

I had the audacity to bring such accumulated misery upon a comparatively happy land, my honest reply is—*money!*

The spirit of the trade is the most lucrative, and professing christians give it their cheerful countenance.

I have license from the court, and if I do not bring these evils upon you somebody else will.

I live in a land of liberty.

I have purchased the right to demolish the character, destroy the health, shorten the lives, and ruin the souls of those who choose to honor me with their custom.

YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

Arrival of the Steamer Canada.

By this mail we obtained our files of British papers to the 10th instant. They were received by the Canada, which vessel arrived at Halifax on the evening of Thursday last, after a fine run of 11½ days from Liverpool. The papers contain a good deal of important news, and we have devoted all our available room to extracts.

The proceedings in Parliament since our last have been unusually interesting. Mr Cobden, on the 26th ultimo, in a speech of the most temperate character, brought forward his long-heralded financial reform budget, the main object of which was to cut down our expenditure ten millions per annum, under the plea of the policy of reducing our establishments to the level of 1835. He was met by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who adduced an epitome of all the arguments which during the last two months had previously impaired the strength of Mr Cobden's suggestion; and it could not escape attention that the hon. member for the West Riding used very different language in the House from that uttered in Manchester. Mr Herries recommended him to keep his violence for the House and his temper for the public meetings. The debate falsified all the expectations entertained by the ardent admirers of the financial reform champion; it languished from the beginning, and the question was disposed of the same evening. Mr Cobden's amendment being rejected by a majority of 197, the numbers being 275 to 76. Even the Radical papers admit that one-half of the 78 would not have voted for the amendment if they had imagined it would have been carried. At this very moment, in some parts of the country the soldiers of the regiments who have been discharged, from a false economy, caused by an anxious desire to meet the wishes of the people, are being restored to the ranks, and orders have been issued from the Horse Guards to stop any further discharge of men. Two regiments, the 75th and the 87th, are ordered to proceed to India, together with a considerable body of men to recruit the ranks of the 24th foot. As far as Parliament is concerned the project of Mr Cobden is decided upon. The Journals in his interest have abated in their tone of defiance, and now say what we are all agreed upon, that retrenchment should be carried out in every wise and judicious manner.

The Protectionists, through the mouth of Mr Disraeli, are making an effort to moot the question of taxation on agriculture. They have placed a motion on the paper, declaring that taxation for national purposes falls mainly if not exclusively upon land and real property. That this apportionment is aggravated by more than one-third of the whole revenue being derived from the excise on agricultural produce, now exposed to the competition of the untaxed produce of other countries, thereby limiting the demand for British produce and fettering trade and industry. Upon this notice being published, Mr Ewart intimated his intention to move an amendment, urging the propriety of direct taxation, but has prudently withdrawn it to make room for an amendment of Mr Home, declaratory of the necessity of removing the burdens on land if they are proved to press with undue severity and inequality; and pledging the House to give speedy relief, without detriment to the national creditor, and to repeal the hop and malt duties, effecting this object by a reduction of the national expenditure.

The cholera, although it appears in some localities at intervals, is now decidedly on the wane. The number of cases is nearly about 14,000, whereof about 6,000 have proved fatal, more than 4,000 have recovered, whilst more than 3,000 are under treatment, or the result is not stated. In Scotland the disease appears now to be assuming the form of simple diarrhoea, the attacks of the latter being now four times as many as those of Asia-

tic cholera. The malady has appeared in the South of Ireland, and several fatal cases have occurred in Cork and Limerick. The weather, after some rigorous days of cold and wind, has now become mild, and the land generally is in a fit state for spring sowing. The public health upon the whole is satisfactory.

An important document has been laid on the table of the House of Commons, showing the dispositions of the various Governments of Europe to reciprocate similar advantages to those we propose to concede to them. Austria promises to instruct Count Colerodo on the subject. Belgium is not prepared to abolish differential duties, as no Belgian vessels could compete on equal terms with English. France adduces her well known liberal and friendly dispositions as an earnest of her endeavors to do all in her power to reconcile the interests of French commerce and navigation with the principles of perfect reciprocity invoked by the English Government. Greece declares her commerce free, except her coasting trade, and no restrictions are contemplated. Hanover avoids an explicit answer; but Hamburg, and Bremen, and Holland all declare for free trade. The Portuguese evade an answer by referring the case to the fiscal authorities. Prussia promises perfect reciprocity; and Russia asks for reciprocity, when she will also concede equal advantages, reserving the coasting trade. Sardinia, Sweden, and Norway are generally favorable; and the cabinet of Washington promises an early answer to the points submitted by Mr Crampton on the 16th January last. That this reply will be satisfactory, Mr Bancroft's assurances leave us no reason to doubt. The debate on the Irish Poor-law has prevented the Navigation-laws being resumed in the early part of the week, but the subject stood for discussion last night when Mr Labouchere was to move the second reading of his bill.

