

barely possible there may be such a substance as matter, but all its qualities worth having are given it by mind. By a necessity of nature, then, we are all poets. We all make the food we feed on; nor is Jealousy, the green-eyed monster, the only wretch who discolours and deforms. Every evil thought does so; every good thought gives fresh lustre to the grass—to the flowers—to the stars. And as the faculties of sense, after becoming finer and more fine, do then, because they are earthly, gradually lose their power, the faculties of the soul, because that they are heavenly, become then more and more independent of such ministrations, and continue to deal with images, and with ideas which are diviner than images, nor care for either partial or total eclipse of the daylight, conversant as they are and familiar with a more resplendent—a spiritual universe.

European News.

From British Papers to the 4th April, received by the Britannia, Steamer.

From Willmer's American News Letter, of April 4.

Though there seems to have been an increase of confidence and stability in the commercial world during the past month, and a consequent improvement, yet the agitation of the points in dispute between the various parties seems to be proceeding as vigorously as ever.

In the early part of the month, the unexpected acquittal of the assassin McNaughten occupied a great portion of the public attention, and very general, though various in degree, were the denunciations of the verdict, or rather of the evidence which led to it; seeing that a precedent was thus laid down, the application of which would endanger the life of every public man, by allowing, in the event of his assassination, the murderer to escape with impunity on the ground of insanity.

The trials of the Chartists concerned in the late disturbances concluded at Lancaster, on the 9th ult., in the acquittal of twenty one out of the fifty two prisoners. The remaining thirty one; amongst whom was Feargus O'Connor, were found guilty upon various counts in the indictment. The sentences were deferred.

Early on the morning of Friday, the 17th, a slight shock of an earthquake was experienced in this town, and generally throughout the northern counties. It merely produced a kind of trembling sensation, and was in many instances thought to be the effect of a distant explosion.

That extraordinary work of genius, the Thames Tunnel, was opened on Saturday, the 25th ult., after which the directors and their friends dined at the London Tavern, when a vote of thanks was proposed and carried for the perseverance and ingenuity manifested by the chief engineer, Sir J. Brunel, throughout the undertaking.

THE AERIAL STEAM ENGINE.—Not the least wonderful of the many attempts which science is daily making to bring a greater part of the material world within its grasp, is a proposal, by a Mr. Henson, to produce a machine capable of being propelled through the air by steam power. It may be remembered that attempts of this kind have been frequently made but hitherto without success. The prevailing opinion, on the present occasion, amongst scientific men, is that in this instance there is every probability of success. It may not be improper to see the issue of a few experiments before speaking with too much confidence, or trusting ourselves.—

Pennis non homini datus.

In another column will be found a scientific description of the machine and its mode of flight.

PARLIAMENTARY.

The past has been an eventful month in the British Parliament, as the various subjects of discussion have reference both to the internal arrangements of this country and its commercial connexions.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—On the 7th the long agitated question regarding the appointment of the ministers in the Church of Scotland and their position with reference to the civil law, was brought forward in the House of Commons by Mr. F. Maule, who, in a lengthy speech, contended that the General Assembly of the Church should act in independence of the civil power, and have a right to judge in all matters coming before them, whether they belonged to the civil or spiritual jurisdiction. Mr. M. also contended that the ministers should be elected by the people, and the present system of investiture by patronage should be abolished. Several members on the ministerial side followed, who stated that the proposed scheme of lay patronage would, from the fickleness of public opinion, be found much more inconvenient than the present system, and that the claims for superiority or even equality with the civil power, would be ultimately subversive of popular liberty. The motion was lost by a majority of 135 in favour of Ministers, the numbers being—For the motion, 79; against it, 211.

COMMERCIAL.

