

spite of a boroughmongering system, the nation by one tremendous effort could return a large majority of representatives pledged to reform, is, in itself, a single indication of the spirit which actuates the British movement. Here is no aristocratic influence. Peers, particularly among the older nobility, and great proprietors have, it is true, to the credit of their honesty and judgment, coalesced with the nation, and joined the cause of reform. Some have followed, some have marched abreast with it, some have headed it, but it is not they who gave it its first impulse—the public mind originated the measure. The press, as in France, first expressed the national determination, and hence the Bill. Thus in England also the spirit of the movement is democratic.

This slight comparative analysis of the principal revolutions which have taken place within the last fifty years, and these previous to that period, brief and cursory as it is, is yet sufficient to show how considerably the popular principle predominates in the former. There are many, however, who, whilst they accede to the truth of this proposition, still conceive that the democratic spirit of the age has not been given full scope by the revolutionary governments of France and Belgium, to speak of no other; and that the doctrines of the party which is now emphatically denominated the party of the movement, are more in accordance with what the intelligence of the times requires. We confess we hold the same opinions; and we think that they who stigmatize those members of the French and Belgian chambers, who have been in opposition to their respective cabinets, as promoters of anarchy, do so most wilfully and most unjustly.

The great error of the violent and unreflecting revolutionist is that he looks at once for perfection instead of substantial improvement, whilst the timid and self-interested statesman halts on the first step of reform—we take neither extreme. We hold that amendment should be accomplished on a liberal scale, whilst at the same time we admit the necessary qualifications of compromise and expediency. We thus differ from the violent democrat in admitting these elements, and from the narrow reformer in the proportions in which we would use them. It requires more sagacity than falls to the share of the uneducated to discriminate between an object to be approximated to and that which we may immediately appropriate. That the speculations of the most enthusiastic liberal may still be verified, we take not upon ourselves to controvert. Consistently, with our own principal of the unremitting progress of knowledge and the corresponding advance of civilization, we look forward, though remotely, to a state of things being realized, which in the eyes of the worshippers of "the things that be," may appear sufficiently ultra-montane and extravagant. All we contend for is, that these objects are to be obtained by approximation, and not immediately. The political space which lies between perfection and our approaches to it, must necessarily be filled up by the elements of compromise and expediency. Our business is to take care that we have not unnecessarily enlarged that space. We would withhold a popular privilege if, by granting it, it would serve as a vantage-ground from which another and a much more important one might thereby in the end be demolished, but on no other condition would we exercise the conservative principle. Nay, there may be occasions where the magnitude of the right demanded is such that we would be justified rather in running the hazard of a popular convulsion, than in holding back what was ultimately bound up with the people's welfare.

Consistently with these opinions, whilst we are aware that the governments of France and Belgium are called upon as the responsible trustees of national tranquillity to act in the spirit of conservatism, we are also convinced that it is equally their duty to act in the spirit of liberality.

Louis Philippe and his cabinet must immediately do so—Leopold and his cabinet must in the end do so—and William the Fourth and his honest administration are determined to do so. The spirit of the movement has already exhibited striking indications of free tendencies. The year 1832 will, we confidently trust, give them complete development.

## EUROPE.

FROM LONDON PAPERS UP TO THE 17th OCTOBER.

Destruction of the Royal Castle of Nottingham.—NOTTINGHAM, Tuesday, 3 o'clock.—We are here in the most dreadful state of insubordination and riot. After the meeting in the market place, the windows of many persons in all parts of the town were broken,

and a windmill on the forest nearly demolished. Towards dusk an immense mob went through Spentone; at Notintone-place they tore down an immense range of iron palisades, and armed with these they marched to Colwick Hall, the seat of John Musters, Esq. and tore to pieces the furniture, and set fire to the house in two places. It was afterwards extinguished without much injury. About seven o'clock an attack was made on the town house of correction, which contains a vast number of prisoners, the outer door was forced, when on the arrival of the 15th Hussars, and the civil force, the mob instantly dispersed. In half an hour the royal castle of Nottingham, now the property of the Duke of Newcastle, was discovered to be on fire, and before aid could arrive was so completely in flames, that all attempts to save it were in vain. This beautiful edifice was more than a hundred yards from another building, it was not recently inhabited. The magnificent stair-cases and floorings of black oak and cedar and the tapestry hangings of Queen Anne, with every thing it contained, are consumed. None but the external walls are left standing. The rioters were principally young men from the country, to the number of 3,000 or 4,000.

The whole of the Police force stationed in the environs on Monday morning marched into the metropolis, and are lying, some in the barracks at King's mews, and others in the Palace yard.

Large quantities of ammunition were delivered out to the troops in London, on Monday morning, at their respective barracks and quarters, and even the recruits at the Recruit-house are under arms.

The excitement in the Metropolis on hearing the disastrous fate of the Reform Bill was unprecedented.—Some papers were surrounded with mourning.—Some Parish Bells were tolled throughout the day.—Some shops were shut, and exhibited flags surmounted with crepe.—Several Parishes have resolved on Addresses to the King. A meeting of 200 members of the House of Commons, took place at Willis's Rooms;—Lord Ebrington, in the chair. Resolutions of a very strong character were agreed to, and the determination expressed to support Ministers. The Lord Mayor and Common Council assembled in Guildhall, passed Resolutions, expressive of the unabated confidence of the Court, in the firmness and patriotism of the King, and the wisdom and integrity of his Ministers, and urging his Majesty, to adopt such constitutional measures as would secure the hopes of the people, by carrying the all important measures. The money market was not very severely affected.

