

EUROPE.

ENGLAND.



Imperial Parliament. HOUSE OF LORDS.

London, Tuesday Dec. 6.

This being the day appointed, for the opening of Parliament, the House presented a very elegant appearance in the number of ladies of whom took their seats to witness the ceremony. Soon after two o'clock the ringing of bells and firing of Park and Tower guns announced that his Majesty was on his way from the Royal Palace to meet the Great Council of the Nation, and in a short time the shouts and acclamations of the populace were heard greeting the Sovereign in his progress. At 20 minutes past two the Royal cortege reached the House of Lords, at the royal entrance to which His Majesty alighted, and was received with the usual formalities.

On His Majesty taking his place on the throne, the Usher of the Black Rod was directed to summon the Commons. The Speaker attended by a great number of members, made his appearance in a few minutes at the bar of the House of Lords, when the King delivered the following most gracious Speech:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,
I have called you together that you may resume, without further delay, the important duties on which the circumstances of the times require your immediate attention; and I sincerely regret the inconvenience which I am well aware you must experience from so early a renewal of your labours, after the short interval of repose allowed you from the fatigues of last sessions.

"I feel it my duty in the first place to recommend to your most careful consideration the measures which will be proposed to you for a Reform in the Commons House of Parliament. A speedy and satisfactory settlement of this question becomes daily of more pressing importance to the security of the State, and to the contentment of the People.

"I deeply lament the distress which still prevails in many parts of my dominions, and for which the preservation of the peace, both at home and abroad, will, under the blessing of Divine Providence, afford the best and most effectual remedy. I feel assured of your disposition to adopt any practical measures, which you always find me ready and anxious to assist, both for removing the causes and mitigating the effects of the want of employment which the embarrassment of commerce and the consequent interruption of the pursuits of industry have occasioned.

"It is with great concern that I have observed the existence of a disease at Sunderland, similar in its appearance and character to that which has existed in many parts of Europe. Whether it is indigenous or has been imported from abroad is a question involved in much uncertainty, but its progress has neither been so extensive nor so fatal as on the Continent. It is not, however, the less necessary to use every precaution against the further extension of this malady; and the measures recommended by those who have had the best opportunities of observing it, as most effective for the purpose have been adopted.

"In parts of Ireland a systematic opposition has been made to the payment of tithes, attended in some instances with affecting results; and it will be one of your first duties to inquire whether it may not be possible to effect improvements in the laws respecting this subject which may afford the necessary protection to the established Church; and at the same time remove the present cause of complaint. But on this, and every other question affecting Ireland, it is above all things necessary to look to the best means of securing internal peace and order, which alone seem wanting to raise a country, blessed by Providence with so many natural advantages, to a state of the greatest prosperity.

"The conduct of the Portuguese Government, and the repeated injuries to which my subjects have been exposed, have prevented a renewal of diplomatic relations with that kingdom. The state of a country so long united with this by the ties of a most intimate alliance, must necessarily be to me an object of the deepest interest, and the return to Europe of the elder branch of the illustrious House of Braganza, and the dangers of a disputed succession, will require my most vigilant attention to events, by which not only the safety of Portugal, but the general interests of Europe may be affected.

"The arrangements which I announced to you at the close of the last Session, for the separation of the States of Holland and Belgium, has been followed by a Treaty between the Five Powers and the King of the Belgians, which I have directed to be laid before you, as soon as the ratifications shall have been exchanged. A similar Treaty has not yet been agreed to by the King of the Netherlands; but I trust the period is not distant when that Sovereign will see the necessity of acceding to an arrangement in which the Plenipotentiaries of the Five Powers have unanimously concurred, and which has been framed with the most careful and impartial attention to all the interests concerned.

"I have the satisfaction to inform you, that I have concluded with the King of the French a Convention, which I have directed to be laid before you; the object of which is the effectual suppression of the African Slave Trade. This Convention, having for its basis the concessions of reciprocal rights to be mutually exercised in specified latitudes and places, will, I trust, enable the naval force of the two countries to accomplish, by their combined efforts, an object which is felt by both to be so important to the interests of humanity.

