In addition to the above we have received the following confirmation of the sad event:—

Mansfield, Friday Morning, 10 o'clock.

We have just received the melancholy intelligence of the death of Lord George Bentinck.

"It appears that his Lordship left Welbeck Abbey yesterday evening on foot, for the purpose of dining with Earl Manvers, at Thoresby. On his servant reaching Thoresby with a horse and gig, for the purpose of taking his Lordship back to Welbeck, no tidings having been heard of him, a search was made along the road which it was presumed his Lordship had taken, and he was found quite dead in the flood meadows, near the Welbeck stew ponds. It is supposed that disease of the heart was the cause of this awful catastrophe."—*Leicester Times, Sept. 23.*

Southern Whale-Fishery.

VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

From time to time during the last two years we have referred to the project of Mr. Enderby for carrying on the Southern whale-fishery from the Auckland Islands, of which he has received a grant from the Crown, and on the 6th instant we mentioned a proposal he had made to connect his plans with those of the Hudson's Bay Company for the colonization of Vancouver's Island. The following letter addressed to Sir Henry Pelly, the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, on the subject gives a clear detail of the objects contemplated:—

"13, Great St. Helen's, September 13.

"My dear Sir,—The conversation which I had with you on Friday last, with reference to the colonization of Vancouver's Island in connexion with the carrying out my project for re-establishing the British Southern Whale-fishery, has convinced me you are in error in supposing that Vancouver's Island would ever be made a place of resort by American whalers, or that it is the most desirable rendezvous for ships engaged in that trade. My reason for suggesting that it should be made a subsidiary or branch station for the whaling ships from the Aucklands, was not because it is the most favourably situated for the purpose, but because its colonization would be thereby insured, and a British possession, in lieu of a foreign country, would reap the advantages attendant on the visits of the vessels.

"The fishery (denominated the north-west) commences in the month of April, and terminates in October, and extends from the latitude of 30° to 60° north, and the longitude of 110° to 180° west. You will observe, that Vancouver's Island lies within the above limits; consequently, vessels proceeding to that fishery refresh before entering, and after quitting those seas. This, which under ordinary circumstances must always be the most desirable plan, as it prevents an interruption of the pursuit, would also be the case in regard to vessels from the Aucklands, supposing no arrangement to be entered into between us for their visiting Vancouver's Island; but such an arrangement being made, an inducement for preferring that Island would be given, as the vessels putting in there might then be made available for trafficking themselves, as shown in my last letter to you of the 5th of April last, and it may be as well if I here quote the particular passage, viz:—

"I have expressed my opinion, that the vessels equipped from the Auckland Islands for the fishery should be of the burden of 250 tons each: not that I contemplate they will uniformly fill with oil, (since I have averaged the produce at only 190 tons), but for the purpose of enabling the vessels to carry conveniently their boats and crew. Now, the evils I have pointed out in pages 44, 45, and 46 of my pamphlet, as regards the freighting of the oil to England in whaling ships, with but half cargoes, would equally apply, though in a minor sense, to the fishery in the North Pacific. For example, I will suppose 100 vessels to proceed from the Auckland Islands to 6th in the North Pacific, and that the quantity of oil obtained during the season is only sufficient to fill 80 of them. In such case, it would be productive of a considerable saving, both in time and expence, if we could have a station at Vancouver's Island, at which the vessels could discharge their cargoes and get a refit, and where an agent could settle the wages of the crews of such of the vessels as might remain. By such an arrangement, great advantages might be expected to accrue, as the 20 vessels referred to, instead of returning to the Aucklands, could prosecute the sperm whale-fishery from October to May; or, if found advisable, some of them might be employed in conveying coals, or in trading to India, China, Japan, or other places in the Pacific Ocean, thus extending British commerce, as also connecting British interests in those seas.

"On this point I have only to add, that the same argument would apply, whether the vessels employed in the north-west fishery were more or less than the number I have assumed.

"Now that the Americans have acquired possession of California, there can, I think, be little question that they will, in future, refresh and refit at one or other of their own settlements there, in lieu of at Vancouver's Island, and in preference even to the Sandwich Islands, which they have hitherto made their chief place of rendez-vous, and raised into great prosperity in consequence; and I am confirmed in this opinion as well by a recent article on the subject in the American *Whaleman's Shipping List*, published at Boston weekly; as by the observations of Wilkes respecting California, in his *Narrative of the American Exploring Expedition*. In the case surmised, it is obvious that British and British colonial whaling vessels would equally find it to their advantage to frequent such a station, as being so much nearer, or even the Sandwich Islands, for a similar reason, unless having some special inducement to repair to Vancouver's Island. You will thus perceive, that except from a desire to promote a great national object, viz., the colonization of Vancouver's Island, and connect, by the means proposed, British interests at the north and south extremities of the Pacific Ocean. I should have no sufficient motive, apart from the considerations I have mentioned, for desiring a branch station at Vancouver's Island, as it would be more to my advantage that the vessels should refit at some settlement in the China or Indian Sea, since they would then be in the vicinity of the sperm whale-fishery, which may be prosecuted throughout the year.

