

which might be spent about your homes? 'Flowers are God's smiles,' says Wilberforce, and they are as beautiful beside the cottage as the palace, and may be enjoyed by the inhabitants of the one as well as the other. There are but few homes in our country which might not be made more beautiful and attractive, not to strangers only, but to their inmates. Let every one study, then, and work, to make whatever place they be in, so attractive that the hearts of the absent ones shall go back to it as the dove to the ark of Noah.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

From English Papers to the 19th February.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Feb. 3.

Her Majesty this day opened the Session of Parliament in person.

The attendance of peers was quite unprecedented. They were literally crowded together on the floor, by far the greater number being unable to procure seats.

In that portion of the house appropriated to the *corps diplomatique* we observed, amongst others, the Austrian, French, Prussian, Spanish, Belgian and Hanoverian Ministers.

At seven minutes before two o'clock a salvo of artillery announced the approach of her Majesty, and in a few minutes afterwards her Majesty, preceded by her great officers of state, and accompanied by Prince Albert, entered the house, and took her seat on the throne. Her Majesty having bowed graciously to the King of Prussia, and Prince Ferdinand of Saxe-Coburg, desired their Lordships to be seated. The Usher of the Black Rod, Sir Augustus Clifford, was then commanded by her Majesty to summon the Commons to attend at the bar.

After a brief pause the rush of the Commons was distinctly heard, and immediately afterwards the Speaker, attended by a great number of members, appeared at the bar. Her Majesty then read the following gracious speech:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,

'I cannot meet you in Parliament assembled, without making a public acknowledgement of my gratitude to Almighty God, on account of the birth of the Prince, my son,—an event which has completed the measure of my domestic happiness, and has been hailed with every demonstration of affectionate attachment to my person and government, by my faithful and loyal people.

'I am confident that you will participate in the satisfaction which I have derived from the presence in this country of my good brother and ally the King of Prussia, who at my request undertook in person the office of Sponsor at the christening of the Prince of Wales.

'I receive from all Princes and States the continued assurance of their earnest desire to maintain the most friendly relations with this country.

'It is with great satisfaction I inform you that I have concluded with the Emperor of Austria, the King of the French, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of Russia, a treaty for the more effectual suppression of the Slave Trade, which, when the ratification shall have been exchanged, will be communicated to Parliament.

'There shall also be laid before you a treaty which I have concluded with the same Powers, together with the Sultan, having for its object the security of the Turkish empire, and the maintenance of the general tranquillity.

'The restoration of my diplomatic and friendly intercourse with the Court of Teheran has been followed by the completion of a commercial treaty with the King of Persia, which I have directed to be laid before you.

'I am engaged in negotiations with

several powers, which, I trust, by leading to conventions founded on the just principle of mutual advantage may extend the trade and commerce of the country.

'I regret that I am not able to announce to you the re-establishment of peaceful relations with the government of China.

'The uniform success which has attended the hostile operations directed against that power, and my confidence in the skill and gallantry of my naval and military forces, encourage the hope on my part that our differences with the government of China will be brought to an early termination, and our commercial relations with that country placed on a satisfactory basis.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

'The estimates of the year have been prepared, and will be laid before you.

'I rely, with entire confidence, on your disposition, while you enforce the principles of a wise economy, to make that provision for the service of the country which the public exigencies require.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

'I recommend to your immediate attention the state of the finances, and of the expenditure of the country.

'You will have perceived with regret that, for several years past, the annual income has been inadequate to bear the public charges; and I feel confident, that, fully sensible of the evil which must result from a continued deficiency of this nature during peace, you will carefully consider the best means of averting it.

'I recommend also to your consideration the state of the laws which affect the import of corn, and of other articles the produce of Foreign countries.

'Measures will be submitted for your consideration for the amendment of the law of bankruptcy, and for the improvement of the jurisdiction exercised by the Ecclesiastical Courts in England and Wales.

'It will also be desirable that you should consider, with a view to their revision, the laws which regulate the Registration of Electors of Members to serve in Parliament.

'I have observed with deep regret the continued distress in the manufacturing districts of this country. The sufferings and privations which have resulted from it have been borne with exemplary patience and fortitude.

