



AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL BANK OF IRELAND.

On Friday last, 8th August, a meeting of the directors and shareholders of the Agricultural and Commercial Bank of Ireland took place at Mr. Boyd's Hotel, on the subject of the above Company.

The notice calling the meeting having been read by the chairman, he said he felt highly honoured by being called to preside at a meeting which had for its object the furtherance of an establishment that appeared to him to be every way calculated to benefit the country, whether as regarded the upper, middle, or even the lower classes of society.

Mr. Dixon explained at some length the high state of civilization and prosperity to which Scotland had arrived by means of her prudent system of banking, which they had met that day to establish here. He then entered into calculations, showing the comparative money circulation of the two countries. Scotland, with a population of three millions and a circulation of twenty millions!

Mr. Boyle said he cordially approved of the principles upon which this bank was about to be established, and believed it would be highly serviceable to the country. He had received some letters from his friends in Dublin, stating that the bank was looked upon very favourably by the commercial body there.

Mr. R. Sharpe said he also had received letters from his friends in Dublin in favour of this company amongst others, he had received one from the house of Nott and Ferguson, eminent merchants there, stating they had taken 300 shares, and intended to take many shares more, and that there was no doubt but this company would succeed from the fair and open principles upon which it was built.

Mr. Flattery said, the gentlemen who formed the deputation, had no idea of the support which this company would receive in this town and neighbourhood. He knew it to be the determination of many of the most extensive LANDRO PROPRITORS to take shares, and that treble the amount of shares required would be taken.

Several other gentlemen addressed the meeting in favour of the proposed company. A local committee of twenty gentlemen was formed to carry the objects of the company into immediate effect in Ballinacree. Thanks were returned to the chairman, who, on vacating the chair, stated that he was very much pleased that the first meeting on the subject in this town had terminated so happily, and assured well for the success of the new company.

The committee then appointed their time of meeting, when the assembly shortly after separated.

PRODUCT OF CORN IN FRANCE.—We find in Le Folczer the following calculation respecting the produce and consumption of corn in France.—Of the 54 millions of hectares of land of which France is composed, 14 millions and a half are devoted to the cultivation of farinaceous substances of different descriptions, which allows but one acre to each inhabitant. The average produce is 167,261,000 hectolitres. Deducting the quantity used as seed, for distillation, the nourishment of domestic animals, and that destroyed by insects, there remains, for the annual consumption of each inhabitant, only 62 kilograms, which makes about a pound of bread per day. As this calculation comprises only 62 kilograms of wheat, it follows that France does not produce sufficient corn for the whole of its inhabitants, but is forced to substitute other grain.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

The late rejection of the GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY BILL must have caused a considerable waste of the funds of the company, and will defer the commencement of their beneficial undertaking for a twelvemonth.

These efforts are lamentable enough, but we are persuaded that they are the extent of the evil; we have heard that at a very full meeting of the common council on Saturday last, the conviction that the application of the company to Parliament in the next session would certainly be successful, was manifested in a very decided manner; and that the Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, on Monday, were unanimously of opinion that no time should be lost in preparing for that application.

We know the same feeling to be so extensively shared by our fellow-citizens as to leave us in no doubt of the result. Our readers may have observed an advertisement of a projected Railway from Old Basing by Bath to Bristol, intended, by joining the Southampton at the former place, to supersede the Great Western. We cannot find that either plans, sections, or estimates of cost or revenue for this new scheme, are yet forthcoming; but we have taken some pains to get information respecting it, and the result is this:—The summit level of the Kennet and Avon Canal (which determines the height to which the Bath and Basing line must be carried) is 130 feet higher than that of the Wilts and Berks Canal, which would be the height of the Great Western Railway, if carried by Swindon and Wantage to the north of the Marlborough Downs. This would be a permanent disadvantage to the Southern line, only to be counterbalanced by very superior advantages in other respects; but unfortunately for that line, it is extremely inferior in point of revenue. Gloucester, Cheltenham, and the Clothing Districts of that county, would be left at such a distance as to render the hope of traffic and revenue from them at best distant and uncertain; while Oxford, Reading, and their vicinities, together with the rich and populous vale of the Thames, would be altogether cut off. So large an amount of revenue would thus be abstracted, that either the new project must be a losing speculation, or the original Great Western Railway a very profitable one.