"With respect to the colonization of Vancouver's Island, it is by no means my desire to discourage settlers from proceeding thither; but as the matter is one of public interest, and has been made the subject of discussion both in and out of Parliament, I feel I but perform a public duty in stating, for the information of parties who may contemplate fixing their abode in so distant a part of the world, any circumstances of which I am aware that will enable them to form some general idea of what they are likely to expect, and hence it is that I address to you this communication. To tell such parties that Vancouver's Island possesses excellent harbours, a fertile soil, a good climate, fine timber, and coal of excellent quality, obtainable with little labour, is probably all that could at present be said about it. But harbours without ships to frequent them, a soil and climate yielding produce for which there is no demand beyond that of the settlers themselves, and the same as regards timber and coal, will not afford the colonists the means of obtaining clothing, tools, or other necessaries from England, or elsewhere, since without external intercourse they would not be able to pay for them. It appears to me that in order to induce parties to settle in Vancouver's Island you must be prepared to show—first, that the ports will be frequented by shipping; and secondly, that there will be a demand for the produce of the soil, viz., corn, animal food, wool, timber, coals, &c., over and above that of the consumers themselves—or contingencies which, I confidently predict, can alone be realized by making Vancouver's Island a whaling station in the manner stated. Other than a branch station, however, it cannot become, as the reasons are conclusive for its not being to the southward of the line.

"A voyage from England to Vancouver's Island will occupy six months, being two months longer than a voyage to our present most distant colony; it will therefore be a very costly voyage, since the original vessels (at any rate for a lengthened period) would have to seek return freights at very distant places, probably India, China, or Australia.

"Now, in the case of the first settlement (Botany Bay) in Australia, the governors, emigrants, and convicts were conveyed out in whaling ships, and the communication with the mother-country was for a time almost exclusively confined to that class of vessels; nay, in the first instance, their visits were the means of saving the colonists from starvation.

"It may probably be alleged that there is no harbour nearer to Vancouver's Island than that of St. Francisco, about 600 miles distant on the coast of California; but if this be the case, it operates, in my opinion, rather to the prejudice than the advantage of Vancouver's Island, since it might be reasonably asked—for what object could vessels be in that part of the world? If steam communication is to be established along the east coast of America, it certainly would not be advantageous that such vessels should, after running along the coast of Chili, Peru, and Mexico, to the American settlements on the coast of California, proceed some hundreds of miles further north, without an intermediate station, to Vancouver's Island, for the purpose of conveying thither the very few persons who, for years to come, could afford to pay the cost of such a passage. Again, with respect to steam-vessels proceeding thence to China, admitting that persons would be willing to go from the Isthmus of Panama to Vancouver's Island, and from the latter to China, instead of running across by the way of the Sandwich Islands, everything must rest on the assumption that California does not possess coal—a point I consider so doubtful that I, for my part, should be loath to venture deeply into any speculation for the production of coal in Vancouver's Island, if the success is to depend on any such contingency.

"Unless I am at a loss to discover how you can insure the visits of vessels (other than the few belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company) to Vancouver's Island, in the absence of which all the hopes of the settlers as to foreign trade must be abandoned. As regards the vessels of the Hudson's Bay Company affording facilities to colonists at Vancouver's Island, I, of course, give the company credit for not employing more than they may absolutely have occasion for, and any increase to the present number must depend upon the extent to which the colonization of the island may take place. If the Company's vessels now obtain full freights out and home, they cannot convey the goods or produce of the colonists; they could, in fact, only do so in cases where the outward and homeward freights in bulk or weight did not happen to be equal. If, again, vessels are to be wholly employed in the conveyance of coals to California (assuming always that California yields none), or timber, &c., to China, the cost would be much greater than if whaling vessels were employed for the purpose.

"The same remark applies to the conveyance of emigrants; for, if we acted in concert, the whaling ships (as in the case before stated of Botany Bay) might carry them to Vancouver's Island, at a very small charge, in comparison with the cost of their conveyance by other means, and afterwards be profitably employed, in the intervals of the fishing season, in the manner indicated in the extract from my letter already quoted.

"I am, my dear Sir, yours very truly,

"CHARLES ENDERBY.

The Irish Priesthood.

From the Times of Sept. 11.

The last of that strength between the Crown and the Irish debtors is rapidly coming on. A few weeks will see the leaders and partisans of the Repeal treason put upon their country. As that day approaches rumours and whispers of every kind are becoming more and more rife. It is said that every hour discloses unsuspected channels, and reveals fresh sources of conspiracy.—Among the latest reports that fancy has conceived and credulity had propagated is one which will receive a readier belief from others than from ourselves. It is whispered—or rather not whispered, but published as certain—that the Romanist prelates and priesthood of Ireland are largely implicated in the plot. This is the first rumour. The second is, that, though notoriously and undeniably concerned in it, they will not be prosecuted by the Government.

