

maintain their ascendancy in County Elections. They cannot parcel out their farms to create votes, and even though they could, and that the tenants were in all cases aptly disposed to second the views of their landlords, which is doubtful, it is impossible under the practical working of the system, for them to acquire a numerical superiority over the ten pound proprietors. Bribery and corruption in county elections have hitherto been unknown in Scotland—but the flood-gates of vice, immorality, and every species of low and debasing political intrigue and bribery are, by this bill, at once flung open. Widening the constituency in the way proposed, is merely multiplying the modes of demoralizing, and corrupting the principles of our peasantry. What are we to ascribe the religious and moral habits of our agricultural population to, but to their happy exclusion from the tainted atmosphere of a popular election? Virtue and honest principle are ever strong where there is no temptation. Is it wise to peril these, and put them to the test, by rushing headlong into experimental trials?

But apart from the effects which this bill may have in changing the character of our agricultural population we may ask at those barons, freeholders, and tenants of the crown, who, under some strange delusion, uphold the immaculateness of Lord Russell's bill, how they would reconcile their minds to its sweeping details, were these to abridge their territorial possessions as recklessly as they annihilate the political rights co-existent with the lands specified in their charters? By the same title they hold both. No matter whether it be from their right pocket or their left that money is feloniously abstracted, we daresay they will agree with us that the difference of pockets alters not the character of the crime, or of the loss they sustain. Let them tamely submit to this surrender of political right—this manifest infraction on their crown charters, and for the life of us, we do not see with what face they can resist an Agrarian division of their paternal acres, whenever a Reforming Cabinet may moot the subject.

EUROPE.

FOREIGN.

Bologna, March 22.—After four days of combat between Novi and Modena, General Zucchi, yielding to superior force, has retired, taking with him two pieces of brass cannon, six small pieces, much ammunition, and three or four millions of silver taken from the Government chest. These sums have been remitted to a responsible agent, and will be devoted to the defence of the free provinces. The Government of Bologna, and a part of the Deputies of the United Provinces, have directed themselves upon Pesaro, to retire upon Ancona, if the Austrians continue their march into the interior. The fortifications of this place have been repaired; and the citadel provided with provisions and ammunition sufficient to resist a long time, although the best of the works were destroyed in 1813 by the Austrians, who sold the materials to the Roman Government. General Frimont lends himself with much complaisance to the claims for numerous arrests made by Cardinal Opizzoni. Many officers of the National Guard of Bologna, who never quitted the city, have been arrested, and the blood of the Italian patriots will soon begin to flow.

Extract of a letter of the 29th ult. from Milan:—The battalion of Students, known by the name of La Pallade, has had a murderous encounter with the Austrians between Forli and Rimini. The Germans did not expect to meet with so powerful a resistance in that quarter, and were completely defeated. The patriots lost about 150 men, but they carried away a great quantity of arms, and three pieces of cannon. General Frimont hearing that the patriots will not always be disposed to retreat, has given orders it is said, for 12,000 more Austrians to enter the Roman States from Verona. The vexations exercised upon strangers become daily more annoying. It is probable that when the States of the Pope are again placed under the yoke, all foreigners established here will be expelled.

A report was in circulation at Modena, that the Austrians had entered Rome. The son of Louis Bonaparte, who had put himself at the head of the Italian insurgents, died from the effect of fatigue which he underwent during his command. Some persons, however, say that he was poisoned.

Papers and letters from Paris of Wednesday speak

of an intended Congress at Rome, to arrange the affairs of Italy.

SPAIN.—MADRID, March 26.—The direction which the public mind in Spain has taken for some time past does not leave a doubt that a violent commotion will shortly throw this country into confusion, if those who govern us continue to refuse to the nation the amelioration which it desires in the political system by which we are governed. The anger of the people is at the height, particularly since the Government manifests its distrust by the most odious measures; and they do not fear to express it openly. A letter from Bayonne, dated March 30, says, "The arrests continue at Madrid. More than 40 of the heads of the principal families of this capital have been put on their trial before Military Commissions. The insurrection at Valencia has been put down. Several persons of distinction were also arrested in that city, as well as at Bilben, Vittoria, and Saragossa. It is reported that 2,000 prisoners in the Isla de Loen, have been shot. Torrijos has now 1,200 men with him, and not 5,000 as was before stated. He is opposed by such considerable forces, that all resistance would be ineffectual whatever may be his efforts and his courage. It now appears certain that on all points where attempts were made to raise the Constitutional banner, the discontented patriots have found a population at least indifferent, and troops faithful to King Ferdinand, so that for the present their hopes are entirely destroyed."

POLAND.—On the 16th March, the Vistula, after the breaking up of the ice suddenly overflowed its banks and its waters have spread over the low ground for many leagues in extent. Though this event was positively to be foreseen, and precautions were adopted as far as possible, it has cost the Russians many lives and done great damage. The military operations on the grand bank are wholly interrupted by it, and the corps of General Geismar, which was before Praga, was obliged to abandon its positions in haste, and was harassed in its retreat by part of the garrison of Praga—the Poles having posted themselves along the causeway leading to Brezesc, from which they cannonaded the Russians on their retreat—who were, besides, embarrassed by the waters. The loss which the Russians have suffered cannot be accurately stated, but it is thought to be considerable. All the troops cantoned on the right bank of the Vistula will be exposed to the greatest danger, if they are not speedily removed further from the banks of the river into the interior of the country, because the right bank of the Vistula is considerably lower than the left. It is doubtful whether the Russians can undertake any important operations till the setting in of better weather enables them to receive considerable reinforcements.