"Regarding the state of Europe generally, the friendly assurances which I receive from Foreign Powers, and the Union which subsists between me and my Allies, inspire me with a confident hope that peace will not be interrupted.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,
I have directed the Estimates for the ensuing year to be prepared, and they will in due time be laid before you.—I will take care that they shall be framed with the strictest regard to economy, and I trust to your wisdom and patriotism to make such provision as may be required for the public service.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,
The scenes of violence and outrage which have occurred in the city of Bristol, and in some other places, have caused me the deepest affliction. The authority of the Laws must be vindicated by the punishment of offences which

have produced so extensive a destruction of property, and so melancholy a loss of life. I think it right to direct your attention to the best means of improving the Municipal Police of the Kingdom in the more effectual protection of the public peace against the recurrence of similar commotions.

"Sincerely attached to our free Constitution, I never can sanction any interference with the legitimate exercise of those rights which secure to my people the privilege of discussing, and making known their grievances; but in respect to these rights it is also my duty to prevent combinations, under whatever pretext, which in their form and character are incompatible with all regular government, and are equally opposed to the spirit and to the provisions of the law; and I know that I shall not appeal in vain to my faithful subjects to second my determined resolution to repress all illegal proceedings by which the peace and security of my dominions may be endangered."

After delivering the above most gracious speech, the King retired, accompanied by the same attendants as on his entrance. And the Lords adjourned for a short time.

London, Monday Evening, Dec. 12.

All interest in foreign news has subsided upon the re-assembling of Parliament, and attention is necessarily confined to our domestic affairs. Upon the subject of the King's Speech we refer to the debates; and some minor parts of this Speech which have not been touched upon, are made the subject of comment in our political article in the second page. They appear to us most important as they relate to the existing embarrassments of our trade and commerce, and the introduction of a new municipal government of the large manufacturing towns in the north and west of England.

The Session has commenced with more good temper and moderation than usual, on both sides; and we hope to see the Reform Bill opposed with less acrimony, and pressed in some of its minor details by the Ministers with more complacency. Lord John Russell introduces his new measure this evening.—There is no doubt but that upon the result of this Bill hangs the tranquillity of the nation. The people have been agitated in a degree without parallel since the Revolution, and it has become necessary to the very existence of the Constitution to settle and compose them by passing the Reform Bill. Of the firmness and disposition of the House of Commons there can be no doubt; and as is now understood that Lord Grey does not intend to make any new Piers, we may presume that much of the bigoted opposition to the Bill in the House of Lords has been softened down. We know, than for the peace and prosperity of the Country, the Lords are prepared to make great concessions. It all be not gained on this occasion, it is certain that, as upon the last, all will not be lost. We look forward to a happy arrangement of the question with confidence and composure.

FRANCE.

On Friday night a man was arrested on the Boulevards for crying papers professing to give "an account of the proclamation of Napoleon II. to the brave men of Lyons."

The Colonel of the 49th regiment is proclaimed a traitor for treating by flag of truce for the entrance of his regiment into the city.

An order of the day deposes the national guards of Lyons, and the communes of Guillotiere, Croix, Rousse, and Vaise, and commands the instant surrender of their arms. The Colonel of the 18th regiment was publicly and disgracefully dismissed for suffering his soldiers to be disarmed, and they who had laid down their arms were publicly and severely reproved by the young prince, and the old Marshal.

Order reigns at Lyons, supported however, by 80,000 bayonets. The young prince and the old marshal accept the repentance and submission of the city, and promise to redress the grievances of the weavers if they will observe the laws for the future. The prefect of the Rhone is ordered to Paris to undergo ministerial examination. A chief de Battalion is ordered to retire disgraced from the army, and the national guards are ordered to resign the uniforms they wore in vain, and to give up the arms of which they allowed themselves to be so easily dispossessed. In the restoration of order not a shot had been fired nor a sabre drawn. Nothing is destroyed but the trade of Lyons, which was in the last stage of consumption, and is now in the tomb.

