

people,—as in that part of the year the greatest number attend, not being so much kept away by field work. These evils are of no small magnitude. There is hope, however, of their being gradually removed by the erection of more commodious and convenient structures.

Public worship takes place on Sundays and festivals, at about ten in the morning. As this cannot always be conducted by the pastor, who has to supply, perhaps, two or three villages, the schoolmaster often fills his place. He reads a sermon from some book sanctioned by the pastor. Those generally employed for this purpose are Brastberger's, Schoner's, and Francke's. Prayers are read from the books of Arndt and Schmolk; and the hymns in use comprise 823, from the Marburg hymn-book. The bells, of which there are one, two, or three in each church, are rung an hour before service-time. During the service two or three members of the 'Church-board,' whose office it is to aid the pastor in preserving order, carry round purses, with little bells affixed, to receive the free-will offerings of the congregation. In the afternoon children and adults are catechised; if this be conducted by the pastor, it is usually upon the gospel for the day, or some other passage of Scripture; if by the schoolmaster, he merely asks the questions contained in the catechism used at school, and reads one or two chapters from the Bible. Of late, adults, especially married people, had neglected these meetings, and hence increasing ignorance of the word of God was observable; for but a small portion is read during public worship, and it is very rarely attended to in the house.

The houses of the preachers are nearly all alike, and mostly of wood. They contain six spacious rooms, together with out-houses, stable, cow-shed, &c. The whole are kept in repair by the congregation, and there are usually annexed an orchard of apple and cherry trees, and a couple of acres of land for vegetable produce. The situation is generally good, and even picturesque.

#### NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

The English Mail of the 24th March, by the steam-ship *Nagara*, arrived at Halifax on Thursday last, at half-past 2 o'clock, P. M., and the Express, by horse to Granville, and thence by the Steamer *Herald*, reached this City at a quarter past eight on Friday morning. The news was forthwith telegraphed to the United States, and published in the afternoon from the office of the *New Brunswick*, in this City.

Prices of timber and deals were about the same as at the departure of the previous Mail.

#### LIVERPOOL, March 24.

The general tone of commercial affairs during the last fortnight, although not of an active character, has been satisfactory. Much of the gloominess which had been caused by the news from India, which reached London in the beginning of the month, has been dissipated by subsequent accounts from Bombay and Calcutta. The Cotton market has been quiet, and prices are again a point lower. From the manufacturing districts there are satisfactory reports, and although there has been less activity in the market for manufactured goods, there is not any diminution in the extent of employment. There is still a good demand for Cured Provisions, and most articles brought to market find ready buyers. The intelligence brought by the last Overland Mail is of an encouraging nature. Trade both at Bombay, Calcutta, and Canton had improved, and business generally at all these places was in a healthy state. The supply of Money continues abundant, and of late there has been less disposition to borrow. First class paper is asked after, but of such there is little on offer, and the rates are 2½ to 3. On call the bankers will not give more than 2 per cent., and are quite indifferent about receiving it.

A further decline has taken place in the Corn Markets, and Western Canal Flour is selling at the reduced price of 23s. per barrel. This fall produced some speculation in the article for a few days, and an advance of 3d. to 6d. per barrel; but 23s. is now the fair quotation for the above description, as well as for Philadelphia and Baltimore, though for Ohio of prime quality 24s. is obtained. American Wheat 6s. to 7s. per 70 lb.; Indian Corn 27s. for inferior white, up to 29s. per quarter for the best yellow, in moderate demand. Indian Corn Meal 13s. 6d. per barrel.

Cotton had further declined ¼d. per lb., but since the receipt of the Indian accounts has rallied a little, and is now considered to be only ¼d. lower than on this day fortnight. The sales for the week ended 16th inst. were, 31,600 bales, of which 8,000 was on speculation, and 3,100 for export; and this week's business amounts to 29,290 bales, of which speculators have taken 2,600, and exported 3,800 bales. The Stock in Liverpool is now about 408,000 bales, of which about 250,000 is American Cotton.

The cholera is fast disappearing in England and Scotland. The total number of cases is 14,384, of which more than 12,000 were in Scotland—total deaths, 3473.

