

how beautiful, through the vista of years, seems that brief moonlight track upon the waters of our youth!—*Bulwer's Pilgrims of the Rhine.*

## EUROPE.

*From the Halifax Novascotian.*

### IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

On Monday arrived here the Brunswick, Transport, Capt. Blake, with a part of H. M. 83d Regt. from Cork. She has brought papers to the 19th ult. The contents of these papers are highly important. In France, the proceedings of their Chambers in their attempts to suppress the freedom of the Press, and Political Associations, has thrown Paris into a state of extreme agitation. To suppress this excitement, upwards of 40,000 troops have been called out. It appears by the latest dates that tranquility was for the present restored. Two large divisions of the French Army were to be immediately placed under the command of Marshal Soult, and Gerard.

The entrance of a large body of Austrians into Switzerland, and a movement of German troops towards the northern frontier, shows a determination in these old despotic governments to check that spirit of freedom which begins to shew itself in all parts of Europe, and it is probable that events of extreme importance will ultimately grow out of these measures. All the accounts from Portugal, shew that success is every attending the young Queen. These measures are opening a field for commerce the affects of which will be much felt.

The affairs of Spain appear still unsettled, and it is probable will remain so till the Cortes are convened. The accounts contained in the papers we have received, are so uncertain and contradictory, that little dependence can be placed upon them.

The British Parliament had again assembled. It has been partly engaged with the affairs of Canada, which as well as other Colonial disputes, will exercise the patience of the Colonial Secretary.

Questions of reform were continually coming forward and will furnish His Majesty's government with full employment. In getting rid of these Questions much ingenuity is displayed. The politics of Russia continue to be viewed with great suspicion—and taking a general view of the state of Europe, it seems highly probable that its peace will not be of very long duration.

*From the London Courier of Wednesday.*

Previously to the opening of the Stock Exchange this morning, it became known that the Pyke had arrived from Lisbon at Falmouth, with advices dated the morning of the 6th inst.

The first letters seen were of a most favorable description, announcing that several important places had declared in favour of the Queen, and that the Portuguese government had sent to Madrid for the purpose of agreeing to the Spanish troops entering Portugal. The price of the Stock immediately rose, and some business was transacted at 72 1-2. Shortly afterwards a report obtained circulation that a negotiation had been opened between Colonel Bacon and General Saldanha, on behalf of the constitutionalists, and General Lemos on behalf of Don Miguel, which had been broken off by Lemos refusing all terms, unless the right and succession to the Throne should be guaranteed to Don Miguel, after the death of the Queen. Such a proposition being inadmissible, the negotiation ceased. It was also stated, Bernardo de Sa had been defeated, and retired to the frontiers of Spain, and a sort of panic ensued, the price of the stock falling to 70. Upon inquiry, we understand, that the statement of the negotiation is, to a certain extent, correct, but that concerning the defeat of Bernardo de Sa. originates in his having left Beja for the purpose of attacking Moura (a strong fortified place), but not having a sufficient force to justify an attack, he returned to Beja, where an additional force had been sent to assist him from Lisbon. The Stock has again risen to 71, buyers. Spanish Stock has been very firm during the morning, and is now quoted at 32 3-4 33.

"We are just stunned with the firing of every Ship and Fort in the Tagus, it being her little Majesty's birth day. There is to be a Grand Review and Levee, the Queen publishes a general amnesty, and concludes by going in grand state to the Opera and Arsenal Ball.

"Admiral Parker and the Ambassador have been up at Santarem for a week—no one knows for what, though it is supposed to be at some of their dirty underhand work. The Government, it is said, have as little confidence in Lord Howard de Walden as they had in Lord William Russel. He is an undisguised and confirmed Miguelite, and Mr. H. Chester's business at Madeira, sanctioned, as he says, by Lord Howard, is causing a tremendous sensation. Old Admiral Napier talks to every one of their double dealing. He is a queer honest old fish, sacrifices but little to the graces, and is looked upon as the life and soul of the new order of things."

### REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT AT MADRID.

The *Gazette de France* has the following:—At the moment when the events of Lyons plunge France into the most painful state, news arrives from Spain, which leads us to suppose that the contest has taken a new character, and that a definite crisis is approaching. The *justi milieu* in Spain is about to disappear, and the party of the revolution on one side, and of the monarchy on the other. It is no longer doubtful that a revolutionary movement has taken place at Madrid. The details of this event has not yet arrived. Merino on the other hand has penetrated into Old Castille, at the head of 1,000 men, and Don Carlos, whose entry he precedes, follows him, with 2000 men.

We hear this afternoon that advices had been received from Madrid, where serious disturbances had, on the 7th and 8th inst., been occasioned by the unpopularity of the ministers. It is reported that *Burgos and the Justi Milieu* party had been dismissed, and *Toreio* and a liberal government has been appointed.

PARLIAMENTARY—The annual grant of £20,000 has been voted to promote education among the poor in England.

Mr. Roebuck brought forward a motion for a select Committee to inquire into the means of remedying the evils which exist in the form of the government now existing in Upper and Lower Canada. The hon. gentleman entered into a long statement of all the grievances which exist in the Canadas, and into an examination of the conduct of the Government. Mr. Stanley defended the Government in a very long speech, and he concluded by moving an amendment, which conceded the Committee, but took the management of it and limited its power to inquire into the complaints from Lower Canada.

Lord Althorp, in a committee on Tithe commutation, has developed his plan for "the commutation of Tithes," to the House of Commons, and we are sure it will not satisfy the people.—The resolutions to which he asked the assent of the house were these:—That all Tithes in England and Wales do cease and determine from ———.

"That in future all land liable to tithe shall pay an average rate in proportion to its value in the different counties.

"That all land liable to tithe may have such tithe redeemed by the payment of 25 years' purchase."

Sir Robert Peel objected to these resolutions, as pledging the House to something it might not like to agree to.

After some conversation, no person liking to make many remarks on the plan until it was detailed and in print, the resolutions were altered thus on the motion of Lord Althorp.—

"That it is expedient to effect the commutation of tithes, and to abolish the payment of tithes in kind throughout England and Wales, and in lieu thereof to substitute another payment to be made to the parties entitled to tithes; and that the power of redemption should be granted to the payers of tithes at a certain number of years' purchase."

They were then agreed to, and ordered to be reported on Thursday.

## POLITICAL EXTRACTS.

### SPIRIT OF THE BRITISH JOURNALS.

LONDON MORNING CHRONICLE.—*Abolition of Church Rates*—We have some difficulty and reluctance in commenting on the Ministerial plan for the Abolition of Church Rates. The injustice and oppression of the old imposition are not chargeable on the present government. The tax is a legacy of our ancestors. In former times, it was a moderate and just mode of maintaining a Church Establishment; but the rapid progress of Non-Conformity in the last century, has altered the

