

which is destitute of intrinsic value—in money which derives its value exclusively from the will of the state. British protectionist prices, thus expressed, would be prices really high in their operation on all sections of mere consumers throughout the British empire; but these prices, so far as our customers in foreign countries might be concerned, would be only nominally higher than their own. These higher prices would not, after they should come into operation, represent abroad larger masses of the precious metals; for in Britain the precious metals would rise in price precisely as all the other products of industry should rise; and it is with reference to specific quantities of the precious metals that all foreign commerce is conducted. The high paper price of British goods would represent abroad a very low metallic price. The low metallic price abroad would represent a high paper price in England. The operation of protectionist prices throughout the British empire, while it should throw on mere consumers their fair share of our social burdens, would not, therefore, prevent the growth and expansion of a profitable foreign trade. Such a system would on the contrary, supersede that most unprofitable system of foreign trade which England has been doomed to carry on since 1815—ever since a fraudulent measure of value was established amongst us, and ever since our old protective policy began to be relaxed.

European News.

Arrival of the Steamer America.

Willmer & Smith's EUROPEAN TIMES,
May 25.

It is now perfectly understood that the event which excited so profound a sensation last week, arising out of the 'recall' of the French Ambassador, was a *ruse* of the most discreditable kind to further the objects of certain politicians in Paris who are dissatisfied with the present order of things under the Republic. With an excitable people like the French, naturally proud and jealous of their fair fame, it was expected that to touch the honour of the country, even by implication, was the readiest way to produce a burst of indignation against England, out of which much 'political capital' might be coined. The idea was ingenious, however discreditable. But the effort has proved a failure, as far as the French managers are concerned. The facts, when examined, show that Lord Palmerston acted throughout this trumpety Greek dispute with the dignity and promptitude for which his whole administration of the Foreign-office has been remarkable; and that, so far from desiring to put a slight upon France, he has kept strictly within the terms of the contract entered into with that country when its 'good offices' were accepted for settling the dispute.

We trust that another session of Parliament will not be allowed to pass over without a reform in the Ecclesiastical Courts of this country. The existence of these remnants of a by-gone day are disgraceful to that spirit of utility on which the present age prides itself. The purposes for which these courts were instituted virtually disappeared at the time of the Reformation, and they ought not to have survived that change in the ecclesiastical history of the country. No greater nuisance can be named than the ecclesiastical courts, with their endless ramifications throughout the country. Public feeling has been shocked by the presence of clerical magistrates on the bench. It has been wisely asserted that the minister of religion who combines in his own person the administration of the civil with the ecclesiastical law, has either too much or too little to do. The clerical magistrate can hardly be respected in his character as a pastor who spends six days of the week in personally chastising his flock. The poacher who has tasted the sweets of the tread mill, or the juvenile delinquent who has purloined an apple, and been sent in consequence to prison, can hardly reverence the man of God who is the instrument of the punishment. But however unseemly such an abuse of clerical office may be—however much it has a tendency to lower a character that it is every way desirable, for the interests of society, should be both admired and respected, we regard the ecclesiastical courts, where they are administered by clergymen, as presenting in their dark and almost unfathomable recesses a still more painful picture of the priestly office being engaged in pursuits totally foreign to the sacred calling and still more calculated to produce scandal and prolong injustice.

The determination to abolish the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland is a judicious step; and the speech of Lord John Russell, in which he announced the fact, was full of point and force.

Surely the fact mentioned by Lord John Russell, that the Queen would make an occasional visit to Dublin, must, in a mere pecuniary sense, do much to secure the influx of British capital into Ireland. An English traveller, usually comes with a well-lined purse. Convince him that the country is safe for life and property—induce a visit to the many beautiful spots and the picturesque scenery with which the land is studded—and Ireland will become known to hundreds of thousands of our countrymen who have never placed a foot on its soil. The change which landed property is now undergoing may materially aid in making Ireland a place of resort, and even of permanent residence for British capi-

talists. The events of the last few years are pregnant with a moral which will benefit Ireland if it be read intelligibly. The Government is aiding the people in this process by the measure which they have introduced, which cannot, we think, fail to work well.