With reference to the state of Europe, the *Times* says—"An armistice in Northern Italy, an armistice in Sicily, and an armistice in Denmark were the result of British intervention in three several disputes, and afforded a temporary suspension of the hostilities commenced upon these respective points last summer. The real value of those diplomatic achievements of our agents abroad and at home may now be fairly appreciated. In Italy, in Denmark, and possibly in Sicily, the negotiations commenced on the basis of these conventions, and alluded to in Her Majesty's speech with a confidence we did not share, have proved ineffectual, and war or the preliminaries of war have recommenced under circumstances of increased difficulty. We have never placed the slightest reliance on these 'mock mediations.' It would indeed have given us unfeigned satisfaction if the well-meant endeavours of the British Government had been crowned with success; but it was easy to perceive that none of the real causes of strife had in any of these cases been removed, and that by interfering to prevent a termination of these campaigns by the ascendancy of the victorious party we were, in fact, postponing the definitive solution, and encouraging the hopes of those who had already shown their own liability to establish their cause by force of arms. There is every reason to believe that if these suspensions of arms had not taken place when they did, the pressure of the Danish blockade of the German ports would have compelled the German Government to withdraw from Schleswig; that Marshal Radetzky would have compelled the Sardinian Government to accept a peace on the *status quo ante bellum*; and that Palermo, like Messina, would have submitted to the King of the Two Sicilies. If the sole, or principal object of the English Government were the restoration of peace, and the re-establishment of rights which had been assailed by force of revolt and war, that object has unhappily not only been effected, but it has been rendered more distant and improbable than it was in the month of August of last year."

PARLIAMENT.—The second reading of the Bill for the repeal of the Navigation Laws, took place in the House of Commons on the 12th March. Mr Harris moved an amendment, that the Bill be read a second time that day six months, which was rejected by a majority of 56. There were 476 members present.

The army and navy estimates have been carried by majorities quite as large as heretofore. The long threatened opposition of Mr. Hume and Mr. Cobden has subsided into the meekest disclaimer in the House of Commons against the present alleged excessive number of troops and seamen; the most insignificant minorities have supported the financial reformers, the vast body of the nation perceiving clearly that Government, with the restricted power it has, is doing every thing to cut down expenses, without impairing the general efficiency of the public service. The events in India have roused the British feeling so long kept in abeyance; and that same spirit of valour which has raised England to her present height of glory is breaking forth only with more ardour, because it has been of late years so much suppressed. It is quite plain that the cry of "ships, colonies, and commerce," was never more popular than at this moment; and Mr. Hume and Sir William Molesworth, who think our colonies incommensurate, have taken especial care to repudiate any intention whatever of parting with any of "the jewels of the British crown," however they condemn the practice of keeping so large a military force for their defence and maintenance.

In the House of Commons, on the 22d, Mr. Gladstone rose, and asked the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies the three following questions:—

1. Whether any instructions have been given to the Governor-General of Canada as to the course which he is to pursue, in the event of its being proposed to him by his advisers to allow them to introduce into the House of Assembly any bill giving compensation to any persons known to have been implicated in the rebellions of 1837 and 1838, on account of the damage sustained by them in those rebellions, or in the event of the passing any such bill through the two Houses of the Provincial Legislature?

2. Whether according to the usage of Canada, if any such bill should have passed through both Houses of the Legislature, and should have become an act by the Governor-General's assent, without a suspending clause, the money thereby authorised to be paid would be payable forthwith, or before her Majesty's servants had had an opportunity of advising her Majesty with respect to the allowance or disallowance of such act?

3. When any official intelligence had been received respecting such a bill; and if so, whether the Government were prepared to lay such intelligence before the House?

Mr. Hawes, in reply to the first question, said that no instructions whatever had been given to Lord Elgin in reference to such a bill, or in contemplation of any such measure.—The Colonial Secretary had entire confidence in the discretion of the Governor-General. In reply to the second question, he observed that all colonial bills, whether money bills, or otherwise, having passed through their formal stages, and received the assent of the crown through its representatives in the colonies, came into immediate operation, unless they contained a suspending clause. To the third question, he replied that no despatches whatever had been received from Lord Elgin with reference to a measure like that alluded to. He had, therefore, no official information on the subject to lay before the House.

DEATH OF THE KING OF HOLLAND.—We regret to announce the death of His Majesty William II., King of the Netherlands. According to the accounts we have received, he died at the Hague on Saturday last, of inflammation of the lungs. He had only completed his 57th year in October last. He is succeeded by his son, now William III.

