

POETRY.

FOR THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

SERENADE.

WRITTEN BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON IN AUGUST, 1829.

Now the moon is marching high Through the richly spangled sky! 'Tis a sight entrancing;

Fairy elves their sports resume, And their varied forms resume

While o'er the fields they're dancing.

See! O see the shooting star! See the meteor from afar!

From Heaven's curtain falling!— While all the twinkling orbs on high

Seem changing to the vaulted sky, To shun the fall appalling.

Awake! awake the sleeping dove, And listen to the voice of love,

Its absence from thee mourning; Could'st thou join me in the lay

'Twould be like a solar ray, Night's dark garb adorning.

Would'st thou rather sleep? then rest, By no anxious thought oppress'd;

With virtue round thee shining; And dream that he who loves thee weaves

Around thy brow the myrtle leaves, With roses intertwining.

Frederickton, February 1, 1830. SIGMA.

FOR THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

THE COMPLAINT.

It is not as in former years, We meet less gaily now;

With secret pang thy cheek is pale, And clouded is thy brow.

And must we learn to wander on, Mid scenes of woe and pain;

Nor ask from dark futurity, If we should meet again?

Were friends as fond, and love as true, As dreams or fables tell,

'Sav, would thy value ever pay The anguish of farewell,

When, too subdued to cherish hope, Too wretched to complain,

We turn from all to weep, and say, We ne'er shall meet again?

Yet will I hope, 'though shores and seas Must hold us now apart,

That thou may'st come in after years, Preserv'd in form and heart.

Or if our lot in distant lands, Life's weary round ordain;

There is a land I name not here, Where we may meet again.

Farewell! Farewell! my feeble strain Is all unworthy thee;

But gloom and care have fetter'd now This fancy once so free.

Yet would I brave a world's reproach; Or brook a world's disdain,

To hand thee on that joyous day, When we shall meet again.

THE CONSOLATION.

And are we not to meet again? The pow'r that form'd thy breast,

So pure, so tender, and so true, With heav'n's own feelings blest—

Say, shall that pow'r refuse to hear Thy pray'r from heav'n above,

Nor grant thee all thy heart's desire, An object for thy love?

'Mid the vast wastes there is a hand Can reach; a watchful eye

Glance o'er earth's remotest shores, And scan futurity.

For thee that eye shall watch me safe, That hand shall hold me fast;

And we shall meet in days to come, Brighter than all the past.

Then say not, dream not, friends or love Had better ne'er be known;

That, since fond souls neust sometimes part, 'Twere good to be alone.

Preserv'd, restored, to meet again, The same fond heart to meet,

Fears for congratulation ching'd, And bitter turned to sweet—

What is it, but to know the joy When light from darkness springs!

What, but to taste the love divine Which good from evil brings?

Then rest: thy true and faithful heart This heart shall meet again.

Nor part, till life's short joys be past, And lasting bliss remain.

Frederickton, February 8, 1830.

EUROPE.

ENGLAND.

In Glasgow, Bristol, Liverpool, and London, large shipments are daily preparing for the Mediterranean; and the woollen, cotton, and hardware districts, by the accounts of the country papers, exhibit an unusual bustle and activity.

The Treaty of Adrianople has opened a large portion of Europe and Asia to British commerce; and as we are no longer excluded from the accustomed channels of trade with Turkey and the Black Sea, we may expect that our exports will flow thither in their usual abundance.

A Liverpool Paper mentions that the Dover Packet Ship, which arrived there from Boston, after a short passage, brought ten or twelve Packages of Tea, purchased in America, and shipped by Geo. Manners, Esquire, English Consul at Boston, to the order of the East India Company.

This time of peace does not seem to agree with our gallant Admirals. The Flag-Officers who have died since 1816, amount to the incredible number of one hundred and sixty-six!

DIED.—At Hampstead, the Rev. Thomas Belsham, the Unitarian Minister of the chapel in Essex street, aged 80.

WALES.

