

da and Nova Scotia, for a modification of the terms of constructing the Great Trunk Line from Halifax to Quebec, I have seen that the difficulties of building the European and North American line, as at first proposed, were almost insuperable—at any rate, that the stock would not be raised by private subscription, while there was a possibility of its construction being included in the 3 per cent. loan—and that if it could be built for money obtained at that rate, its sure and immediate completion was the necessary consequence. It was certain that the County of Westmorland would withdraw its subscriptions, and by co-operating with the Counties in the North, centre, and West of the Province, which are unanimous for adopting the Great Trunk Line, and for accepting the loan, would be enabled to form an interest in the Legislature, which would entirely swamp the friends of the European and North American Railway, and secure the acceptance of the loan for the benefit of the other, without reference to the latter line. Believing that the terms concluded upon between Mr Chandler and Mr Howe—

“That the line from Halifax to Quebec should be made, on the joint account and at the mutual risk of the three Provinces, ten miles of Crown Land along the line being vested in a joint Commission, and the proceeds appropriated towards the payment of the principal and interest of the sum required.

“That New Brunswick should construct the Portland line, with the funds advanced by the British Government, at her own risk.

“That Canada should, at her own risk, complete the Line from Quebec to Montreal, it being understood that any saving which could be effected, within the limits of the sum which the British Government are prepared to advance, should be appropriated to the extension of the line above Montreal.

“That, on the debt contracted, on the joint account of the three Provinces, being repaid, each should own the line within its own territory.”

would meet with the general approbation of the Province, it became important, that if difficulties should arise as to getting the funds for the Portland line, owing to the Province having its sole guarantee to offer for that line—whereas for the other there would be the mutual guarantee of the three Provinces—that there should be some arrangement by which the support of those interested in the line which could offer the best guarantee, should be secured for those interested in that line, which had had not so good a guarantee to offer—(it being remembered that the value of the guarantee is to be determined, not by ourselves, but by the Imperial Government, which advances the money.) Under these circumstances, having been invited by Her Majesty's Government to take a seat in the Executive Council, after discussion with the Council, I accepted the seat, only upon the express condition that the interests of the European and North American Railway should be sustained to the fullest extent; it being distinctly understood that the Government will accept no proposals for building the Great Trunk Line which shall not embrace in an equally favorable and explicit manner the European and North American Railway—the liability for the latter, however, being confined to the Province. You will thus perceive that the interests of the former, however great they may be, must necessarily be also given to the latter. Such was the object I had in view—I have explained it simply and plainly. I gain no personal benefit. I am aware I run much risk; but I think that on this great question of the Railways all minor considerations should be sunk. If the object should be obtained, the temporary misrepresentation under which a public man may labor is of little consequence. In the general prosperity which will result from the successful completion of these works, I, as well as others, shall receive my share of benefit. If they fail, and I have erred in judgment, I must take the consequences, and leave political distinction to those of clearer heads or greater caution. It is a mistaken notion to suppose that the other parts of the Province have not their interests and influence; and if we allow ourselves to be governed by such local feelings and such limited views, as entirely to disregard those interests and that influence, we in St. John will reap nothing but disappointment. The development of the inexhaustible resources of the Northern and interior parts of the Province is as dear to the Representatives from those quarters as is that of ours to us; and a union of the resources of all will alone tend to make the Province the seat of wealth, intelligence, and improvement.

I have the honor to remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

J. H. GRAY.

St. John, August 2, 1851.

From the Morning News.

To the Electors of the City and County of St. John,

Gentlemen,
Messrs. Gray and Wilmot, two of your representatives, and our colleagues, having accepted seats in the Executive Council, in contradiction, as we think, of their solemnly recorded opinions, and as we sincerely believe not only in direct opposition to the principles on which the representatives for the City and County of St. John were returned by you at the late General Election, but also to the present feelings and opinions of an overwhelming majority of the constituency of this City and County, and Mr Gray having by a public letter expressed his desire for your approbation of his conduct; and as we consider such approbation necessarily involves a direct cen-

