

OPENING OF THE FRENCH CHAMBERS.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

We have received by an extraordinary express, the following Speech, delivered by the King of the French on opening the Chambers on Saturday:—

Messrs. the Peers and Gentlemen Deputies—

'I am happy to find myself amongst you, in the centre of this place where France has received my oaths. Penetrated with the duties which they have imposed upon me, I shall always give effect to the national will, of which you are the constitutional organs, and I expect on your part the frank and entire co-operation which will assure to my government that strength without which it will be impossible to answer the expectations of the nation. I have said, gentlemen, that the Charter shall be a truth: what I have said is accomplished; the Charter is the constitutional monarchy with all its conditions loyally maintained, with all its consequences frankly accepted. (Lively applause.)

'It is true, that by the uniform action of all the powers of the state, we shall put an end to those prolonged agitations which feed the guilty hopes of those who work for the return of the fallen dynasty, or of those who dream of the chimera of a republic. (Loud applause from the Chamber here interrupted his Majesty, and loud cries of 'Long live the King!') Divided upon the object, they agree, however, in the will to overthrow, no matter at what price, the public order, founded by the revolution of July; but their efforts shall be disconcerted, or punished. (Fresh applause.)

'In calling me to the throne, France has willed that the royalty should be national: it did not desire that royalty should be powerless. A government without strength would not suit the desires of a great nation.

'I have just returned from travelling in France; the proofs of affection which I have received in this journey have very deeply touched my heart. The wishes of France are present to my thoughts: you will aid me to accomplish them. Order shall be protected; liberty be guaranteed; and every factious effort confounded and repressed. Thus that confidence will be renewed for the future which can alone re-establish the prosperity of the country. It is to carry this into effect,—it is to consolidate more and more the constitutional monarchy,—that I have caused to be prepared the different projects of laws which will be proposed to you.

'You will, I hope, recognise in that which has for its object the decision of a great constitutional question reserved by the charter for the examination of the Chambers, that I always seek to put our institutions in harmony with the interests and wishes of the nation, enlightened by experience and matured by time. You will have likewise to examine, conformably to the promises of the charter, the projects of the laws destined to complete the departmental and municipal organization, to determine the responsibility of ministers, and of other agents of government, and to regulate the liberty of instruction. Some other projects of laws upon the recruiting of the army, upon the penal code, upon finance, and on different public interests, will be equally submitted to you.

'I admit the whole extent of the sufferings which the actual commercial crisis has caused to the nation; I am afflicted at it, and I admire the courage with which they have been borne. I hope that they now approach their termination, and that soon the consolidation of order will give the necessary security to the circulation of capital, and restore to our commerce and industry that spirit and activity which, under a government always guided by the national interests, can only be momentarily interrupted.

'Since the revolution of July, France has regained in Europe, the rank which belongs to her. Nothing henceforth shall wrest it from her. (Bravos.) Never was her independence better guaranteed: our National Guards, who are worth armies—our armies the fit depositaries of the inheritance of our ancient glory—will defend this independence as they have hitherto protected our internal peace and liberty.

'I have to felicitate myself upon the amicable relations which foreign governments preserve with mine.

'We ought to seek to preserve the bonds of friendship, so natural and so ancient, which unite France to the United States of America. A treaty has terminated a controversy for a long time pending between two countries which have such claims for mutual sympathy.

'Other treaties have been concluded between the Mexican and Haytian Republics.

'All these acts shall be communicated to you as soon as they have been ratified, and when the financial stipulations which they contain shall be submitted to your sanction.

'I have given new orders to our cruisers to assure the execution of the law of last session, for the more effectual suppression of the slave trade.

'As soon as I demanded it, the troops of the Emperor of Austria have evacuated the Roman states. A real amnesty, the abolition of confiscation, and important changes in the administrative and judicial system, have been given. Such are the ameliorations which will, we hope, assure to these states, that their tranquillity shall be no longer troubled, and that the equilibrium of Europe will be preserved by the maintenance of their independence.

'The Kingdom of the Low Countries, as constituted by the Treaties of 1814 and 1815, has ceased to exist. The independence of Belgium, and her separation from Holland, have been acknowledged by the great Powers. The King of the Belgians will not form part of the German Confederacy. The fortresses raised to menace France, and not to protect Belgium, will be demolished. (Loud applause here again interrupted the speech.) A neutrality recognised by Europe, and the friendship of France, will assure our neighbours an independence, of which we have been the first support.

'The power which rules in Portugal has committed outrages on Frenchmen—it has violated against them the laws of justice and humanity; to obtain redress vainly demanded, our ships appeared before the Tagus. I have received intelligence that they have forced the entrance of that river: satisfaction, up to that time refused, has been since offered. The Portuguese ships of war are now in our power, and the tri-coloured flag floats under the walls of Lisbon. (Great applause, and cries of 'Long live the King!')