We take the following from the Journal de Calais of the 6th instant:—A traveller landed here this morning from Dover, who immediately excited the curiosity of all the by-standers, who inquisitively demanded of each other—Is it a man or a woman? The coat and pantaloons, with the waistcoat, black cravat, and cloth cap, and, moreover, a light down on the chin, with mustache whiskers, appeared to indicate one of the lords of the creation; but on the other hand, a peculiarly diffident air, a hesitating gait, an infirm voice, and more particularly a profusion of jetty locks, that escaped from under the cap, shook the confidence of the beholders in this conclusion. The passport was demanded, delivered, and found to be regularly made out for a young gentleman, the description of the person accurately corresponding. Suspicion, however, remained too strong to be so general to admit the risk of allowing any one in masquerade to pass through France, particularly as it was not the time of the carnival.

The riots at New York first took place on the 7th inst., and their origin and progress are thus described in one of the papers:—The riot at the Chatham-street chapel seems to have grown out of the following circumstances. The New York Sacred Music Society have a lease of the chapel for Monday and Thursday evenings throughout the year. Some persons, on behalf of the Marks, had obtained from the secretary of the Music Society permission to occupy the chapel last evening. The blacks thereupon issued printed notices of their intended meeting, which it is said was called for the purpose of celebrating the postponed festival of the 4th of July.

In pursuance of this notice they met and commenced their exercises. Certain members of the Music Society also arrived, not knowing the disposition which had been made of the chapel; but being informed of the circumstances, agreed to postpone the purpose with which they had themselves assembled. Their number, however, being soon augmented by the arrival of other persons, they reversed their first peaceable and proper resolution, and concluded upon insisting that possession of the chapel should be given to them. The blacks, in the meanwhile, had prayed, sung a hymn, and had commenced reading the declaration of independence. They did not seem disposed, at that stage of the proceedings, to break up their meeting and retire from the chapel. One of their number rose and requested them to do so, but others rallied on the meeting to keep their seats. The Sacred Music Society then took forcible possession of the pulpit, and thereupon a general battle commenced, which seems to have been waged with considerable violence on both sides, and resulted in the usual number of broken heads and benches.

This fracas was followed by extensive riots, as we yesterday mentioned. The friends of the blacks were denounced as fanatics, whose objects were the immediate emancipation of the negroes, and the promiscuous marriage of the two races. The civil force was unable to check the career of the rioters; the Mayor of the city called out the military; and the united powers succeeded, on the night of the 11th, in putting an end to the most flagrant and most disgraceful outrages that ever occurred in the United States. The military paraded the streets during the day and night of the 12th; they were all furnished with ball cartridge, the magistrates having determined to fire upon the mob, had any fresh attempt been made to renew the riots. Dr. Cox, whose church and house were gatted, and Mr. Tappan, whose house and store were entered and robbed, seem to have been the chief sufferers by these riots. Happily no lives were lost.

OPTIC EXTERS.—The wife of a tailor named Ferrand, living in Whitecross-street, came to her death on Thursday by taking an over dose of opium. She had been in the habit of taking opium pills, and, from economy, determined on making them herself; but she mixed too great a proportion with the flour of which she made her pills, and having swallowed some of them, died shortly after.—London Paper.

APPAIR OF HONOUR.—In consequence of the interruption given to Connellor Dily, by Connellor Murphy, during his cross-examination of a witness at a recent trial at Mullingar assizes, as detailed in our last, Mr. Murphy was waited on by Mr. P. Hanly next morning, to demand an explanation; when we understand an ample apology was made, and through Mr. Hanly's interference an amicable arrangement was effected between the parties.—Roscommon Journal.

