

which ministers have created in time of peace.

"The cheap timber men, the cheap bread, cheap sugar men, and the beautiful theorists of free trade, and changes in the long established system under which England has grown up to her present wealth and grandeur, may also be disappointed, particularly the latter description of persons, if there is any honesty or sincerity about them, which we may be permitted to doubt.

"Is there any set of men, who, while all nations have tariffs of duties, protective of their particular interests, and for securing their power, who can believe that foreigners will be coaxed into an abandonment of their system, by a partial relaxation of that system in England, merely to make good deficiencies, in the expenditures, and while the system is maintained in the corn and navigation laws, and the reserved power of regulating the trade of the Colonies by duties. It will be considered abroad as a feeling of weakness, and will deceive no one, although it may suit the momentary interests of an extravagant and spendthrift, over meddling, deceptive administration."

European News.

BY THE ACADIA.

From English Papers to the 19th May.

From the European, May 19.

CHINA.

The intelligence from China, reaching to the 12th February, represents Captain Elliott and Keshen as continuing the negotiations, but private accounts state that the Chinese authorities, from the Emperor downwards, were not disposed to act with sincerity. Captain Elliott has ordered possession to be taken of Hong Kong in Her Majesty's name. Troops are to be sent off from Bombay immediately to take their station on that Island. Great fears continue to prevail lest all Keshen's negotiations should turn out to be mere humbug. The commodore still refused to allow the trade of foreigners with Canton, as the blockade has not been declared removed.

On the 27th January, captain Elliott, accompanied by the deputy superintendent, the French vice consul, and several naval and military officers, landed at the second bar pagoda, and had an interview with the imperial commissioner Keshen, by whom they were most courteously received. Keshen was attended by the principal officers of the province and two Hong merchants. When the presentation of captain Elliott and the various members of his suite had been completed Keshen invited them to partake of a banquet which had been prepared for the occasion, after partaking of which her Majesty's plenipotentiary and his attendants reembarked.

On the 30th January captain Elliott issued a circular, stating that negotiations were proceeding satisfactorily, but at the same time intimating that in the existing state of affairs he did not consider it advisable for British subjects to proceed to Canton.

On the 1st of February the commodore and plenipotentiary issued conjointly a proclamation to the inhabitants of Hong Kong, informing them that the place had become a part of the dominions of the Queen of England, and that natives on the island must consider themselves subjects of her Britannic Majesty. It also guaranteed to the Chinese the free exercise of their religious and social customs, and the preservation of their private property. On the 9th of the same month another proclamation was made by captain Elliott, in virtue of authority vested in him under the great seal of the united kingdom, reserving her Majesty's rights, royalties, and privileges over the island; vesting the government, pending her Majesty's pleasure, in the person holding the office of chief superintendent, and declaring that the Chinese within the jurisdiction should be governed by their own laws and customs.

It was however understood at Canton, on the 7th February, that the conduct of Keshen appeared vacillating, and that he seemed disinclined to fulfil his engagements. It was further reported, that an imperial edict had arrived from Peking, in reply to the report of the capture of the forts of Tycocktow and Chuenpee, the import of which is decidedly hostile to the British. A very general impression exists that recourse must again be had to hostile operations.

INDIA.

Scinde and Afghanistan are in a very unsettled state. On the 20th of February, a force consisting of one troop of horse artillery, a wing of the 3d light cavalry, two companies of the 2d grenadiers, a wing of the 20th regiment of native infantry, and a party of the Scinde irregular horse, under the command of

lieutenant colonel Wilson, attacked the fort of Kajuck, or as it is sometimes called, Sebee. The fire of the artillery commenced about two p. m. Shortly afterwards Colonel Wilson was wounded, and the command devolved on captain Rollings, of the 2d Grenadiers. This officer finding the cannonade did not produce the desired effect, ordered preparations to be made for an assault.

The storming party, consisting of two companies of Sepoys, accordingly advanced, but met with the most determined resistance, and was driven back after suffering great loss. Lieutenant Falconer who commanded this detachment, was killed, and Lieutenant Shaw, who accompanied him as a volunteer, was badly wounded. The enemy also suffered severely, four of their chiefs having been killed in the combat. The Sepoys were subsequently relieved by a party of artillerymen. These succeeded in making a lodgement under the gateway but could penetrate no further. Their commanding officer Lieutenant Creed, was also slain, and as night approached the troops were, at the request of the political agent, recalled to camp. At daybreak next morning it was found that the enemy had taken advantage of the darkness, and had evacuated the fort. We are sorry to add that Lieut. colonel Wilson has since died of his wounds. Lieutenant Shaw is, be believe, doing well, as is also Lieutenant Farquharson, of the 38th Belgal native infantry, who received a contusion in the leg from a spent ball. Since the above event the greatest activity prevailed amongst the troops in Scinde, and every effort is being made to quell the rebellious spirit of the Belooche tribes.