'A sanguinary and furious conflict is prolonged in Poland. The conflict excites the liveliest emotions in the heart of Europe. I am endeavouring to put an end to it. After having offered my mediation, I have sought to induce that of the Great Powers. I

have wished to stop the effusion of blood, to preserve the south of Europe from the evil of the contagion which this war is propagating, and, above all, to assure for Poland, whose courage has recalled the old affections of France (cries of bravo), the nationality which has resisted all time and its vicissitudes. (Loud applause.)

'You will, doubtless, judge that, in these difficult negotiations, the true interests of France, the interests of her prosperity, of her power and her honour, have been defended with perseverance and dignity. Europe is now convinced of the loyalty of our disposition, and of the sincerity of our wishes for the preservation of peace; but it is also with the demonstration of our strength to sustain a war that we rely, should we be called upon to resist unjust aggression.

'It is in persisting in the political system followed up to this time that we shall be able to assure our country of the benefits of the revolution which has served our liberties, and to preserve them from new commotions, which would at once compromise our existence and the civilization of the world.

'We approach, gentlemen, the great anniversary. I shall with satisfaction see you joined with me in its solemnities. May they be brave and touching commemorations, to awaken sentiments of union and concord, which can alone consecrate our triumph.'

The speech appeared to produce a great effect upon the assembly.

The sitting was closed in the midst of cries of 'Long live the King!'

The King was received throughout his passage from the Palace to the Chamber with great popular applause. He was dressed in the National Guards uniform, and attended by a grand military cortege, composed of the Marshals of France, and a number of other General Officers.

LITERATURE, &c.

FROM THE EDINBURGH LITERARY JOURNAL.

BYRON'S PRAYER.

My soul is sick of this long day,
I'm weary of its lingering light—
And, loathing life, I turn away
To weep and wish for night.
I long to lay me gently down
In slumber on my mother's breast—
And would exchange an empire's crown
For everlasting rest.

Though but in manhood's morn I stand—
I've lived the laurel wreath to gain—
My songs are heard in every land,
And beauty breathes the strain.
Her smiles and sweeter tears are mine,
And yet of love—youth—fame possess—
Oh! gladly would my heart resign
All—all for endless rest.

The dreams for which men wish to live,
Or dare to die—the gilded cloud
Of glory o'er the tomb I'd give
For silence and a shroud.
I ask no paradise on high—
With being's strife on earth oppress—
The only heaven for which I sigh
Is rest—eternal rest!

My natal day with tears I keep,
Which I rejoiced in when a child,
And each return the birth I weep
O'er which my mother smiled.
Bid heaven take back the breath it gave,
That I, a cold and silent guest,
Within my father's house, the grave,
May find a long—long rest.

Without my own consent I came,
But with my wildest wish I go—
For I would fairly be the same
I was—ere born to woe.
My cold hush'd heart, with no pale gleams
Of consciousness to wake and waste,
I would have sleep without its dreams,
And rest—eternal rest!

JOHN MALCOLM.

FLOWERS.—'Of all the minor creations of God, flowers seem to be most completely the effusions of his love of beauty, grace, and joy. Of all the natural objects which surround us, they are the least connected with our absolute necessities. Vegetation might proceed, the earth might be clothed with a sober green; all the processes of fructification might be perfected without being attended by the glory with which the flower is crowned; but beauty and fragrance are poured abroad over the earth in blossoms of endless varieties, radiant evidences of the boundless benevolence of the Deity. They are made solely to gladden the heart of man, for a light to his eyes, for a living inspiration of grace to his spirit, for a perpetual admiration. And accordingly, they seize on our affections the first moment that we behold them. With what eagerness do very infants grasp at flowers! As they become older they would live for ever amongst them. They bound about in the flowery meadows like young fawns—they rather all they come

near—they collect heaps—they sit amongst them, and sort them, and sing over them, and caress them till they perish in their grasp. We see them coming wearily into the towns and villages with their pinafores full, and with posies half as large as themselves. We trace them in shady lanes, in the grass of far-off fields, by the treasures they have gathered and have left behind, lured on by others still brighter. As they grow up to maturity, they assume, in their eyes, new characters and beauties. Then they are strewn around them, the poetry of the earth. * *

The ancient Greeks, whose souls pre-eminently sympathized with the spirit of grace and beauty in everything, were enthusiastic in their love, and lavish in their use of flowers. They scattered them in the porticos of their temples—they were offered on the altars of some of their deities—they were strewn in the conqueror's path—on all occasions of festivity and rejoicing they were strewn about, or worn in garlands. The guests at banquets were crowned with them—the bowl was wreathed with them—wherever they wished to throw beauty, and to express gladness, like sunshine, they cast flowers.