The Electoral Bill is now fairly launched in the French Legislative Assembly. M. Leon Faucher brought up the report of the committee, in which the flagrant violation of the Constitution was sought to be glossed over by a cloud of words, and on Tuesday the debate fairly commenced. The question of urgency was first disposed of, and after a brief debate, was carried in a house of 700 members by a majority of 461 over 239. However large this majority may appear, it is by no means decisive of the fate of the bill. General Cavaignac, in a very calm impressive speech, opened the discussion in opposition to the bill dwelt upon the dangers of these encroachments on the Constitution, and showed that by restricting the rights gained by the revolution, the reactionary party would thereby gain the means of making further conquests over public liberty, which he pledged himself to resist. After a brief speech from a Legitimist, Victor Hugo followed up Gen. Cavaignac's views, and, amidst the sneers and interruption of the Right, called upon the Chamber to reject the measure. Other speakers followed, and the debate was resumed on Wednesday. M. Bechard and M. Conet were the first speakers *pro* and *con*, and M. Montalambert was left speaking. So far as the debate has proceeded, it has quite falsified the expectations of ability and excitement, which it was expected to produce. Out of doors the people in Paris are comparatively tranquil, the only interruption of the public peace being the continual arrests of newspaper editors and leaders of the Republican party, whom the Government pursue with unrelenting hostility. The rash *coup de theatre* performed by General Labitte, connected with the recall of the French Ambassador from London, has certainly had the effect of diverting the ever-changing public opinion of France into another channel; but, as we said last week, we believed no serious breach was intended by France, inasmuch as it now appears that General Labitte sent M. Mareschalchi expressly from Paris that he might take charge of the English embassy when M. Drouyn de Lhuys was recalled. Lord Normandy remains quietly in Paris; and, even if he should return home, Lord Palmerston has declared that he has long ago solicited leave of absence, so that the results need not necessarily be of a hostile character. We were quite prepared for the report current, that General Labitte will retire from office, and his successor will probably be M. Drouyn de Lhuys, or, as some say, General Lamoriciere. By the latest accounts from Paris, it is but too apparent that the precautionary measures of a military character to suppress any attempt at insurrection, together with the influence of the Socialist leaders to abstain from violence, have tended to keep Paris tranquil. All is boast and triumph on the part of the Bonapartists that the Socialists are afraid to encounter a battle in the streets; but although we are far from wishing secretly to aid and abet any Red Republican convulsion, we are quite as opposed to the rash fanatic party who are striving to hurry the Electoral Bill through the Assembly. If the Democratic party should be defeated by a majority of votes, which is very probable, the triumph of the Moderates can only be maintained by an overwhelming military force constantly present; and France, instead of being the example to the world as a liberal free Republic, will be the scoff of all nations as the most humiliating, naked despotism in existence.

Mr Wyse has been received at the court of Athens, and we recommend King Otho, if he values his sovereignty and throne, to turn over a new leaf in the administration of his foreign affairs—France and Russia are uncertain crutches to lean upon. The affairs in Rome grow darker and darker. The Pope is very uneasy; and fears are entertained of Mazzini's return, and overthrowing all that the French have so industriously tried to build up. It is already contemplated that the Pope must take refuge in Ancona, and throw himself under the protection of the Austrians. If this were to happen, the French would be so mad as to quarrel with all the world. There is no stability in the present state of things. The people at Rome are sullenly silent.

We are to have a new Congress at Frankfurt, and the friends of German unity promise us that great results will flow from the new League. We have very slender hopes ourselves. The negotiations going on between Denmark and Prussia do not seem to us, as far as we can penetrate the intrigue, to be sincerely promoted by Prussia. At present it is difficult to judge; but there is a want of straightforward honesty in the proceedings which makes us fear, unless a Russian fleet appears in the Sound, that Prussia will only amuse Denmark until she is sufficiently strong to defy her once more. Prussia pursues her own schemes of aggrandisement with inflexible ambition.