WELSH JUDICATURE.—A Cardiganshire County Meeting has been held at Aberayron, to take into consideration the proposed removal of the assizes from Cardigan, and the alteration of the Welsh Judicature, contained in the First Report of the Commissioners of the superior Courts of Common Law.

At a Carmarthenshire county meeting the following Petition to Parliament was adopted, after a long discussion, by a large majority:—

That your Petitioners have heard with surprise and alarm the Report of His Majesty's Commissioners appointed to enquire into the Practice and Proceedings of the Superior Courts of Law, relative to the Jurisdiction so long established within the Principality of Wales, and the changes in the same recommended by the said Commissioners.

That your Petitioners, fully sensible of many advantages arising from the peculiar Jurisdiction of Wales, and the few inconveniences resulting therefrom, humbly pray that the same may not be abolished, as such abolition cannot be carried into effect without great inconvenience arising from the consolidation and partition of Counties.

That such change is not called for by the people in general, and particularly by such classes as are more immediately interested in a cheap and expeditious administration of justice, namely, the Traders, Shopkeepers, Farmers, Drovers, and Graziers.

Your Petitioners conclude with remind your Lordships, that in no part of His Majesty's Dominions has there been, or is there at present, more peace, tranquillity, and prosperity existing than in the Principality, which has gradually attained to increased, and still looks to increasing happiness under the present system of Jurisdiction; and which system, if modified and improved, instead of being abolished, may probably arrive at as much perfection as is attainable by most human institutions.

The Welsh Ironmasters are keeping up a keen competition with the Scotch ironworks in the supply of the foundries; and although Scotch pig-iron is as low as £5 a ton, Welsh iron is landed in Ireland 5s. a ton cheaper.

SCOTLAND.

The papers are full of renewed accounts of extraordinary floods.

At the election of the Rector for our University the candidates were—the Marquis of Lonsdowne, Lord President Hope, and Lord Moncrieff. The state of the votes in the four nations being announced, was as follows:—Glottinana, Marquis of Lonsdowne; Loudoniana, ditto; Transforhana, Lord President Hope; and Rothiana, Marquis of Lonsdowne. After the election was declared, the Professor of Divinity, amid the greatest uproar, which frequently compelled him to sit down, declared that though extremely unwilling to express any sentiment disagreeable to the general feeling, yet, as a Member of the Comitia, in the present state of the country, he felt himself bound to enter his solemn protest against the individual chosen: first, because he had no residence in Scotland, and was thus disqualified from duly performing the arduous duties of his office: secondly, his second objection, of a legal nature, was that, according to the articles of Union between England and Scotland, every individual holding office is required to be of the Presbyterian religion.

The utmost exertions are making to throw Mr. Hume out at the next general election, and with every prospect of their efforts being successful. Sir J. Carnegie is reported to have secured three out of five which, if true, will undoubtedly secure his election.

IRELAND.

PACIFICATION OF IRELAND.—The tranquillization of Ireland—that hitherto unattained and apparently unattainable object, which the lapse of almost seven centuries of intimate connexion with Great Britain seems scarcely to have forwarded—is, we are assured by those whose facility of access to the sources of information entitles their opinions to attention, at this moment the primary object of ministerial solicitude.

The simple fact is, there is in Ireland too much law, and on all sides, from the highest to the lowest, too little regard for it. If the land-owner cannot receive his rent, he considers his unhappy tenant to be the fangs of the law! If the Rector's tithes be not duly offered, the law is again made the instrument which beggars the defaulter. And thus, to the great mass of the Irish population, the law is looked upon only as an instrument of tyranny and oppression; and the cause of those who transgress it is espoused by their fellows from (what they no doubt consider) public spirit and kindred feeling! The natural result is, that, instead of the mutual impulses of kindness and respect between landlord and tenant, we see scornful and unfeeling rapacity on the one side, and the most rancorous and deadly hatred on the other.