Mrs. JOHN MITCHELL.—A northern correspondent of the *Southern Reporter* states that Mrs. John Mitchell is about to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope, to join her husband there. Her five children go with her.

THE CHOLERA.—From the central depot in the South cholera is rapidly spreading into the rural districts, and hitherto with deadly effect. On Saturday there were nine cases of Asiatic cholera in Ennis, and two deaths; and on Sunday morning the number reached fourteen, and the deaths eight. In the miserable district of Ennistymon the disease had also appeared, and so ill-prepared is the population from previous misery and debility, that the disease is likely to find there a wide field.

The west and south of Ireland appear to be in a deplorable state. Several frightful murders are reported. The cholera is committing extensive ravages in Limerick.

DISAFFECTION IN ULSTER.—Lord Londonderry has addressed a remarkable circular to his Lordship's tenantry, in the North. Making reasonable allowance for the due right of remonstrance and petition against an obnoxious tax, the noble Marquis roundly rebukes the tone adopted by certain noble lords at recent meetings in Down and Antrim, adding the following emphatic declaration—"I have perhaps more right to my opinion than many whom I address, as personally the burden will fall heavier on me, and I was at first fully disposed to resist it; but, could I for one moment believe that the advice tendered at the late meetings in Ulster would be followed, and that not only resistance would be made, but that it is proclaimed that it would take 50,000 if not 500,000 men to collect this rate-in-aid, I would not only support the measure with all civil interest and power, but as an old soldier I should consider myself bound to enforce the law against my own tenants and adherents; so firmly and irrevocably am I determined ever to uphold my loyalty to the Sovereign Power and the will of the united Parliament."

DEATH OF THE BLACK PRINCE.—Louis Christophe, the *soi-disant* Prince of Hayti, who figured so prominently towards the close of last year at some of the police courts, died on Sunday last in the workhouse of St. George's in the East, and was buried there on Wednesday. The Black Prince, as he called himself, had been several times committed as a rogue and vagabond, and had been for some time in the workhouse.

Captain Joseph Johnston, late of this port, and late of the ship *Columbia*, has received from her Majesty a beautiful silver medal, commemorative of his being present at the engagement between the Shannon and Chesapeake.

The West India steamer *Dee*, which is daily expected, will, there is every reason to believe, bring the largest amount of specie (£800,000 sterling) ever brought to this country by a merchant vessel. The largest amount of specie ever brought to this country by a man-of-war was £1,000,000.—London News.

William Rankin, a private of the 53d Regt, was last week married to Miss MacLaurin, heiress to £15,000, who was given away by her father.

FRANCE.—The intelligence from France continues to be of an uninteresting and unimportant character. The public attention continues to centre in the trials at Bourges, of the political prisoners. The papers contain the details respecting a magnificent fete given by President Bonaparte on Thursday night. Upwards of 2200 persons were present. The *Times* correspondent observes that, "Fetes, concerts, banquets, and balls are becoming so numerous, are given on so large a scale, and attract such crowds, as to almost require the daily labour of a minister for that department alone.—Confidence has made rapid advances in the public mind."

The composition of the corps destined for some point in Italy was as follows:—A brigade formed of the 20th and 33d regiments of the line, under the command of General Mollier; a brigade formed of the 36th and 66th regiments of the line, under General Levaillant. A mounted battery of eight guns and a company of engineers are attached to each of the brigades. A company of engineers had arrived at Sisteron, and a battery of artillery, stationed at Aix, was about to march to Marseilles. The order to depart was hourly expected.

RUSSIA AND AUSTRIA.—A Vienna paper gives an account of a grand review at St. Petersburg, where the Czar addressed 40,000 of his troops in the following style—"In the present aspect of affairs in Austria, I hold you bound to assist my friend the Emperor, should he stand in need of further aid." Loud vivats for the Emperor of Austria rent the air at the conclusion of this speech.

The *Concordia* of Turin has a letter from St. Petersburg of the 23d ult., asserting that the Russo-Austrian alliance is based on the following stipulations:—A marriage between the Emperor of Austria and the Grand Princess Anne; an offensive and defensive alliance; the reception of Turkey into this alliance; the maintenance of the treaties of 1815; and a guarantee of the claims of Denmark on the Dutchies of Schleswig and Holstein.