In the Bank accounts during the last week there is a trifling decrease of bullion, only worth noticing as indicating that a change has been produced in the money market, and that the demand for bullion for the continent is increasing. This is caused by the movement of the Russian troops; the distracted state of Italy also gives rise to many fears that hostilities may break out. We hope, however, that the combined influence of France and England will eventually prevail in composing the existing differences. At any rate, so long as France shows no inclination to draw the sword, the disputes of the minor powers may have a great chance of being settled without bloodshed. The money market continues easy; discounts of best paper range about 2½ to 2¼ per cent.

The question of the Irish Poor-law and the means whereby further funds are to be provided to meet the destitution of some of the western districts of the country, have raised a tremendous outcry throughout Ulster, and a small temporary sispenny "rate in aid," amounting in the whole of Ireland to only £300,000, seems to have shaken the loyalty of the most loyal of our fellow subjects on the other side the channel.

The state of the country whilst these difficulties are being surmounted is most lamentable. Sir Robert Peel suggests that the great estates in Connemara, of Mr Martiu for instance, should be "colonised," or at any rate that Government should by some act take possession of the land, and apportion it in allotments so as to secure its cultivation. There is, in fact, a disposition in England to enforce the payment in arrears of all rates, with a view to break up the land into small lots. Of course this would be deemed nothing less than confiscation; but something must be done to compel the tillage of the arable land. With regard to emigration, the Government adheres to its previously declared resolution, that it will not interfere with private enterprise in that important point. The emigration which has proceeded during the last 18 months or 2 years, has been of the most wholesome character. Emigrants, thrown upon their own resources, have found the means of quitting their native shores without the assistance of the State. So far as any auxiliary aid can be furnished, without checking the natural efforts of private enterprise, the Government would be willing to apply some of the revenues of the United Kingdom; but in spite of all the arguments which have been speciously urged in favor of some comprehensive scheme of emigration, from Government funds, it is certain that the most practical legislators are not convinced of the expediency of any such policy.

The French Government continues to gather strength; and although the Thiers'

party and the Bonapartists have not succeeded in forming a coalition, there is evidently a growing disposition on the part of the nation to crush any attempts at disorder, and altogether the prospects of tranquility are more favorable than they have been during the past year.

The President of the Republic continues to buy golden opinions from all ranks of the people.

Confidence has greatly increased; the advance of funds has again been very considerable.

The latest accounts from Paris only confirm the general tendency to assured tranquility, in spite of some isolated efforts made by the Red Republicans in Paris and in the departments to create disorder. The Government is firm. The Phrygian cap of liberty is removed in all quarters, and the *Reforme* complains that it is about to be removed from the coinage.

Some incendiary fires have taken place in the department of the Loir and Cher.

It is useless to disguise from ourselves that the Indian news is of the most disastrous character. Without wishing to join in the general shout of condemnation of Lord Gough, echoed around us from every quarter, it cannot be denied that there has been an absence of scientific generalship on the part of the Commander-in-Chief which no mere animal courage can supply, and from this serious deficiency have accrued a loss of life, and desparagement of British prestige in India, which can only be repaired, by some splendid and decisive battle over our warlike enemies the Sikhs. By letters from Bombay, to the 3d February, we learn that the citadel of Moulton surrendered at discretion on the 22nd January, and the gallant army under General Whish will thus be enabled to join the grand division at Jhelum, whose active re-inforcements are, we regret to say, but too much needed. On the 12th January, Lord Gough after his long interval of inactivity was made acquainted with the fall of Attock, and of the advance of Chuttur Singh to join Sher Singh, who was in front of Lord Gough, of the south bank of the Jhelum, with an army of 30,000 to 40,000 men and 62 guns. Being urged by Major Mackeson, the political agent, to give the enemy battle, Lord Gough set his troops in motion and advanced through the jungle on the 12th. He continued his march on the 13th till later than noon, and at two o'clock had determined to encamp his troops for the night, when some of the enemy's round shot reached within the ground marked by the English flags. Whether this irritated Lord Gough, or induced him to fear that the Sikhs would surprise his encampment and force him to battle, his Lordship suddenly, without any previous reconnaissance, resolved to anticipate him, and accordingly formed his troops into line, and dealt to all remonstrance, rashly gave the word of command to advance. We refer to the official despatches for the details of the order of the battle. Accustomed as we have been as historians to describe the heroic exploits of our armies during the last century, we try in vain to discover any settled plan of action such as it is the duty of a general to conceive and execute in face of any enemy so brave and resolute as the Sikhs. The never failing pluck of the English troops seems to have been the only resource of Lord Gough, and although it prevailed as heretofore, the victory was achieved at the most disastrous sacrifice of human life. During this fearful encounter, in which the Sikhs, posted advantageously in a well selected position, poured from their batteries on all sides the most murderous fire, a panic seems to have seized a body of the 9th lancers, who instead of charging the enemy as ordered, faced about, and rushed pell mell through our own artillery, upset the waggons, and never pulled up till they reached the hospital. The enemy seeing this disorder followed up their advantage, got amongst our artillery, cut down 73 gunners, and carried off six of our guns. Colonel Lane seems to have perished in his grape and put a stop to the disorder. With this inexplicable exception and some defection of a regiment of Sepoys, the gallant fellows seem to have behaved most nobly. Feats of heroism and bravery are described in every line of the despatches and letters. The Sikhs were beaten on all sides, 12 of their guns were captured, and the British remaining masters of the field, night put an end to the engagement. We have to deplore the loss of 93 officers and about 2500 men.

