[2750]

(JULY 22.)

Lord John Russell is, of course, to be the new Prime Minister. The following is the list of

THE CABINET:

Lord Chancellor.....Lord Cottenham. Lord Privy Seal...... Earl of Minto. Secretary for the Home Department. . Sir George Grey. Secretary for the Foreign Department ... Viscount Palmerston. Secretary for the Colonies..... Earl Grey. First Lord of the Treasury Lord John Russell. Chancellor of the Exchequer Mr. Charles Wood. Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster . . Lord Campbell. Paymaster-General......Mr. Macaulay. Board of Trade..... Earl of Clarendon. Board of Control Sir John Hobhouse. Chief Secretary for Ireland Mr. Labouchere. Admiralty..... Earl of Auckland.

NOT OF THE CABINET:

It was only announced yesterday. Most of the Members belonged to the old Melbourne Cabinet. The admission of Cobden was discussed; and if the state of that gentleman's health and his finances had enabled him to become a professional politician, he might, it seems, have risen to the dignity of a Cabinet Minister—a splendid compliment to his talent and his great personal popularity. His colleague, Mr. Bright, there is every reason to believe, will join the Government in a responsible capacity, and Mr. Wilson, the Chairman of the League, has also been offered an appointment

In thus striving to mingle the aristocratic with the more democratic elements of the country, the new Premier is not merely strengthening his influence out of doors, but he is breaking down, as far as he is able, the barrier which has too long existed between the titled and the commercial classes. Every wind that blows proves more clearly that the exclusive airs of the great aristocratic families to govern the country are being tamed down, and that in future the representatives of the middle classes will not be deemed unworthy to serve their country by filling its highest offices. The late commercial changes have brought in their train a great social revolution.

The general impression is, that the new Premier will hastily wind up the business of the session, and dissolve Parliament in the course of the autumn.

The only question that presses for an immediate settlement is the sugar duties, a question upon which the incoming Premier is said to feel strongly. A short bill has been introduced for extending the existing duties over another month. Peel would have settled the question before his retirement, if the multitude of his embarrassments had enabled him. As it is, his successor will probably cut the matter short, and level the distinctions between slave and free-labour sugar, by admitting the produce of the Spanish colonies under the "most favoured nation" clause of the treaty of Utrecht.

If Sir Robert Peel had desised the continuance of power, he might, by dissolving the Parliament, and appealing to the Country, have maintained himself in office for years to come. But he is anxious for retirement—for repose. He is declining, too, into the "vale of years," and the excessive physical and mental drudgery of official labour he probably finds too much for his strength. As he is, far and away, the most popular man in England, his reluctance to risk a general election shows, unmistakably, that the charm of office has lost its influence—at least for a time. He is anxious, by retirement, to throw oil on the troubled waters, and to bring a brilliant official career to a close at a moment when his success is unclouded by a speck.

The troops for Hudson's Bay embarked at Cork on the 25th ult. in the *Blenheim* and *Crocodile*. The vessels are to proceed to Resolution Island if they separate, and there the two store-ships from the Orkneys are to await their arrival. They proceed in company through Hudson's Straits to Fort York.

On Wednesday week three men, belonging to the schooner Anne Semple, at Limerick, were killed by drinking the water of the Shannon, poisoned by the sewers from the gas works and other manufactories.

An effort is being made in Cork to raise a life annuity of £700 for Father Matthew, the apostle of temperance.

The principal manufacturers of Manchester contemplate bestowing a testimonial by the purchase of an estate for their great townsman, Mr. Cobden, which will doubtless be seconded generally throughout England. The subscriptions in Manchester on Thursday exceeded £18,000, and the amount of the testimonial will probably reach £100,000. It is also intended to make Mr. George Wilson, Chairman of the League, a present of £10,000 out of its funds.

