

EUROPE.

ENGLAND.

LORD BROUGHAM.

"BROUGHAM," says Hazlitt, in one of his best papers on "the Spirit of the Age," and in his usual discriminating manner, "was born and educated in Edinburgh, and represents that school of politics and political economy in the House." [This was written before his Lordship's accession to the peerage.] He differs from Sir James Mackintosh in this, that he deals less in abstract principles, and more in individual details. He makes less use of general topics, and more of immediate facts. Sir James is better acquainted with the balance of argument in old authors—Brougham with the balance of power in Europe. If the first is better versed in the progress of history, no man excels the last in a knowledge of the course of exchange. He is apprised of the exact state of our exports and imports, and scarce a ship clears out its cargo at Liverpool, or Hull but he has notice of the landing. Our Colonial policy—prison discipline—the state of the hulks—agricultural distress—commerce and manufactures—the bullion question—the Catholic question—the Bourbons or the Inquisition—domestic treason—foreign levies—nothing can come amiss to him. He is at home in the crooked mazes of rotten burghs; he is not baffled by Scotch law; and can follow the meaning of one of Mr. Canning's speeches. With so many resources—with such variety and solidity of information—Brougham is rather a powerful and alarming, than an effectual debater. In so many details, (which he himself goes through with unwearied and unshrinking resolution,) the spirit of the question is lost to others who have not the same voluntary power of attention, or the same interest in hearing that he has in speaking; the original impulse that urged him forward is forgotten in so wide a field—in so interminable a career. He keeps a ledger, or a debtor and creditor account between the Government and the country, posts so much actual crime, corruption, and injustice against so much contingent advantage or sluggish prejudice, and at the bottom of the page brings in the balance of indignation and contempt where it is due. But people are not to be calculated into contempt and indignation on abstract grounds; for, however they may submit to this process where their own interests are concerned, in what regards the public good, we believe they must see and feel instinctively, or not at all. There is, it is to be lamented, a good deal of froth as well as strength in the popular spirits, which will not admit of being decanted, or served out in formal dribbles; nor will spleen, the soul of opposition, bare to be corked up in square patent bottles, and kept for future use,—in a word, Brougham's ticketed and labelled eloquence, registered, and in numeris, like the successive parts of a Scotch encyclopædia; it is clever, knowing, imposing, masterly—and extraordinary display of clearness of head, of quickness and energy of thought, of application and industry—but it is not the eloquence of the imagination or the heart, and will never save a nation or an individual from perdition. Brougham has one considerable advantage in debate—he is overcome by no false modesty, no deference to others. But then, by a natural consequence or parity of reasoning, he has little sympathy with other people, and is liable to be mistaken in the effect his arguments will have upon them. His perceptions are literal, tenacious, epileptic; his understanding voracious of facts, and equally communicative of them, and he proceeds to

Pour out all as plain As downright Shippin, or as old Montaigne, without either the virulence of the one or the bonhomie of the other. The repeated, smart, unforeseen discharges of the truth jar those that are next him. He is too improvident for a leader, too petulant for a partisan, and does not sufficiently consult those with whom he is supposed to act in concert. He sometimes leaves them in the lurch, and is sometimes left in the lurch by them. He wants the principle of cooperation. He frequently, in a fit of thoughtless levity, gives an unexpected turn to the political machine, which alarms older and more experienced heads; if he was not himself the first to get out of harm's way, and escape from the danger, it would be well. We hold, indeed, as a general rule, that no man born or bred in Scotland can be a great orator, unless he is a mere quack,—or a great statesman, unless he turns plain knave. The national gravity is against the first—the national caution against the last. To a Scotchman, if a thing is, it is; there is an end of the question, with his opinion about it. He is positive and abrupt, and is not in the habit of conciliating the feelings, or soothing the fallacies of others. His only way, therefore, to produce a popular effect is, to sail with the stream of prejudice, and to vent common dogmas. On the other hand, if a Scotchman, born or bred comes to think at all of the feelings of others, it is not as they regard them, but as their opinion reacts on his own interest and safety. He is, therefore, either pragmatical and offensive, or, if he tries to please, he becomes cowardly and fawning. His public spirit wants pliancy. He is as impracticable as a popular partisan, as he is mischievous as a tool of Government.