An engagement has also taken place between the troops of the Bengal establishment, composing colonel Shelton's brigade and a tribe of Khyberies, in which the latter were defeated. The particulars of this affair have not yet transpired, but there is no doubt of two European officers having been killed—Captain Douglas, by a stray shot, and Lieutenant Pigon, of the Bengal Engineers, from the accidental explosion of some gunpowder.

A report was at one time generally prevalent that the Persians had arrived at Herat, and that Major Todd had left that place in consequence. This is only partially true. Major Todd had certainly left Herat, and on the 21st January had arrived at Gherisk, en route to Candahar, accompanied by the other gentlemen of the mission. This movement was not, however caused by any apprehension of the immediate arrival of the Persian forces, but from its having been discovered that Schah Kamran's minister, Yar Mahomed, was carrying on intrigues exceedingly inimical to British interests, and calculated to compromise the safety of any English officers who might venture to remain within the Herat territory. That the Persians contemplate a second advance on Herat, appears highly probable; and it is said that an officer of the Bengal engineers has been directed to survey and report on the principal fortresses of Afghanistan, with a view to their being put in an efficient state of defence.

Lahore was still the scene of dreadful riot and bloodshed. Shere Sing continues to be the nominal head of the disordered kingdom of the Panjaub. A considerable number of his best troops having mutinied, he has dismissed them, and entertained new levies. The disbanded soldiers will in all probability be retained by the discontented chiefs, and thus prove more formidable enemies than before. Ranee Chund Kour, the great opponent to the present Rajah, has been severely wounded in attempting to save her paramour, who was murdered before her eyes. Large bodies of troops have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness; and though Lord Auckland appears reluctant to interfere in the affairs of the Panjaub, yet it is evident he is preparing to do so with effect, should it be found absolutely necessary.

In the interior of India tranquillity prevails. The late hostile movements in Napaunee, in the Carnatic, was speedily put down.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Henry Edward Sharpe, to be Attorney General for the Island of Barbadoes; and Sir Robert B. Clarke, to be Chief Justice of the same.

It is stated that Lord Palmerston and Sir John Cam Hobhouse will be immediately raised to the British Peerage.

The Queen has been pleased to constitute and appoint the Right Hon. Robert Montgomery Lord Belhaven, to be her Majesty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

The Queen has been pleased to direct letters patent to be passed under the Great Seal, granting the dignity of a Baronet unto Sir George Arthur, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten.

Fire at Drontheim.—The third and the best built part of the city was burnt down on the 24th of April, from the afternoon till midnight, during a violent storm; 314 houses were destroyed, and 4000 persons are without shelter. The fire, which broke out in the house of a carpenter, is said to have been caused by the negligence of a servant girl.

London Standard, May 18.

Lord Clarendon denied last night in the House of Lords that ministers have had any connection with the anti-corn-law lecturers. Mr Oastler, however, on the 20th of March, and of course before the further proof could be expected from a budget speech, proved the connection.

The Paris Papers of Sunday are chiefly occupied with the affairs of England, and the engagements presumed to have been entered into by France. The discussion on the budget was drawing to a close. The entire supplies of the Finance Department were voted on Saturday. M. de Beaumont and several of his colleagues having proposed that there should be an uniform rate of postage in England, M. Humann, the Minister of Finance, remarked that the result of the experiment in this country had not been such as to encourage France to adopt such a measure. The Chamber of Deputies was to vote on the ensemble of the budget on Monday. The Moniteur publishes a Royal ordonnance, providing for the re-organization of the special military school at St. Cyr.

We have received Madrid journals and letters, of the 9th instant. The whole of the Spanish ministers had waited on Espartero on that day for the purpose of congratulating him on his election to the regency. A Council was afterwards held to discuss the re-organization of the Cabinet. A list of the ministry likely to prove acceptable to Espartero was circulated in the evening, and comprized the names of Senora, Gonzales, Infantes, Cortina, Luxuriaga, Ximenes, Pitta, Pizano, and Olozaga.

State of Trade.—The condition of the working class or classes in Clitheroe, Padiham, and the surrounding neighborhood, is miserable beyond description. Our correspondents in all that quarter, says—'it would puzzle a wise head to say in what manner many of them sustain existence.' There are numbers of the hand-loom weavers entirely without employment, and of those who are employed, the average wages do not amount to more than 3s. to 6s. a week.—Bolton Free Press.

The Insurrection in Crete.—Tahir Pacha was to sail from Constantinople at the end of April with a strong division of the Turkish fleet, amounting to 12 sail in all, and having on board 6000 troops to attack the insurgents. The Malta Times says that 'nothing less than the partial extermination of the Candiotes will put the insurrection down, and it asks whether the Porte will do this, or the protecting Christian powers allow it to be done.' The Mediterranean states that from several landings of men from the Morea the insurgents amounted to 16,000. Mustapha Pacha, the Seraskier of Crete, had issued a proclamation dated Canea, March 26, to the Christian Cretans, announcing to them the reduction of duties on all produce arriving in Candio, and exhorting them to return quietly to their homes, and avoid a severe punishment.