The News from India by the Overland mail tells of fresh disasters on the frontiers. An English medical man has been murdered by the Affredies. Sir Charles Napier seems harassed, and scarcely knows how to deal with these barbarians. The removal of the frontier from the Sutlej to the Indus has not brought with it the tranquillity that was hoped for. Our outposts are now continually harassed by marauders, whilst the interior of the Punjab requires the most constant attention. The Governor General has again proceeded to Simla. From China we learn

that the Emperor of China died on the 25th of February, and was succeeded by his fourth son, Tih-Chu, who is described as a youth of nineteen, brought up in principles very hostile to foreigners. An insurrection has broken out in Bantam, in Batavia. The Cape papers bring no further news.

TRADE.—Very little change can be noticed in any department of trade or commerce during the past week; and from the Whitsun holidays having been observed in some parts of the manufacturing districts, the amount of business transacted has been small. The arrivals, both here and in London, are not large; so that prices generally remain on a par with those of last week.

Our Cotton market on Saturday and Monday was exceedingly quiet, with little business doing, although prices were rather in favor of buyers.

With weather not only seasonable but very favorable for the growing crops, the Grain trade has had a downward tendency, particularly as regards Wheat and Flour.

The reports from the manufacturing districts this week present no feature of importance. Most of the mills in and around Manchester, and other parts of Lancashire and Yorkshire, have been closed, in order to enable the operatives to enjoy the Whitsun holidays. There does not appear to be any change in the value of Woolen and Cotton fabrics, whilst the Hosiery trade at Nottingham is represented as being steady.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

Attempt to Assassinate the King of Prussia.—Accounts from Berlin of the 22nd state, that on that morning an attempt had been made to assassinate the King of Prussia at Potsdam.

A sergeant of artillery fired a pistol at his Majesty, and inflicted a flesh wound in the arm. The man was immediately seized. The King at once returned to Charlottenburg, and received the congratulation of his family, the Ministers, and the diplomatic corps, on his escape.

The name of the attempted assassin is Se-feloge.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1850.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

FRIDAY'S mail brought us a copy of the Extra Gazette, published on the previous Friday, which contains the following Proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor, Dissolving the Assembly, and ordering the election of a new house. The writs are to be returned on the 11th July next. The following is a copy of the Proclamation:

"Whereas the General Assembly of this Province stands prorogued to Tuesday the 25th day of June next, I have thought fit to Dissolve the said General Assembly, and the same is hereby accordingly dissolved; whereof of all persons whom it may concern will take due notice.

"And I have further thought fit to order and direct that Writs for calling a new General Assembly be forthwith issued in due form, returnable on Thursday the eleventh day of July next.

It will thus be seen, that we have but little time left us for action, and the small space has been curtailed by a week, which has, through the bungling of the Officials at Fredericton, been allowed to pass from the time the Proclamation was issued at Head Quarters until its receipt here.

As we have been called on by our Correspondents for advice at this critical juncture of affairs, we would suggest that a Public Meeting be at once convened by requisition to the High Sheriff, at an early day, at which a series of Resolutions should be adopted, embracing the views of the Constituency of the County; and such Candidates should be put in nomination in whom the People have confidence, and who will pledge themselves to carry out the Resolutions that may be passed. This would be dealing fairly with the Candidates, as they would then know the wishes of the people, which they cannot do, without some such action be taken.

