

European News.

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

From Charles Willmer's American News Letter, May 4.

DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

The points most worthy of attention in domestic matters since our last, have been the recall of Lord Ellenborough from the governor generalship of India, the annual financial statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Irish state trials, and the new elections. The three former topics are elsewhere noticed. The results of the elections have served to furnish fresh evidence of the utter impotency of the anti-corn-law league to influence the constituency of the country. At Exeter, Sir William Follett, the Attorney General, (although unable to be present from indisposition) has been elected by an overwhelming majority—the numbers being for Sir William 1292, and for the League candidate, Major-general Briggs, only 529. At Huntington, on the appearance of Mr T. Baring, an able and influential Conservative, the Leaguers abandoned the field in dismay, leaving the honorable gentleman to be elected without opposition, and to inscribe upon his banner, like the Roman of old, *Veni Vidi Vici*. At Woodstock, after a slashing speech from Mr Humfrey, a Conservative Barrister, just for the sake of reminding wayward Dukes that they must not always expect to perpetrate acts of folly and oppression with impunity, the Marquis of Blandford was elected without going to the poll. His Lordship delivered a good Conservative speech, in which he avowed himself a supporter of Lord Ashley's views upon the Factory question, and a thorough opponent of free trade. Neither Whigs nor Leaguers have therefore succeeded in mending their position by these elections; but on the contrary, their cause appears to be getting more hopeless and helpless.

At Horsham, on Wednesday, Mr R. H. Hurst, of Horsham Park, a Conservative, was elected without opposition, in the place of the honorable Mr Scarlett.

By the balance sheet of the year's revenue just published, we are gratified to find that the excess of income over expenditure reaches the large amount of £2,095,427. When we recollect in how melancholy a manner the reverse of this was shewn in 1843, that there was, in fact, an excess of expenditure over income of more than four millions, there is indeed ample cause for rejoicing. The reduction of the three and a half per cents will add another half million to the national income. There is a little falling off in the year's amount in the Customs; but the Taxes preserve their level. There is a rise of about £4,000 in the Post Office; and the Excise revenue exceeds by nearly a million and a half the net amount of duty for the year preceding. This is the most satisfactory item of the whole, as proving that there is an increase of comfort among the working classes. Altogether the Government may be considered to have taken another step in the good opinion of the people at large, by the judicial financial management that has produced such pleasant results.

A feverish state of anxiety exists among the holders of Bank Stock, with reference to the terms upon which the charter of the Bank of England is to be renewed. We are enabled to say from information which we have obtained from high authority, in the money circles of the metropolis, that whatever alteration may be proposed by Sir Robert Peel will not be to the prejudice of the bank. As to the kind of alteration, we have no precise information. We believe, however, that whatever change takes place, will rather give greater advantages, if not power, to the bank. Perhaps one tolerably safe presumption that the bank is to remain in charge of the circulation, with some additional power, is the fact that Bank Shares have been regularly on the rise for some time past.

We find in the Gazette the monthly return of the quarterly average of the weekly liabilities and assets of the Bank of England for the twelve weeks from the 17th of January to the 20th of April, both inclusive. On comparing this return with that for the three months from the 30th December to the 23rd March, we have the following results:—

The circulation has increased from £21,123,000 to £21,427,000, being a difference of £304,000; the deposits have decreased from £13,972,000, to £13,615,000, being a difference of £357,000, and making the aggregate of the liabilities £35,042,000. The securities have decreased from £22,479,000 to £22,150,000, being a difference of £329,000. The bullion has increased from £15,784,000, to £16,015,000, being a difference of £231,000, and making the total of the assets £38,165,000. In conclusion, the surplus or rest has diminished from £3,160,000, to £3,123,000, being a difference during the month of £37,000.

Emigration from London to Liverpool is increasing. Of the numerous females who are now proceeding daily from Liverpool from America, the greater part are natives of Ireland. There are also a considerable number from the manufacturing districts, particularly from the neighbourhood of Sheffield. According to present appearances, it seems likely that there will be as great an emigration from Liverpool this year as ever was known.

When the railways at present in course of construction, and those contemplated shall be completed, the enormous sum of £100,000,000 of money will have been invested by English capitalists in the construction of railways at home, besides a very considerable sum which

has been sent out of the country to assist in the formation of foreign railways.

