

the Governor-in-Chief, and the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia.

Mr. Locke presented six petitions from Shelburne and one from Westport.

Mr. Robertson presented five petitions from Barrington.

Several bills were read a second time, and referred to committee on private bills.

Mr. Wier presented a petition from Merchants and others of Halifax—including the cashiers of two of the Banks, on the subject of a Decimal currency.

A long discussion ensued.

Mr. Churchill asked special leave to present a petition from inhabitants of Falmouth on the subject of the extension of the railroad to Hantsport.

Mr. Annand asked the government to bring down a return of the number of votes polled in the different counties, districts, and townships for the various candidates at the last general election!

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table several returns.

Hon. Mr. Young asked leave for the late Sheriff of Cumberland to appear at the Bar of the house to vindicate his character:

FRIDAY, February 25.

Several members presented petitions from different parts of the country against the proposed change in the representation.

Hon. Mr. Young moved that Rodk. McLean, late Sheriff of Cumberland, be heard at the bar of the house.

Hon. Attorney General said he would oppose the motion.

Mr. Shaw said Mr. McLean applied for the reasons of his dismissal, and he got them. He (Mr. S.) had been dismissed some years ago, with a hundred other magistrates. He applied for the reasons, and he could not obtain them. If these hundred magistrates made an application like this, it would take up six months of the time of the house.

Hon. Attorney General argued that the cases quoted afforded no precedent for this application.

Hon. Mr. Howe said he had thought the hon. Atty. General intended to go into the question of the reasons for Mr. McLean's dismissal.

Hon. Atty. General intended to do so, as he had previously given notice, when the Sheriff's bill came up for a second reading. He had confined himself strictly to the question before the house.

Hon. Mr. Young gave notice of motion.

Hon. Attorney General then addressed the house on the reasons which actuated the Government in the dismissal of Mr. McLean. He was followed by the hon. Provincial Secretary, Messrs. Archibald, Tobin, and hon. Mr. Howe.

SATURDAY, Feb 26th.

The house resolved itself into committee on bills.

A bill relating to licenses of exploration for the opening of new mines was taken up.

The hon. Atty. General explained the provisions of the bill. After some discussion the bill passed clause by clause. The following acts also passed: An Act to amend Chapter 27 of the Revised Statutes, and the act in amendment thereof. The object of the bill is to extend the provisions of those acts to other minerals besides coal.

The house resumed, and the bills passed in committee were reported.

Hon. Prov. Secretary, by command, laid on the table a copy of a despatch, dated April, 1858 from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to the Lieut. Governor, on the subject of the law of marriage and divorce, accompanied by two imperial acts on the subject.

Hon. Mr. Howe requested the government to bring down all despatches in their possession relating to the question of precedence.

Hon. Mr. Archibald, by special leave, presented a petition on the subject of an alteration in the act of incorporation of the Acadia iron and steel company.

Mr. Tobin asked special leave to introduce a bill to prohibit the erection of wooden buildings within certain portions of the city of Halifax.

Several members presented petitions against any change in the representation.

A long debate ensued on this subject in which the following gentlemen addressed the house—Mr. McKeagney, hon. Mr. Howe, hon. Attorney General, hon. Provincial Secretary, Mr. Wade, Mr. Tobin, hon. Financial Secretary, hon. Mr. Young, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Henry, and Mr. Archibald.

The hon. Attorney General announced that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor had appointed the hon. member for Sydney (W. A. Henry) to the vacant seat in the Executive Council.

Colonial & Foreign News.

Prince Edward Island.

The Legislature of Prince Edward Island met, in pursuance of the Lieutenant Governor's proclamation, on the 17th instant, and on being directed by His Excellency to proceed in the election of a Speaker—the Government party were taken by surprise on Mr. Ramsay declining to take the qualification oath as a member—placing the numbers, for Government 15, and Opposition 14. Failing to elect a Speaker—and the Opposition declining to allow one from their ranks to be nominated as Speaker, the alternative was, either resignation of the Ministry, or dissolution of the Assembly. The latter was determined on, and His Excellency's proclamation appeared on Saturday morning, dissolving the House, and ordering the issue of writs for a new election forthwith.—Sun.

New Brunswick.