From all we can learn, the People require—that as *Responsible Government* has been forced on them by the inconsiderate action of the Legislature, by adopting the Despatch of Lord John Russell in which he propounded that system of Government for the North American Colonies—they therefore want the *whole* system, and not that portion only, which the Legislature has adopted, which gives to certain Officials snug births, with good salaries, large patronage, and no responsibility, and bestows on the People no power. They wish the Government to have the *Initiation of the Money Grants*, which will make them a *working government* as well as a *responsible one*. They wish the establishment of *Municipal Corporations*, which will give them the power of electing their own Local office-holders,

over whom they will exercise a constitutional controul, and have the power of removing them when they prove unworthy of the trust reposed in them. They require that the Legislature should have the *entire controul of our Provincial affairs*; that is—they shall have the disposal of the revenue, the regulation of trade with the neighbouring Colonies, and all *foreign states*, untrammelled by the unconstitutional, and too frequently, impertinent interference of the Colonial Secretary, who has of late so exercised his authority as to dictate to the legislature the disposal of their revenue, the manner in which our tariff shall be framed, and altered our Constitution without consulting our feelings or interests. This power the people wish to see speedily crushed, and our Representatives speak out fearlessly their sentiments to the mother country, in reference to the deplorable state of these Colonies, which has been brought about by the suicidal policy of the parent state, in allowing Foreigners the same privileges and encouragement as their own subjects. They wish the *reduction of the salaries of public officers*, to a standard commensurate with the importance of their offices, and the capabilities of the Province to remunerate them. A *Federal or Legislative Union of the Colonies* is also required. This would remove the petty local restrictions on trade which has been kept up by the respective Provinces. It would combine their influence, and render their negotiations with the parent state and foreign nations, of more weight, and place us in a position as a people, which we never can assume while we remain as we are at present. There are other matters of minor importance, which it is unnecessary to allude to.

Candidates pledging themselves to use their best exertions to obtain these objects, should be supported, and no others. Should such men be sent to the Legislature, there will be some prospect of relief; if others are returned, we may expect to see the old system of irresponsibility pursued; nothing done to develop our numerous natural resources; to improve our trade and commerce; to relieve us from the withering influence of Downing street dictation; the reduction of official salaries; and many other evils and grievances under which we labor.

These are matters well worthy of serious consideration, and we trust they will meet with such attention as their importance demands.

COUNTY WESTMORLAND.

We are informed that twelve Candidates are now in the field for this County. Who the favored ones are, is a question on which it would be folly to hazard an opinion. Each are actively engaged canvassing, and from the present appearance, it is conjectured there will be much opposition. The names of the gentlemen about to come forward are—Messrs. Hannington, M. Welling, A. Simpson, S. Babino, Shediac; Messrs. B. Botsford, J. Steadman, at the Bend; Messrs. Crane, Palmer, and Dickson, at Sackville; and Messrs. Landry, Gilbert, and Chapman, Dorchester. Messrs. Wilson and Botsford, former representatives, have declined nomination.

By the last mail we obtained a copy of the following printed Handbill, which has been posted up throughout the County. It shows the deep-rooted feeling of dissatisfaction which exists in that County in reference to the acts of the old members.

FREEHOLDERS OF WESTMORLAND!

Be no longer hewers of wood and drawers of water, to the Crane, Chandler, and Botsford faction, commonly called the 'Family Compact' party.

If you do not desire to be again enslaved for four years, Vote for none of the above-named, or any of their connexions. Vote for no Lawyers, you can tell by their fine houses, lands, horses, and carriages, and mode of living, that they are wasting your substance instead of exerting themselves for the good of your country.

Vote for no Government Officer; he cannot act independently; but bring forward active, intelligent men, (if possible without large family connexions) who will pledge themselves unspairingly to the reduction of Salaries, and economy in the expenditure of Public money; encouragement of Agriculture and the Fisheries, improvement of Commerce, and above all, to the construction of a line of Railway from Shediac to St. John.

Freeholders, attend to this advice, and there will yet be hope for the prosperity of yourselves and families.

SHEDIAC.

A Correspondent at this place, under date of June 5, relates the following circumstance:

ATTEMPT AT ROBBERY AND MURDER.—A few nights ago two individuals dressed in