

GREAT BRITAIN, &c.

LONDON, August 22.

The strength of the Russian army has this morning been estimated at 150,000 men, which is a very large force for a country of the size of Europe.

The French papers of Tuesday, and the Gazette of France of Wednesday, have been received. They do not contain any news from the army.

The first division of the expedition to the Morea has sailed from Toulon. On Sunday last a telegraphic despatch from General Maison announced that the troops had embarked, and that he was about to embark.

We are sorry to state that no certain tidings have yet been received relative to the Russian Admiral's ship. The reports at Portsmouth are that she has been wrecked, and that some of her crew, and several spars, have been picked up at sea.

The French Session of Parliament closed on Monday last by Royal Proclamation. The French differ in this respect from us—they have no speech, and perhaps it is just as well, for most of the speeches with which we are acquainted endeavour to say nothing, or rather so to disguise matters, that people are often led in the dark, and completely puzzled in reconciling why they do things with what they are told they do not know, though referring to the same events.

Letters have been received from Madeira dated the 23d of July, at which time they were perfectly aware that an expedition was coming against them, for which due preparations were making to the Miguelites a warm reception.

THE DUKE OF CLARENCE AND MR. PEEL. (From the Age.)

The engaging topic of conversation in all well informed quarters relates to the announced resignation of the Duke of Clarence, and the rumoured retirement of Mr. Peel from the Ministry.

For the former of these steps many reasons are assigned. We—alone, we believe—some time ago mentioned, as delicately as we could, the disagreement between the Duke of Wellington and the Lord High Admiral with respect to money matters.

How far any, or all these causes operated, we shall not attempt to decide—but the fact is, that His Royal Highness did actually tender his resignation on Monday, and it was, we believe, finally accepted on Saturday.

The high respect we entertain for the Royal Family prevents us from offering any unkind remarks upon this occurrence. We fully appreciate the zeal for the naval service, and the great activity displayed during his holding office, by the Duke of Clarence, and much regret that his giving it up should be rendered disagreeable. As far, however, as the public service is concerned, we cannot anticipate any inconvenience by a recurrence to the system of government which reared the naval supremacy of this country to its unexampled greatness.

It will be more convenient also that the need of the Admiralty should be in the hands of a man who has been reduced to his proper dimensions—he was taught to feel that he was an underling, and we are quite sure, that Lord Melville, if he returns, as is probable, to his old office, will not so far forget the honest Secretary's conduct towards him in his fallen state, as to restore the gentleman to his old arrogant mastery over his superiors.

On Saturday we asserted that there was not the least truth in the report of Mr. Peel's resignation—and to-day we are declared from authority, to repeat our assertion. The reports of the Right Honorable Gentleman's retirement, or contemplated retirement, are without the shadow of foundation. This official contradiction will, we are almost sure, be sufficient for our contemporary who declined "reposing confidence in our statements, till he had another indorsement from their authenticity."

It is ludicrous to observe how eagerly the opponents of the Ministry catch up the most improbable tale that knaves invent, and fools circulate. Again— "We disdained imposing upon our readers what we did not ourselves believe! We guarded the public against the delusion of having those who chose to believe a falsehood to enjoy the advantage and felicity of their choice."

We do not say this in the way of blame, but of caution. Every Journal is liable to error; but it is always prudent, before we bring a charge against others, to be quite sure that the same charge may not be brought against ourselves.

Having thus shewn that not only the cause assigned for Mr. Peel's resignation did not exist, but that the report of his resignation, for any cause, was wholly without foundation, we are sure our readers will excuse us for not entering into any long discussion of the merits or demerits of the currency bill, further than to say, that it will be sensible enough to prefer Mr. Hume, as a sensible or practical man, to Mr. Baring, who shall refuse our assent to the position, that—its elementary principle has been found fallacious—that it has been voted absurd by all sensible men, and unjust and injurious in its operation, by all practical ones."

DOWING-STREET, AUGUST 14.