sure on our past conduct, and a disapproval of the opinions unflinchingly expressed during the late Session, and still consistently and honestly entertained by us; and as we neither on the one hand wish to embarrass Messrs. Gray and Wilmot, should we be wrong in supposing that we still enjoy your confidence and that they had forfeited it; nor on the other hand wish to be embarrassed by them, if their late act meets your disapproval, we think in justice to you—in justice to us—in justice to the large body of the people of this Province, whose representatives, though in a minority, manfully and fearlessly fought the people's battle during the last Session; and in justice to our colleagues themselves that a fair, frank, and unqualified expression of your opinion should be given on their late public act; and if you approve of the course adopted by them, we will cheerfully resign into your hands the trust reposed in us, which under such circumstances we could neither hold with honor to ourselves or with usefulness to you, and thereby enable you to supply our places with men willing and able to give our colleagues and the Government to which they now belong a hearty and efficacious support.

But should you give an expression of your disapprobation of their proceedings, and express continued confidence in us, we shall expect them to resign, and by affording you an opportunity of returning men who will consistently and faithfully represent your feelings and opinions, enable your representatives to be of service to you, and to maintain a consistent and dignified position in the Legislature.

We therefore propose that a meeting of the Electors of the City and County, should, after due notice, be held at a convenient time and place, to consider this matter. We on our parts will abide by the decision of such a meeting, and we trust our colleagues will be willing to do the same, and not shrink from an appeal to their and our Political Masters.

We are, Gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

Charles Simonds,
W. J. Ritchie,
S. L. Tulley,
W. H. Needham.

St. John, August 5, 1851.

European News.

Arrival of the Steamer Europa.

From Willmer & Smith's European Times, July 26.

The second reading of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill has passed the House of Lords by, as might have been expected, an overwhelming majority. A dignified but somewhat insipid debate of two nights, preceded the division. The speeches hardly maintained the character of their Lordship's House for the highest order of oratory. Lord Aberdeen, who made the most effective speech against the bill—with the exception perhaps, of the Duke of Newcastle—lamented the absence of Lord Denman and Lord Brougham, both of whom he intimated, are strongly opposed to its stringent provisions. The speeches of the Duke of Wellington and Lord Lyndhurst, who supported the bill, were, considering their advanced years, extraordinary specimens of vigor and mental power, the ex-Chancellor, more especially, standing out with the clearness and force of his earlier days. These speeches derived additional interest from the fact that the utterer of one was the head of the Cabinet which passed the Emancipation Act, 22 years ago, and the other was then the occupant of the woolsack.

No doubt can be reasonably entertained that if the Government during the last excited state of public feeling, had offered to exclude from Parliament the Roman Catholic members, and proposed the deportation of every Roman Catholic bishop, an overwhelming majority of the nation would have supported the proposition. Never, during the memory of man, was the public voice so unequivocally expressed. The result showed that the Protestant feeling of the country is sound to the core. All quibble on that point has been set at rest. The Ministry in obedience to the will of the nation, was bound to do something; whether they have done too much or too little the tide of public events will speedily demonstrate.

The followers of Sir Robert Peel evidently think the Whigs have done too much. From the commencement they have deprecated penal legislation. Sir James Graham and Mr Gladstone were not more energetic in the popular branch of the legislature against the bill, than were the Earl of Aberdeen and the Duke of Newcastle in the Upper House. The absence, too, of the Earl of Derby from the debate this week, and the vacillating conduct of Mr Disraeli while the bill was before the Commons, show that the men in power have gone further to delay the passions of the nation than either the Peelites or the Conservatives would have ventured. The present Earl of Derby declared, at the time of the ministerial interregnum, that the honor of the nation would have been amply vindicated by a declaratory resolution, in both houses of Parliament, against the pretension of the Pope, and the same view was avowedly entertained by the colleagues of Sir James Graham. The bill of the Government, on its original introduction, was certainly a very harmless measure, but the additions and alterations it received during its progress have entirely changed its features, and is now clear that it must lie on the statute-book, as so much useless lumber, or if put in force, the

strong arm of military power will be required for its execution.