BAPTIST SEMINARY, FREDRICKTON, N. B.—The Rev. Mr. Spurden, in a letter to the Ch. Visitor states that, "In addition to the usual classes of young men and lads, there is a class of sixteen young ladies, who are pursuing their studies apparently with pleasure and advantage."

Rev. James Bleakney writes from Miramichi: "I am in the field, and have laboured over two months in Cape Tormentine, Buctouche, Shediac, Black-River, Newcastle, Blissfield, and Ludlow. I have travelled 449 miles on this tour, attended 53 meetings, made 83 visits, baptized two converts, &c., and got subscribed to the Mission Fund about £18.

The Rev. Mr. Earle proposes to spend four or six months next Summer and Fall with the churches in the provinces.

The St. John Visitor, in a "Political" editorial, says:

"Now that liberal sentiments are triumphant and acknowledged by all parties, why should we not expect a rapid march in prosperity and improvement? Our noble Province has too long been kept back,—to tarry longer would be ruin.—We must be up and on."

And after enumerating several subjects on which legislation is required, adds:—

"Now that our Government have been settled in power and have had time to prepare measures, and also the means at their bidding to carry them out, may we not, we ask again, reasonably expect that something will be done?"

Canada.

FATHER CHINIQUY IN MONTREAL.—The Gazette of Thursday last says:—Father Chiquy arrived in this city on Tuesday evening, and gave a lecture last night, in the Mechanics' Hall, on the difference which took place lately between himself and the Bishop of Chicago. The lecture was very well attended. A disposition to hiss and otherwise to disturb the proceedings were speedily put down by the audience, who throughout the evening applauded the lecturer. The audience consisted entirely of French Canadians of very respectable exterior. The lecturer during the evening read several commendatory letters he had received from the R. C. Bishop of this Diocese, and also several Canons of the Church, in support of his peculiar position. A large crowd collected before the Hall during the evening; but, owing to the excellent arrangements made by Capt. Hays, no disturbance ensued—the crowd being dispersed, and retiring peaceably to their homes.

United States.

The admission of Oregon into the Union by eleven majority in the House, was the notable event of last week, and caused much rejoicing at Washington. Vice President Breckenridge having been called upon to say something about Cuba, he remarked that we talked too much, and did too little. When England wished to do a thing, she did it and talked afterwards. If the island of Cuba, instead of being placed at the mouth of the Gulf of Mexico, laid at the opening of the British Channel, England would take it in ten days; and he was in favor of the acquisition of Cuba. He would not rob for it, but would act with any portion of his fellow-citizens in using all honorable means to acquire it.

The Asylum for inebriates at Binghamton, N. Y., intended only for 300 patients, will not be ready before next fall, but already there are 2800 applicants! and, saddest fact of all, 400 of these are women.

Stephen Walsh, a deserter from the British army, has recently been elected representative from the counties of St. Louis and Lake Shore, to the Minnesota Legislature. He left New Brunswick, in 1851.

Lieut. Maury is to be decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honor by the French government, in recognition of his services to navigators, if Congress permit it. The French Minister of State has made the proposition through Count de Sartiges.

DEATH OF A MISER.—An old woman, who was apparently in destitute circumstances, and was an object of charitable relief, has just died in Islington, England; and on searching her apartment, in a coal cupboard was discovered concealed the sum of \$8000 in bank notes.

A CONSCIENTIOUS BORROWER.—A lady in Portland, Me., has just returned a few beads she borrowed fifty years ago of a neighbor, promising to return them in a few days. Such an instance of punctuality is remarkable, and cannot be beat.

REPUBLIC ESTABLISHED IN HAYTI.—The outbreak in Hayti resulted in the establishment of a Republic. We have the following particulars: "Gen. Gouffard entered Port au Prince on the morning of Jan. 14th, when the city surrendered without firing a gun, and the Republic was proclaimed. Soulouque immediately abdicated, when a guard was detailed to escort him on board the British steamer Melbourne, but the mob was so excited against him that he was forced to take refuge at the French Consulate. He finally got safe on board the Melbourne, and arrived at Kingston, as before stated. The American Consul at Aux Cayes had written to the Consul at Kingston for an American man-of-war, but there was none there. The people at Port au Prince were rejoicing over the downfall of the Emperor. A day of thanksgiving had been appointed, when a Te Deum would be sung at the Roman Chapel. Gouffard had been declared President of the Republic by acclamation.