The nominal roll of killed and wounded will be found elsewhere, and a sadder catalogue has not been witnessed since the disasters of Cahool. In the 24th foot 11 officers were killed, and one half the regiment was either killed or wounded.

Whilst some of our colours have fallen into the hands of the enemy, he was active enough to retrieve during the night six of the guns we had captured, and Lord Gough says, 'I did not feel justified in remaining longer out.' The night was dark, I knew not how far I had advanced. The loss of the Sikhs is not known, but they must have suffered severely. Indeed we perceive some symptoms of their desiring to come to terms. If, however, Chuttur Singh comes up with his army before Gen. Whish can reach the Jhelum, the Sikhs will probably hazard another conflict. Besides the fall of Moulton and this sad battle of Chillianwallah, which we have reported, an action has been fought by Wheeler's division, under the heights of Dullh on the Ravee, in which the position of Ram Singh was attacked and carried with considerable loss. The affair was signalized by great individual bravery, but the inaccessible nature of the place seems to have enabled Ram Singh not only to make a vigorous resistance, but further, to effect his escape with all his band. Here again our officers suffered severely.

The current news from the various quarters of Europe is still of the highest importance. The most striking feature is the march of the imperial guards of Russia from St. Petersburg. These men, numbering 52,000 strong have not quitted the capital since 1831. They have proceeded thro' Wilna to the frontier, and will, no doubt, take such a position as to be able to check the disaffected Poles on the Prussian frontier, support the imperialists in the Hungarian struggle, and assume such an attitude as shall plainly indicate the intention of the Czar to control as much as possible any disposition to revive the scenes which so unhappily occurred during the last year. A Russian note has appeared, in which the Czar declares his resolution of adhering firmly to the treaties of 1815, and any attempt to infringe them he shall deem a *casus belli*. The entrance of 10,000 Russian troops into Austria Transylvania only evidences the disposition of the Czar, who assuredly will not consent to any change in the territorial divisions of Italy, unless with the entire consent of Austria. The armistice of Malmo will cease after the 26th of March, and the King of Prussia declares that he will no longer be bound by it. The Danes are ready to resume hostilities and are concentrating large forces at Koldnig. It is very doubtful, however, whether the belligerents will again come to blows. We cannot doubt but that the Danish right to the Duchies will be maintained inviolate. Russia has refused to admit the Schleswig Holstein vessels into her ports unless under the Danish flag.

The Austrian war in Hungary has proceeded with variable success. In the south of Hungary the German population finding the insurgents carrying destruction in every quarter, called in the Russians, who now occupy Kronstadt and Hermannstadt. Several serious battles have taken place. One in the neighborhood of Erlau lasted two days, with considerable slaughter, and the imperialists seemed to have the advantage. Reports have been circulated that in one engagement Bem had both his legs shot off, but the last report is that he had left Transylvania for Hungary. As the insurgent troops amount to 140,000 men, split up into many divisions, it is difficult to ascertain the actual progress of the war, the termination of which seems still to be very remote. Whilst Austria is pushing on the war in Hungary she is not unmindful of Italian affairs. She has marched a body of troops into Ferrara, siezed upon the city, and levied a fine upon the citizens of 200,000 scudi, which she handed over to the Pope. The revolution of Tuscany is complete. The Republic has been proclaimed at Leghorn and Florence, and a central Italian Republic has been formed in union with the Romans. The Grand Duke has protested against his revolution, and has entreated all the powers of Europe to refuse to recognise the new authority, which he declares to be a violation of the constitution agreed to by all parties last year, committed by a factious minority. The Prince of Canino has been elected Vice-President of the Republic of Rome. The Pope, after halting between abdication and soliciting foreign intervention, has now, it is said, made an application to Austria, and it is confidently stated that Spain is about to send a division of 10,000 men to aid in restoring his Holiness. As we said from the beginning, the spiritual if not the temporal power of the Pope is so linked with the general feeling of all Christendom, that we feel sure a powerful alliance will soon be formed, if not to restore him to the Vatican, at least to prevent his enemies at Rome from usurping his