Although the motion last week of the Earl of Derby, for a Select Committee to investigate the legality of the colonial as well as the home policy relative to the Cape of Good Hope, was defeated, it appears from the statement made by Lord John Russell in the House of Commons, this week, to have already borne fruit. The constitution so anxiously desired by the colonists is in a fair way of being inaugurated. According to the statement of the noble lord, the draft constitution to be sent out to the Cape was nearly completed in all its details, but he entertained some doubts whether it could be presented to Parliament before the session closed. The separation of the eastern and western provinces was a question which would be left to the colonists themselves to decide; but, with reference to the change of the seat of Government, that was a point which came within the prerogatives of the Crown and the Governor would act respecting it on the instructions which he would receive from home.—Whatever changes the draft constitution might receive in the colony, it would be referred back to the Colonial office for final adjudication. As to the adoption of the constitution, before the completion of the Kaffir war, that was a point which depended upon circumstances, and to which he declined to commit himself.

This statement, it will be seen, is sufficiently meagre as regards the amount of positive information it contains; but there is enough to show that Government is not inert, and that the wishes of the colonists to govern themselves is much nearer accomplishment than might have been supposed from the usual procrastination of the Colonial office.

We announced last week, that so far as the debate on the Revision of the Constitution had proceeded, the various speeches had been marked by moderation. But the violent harangue of M. Victor Hugo upset all decorum. Then were revived all the violence, all the personalities, all the mutual threats exchanged—which at the worst periods since the revolution have disgraced the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

The division was taken with unaccustomed formalities, and of 750 members of the Assembly, there appeared to be present 724 voters; 26 were absent. Three fourths of the members present would necessarily be 543. The majority in favor of revision (a very wide word) was but 446, being 97 less than the required number. The number of voters against revision was 278, giving a simple majority of 168. But as the required three fourths did not vote in favor of revision the proposition was rejected: and the Mountain closed this important sitting with a tremendous shout of *Vive la Republique*. We have all along prepared our readers for this result: the question of the revision of the Constitution is now postponed for at least three months. The effect of the vote has been to carry complete dismay into the Bonapartist ranks. But from some unexplained cause, the fascination of the name of Louis Napoleon is so great, that some of our contemporaries still will insist upon it that the Assembly must ultimately accept him whether they will or not.

We have no further political news from Rome, but assassinations are becoming more frequent than ever.

The state of Portugal shows signs of fresh disquietude, and the anticipations of a fresh revolution have become more general within the last week. A great many arrests have taken place amongst the military, and some little acts of insubordination at Beja and elsewhere indicate that the Duke of Saldhana is not very firmly seated in the saddle.

The case of Stratfords, the reputed sons of the Earl of Aldborough, at Leghorn, is still proceeding. They have been subject to interrogatories, and have been humanely treated by the Austrians, but the evidence of the guilt has not been published. It is generally believed that, if proved to be guilty of a revolutionary plot, their lives will be spared; being reduced to indigence by the Earl's death, they have, probably been made tools of by some more designing individuals. Great numbers are said to be implicated in the alleged plot.

The relations between the Porte and its subject the Pacha of Egypt are becoming more uneasy, through the desire of the Sultan to bring the Pacha into more strict subjection, which he resists. We are happy to state that Mr Stephenson has concluded a contract to execute a railroad between Alexandria and Suez, and the works will commence forthwith.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Since our last report, very little variation has taken place in the position of affairs as regards the prospect of the crops. The weather, although cold during the nights, has been of an average character for the season, and though in some districts heavy thunder storms have occurred, the general accounts are far from unfavorable. Beyond the backwardness of the season, we hear of few complaints; and the prevailing impression appears to be that a good produce will be realised, should we be favored with a few weeks of really settled hot weather. Though there have been showers in different parts of the kingdom almost daily, the total quantity of rain which has fallen has not been great, indeed in some localities, spring corn is said to require moisture. In the west and south west of England, and in North Wales, we hear of

great havoc among the Swedish turnip crops. The roots of the plants have been found so extensively destroyed by worms that some fears are entertained by many farmers that their crops will be rendered of little value. The potato blight has not yet re-appeared. New potatoes of first rate quality are now abundant in the markets, and they are rapidly falling in price. Fruits of all kinds are cheap and plentiful, and with a continuance of heat and sunshine, there can be no doubt that the ripening of the new crops must go on pleasantly; and as a necessary consequence, all sorts of breadstuffs in the market will decline rapidly in price.