A GOOD LANDLORD.

Alexander Murray, Esq., of Braughlton, Scotland, has been visiting his Irish estates in this part of the country, and liberally diffusing happiness and contentment around him.

Among various instances of his liberality, well-meant intentions, and good heart, he has contributed in the handsomest manner to the following Roman Catholic chapels, viz.:—Kilker, £50; Arilar, £30; and to Killybegs, although a small part of his extensive property lies in the town, he has subscribed upwards of £400 in the erection of a quay at Killybegs, for the benefit of the country. All his aged tenants he has humanely settled during their lives, and granted them the farms which their fathers held before them. Owing to the benevolence of this good landlord these poor men have now the pleasing prospect of closing their eyes in the bosom of their families, and may well, as they do, bless their benefactor. It is truly calculated that he will grant to this truly laudable manner between four and five thousand pounds. He has also established and endowed a most excellent school for the benefit of his tenants, and sent a highly qualified Catholic teacher from Dublin, as the great majority of the people of this part of the country are Roman Catholics.

This last instance of his liberality is peculiarly worthy of imitation, as the immediate means under heaven of dispensing that greatest of all temporal blessings, an early moral education, and promoting habits of cheerfulness, order, and regularity among the children of the surrounding neighbourhood. It is by an act of justice to state these facts, among many others, of this excellent gentleman's liberality and humanity to his tenants, that they may serve as a beacon light to other landlords who draw from this impoverished kingdom the dear-bought earnings of the peasant, and who never, either directly or indirectly, make the smallest return. This landlord wants no police or coercion bills—he has built for himself a citadel in the hearts of the people.

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On Saturday morning last, about half past seven o'clock, the body of a man was found on the strand of Neamstown, Kilmore, about forty paces to the east of St. Patrick's bridge, by Mr. W. Eakins, junr. Assistance having been procured, he was taken up on the beach and examined; he had on a corduroy pantaloons, a yellow striped waistcoat, a new linen shirt with full bosom; neither coat, hat, nor handkerchief, shoes nor stockings, a large head, with brass chain and cross, and two gospels were round his neck. He was a man apparently of about 33 years old, rather good features, middle bright and stout. In his pants pocket were found 2s. in a bladder purse, some coppers, a 6s. and an old nail. L. E. White, Esq., a magistrate, having been sent for, had him removed to the Schoolhouse, Chapel-garden, procured a coffin and had him interred in Kilmore churchyard on Sunday. He is supposed to be a Jeranger man, who had been seen about the shore some days back.—Wexford Independent.

DIST OF HANOVER.—The First Chamber of the States of Hanover adopted, in a recent sitting, a law on duels. The penalty of death is pronounced against the person who, in a mortal combat, shall have killed his adversary, which penalty, under extenuating circumstances, may be commuted to 20 years' transportation. In the case of a duel not before fixed to be mortal, he who shall have killed his adversary is punishable by six years' imprisonment in a House of Correction, which period may be diminished by extenuating circumstances. Serious wounds from the same cause are punished by ordinary imprisonment. The seconds, who might have used proper exertions to prevent the duel, are exonerated from punishment. Medical practitioners, whose aid may have been required, are not liable, neither are they obliged to give information.

EXTRAORDINARY OPERATION.—On the 1st of June last, an extraordinary operation was performed by Mr. H. Barrow, veterinary surgeon, Thores, upon a beast belonging to Mr. Geo. Ramsdale, of that place. The beast, after lingering for several weeks, under different professors of the veterinary art, until nature was nearly exhausted, Mr. Barrow undertook the case. He made an incision into the stomach, and took therefrom the sole and beel of an old shoe. To the great satisfaction of the owner, and astonishment of several eye-witnesses, the beast is completely recovered.—Down-caster Gazette.