There has been very little animation in the money market, as capital remains abundant and the rates of interest extremely low. The price of Consols has been as light as 98 3/4 to 7/8; but there is not much probability of their exceeding the latter figure, as the speculators have shown a disposition to sell should there be any further rise. The low price of money has been the cause of considerable inconveni-

ence to the Joint Stock establishments; though the Railway Bonds have, in some measure, relieved them. This may be received as an evidence of the public confidence which they possess, and as trade revives, and consequently the rate of interest rises, they will be able to turn their, at present superabundant, capital very greatly to their advantage. In order to carry off some of the redundant capital, a proposal is to be submitted to Sir R. Peel for a scheme of systematic emigration. There is also a movement in contemplation by the holders of American State Stocks, to induce the Government to use their influence with indebted States to make due provision for the interest on their State debts, as a necessary preliminary to the restoration of American credit. Lord Aberdeen has declined giving them support, it being his opinion that the general Government had nothing to do with the issue of the State Bonds, and, therefore, no means of enforcing payment of them.

The national floating debt continues heavy, under the influence of the Exchequer Bills given in compensation for Smith's forgeries. They are now quoted 62s. to 64s. premium. The Share market is also rather heavy, the demand being considerably less for investment in these securities.

The Manchester market for goods has been in a very healthy state throughout the month, and a large business done, especially in the plain fabrics adapted for India and China. The prices are firm, and most of the factories working to order. The effects of the heavy arrivals of cotton, (250,480 bales,) being the largest import ever known, having been anticipated by the previous fall in prices, have had little influence upon the market. The general impression is that prices may improve, but cannot go lower. There has been a decline in the price of Corn, caused, in some degree, by all doubt being removed as to the intentions of Government with respect to the admission of Flour manufactured in Canada at a nominal duty. The depression may also be attributed to the extraordinary state of the weather hitherto experienced.

It is generally supposed that the Bank of England, influenced by Government, has of late been pressing her paper into circulation, for the purpose of promoting a spirit of speculation, and raising the prices of Consols, so that they may by the latter ruse be enabled to reduce the interest on the higher stock.

FRANCE.

The French Journals are principally occupied with the debates on the various questions which the opposition have mooted in order to test the strength of the administration. On the 3rd of March, the ministry obtained a majority of 45 on the question that the amount of the Secret Service Fund should be maintained. In the Peers, on the same question, the majority in favour of the ministry was 98.

The constitutional fitfulness of the French was never more completely exemplified than in the conduct of the opposition to the Guizot ministry. Every proposition advanced is opposed—no feasible amendment is proposed. In fact the squabbles with which the French Chambers have been annoyed [we cannot say distracted] have been avexatious, paltry, and unimportant, as are the petty broils of an obscure and petulant family. The occurrence of them is disgraceful to the French—exalted as they would have us to believe is their intellect, and magnanimous as they boast is their bearing. Each succeeding pestilent attempt which the Thiers' party have risked to excite animosity between England and France, or to fetter the energies, and to thwart the purposes of the two men of whom the nation ought to be most proud—Guizot and Soul—has issued in the galling proof that the French people have detected the tricks of the political stock brokers, by whom they have so grievously been gulled.

It is certain that France is bent upon the acquisition of some paltry conquest from the offensive islanders of the Pacific, by which they may, as they imagine check the dreaded aggressions of England in the East.

His Majesty the King of the French has consented and who imagined he would ever hesitate in the matter? that his son Prince Joinville shall condescend to become the husband of the sister of the Emperor of the Brazils.

We must not omit to the notice that Paris has become the scene of nightly murders; so that, as one of its own Journals says: a passenger would be as safe in the Forest of Bondy as within the walls of the capital.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The advices from the Cape notice the occurrence of a dispute between the Boors and the military, which is so vaguely reported that it is not generally credited.

The unwelcome drought, of which the colonists grievously complained, has been succeeded by genial and abundant rains, and the beds of the rivers are rapidly filling.

INDIA.

The actions of Lord Ellenborough, the incidents of which occupy no small portion of the Indian news, do not appear to be so rapturously welcomed as his Excellency's admirers would wish.

The most available portion of the news is, that a considerable reduction of the army is resolved upon.

The news from Afghanistan is so perplexed and contradictory, and now that we are 'kith and ken' well out of the place, so unimportant, that it is hardly worthy the trouble of sifting or assaying the value of it.

The custom duties at Liverpool for two days of last week amounted to £50,000.