The King has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant General Sir James Kempt, G. C. B. to be Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, New-Brunswick, and the Island of Prince Edward.

The King has been pleased to appoint Major General Sir Peregrine Maitland, K. C. B. to be Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Nova Scotia, and its Dependencies.

The King has been pleased to appoint Major General Sir John Colborne, K. C. B. to be Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Upper Canada.

EVACUATION OF THE MOREA.—On Saturday we announced the important fact of Ibrahim Pacha having expressed his willingness to evacuate the Morea, upon being furnished with the means of returning to Egypt.

The evacuation of the Morea, upon being furnished with the means of returning to Egypt. This determination was the consequence of despatches conveyed by the RIFLEMAN, English brig, from the Pacha of Egypt to Ibrahim, and to the English Admiral. The Commander of the British, French, and Russian squadrons had a conference with Ibrahim at Modon, on the 6th ultimo. They required to know from the Egyptian Chief the nature of the answer which he had received from his father, and whether his new instructions embraced the immediate evacuation of the Morea.

Ibrahim replied, that they did, in the fullest and most unequivocal manner; that he was consequently prepared to depart with all his forces, and that he only waited for transports to convey them home. The Admiral then stated, that in evacuating the country, they had orders from their respective Governments to prevent him from carrying off any of the Greeks as slaves, and therefore that his Greek captives must be liberated as a preliminary to his departure.

To this condition the Pacha consented in the fullest and readiest manner, declaring that he would embark without a single Greek prisoner. The Christian Commanders then introduced the subject of the numerous Greek slaves who had already been transported to Egypt, and demanded in the name of their Governments, the liberation of these unfortunate beings. To this demand the Pacha refused to give any satisfactory answer. The captives in question he said, had been sold, distributed, or dispersed all over the country, and could not easily be recovered, collected, or restored. He therefore declined to make any engagement on this head.

The French expedition is the work of the three Powers, and upon its departure a joint declaration will be issued by the three Ministers, M. Guilleminet, M. Ribaupierre, and Mr. S. Canning, of the motives and objects of the expedition. If the crescent be displaced from the Acropolis, and other flags displayed, they will be, not the WHITE FLAG alone of France, but the flags of the other two powers.

Several Englishmen of distinction will serve in the expedition as volunteers, and English men of war will be employed to convey troops, stores, and ammunition.

EXPEDITION TO THE MOREA. TOULON, August 13.

Since yesterday the preparations for the sailing of the expedition have been carried on with double activity. Already five regiments of infantry are embarked, and the orders from Paris have become more pressing, General Maison has expressed the intention of sailing on the morning of the 16th, without waiting for the third chassours, which had only been directed to reach Toulon on the 18th, but to which fresh orders had been sent to arrive here by forced marches.

Sailors and soldiers are in high glee and spirits. They know very well they are going to a country where there is nothing to get, but all are pleased with the object of the expedition. This city is so filled with soldiers and visitors, that no lodgings are to be found, and many families are yet expected from Marseilles to witness the departure of the expedition. Mr. Fabrice the engineer from Samos, stated this morning on board the brig of war La Rosa.

The first division will consist of 9,000 men. During its departure General Schneider will organize his brigade, which will also promptly set sail.

It is known, says the Courier Francais, after giving the above letter, by telegraphic despatch which we published yesterday, the fleet sailed on the 17th.

There are letters from Oporto of the 10th, which state, that "down to that date the persons and property of the English at Oporto remained perfectly unmolested."

PORTUGAL.—The letters received from Oporto are of the 11th inst. They are of the most desponding description; as the English ships of war are withdrawn; the merchants are left at the mercy of the furious Miguelists, and appear to have previously felt the lash of the despot. Several more of our countrymen have been thrown into prison, upon the slightest accusations; the rumour of suspicion is quite sufficient to the lawless authorities to seize the most respectable merchants, particularly if there is any property to be confiscated. We lately stated that an English gentleman had lately been imprisoned for importing some London newspapers. A Frenchman is in goal for having read one of these unfortunate papers; and he is placed in a dungeon. This event may probably change favorable to the English residents. The letters received from Oporto express deep disgust at the apathy of the English Ministers; one of them says, "there was a time when an Englishman, in the most remote quarter of the globe, might say, if oppression threatened him—'beware the bulldog;—now the spaniel is the most appropriate expression.'"

