

Do the Powers feel that some great breaking up of systems is at hand, and menials, when a death is expected in a house, steal and secrete in the hope of impunity amid confusion? On what other hypothesis can we account for the sudden shamelessness which has manifested itself among the kings? France, Russia, Prussia, Austria, have all received the taint, and as certain Swiss mountaineers glory in their goitres they rejoice in the contagion. The treaty of Utrecht, in which the real gain was, from the hour of its signature, on the side of France, has now been violated by her, and no casuistry can dispose of the fact. Austria, herself a breaker of the treaties, judges France with the candour of one who knows her, and deliberately tells her, in reference to a second treaty that of Vienna, that it is fear, and not conscience, that has hitherto prevented France from violating that compact, adding that, had she broken it, Austria would not have blamed her. Of the sincerity of Austria in this declaration there can be no reasonable doubt speaking, as she does, with her own counterpart of the treaty of Vienna torn in her hands. The *mala fides* of Russia, sought to be screened behind the pretence of fiscal regulations, is equally plain, and the utter absorption of Poland is no longer problematical, Prussia remaining content with the inferior gain, but equal guilt of accompliceship. Spain, whose humiliation had never been complete until now, is already beginning to reap the fruit of her demoralisation, but the harrassing, yet paltry, intrigues in her government are but types of the troubles its faithless cowardice will inevitably bring upon the nation. Portugal, thanks to stockjobbery! is in the midst of a revolution and a civil war; and though such a revolution and such a war are ludicrously suggestive of a puddle in a storm, to the inhabitants of the puddle, one would think, the storm is more than sufficiently disagreeable. And all these difficulties require immediate adjustment to prevent their becoming something worse than difficulties. Truly, the work of the Continent for 1847 seems cut out. Let us only hope that England may not be called upon to explain her notions as to the mode in which it should be done.

Over the Alps alone comes sunshine—may it last! The Church is doing the duty of the State, and legislating for the body as well as the soul. And if the energetic priest, who holds the keys of St. Peter with no feeble hand be not deterred by influences, which we are daily expecting to see exerted, from his good work, Plus may take rank above *Wildebrand* or *Les*. We must be judged fairly. Those who do not know the Aegean stable his endeavouring to cleanse, cannot estimate his task by the details which the journalist furnishes, and those who do may think he is proceeding too slowly. But the jealous watch kept upon the Pope by Austria can be detected by noting his careless progress, as *Le Verrier* announced the existence of an unseen planet from observing the otherwise unaccountable course of its next neighbour.

Asia, throughout her mighty length and breadth, offers but little for remark, and that little is of a distressing character—insurrection in the east, cholera in the west, and war in the centre. Yet, as compared to her gigantic size, these are only local details, and in the case of Africa it seems even more frivolous to say that she is at war at her northern and southern extremities. Yet it is true that at the only portions of the continent where civilisation has attained a footing, her steps are in blood. In the north France is hunting the Arab, in the south England is shooting the Caffre. And what else can either do if colonisation be legitimate? The white man or the dark must fall.

One, my dear friend, one,
Whose is the course to be?—*Leigh Hunt*.

America enters the new year with a bankrupt war and a battle of factions; the one has brought out much valour, the other much eloquence; and neither will result in advantage. But in spite of one fatal want in her institutions, the absence of any leading idea or principle of government beyond mere expediency, there is enough of the Old Saxon blood in America to see her through many a shattering storm; and we should be denying the faith, and proving ourselves worse than a good many infidels, if we did rejoice in the prosperity of our kindred. And though she has still a sad propensity to steal books and blacks, we hope to see her ashamed of both practices by the time she really understands literature and liberty.