PORTUGAL.

Letters from Lisbon dated the 27th ult. give a sad description of the state of that city, and justify a belief that nothing is wanting but the speedy appearance of a large constitutional force, to put down the government on the usurper, and afford the security and tranquillity which for the last four years they have been denied. If, three months ago, Don Pedro had courageously entered the Tagus with only 2,000 men, he would have been master of Portugal in less than a week. Such, however, will not be the case now, unless he arrive there with a force equal in number and superior in courage and discipline to those which Miguel has collected together, as fear of punishment will keep the Miguelite troops faithful, unless the chances of resistance should be rendered weak. It is said that Don Miguel has now actually under arms about 60,000 of one denomination or another; but it is thought overrating the matter to say that 5,000 of them can be actually depended on.

It is no longer a matter of doubt that Don Pedro on behalf of his daughter, Donna Maria, will shortly send out an expedition against the usurper Don Miguel. We understand that the following is a correct description of the armament destined for this service. The land force already in Terceira & the other islands amount to 6,000 disciplined troops and 2,000 foreign soldiers. The naval force now at the island consists of one schooner of 12 guns; one ditto, with swivel; one corvette of 36 guns, from Rio; and one brig of 18 guns, also from Rio. The naval force about to proceed to Terceira consists of one frigate of 1,200 tons, carrying 54 guns; one ditto of 900 tons and 44 guns; one schooner, two hundred tons and six guns; and three steam boats of 400 tons each. For this naval force provisions and pay for four months, from the 1st January, have been provided.

The following stores have also been sent to the island—namely, 5,000 complete uniforms, two months provisions for the land forces on the voyage, and three months pay. This appears to us to constitute a very formidable armament—quite sufficient. We should imagine, to upset the tyrant unless he is much more firmly fixed upon his throne than is generally believed.

We have had two arrivals this week from Lisbon, by which we learn that some dissatisfaction has manifested itself in the Portuguese army, the name of Don Pedro having been heard in several regiments, and 40 soldiers have been arrested for political insubordination. We understand that the Portuguese government had not consented to the release of our Consul Agent at Coimbra, notwithstanding the earnest remonstrances of Mr. Hopper against his arrest and imprisonment.

The Committee of the Stock Exchange have admitted into the market the bonds of a loan which has been raised for the Queen of Portugal, on whose behalf an expedition has been prepared, for the purpose of overthrowing the despot Miguel, and placing the crown on the head of its lawful owner. To raise a requisite fund for that purpose, a contract for loan, nominally for £2,000,000 sterling, and bearing five per cent. interest, was concluded at the price of 48. The subscribers paid immediately a deposit of Eight per cent. and it was stipulated further that the lawful Government of Portugal should have power to make a further call of Five per cent. on acquiring any portion of the bill of that country, the non-payment of which would incur the forfeiture of the Eight per cent. first paid. The remainder of the loan is not to be called for but on the establishment of the Queen in Lisbon. Should the expedition wholly fail, the payment of the Eight per cent. is secured on such territory as may belong to the Queen, exclusive of the terra firma of Portugal.

A Paris paper says that an attempt was made on Friday week to assassinate Dona Maria, the young Queen of Portugal. A ball, which must have been fired from one of the houses opposite the Palace at Meudon, is said to have come through the window of the room in which she was sitting, and having passed close by her, struck a pier-glass by her side.

means, this pestilence would diffuse itself over the lower ranges of society, and soon reach the upper classes. The warning which this fact affords cannot but be useful to the poor; and accordingly we find in every town, city, and almost in every parish, a Board of Health established, and a disposition generated among the wealthy to relieve the squalid wretchedness which lurks in hovels and by-lanes, seldom before visited by the foot of charity. From this cause casualties by other diseases are reduced, and in some countries of Europe, which have lately suffered from the scourge, the mortality has been less than in common years.

"Oh Ireland! Ireland! What can be said of thee? Grand cause of England's uneasiness and insecurity! An improvement in the law of tithes, with the necessary protection to the Established Church," is recommended in the Speech. Whatever may be the source of her good or improvement, we are sure that it will not be found in the selfish plots and furiously-acted manoeuvres of demagogues.