We believe the one as much as the other. We can hardly bring ourselves to imagine that the Romanist priesthood of Ireland can so far have *cast off their present scruples by their practice*—so far behed their open and published writings by secret and cowardly collusion—as to be concerned in an undertaking to which they have expressed the most plain and condemnatory repugnance. We do not believe that any body of men can have been so flagrantly dishonest, so false in words, so inconsistent in action, so hypocritical in demeanour, as to have given ground for such a report as this. We disbelieve it until it is further and fully confirmed. But our incredulity is one of degree. If we are loath to believe the treason of the Romanist priesthood, we unable to believe the weakness or the timidity of the English Government. By the word "Government" we mean the English Ministry; for, as far as to Lord Clarendon, we have no fears about him. He has, during a crisis of unexampled difficulty and perplexity, shown a resolution which disarms suspicion and defies reproach. He has done his duty hitherto; we have no reason to suspect that he will fail to do it hereafter. There is nothing in the position or the character or the general conduct of the supposed delinquents, to make us for a moment suppose that the Lord Lieutenant will pursue a different course towards them from that which he has pursued towards their confederates. Assuming—and to us it does appear a wild assumption—that the Catholic clergy of Ireland, or their hierarchy, have allowed themselves to be mixed up in a treasonable movement, there is no earthly reason why the Government should not treat them as it would treat members of the Established church, or a sect of Dissenters in the like case; and we know Lord Clarendon too well to suppose that he would by his authority recommend a distinction of which no one could better than himself point out the ill effects.

It is true that Lord Clarendon has shown some sort of favor to the Irish hierarchy. He has awarded to the Bishops and Archbishops of the church of the majority the same courtesy and the same titles of courtesy that are accorded to the Bishops and Archbishops of the church of the minority. He has done an act of justice and recombiance of a civility; he has soothed the cicatrice of a morbid but not unnatural agitation; he has done as much as he could do to assuage the bitterness of sectarian taunts and the sense of sacerdotal humiliation. He has not allowed one portion of the Christian church to exult in the degradation of the other; he has not permitted the Irish people—the majority of the people—to be insulted through the persons of their prelates. In our opinion this was wise, statesmanlike, and just; it was nothing more than might be expected from a right-minded representative of the Queen towards a class of the Queen's subjects that had been mortified by long affronts and lately contemned. But because Lord Clarendon behaved justly two years ago, is he to behave unjustly now? Because he was true to the political principles in which he was reared, is he to be false to his Queen and his duty? We have no hesitation in saying that this is quite out of the question. But they who hazard the suspicion to which we have alluded, and circulate the report which now prevails, would have us believe that Lord Clarendon is more—after all his labors, endurance, and praise—about to sully a well earned reputation by a mean and dishonorable compromise. This cannot be.

But will the Head of Her Majesty's Government consent to forego the usual procedures of the law against men of whose guilt he has satisfactory proof? We cannot think that Lord John Russell would consent to such a sacrifice of the Sovereign's dignity, to say nothing of his own honor. If he did this, he would betray the Queen and the Queen's deputy at the same time. And for whom would he incur this double disgrace? Assuming still (what he did venture to believe) that there is evidence to implicate the heads of the Roman Catholic Church—what have they done to merit this condonation? What is their history for the last eight or ten years? In what colors do they appear? In a time of political lull they came forth from the retirement of their village cures to abet the first efforts of a nascent agitation. They lent the sanction of their presence and their speeches to the designs of the demagogues and the seditious-mongers. Too wary to commit themselves directly to any open attempts against the Crown, they yet seduced their flocks into a course which every one saw must end in sedition. They excited the cupidity of the ignorant and pandered to the passions of the violent, but still kept on the safe side of the law.—They committed no overt act of treason, but they continued day after day, month after month, and year after year, to drive or drive such the dull number of their flocks into the "peaceful army" by which the great Agitator was to defy Wellington and England. When O'Connell died their adhesions were at an end, but their discontent. They professed to dread or to dislike the usurpers of his power and popularity. Ostensibly they kept aloof from a sedition which had this distinctive, that it was headed by Protestants and Free-thinkers. Some of them even denounced from the altar combinations which but for their previous activity would never have existed. So far their conduct is cowardly, but passive; unmanly, but yet not treasonable. It now remains to be seen whether they have been false all round, whether they have been playing fast and loose with the Government and the people; deceiving the one by professions which were but disguises, and the other by promises which were but delusions. If this be so—and we have as yet no means of deciding whether it be so or not—we do not believe that Lord J. Russell will allow such men to escape, while the poor peasantry whom they misled pay a vicarious penalty for their past guilt.