BOYS.—I never meet with or hear the nonsensical "both" without calling to mind a story they tell of a worthy in our Green Sister Land, who gave a dinner-party, the first course of which, to do the thing genteelly, was soup; the guests amounted to some half dozen, producing an inconvenience, inasmuch as the spoons were restricted to a brace. When was an Irishman ever nonplussed? "Paddy," cried the host to the gooson who represented the butter, "Paddy, where's all the silver spoons?" "Yer Honor," replied the host of shamrock, with most unlucky candor, "sure they're both on the table."—Hinc illa lacryma.—Sporting Magazine.

EFFECTS OF INTOXICATION.

On Saturday last, about seven miles from Limerick, a soldier of the 1st regiment at present in this garrison, shot himself under the following circumstances:—He was one of a corporal's guard returning from an escort, and being a little intoxicated gave some annoyance to a female on the road. To the corporal's reprimand he answered he would shoot himself, and deliberately took from his cartouch his rounds of ball cartridge. Eight of these he placed in his boot which he had taken off, and having with the remaining one lodged his musket, he placed the muzzle under his chin, and touching the trigger with his foot, literally blew off the roof of his skull. The corporal states he had no idea the man was serious in his intention.

APPREHENSION OF ANOTHER CLERK, ABSCONDED FROM MANCHESTER. On Monday, a very genteel looking and well dressed young man, named Thomas Glover, was apprehended in this city, in pursuance of information sent to the different police officers here from Manchester. It appears that the prisoner had been a clerk in the employment of Mr. J. B. Thomas, a merchant in Manchester, and absconded a few days since, accompanied by two other young bloated from the same city, carrying with him a considerable sum of money which he had embezzled. He was stopping for some time at Home's hotel; he remains at present in Arran-quay police-office, until a peace-officer shall have been sent over from Manchester to convey him thither.—Smeater's Dispatch.

DESCRIPTION OF SIR WALTER SCOTT, BY JAMES HUGO. Sir Walter was the best formed man I ever saw, and laying his weak limb out of the question, a perfect model of a man for gigantic strength. The muscles of his arms were prodigious. I remember of one day, long ago—I think it was at some national dinner in Omra's Hotel—that, at a certain time of the night, a number of the young heroes differed prodigiously with regard to their various degrees of muscular strength. A general measurement took place around the shoulders and chest, and, as a particular judge in these matters, was fixed on as the measurer and umpire. Scott, who never threw cold water on any fun, submitted to be measured with the rest. He measured most round the chest, and to the great chagrin, I was next to him, and very little short. But when I came to examine the arms, Sir Walter had double the muscular power of mine, and very nearly so of every man's who was there! I declare, that from the elbow to the shoulder, they felt as if he had the strength of an ox.

LADY SCOTT. I went and visited him the first time I had occasion to be in Edinburgh, expecting to see Mrs. Scott a kind of half black-moor, whom our sheriff had married for a great deal of money. I knew nothing about her, and had never heard of her, save from his own description of her; but the words "black-race blackberry" had fixed her colour indelibly on my mind. Judge of my astonishment when I was introduced to one of the most beautiful and handsome creatures, as Mrs. Scott, whom I had ever seen in my life. A brunette, certainly, with raven hair and large black eyes, but in my estimation a perfect beauty. I found her quite affable, and she spoke English very well, save that she put always the d for the th, and left the aspiration of the A out altogether. She called me all her life Mr. Og. I understood perfectly well what she said; but for many years I could not make her understand what I said; she had frequently to ask an explanation from her husband; and I must say this of Lady Scott, though it is well known how jealous she was of the rank of Sir Walter's visitors, yet I was all my life related with the same kindness as if I had been a relation, or one of the family, although one of her most homely daily associates. But there were many others, both poets and play-actors, who she received with no very pleasant countenance. Jeffrey and his satellites she could not endure; and there was none whom she disliked more than Brougham, for what reason I do not know, but I have heard her miscellanize him terribly, as well as "dat body, Jeffrey."—From "Hogg's Domestic Manners of Scott," in Fraser's Magazine for August.