Prince Polignac has materially strengthened himself by obtaining the support of the lending members from the departments, and also the monied interest, which they say will ensure him a majority in the chambers. The French Funds have improved. The French journals, however, continue full of the greatest excitement relative to the change in the Ministry. A correspondent of the (London) Morning Chronicle assures its readers, that the days of France's Monarchical government are numbered, and that the officers of that country are fast approaching republicanism; and that a revolution more complete than that of 1793, is in rapid progress.

It would appear from a passage in the Gazette of France, the organ of the French Government, commented on by the Courier Francais of Friday, that the Royalists, as they are called, have speculated on the aid of foreigners. "It appears," says the Gazette of France, "that this obstinate struggle of the revolutionary interests against the monarchical principle, and the principles of social order, is sufficient to awaken the solicitude of the European Powers. It is, in fact, their cause which is agitated here; and they must be destitute of all foresight, all care for their own preservation, if they look with an eye of indifference on the attempts of a faction, which for thirty years has shaken all thrones."

The Courier Francais observes on this passage, "If there is any thing more humiliating than another to a great people, it is this invocation to what is not itself—this support sought elsewhere than in the general confidence, and in national force; and it is at the moment when, it is said, they wish to rely on the power of the flag, on military devotedness, that these designs are disclosed with so much awkwardness, that they represent themselves in a suppliant attitude before certain Cabinets to demand assistance from them."

The Courier Francais, after ridiculing the idea of expecting aid from Foreign Powers, adds significantly—"I know not, in the present state of Europe, who would have most cause for fear, if ever such a design, or rather such a folly, were to seize the Cabinets."

The Marquis de Parotet, Vice Chancellor, is appointed Chancellor of France, in place of Dambray, deceased.

The child with two heads, which lately arrived at Paris from Sardinia, and was the subject of as much attention in the French capital, as the Siamese boys are in London, is dead. Thus all the hopes founded by modern physiology on the observation of the phenomena likely to result from this double organization, if life had continued longer, are now annihilated. Ritta, of the right side of the infant, had been ill for three days, and her illness did not appear in any degree to influence the health of Christina, the other side; so that at the moment when Ritta had given up the ghost, Christina was hanging to the breast of her mother and playing with her face. But suddenly she let go, heaved a sigh and died. The father refused for some time to suffer the monster to be dissected, but the solicitations of Mr. Geoffrey Saint Hilaire, and the injunctions of the police, overcame his repugnance, and the bicephalic infant has been carried to the Theatre of Anatomy, in the Jardin du Roi, where it was dissected on the 26th of Nov. in the presence of the members of a committee appointed by the Royal Academy of Medicine, consisting of Messrs. Ant. Dubois, Serres, Itard, Castel and Geoffrey St. Hilaire, to whom were added the Barons Cuvier and Portal, and Doctors Dumeril, Paul, Dubois, Lisfranc, and some other physicians.

His Holiness the Pope, upon receiving intelligence of the peace of Adrianople—sent instructions to all the Papal Legations of the European Courts, to endeavour to obtain for the Roman Catholic inhabitants of Turkey, security from the despotism and tyranny of their unbelieving rulers; some of the Courts have promised to second these views.

The statue of Pompey, at the foot of which Caesar fell, and which has for many years stood in the Spada Palace at Rome, is reported to have been purchased by the Marquis of Hertford. This celebrated statue was found in the Strada de Letutaria, near the Cancelleria, during the reign of Julius II.; and as the head lay under one house, and the rest of the body under another, the two proprietors were on the point of dividing the statue, when the Pope interposed, and rescued it from such a profanation.

MADRID, 13th Nov.—The important question of the amnesty is at last settled favourably, and the royal decree is now in the process of drawing up. If we are not misinformed, it appears that there will be some thirty exceptions, viz.—1. The chiefs of the insurrection in the Isle of Leon, when on the 1st January, 1820, the Constitution was proclaimed. 2.—Those who in Madrid, in the same year, obliged the King to swear to the Constitution. 3.—Those who, in the Cortes of Seville, proposed and advocated the deposition of the King. Public opinion loudly calls for the measure, which policy and the public welfare alike require.

