitted to the Emperor a statement in which he paints in very glowing colours the prosperity and resources of the country, and he shows that although France has had to endure at the same time war, cholera, inundations, and prolonged dearth of provisions, this accumulation of calamities has not induced disorder, nor checked trade, nor led to a diminution of the revenue. If an impatient and discontented people could be satisfied with reasons, this State paper ought to set every thing right, but the difference between the theoretical prosperity here delineated and the actual misery which exists tells against the Minister's assumptions.

The Neapolitan question pales before the more alarming condition of France. Bomba, it is now said, evinces a desire to trace his steps, and has expessed a readiness to send a representative to the Paris Conference next month. In the meantime two British ships-of-war were in the barbour of Ajaccio in Corsica, and three others were immediately expected.

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POLITICAL ARRESTS IN FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times*, writing on Saturday evening, the 4th, says:—"A good many persons, some say 100, were arrested the night before last in the Rue Mouffetard and in other streets of the 12th arrondissement. The parties are charged with being implicated in the posting up by day, and particularly by night, placards of a very menacing character. These placards threaten death to the proprietors, demand "cheap bread or ——," recommend the most summary measures against the owners of house property, and several of them used very disrespectful and even menacing expressions towards the Emperor himself. Such angry ebullitions of popular feeling, occurring at the moment when the working classes are called on to pay their rent, show the sort of relations which exist between them and the proprietors. Those relations are the worst that can possibly be imagined. Political economists tell us that things find their level, and are of general benefits sooner or later. They are, no doubt, right, but the classes I speak of have rather loose notions on political economy; they only feel that they are ground down by high rents and as high taxation, and they are discontented. It may be true, as the *Moniteur* lately stated, that for every house pulled down four or five new ones have been built, but it is equally certain that those who occupied the old houses could no more become tenants of the new edifices which have arisen on their sites than they could take up their quarters in the moon. Rent has quadrupled within the last four years, and the condition of thousands whose income has continued stationary must be deplorable. In the newly-constructed houses rent is enormously high; in some of the principal streets it is not uncommon to find a second and a third floor, unfurnished, let for 10,000f. (£400) which a few years ago might be had for less than one-fourth. But it is not merely in new constructions that this increase is found. Houses which have hardly undergone any repair—which have been untouched by the brush of the painter or varnisher—have risen with the same rapidity, so that anything like cheap or even moderate lodging is out of the question. People who invest capital in building do so unquestionably for profit, and they have a right to fix whatever value they please on their property; but it is undeniable that many house proprietors are most grasping and remorseless in their exactions. What with the high price of provisions of all kinds and enormous house-rent, it is difficult to understand how not merely the working classes, but also the small *employes* under Government and clerks in commercial houses, can manage to live. At this conjuncture, so critical to so great a portion of the public, I am assured that many families have been thrown upon the street. They know not where to go for shelter, for the new landlord will be found as exacting as the one that ejects them. This hatred, just or unjust, against the proprietors, is intense and general, and if ever any disturbance takes place these, I fear, will pass a *mauvais quart d'heure*. I have seen the transcripts of one of the placards torn down by the police the night before, with the words, '*Tue ton proprietaire; je tueraile mien!—Mort aux proprietaires;*'' and other specimens of the same kind. The Government is, as usual, made accountable; and the rapacity of the proprietors, as the failure of harvests and inclemency of seasons, should all be prevented or remedied by it. As might be expected, the demagogues take advantage of this fermentation in the low quarters of the city, and do their best to stir up the old spirit of revolt. Precautions have been taken, and patrols have for some few nights past perambulated the faubourg to prevent any explosion on the part of the working classes, discontented and irritated as they are.

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TRADE WITH JAPAN.—We read in the *Moniteur de la Flotte*:—"Our last accounts from the Chinese seas mention a highly interesting fact. The Emperor of Japan, being anxious to adjust various questions connected with the recent treaties he has concluded with the several governments of Europe and America, held on the 22d of June, at Jeddo, the capital of his empire, a solemn assembly of the principal lords and most influential personages of his court. It was decided at the meeting that two ports of the empire, those of Nangasaki and Hadodadi, should be open to the vessels of all nations. There they might repair, renew their provisions, establish depots of coal, &c. The other ports of the empire, moreover, are to be accessible to vessels in distress, which may take refuge in them, but will have to put to sea the moment the danger is over. No foreigner to be allowed to penetrate into the interior of the country without a special permission from the chief of the state. No decision had yet been come to with regard to the commercial question. The right of trading with Japan is still exclusively maintained in favour of the Dutch and Chinese, who have long possessed it on very onerous terms, having but one market open to them, that of Nangasaki. The new policy adopted by the government of Japan will be productive of incalculable results. Hitherto no foreign vessel could enter the ports of the country to refit or renew its provisions. The last decision of the court of Jeddo accordingly constitutes a great progress. Should China, Cochin China, the empire of Asam, and all the other neighbouring states follow the example of Japan, the intercourse between the extreme east and the rest of the world would be completely changed."