THE COAST OF CUBA, observes Mr. Luc Leay incidentally, in a paper read at the Zoological Society, is every open sandy part of it, is first immediately above the coral reefs by a cope belt, close and nearly impenetrable, composed of almost one species of tree, the sea-side Graphe, Coccoloba ulifera, Linn. At the base of this belt grow various Euphorbias, and Convolvuli; and behind it the parched sand supports many seaside shrubs, including Palms, Ceanothus, Casti, &c., festooned with the flowers of Convolvuli, Echinas, and other climbing plants; the leaves are studded with small terrestrial shells, and large sea shells, brought from their original element by the singular Parguri which have usurped them, cluster round the shore stunted trunks. Among the shrubs of these sands the most interesting is Omphalea triandra, the cob or lig-nut of Jamaica, a Euphorbiaceous plant, but affording a most delicious and wholesome kernel.—Its upper leaves are large, heart-shaped, and thick, having a leathery texture and scabrous pale green surface; the young leaves and those of young plants have the same texture and color, but differ remarkably in form, being deeply lobed, with their divisions long and narrow, particularly the middle one, and all more or less dentated on the sides.

EFFECTS OF DRUNKENNESS.—On Saturday afternoon was held at the Crown, in the Milecross, on the body of a middle aged woman, named Hannah Box. It appeared the wretched woman was lamentably addicted to drinking ardent spirits, and was almost constantly in a state of drunkenness. On Thursday evening, at half past nine o'clock, the husband, who was described as a sober, quiet, hard-working man, on returning from his labor, found his wife was out; but on repairing to a neighbouring public-house he met with her, as usual, in the company of a set of drunken women. He led her home, and on getting into the room she sat down on the side of the bed, where she had scarcely remained a minute before she dropped dead. She had drunk in the course of the day three half-pints of gin, besides a quantity of ale and porter. Verdict, "died from apoplexy, brought on by excessive drinking."—London Paper.

A prospectus for establishing a new patent soap company has been issued at Birmingham, a "valuable substance or compound," for which a patent has been granted, to be employed in the manufacture; the capital to be £250,000, in £5 shares.

LONDON POLICE.

HATTON GARDEN.—A young man, who gave his name Henry Allen, of No. 7, Kent-street, Borough, was charged with being found in the British Museum under the following circumstances: John Young, one of the attendants, said, that ten minutes to six that morning, as he was walking through a room on the ground floor, which adjoined the apartment containing the ancient and foreign coins, he missed several articles, and amongst them his own cap. "Well, your honor," continued the witness, "I sits myself down, as says I, the Devil—who by Bhalot Patrick, has been here. (A laugh.) But 'twas no laughing matter, for the same instant I seed a hat on the ground; another, cries I, and up I jumped to find the thief, when I seed my cap on the head of a '77p. mummy (loud laughter)—so that's y'r trick, isn't it, and I was just going to tak it off, when I felt the mummy with his hand;—as, as you may suppose, I took to my legs, and ran out of the room. This, says I, an' sure a wharum mummy can't hurt me, so I turns back, an' calls me a cap from over his face, and calls out, 'blood as' ones, who are ye?' and he says 'gyprian mummy' (laughter.) You lie, says I; an' up I pulls him and tacked him to the ceiling, and here he is yer Worshipp."

The prisoner declared that he had been looked in while absconding in the contemplation of the various work of art. He, however, made no alarm, and all the officers connected with the museum, said they had no doubts of the prisoner, finding that he could not escape with any property, in consequence of the guard of soldiers, determined to conceal himself till the doors were opened for the visitors next day.

Mr. Sergeant Sellon committed him for three months.