"As to Portugal and Belgium, these are objects of less interest at present than our own domestic concerns. The former country must under any form of government or member of the Royal house of Braganza, return to her amity with England, for there is no other country to take her products. It must, however, be a source of great regret to find the population of a kingdom with which we have been so long connected by a profitable commercial intercourse and an honorable political patronage, still prey to such internal disorders as must lessen the amount of our trade, endanger the security of our factories, and render it impossible to admit its Government into the association of European States. The continued civil dissensions which prevail in Portugal after nearly four years of the reign of Don Miguel, the danger which he apprehends from granting an amnesty, and the great numbers of his subjects in prison or in exile, form a complete answer to those who would speak of the blessings of his sway, and make us look forward with hope to a contest which must decide the fate of our ancient allies in one way or another. In applying the language of Statius to the approaching struggle between the two brothers—

"Nuda potestas
Armavit fratres."

We may add with the poet, *pugna est de paupere regno*,—for never was a state reduced to greater misery and distress by despotism and misrule.

"The King of Holland is still said to resist the award of the London Conference; but while the great powers of Europe continue in peace and friendship with each other, which they cannot well afford to break, the disputes between the component parts of the late Netherlands Kingdom must, we conceive, settle and compose of themselves, in conformity with the general principles, if not the express provisions, of the late arrangement.

"Of the suppression of the African slave-trade, the late riots in Bristol, and the organized societies of England, we have before spoken by anticipation; and these are all the topics of the speech.

"The proceedings in the House of Lords, on the chief subject of the Speech, were really almost such as we could wish them. There was a disposition to acquiesce in the calls of the country and in the fixed determination of the people to have a reform, which will be perceived with pleasure throughout the land. No amendment was moved, nor even contemplated. The chief leader of the Opposition to the late reform bill showed so little disposition to oppose Ministers on the Address, that he threw out courteously a proposed alteration, which was readily adopted by Lord Grey, without attaching to it the formidable name of an amendment. The manner and bearing in the house of Commons were somewhat different, from which we are almost inclined to infer that there is no very complete understanding between the Tories of the two houses."

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It is stated in an article from the Hague 7th inst. that the cholera has entirely ceased at Riga, Libau, Mitau, and Archangel.

The following has been received this morning from the agent for Lloyd's at St. Helena, dated October 29:—

"The Hannah, Jackson, arrived to day from China and Anger, left China the 29th July, and brings an account of the opening of the trade by the English and Chinese, and that the company's ships may be expected to leave China in their usual season, but none of them had then arrived. The Mangies was at Anger on the 12th Sept.

Bombay papers to the 28th of Aug. inclusive have been received. An extraordinary Gazette of that date states that they had received advices from China of the 30th of May, up to which time no change in the position of affairs relative to the probable suspension of intercourse between the Chinese and the British merchants had taken place.

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The first question that naturally suggests itself, whether the principle to which Ministers were pledged has been compromised by those changes? Our answer is at once that it has not. The schedules A and B are preserved—the disfranchising and enfranchising clauses are preserved—the right of the £10 householder is preserved; in short, not only is every thing preserved which principle required, and the express declaration of Lord Grey taught the country to expect, but more has been done with that view (as it to avoid the possibility of an imputation) than, in the judgment of moderate men, was required by the circumstances of the case.

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, we observe, propose to obviate the immediate consequences of the rapid mortality which has taken place among the Bishops in India by increasing their number. This remedy, however, is not so certain, as it may only increase the mortality. It would, we should think, be a much more reasonable plan were the higher religious stations in India made subjects of succession; and if, instead of sending out persons as bishops new to their duties and new to the climate, they were selected from the clergy already there, who, with a knowledge already acquired, and with constitutions seasoned to the climate, would be much more likely to live, and aid the cause of religion, than can be expected under the present system of patronage, however conscientiously exercised.