FRANCE.

The promised pamphlet, bearing the signature of De la Gueronniere, the Emperor's literary man-at arms,—a rescript not without internal indications of a master hand,—was published on Friday, and has made a "sensation." Some faint idea may be given of its contents in a few words. Italy "represents civilisation." In the Italian question there are two elements—the revolutionary and the national. Revolution would be powerless but destructive. "The national element represents all that is most vital in Italy." [Here great pains are taken to show that England cannot abandon Italy—Lord Palmerston's strong language in 1848—"there is no chance that Austria can keep, in a useful and permanent manner Upper Italy"—is quoted.] Next it is elaborately shown that Prussia will find her account, and Germany "nothing menacing" in Austrian expulsion; and as to France, if she is forced to go to war—which "fortunately is not probable"—Europe would be moved but ought not to be disquieted. She would only be following the policy of Henry IV. and Napoleon I. in an attempt to create a free and independent Italian nationality. Having taken these positions, the writer describes the condition of Rome, and demands Napoleonic reforms; characterises Sardinia as representing the "Italian idea" to the verge of war; describes the King of Naples as embarrassed and humiliated by Austria—"it is permitted to believe he would be happy to lend a hand to an organisation that would enable him to be an Italian prince;" the Grand duke of Tuscany as standing with Austrian bayonets between him and his people; Parma as resisting Austria, and Modena as her "Lieutenant." Such is the state of Italy. In June, 1857, France submitted at Vienna an extensive project of reform. But Austria cannot permit reform. It is as impossible as revolution. What, then, is to be done? Expel the Austrians and establish a Federal Union in Italy. How? When treaties no longer answer necessities something must be substituted for them. "To govern is to foresee." The best manner of securing peace is to outstrip complications capable of producing war. "We therefore ardently desire that Diplomacy shall do on the eve of a struggle what it should do on the morrow of a victory. Let Europe energetically unite for the cause of justice and of peace!"

The Paris correspondent of The Times writes, that among the members of the Legislative Corps who have already come up to Paris for the session, it is said there is hardly one who does not declare that the popular feeling in his department is decidedly opposed to war. This refers particularly to the rural population; and as an indication of what the members themselves think of the matter, some are proposing to exclude military men from the standing committees of the Chamber.

According to the French Ministerial paper, the Constitutional, the French army will, on the 1st of June next, number 672,000 men; of whom 497,000 will then be ready for active service. "We believe," says the Constitutional, "in the maintenance of peace." Unfortunately it has recently so often changed its note, as to be almost as little entitled to public confidence as the *Moniteur* itself.

ITALY.

The Ministry of Piedmont presented to the Chamber of Deputies, on Friday, a project of law for the negotiation of a loan of fifty millions lire (2,000,000*l.*) The Ministerial statement of the motives which they dictated this loan says:—"The extraordinary armaments of Austria in Lombardy, the concentration of its troops on the frontiers, and on the Po and the Ticino, the orders given by Austria to provision many localities near the frontiers, and the recent loan, reveal dispositions on the part of Austria little tending to peace, and have disquieted public opinion. The Ministry expect with confidence that the patriotism of the Chambers will grant the necessary means for the defence of the country and for the safeguard of its honour, its liberty, and its national independence."

The *Independence Belge* publishes a statement to the effect that the British Cabinet has addressed the French, Austrian, and other Governments, with the object of reviving a project proposed by Austria herself in 1848 to Lord Palmerston for satisfying the requirements of the Italians. This scheme establishes the administrative separation of the Lombardo-Venetian provinces from the other parts of the monarchy, and, in consideration of certain financial conditions, assures them a quasi independence and self-government based upon constitutional principles.

A Naples letter gives the following as the cause of the illness with which the King has been lately attacked:—"Between Naples and Foggia there are the Apennines to cross, and the climate is not by any means as mild as that of Portici and Castellamara. The roads were covered with snow and ice, so as to render them not very practicable for the horses of the royal party, which at times slipped in a manner to endanger the safety of the carriages. The King and Royal family were at last compelled to alight, and proceed on foot for about two leagues. The *embouppoint* of Ferdinand II. rendered this a difficult task for him, and he got into a violent perspiration, which being afterwards checked by the cold, caused the sudden illness announced by telegraph."