A letter from Madrid of the 10th, contains some details relative to the marriage of the King. In the morning of that day Ferdinand set out for Aranjuez, for the purpose of complimenting the King and Queen of the Two Sicilies, and seeing his spouse, who had been married by proxy a short time before. As the severe etiquette of the Spanish Court did not allow him to remain with his wife till he went through the marriage ceremony in person, he was to return to Madrid in the evening. On the following day the young Queen was to make her public entry into the capital, the King riding on the right side of her carriage, and the Infants Don Carlos and Don Francisco de Paulo on the left, all three on horseback. It is supposed that more than forty thousand persons had already arrived to witness the ceremony, and as many more were expected. The inhabitants of Madrid were viewing with one another in ornamenting the fronts of their houses; and it would really seem, from all these demonstrations, that the title of "Beloved," which is still ironically used by foreigners in speaking of Ferdinand, has a serious meaning with the great majority of his own subjects.

The accounts from Madrid announce the death of the Captain General of Galicia, who was wounded lately when opening a letter in which was a detonating ball.

ASTRIA.

It is stated, that the Emperor of Austria wrote, with his own hand, a letter to the Emperor of Russia, congratulating him upon the brilliant success, and fortunate termination of the war with Turkey. This goes far to prove, that the jealousy of the former, respecting the ambitious views of the latter, were not in such lively exercise, as has been often stated in European papers.

The limits and political fate of Greece are at length settled, but the new arrangements will not be published till they are submitted to the Sultan, whose sanction is confidently anticipated. The limits commencing at the mouth of the Aspropotamos follows the course of that river as far as Varachovi, and then extends in a right line to the Gulf of Zeitoni.

The Negropont (the ancient Euboea) is incorporated with Greece; and, according to another account, the Islands of Samos and Candia. The protocol of the 23d March is maintained, and Russia has acceded to this plan, by which not only a greater extension of Territory than was originally intended, but the absolute independence of Greece, is secured.

Count Capo d'Istria is at this moment having a palace erected at Lepanto in the English style, and barracks for 2,000 men. A body of troops is assembling at Migara, under the name of Camp of Instruction. General Feyer is gone thither, with two battalions of 500 men. The real object of this expedition is not known.

TURKEY.

Accounts have been received from Adrianople, which state the final ratification of the peace between Russia and Turkey, by the Porte having paid the first instalment of the Commercial indemnity, amounting to 500,000 Dutch ducats, and causing the fortress of Giurgevo to be evacuated. The fifth and sixth corps of the Russian army had taken their departure previous to the final evacuation of Adrianople.

Intelligence had been received at Constantinople that General Diebitsch had fixed the 13th of November for the evacuation of Adrianople. The Russian corps d'armee before Choumla had already been withdrawn, and was returning on the Danube.

Constantinople, Nov. 10.—The Sultan and his Court, and the Standard of the Prophet, still remain at Ramis Tekhlik, or in the Palace of Ejub, and it is thought that he will not return to the Seraglio till after the evacuation of Adrianople.

By our last accounts from Constantinople the greatest efforts were making by the Sultan to levy the tax which is to supply the first instalment of the Russian indemnity; and the Turkish authorities, upon the confidence of being able to make this payment, were preparing to reconstruct their administration at Adrianople.

Meantime two events have taken place which are the more to be deplored as they seem to have been brought about merely for a misunderstanding. The one is a sanguinary engagement in the first half of October, between the troops under field Marshal Count Paskewitch and the Turks, under the command of the new Desaskier, with considerable loss on both sides; the second is a similar but less sanguinary engagement on the 16th October, between a detachment of the army under the command of Mustapha, Pacha of Scutari, stationed between Adrianople and Sophia, and the corps of General Baron Geismar, who had orders to observe the movements of the Pacha. The explanations which have since taken place at Adrianople have put an end to their hostilities, and the good understanding between the troops and the two powers and their commanders is restored; General Geismar, however still remained posted near Sophia at the end of October.