IRELAND.

The Irish repeal agitation and the government endeavor to effect its suppression are again occupying a large share of the public attention. The Easter Term of the Court of Queen's Bench in Dublin, it will be remembered, commenced on the 15th April, and on that day the Crown served the traversers with the usual notices, that the court would be moved for judgment on the following Friday, after the allotted four days had elapsed. The counsel for the traversers entered a motion for a new trial; and on the 16th Mr O'Connell supported the motion by filing an affidavit, in which he declares that he is not guilty of the conspiracy laid to his charge; and that the omission of the names from the special jury list was the effect and result of design and contrivance, to prejudice him on his trial. On the 17th, O'Connell's attorney, Mr Pierce Mahony, filed an affidavit to the same effect. The Attorney General, on this course being pursued, determined that the charges contained in the affidavits should be met in the fullest possible manner; and for this purpose required affidavits from every person in any way connected with the preparation of the jury list—from the clerks of the peace, in whose office the lists were prepared; from Mr G. Magrath, head clerk in their office, and registrar of the Recorder of Dublin, and whose duty it was to see the lists prepared; from all the clerks and sub-clerks in the office of the clerks of the peace, and from Mr Kemmis, the Crown Solicitor. Mr Magrath makes oath that he believes the total number of qualified names omitted from a special jury list of seven hundred and forty-one persons, was twenty-four—that of those fifteen belonged to one class, and that the slip of paper on which their names were, was discovered in a packet of papers, not having any connection with the trial; that of the other nine names, five were placed on the common, instead of the special jury list, and that for the omission of the other four he could only account by accident, and the complicated nature of the duties he had to perform. He further deposes that he is himself a Catholic, and that he never had a design to falsify the list. The affidavits of Messrs. Archer and Dickenson, the clerks of the peace, fully support the deposition of Mr Magrath; as do also those of the clerks, sub-clerks, and of Mr Kemmis, so far as their knowledge extends. The affidavits entirely rebut all actions of fraudulent dealing or corrupt suppression, with which the government officers have been so freely charged.

On Thursday morning, Mr Whiteside opened his motion for a new trial. His objections were substantially the same with, and urged in the same order as those set forth in the notice served on the Crown officers. On the grounds of unfair commentary, of baseless suppositions, and numerous misdirections as to fact, &c., the learned gentleman contended that he was entitled to a new trial, and called upon the court to grant it. He did not conclude until 8 o'clock on Friday afternoon. Mr Hatchell followed on behalf of Mr Ray. On Saturday Mr Moore addressed the Court for the Rev. W. Tierney, and Mr O'Hagan on the part of Mr Duffy. The Solicitor General then replied for the Crown.

When this interminable motion shall have been disposed of, the Crown will move that sentence be passed, and then the traversers will (it is boasted) assert "their privilege in talking, if possible, for the remainder of the term." So that, if they succeed in this stratagem, and if the Court sanction it, they may not be called up for judgment until the 22nd of May. Meanwhile the repeal association actively continues its deliberations and collections of rent. At the meeting on Monday, Mr O'Connell intimated his intention, as soon as the prosecutions were over to bring forward his plan for the renewed agitation of repeal. The leaders of the cause, he observed, would certainly, in his opinion, be sent to gaol, but government would nevertheless fail in the object of these prosecutions, if they failed in damping the repeal agitation. He then exhorted the people to peace and perseverance.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER'S ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

In the House of Commons, on Monday the 29th ult., the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a committee of ways and means, brought forward his financial statement of the year, and, after shewing that his anticipations last year were more than borne out by the result, proceeded to explain the points in which his estimate had fallen short of or excelled the actual returns. He had estimated the customs at £19,000,000, the actual sum realized was £21,426,000; the estimate of the excise was £13,000,000, the sum realized £12,960,000; stamps were estimated at £7,000,000, the return was £7,011,000; taxes, estimated at £4,200,000, produced only £4,192,000; the Post Office estimate was £600,000, the produce £628,000; Crown Lands estimated at £130,000, produced £147,000; miscellaneous estimates from which he anticipated £250,000, and China money, calculated to produce £570,000, only realized £803,000. The total estimate was £50,150,000, the total produce £52,835,124. The estimate of the expenditure had exceeded the actual expense incurred. The charge for the debt and other charges on the consolidated fund were nearly the same as usual, the difference not exceeding £50,000. The estimate for the army was £8,619,000, the actual expense was only £6,118,000, exhibiting an apparent reduction of over £2,500,000, but a portion of this was to be attributed, not to any great actual reduction, but to the