One thing we again insist on. The chief grievances of Ireland are social, not political.—Much is to be done by England, in the way of kindness, example, and precept, we admit.—But before anything can be done either by England or by public spirited Irishmen for the permanent good of that wretched country, one preliminary condition must be fulfilled. Unless we are willing to abandon Ireland to her fate—to separate ourselves from her for ever—to intercept all communication with her by a strict blockade—we must establish beyond all doubt, defiance, and dispute, the supremacy of the English Crown, the English Government, and English law. We must do this without respect to persons, sects, or professions. Until this has been done nothing can be done. In vain will patriots assemble and Parliaments meet, and columbian pigs prosper, and philosophers discuss, as long as there remains within a day's sail of the English Crown, a people whose natural leaders, whether gentry or priests, are incapable of a loyal submission to the Sovereign or an honest obedience to the law.

The great Prisons of London.

NEWGATE.

Whoever knows London knows Newgate. Once seen it cannot be forgotten. Massive, dark and solemn, it arrests the eye and holds it. A stranger to the capital would pick it out among ten thousand buildings. It stands alone. Of all our London prisons, it only was a truly grand, terrible and imposing aspect. Other gaols look gaim, loathsome, and disgusting; but none can vie with it in majesty of horror. Compared with Newgate they all seem paltry, pasteboard, make-believe affairs; but it looks penal in the sense that hell is penal—a figure of death is seen in a gleam of sunshine. No doubt some of this unique effect is the consequence of the terrible memories which float about the place, but certainly not all of it. Much of it arises from the character of the buildings and its environments.

The solid and unbroken masses of its granite walls—fit almost to resist artillery—the frowning towers—the iron-mailed doors, that seem as if intended only to open on great occasions, to let men in to judgment and out again to death, conjure up the thought of a feudal dungeon, or a prison of the Holy Office, rather than that of an English gaol. Its situation, too, is striking—in the very heart of the capital, under shadow of the dome and cross of the national church—joining the two great arteries of London, and facing the sombre St. Sepulchre's Church, strangely, but well christened! Grave in thy name and in thine office, it is thine to warn the guilty and doomed soul of its approaching trial and transition. The bell of St. Sepulchre's tolls the service for the dead—but before the death. In the condemned cell its faintest tones can be heard—that is, when there is silence in the busy world outside the massive walls.—When death is announced against the malefactor, and the day is fixed on which the slayer himself must die, with what unutterable agony each stroke goes deep into his heart!

With what an awful fascination he will listen for the sound, which to him is like the blast of the Archangel's trumpet, which separates time from eternity—and in that listening wait the few remaining moments that are left! Upon the morning of the execution the hours are pealed out loudly and distinctly. From one to six they are awfully audible. Nine he knows he will never hear. Thence forth swells up, higher and higher the boom of human voices. They are near him there—with but a stone between—but oh! how distant! Thicker and faster the crowds are gathered, and louder and fuller the sea of sound mounts up each moment. There is soon a chaos of yells, and shrieks, and shouts; it arises above all like a frightful storm. The death-bell tolls—but none can hear it. That last pang is saved to the criminal. The voice of his passionless monitor is stifled before he dies. But drop the curtain down. It is a place of horrors.

The open space before the doors of Newgate is the English gladiatorial arena. Here, we who sit in severe—and, were it well-merited—judgment upon the barbarous practices of pagan and imperial Rome, prepare our feasts of death for the lovers of disgusting horrors. This is our circus. We do not fill it with wild and famished animals, to see them tear each other piecemeal, it is true; but we only give a new direction to the cannibal instincts of our people, and gratify them in a different way. The scenes enacted here disgrace us in the eyes of all Christendom.

But let us enter:

Up the narrow steps, into the turnkey's room and along a darkish passage, we come into a small open court, surrounded by high walls, between which a scanty supply of air and light finds its way downwards as into a well; facing us stands a massive building, chary of windows, and those strongly grated; it is the women's wing of the prison. The matron is called an intelligent woman—and as soon as the ponderous locks are turned, and the heavy bars removed, we enter the doorway, and ascend the stone staircase, suits of chambers branch off on either side, and these are occupied by the prisoners who are awaiting trial. An attempt is made to classify them according to their degrees of guiltiness; but practically this is of little use, as the matron can only judge of the detenue's grade from her own statements, or from the offence with which she stands charged.—Little or no employment is found for them; and it sometimes unavoidably happens that the poor servant girl is sent here, falsely accused for some petty theft, and shut up with the most abandoned of her sex, with nothing to do for days, with no resource, no means, to kill the time, except in listening to corrupting stories, and the conversation of her degraded companions. If she were not a thief, a pickpurse, before, she will soon learn to be one here. Surely this is wrong.

If there be a necessity, at any time, of endeavoring to prevent contamination in gaol, this necessity must certainly exist in respect to persons convicted of crime, and who may therefore be innocent. Before a man is proved to have violated the law, it is illegal, as well as immoral, to punish him; so that his safety is secured, the law has no further hold upon him. This must, of course, be obtained at any price. But any privation—any wrong inflicted upon him not absolutely necessary to this end, is is a piece of unwarrantable tyranny and cruelty. To force the possibly innocent man to herd with the lowest felon—to compel the young girl to live and sleep in the same room with the shameless prostitute—can answer none of the ends of justice. The system can produce nothing but evil; and it does, indeed, seem monstrous that a government which has proved itself so anxious to separate convicts from each other, for fear of mutual contamination, should suffer, in Newgate, the most notorious criminals to associate, untreatained, with persons unconvicted. Society can never make reparation to its innocent member for its imprisonment in Newgate. The heart becomes tainted in spite of itself. Felon and Lascivious thoughts are forced upon it. Vices undreamed of become familiar to it. The mind must be more than human that could come out of the companionship of Newgate as pure as it entered it.