Brougham speaks in a loud and unmitigated tone of voice, sometimes almost approaching to a scream. He is fluent, rapid, vehement, full of his subject, with evidently a great deal to say, and very regardless of the manner of saying it. Brougham writes almost as well as he speaks. In the midst of an election con-

test, he comes out to address the populace, and goes back to his study to finish an article for the Edinburgh Review; sometimes, indeed, wedging three or four articles into a single number. Such is the activity of his mind, that it appears to require neither repose, nor any other stimulus than a delight in its own exercise. He can turn his hand to any thing, but he cannot be idle. There are few intellectual accomplishments which he does not possess, and that in a very high degree. He speaks French and, we believe, several other modern languages, fluently; is a capital mathematician, and obtained an introduction to the celebrated Carnot in the latter character, when the conversation turned on squaring the circle, and not on the propriety of confining France within the natural boundaries of the Rhine. This individual is, in fact, a striking instance of the versatility and strength of the human mind, and also, in one sense, of the length of human life, if we make a good use of our time. [How true is the following remark!] There is room enough in human life to crowd almost every art and science into it. If we pass "no day without a line," visit no place without the company of a book, we may with ease fill libraries, or empty them of their contents. Those who complain of the shortness of life, let it slide by them without wishing to seize and make the most of its golden minutes. The more we do, the more we can do; the more busy we are, the more leisure we have. If any one possesses any advantage in a considerable degree, he may make himself master of nearly as many more as he pleases, by employing his spare time, and cultivating the waste faculties of the mind. While one person is determining on the choice of a profession or study, another shall have made a fortune, or gained a merited reputation. While one person is dreaming over the meaning of a word, another will have learned several languages. It is not incapacity, but indolence and indecision that afflict us. While we are walking backward and forward between Charing Cross and Temple Bar, and sitting in the same coffeehouse every day, we might make the grand tour of Europe, and visit the Vatican and the Louvre. [The distinguished statesman, who has been the subject of the present sketch, has avoided this indolence of character, and is now reaping the reward of his toils and the cultivation of his genius. Among other means of enlarging his views, he has visited, we believe, most of the courts, and turned his attention to most of the constitutions, of the Continent.]

The birth and existence of this illustrious orator depended upon a chance circumstance, which will strike every one with wonder. His lordship's father, it is well known, was proprietor of Brougham Hall, and a fine estate in the north of England, which still form the patrimony of the family. He was about to be married to a lady in his own neighbourhood, to whom he was passionately attached, and every preparation had been made for their nuptials, when, to Mr. Brougham's great grief, his mistress sickened and died. To beguile himself of his sorrows, he determined on travelling, and came to Edinburgh, where, wandering about on the Castlehill, then a fashionable lounge, but now completely laid waste by "improvements," and deserted—viewing the city, he happened to inquire of a fellow-idler, where he could find respectable and convenient lodgings. By this person he was directed—not to the New Town, or to any of the hotels, for at that time no such thing existed in the Scottish capital—but to Mrs. Syme, sister of Principal Robertson the historian, widow of the Rev. Mr. Syme, minister of Alloa, who then kept the largest and most genteel board and lodging establishment in town in the second flat of Melville's land [this Edinburgh phrase signifies a house from top to bottom] head of the Cowgate, (marked No. 8,) the front windows of which look straight up the Candlemaker Row a tenement which, it may be remarked, forms the north wing of that gullet connecting the Cowgate with the Grassmarket, through which Reuben Butler made his escape from the rioters, at the execution of Captain Porteous, as detailed in the tale of the Heart of Mid-Lothian.—Here Mr. Brougham forthwith proceeded to settle himself; and though he did not at first contemplate a permanent residence in this city, he soon found occasion to make that resolution; for, falling in love with Miss Syme, who was a young lady of great merit and beauty, he abandoned his early sorrows, and espousing her, lived all the rest of his life in Edinburgh. He resided for some time after his marriage in Mrs. Syme's house; subsequently, he removed to St. Andrew's Square in New Town, then only commencing, and there, in a flat of that substantial corner edifice, having North St. David Street on the west, and the Square on the south, was Henry Brougham born.