Something of the same spirit seems to have prevailed amongst the Hebrews. 'Let us fill ourselves,' says Solomon, 'with costly wine and ointments; and let no flower of the spring pass by us. Let us crown ourselves with rose buds before they be withered,' but amongst that solemn and poetical people they were commonly regarded in other and higher sense—they were the favourite symbols of the beauty and the fragility of life. Man is compared to the flower of the field, and it is added, 'the grass withereth, the flower fadeth.' *

In our confined notions, we are often led to wonder why beauty, and flowers, and fruit, should be scattered so exuberantly where there are none to enjoy them. But the thoughts of the Almighty are not as our thoughts. * To Omnipotence creation costs not an effort, but to the desolate and the weary, how immense is the happiness thus prepared in the wilderness! Who does not recollect the exultation of Vaillant over a flower in the torrid wastes of Africa? A magnificent lily, which, growing on the banks of a river, filled the air far around with its delicious fragrance, and, as he observes, had been respected 'by all the animals of the district, and seemed defended even by its beauty.' The affecting mention of the influence of a flower upon his mind in a time of suffering and despondency, in the heart of the same savage continent, by Mungo Park, is familiar to every one." —HOWITT'S BOOK OF THE SEASONS.

HOW TO GET RID OF USELESS DOGS.—I began of amusing myself until it should clear, by making an outline of a group of dogs, that were stretched on the floor of the cabin, in a small green-covered sketching-book, that I generally carry about me, for less important memoranda. This soon caused a profound silence around me; the silence was succeeded by a broken whispering, and Mr. Paddy, at last, approaching me, with a timidity of manner I could not account for, said, 'Sure, sir, it wouldn't be worth your while to mind puttin' down the pup?' pointing to one that had approached the group of dogs, and had commenced his awkward gambols with his seniors. I told him I considered the pup as the most desirable thing to notice; but scarcely were the words uttered, until the old woman cried out, 'Terry, take that cur o' that—I'm sure I don't know what brings all the dogs here,' and Terry caught up the pup in his arms, and was running away with him, when I called after him to stop; but 'twas in vain. He ran like a hare from me; and the old lady seizing a branch of furze-bush, from a heap of them that were stowed beside the chimney corner for fuel, made an onset on the dogs and drove them, yelping from the house. I was astonished at this, and perceived that the air of every one in the cottage was altered towards me; and, instead of the civility which had saluted my entrance, estranged looks, or direct ones of no friendly character, were too evident. I was about to inquire the cause, when Paddy the Sport, going to the door, and causing a weather-wise look abroad, said 'I think, sir, we may as well be gon', and, indeed the day's clearin' up fine, after all, and 'ill be beautiful yet. Good-bye to you, Mrs. Flannerty,' and off went Paddy, and I followed immediately, having expressed my thanks to the aforesaid Mrs. Flannerty, making my most engaging adieu, which, however, was scarcely returned. On coming up with my conductor, I questioned him touching what the case might be of the strange alteration in the manner of the cottagers, but all his answers were unsatisfactory or evasive. We pursued our course to the point of destination. The day cleared as was prophesied. Paddy killed his game, I made my sketch, and we bent our course homeward, as evening was closing. After proceeding for a mile or two, I pointed to the tree in the distance, and asked Paddy what very large bird it could be that was sitting in it. After looking sharply for some time, he said, 'It a bird, is it? thro' it a bird that never flew yit.' 'What is it then?' said I. 'It's a dog that's hangin', said he. And he was right; for, as we approached, it became more evident every moment. But my surprise was excited, when, having scarcely passed the suspended dog, another tree rose upon our view, in advance, decorated by a pendant brace of the same breed. 'By the powers! there's two more o' them,' shouted Paddy. 'Why, at this rate they have had more sportin' nor myself,' said he. And I could see an expression of mischievous delight playing

over the face of the speaker. A sentence. A every second for the canin to my comp hanging cou self for it' s period his m execution I n myself,' sa the whole little green b said I. 'B ketch-book, the countr make him what I nanc don't know 'Oh, you m offendin' yo know, sir,' out iv your presence—b sense, man, by dad, th —but by da tax-gatherer you takin' o him, for t they thought the way.'

Sketch of a better sou never thum of your niec were dried Sea or har ways seed the poop, w winter or s hat shipped always in a berry, an copper bo scraper as lower car there, in th his two th straight ha ing decks about him say, as if galoot, nev to a man say in a vo —for half I don't say I to earn a doesn't de could say— man. He in my life blowin up your capri

ZEAL.—banks, and drawn in smaller po runs with down ever it stays no to creep in and usefu upon the the society the corner it meets, is carried a swift m through stays no mercy sits. —J ments.—

Motives to enable necessary duce man will be fo tempt. C Men have We tread pass on, a ruin. Th