The insurrection of the Lubecks inhabiting a district of Asia Minor, near Gulphessar, which at first threatened to be serious, as these mountaineers had got possession of the town without opposition, appears to be drawing to a close, since Elizz Aga, of Sealannova, has received orders from the Porte to reduce the insurgent to obedience.

One of the most agreeable circumstances of late is the formal revocation by the Porte of the Catholic Armenians. Orders from the Sultan have been despatched to the several places in Asia Minor, which were assigned to those exiled from the capital as their place of residence and to announce to them the permission to return to Constantinople, where they will again enjoy the free exercise of their religion.

London, Dec. 19.—A mail from Germany has arrived, and brings intelligence that the surrender by the Turks of the important fortress Giurgevo, their last military station on the north bank of the Danube, had been the signal for the retreat of the different corps of Russians from the Turkish territory. General Geismar, who some months ago distinguished himself by the boldness of offensive operations, was about to march back and cross the Danube at Rachova, while the same course is pursued by another Russian corps under General Kisseloff, who is appointed by the Emperor Governor of Wallachia. A more advanced corps, that was lately employed in the blockade of Choumla, is also approaching the Danube, while the one under General Pahlen, which had been at Adrianople, has already crossed the Balkan in its retrograde march. The last and most important point of intelligence is; that the head quarters of Gen. Diebitsch are removed to Selim, considerably in the rear of his late quarters.

RAM MOHUN RAY.—We are happy in being able to announce, from private letters, that this celebrated and accomplished Indian scholar is likely to visit our country ere long, in the capacity of Ambassador, it is said, to this Court, from one of the Princes of Hindostan. Most of our readers, conversant in the current events of India, will be familiar with the name, if not with the writings and merits, of this extraordinary personage. Like his countrymen, excluded from all participation in the more lucrative, high, and honourable situations in the State, and dependent on the accumulation of wealth solely for their rise and consequence in society, we cannot be surprised to find that the early education of the Hindus should be confined to what may be considered sufficient for obtaining that object in the subordinate situations of office. Under these disadvantages, however, the drudgery and subserviency of a Baboo's career, were but little stimulant to the mind and talents of such a man; he retired into private life many years ago, and has since devotedly indulged in his favourite literary pursuits. In theological discussions he particularly delights, having made our sacred writings his principal study, to effect which he has acquired a perfect knowledge of Hebrew, Greek, Arabic, and Latin. He writes English grammatically and eloquently, as his publications attest, and is conversant and intelligent on most subjects. He is a remarkably fine looking man; about 50 years of age; above the middle size; stout; with open pleasing countenance; fair complexion, like most Hindoos of caste; mild gentlemanly, and unassuming in his manners; slow in delivery; but persuasive, forcible, and pointed in argument. Such is an outline of the distinguished native of Bengal, who has been called from his far distant retirement, to represent, we are told, the illustrious House of Timor at St. James's. Without power, wealth, or connections, in the imperial city of Delhi; the character, talents, and learning of Ram Mohun Ray have pointed him out as the fittest object for the head of an important mission. Whatever may be its object, the nomination does great credit to the discernment and liberality of the Shah and his advisers. There is no one of the present day from whom we have a right to expect so just and extensive information respecting the internal state of British India, and we doubt not that advantage will be taken of this enlightened patriot's residence amongst us, to obtain as much useful and general knowledge of the people and country in that quarter of the globe, as may facilitate the discussions that are likely to take place during the ensuing Session of Parliament.

AFRICA.

EGYPT.

The French Papers state that 34 Arabians have arrived in France from Egypt, for the purpose of being educated at the expense of the Pacha. We understand that the Pacha has given orders for them to receive instruction in all the Useful Arts; and that such of them only as shall evince peculiar aptitude are to be instructed in the Classics. Some one to receive a medical education.