Provincial Legislature.
OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, February 16.
Mr Barberie presented a petition from P. Mayes, of Dalhousie, in the county of Restigouche, praying aid to enable him to run a daily stage between that place & Campbellton. Referred to the post office committee.
Mr End presented a petition from Alexander Anderson, Tide Waiter at Bathurst, county of Gloucester, praying an increase of salary commensurate with the increased duties of his office. Referred to the trade committee.
Mr Barberie presented a petition from Rose Harquol, of Dalhousie, praying aid to assist her under the present distressed circumstances, occasioned by the ravages of the Small Pox last summer, which carried off her husband and left her with a helpless family, without the means of procuring seed grain and potatoes for the ensuing season. Referred to the committee of supply.

Mr Hanington presented a petition from W. C. Smith, Esquire, and 52 others, inhabitants of Shediac, praying aid towards rebuilding the public wharf at that place, which was destroyed by a violent gale in November last. Laid on the table.
Mr Carman moved for leave to bring in a bill to establish the road leading from the Post Office in Chatham, through part of the parish of Nelson, opposite to Beaubair's point, a part of one of the great roads of the province. Leave granted.
Mr Carman presented a petition from George Kerr, Joseph Spratt, and James Johnson, Overseers of the Poor for the parish of Chatham, county of Northumberland, praying to be reimbursed monies expended towards the support of indigent Emigrants during the past year. Referred to the committee on petitions of a like prayer.
Mr Read presented a petition from the Right Reverend William Dollard, Roman Catholic Bishop in New Brunswick, praying for a return of duties paid on certain articles imported during the last summer for the use of the poor and destitute churches in the province. Referred to the trade committee.
Mr Work moved for leave to bring in a bill to establish the road from the head of Richibucto river to the Bend of Petticoodiac, as one of the great roads of communication. Leave granted.

February 18.
Mr Read presented a petition from Francis Elliott, of Newcastle, county of Northumberland, the contractor for building the bridge over Bathurst Basin, county of Gloucester, praying that a grant may pass for the payment of the balance due on the contract. Referred to the road committee.
Mr Dibblee, Master in Chancery, informed the house that the council had agreed to the bill to incorporate the *Miramichi Mechanics' Institute*, without making any amendments thereto.
Mr Rankin presented a petition from John Dixon, parish of Newcastle, in the county of Northumberland, praying compensation for ferrying her Majesty's Mails across the river *Miramichi*, opposite the town of Chatham, for a period of ten years; also a petition from John Rennie, for the same service, for sixteen years; referred to the same committee.

February 19.
Read a second time—a bill to extend the provisions of the acts to provide for the more efficient inspection of Flour and Meal to the county of Northumberland.
On motion of Mr Carman, Resolved, That a copy of the report which was submitted to the house on the 11th inst., by the select committee appointed to take into consideration the petition of Wm. Stevens, relative to mines and minerals in the county of Northumberland, be furnished to his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, and that an humble address be presented to his Excellency, praying that his Excellency will be pleased to adopt such measures as will carry into effect the recommendation of said committee. Ordered—That Mr Carman, Mr Earle, and Mr McLeod, be a committee to wait upon his Excellency with the address.
On motion of Mr Hanington, That the committee appointed by the house on the 2nd inst., to take into consideration the best method of surveying and laying out Crown Lands, having regard not only to the present settlement and cultivation thereof, but also the disposal by license of timber growing thereon, be now discharged.
To which Mr Tibbitts moved as an amendment—to expunge the whole of the said resolution after the word "resolved," and substitute as follows:—
"That the committee appointed on the 2nd inst., to take into consideration the best method of surveying and laying out Crown Lands, having regard not only to the present and future settlement and cultivation thereof, but also to the disposal by License of timber growing thereon, be increased to such number as will include a member from each county in the province."

And the question being taken upon the said proposed amendment, the house divided—Yeas 7, Nays 22—whereupon it was decided in the negative. The question was then taken upon the original resolution, when the house again divided—Yeas 7, Nays 22—and it was also decided in the negative.