AUGUST 23.

The last accounts from Lisbon and Oporto, are still as gloomy as formerly, and represent the situation of the British residents as baneful and dangerous in the extreme. Much indignation is justly felt by those residents, at the neglect which they experience from their own Government, from whom they had a right to expect countenance and protection. It is now said the British Government has at length been roused to a sense of disgrace into which it is falling on this account, and that measures

are about to be taken to force Don Miguel to respect the rights and liberties of our subjects. Sir John Doyle still remains in confinement, but is expected to be soon liberated.

IMPORTANT TO BRITISH SHIP OWNERS.

We have, from time to time, commented upon the New Customs Act, and made strong allusions to the very great importance likely to arise from the low duty, of only four pence per cwt. leviable here by the 10th instant, on FOREIGN Cotton Wool, imported from British possessions. We hinted the possibility of nearly all the Cotton of the United States reaching this Country through the British ships only, and (owing to difference in duty) not a pound in United States' ships. Two difficulties presented themselves:—the one, would the United States permit a British vessel to take Cotton from the States to a British colony? the second was, after being at such a colony, would our Government allow it, on reaching England, to be considered as an "importation," unless the owner was to pay the partly nullifying expense of landing and re-shipping the Cotton in such British possession. We think both difficulties may be got over, and are strongly of opinion that any British vessel may take in a cargo of Cotton at New-York, may touch at the nearest intermediate British colony, and without the expense of landing, bring the same on to Liverpool and land it here at the low duty of four pence per cwt. (instead of 8 shillings, if Sea Island, or three shillings per cwt. if Howeds) and that without the contravention of any treaty, or the infraction of any bond or obligation imposed by either the United States or this country.

The United States provide by sec. 2, chap. 352, dated the 8th April, 1818, that in case of non-reciprocity, a British vessel loading any American produce in the United States shall give bond, that she shall not be landed in some port or place other than a port or place in a colony or territory of His Britannic Majesty. We do not want to land the cotton in such colony—but this act does not prevent the vessel calling at such British possession, and reporting her cargo for exportation. So much for the first difficulty as applying to the United States.

Now let us see how it will be dealt with on reaching this country; by the act 6, Geo. IV. cap. 107, sec. 34, "no Goods shall be entered as being of or from any British possessions in America (if any benefit attach to such distinction) unless there be produced a due clearance of such ship with such goods from thence." Now a vessel importing a cargo into England from any place, and reporting the same for exportation, undergoes without landing her cargo, the same process as a British vessel in America, enter her cargo for export, obtain a clearance without landing her cargo, and on the production of such clearance in Liverpool, land United States' Cotton at the low duty of four pence per cwt. without the contravention of any law or regulation, either American or British.—Liverpool Chronicle.

LONDON, AUG. 22.—It is very confidently asserted this afternoon at the west end of the town, and repeated in the City, that all matters of difference between the Duke of Clarence and the Duke of Wellington, have been arranged, and that the former, in consequence, will continue to execute the duties of Lord High Admiral.

CAMP BEFORE CHOUMLA, JULY 27.—After the happy result of our operations on the 20th, the Emperor ordered the 3d corps to fortify the position that had just been taken from the Turks. Those works were completed with extraordinary rapidity on the night of the 30th.

On the 21st our troops approached Choumla, without meeting with any opposition. From the 22d to the 26th we prosecuted our operations, the object of which was to invest the enemy more and more closely. Every night we erect redoubts nearer to the Camp of Choumla. Hitherto we have not been interrupted in these works by attacks or otherwise.