THE OVER LAND MAIL FROM INDIA .- Accounts have been received from Bombay to the 20th May, which contain the news of striking interest. The principal point of intelligence relative to the proceedings of the Lahore Government, which, on the occasion of a slight disturbance, gave strong proofs of its resolution to put down all attempts at revolt. A British Sentinel, in endeavouring to prevent a drove of cattle from entering a street crowded with baggage, wounded a cow on the nose. The cow being a sacred animal in the eyes of the Sikhs, a disturbance was caused; the shops and houses of the neighbouring streets were closed, and the superstitious zealots getting on the tops of the houses, threw stones and other missiles on the British Officers and Soldiers who sought to appease the tumult. The Lahore authorities soon brought about tranquility, apologised to the British residents and the officers, seized some of the ringleaders, and hanged one or two of the Brahmins on the following day.

CHINA.—Sir John Davies had an interview with the Chinese Commissioner, Keying, early in the month, and it is understood the arrangements are made for the vacating of Chusan, though the particulars have not been made public.

Sir John Davies visits Chusan in May, and the British troops in garrison will be withdrawn before he returns to Hong Kong. It is to be hoped, however, that Chusan will continue open to the vessels of foreign nations, not that it is of importance as a market, but simply as a port of refit, or as a harbour of refuge to vessels damaged by stress of weather.

COMMERCIAL.

The passing of the Corn Bill and of the Tariff has caused the custom-house authorities in London and Liverpool to be more than usually busy.

In Liverpool, during four days of the present week, nearly a quarter of a million sterling was received for duties. The quantity of Wheat and Flour taken out of bond has been immense. The railroads, the canals, and other conveyances, have been loaded to repletion in transmitting this produce into the interior of the country.

The object of this extraordinary pressure was to secure the lowest rate of duty which the little sliding scale that remains in force during the next two years and a half can reach. The duty up to Thursday was 4s. per quarter on Wheat, and 2s. 5½d. per barrel on Flour. Yesterday the average of the six preceding weeks showed a decrease in the price, and an increase in the duty. A shilling higher on Wheat was exacted, with a corresponding increase on Flour.

This immense quantity of produce being thrown simultaneously on the market, must, in the nature of things, bring down prices. The harvest, too, which promises to be prolific and early, may, we fear, produce something approaching to an agricultural panic.

But the release from bond of this immense quantity of provisions has not been confined to bread stuffs. Large quantities of American Beef and Pork, which now come in duty free, have also been freed from the Queen's lock. With abundance of employment for the labouring population, and a comparative low scale of prices for provisions, not only great domestic comfort, but an extensive amount of business and a corresponding degree of prosperity must await on all,—from the operative to the merchant.

The weather continues beautiful. The intense heat has been succeeded by refreshing showers, which have decreased the temperature, and, by moistening the parched earth, materially assisted the growing crops. The prospects of an early and an abundant harvest are most cheering. The influence of such a state of things on business of every description cannot fail to be beneficial.

The settlement of the Oregon question, the details of which will be found in Sir Robert Peel's speech, will not be without its effect in cementing still more closely our commercial relations with the United States. The friendly, nay, the exulting tone in which the retiring Premier referred to this happy consummation, shows the reluctance which existed in this country to cope with America in a hostile attitude. The settlement of the Corn question, and the winding up of the Oregon dispute, are two of the most important and gratifying results which the present age has witnessed.

The Cotton market is in a healthy but not a very active state. Prices have improved a shade, and with the settlement of the great questions of the day, there will probably be more confidence and buoyaucy in future.

The contemplated change in the Sugar Duties has had an injurious effect upon sales, as on the eve of a change stocks became depressed, and the dealers show a reluctance to go beyond their most pressing wants. The Coffee trade has also been in a lethargic condition.

The Money market, considering the ministerial interregnum, is firm, and the stoppage of many of the railway projects of the session, by the change of Ministry, will give increased confidence to capitalists, and quiet the fears of the timid.

The Limerick Examiner says—"grass is growing on the quays of Waterford, so little business is doing in that city. Our own quays are deserted, the slow progress of the Corn Bill having paralysed the provision trade."

Supply of Indian Meal at Cork.—Such is and has been the extensive demand for this article throughout the country, since the price was fixed at £10 per ton, that there has been issued from the government depot at the Lee Mills, in this city, one thousand tons