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS OF DOMESTIC MANUFACTURE. The display of musical instruments at the recent Exhibition of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association, was unquestionably the most extensive and the best, in the number of instruments and the perfection of workmanship, ever witnessed in this country. All our leading pianoforte makers exhibited from two to eight instruments, including all the grades they manufacture. The Committee, of which Gen. K. Oliver, of Lawrence, was the chairman, included gentlemen of the highest personal character and extensive knowledge of musical matters, so that the awards they have made are entitled to unusual consideration. Messrs Chickering & Sons have received the gold medal for Grand Pianofortes, and Mason & Hamlin for their Organ Harmoneon.

The silver medals are thus awarded: Timothy Gilbert & Co, for grand piano-forte; Hallett, Davis & Co., for semi-grand piano-forte; Chickering & Sons the first medal, and James W. Vose second medal, for square pianofortes; Mason & Hamlin, for melodeons: Henry N. Hooper & Co. for a chime of twelve bells; Theodore Bertelling, for flutes; and Nathan Richardson, for "Modern School for the Piano-Forte." Hallett, Davis & Co. and Chickering & Sons are awarded silver medal for piano-forte cases.

Besides the above, it will be seen that bronze medals have been awarded seven different piano forte manufacturers; and nine diplomas are bestowed for musical instruments, including five for piano-fortes.

At a meeting of Donald M'Kay's creditors, held this morning, it was thought advisable to state publicly that his assets are abundant, and his property is in such a condition, that a very short time will be required to liquidate all his liabilities, leaving him ample means to continue his business. We take pleasure in saying that the course pursued by him in this matter is highly creditable to him, and meets the approval of his creditors.—*Boson Trveller, 25th.*

HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

Wednesday, October 29, 1856.

LIGHTING THE STREETS.

ON Monday evening this matter was mooted in the Common Council, and after an animated debate a committee was appointed to bring in a by-law for that purpose. The Charlottetown Gas Light Company, through Mr. Murphy their manager, has made an offer to find lamp posts and erect them, charging the City a reasonable percentage on the value for the use of them, and to light lamps at a charge in the whole, of £6 10s. currency per annum each lamp. This is an object of more importance than it would at first seem, for most people are apt to look at the lighting a city as a mere matter of luxury, to enable people to walk comfortably and without danger of losing their way or running foul of each other or being run over by carriages in the dark. There is, however, much more in it. A well-lighted Town is a safer place of residence in every respect, than one destitute of such an advantage. It is, in the first place, a considerable safeguard against robberies and burglaries, and when combined with a police force, however small, has the effect of rendering houses as safe from attempts to enter them in the night as they are in the day. It is under cover of darkness, that the midnight robber, the riotous, or the dissolute, make their attacks. In a well-lighted street, neither the one nor the other dares shew his face, or at least, follow his evil courses. No thief however bold, would be impudent enough to attempt to force a door or a window under the peering rays from a gas lamp; and the unprotected female would, for the same reason, be able to reach her home in safety; the dread of being recognized is a great preservative with such gentry. But say some, why guard against evils which do not exist? We have very few cases of burglary, and our city is remarkably at quiet night. It is with great pride we assent to such being the fact at present, but who will say how long such a state of quiescence and freedom from violence is to continue. Let any one look round and see how the city is advancing in population, let him mark the increased and increasing value of the goods and merchandise displayed in shop windows and in showglasses or on counters; and then let him ask himself whether these results will not be followed by their usual consequences. Our comparative poverty has hitherto stood us in stead, but as wealth increases, so will luxury, and this in its turn is the fruitful parent of vice. "Prevent the coming disease" is the maxim of a great physician. "When in peace prepare for war" that of the statesman. "Anticipate the rogues," we say, as one of our great men has on another occasion said before us. Do not let them have time or opportunity of practising their nefarious arts. Let a band of burglars and thieves once be formed and recruits will unfortunately pour in from all quarters, and like all other vermin, they will increase and multiply, till it will be difficult, if not impossible, to eradicate them. Nor do we despise the luxury of a well lighted street. It is one of the nobler triumphs of civilisation. Look into any book of travels, and how often do you meet with expressions like the following: "The streets are badly made, the side walks wretched and unsafe, and above all the place destitute of lamps or gas, renders walking after dark often unsafe and always disagreeable." On the other hand, "The streets broad and well made, lighted up with brilliant gas and the side walks of convenient breadth, neatly kept and free from dangerous obstructions, we were enabled to pursue our way with equal facility and comfort by night as in the day." Who would not sooner see the latter character of Charlottetown given by the stranger than the former, and if we can secure it at the expence of a few pence from each individual, ought we to grudge them to attain it? A beginning will have to be made, and the sooner, we think, the better. Cities as well as children need to be trained up in the way they should go, and as with the former so with the latter, the earlier in youth good habits are formed the more certainl yare they of being persevered in.