It is stated that accounts had been received from Alexandria of great damage occasioned by the overflowing of the Nile, and that not less than 30,000 persons had perished. Another account says that the inundation subsided in a short time, and that much less damage was done than had been expected.

BRITISH AMERICA.

UPPER CANADA.

KINGSTON, Jan. 14.

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE.

On Monday last a most melancholy occurrence took place here. LIEUTENANT CROMIE, of the Royal Engineers, accompanied in his sleigh by a lady and his servant, while driving by the market place, the horse took fright and ran against the gable end of an old house, when the sleigh upset, and this gentlemanly, fine young man was (as is supposed) dashed against the foundation of the house, and fractured his skull in a most shocking manner. The operation of trepanning was resorted to, large fragments of the skull were removed, but Mr. C. is since dead. The young lady was not seriously injured.—D. C. Herald.

At a meeting of the Merchants of this place held to day at the Court House, it was unanimously resolved, that the resolutions adopted by the Montreal Committee of Trade on the 24th day of December last do fully express the sentiments of this meeting as well upon the general impolicy of re-establishing a direct intercourse between the United States and the British West Indies, as on the injurious effects which such a concession, if made by His Majesty's Government, would specially entail on the rising prosperity of the North American Colonies.

AFRICAN COLONY IN CANADA.—In June last, the trustees of Cincinnati township, ordered the black and mulatto persons to give security for their good behaviour, or to leave the township. This description of persons amounted to about 2000. Many of them were intelligent and wealthy. The giving of security was indignantly rejected, a public meeting was called, and they decided upon going to Canada. They have purchased one hundred and twenty four thousand acres of excellent land, and have a million of acres at their disposal. They now have eleven hundred persons in their colony—600 from Cincinnati, and 500 from other places. Arrangements are making in other places for an extensive emigration. The President of the society preparing for a journey to England, to have an interview with the King. The probability is that they will receive a grant of a million acres from the crown. By this the English Government will receive a large addition of Labourers—the real producers of Wealth. The people of Colour will have a colony of their own, and be represented in the Provincial parliament. In case of a collision between the English and American Governments, they will powerfully strengthen the English. In addition to this Canada is within the reach of the slave population—and hundreds and thousands of them will no doubt go there. The Colony will under the immediate protection of the British Government.—St. Clairsville, (Ohio) Historian.

ADDRESS OF THE ASSEMBLY OF UPPER-CANADA, in answer to Sir John Colborne's Speech, on opening the Legislature, presented the 15th Jan. inst.—We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Upper-Canada, in Provincial Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for your gracious Speech from the throne at the opening of the present Session.

Convened again in Provincial Parliament, we shall devote ourselves to the despatch of public business, and feel assured it will be gratifying to Your Excellency to give effect to those measures which will be conducive to the welfare and prosperity of the people.

We concur in the sentiments expressed by Your Excellency, that the activity and industry of the agriculturists in all parts of the Province, and the general improvement of the country, from the labor they have bestowed upon it, under all the difficulties and privations inseparable from the settlement of a new colony, present the strongest claims upon the Legislature to afford every proper encouragement to their exertions, and every facility in our power for the exportation of their surplus produce.

We will take into our consideration the present state of the Welland Canal, which Your Excellency has recommended to our immediate support and protection. We shall be happy to find the favourable expectations of Your Excellency respecting it fully realized: And when our constitutional right over the resources of the country shall be practically recognized, our attention can be wisely and effectually directed to the important public improvements mentioned by Your Excellency: improvements which are both desired and deserved by the people.

We do not doubt the necessity which exists upon the accession of Your Excellency to the Government, for the reformation of the Royal Grammar School, and we shall derive much gratification from the renewal of the enquiries, we last session instituted into the state of education, upon finding that the reformation mentioned by Your Excellency, is grounded upon those equal rights and liberal principles, which we so earnestly pressed upon Your Excellency's attention. Without the faithful observance of those equal rights and liberal principles as a foundation, and the stability of that foundation, duly secured against the varying policy of different administrations, we cannot but regard such institutions as threatening to entail, under the appearance of some present good, those exclusive and dominant establishments which have perpetuated so much unhappiness in European nations, and the introduction of which into this country, the people are wisely most solicitous to avert.