fact that the Indian Government had made larger payments than usual towards defraying the expenses incurred by Government on account of India; and also to the fact, that in consequence of the restoration of tranquillity in the east there was no longer the same necessity for keeping money in considerable sums in the military chests. In the navy estimates also he had erred to the extent of £650,000, the actual expense being less by that sum than his calculation. The house was aware that last year there was a deficit of revenue to meet the expenditure to the extent of £2,400,000, and not only had the whole of it been cleared off and discharged, but there remained a surplus exceeding 1,400,000 pounds. The right honorable gentleman then proceeded to state his view of the country for the ensuing year, in which he had endeavored to guard against being too sanguine. He estimated the

Customs at	£21,500,000
Excise	13,000,000
Stamps	7,000,000
Taxes	4,200,000
Property Tax	5,100,000
Post Office	600,000
Crown Lands	130,000
Miscellaneous	250,000

Making a total of about 51,790,000. He now came to the expenditure. He estimated the interest on the debt, which was last year £20,130,000 at only £27,697,000, shewing an apparent reduction of £1,400,000. This, however, was not a saving to the public of that sum, for it was to be attributed to the alteration in the periods for the payment of the dividend, the real saving in consequence of the Three-and-a-Half per cents. being for this year only £313,000. His estimate of expenditure stood thus:—

Charges on the consolidated fund, including deficiency bills, &c.	£30,097,000
Army	8,619,000
Navy	6,250,000
Ordnance	1,840,000
Miscellaneous	3,000,000
Extraordinary expenses connected with China	400,000

There was another item of expenditure arising out of the reduction of the Three-and-a-Half per cents. It was to be expected that in dealing with so large an amount of the public debt as £250,000,000, there would have been a great many dissentients to be paid off; but this was not the case—the number was very small. The amount held by the dissentients in England was only £80,994—in Ireland, £13,280, and of the debt of 1818 the amount was £172,841, making a total of £247,115; and even of this sum a portion was held by parties residing abroad, who might yet signify their assent to the arrangement. He proposed to take £200,000 upon this account, and he also proposed to make provision for the payment of £239,000, being the remainder of the guarantee fund of the South Sea Company. The total expenditure he estimated at £51,790,000, which would leave an apparent surplus of £3,146,000, but a real one of £2,376,000. He had received applications, in consequence of the satisfactory state of the revenue, to reduce the duties upon almost every article of revenue, and there were some items of taxation which he thought might be reduced without touching much upon the revenue. The first article he proposed to deal with was glass; and he believed a great facility might be given to that trade by abolishing the distinctive duties between bottle and flint glass, by reducing the duty on the latter from 2d to 2½d per lb. He calculated the loss from this alteration at £15,000, but this year it would be only £35,000, as the reduction would not commence until July. He also proposed to repeal altogether the duty on vinegar, by which he would lose £25,000. The duty on marine insurances he proposed not only to reduce, but to alter the scale by which they were levied; and though he estimated from this an immediate loss of £100,000, he did not think it would be an ultimate loss to the Revenue. The present rate for every £100, is where the premium is 15s. 7s 3d duty.

Exceeding 15s to 30s,	2s 6d
Above 30s	5s 6d
The scale he should propose would be, for £100.	
10s	0s 3d
10s to 20s	0s 6d
20s to 30s	1s 0d
30s to 40s	2s 0d
40s to 50s	3s 0d
50s to 60s	4s 0d
Above 60s	6s 0d