The Bristol mob have been giving another sample of their quality. Last week several hundred persons assembled from different parts of the city, and proceeded to the burial ground of St. Philip's Church, for the purpose of disinterring the bodies of the patients who had died of the cholera. Rumours had been circulated, and firmly believed by the populace, that their friends are suffocated by the "Gentlemen," in order to get them off their hands—that the doctors poison their patients for purposes of dissection, &c.—On their arrival at the churchyard they ordered the grave-digger to uncover the coffins; but the man was so much terrified that the spade dropped from his hand, when the mob set to work, dug up the coffins, forced of the lids, and exposed the ghastly dead to the gaze of the spectators. As a precaution against infection, the bodies had been wrapped in pitched cloths, the ears and nostrils being stopped with the same substance; this was considered as proof positive of the truth of one of the prevailing rumours, and many went away fully convinced that the means which humanity had prompted to prevent the spread of the disease had been adopted in order to ensure the death of the sufferer. Mysterious tales are circulated amongst these deluded creatures of medicines having been sent to the poor, which

burnt holes in every thing with which they came in contact; and an effervescent draught was declared to be poison because it boiled when the powders in solution were mixed together. One man who took the most active part in this affair, died in three hours afterwards of the cholera.

At two o'clock on Tuesday the Political Union were to hold their reform dinner on Brandon-hill, near Bristol. Tables were covered for many hundreds, and all was likely to proceed peaceably and comfortably, when, just as the company were about to take their seats, an immense gang of party ruffians commenced an indiscriminate attack not only on the parties present, but destroyed every thing that came in their way; of course a dreadful scene of confusion followed. The mob carried away food, knives and forks, and every thing that was portable. Up to half-past four nothing could exceed the confusion that prevailed. Surely the legal authorities of Bristol must be very remiss in their duties to suffer the respectable inhabitants to be at the mercy of a wretched rabble; we should have thought that they had had a tolerable lesson during the Wetherell affair.—Times.

LIVERPOOL, August 27. Accounts from Lisbon to the 18th and from Oporto to the 19th inst. have been received since our last. No event which might lead to decisive results had occurred, either by sea or on land.

We stated, last week, that the imperial and royal fleets were manœuvring off the Rock of Lisbon. It now appears, that they dodged each other along the coast to Oporto, off which Don Miguel's squadron, which is stronger than that of Don Pedro, made its appearance, the imperial fleet has taken up its station in the Bay. Admiral Sartorius, having been joined by his steamers, made an attack on the line-of-battle-ship, which he slightly damaged; but it does not seem to have been attended with any result calculated to influence the fate of the contest upon either side. Sartorius admits the loss of two men killed, and estimated the loss of the enemy at a hundred killed and fifty wounded. Whatever truth there may be in the details, the general inference is favourable to Don Pedro's cause, for the Miguelite squadron returned to its station before Lisbon, while Don Pedro's resumed its post at the mouth of the Tagus to enforce the blockade as before.

With regard to the land operations since the battle of Ponte Ferreira, or Vallongo, which stripped off all ridiculous exaggeration, was extremely creditable to Don Pedro, his troops have but once crossed fire with the enemy, and the result was to his disadvantage, amounting to nothing less than an actual flight and defeat, though the Miguelites did not follow it up as they might have done.

The Lisbon papers, which come down to the 16th August, claim a victory in the action of the 7th, at Souto Redondo, and the circumstances of Don Miguel's vessels having made their way out to sea had been celebrated as a triumph at Lisbon; but whatever inferences the tyrant and his friends may draw from that fact, it is evident that his cause was not indebted to it for any substantial advantages.

LONDON, August 25. On the whole, the news received to-day from Oporto, though confined to but few incidents, is deemed satisfactory by the friends of the constitutional cause.