Pass we now through several rooms and corridors to the quadrangle occupied by the males. As we traverse these passages we note the iron character of the building. It is indeed built as if its architects had but one object in view—strength. And this is certainly obtained, though at the expense of almost every other desirable quality for a prison. It is dark, close, confined; and in despite of the scrupulous cleanliness preserved in every part, foul sounds are not unfrequently met in its lobbies, such as recal the Newgate of the time of Howard. The gaol fever—that terrible and destructive disease, which Bacon describes as next to the plague, the most dreadful of contagions—need to be permanently epidemic within its walls. The nature of the building, and the little attention which was paid to cleanliness, were the principal causes of this. In the religious riots of 1780 it was burnt down; but was immediately rebuilt on the same plan. The great fault is the want of room, the height of the walls, and the narrowness of the courts giving them the appearance of wells, in her than open squares. Air and light are in consequence less plentiful than they should be; and the observation of Howard—"All I can say is, that without more than ordinary care the prisoners will be in great danger of the gaol fever," is as applicable now as it was 75 years ago.

Formerly the wards of part of this prison were occupied by debtors. This practice has been discontinued—and it has now very few inmates, except such as are awaiting trial or punishment, the exceptions being persons convicted of assaults or offences on the high seas. The average number of prisoners in the year is about 3000. Just after the termination of the sessions of the Central Criminal court it is nearly empty, but gradually begins to fill again as the next assizes draws nigh: then its inmates usually number about 500. After trial the convicts are sent off to the prisons or penitentiaries to which they are committed—the short terms to the house of correction, the transports to Millbank. Those sentenced capitally are taken to the condemned cells, not to leave them again until the last moment, except for chapel. These cells are built in the old portion of the building, at the back. The narrow port holes in the dark wall looking into Newgate street let light into the galleries in which they open. These are five on each of the three floors. The culprit in the farthest cell on the ground floor is within a yard of the passers by. All the cells are vaulted, and about 9 feet high, 9 deep, and 6 broad. High up in each is a small window double grated. The doors are four inches thick. The strong stone wall is lined; and altogether they present to the eye of the culprit an overwhelming appearance of strength. In a small anteroom near the entrance of the prison is a collection of casts taken from the heads of the principal malefactors who have been recently executed; front of it—very interesting to the student of phrenological science.

The men's quadrangle is pretty much like the women's but larger. It consists entire or three yards and the building surrounding them. No separation of the men is made other than as the law requires—namely, into felons and misdemeanants. This amount of separation is profitless, for by the theory of crime recognised in the present law there is no moral distinction between the two classes of offenders; thus, for instance, stealing a penny is an act of felony, uttering a counterfeit sovereign is a misdemeanour. The average time which prisoners pass in Newgate is about three weeks. During this period, as we have said, they have no work—no instruction—except in criminal acts; and these having to many the charms of novelty, are only too rapidly acquired. These men must do something during these twenty days; If placed in evil circumstances—thought, matter of regret, it is not worthy of wonder—they will prefer a vicious excitement to a state of sluggish inactivity. What can be expected from a regime which leaves both mind and body to their own resources—both being either predisposed to ill, or at the least indifferent? Here there must be reform. With respect to the boys it is begun. They are made to attend school, where, if they are not taught a great deal of good, they are kept away from much evil. If the advantage be only negative, it is, under the circumstances, very important.

If complete separation be at present impossible—and at Newgate it certainly is so—might not this kind of attention and attendance be required from the adults? It is of very little use placing books of common prayer and religious tracts into the wards. They have no interest for restless minds awaiting judgments which may affect their whole hereafter, and their condition of life. Such persons have little taste for the study of orthodox morals and the pious romances of the Tract Society, and we do not believe that much good is done by this trial of the voluntary system. Most of the criminals are unequal to the taste of self-instruction, even if there were no companions near to jeer them out of the desire to attempt it. They must have their attention compelled.

Some little instruction is afforded by humane and philanthropic visitors at the prison, especially of ladies. Dear Elizabeth Fry used to make the few wards the scene of her pious labors. She found helpers and successors in the work. Lady Pitt is a constant visitor and teacher here now—so is Miss Sturges. They read, converse, and pray with their poor sisters. The good their charitable and noble exertions effect Heaven only knows, for the seed is often far off, and they who sow the seed do not often live to see the fruits.—But go on, angels of love and mercy, in your noiseless mission! Fear not the results—falter not by the way; Providence will not permit such ministries to be discharged in vain.