Shock of Earthquake.—A fortnight ago a slight shock of Earthquake was very sensibly felt in many parts of Lancashire, Cheshire,

and Ireland. The shock took place in Liverpool about one o'clock in the morning, and so violent was it that many persons were aroused from their slumbers.

CHINA.

GREAT RIOT AT CANTON.—The news which the last overland mail brought from China is important and welcome. It is to be feared that the Pöan has been sung before the victory was achieved; and that our war with China is not yet ended.

It has for some time been apparent to the British residents at Canton, that a certain portion of the inhabitants of that city, were determined to attempt the infliction of mischief upon their conquerors. The leaders of the party had, it was known, previously applied to the Governor for arms; and when they were acquainted with his refusal to supply them, they requested permission to arm themselves. This latter solicitation he contrived to evade. All that was needed for the accomplishment of the purpose of these rebels then, was an opportunity which might afford them a colourable pretext for wreaking their vengeance on the detested British. This was not long denied them. A gang of some eighty Lascars were allowed to go on shore, and, in the course of their rambles, during which no superintending officers appear to have attended them, the disaffected Chinese contrived to fasten a quarrel on them. The lascars retreated toward the British factory. They were suddenly assailed by a mob of ten thousand Chinamen, who commenced deliberately and systematically to fire the British factories. The assistance of engines they effectually resisted, and declared that if the property of any persons who were not British residents should be endangered by the fire they had lighted, they would send their assistance to the rescue of it.

Their aim and purport most unequivocally appears to have been the exclusive destruction of British property. We leave it to the daily European papers to detail the amount of the loss which this outbreak has entailed, and of the minor incidents which accompanied it. In order that an exact opinion may be formed of the causes and consequences which induced this catastrophe, it is enough to say that the Chinese Government have undertaken to repay, in the most available manner, that is to say by the doling out of hard dollars, the ascertained injury which the British have sustained by the calamity.

Sir Hugh Gough accidentally arrived at Canton in a steamer, whose unexpected appearance deterred the Celestials from further aggressions; he was solicited by the merchants at Canton to advise Sir Henry Pottinger to send a protective force to Canton. He refused to interfere in the matter, by declaring "that all the plans and projects which he had been anxious to carry out, had been thwarted by the wilfulness with which the British merchants persisted in carrying on a traffic, against which it was his business and his duty to protest."

In the meanwhile all the English residents have sheltered themselves from the risk of further attack by retreating on board the ships in the harbour.

Sir Henry Pottinger is anxious to return home, and is decidedly of opinion that the powers of the representatives of the British government at Hong Kong should be certain, strong and stringent.

By a proclamation issued from Amoy, and dated the 29th November, it appears that Sir Henry Pottinger has been apprised of, and is determined to demand reparation for one of the most barbarous outrages ever committed—even bad as they are—by the Chinese themselves. The facts are briefly these. The ship Kerubudda and the brig Ann, one in March 1841, and the other in March 1842, were wrecked on the coast of the island of Formosa. They were 12 months afterwards ignominiously executed in cold blood.

After recounting in eloquent language, which it would be ungracious and ungrateful to abridge, the mischiefs and miseries which the parties, in whose behalf he claims, endured, he, in dignified and distinct terms, asserts, that he is decidedly of opinion the massacre of these unoffending shipwrecked martyrs was sanctioned by the Emperor himself; that he believes his majesty was misled by the representations made to him by the local Government of Formosa; and that unless his celestial majesty directs speedy judgment and the confiscation of goods to be inflicted upon the parties whom he denounces, he, the representative, will not answer for the result of his neglect or refusal.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

The London papers of last evening have this moment reached us. Last night in the House of Commons, in answer to Mr. Hume, Sir Robert Peel said, he could not give the hon. member an assurance that his motion in reference to the American Boundary Treaty, will come on on Friday.