Correspondence from Constantinople of the 25th ult. states, that General Bem and the Hungarians had been defeated in Transylvania by the combined Austrian and Russian troops, and that the Russians claim the honor of the victory. The Russians had called for reinforcements.

ROME.—Preparations for War.—Father Prouty writing from Rome on the 4th, says:—"Every activity is displayed in the war department; and, come what may, it will be no child's work to put down this revolution. There are about 130,000 men here with muskets in their hands; there are about 15,000 more armed men in Tuscany; and any intervention that takes place must not be under a force of 40,000 regular troops to be kept here for an indefinite period. Who's to pay?"

The principle of the intervention in favour of the Pope, by France, Austria, Spain and Naples, has been settled, so that all to be decided upon now are the proportions to be assigned to each power in the work of re-establishing the Pope.

INDIA AND CHINA.—We have received, in anticipation of the Overland Mail, intelligence from the army of the Punjab up to the 3d, from Lahore and Mooltan to the 4th, from Calcutta to the 7th, and from Bombay to the 13th of February.

Our letters come down to the 3d of February, at which period Lord Gough was busily occupied in fortifying his camp. Shere Singh's army was about four miles' distance from the Commander-in-Chief's camp. It was generally supposed in Lord Gough's camp that nothing would be done in the way of offensive operations till the arrival of reinforcements from Mooltan and Lahore.

The conduct of the 14th Dragoons had been very freely commented upon. The papers of the north-west teem with letters on this painful subject; both sides are advocated, but as great a mystery hangs over the whole affair now as at the time of its occurrence; nothing short of a most searching inquiry into this business will satisfy the public mind, to say nothing of the wish on the part of the gallant officers concerned to have all doubts cleared up as to the cause of this alleged disgraceful movement.

Lieutenant Bowie, who had been taken in Peshawar, arrived in Lord Gough's camp on his parole on the 27th of January, being the bearer of some proposals from Shere Singh, but nothing had transpired as to their nature. It was understood, however, that Lord Gough would hear of nothing but "unconditional surrender."

#### Bible Society in Italy—The Bible in Rome.

How will the followers of Christ in every place rejoice to learn that the Word of God is likely to be received by that down-trodden people whom Pius IX. could no longer control.

The "Book of books" is beginning to find its proper position in Papal Rome. A letter from Marseilles, dated February 19, to the New York Evangelist, says that a large edition of Deodati's translation of the Bible is in press in the city of Rome, and an edition of 3000 copies of Martini's version, in Florence. A new translation of the Testament will soon go to press in Rome. The British and Foreign Bible Society hold themselves in readiness to meet the utmost demand upon them for Bibles and Testaments in Italy.—The London Tract Society have undertaken to publish, for distribution in Italy, the Life of John Newton, Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, and other religious works.

But the good work does not stop here. A Bible Society, auxiliary to the British and Foreign, has been formed in one of the chief cities of Italy—English, American, French, Swiss and *Italians* taking part in the organization. This, says the Rev. Dr. Baird, is the first Bible Society ever formed in Italy proper.

#### THE CRISIS AT ROME.

Never was human foresight more baffled, than it is in the attempt to reach the issue of the question—Whether the Pope is to be restored by force. At first view it might seem a clear case, that such powerful nations as are interested in his restoration, might easily effect it; or that Austria alone, backed by Russia, as she is, has only to speak the word and it is done. The new Roman republic is but a frail antagonist for such vast nations. But Providence has made the Pope's fortune a part of a tangled web, which is not easily unravelled.—The Pope's restoration may commence a tragedy that will involve all Europe. And then suppose that he is restored by force to a nation which he has excommunicated, and a nation which has by regular utterance of its will, deposed him; a nation of course pledged to hate and resist him. What will be the moral force of the papacy on the world from that time forth—the papacy reigning by foreign bayonets, in spite of the declared will of its subjects? It is indeed questionable, whether a Pope in exile would not exert more real influence in the world, than a Pope in Rome, crushing his own subjects with borrowed thunders. This spectacle will be odious in itself, and will serve a grand purpose in revealing the true odiousness of popery. The truth is, that in any course of events which now seems possible, the Thunderer is disarmed—he has become negatively electrified, and will rather draw, than shoot the shafts of flame.