We have just received the following important communication from a gentleman who left Madrid on the evening of the 6th inst. The following are the words of our informant:—

"A revolution broke out at Madrid on December 6, during a review, where the troops were ordered to march to the frontiers of Portugal. A conspiracy having been discovered a few days before amongst several militia regiments, they were in consequence disbanded. The Marquis of Sambre has been shot—King Ferdinand has been made prisoner in his own palace, and is not expected to survive another day, having been previously poisoned. The palaces of the Ministers have been destroyed—the fury of the populace is directed towards the King, his Ministers, and the Clergy—the Convents have been pillaged, and the Priests driven from the capital. Two regiments of the body guard has been entirely cut to pieces. The general cry is 'Down with the Church and King,' and 'Long life to the Constitution and Cortes,' which are to be proclaimed the following day. On our informant leaving Madrid, it was reported that the King was dead; but if not he has ceased to govern Spain.

—London Times.

We are happy to state on the authority of private letters from London and Hull, received by a Gentleman in this place, that the Cholera, which is said to prevail at Sunderland and Newcastle, is not the Foreign Cholera, but a complaint similar to that which England is subject to in the fall of the year.

Attempted Incendiarism!—Between the hours of 10 and 11 o'clock on Saturday night last, a number of the inhabitants of the City were greatly alarmed by a loud noise caused by the explosion of a quantity of Gunpowder, which took place in the Store occupied by Mr. William M'Kee, in St. John street. As the occupant was not immediately on the spot, the door was forced open, and some combustible articles were found to be on fire in the back part of the store, but not having reached any great height, were speedily extinguished. So great was the concussion, that the windows of the building were almost entirely demolished, and the iron bar which fastened the window shutters was considerably bent, some trifling damage was also done to the crockery ware in the store. From marks which could easily be discovered, it would appear that trains of powder had been laid to different parts of the store; and from all the circumstances, it was evident that a desperate attempt had been made by a base incendiary, which, had it succeeded, must from the compactness of the buildings, and the state of the weather, at the time, have laid waste a great part of the City, before it could be possible to arrest the flames.—It being known that Mr. M'Kee had been in the store only a short time previous to the alarm, suspicions immediately fell upon him, and he was required to give bail for his appearance in the morning, to answer to the charge. He accordingly underwent a lengthy examination on Monday, when he was resumed the day following, when he was fully committed to Jail, to take his trial at the Circuit Court, to be held in this City in June next.—Mr. M'Kee had the benefit of Council during the examination.—The goods in the store were insured by the Agent of the Etna Insurance Company in this City for £500.—Courier.

Open War in Africa.—Capt. Lawrence who arrived here yesterday, from Africa, states that when he left the Gambia on the 21st Dec. the British troops and militia were engaged in open war with the Mandingoes.—a severe engagement had taken place on the 17th November, which lasted for about six hours.—The British had upwards of 100 wounded and 30 killed. When Capt. Lawrence sailed, reinforcements were hourly expected from Sierra Leone. The British force were in no way adequate to encounter the Mandingoes who had fortified themselves in a masterly manner by entrenchments. Capt. Benjamin Lee, commanding the Sierra Leone militia had been killed in the engagement.—City Gazette.

[EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.]
Monday, 30th January, 1832.
A message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

Mr. Shore, acting Secretary, by command of His Excellency, delivered the following Messages:—

"NEW-BRUNSWICK.
Message from the House of Assembly.
28th January, 1832.

"ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL.
The Lieutenant Governor informs the House of Assembly, that in consequence of a representation from the Deputy Postmaster General at Quebec, which is herewith submitted to the House, he had directed the supervisor to make the requisite repairs. The report of the Supervisor is herewith submitted, by which it appears that an expense of fifty pounds has been incurred, for defraying which the Lieutenant Governor recommends to the House to make provision, 'A.C.' to the General Post Office for B.N.A.
Quebec, 4th October 1831.