The letters from Lisbon, by the packet, are extremely barren of matters relating to politics. Our naval commander on the station, Admiral Parker, seemed to have carried his instructions with respect to neutrality farther than was necessary, and has incurred thereby much indignation on the part of the English residents. Miguel has repaid this conduct in his usual style, by heaping all possible insult upon our vessels. The ships of war were not permitted to send even their boats into the harbour to obtain their supplies of water, but were compelled to employ the Portuguese bargemen for that purpose.—The steam packet was prevented from procuring coals for the voyage home, which were obtained, at last, from one of the vessels which had come from England, and all descriptions of English-merchant vessels were included. At the same time, American, Austrian, Brazilian, and other vessels, whether of war or commerce, was freely permitted to enter. Mr. Hopper, the British Consul, was strenuous in his remonstrances against this state of things, but received no support whatever, as is affirmed in the private letters, from the Admiral. No hopes existed, therefore, of any redress from Miguel's government.

Leopold was married on Thursday week, at Compeigne, to the eldest daughter of Louis Philip, after which some private political talk took place. The Belgian question will be settled forthwith. The German despots are eager to explain away all appearance of hostility in their recent movements. Half their armies were men in buckram.—Aug. 18.

THE MANCHESTER STEAM PACKET.—A splendid steam-packet called the *Manchester*, arrived in the Clarence Dock, and we have been induced, from the description we have heard of her, to pay her a visit. She is an immense vessel, of about 1000 tons burthen, and propelled by two engines of 220 horses' power.

The right hon. Wm. Noel the British Minister at the Court of the King of the two Sicilies, is the fifth representative of the present Government at foreign courts recalled by Lord Palmerston, during the last three months. Mr. Hill who is replaced at Naples by Lord Ponsonby, brother to the Countess Grey, will be entitled to a pension of £2,000 per annum as a re-

tired diplomatist, as well as Lord Heytesbury, Sir Charles Bagot, Mr. Percy, and Mr. Chad.

We understand that the private fortune of the bride elect of King Leopold, independently of her father, is upwards of £30,000 sterling per annum, and that Louis Philippe is expected to give £20,000 per annum more, so that her income will be £50,000 a year.

Lady Hannah Ellice, wife of Mr. Edward Ellice, of the Treasury, and sister to Earl Grey, died, on Saturday last, at Richmond Terrace in her 48th year.—Aug. 4.

HEROIC CONDUCT OF A LADY.—During the late Peninsular war, when Captain de Ducrown was employed on observation of the enemy's movements, he was frequently accompanied by his wife (a lovely and interesting woman.) On one occasion he was riding a little in advance, and came suddenly upon a French picket; the officer gave the word of command, the firelocks were raised, when his wife rushed forward between her husband and the enemy.—The French officer, with the gallantry of a brave man countermanded the order, raised his hat to the lady most courteously, who galloped off, returning his salute by waving her hand, while covering her husband's retreat.—From the *Journal of an Officer deceased*.

Lord Nugent is appointed Chief Commissioner of the Ionian Islands, in the room of Sir James Macdonald, deceased.

A London paper says, nothing could exceed the friendly reception of Lord Durham at St. Petersburg. The Emperor Nicholas not only visited him in person on board, a compliment very unusual, but on finding the crew of the *Talavera* at dinner, insisted on drinking our King's health in grog, and immediately invited Lord Durham and his family to a splendid fete at his Palace, at Peterhoff, and to the review of his army in the neighbourhood. The compliment of selecting a Cabinet Minister—a high Officer of state—a distinguished Reformer—and the son-in-law of our Premier, as the King's representative at St. Petersburg, does not seem to be thrown away on the Autocrat, and we trust he will show, by a cordial co-operation in the affairs relating to Holland, as well as by outward marks of satisfaction and gratitude, that he is not insensible to the motives which must have dictated such a choice. We can further add that the negotiation is proceeding with the most perfect good temper and feeling.

The news which we have from Don Pedro's expedition by the way of Spain, is such as to leave no hope for the cause of Constitutional government in Portugal. But happily it comes through a channel which is always subject to doubt.

The deaths by Cholera in Paris on the 8th, were 24. On the 6th, 35.