'I feel assured that your deliberations on the various important matters which will occupy your attention, will be directed by a comprehensive regard for the interests and permanent welfare of all classes of my subjects, and I fervently pray that they may tend in their result to improve the national resources, and to encourage the industry and promote the happiness of my people.'

Her Majesty read the speech in her usual clear and emphatic manner. Her Majesty looked well.

London Evening Chronicle, February 18.

The division on the amendment moved by Lord John Russell removes all doubt as to the passing of the measure of modification proposed by Sir Robert Peel, and the funds have advanced, as we expected, but as yet only $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

On Monday evening, about six o'clock, a large crowd, we regret to say, paraded some of the streets of the town, with what they called an effigy of Sir Robert Peel, holding in his hand a copy of the Times, with his speech in favour of the new sliding scale. After walking in procession through Market street, and several other thoroughfares, the crowd, which amounted to some 3,000 or 4,000 persons, proceeded to the New Cross, where the man of straw was burned amid the cheers of the multitude.—From the Manchester Guardian.

Northampton, February 17.—Last

night this town was the scene of a great riot, it having been determined to mark their detestation of Sir Robert Peel's sliding scale by burning him in effigy, and great numbers assembled in the Market square at the hour appointed for the sentence to be carried into effect.

At half past eight o'clock the bearers of the effigy were quietly proceeding down Newland, a narrow street communicating with the square, when they were met by a strong force of policemen, who succeeded, after some scuffling, in rescuing Sir Robert's representative from the parties about to consign it to the flames; and in capturing three of the body guard. This excited the indignation of the populace, who assembled in great numbers round the Town hall, where the police had effected a lodgment with their prisoners; and, after hooting and yelling for a long time, demanding their liberation, commenced the work of destruction by breaking the windows of the hall, the gas lamps in the vicinity, and the windows in the house of a grocer opposite. The Riot Act was then read, and a number of the tradesmen of the town were sworn in as special constables. They commenced patrolling the streets, and restored something like order, although at twelve the people did not seem disposed to disperse.

A company of the 54th Regiment, stationed at Weedon having been sent for, arrived at three o'clock this morning, and at the time I write all is quiet. A few stragglers here and there are commenting on the dilapidated appearance which the hall and adjoining houses present.

February 16.—The townships of Hanley and Shelton, in the Staffordshire Potteries, were thrown into a state of great excitement, on learning the nature of Sir Robert Peel's measure of awful importance relative to an alteration of the corn laws. Curses loud and deep escaped from the lips of persons unused to the swearing mood at this daring insult to a patient and suffering people.

To show their resentment of such a cheat, the people of Hanley and Shelton, got up an effigy of Peel, and paraded it through the principle streets, with drum and fire amidst the execrations of thousands, who peppered him right soundly with mud and stones, then fixing it on an elevated spot, discharged thirty or forty pistol shots at him, and set it on fire.

London Globe, Feb. 17.

Carlist Intrigues against Spain.—The Gazette des Pyrenees publishes the following letter:—'The partizans of Queen Christina have not lost all hopes of success; and their residence in France has facilitated the means of coming to an understanding with the chiefs of the Carlist party. We need not, therefore be astonished if O'Donnell, Coucha, Jauregui, Brano, de Villareal, Claveria, Rguero, Urbistondo, Iriarte, Zariateguy, and other chiefs should come and plant a new banner on the summit of the Pyrenees, to overthrow Espadero. The ministry being questioned on the subject in the Senate, said they were on their guard.'

The intelligence of the marching of Spanish troops towards the frontiers of Portugal is confirmed. Ten or twelve thousand men were already in motion for that destination. General Aleson also left Valladolid for that frontier on the 4th, with all the troops he could collect, and on the 6th, the regiment De Espana was to proceed in the same direction.

Accounts received from Abyssinia announce that the British Government had concluded treaties of commerce with the kings of that country, and had obtained permission to establish factories on the coast, on paying a duty of three per cent. on their merchandize.