The chapel, as well befits such a place, is neat and plain. There are galleries for male and female prisoners. Below and in the centre of the floor a chair is placed conspicuously, and marked for the use of the condemned culprit. On this he is required to sit the day before his execution, in face of the congregation. We fail to see the wisdom of this practice, and think it ought to be discontinued. Formerly the coffin used also to be brought into the chapel and placed at the criminal's feet during the service. This barbarous horror is no longer enacted. The exposure should follow it. No good can come to the malefactor—none to his criminal audience out of it. The effort to see a cheerful face only to harden him, while their curiosity is limited to the satisfaction of a morbid curiosity.

Leaving the chapel, we repass the yards, one of which is notable as the scene of a curious escape—that of the "sweep." The walls are of the same height as the lofty houses in Newgate street, and present a last to the escape which would daunt the most inveterate prison breaker. But the swe[illegible] surmounted them. Placing his back in the angle of the wall, he worked himself up by his hands and feet, pressing them against the rough masonry, until he reached the roof. He then crept along the top of the walls in the roofs, entered a balcony—alarmed a woman to death—and made his escape to the streets, where, as the Newgate prisoners wear no regular costume, he frightened, he was, in never caught. This was an escape—as almost invariably happens with criminals. Now the wall is [illegible] spiked, there can be no more escapes in this way.

THE CHOLERA.—A letter from Paris dated September 18, says: "Yesterday and to day several cases have appeared which are said to be cholera, but in a very slight shape. A medical gentleman informs me that he has two cases of what he calls *cholera sophistica*, and that both cases the patients are likely to recover."

A letter from Hamburgh, of Sept. says: "A number of violent cases of cholera have already occurred, principally among the lower orders of the people. Altogether they have been about 250 cases within fourteen days. Since the disease made its first appearance, convalescence about half of that number are recovering. Every precaution has been taken by the authorities to prevent, as much as possible, the contagion."

Accounts from Constantinople, of the 31st ult. says that the cholera was raging. Letters from Smyrna of the 2[illegible] instant, say that the cholera was making great ravages, culminating in Smyrna, but it was hoped it has passed its point. The deaths which for some days amounted to upwards of 140 daily, came down as the 29th to between thirty and forty, and the last accounts were satisfactory. At Magnesia, Cavalla, Salonica, and other places, the ravages of the epidemic were at a very great rate. At Salonica the deaths were upwards of a hundred daily, and many foreigners had fallen. At Larissa, Serres, and Bitalia, the cholera was also raging with great intensity, and great numbers were dying.

Letters from Beyrout of the 25th August say that the cholera is decimating the inhabitants of Aleppo, Damascus, &c.

The cholera continues to spread at Berlin. There have been upward of [illegible] cases since its first appearance.

Ireland.

The first, the most pressing, the paramount consideration for the statesmen of this empire at the present moment, is the condition of Ireland. That country has hitherto presented a state of things so anomalous, and so inexplicable, that many have supposed, as Spencer says was the case in his time, "that no purpose which never which are meant for her good will prosper or take good effect, which whether it proceeds from the very genius of the soil, or influence of the stars, or that Almighty God hath not yet appointed the time of her reformation, or that He reserved in this unquiet state still for some secret scourge, which shall by her come unto England, it is hard to be known but much to be feared." But Spenser justly observes that the fault lay in the social condition of the country, and in the fact that the Irish had never yet been made "to learn obedience unto laws; scarcely to know the name of law."

This remark is as applicable in our own as it was to Spenser's time, and the first and great remedial measure for Ireland—that which must lay the foundation of all others, is to assert the supremacy of the law. No false sentimentalism, no mistaken sensibility, no wish to strengthen a party at the expense of national interests, must now be allowed to arrest the sword of justice, or to prevent the most firm, decided, and uncompromising suppression of the plots of antichrists and traitors.

"Justice to Ireland" demands this. Real "Justice to Ireland" demands that factious and designing men should no longer be allowed to mislead her peasantry by the false lure of Utopian schemes, which can never be realized, and which, if realized, would prove fatal gifts to those who received them. "Justice to Ireland" demands that the mask of patriotism should be stripped from these guilty demagogues, and that they should receive the punishment justly due to those who basely pander to popular passions and prejudices, and criminally endeavour to gratify their vanity and ambition at the cost of their suffering and bleeding country.

Ireland has great natural resources—resources which, if developed, might at once elevate her condition and augment the prosperity of the united empire. But the corner stone of her welfare rests in the maintainance of order. Successive Governments have too long hesitated to take the steps essential to her welfare. Our statesmen have been eloquent on her imaginary politics, blind or neglectful of her real social evils; a great opportunity now presents itself; the Minister who now asserts right and upholds justice in that country—the Minister who enforces the existing laws, and if they are inadequate will have the courage to ask from the Legislature others equal to the crisis, will do so backed by the authority of the great majority of the people of England. A short time must suffice to show whether the present Ministers will avail themselves of the occasion now offered to them of at once acquiring for themselves honourable fame, and for their country permanent blessings; or whether they will abandon this noble duty to abler and more courageous successors.