The loan of 150 millions of francs has been taken by a company consisting of Rothschild, Brothers, Hoatings & Co., John Charles Davillier, at 98½ 50, for 5 per cent rentes.

The presentation of the colours to the first regiment of Foot Guards on Tuesday, by his Majesty, was an unexampled honour, it being unprecedented for a British monarch to have presented any regiment with a standard.

On Monday morning last, at 8 o'clock, Birr Castle, in the King's County, Ireland, the magnificent residence of the Earl of Rosse, was discovered to be on fire, and though every exertion was used by the inhabitants of the town of Parsons-town, adjoining which it is situated, the entire pile of building, with the exception of a small portion, was completely consumed before evening. The furniture, paintings and books, were in a great measure saved.

LONDON, August 26. Nothing has transpired in the course of the week which would lead us to believe that Ministers have as yet come to any determination on a subject of a sitting of Parliament to amend the Reform Bill. Every post, however, brings new complaints of newly discovered disfranchisement, through the operation of the clauses; and although some time must be allowed to the members for repose, after the extraordinary labours of the last eighteen months we cannot believe that the Government which conceived and carried into effect the great measure of Parliamentary Reform will allow the mass of the people to be robbed of its benefits, from some trifling errors in the wording of the details. In the meantime, however, the members of the administration have, with a very pardonable anxiety, sought for that relaxation which their long confinement to the business of the offices rendered absolutely necessary for the preservation of their health. We believe, indeed, that with the exception of Lord Melbourne, who is confined to his house from illness, and Lord Palmerston, who still toils in the foreign office, there is not a member of the Cabinet in or near the metropolis. What Lord Palmerston may ultimately show as the fruit of his labours it would be presumptuous in us to foretell; but, at the present moment, we may say, with much fear of contradiction, that the state of Belgium, of Poland, of Greece, and of Portugal casts a stigma on modern diplomacy which it will require all the powers of the Noble Lord to efface, even if they are used with an energy far beyond that which any portion of his past career as a statesman gives us reason to expect.

TRIAL OF COLLINS FOR THE ASSAULT UPON HIS MAJESTY.—The trial took place on Wednesday at the Town Hall, Abingdon before Mr. Quet and Mr. Baron Guernsey. The prisoner Bosanquet was indicted for high treason. There were five counts, which charged him with throwing two stones at his Majesty, with intent to kill him, with intent to do him some bodily harm, tending to the destruction of his Majesty, and with intent to maim and wound him, &c. The prisoner, during the trial, conducted himself as if he were quite indifferent as to the issue of the trial. The Counsel for the Crown, (five in number) were—the Attorney-General, Mr. Jervis, K. C. Mr. Campbell, K. C. Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Maule. For the prisoner, Mr. Swabey and Mr. Carrington. The witnesses examined were Capt. Smith, R. N.

Mr. B. Turner, Col. Wood and Earl Brownlow; Gardner, the officer; and Mr. Elliott, the committing Magistrate. The defence set up was, that the prisoner was under the influence of insanity at the time of throwing the stones. Mr. Swabey, in addressing the Jury, alluded to the prisoner having drank a great deal of porter on the day in question, to his having been labouring under the effects of a wound in his head, and to his being under a due sense of grievances inflicted on him. "What," said the learned counsel, "could the Jury think of the intellects of a poor individual, who would assault the King of England, surrounded by his Court, and thousands of his loving subjects?" Mr. Carrington, in addressing the Jury, said it seemed singular to him, that so poor, weak, and imbecile an individual as the prisoner at the bar, should have been placed there on so solemn and important a charge as that of high treason. It might have been supposed that a body of men, to the number of some hundreds or thousands, constituting themselves into a society, and threatening to march from Birmingham to London in a body and force the Legislature to comply with their demands for a particular law, were much fitter subjects for a prosecution for high treason than the poor fragment of a man who stood at the bar. He would put it to the learned Attorney-General's candour to admit it. The Attorney-General observed that such political allusions were made in very bad taste. The object was to influence those gentlemen of the Jury who might by chance differ from the great body of their countrymen on the political questions which had lately agitated the country. The insanity of the prisoner had in no way been proved, and if such a defence should be established, at no time hereafter would the lives of his Majesty's subjects be safe from persons in the station and circumstances of the prisoner, who might be under the same temporary influencing causes. The Jury found the prisoner "guilty of throwing the stones with intent to do his Majesty some bodily harm." Mr. Justice Bosanquet then sentenced the prisoner to be drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, there to be hanged, of which his head to be severed from his body which should be divided into quarters, and disposed of according to the orders of his Majesty. Mr. Justice Bosanquet said, in the course of the address, "Prisoner you have stated that you are sorry for the offence you have committed; if so, you can only prove your sincere contrition and repentance to your Sovereign, whom you have injured; it is to him alone you can apply, and in him alone rests the power of sparing your forfeited life." Some have inferred from this, that a pardon will be granted to the prisoner. The trial excited very little interest at Abingdon.