The deanery of Cork, vacated by the promotion of Dr. O'Brien to the bishoprick of Ossory, has been given to the Rev. Horace Newman, of Bandon. The living of Bandon, from which Mr Newman has been transferred, is in the gift of the government.

The New Gold Coinage.—A nefarious system has been carried on for some time of defrauding the public by plugging the gold coin of the realm, which is effected in the following manner.—From the rim towards the centre of a sovereign several holes are drilled with a very fine instrument, and the vacancies filled up with an inferior metal, so as to deceive the most experienced judges. By this process a sovereign is rendered, in many instances, not worth more than 17s., and a half sovereign not more than 8s. 6d. or 9s. Government has been obliged, in order to put a stop to this fraud, to direct a new coinage to be issued. For the last fortnight the Mas-

ter of the Mint, and the assayer, have been busily engaged in witnessing many experiments, with a view to prevent the abstraction of the gold taking place without immediate detection. Yesterday the workmen commenced casting the new coinage, which will shortly be issued to the public; the expense will be very great, but government has been obliged to incur it, in consequence of the system above alluded to having much injured the credit and confidence in the value of our gold, not only at home, but on the continent.

Money Markets.—City, 12 o'clock.—The large majority in the House of Commons last night against the amendment of Lord John Russell, establishes the certainty of the adoption by Parliament of the ministerial sliding scale of duties upon foreign corn. We were previously fully persuaded that any extensive measure of liberality would not be conceded by the agriculturists and the oligarchy; therefore we must be content to accept the proffered boon or an instalment of our claims, hoping to obtain more at a future opportunity. So far as it goes, this measure is certainly a great improvement upon the old corn-law, and an advance in the right direction: the establishment of a maximum rate of duty is a protection to the importer, and the modification of the scale of duties diminishes the inducement for forestalling and speculating upon running their imports duty free; although it does not remove it entirely, as a fixed one would have done; altogether, the trade will be less speculative, and a more cautious class of merchants will be induced to engage in it. The advance in the price of Consols this morning, shows that it is viewed in a favorable light by the moneyed interests of this city.

Affairs go smooth, money is abundant and the rate of interest moderate, but we have no indication of any material improvement in trade yet.

Two o'clock.—The rejection of Lord John Russell's amendment last night by a majority of one hundred and twenty-three, by showing the strength of ministers, has given considerable impetus to the Stock Market, which has improved near $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; there has consequently been a disposition to buy on speculation for a further rise during the present very easy state of the Money Market.

Manchester Guardian, Feb. 16.

State of Trade at Manchester.—The feeling in our market yesterday was one of extreme depression. There was very little demand, either for goods or yarn; the business done was generally at prices a shade below those of last week, and consequently lower than were ever known in this market at any former period.

Peel burned in Effigy at Manchester.—On Monday evening about six o'clock, a large crowd, we regret to say, paraded through some of the streets of the town with what they called an effigy of Sir Robert Peel holding in his hand a copy of the Times, with his speech in favour of the new sliding scale. After walking in procession through Market street, and several other thoroughfares, the crowd which amounted to some 3,000 persons proceeded to the New Cross, where the man of straw was burned amid the cheers of the multitude.

Northern Advertiser, Feb. 10.

State of Trade.—Leeds.—Nothing but gloom and despondency hang over the cloth Markets, and the question continually asked is, when will this state of things alter for the better? but the best informed in the trade are quite unable to answer it. The state of the markets at our Cloth Halls, the bad state of business throughout the country, and the absence of anything like the usual demand for goods for spring shipment, sets all calculation on this subject at defiance; although we have now entered upon the period when business usually sets in pretty brisk for the Spring trade, yet both in the Cloth Halls and in the warehouses business has been as dull as we ever knew it during the week.

Huddersfield.—There was very little change in the state of this market; at any rate it was no worse—perhaps even a little better, for which there is ample room. In fact, so indefinite and indescribable is the state of trade that the difficulty of honestly reporting the markets is anything but a sinecure. Trade is bad, destructively bad. There is a demand, certainly for a large amount of goods; but the prices are so low, that were it not for temporary existence, it were better to cease manufacturing. It is pitiable to contemplate the fall of so many honest tradesmen, in despite of all