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN FRANCE.—A case of considerable importance to Protestants has been before the Tribunal of Correctional Police of Colmar (Haut Rhin.) Two men of humble position, named Bessner and Corneille, the former a fervent Protestant, the latter an ardent Catholic, had some months ago a dispute about praying for the dead and the adoration of the

Virgin. At the end of it, Bessner offered to lend the other a pamphlet in German by Dr. Mariott, of Bale, against the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, and some time after sent the little work to him by his daughter. The day after, Corneille's wife called on Bessner, and abused him grossly for having sent to her house a work which she described as "full of abominations against the dogma of the Immaculate Conception." In addition, he lent other controversial publications to another family. The law authorities hearing of these acts, caused him to be prosecuted for the offence of distributing works which had not received the Government stamp; and though the man's advocate insisted that the law on the stamping of publications was never meant to apply to works lent simply from a private person or a library, the tribunal imposed a fine of 50*fr.*

MOHAMMEDAN FANATICISM AT MADRAS.—Dr. Halley communicates to *The Patriot* the following extract of a letter from his son, dated Madras, November 27:—"We have had a sad murder in this Presidency, not altogether free from connection with the mutinies, I fear. A Mohammedan soldier at Vellore rushed from his post with his musket loaded, and shot first a European jailer, and afterwards Captain Hart, of the commissariat. The authorities make it out to be the consequence of blang. The Sepoy is to be hanged to-night. Captain Hart was well prepared for death. He was one of the officers converted by means of that extraordinary German missionary, Hebhich. He belonged to the 39th, which is called 'Hebhich's own.' He had lately gone to Vellore from Madras. We knew him, and had lately dined with him at a friend's. He was secretary of the Tract Society before he left Madras."

We hear that Mazzini has returned to London, a circumstance proving more conclusively than any other that the Italian republicans do not think the present a suitable time for a general rising in the Peninsula.—*Leeds Mercury.*

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM IN AUSTRALASIA.—Victoria and New South Wales have both been busily employed in the way of Parliamentary Reform. The Victorian Legislature has passed measures for increasing the number of members of the Colonial Parliament and redistributing the representation,—for limiting the duration of Parliament to three years instead of five, —and for excluding from Parliament all persons receiving salaries or fees from the Crown, except the responsible Ministers. In South Wales also a bill has been passed establishing manhood suffrage and the ballot, both of which have existed for some time in Victoria.

THE EX-KING OF DELHI.—The ex-King of Delhi has been sent to Rangoon, instead of the Cape of Good Hope, the colonists of South Africa having refused to receive him. He arrived at Rangoon on the 9th December, and is to be sent to Tonghoo, a station 390 miles from Rangoon, in the vicinity of the Karen territory, and declared to be the most desolate and forlorn in British Burmah.

A Paris paper mentions, but will reserve, that the King of Sardinia is about to re-marry. The Grand Duchess Maria Nicolaiewna, eldest daughter of the late Emperor Nicholas, and widow of the late Duke Leuchtenburg, is named as the probable future Queen of Victoria Emanuel.

FATAL ACCIDENT DURING THE ROYAL PROCESSION TO WESTMINSTER.—A painful accident took place in the crowd which assembled to see the Queen proceed from Buckingham Palace to the Houses of Parliament. A lady named Margaret Bruce, who resided at Kingsland-green was standing near the corner of Parliament-street and Bridge-street, where by the crowd, was forced to the ground, she was taken to Westminster Hospital, but life was extinct. Several other accidents from the pressure of the crowd are reported to have taken place.

ACCIDENT ON A RACE-COURSE.—A serious accident happened on the Tallaght race-course, Ireland, on Monday last week. Just prior to the start for the Challenge Cup, the "great event of the day," the grand stand, which was occupied by several hundreds of spectators, came down with a tremendous crash, in consequence, as it is supposed, of some damage which its joinings had sustained from a heavy gale during the previous night. Upwards of thirty persons were more or less injured, but happily no lives were lost.

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