relations of the various religious parties of the State. The Dissenters, now equal in numbers to the members of the Hierarchy, and in many districts the great majority, naturally and justly protested against an extortion which forced them to contribute to the support of the State Church, and have been latterly joined, in all the large towns, by the liberal and intelligent classes of the Churchmen, who agreed with them in principle, and who had become disgusted by the jobbing system which for many years has infected every executive department of our Municipal and Ecclesiastical Government. Formerly the Clergy and their immediate partisans managed easily to obtain whatever rates they desired, and expended whatever moneys their fancy or interest dictated. Under the dominion of the Boroughmongers, the Dissenters, with their usual sagacity, neither expected nor sought relief from the compulsory imposition. But the Reform Acts have produced a new era. The Dissenters now enjoy their fair proportion of electoral power, as they have of late tolerably demonstrated by their statistical returns. The revolt then commenced, and close siege was laid to the outworks of the Establishment. Sir Robert Inglis appears to doubt the extent of the insurrection against Church Rates. The columns of the Morning Chronicle for two years past, are a record that this tax has been virtually abolished in most of the large towns of England and Wales; and it is notorious that the epidemic would have spread throughout almost every parish in England and Wales, but for the sanguine expectation of early relief from a liberal Government and a Reformed House of Commons. Nor has the popular opposition to this obnoxious local tax been simply confined to refusals of the rate. The expenditure has been 'cut down' throughout the kingdom. We believe the last Parliamentary return of Church-rates is contained in the 'Local Taxation' returns, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed in December, 1830. And it is observable that this official return related only to the year ending 25th of March, 1827. Some documents were alluded to on the discussion of the subject by Lord Althorp on Monday, as being 'on the table of the House;' but we believe that no new calculation of Church-rates was included in those papers. The Local Taxation returns represent that in 1827 the annual Highway rates of England and Wales amounted to £1,121,834; the sums expended in relief of the Poor, County-rate &c., to £7,803,465; the Church Rates (England and Wales) £564,388—all these enormous levies being imposed on real property of the annual value (in April 1815, a high scale) of £51,898,423, being a gross rate of three shillings and eight pence in the pound! Now can it be a matter of marvel that the active-minded and intelligent inhabitants of this country should revolt against the pressure of such fiscal extortion, having also to provide 'King's Taxes into the bargain?' The question is palpably not one of mere religious principle or feeling; it is a further consideration of pocket.—April 23.

LONDON MORNING HERALD.—*Repeal of the Union.*—At the Evening Sitting of the Commons a great number of Petitions were presented for and against the repeal of the Legislative Union between England and Ireland.

Mr. O'Connell then rose to submit his promised motion on that subject, which he prefaced by a speech of considerable length. The hon. and learned Member entered into the history of the connexion between the two countries, to show that England had acquired no right, by conquest or otherwise, to supreme power over Ireland. He also detailed the means resorted to for the accomplishment of the Act of Union, which he maintained was not a compact but a gross imposition, brought about by bribery and corruption of the basest character. But it would be vain to attempt, within the brief limits which we prescribe to ourselves in this department of the paper to analyse a speech which occupied about five hours in the delivery. Mr. O'Connell concluded by moving for a 'Select Committee, to inquire and report on the means by which the dissolution of the Parliament of Ireland was effected, on the effects of that measure upon Ireland, and upon the labourers in husbandry and operatives in manufactures in England, and on the probable consequences of continuing the Legislative Union between both countries.'

Mr. S. Rice declared that he was ready at that moment to enter into the question, if such was the pleasure of the House; but submitted the propriety of adjourning the debate till tomorrow.

The general feeling of the House being in favour of adjournment, that course was adopted.

*Riots in France.*—We received last night, by express, the Paris papers of Monday and Tuesday. Their contents are unimportant, except so far as they contain further assurances of the continuance of tranquility in those parts which were so lately the scene of civil war in its worst shape, Paris, Lyons, and some other towns of the South. The details of the disorders at Lyons, particularly, which are daily coming more to light, tend to exhibit that out-break under the most distressing aspect. The damage which it occasioned to property is almost incalculable. The workmen were, however, returning to their labours, and the local authorities were exerting themselves to the utmost to repair the losses. A deputation of three influential persons from the devoted city had arrived in Paris to solicit subscriptions and assistance, and it was hoped by the friends of humanity that their mission would not be a failure. By a curious coincidence a petition from the same quarter, and agreed upon before the very recent troubles broke out, praying for compensation for the brutalities of Collet d'Herbois and the Republicans of 1793, came on to be discussed in the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday; but the sufferings of April, 1834, will perhaps take precedence of consideration for those of 1793. The army, it now appears, had actually been infected with Republicanism. Many sub-officers, and some officers, had been arrested in various parts of France, accused of treasonable prac-