"Sir,
It having come to my knowledge, that four or five Bridges over Streams that cross the Post Road between the Aristook and Woodstock, are either carried away, or in such a state of decay as to render it evident that the Government Officers will not be able to travel at night with the

means, this pestilence would diffuse itself over the lower ranges of society, and soon reach the upper classes. The warning which this fact affords cannot but be useful to the poor; and accordingly we find in every town, city, and almost in every parish, a Board of Health established, and a disposition generated among the wealthy to relieve the squalid wretchedness which lurks in hovels and by-lanes, seldom before visited by the foot of charity. From this cause casualties by other diseases are reduced, and in some countries of Europe, which have lately suffered from the scourge, the mortality has been less than in common years.

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—London Times.

We are happy to state on the authority of private letters from London and Hull, received by a Gentleman in this place, that the Cholera, which is said to prevail at Sunderland and Newcastle, is not the Foreign Cholera, but a complaint similar to that which England is subject to in the fall of the year.

Attempted Incendiarism!—Between the hours of 10 and 11 o'clock on Saturday night last, a number of the inhabitants of the City were greatly alarmed by a loud noise caused by the explosion of a quantity of Gunpowder, which took place in the Store occupied by Mr. William M'Kee, in St. John street. As the occupant was not immediately on the spot, the door was forced open, and some combustible articles were found to be on fire in the back part of the store, but not having reached any great height, were speedily extinguished. So great was the concussion, that the windows of the building were almost entirely demolished, and the iron bar which fastened the window shutters was considerably bent, some trifling damage was also done to the crockery ware in the store. From marks which could easily be discovered, it would appear that trains of powder had been laid to different parts of the store; and from all the circumstances, it was evident that a desperate attempt had been made by a base incendiary, which, had it succeeded, must from the compactness of the buildings, and the state of the weather, at the time, have laid waste a great part of the City, before it could be possible to arrest the flames.—It being known that Mr. M'Kee had been in the store only a short time previous to the alarm, suspicions immediately fell upon him, and he was required to give bail for his appearance in the morning, to answer to the charge. He accordingly underwent a lengthy examination on Monday, when he was resumed the day following, when he was fully committed to Jail, to take his trial at the Circuit Court, to be held in this City in June next.—Mr. M'Kee had the benefit of Council during the examination.—The goods in the store were insured by the Agent of the Etna Insurance Company in this City for £500.—Courier.

Open War in Africa.—Capt. Lawrence who arrived here yesterday, from Africa, states that when he left the Gambia on the 21st Dec. the British troops and militia were engaged in open war with the Mandingoes.—a severe engagement had taken place on the 17th November, which lasted for about six hours.—The British had upwards of 100 wounded and 30 killed. When Capt. Lawrence sailed, reinforcements were hourly expected from Sierra Leone. The British force were in no way adequate to encounter the Mandingoes who had fortified themselves in a masterly manner by entrenchments. Capt. Benjamin Lee, commanding the Sierra Leone militia had been killed in the engagement.—City Gazette.

[EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNALS.]
Monday, 30th January, 1832.
A message from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor.

Mr. Shore, acting Secretary, by command of His Excellency, delivered the following Messages:—

"NEW-BRUNSWICK.
Message from the House of Assembly.
28th January, 1832.

"ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL.
The Lieutenant Governor informs the House of Assembly, that in consequence of a representation from the Deputy Postmaster General at Quebec, which is herewith submitted to the House, he had directed the supervisor to make the requisite repairs. The report of the Supervisor is herewith submitted, by which it appears that an expense of fifty pounds has been incurred, for defraying which the Lieutenant Governor recommends to the House to make provision, 'A.C.' to the General Post Office for B.N.A.
Quebec, 4th October 1831.

"Sir,
It having come to my knowledge, that four or five Bridges over Streams that cross the Post Road between the Aristook and Woodstock, are either carried away, or in such a state of decay as to render it evident that the Government Officers will not be able to travel at night with the

means, this pestilence would diffuse itself over the lower ranges of society, and soon reach the upper classes. The warning which this fact affords cannot but be useful to the poor; and accordingly we find in every town, city, and almost in every parish, a Board of Health established, and a disposition generated among the wealthy to relieve the squalid wretchedness which lurks