THE STORM.—We are beginning to hear of the effects of the storm of last week. We have had no communication with Nova Scotia since Wednesday, until yesterday, when a schooner came in from Pictou. The *Lady Le Marchant* broke her shaft after leaving Pictou, and was obliged to put back, since which time she has been lying there, putting in a new shaft, which was telegraphed for and sent down from Richibucto.

On Tuesday evening the Schr. *Lucy Ann* brought the British Mails and part of the passengers from ship *Majestic*, Michael Welsh, master, which vessel was reported, stranded near Pictou Lighthouse. We have gleaned the following particulars from Capt. Jordan, a passenger who came out in the Majestic. She left Liverpool on the 16th September, and experienced head winds and heavy weather getting down the British Channel. On Wednesday last she came through the Gut of Canso with a fair wind, but off Cape George the wind came ahead and on Friday morning passed Georgetown light and stood up the Gulf towards River John; the wind being heavy with thick snow, the vessel bore up for Pictou roads and came to anchor about 4 o'clock half a mile from the Lighthouse, in about eight fathoms water, during the night the ship dragged both anchors and about 2 o'clock commenced striking on the beach, but made no water until Sunday morning. When the passengers left on Monday she had nine feet of water in the hold. Messrs. Crerar, took charge of the Vessel and had a steamer alongside to render assistance, and after the wind moderated two schooners were employed taking off Goods. The Majestic is owned by W. W. Lord & Co., and had a valuable cargo of Goods for merhants in the City, of not less value than £36,000 Sterling.

The Scr. *Lilly* left this Morning with the Mails for Pictou, but returned again at 2 o'clock, being unable to make headway against the gale.

A Barque from Quebec bound for Grenock was cast away at East Point, and the Master, Mate and two of the crew lost, particulars had not come to hand.

Arrivals in Europe from hence.

CORK, Sept. 30—Alma, Taylor.
GRAVESEND, Sept. 30—Boxer, Lang. 29—Panthea, Salmon.
DUBLIN, Sept. 30—J. M. Ternan, May.
PLYMOUTH, Sept 23—Marcella, Fox.
LIVERPOOL, Oct 1—Margaret, ——. 3—Volly, Camp. 3—Polly, Campbell.
Sailed.—CARDIFF, Oct. 5—Caroline, Harris.

Ship News.

The American fishing schooner *Reindeer*, of Newburyport, United States, Capt. Runsdall, drove ashore on Thursday afternoon at Malpeque Bay, and now lies high and dry under Montgomery's Point.

CORK, Sept 29.—The *Alma*, Taylor, from Buctouche, which arrived at Queenstown 24th Sept., had lost bulwarks and deckload during a gale 22nd Sept., in lat. 52 N., lon. 14 W.

Died,

At York Lodge, on 28th instant, after a protracted illness, Christiana, eldest daughter of Mr. James Watts, in the 41st year of her age. Funeral to take place to-morrow 30th inst., at 2 o'clock, when friends are requested to attend.

POSTPONEMENT!

THE Sale of PROPERTY owned by Mr. DAVID WILSON, advertized to take place this day, is POSTPONED until WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER, then to take place at the COLONIAL BUILDING, at 12 o'clock.

WILLIAM DODD, Auctioneer.

Charlottetown, Oct. 29, 1856.