Yesterday a division of heavy artillery and a battery of Congreve rockets arrived from Brailow. Hussein Pacha occupies Choumla with 40 or 50,000 men; but what increases the strength of his position is the circumstance that his intrenchments are this time on all the heights which were formerly neglected; and, being out of the town, entirely command it.

General Roth invested Silistria on the 21st; the resistance made by the enemy on the occasion only caused him considerable loss; and the Turks, being driven into their works, lost on the first day the greater part of the vineyards which surround Silistria, and in which they formerly used to maintain their positions.

AUGUST 31.

His Grace the Duke of WELLINGTON may pretty fairly appreciate the estimation in which he is held, from perceiving the respect, the enthusiasm, the affection evinced by the public towards him during his visit at Cheltenham—the ball, which he honoured with his presence, his reception was most gratifying, and at the theatre the acclamations of the audience were long and loud—His Grace rises early, but before seven the walks which he is expected to frequent are thronged with the most fashionable company; and such is the activity of the Duke's mind, and his indefatigable attention to public business, that in the midst of all this healthful relaxation, and cheering gaiety, his Grace, unattended as he is by a single Secretary or official attendant, receives his despatches from London, and regularly answers them, writing all his letters with his own hand.

We have to announce the death of that most able and distinguished officer, Sir HENRY TORRENS, which occurred while he was on a visit at Welwyn, in Hertfordshire—he was born in 1779, and was educated at the Military Academy in Dublin; he entered the 52d Regiment in 1793, in 1794, he obtained a Lieutenancy, and in 1795 exchanged to the 63d, with which corps he served under Sir RALPH ABERCROMBIE, in the West Indies, where he was severely wounded.

SEPTEMBER 2.

Last night we received the Paris papers by express; there was also an arrival of the Hamburg Papers to the 30th, of the Prussian State Gazette, to the 29th, and the Austrian Observer to the 22d ult. The Paris papers have only loose rumours, and still lesser speculations, on the subject of the war between the Russians and the Turks. The Austrian Observer contains all the Russian bulletins up to the arrival of the Emperor at Odessa, but it has not the slightest hint respecting the reverses said to have been sustained by that army. The Hamburg papers, which give us the latest news to the 14th, and from Bucharest to the 10th, also allude to the subject of the pretended disasters. The advices from Odessa, after mentioning the arrival of the Emperor, accompanied by his brother the Duke Michael and Count Nesselrode, his Minister of Foreign Affairs, state that Lord Heytesbury, the English Ambassador, had also arrived there, without throwing, however, the least light

on the cause of these movements. It is stated, however, that the Emperor would make but a short stay at Odessa, and that he would return on the 20th, at which time the Imperial Guard, and other reinforcements, amounting altogether to 85,000 men, were expected to join the troops before Choumla. As soon as this junction was effected, a general attack was to be made, unless the surrender of that important fortress. The interval should render it unnecessary. The accounts from Bucharest announced that the plague had wholly disappeared from that place, though there were still some slight symptoms of it in the neighbourhood. The same accounts state that the situation of the Russians was very favorable; that they were close to the gates of Choumla; and that they expected to be masters of Silistria in very few days. The Prussian State Gazette, which has no news from the Russian army, contains the following particulars respecting the Turks:—A reinforcement of three thousand men had succeeded in getting into Varna, which certainly gives some countenance to the rumour of the Russians having suffered some severe check before that place. On the 5th of August, after a Council held at Constantinople, it was decided that the Grand Vizier should set out for the army, and on the same day his standards were placed before his palace. On the 7th his head quarters were to be at Danubio, and where the corps which he was to command was to be formed. This was at Adrianople by another of equal force. When the first officer of the Porte could only make such a demonstration as this at a period of unexampled peril, it speaks volumes as to the situation of that Power, whilst it, perhaps, justifies the most anxious feelings of the Emperor Ibrahim Pacha towards the faithful to the interests of the Sultan; and the last accounts from Corva confirm a former statement, that he had broken off the negotiations with the allies for the evacuation of the Morea.