February 20.
Read a third time—a bill to establish the road from the head of Richibucto river to the Bend of Petticoodiac, one of the great roads of communication. Passed.
To D. R. Carter, M.D., the sum of £30, to compensate him for services performed in vaccinating the inhabitants and Indian population of Restigouche, during the last summer.
To the Lieutenant Governor the sum of £50 in aid of the Grammar School presently taught at Newcastle, by John Sievwright. £250 to be paid to the managing committee of the Baptist Seminary at Fredericton, the said institution being in an efficient state. To the Trustees of the Wesleyan Academy, Sackville, the sum of £300 towards the support of that institution. To the Governor and Trustees of the Madras Board the sum of £400 towards that institution.
Read a third time a bill to suspend the operation of the 6th and 7th sections of an act for the further regulation of Fisheries, and for preventing their decay, in certain cases. Passed.

United States News.
RELIEF FOR THE IRISH SUFFERERS.
Boston, February 16.—Active movements have been made, in various parts

of the country, in the spirit of the following resolutions, adopted at the public meeting of Washington. On the motion of Mr. Webster.
Resolved, I. That the famine now existing in Ireland is so extensive, and is attended in many places with such appalling scenes of distress, as to present a proper case for national sympathy and charity.
II. That enlightened and improved spirit of the age, the dictates of humanity, and the authority of our holy religion, all suggests to the people of the United States that such unexampled calamity and suffering ought to overcome in their regard all consideration of distance, foreign birth and residence, and difference of national character, and that it is enough that they are men women and children, and as such belong to our own intellectual human nature.
III. That, taking into consideration the necessity of prompt as well as general action, in order to produce a beneficial result, and that in this city are assembled, at the present moment, many persons from all parts of the country, it has appeared fit that measures for a general national movement in favour of the suffering poor of Ireland should commence here—Therefore.

Resolved, That this meeting recommend to the people of the United States a general contribution in money or provisions; the proceeds to be forwarded, with all practical despatch, to the scenes of suffering.
Mr Pakenham, British Minister at Washington, has sent £100 to the Irish relief fund in that city.
At Albany a meeting was held, at which Governor Young presided, and a committee was appointed to receive subscriptions in money, food, and clothing. On the following day a subscription paper was placed on the speaker's desk of the House of Assembly.—The Board of Brokers, at New York, on Saturday, appropriated two thousand dollars for the object.

A large meeting for the same object was held at New Orleans, on the 4th instant. Governor Johnson presided, and among the speakers was Henry Clay.—The Delta says that Mr Clay spoke for about fifteen minutes, in most excellent taste, and to the purpose. His language was plain, pure, and nervous, and his sentiments were full of kind heartedness, sympathy and philanthropy. Mr Clay's speech was received with the most rapturous expressions of delight and satisfaction by the audience.

The sum of \$35050 has been contributed for this object by the meeting of friends, at Hopkinton, in Rhode Island.
Rev. Bishop Porter of Philadelphia, has addressed the clergy of his diocese, recommending the making of collections for this charitable object on the first Sunday in March.
At Boston a meeting was to be held at Faneuil Hall, on last Thursday evening (at which the Mayor would preside,) in behalf of the suffering population in Ireland. In the Catholic Church in Frankfurt street, in that city, \$5387 had been subscribed.
Similar exertions are being made in all parts of the United States, and the subscriptions are on a truly liberal scale, reflecting the highest honor on their humane and Christian feelings.

European News.

Atrocious Outrages in Spain.—A letter from Barcelona, of the 17th, says:—"It appears that bands, calling themselves Carlists, are scouring the country and stopping travellers. On some occasions, not satisfied with taking away property, they seize on the persons of those whom they stop, and require ransom, sometimes also they are guilty of far more detestable crimes. They lately met with a grazier and his daughter driving some cattle, they murdered the father, and then wanted to seize on the girl, but she made off, and succeeded in getting away through the woods. Worn out with fatigue, she at last took refuge in an isolated house. It so happened that the men from whom she had fled came to the same house a few hours after. They soon discovered that she was in the place and withdrawing to the next room, they discussed what was to be done with her. After several propositions, one of them recommended to roast her in an oven. The idea was approved of by the rest, and they made their preparations for carrying it into effect. The young girl however on hearing their intention, jumped out of the window, and made her way to a neighbouring hamlet."
Food Riots.—On Wednesday last, the quiet town of Austell was disturbed by a