This much is certain,—that, let who will be Minister, the present state of things in Ireland cannot be allowed to continue. Reason and experience alike condemn it, and the voice of all loyal subjects and peaceful citizens, of all those who venerate true freedom, but abhor the foul and false idols which demagogues would set up in its place, demands that Ireland may no longer be deprived of that great privilege of the British constitution to which she is entitled, but which she has never yet enjoyed—security to life and property.

MONTAGUE GORE.

A correspondent of the *London Times*, writing from Clonmel, Monday evening says—"The people along the whole line of road from this to Tipperary are in a state of disaffection; and at the fair of Cahir, through which I passed this day, but few sales were made, and although there were an unprecedentedly large number of horses, black cattle and stock of every kind, few purchasers could be found, the people being unwilling to part with their money, in consequence of the country and the fear of a general insurrection. The people I have heard from various persons, are completely turning against the priests for the part they took in the late movement. The influence of the priests is amazingly diminished, not only in Tipperary, but in several of the adjoining counties. I was this day informed by a Roman Catholic who knows the feelings of the people throughout a large district of the south, from constantly traveling and mixing among them that great numbers of them will not now mind what the priests say; and many do not speak to them when they meet them on the roads. A number of the Roman Catholics in this part of the country will not at present attend mass or go to the chapel, and many of the respectable shopkeepers and farmers declare that they will not pay the ensuing Christmas dues—a very bad prospect for the priests for the winter. I state these facts on the authority of Roman Catholics, who related them to me, and I have every reason to believe that they are correct. The disease in the potatoes is fast progressing and it is believed they will not furnish food for the people until Christmas."

To the Editor of the British Whig.

SIR:—

The Magnetic Telegraph Company have recently published a Tariff of their modified Rates, in which the charge is apportioned to the distance. This is very right and proper; but I object to the assumed distances as unjust and improper. For instance, the distance between Kingston and Coburg is assumed at being over one hundred miles, whereas in point of fact, it is scarcely ninety four miles. Now the Company cannot plea I ignorance of the true distance, since the number of their own posts plainly tell that; consequently, when in the face of their own declared and published Tariff, they charge a rate of over one hundred miles, when it should be a rate of *less* than one hundred miles, they are acting dishonestly. I trust, Mr. Editor, you have independence enough to make this fact publicly known. TRUTH.

Coburg, Oct. 16, 1848.

CITY COUNCIL.

MONDAY EVENING, Oct. 16, 1848.

PRESENT,—His Worship the Mayor; *Aldermen* Hill, Anglen, Smyth, Counter, Wilson, Flanigan, Breden, McLean, Baker; *Councillors* Crawford, Channonhouse, McMahon, Wiley, Linton, Waddingham.

The minutes of previous Meeting were read.

COMMUNICATIONS.

S. Smyth, complaining that he had not yet been put in possession of Room in rear of Custom House, which he had rented from the City Council one month since.

Thos. Kirkpatrick, Esq., stating that the Executors of the late Mr. Justice Hagerman had, according to a wish expressed previous to his decease, presented the Corporation with a Portrait of that gentleman, for the purpose of its being placed in the City Hall.

Resolved, That the offer of Mr. Kirkpatrick be cheerfully accepted, under the direction of a Committee, consisting of the Mayor, Messrs. Counter, Anglen and McLean.

PETITIONS.

Miss Mayne, respecting payment of Taxes—referred to Court of Appeals on Assessments.

Messrs. Rogers and Boyle, requesting that a place of meeting be provided for the Fire Department, and praying to be permitted to occupy one of the empty Cellars in the City Building—Granted, under the direction of Committee on City Property.

John Finherty, Pound Keeper—praying for remuneration for certain fines. Referred to Finance Committee, with power to act.

Archibald McCrearty, respecting Victualling House License—granted.

John Rice and others, requesting to be allowed 100 feet of Hose for Great Western Fire Engine, and also the sum of £3 for contingent expenses—referred to Committee on Fire and Water, to report thereon.

Robert Carson, permission to open Drain, granted, on usual conditions.

Wm. Stewart, praying for remuneration for opening Drain on Black Street—referred to the Committee who have the case in hand, to report at next Meeting of City Council.

Messrs. Hunter & Bartliff, McMillan, and Oliphant & Watt, Auctioneers, praying for extension of time to which they are limited in selling.

Alderman Baker gave notice of his intention to bring in a Bill to amend the By-Law relating to Auctioneers.

REPORTS.

Committee on Finance and Accounts, recommending payment of certain Accounts—passed.

Market Committee, on Petition of Mr. Kendall for Stall in Market Building—passed.

Alderman Flanigan here expressed his conviction that the rates demanded by the Council were by far too high, and that they stood very much in their own light, by not leasing the Stalls at a lower price than that asked for them at present.

Committee on Fire and Water—reporting that the Fire Engines, and their respective Companies were in good working order; also that J. Seahill do not receive any premium for bringing a puncheon of water to a Fire, when said water was not used in extinguishing the Fire.