It is stated, too, that his father, the Viceroy of Egypt, has sent an agent to Europe to negotiate a loan, and that he has selected for this purpose the chief partner of a house long established at Alexandria. The produce of the loan, it is supposed, is intended for the use of the Sultan; but whilst it is another proof of the exemplary fidelity of the Viceroy, we fear it will prove a sterile one, as he could not have chosen a worse moment for a negotiation of this kind.

(From the Monitor.)

Lembaugh, Aug. 17.—(Private Correspondence.)—Reports have just come to the head quarters of the Austrian troops in this province, announce that an extraordinary courier, despatched by Field Count Wittgenstein, had arrived at the head quarters at Lublin, with very important despatches from the Grand Duke Constantine. It was soon after reported at Lublin, that the Polish army would be immediately reviewed, and that a division of infantry, cavalry, and artillery would then commence its march to the Danube. It was added that these troops were to proceed to their destination by forced marches.

Corfu, July 23.—We have received news that 25 transports from Alexandria, with provisions and troops, have arrived at Navarino. It is added that Ibrahim Pacha has sent troops into the interior of the Morea to seize the corn and carry off all the cattle, and that these troops have every where committed devastation, and massacred some 25,000 persons. On receiving this news, the English and French Admirals sailed from the port on the 19th for Navarino.

(From the Gazette de France.)

Vienna, Aug. 21.—The hopes of peace that had been conceived at Odessa had vanished on the 11th. The cause of this change was not known, any more than the true reason of the Emperor's return. It is true that those who are about the Emperor have made communications to the French Consuls, which give reason to believe that an armistice has been concluded at the desire of Hussein Pacha; but it is certain that political affairs are so enveloped in mystery at Odessa, that the correspondents do not dare to risk a conjecture.

Constantinople, Aug. 6.—The accounts from the theatre of war, are still favorable to the Porte. Hussein writes, that up to the 2d, the attacks of the Russians upon Choumla, have been repulsed, and that the Emperor has caused the arrangements to be pressed on with great zeal. A select corps of 10,000 men, has set out for Adrianople, after being received by the Sultan. The departure of the Grand Vizier, for Adrianople, is also talked of.

BUCHAREST, Aug. 9.—All the accounts from Head Quarters are favourable to the Russians. Silistria is closely blockaded. The Turkish garrisons at Silistria, Calafat, and Widdin, which are very strong, make sallies, from time to time, into Great and little Wallachia. Considerable reinforcements are expected, which will put a stop to these invasions.

PARIS, Aug. 30.—Mr. Stratford Canning and the Marquis de Ribaupierre, left Ancona for Corfu, on the 8th of August; Mr. Canning on board the Talbot frigate; and M. de Ribaupierre on board the Ogla brig.