Collins, the poor insane, who was left for execution at Abingdon, after being found guilty of treason, has very properly been made an object of the royal clemency. All who read the circumstances detailed on the trial were convinced of the propriety of such a course—indeed, no one could in our times have contemplated the possibility of the sentence being carried into effect. The offender is, like Margaret Nicholson and others, to be confined for life; and we are not quite certain, however strange it may seem, that the commission of the highest crime known to our laws will not materially better the man's condition, and enable him to spend the remainder of his days in comparative comfort. To the poor destitute sailor, even if he be treated according to his rank, the ordinary allowances served will be a great addition to his animal enjoyments.—London Observer.

Assault on His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.—CANTERBURY.—On Wednesday night, about seven o'clock, his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury arrived here, to hold a primary visitation of the diocese. It had been previously arranged by the corporation to receive him in the usual way at the Guildhall, where a sumptuous dinner was arranged. It is probable that the Archbishop is not very popular on account of his opposition to the reform Bill; all, however, would have passed off quietly but for the indiscreet zeal of one of the Aldermen, who insisted upon apprehending a drunken sailor, as being a person likely to commit some act of outrage. The Alderman, however, had him taken into custody, and charged the people in the King's name to assist him in the apprehension. The crowd were not disposed to allow him to remain in custody under such a trumpety pretext, and took him away, inveighing against the corporation for spending the public money upon an Archbishop, when there were so many deserving poor in absolute want. From this moment the mob became excited, and heaped all manner of abuse upon those who endeavoured to promote harmony. No sooner had the carriage of the Archbishop appeared in sight, than the most deafening noise rent the air; and when his Grace arrived at the Guildhall, the groans and hisses were tremendous. The venerable man seemed quite unnerfed; he shook violently, and made the best of his way into the building, the doors of which were instantly closed. After he had partaken of the carriage was immediately ordered to the ladies, the dearest and every thing the ladies could collect. Unluckily the postillions being unacquainted with the city, directed the coach towards St. Margaret's, instead of Mercery-lane; the mob had therefore more time to gather weapons, and again furiously assailed the carriage.

The writer of the account from which we have made these selections, concluded by saying, "I am pleased to say not a reformer was present assisting, except to restore order. His Grace received no injury, although I understand one of the carriage windows was broken. Subsequent accounts from Canterbury state, that the inhabitants had signed an address expressive of the indignation they feel at the late outrage upon his Grace."

SCOTLAND.

TAM O' THE COWGATE.

This ludicrous name was conferred by King James the Sixth, of facetious memory, upon one of the most sagacious and respectable of his counsellors, the first Earl of Haddington, who happened to reside in that dingy, and now much despised street, the Cowgate of Edinburgh. Thomas Hamilton, who raised himself by his talents from the Scottish bar to the peerage, and became the founder of a great family, was, perhaps, the most remarkable practical man of his age, next to Napier of Merchiston, and possibly one or two others; yet he is hardly known to the present generation. We happen to be able to remedy this defect to a very surprising degree; for circumstances have put us in possession of a number of traditions, and historical anecdotes respecting him, such as may bring him almost alive before the minds of a modern reader, in full connection