On the receipt of the intelligence at Birmingham, the public feeling was expressed by the tolling of muffled bells. At Manchester, there was not the least symptom of any attempt to disturb the public tranquillity.

Some disturbances have taken place at Nottingham and Derby. The Duke of Newcastle's Castle at Nottingham was destroyed—tranquillity however was soon restored.

We hear from good authority that the return of the Marquis of Anglesey to Dublin is to be only for a short time. The Noble Marquis is to succeed Lord Hill at the Horse Guards and is himself to be succeeded by his Son-in-law, the Duke of Richmond.

The Emperor of Russia has appointed Paskewitch Governor General of Poland, and commissioned him to organize a Provisional Government.

The Prussian Government has permitted the remains of the Polish Army to enter the Kingdom, where they were to lay down their arms.

There was another extensive fire at Constantinople Sept. 2, it continued 24 hours, and destroyed several quarters of the City. The Admiralty Palace and a Mosque were burnt three days before—supposed the work of Incendiaries.

SCOTLAND.—EDINBURGH, October 3.—THE ARMY.—Numerous bodies of troops have been ordered to the counties in the west of Scotland. The Royal Artillery marched early this morning for Glasgow, and they were obliged to press horses to draw their ordnance, a circumstance that rarely occurs except in countries which are the scenes of war.—Scotsman.

ARMY IN SCOTLAND.—The first division of the 47th regiment, consisting of the flank companies under the command of Major Suddler, marched yesterday for Glasgow; the second Division consisting of four companies under the command of Major Dundas, marched to day. The 30th (Perthshire Light Infantry) regiment, now on their passage from England, relieves the 74th in our garrison. The Depot of the 93d regiment marches from Glasgow to Paisley, there to be stationed with the Depot of the 26th foot. The Depot of the 1st Royals marches from Glasgow to Perth, where it will be stationed with the Depot of the 71st Light Infantry.

## HOUSE OF LORDS, Oct. 12.

PUBLIC EXCITEMENT.—The Lord Chancellor rose to present a petition for reform from Peterhead; and anxious to take this opportunity of stating what I intended to state, last night, and what I consider it my bounden duty to state in the face of young Lordships and the country, not merely in my judicial authority as the first magistrate of the country, but a Member of his Majesty's Government—I wish, I say, to state that one of the most certain and the surest means of retarding Reform, particularly the great measure of Reform, which has so long occupied the attention of the country, is a breach of the public peace. (Hear, hear.) In one word, the course of all others the most calculated to jeopard the cause of reform is to resort to violent proceedings and the breach of the King's peace. (Hear, hear.) Violent proceedings had, in different places, unfortunately, been resorted to; but he was bound to state that every violation of the public peace in order to display zeal for the accomplishment of the measure, however it might be intended, was certainly against Parliamentary Reform. The people, naturally, were anxious, but they ought not to allow anything like despair to take possession of their minds, or indulge any distrusts in His Majesty's Councils. Such conduct, above all others, they must avoid, if they wish the Bill to succeed. I tell them that reform is only delayed for a short period, I tell them that the bill will pass—that the bill must pass—that a bill founded on exactly similar principles, and equally extensive and efficient as the bill which has just been thrown out shall, in a very short period, become part and parcel of the law of the land. (Hear, hear.) I have deemed it my duty, for the sake of the peace of the country, to give this friendly advice, most sincerely hoping that it may have the desired effect, and that it will be received in the spirit in which it is given.

Lord Wharncliffe.—I am glad to hear from the noble and learned Lord, this admonition to refrain from the violation of property. When the question came before the House I thought it my duty to oppose reform in the way in which it was introduced. How I may act when the measure comes again before the House will depend on circumstances; but I will repeat what I said previous to the dissolution, that there could be no doubt the time had now arrived when there must be a Reform in the Commons House of Parliament. To what degree I am not prepared to say, nor what mode of Reform may be safely adopted, but when the question came again before your Lordships, I shall exert the best of my ability to do justice to its merits.

The Marquis of Londonderry said that he still retained his former opinion, that the feeling was not so general in favour of the Bill as it had been represented to be. But all this was a matter of opinion.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS, OCTOBER 10.

Lord Ebrington rose to bring forward his motion on the present state of the country. He had the satisfaction to know that the motion he should submit would not be decided by any thing which fell from him. The course he was about to recommend was simply a confirmation of what they had already done. (Cheers.) And he was sure that the House of Commons, which had the power to pass a Bill to amend its own consistency, (hear, and cheers,) from vindicating its own rights, (tremendous cheers for some time) and redeeming the pledges they had given their constituents, He called the attention of the House to the circumstances under which Ministers had been called on to administer the affairs of the country—a period so appalling that he almost doubted the ability of any men to restore the country to a state of happiness or security. The noble Lord then proceeded to review the acts of the present Ministry, and concluded by moving the following resolution:

"That while this House deeply laments the present state of a Bill for a Reform in the representation of the people in the Common House of Parliament, in favor of which the opinion of the country stands unequivocally pronounced, and which has been matured by discussions the most anxious and laborious, it feels itself imperatively called upon to re-assert its perfect adherence to the principle and leading provisions of that great measure, and to express its unabated confidence in that