The accounts from Poland, which extend to the 24th ult., detail no new events of importance, but represent the affairs of its brave and noble defenders in a comparatively prosperous condition. Never was a nation animated with a purer or more ardent spirit of patriotism, or disposed to make greater sacrifices for their liberty and independence. The Polish Mercury contains a curious letter of the Archduke Constantine to Count Alopeus, the Russian Minister at Berlin, dated the 27th of October. His Imperial Highness little dreamt at that time that in a month afterwards he would be compelled to flee from his Palace, and leave in disgrace the country which he had so long oppressed. He tells the Ambassadors that some individuals, inspired with a restless and exaggerated patriotism, desired to be distinguished among their countrymen, but that he knew them, and that the vigilance of the Government was sufficient to defeat all their machinations.

The following, from Cracow, is dated March 20:—It is rumoured that Polish Deputies sent to the Russian head-quarters have been received there, and have opened negotiations. This circumstance, if it be confirmed, would be a good omen, for hitherto Marshal Diebitsch has refused all kinds of negotiation, alledging the commands of the Emperor, who requires blind submission. General Chlopicki is better. There have been no fresh operations of war, but the Russians have still to struggle against bad weather, scarcity, diseases, and the partial insurrections of the peasants in the Palatinates of Lublin and Augustowo.

The Warsaw State Gazette of the 28th ult. contains a remarkable proclamation, addressed to the Russian nation by General Yermoloff. This General, who is a Russian by birth, distinguished himself in the Persian war, and has since been disgraced by the Court, but still possesses great influence among his countrymen. He must have himself raised the standard of revolt on the banks of the Wolga, though we have not heard of his operations, and must have sent agents to distribute his moving appeal over the rest of the empire. The Emperor Nicholas will have now

work enough on his hands, having to fight the Poles, the Turks, the Persians, and the insurgent Russians. It is difficult to say how far the call of General Yermoloff may be listened to by his countrymen. He speaks to them of a 'Constitution,' as if they knew the import of the expression, and could make it the watchword of their revolt. But a more intelligible part of the appeal in that which tries to excite their hostility to the Government, by accusing it of employing foreigners, to the exclusion of native Muscovites. The old Gentlemen evidently alludes to Marshal Diebitsch and other foreign officers, who engross the favour of the Emperor. The whole address is dexterously composed, and seems well adapted to produce the intended effect.

ENGLAND.

THE REVENUE.—The customary statement of the revenue for the year and quarter ending on the 5th instant, compared with that of the year and corresponding quarter ending the 5th of April, 1830, has been published. The amount of the revenue for the year which has just expired is £45,759,114; and its amount in the twelve months ending the 5th of April, 1830, was £46,894,061; thus leaving a deficiency on the whole year of £1,134,947. The deficiency on the quarter ending on Tuesday, is compared with the corresponding quarter of last year, is proportionably more considerable. The cause of the deficiency in both cases is to be found, not in any falling off in the resources of the country, but in the reduction of taxes; and the same cause also explains the difference in the proportions of deficit between the year and quarter.

More than the whole of the deficiency of the revenue occurs in the Excise, and the loss in this branch has been counterbalanced, in some degree, by an increase in the Customs. Now, it is only necessary that we should recollect the financial measures introduced in the early part of last session to account for this falling off in the Excise. It will be remembered, that the beer duty, producing a revenue of more than £3,000,000 a-year, was repealed,—that the leather duty, producing nearly £400,000, was likewise repealed,—together with a small duty on cider, producing about £30,000; making in all about £3,500,000. Though the deficiency on the year, therefore had been greater, the reduction of taxes would have accounted for it. But the whole effect of the reduction was not felt in these duties till after the October quarter, and, consequently, the quarter ending the fifth instant must have been expected to exhibit a larger falling off than any of the interior quarters of the present financial year, as compared with the corresponding quarters of the last. The deficiency of £740,309, multiplied by four, would only give us £2,961,236, as the loss on the whole year, whereas, by the reduction of taxes, it might have been expected to amount to £3,500,000. The difference may, therefore, be regarded as the measure of improvement in those branches of the revenue which are still maintained, and this improvement may be estimated at more than half a million.

The revenue has improved even beyond the calculations of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer, detailed to the House of Commons on the 15th of March, 1830. The right honourable gentleman stated, that he expected to lose, within the year, £750,000 on the repeal of the beer duty, which was to take effect from the 10th of October, and £200,000 on the repeal of the leather duty, which was to commence from July, making in all £950,000. Proceeding on the same data, the deficiency in the quarter ending the 5th of April should be, for beer duties £750,000, and for leather duty £100,000; making £850,000. These two sums added together make £1,800,000, which might have been expected to be the amount of the deficiency in the present year as compared with the last. The real deficiency being only £1,134,947; shows an improvement in the existing branches of the revenue of more than half a million. This certainly affords an encouragement for the reduction of taxes, though the experiment might be dangerous if carried too far.

The failure of the great Irish house of Kinahan and Co. has excited a strong sensation among the merchants trading to Ireland.—The advices from Saxony mention, that the project of a new constitution for that state had been laid before the people, and had been