Warsaw, May 7.—The Emperor Nicholas, on occasion of the marriage of his son, has conferred some favours on the inhabitants of the kingdom of Poland. Our journals contain three imperial resolutions. By the first, all persons under sentence of death have their punishment commuted to imprisonment for life; the punishments of confinement in the house of correction, and ordinary imprisonments, fines, and corporal punishments, are, with the exception of some cases, entirely remitted. By the second, all arrear of debt to the Treasury originating at the time of the Duchy of Warsaw and of the kingdom, till the end of 1831, and many other particularly specified claims which the Treasury has for various taxes to the end of 1837, are excused. This resolution contains besides several other financial remissions for the subjects of the kingdom of Poland in respect to accidents and losses which they have sustained of late years. The third resolution grants to a number of political offenders, of whom there are some banished to Siberia, either a full

pardon, or a diminution of the period of their punishment.

A letter from Lausanne furnishes us with the following account of a lamentable catastrophe which lately took place on Mount Saint Gothard. A large party of travellers having persevered in attempting to cross the mountain, in spite of the threatening state of the weather, and finding themselves enveloped in a snow storm, took shelter in a small building by the road side in Airolo. While promising themselves security, fate was impending over them, for an immense avalanche fell and crushed their frail dwelling in upon them. Six were deprived of life, and it was with the utmost labour and difficulty the rest were saved.

London Times, May 18.

Alexandria, April 26, 1841.—We are still without any decisive news from Constantinople, and are at present altogether occupied with the plague and the sensation which it has created by the death of a few Franks, and the increasing interruption in commercial intercourse.

Two English sailors have fallen victims to their own imprudence in sleeping ashore (probably intoxicated, in some damp and filthy *auberg*, where alone they could find accommodation). Two Austrian sailors have also been attacked, and one has died. A respectable young man, named Smith, (by birth a Dane) who was engaged in providing accommodations for Indian travellers en route to and from Suez, and who accompanied the last party that arrived from Cairo to sail in the great Liverpool, died yesterday of plague in the Lazaretto, after two days' illness. A Maltese merchant too, a resident of 25 years standing, named Cortis, who kept himself in strict quarantine, has also been attacked, and is in a doubtful state to day.

These events have caused considerable alarm among the Europeans and Levantines; and most of their ships in the harbour have hoisted the yellow flag, having been, by the recommendation of their Consuls, 'put in quarantine,' apparently to avoid personal intercourse between their sailors and individuals on shore; but this is altogether impossible, and, in fact, absurd, to pretend to carry into effect, while they are delivering and receiving cargoes, provisions, water, &c. The general mortality of Alexandria has not, however, increased; up to this day at noon the official returns were, for the last 24 hours, 9 persons attacked with plague, (and carried to the hospital), 3 deaths of plague, and 15 deaths by other diseases. In this state of things, the French steamer that sails to-morrow will take no passengers. The mortality at Cairo is, however, much more serious; the report received in course yesterday was 120 deaths per day, but of these the plague cases are only 9 or 10. The principal were from cholera, yellow fever, and small-pox.

Private letters from Constantinople state the intention of the four Consuls-general to leave that city for Alexandria by the end of the present month, if, as they hope, the hourly expected instructions from England should be precise and definite. They seem to think that thus prepared with diplomatic weapons, they shall find little difficulty in arranging all the points of policy or interest which Mehemet Ali has raised in reference to his own claims or the Sultan's rights; those, however, who have narrowly watched the Pasha's recent movements here, do not calculate upon such an easy settlement of affairs. Suffice it to say at present, that the supplies of ammunition to the forts and troops still continue between midnight and 2 o'clock in the morning, and that Alexandria is now the centre of a wide-spread encampment.

The Bedouin tribes of Toura and Maza were again at war in the desert adjacent to Suez, and it was feared that Ajoule, a station for the Pasha charged with the protection of travellers would be attacked and dismantled by either or both; for their *causa belli* appears to be the right to escort and aid, or plunder passengers according to circumstances. The Pasha's troops set as a species of police of the desert, alike inimical to the claims and local privileges of both, and it is not at all improbable that they may both unite for a moment to act against the common foe, especially if they find the Pasha involved in any new embarrassments.

By recent intelligence from Beyrout, we learn that the French are still actively interesting themselves in the affairs of Lebanon, ostensibly for the benefit of the poor Christians of the Maronite creed. A French man of war had lately arrived there with specie on board, which was sent up the mountain to the convent. The last French steamer bought hither