Lord John Russell said, that having attended to the recent accounts from America, it appeared that the American Government had put a different construction upon the Ashburton treaty from that put upon it in this country, particularly with respect to the right of search. Now, he wished to know from the right hon. Baronet at the head of the Government, first, whether he was ready to communicate to the House the despatches of Lord Aberdeen, having reference to the 8th article of the treaty of Washington, subsequent to the treaty itself, the substance of which despatch had been communicated by the President of the United States to Congress; and if there was any intention on his (Sir R. Peel) part, to lay on the table of the house, the instructions given to Lord Ashburton, and the correspondence which had taken place with reference to that article.

Sir R. Peel said that Mr. Fox's despatches

had only reached him a very short time before which might perhaps, account for his not being able to give as satisfactory an answer to the noble lord's question as might be wished. Mr. Fox had sent home a despatch with the message of the President alluded to, and the communications from Mr. Webster. He (Sir R. Peel) had no objections to lay on the table of the house Mr. Fox's despatch and the other documents, at the earliest possible period, as well, also, as the instructions sent out by Lord Aberdeen to Mr. Fox, commenting on the message of the President. No instructions had been given to Lord Ashburton which could in any way warrant his consenting to any modification of the despatch of Lord Aberdeen of December, 1841. [Left sitting.]

Emigration to the United States and Canada.—A most remarkable falling off in foreign emigration, as compared with that of previous years has taken place this season. Probably, not more than one fourth of the usual number have gone out. There are various reasons urged by different parties for this state of things, which it is not necessary to enumerate here. The principal reason however, we apprehend, is, that so many emigrants have returned to this country during the past few months, unable, as they say, to get employment abroad. This, as a matter of course, tends to discourage others from going out.

The subjects under discussion in the house of parliament for the last few days have been such only as have reference to local matters, and therefore entirely destitute of interest to our American readers.

On the motion of Lord J. Russell, on the 15th ult., a long and uninteresting debate took place, on the extent of parliamentary privilege and the superiority of the house over the courts of law. The motion was negatived by a majority of 73. Illicit distillation is greatly on the increase in Ireland since the act of last session, laying an additional duty on whiskey.

Colonial News.

Nova-Scotia:

Halifax Acadian Recorder, April 15.

We have gloomy accounts from the Counties of Pictou, Sidney and Guysborough. Hundreds of cattle have perished during the winter from starvation, which has been occasioned by the hay crop in those places last summer. Although the farmers greatly reduced the number of their cattle before the winter commenced, they have nevertheless been obliged to give the potatoes and corn needed for their own sustenance, to the small stock they have wintered, and therefore the people themselves are now threatened with famine! The condition of many of the inhabitants between Pictou and Canso is very deplorable. We are informed that hay is selling for £12 10s. a ton, on credit, at Pictou.

Canada:

Quebec Gazette, April 3.

Sir Charles Metcalfe, the new Governor General of Canada and the British Provinces in North America, arrived at Kingston on the 26th March, at half-past two o'clock, P. M.

An extraordinary of the *Canada Gazette* published by Authority, of the 30th March, contains the usual proclamation announcing his Excellency's Assumption of the Government, and continuing Her Majesty's Officers and ministers in the several offices, places and employments. It is dated the 30th March. His Excellency's commissions are dated on the 24th February, and 1st March last.

The following is the last Bulletin of the health of Sir Charles Bagot.

Kingston, March 29.—His Excellency, the Governor-General had rather a restless night, but is this morning in no respect worse than yesterday.

The Montreal papers contain accounts of new outbreaks among the workmen at the Lachine and Beauharnois Canals. At Lachine some Canadians who were employed were attacked and ill-treated: Mr. Lavolette the Canal Magistrate appointed for the Beauharnois Canal has come to Montreal to get the assistance of the Military.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:
SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 22, 1845.

European News.—The Royal mail steamer *Britannia*, with the first English April mail, arrived at Halifax, at one o'clock on the morning of Monday last, in a passage of 12 1/2 days. She had 63 passengers, among whom were Lieut. Colonel Estcourt, and Mr. Featherstonhaugh, Commissioners for running the Boundary line, in accordance with the treaty of Washington.

By this arrival we have obtained our regular files of papers of Liverpool, on which the Steamer left Liverpool, the 4th inst. The intelligence thus