Select Committee, on Petition of Samuel Morley and others, respecting the cruvale which was about being waged against the Signs. After considerable discussion, the question was postponed, on motion of Mr. Crawford, for six months. All those, therefore, whose hats become damaged during the next two quarters, by coming in close connexion with the low sign boards, or mammoth boots, will have to make a claim on the Corporation for new castors, which will no doubt be referred to a select "Committee on shocking bad hats;" and ordered to be attended to by Messrs. Wright and Tweedall—without delay.

Committee on Streets and Improvements, relative to a late communication from Vicar General MacDonel, passed.

Also, respecting Petition of McDowall and others, relating to Drain—referred to Solicitor.

Also, respecting Common Sewer leading from the front of the City Building to the foot of Clarence street.—Committee to enquire whether the Government is willing to pay for the proposed drain, in the event of the expense being incurred, and to prepare an estimate of the cost of the work.

Also, respecting Nuisance at foot of Union street.—The Railway to be immediately removed. All of which were passed as amended.

City Treasurer, account of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ending 30th September 1848.—Read and received.

City Surveyor, recommending that certain obstructions in the way of the Water Tables be removed.

Alderman Smyth gave notice of his intention to introduce a By-Law for "the preservation of the Side Walks of the City."

Alderman McLean introduced an Act "to regulate the public market in the city of Kingston."—Read a first time.

RESOLUTIONS.

Moved by Alderman Anglen, and seconded by Councillor Crawford, that a subscription list be opened for the erection of a Bronze Statue in memory of the late Lord Sydenham, Governor General of Canada; to be placed on the Dome of the City Hall in this city, and that His Worship the Mayor, Messrs. Hill, Counter, Breden, and Smyth be a committee to receive subscriptions for the same.

The people of Kingston will now have an opportunity of showing their regard for the memory of the deceased nobleman, whose bones, in accordance with his own express desire, have found their resting place in this City, which, had he lived to carry out his excellent intentions towards us, would have bid fair to become one of the first cities in the Province—would have remained the permanent seat of Government—and would have received other favors of a like nature, tending to its general prosperity and advancement. But all those good things in perspective were nipped in the bud by the untimely death of Lord Sydenham, whose zeal in the exercise of his good will towards Kingston, was unbounded. During the remarks made by certain members of the Council on this subject, it was suggested (by Mr. Crawford we believe) that the present Government be solicited to subscribe towards the undertaking. Toronto, Coburg, and other places, have promised to contribute, as soon as the subscription list is opened. Let us not, however, in our zeal to erect something worthy the memory of Lord SYDENHAM, forget that so nothing is also due to the late Lord METCALFE,—THE STATESMAN, and THE MAN.

Moved by Alderman Anglen seconded by Councillor Linton, that the Police Magistrate be requested to furnish a return of the fines imposed in his Court, up to the first Monday in October, the names of the parties, and the amounts due; and that the regular report be furnished in future by him.

Moved by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Crawford, that the Police Magistrate be requested to charge full fees, according to 53d clause of the incorporation act, in all cases which come before him, except such municipal offences only, as may require the fees to be reduced. The Council adjourned.

☞ PITTSBURGH CATTLE SHOW.—Absence from home prevented the Editor from being present at this annual exhibition. The Show was about as good as usual, and a great many fine cattle and sheep were on the ground. We cannot compliment the judges upon their knowledge of the properties of a horse, since they awarded the premiums to the most worthless animals. The list of prizes will be found in another column.

☞ MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—It seems now to be generally admitted and believed, that the Provincial Legislature will not assemble until after the Christmas Holidays. The end of November is the latest period at which the members can reach the capital by steamboat conveyance; and if the Parliament is not convened to meet then, it cannot assemble until early in January, when the winter roads are formed.

'Have you seen anything in this week's paper, John?' said a mother to a very dutiful son. 'Yes, all the gals have got their hair done in it.'

BRITISH WHIG.

"Optimi per Orbem Dicor."

WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 18.

THE PENITENTIARY COMMISSION.

The labors of the feather breeched gentlemen seem never to approach conclusion; they have had time enough to hatch half a dozen broods of chickens. The commissioners are now busily occupied in hearing the explanation or defence of the Warden against the thousand and one charges brought against him. Although before judges predetermined to condemn him, the Warden is fighting a stiff battle, and keeps up his spirits amazingly. Whenever he succeeds, by the cross examination of his accusers, or by direct testimony, to rebut the malice or mischief of any specific accusation, instead of congratulating him upon his innocence, the Commissioners look sour and angry, and can hardly restrain themselves from giving vent to their vexation. Upon one commissioner (Mr. Amiot) the Warden has succeeded in producing an effect, not perhaps of entire incredulity, but one of great doubt; and consequently this gentleman occasionally gives himself the trouble to seek and find out for himself the truth. But the way in which he is snubbed by his fellow Commissioners is a caution. They hardly allow him to call his soul his own. Pauvre Ami