large body of labourers from the China clay works in the neighbourhood, proceeding to the number of about 120 in a body through the streets, with the intention of stopping the shipping of corn at a port called Pontewan, about two miles distant. Thither they bent their steps, and of course temporarily effected their purpose, as their numbers gradually increased until they mustered between 200 and 300; the vessels then wrapped off into the middle of the pool, to prevent their getting on board. Mr. Tremayne, of Heligas, an active magistrate, who was holding a court in the vicinity, was sent for. He addressed the throng, pointing out in the kindest manner the delusion under which they laboured, in imagining that such a proceeding as they had that day adopted could prevent the exportation of corn, or alter the prices: assuring them however, that this influence should be used to prevent the supplies being materially lessened in their neighbourhood. Having sent to the adjoining stations, he assembled a body of coast-guard men, in order to maintain quiet as the darkness came on and also assisted by another magistrate, swore in 20 special constables. Fortunately their assistance was little required, as most of the assemblage separated as night approached, without doing any injury. It has, however, as may be supposed, created considerable excitement in the neighbourhood, and it is much feared that this is but the commencement of a series of organised movements of a similar character. The assemblage was composed of labourers, from the china-clay-works—the miners have not as yet joined them but lamour is afloat that they will join—*Devonshire Chronicle*.

Wreck of the Sirius.—One passenger (a Limerick man, it is said), returning from the West Indies, lost £2,000 in his portmanteau, and a lady £1,500. There are several others who have lost property to a large amount. The country people were making away with everything they could lay their hands on until the arrival of W. Knaresborough, Esq. S. M. with military and police from Middleton, the coast guards not being sufficient to protect the wreck from the immense mob assembled. Five out of ten of the police party who perished alongside the wreck of the Sirius steam packet, in Ballycotton Bay, were sent round from Dublin out of the reserve force in the Phoenix Park depot, to be stationed at Ballycotton, where they unexpectedly found a premature grave.

Edinburgh.—The gross Highland population is 400,000, and of these 100,000 are in such circumstances as not to be affected by current casualties. Of the remaining 300,000, one half may be regarded as mainly dependent on potatoes for the whole year. Assuming five as the average of a family, we have 60,000 families requiring subsistence during the eight months that intervene between this and the harvest, and allowing two and half-stones (about 35lb.) to each family, the consumption would be 75,000 bolls per month, or 600,000 bolls for the whole eight months. There are two Scotch bolls in an imperial quarter, and the price of meal at 60s. per quarter, the cost of the quantity named of that particular food, would amount to about £1,000,000. This is appalling enough, but other things besides meal would of course be required, and above all things seed for next crop cannot be overlooked. However, the evil in all its horrors really exists, and must be fairly met in the face, if we are at all to surmount the difficulty.

Of the £312,019. 19s. 1d. applied for by Scottish proprietors under the Drainage Act, about £150,000. will fall to the Highlands, and so far the expenditure of such sums will lighten the burden. The opinion is gaining ground, and this act should be expanded into a general Land Improvement Act, embracing trenching, fencing, and other requisites of rural cultivation as well as draining.

Germany.—The accounts from all parts of the interior of Germany relative to the high price of bread, and the general scarcity of food, begin to alarm people, and trade is suffering therefrom, as was severely felt during the recently held fair at Leipsic. Some of the accounts from the interior are very bad, representing the state of the poorer inhabitants as little better than in the worst districts of Ireland. There are nevertheless some people courageous enough to speculate in coffee and other luxuries (luxuries to the poor, who are barely able to purchase bread) in the face of these disastrous accounts whilst the more prudent appear to rest on their oars and to await coming events. The report gains ground of a new loan to be negotiated by Russia, and certain it is that the financial condition of the whole continent never was in a much worse plight, than it is at present.

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