We are glad to find that Your Excellency still anticipates a modification of the Charter of King's College, which as at present constituted is undeserving of public patronage, and likely to foment sectarian jealousies, and prove equally injurious to the purity of our Religion and to the liberties of the people.

While we are willing to support a College for instruction in the professions, and in the higher branches of science, we feel it to be a primary and more imperative duty to provide for the general extension of the means of education among the people in every Township. But we concur with the opinion expressed by your Excellency, that dispersed as the population is over an extensive territory, a general efficiency in the Common Schools cannot be expected, particularly while the public salaries of the Masters, and the small remuneration which their patrons in the present condition of the country can afford to give, will not admit of their devoting their whole time to their useful calling. From these considerations we feel the increased necessity and duty of securing, besides the sum already provided by Law, a more equal and just distribution of the proceeds arising from the lands reserved for education, from which resources the people have hitherto derived no advantage.

We regret that the King's pleasure on the Bill reserved, has not yet been communicated to Your Excellency.

We will follow Your Excellency's recommendation to examine the Acts that may be about to expire, and we will direct our attention to all the subjects recommended by Your Excellency, particularly the exposure of property, and the facility of depeopling certain districts, the frequent cases of capital convictions, when, through the dispensing power of the Crown, it is thought advisable to arrest the operation of the law, notwithstanding the evils that may arise from repeated mitigation, without a system of secondary punishment, or any means of disposing of offenders.

With regard to the questions submitted to His Majesty's Government, whatever difficulties may have occurred in determining them, or in reconciling the respective interests with which they are connected, we are happy to learn from your Excellency

ASIA.

INDIA.

RAM MOHUN RAY.—We are happy in being able to announce, from private letters, that this celebrated and accomplished Indian scholar is likely to visit our country ere long, in the capacity of Ambassador, it is said, to this Court, from one of the Princes of Hindostan. Most of our readers, conversant in the current events of India, will be familiar with the name, if not with the writings and merits, of this extraordinary personage. Like his countrymen, excluded from all participation in the more lucrative, high, and honourable situations in the State, and dependent on the accumulation of wealth solely for their rise and consequence in society, we cannot be surprised to find that the early education of the Hindus should be confined to what may be considered sufficient for obtaining that object in the subordinate situations of office. Under these disadvantages, however, the drudgery and subserviency of a Baboo's career, were but little stimulant to the mind and talents of such a man; he retired into private life many years ago, and has since devotedly indulged in his favourite literary pursuits. In theological discussions he particularly delights, having made our sacred writings his principal study, to effect which he has acquired a perfect knowledge of Hebrew, Greek, Arabic, and Latin. He writes English grammatically and eloquently, as his publications attest, and is conversant and intelligent on most subjects. He is a remarkably fine looking man; about 50 years of age; above the middle size; stout; with open pleasing countenance; fair complexion, like most Hindoos of caste; mild gentlemanly, and unassuming in his manners; slow in delivery; but persuasive, forcible, and pointed in argument. Such is an outline of the distinguished native of Bengal, who has been called from his far distant retirement, to represent, we are told, the illustrious House of Timor at St. James's. Without power, wealth, or connections, in the imperial city of Delhi; the character, talents, and learning of Ram Mohun Ray have pointed him out as the fittest object for the head of an important mission. Whatever may be its object, the nomination does great credit to the discernment and liberality of the Shah and his advisers. There is no one of the present day from whom we have a right to expect so just and extensive information respecting the internal state of British India, and we doubt not that advantage will be taken of this enlightened patriot's residence amongst us, to obtain as much useful and general knowledge of the people and country in that quarter of the globe, as may facilitate the discussions that are likely to take place during the ensuing Session of Parliament.

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