There were minor reductions, such as on stamps of agreements, and on proxies for voting at the election of railway directors, upon which he would not dwell, but turn at once to articles of customs. He proposed to reduce the duty on currans from 22s per cwt to 15s, being the duty now paid on raisins. From this he anticipated in the first instance a loss of £90,000, but the increased consumption would tend to decrease that loss. He proposed to lessen the distinctive duties upon English and foreign coffee, by reducing the latter from 8d to 6d, and this measure he would accompany with one for an increased duty on chicory, which was extensively used for the adulteration of coffee. From this reduction he expected a loss of £50,000. There was but one other reduction, which was the most important of them all, and which would imply the loss of £100,000—his meant the duty on wool, which he proposed to repeal altogether. All of these reductions would cause a loss of £400,000 to the Revenue. Before sitting down he wished to state distinctly, but without going into the details, the principle upon which he intended to deal with the sugar duties. As the Brazil treaty would expire in November, they would be at liberty to adopt his recommendation, for

they would be no longer bound to continue that country in the position of the most favored nation. He would propose, then, that from November they should admit into this country sugar from all those foreign sugar producing states which were exempt from the taint of slavery, at a differential duty of 10s per cwt. The duty on British colonial sugar would be 24s, and the foreign duty 34s. When the proper time came he would, of course, place the matter more fully before the house.

On Friday evening, it was announced in both houses that the East India Company had issued orders for the recall of Lord Ellenborough from India, in accordance with the power given to them by the law, but that such recall was not the wish or the desire of the government. The step appears to have taken the country completely by surprise, though there is much reason to believe that the Court of Directors has long been much dissatisfied with the policy of his Lordship, especially as regards the attacks upon the Ameers of Scinde, and upon Gwalior; his attending on the field of battle, where he could be of no use, and where his death (owing to his high station) might have produced great mischief; his conduct with regard to the gates of Somnath; his congregation of large and expensive armies, apparently for the mere purpose of display; his wanderings from one end of India to the other; his disregard of the advice of his colleagues; his disturbance of the rules of the Directors, and his strong language in reply to their remonstrances. It is expected that Sir James Graham, who has become highly unpopular at home, will succeed him.

It was stated, on Monday, in the Lords, by the Duke of Wellington, that the government had ineffectually remonstrated with the Directors against the recall, and that he considered it to be "the most indiscreet act of power that had ever fallen under his observation in the course of a long public life." It was also condemned by Lord Brougham, but other noble lords thought the censure might be premature until they should have been informed of all the circumstances connected with the recall. In the Commons Mr Roebuck enquired whether the cabinet or the Directors were now responsible for the government of India, to which Sir Robert Peel replied, that all he could say, without reference to the fact whether her Majesty's Government did or did not coincide with the Court of Directors, their sense of public duty would induce them to take that course which should appear to them best calculated to diminish the risk of embarrassment and danger which they foresaw likely to result from the act of the Court of Directors. The motions, in either house, of which notice had been given respecting the occupation of Gwalior, have been withdrawn until Lord Ellenborough's arrival in this country.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 23, 1844.

ARRIVAL OF THE SOUTHERN MAIL.—The Southern mail reached the Post Office, on Monday evening, at 5 o'clock. We went to press to-day at two o'clock.

EUROPEAN NEWS.—The Royal Mail steamer Britannia, with the first May mail, arrived at Halifax about mid day, on Friday last, after a short passage of 11½ days. By the mail we obtained our files of papers to the 4th of the month.

We do not remember ever to have seen our British Journals so barren of intelligence as those which have thus come to hand; they do not contain anything of moment. There appears to have been no change in the Financial, Commercial, or Manufacturing affairs of the kingdom since last advices. In the Irish State Trials nothing decisive has been done,—a glorious illustration of "the Law's delay;" and whether anything will be done with Mr O'Connell and his co-adjutors, is a subject on which no person ventures to give a positive opinion.

Under the proper head will be found some extracts, which embrace all the items that contain anything new.

SHELDRAKE ISLAND.—Government, it appears, has decided on placing the persons afflicted with the Leprosy on this island. Several workmen went down on Friday to put the buildings in repair.

MILITARY ROAD.—The Loyalist states that Sir James Alexander had arrived in Fredericton, and was to proceed to the Bend of Peticodiac for the purpose of surveying the line of the Military Road from Halifax to Quebec. The Editor also says, that he understands Sir James will commence the road at the Bend, running towards Quebec, and that it is expected to pass about forty miles to the northward of Fredericton.

KING'S COUNTY.—Mr M'Leod has been returned to represent this county in the Assembly, after a vigorous contest.