SCOTLAND.

In some parts of this country the late fierce storms of wind and rain have done more injury to the fields and gardens than was at first deemed at all probable. In exposed situations potato shaws have been much twisted at root, and in the worst cases unearthed never to rise more. Bean fields also suffered considerably; and but for the support which the stalks in leaning lent to one another, would have been completely prostrated. The oat crops, too, where strongest and best, were rather seriously lodged. The wheats, where early and out of flower, suffered little injury; but in all late situations the bloom was blown rudely off by the violence of the wind. Even turnips were far from escaping scot free; and in several instances that have come to our knowledge, were actually blown out of the drills shortly after the completion of the sowing process. Green crop is still promising, and wherever high farming is practised the foliage of Swedes is already seen meeting in the drills.

IRELAND.

During the present week we have had a very favorable change in the weather, which has produced a very remarkable and gratifying alteration in the tone of the reports, which with scarcely an exception, indulge in most cheerful anticipations of an abundant harvest. Rumours about potato blight have nearly ceased; and the accounts from those districts where it was said to have broken out now declare that the plants are recovering, and that there is scarcely a trace of the much dreaded disease in any quarter. An exception, however, must be noticed, which is altogether at variance with the tenor of the general intelligence. It is stated that in the counties of Down, Louth, and Armagh, the potato disease has decidedly made its appearance, and that the effects are precisely those of the veritable epidemic of the last five years. The markets are everywhere abundantly supplied with new potatoes, as fine in quality as in any year before the commencement of the blight, and the prices are become moderate enough to enable the humbler classes to partake of their old favorite food. The coarser description of breadstuffs consumed by the poor are in consequence reduced in price.

LATEST NEWS.

House of Lords.—Upon the question of going into committee upon the Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill, Lord Montague moved that it be an instruction to the committee to insert a clause, exempting Ireland from its operation. The noble Lord contended at great length that the circumstances of Ireland were so essentially different from those of England that it was manifestly unjust, for the sake of nominal uniformity, to apply the same rule in both cases. Lord Camoys supported and Lord Cranworth opposed the motion. After several peers had expressed their sentiments the House divided: For the motion, 17; against it, 82; majority 65. On going into committee Lord Kinnaird moved the omission of the first clause, which was lost by a majority of 51.

Lombardy.—A Turin journal the Opinione, of the 21st inst., states that the steamer Radetsky on Lake Maggiore, had been completely armed. Four large guns had been pointed against Lavens, on the side of Piedmont.—Twenty waggons laden with warlike stores had arrived at Laveno, after depositing in the church of Madoneta, on the road to Varese a quantity of shells, fuses and projectiles of various kinds. The Government had ordered a second steamer to be built on Lake Maggiore. The free port of Venice was solemnly opened on the 20th inst. Letters received from Rome mention the Pope's return.

THE TWELFTH OF JULY.

We learn from the Irish papers that the anniversary of the Battle of the Boyne passed off quietly in that country. Very different was it in Liverpool. In opposition to the advice of the authorities, the Orangemen followed the dangerous example which the Roman Catholics had recently set, and persisted in making their annual display, with its offensive accompaniments of banners, flags, sashes, swords, and other weapons. The results, as might almost have been foretold, were tumult, disaster, and bloodshed. The first scene of violence occurred in Scotland road, where a large body of men, in the garb of navigators, attacked with stones a number of Orangemen who were waiting the arrival of other lodges. The Orangemen repelled the assault with their swords, sticks, and wands, and for some time a savage but dubious fight was maintained. Several men received cuts and bruises of an ugly character. Jackson, a police-officer, was knocked down, kicked, stoned, and otherwise injured to such a degree that his prompt removal to the Infirmary was necessitated. A pistol was fired in the melee, and one man, it is understood, was shot in the temple. Mr Duff, a Protestant, on remonstrating with an Orangeman who was brutally beating one of the assailants on the head, was compelled to flee for his life, leaving his