CRUEL CASE.—The civil courts in Paris have been lately occupied with rather a curious case of claim from three widows, to the pension of one husband, which was made under the following circumstances:—So long ago as the 30th July, 1776, a person named Ward, then a merchant, but afterwards a colonel upon the staff of the French army, married at Bayonne, with a certain Miss S. Being of an extravagant turn, he soon squandered his own and his wife's fortunes, abandoned her, and went to the colonies. There he again married a Miss Pauline de C., whom, after living with her for a few years, he also deserted, and returned to France, not to his first wife, however; but to wed a third, the Demoiselle Virgile G. In 1822 this Dow died, leaving the pension of a general officer to be scrambled for amongst his widows. The first wife, who did not think big worth while looking after while living, lost no time in coming up to claim his pension when dead, and the other two claimants were equally upon the alert. Each of the ladies presented the proper documents, which were found to be correct in all respects. The case was greatly complicated by the declarations made by the deceased himself, at each of his last marriages, that he was a widower of each of his preceding wives by name. The clerk at the War office was puzzled, and referred the matter to the Tribunals. There it was decided that the wife whose marriage had priority of date was entitled to the pension.

EXTRAORDINARY MATCH AT BILLIARDS FOR £10,000.—We hear a match of the most interesting nature, for the above enormous stake, is on the eve of being played at the Athenaeum, St. James's-street, which, from the rigid rules prescribed, the slightest deviation causing a forfeiture, and the operators described as being of the very first order, combined with the fact that the right of entry is confined to members of leading clubs only (a system adopted owing to recent proceedings) will, we anger, create a sensation in the West-end circles at this dull season, rarely equalled. And should the artist's abilities rank of that order remain unscathed, the "Cognoscenti" will not only be highly delighted, but "Greek Bonds" rise to a considerable "premium."—London Paper of Saturday.

LOVE TO THE LAST.—American sea-captains, and other mariners, have often been the cause of mirth on this side of the Atlantic; but few circumstances ever exceeded the following:—At the recent explosion of a steam-vessel, a witness related the melancholy fate of two fond lovers who were seated together when the accident happened; they were blown high into the air, when the gentleman threw his arm around the fair one's neck, and snatched one hasty kiss; within twenty seconds both their bodies descended into the river in a shower of atoms!

PURE PRIDE.—It is to be lamented that the national character of the English is pride, and the moanest of all pride—pure pride. An extraordinary affection for money—was an idolatrous worship of gain have absolutely confounded the general intellect, and warped the judgment of many, to that excess, that in estimating men or things, they refer always to "what is he worth?" or, "what will it fetch?" Were we to point out a person as he passes, and say, "There goes a good man, one who has not a vice," he would scarce be noticed, but exclaim, "That man is worth £500,000," and he will be stared at till out of sight. This absurd habit of thinking was finally bit off by a keen fellow of a neighbouring nation, who carried on business in London and failed. Sitting in a coffee-house one day where a few wealthy citizens were discussing some money concerns, and observing him very attentive, one person turned aside and said to him, "What's your opinion, sir, of the matter?" "Blood, sir," returned he, "What opinion can a man have in this country, who has not a guinea in his pocket?" This unkind good word Mr. Burke says, "That a merchant has no faith but in his banker; his ledger is his bible; the exchange is his church;—the desk his altar; and his money his God!"

On Thursday Mr. Sheridan Knowles arrived here. On Friday he partook of a farewell dinner at the Mersey coffee-house, with a few private friends, who afterwards accompanied him on board the Columbus, in which vessel every berth had been taken.—Liverpool Advertiser.

A small balloon was found by a shepherd boy in the meadow of Priordale, near Alston, in Cumberland, a short time since, with a label attached to it, stating that it had been sent off on the 2d of June, at Rotterdam, by Mr. Green, the celebrated aeronaut.—Newcastle Journal.

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