TORREY.—M. Eynard has published a letter he received from Count Cap d'Istria, of the 7th July. He is well satisfied with the attachment of the Greeks, and contradicts the ridiculous reports that have been spread on that subject. "My health," he says, "remains good, notwithstanding my laborious mode of life. Certain correspondents have taken the trouble to have me poisoned; others represented me as being daily surrounded by insurrections. In fact, the concoctors of such miserable stuff are wretched beings, wholly destitute of the gift of invention. I may say, without egotism, that the confidence which all, without exception—namely, the people—manifest towards me, enables me to sustain, with sentiments of inward satisfaction, the most arduous and laborious duties of my daily life; and assuredly, if I am equal to it, it is because this sentiment, and the Divine protection, strengthen me." The President makes afterwards his acknowledgments for the subsidies which the Emperor of Russia and the King of France sent to him in the hour of his greatest distress. He likewise expects assistance from the King of England. He further receives letters of congratulation from the King of Bavaria, and the King of Prussia, who have paid into the National Bank. "His Majesty the King of Bravaria," continues Count Cap d'Istria, "has condescended to write to me that he grants leave to Colonel Heidegger to prolong his stay in Greece. This intelligence fulfils the wishes of both the Colonel and of myself. I shall never be able to make sufficient acknowledgments to her for every thing this country owes him; but the President further, 'I must say, that a blessing it would be for Greece if I had a dozen of such men, forged in Colonel Heidegger's school.' The President is perfectly well satisfied with the prospect of the harvest, and the progress of the schools for mutual instruction. The agricultural implements and the sates, &c. which M. Eynard forwarded, are expected with impatience. On my voyage of inspection," continues the President, "I met with the Allied Admirals, and was enabled to learn what was passing at Modon, Coron and Navarino. We approached these places so closely that we could observe the ragged Arabians, who are called Ibrahim's regular troops. The Albanians have deserted from the Egyptian Camp, to the number of 3,000 men, and have placed themselves under the protection of Niketas and Kolokotroni. They are at Karisthenes, whither I sent my brother Augustin, in order that those visitors may not become too troublesome. Our contest with the plague has had the most desirable effect; hitherto we got the better of it every where. The blockade by Sea families and demoralizes Ibrahim's army. It has been this long time only dangerous to us on account of the plague. The same is the case with the Turks, who still occupy the territories of Greece. Ibrahim seems now himself inclined to evacuate the Peloponnesus as soon as his father sends him ships." M. Eynard adds, this moment, in a postscript, that he has received letters of the President from Candia, in Western Greece, of the 10th of July. He has personally visited wretchedness as exceeding great, but trusts that the President will be able to use the letter of credit from the noble mind King of Bavaria, in order to relieve the women and children of Western Greece more rapidly and more effectively.

UNITED STATES.

(From the New-York Morning Courier.)

DEBATES IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT. FREE TRADE.—Notwithstanding the immense disadvantage under which the foreign manufacturer laboured, it was, as pretended to be ascertained, that the American manufacturer was not sufficiently protected; and even now, under the Tariff of 1825, the woolen manufacturers have the boldness to say that nothing but a prohibitory, in name, and in fact, will answer—that they are worse off than in 1824, because Great Britain has reduced her duty on wool. Yet, these same men are so inconsistent, that they declare Great Britain has not relaxed her restrictive system in any one particular, and are daily filling the public papers with such statements.

The advocates of the American system, or high Tariff party—for such it appears now to be—were daily endeavouring to identify their cause with that of the administration; whereas two of its members, the President and the Secretary of State were parties to the first Convention, and the President and the Secretary of the Treasury to the second Convention. And we learn from Mr. Huskisson's speech, that when a remonstrance was made by the British Government on the imposition of an extra duty on rolled Iron, because it was in effect taking their machinery, the President of the United States, who assisted in forming the Convention which was thus broken, admitted that such duty ought to have been imposed. The President of the United States did not recommend this Tariff in his opening Message at the last session; he could not, in honour nor honesty—as one of the framers of the Conventions, he could not, with any regard to the great interests of the country; so that in this, he has a sort of negative merit. Had he sent it back with objections, which he might have taken, he would have deserved the thanks of the country. Politics have had to do in this business. The report of the Secretary of the Treasury looked towards the "American System," and its advocates erected their heads with more boldness than ever; one Administration paper after another (at a distance from the Capital) claimed the measure for the Government, until, in the course of ninety days, the Intelligence and National Journal began to quote innumerable signatures (though many of the pieces were from the same pen,) that the people were in favour of the measure, they came out in the full power of furious partisans. And last of all, within a little week, "A Journeyman Carpenter" made his appearance in the New-York American! on the same side. On the 2d instant the Editor himself, though hitherto silent as the grave, sent in his adhesion, by a flag at the London Times, and the British Corn Laws; and he may be expected ere long to forget that he lives in a commercial country, and in its commercial capital. In reference to the remonstrance to which we have alluded, it will be recollected that Mr. Huskisson was the person appointed to meet Mr. Gallatin, when he proposed a continuance of the Convention of 1818 for ten years longer than the stipulated term; and that the great objection made to its continuance by the British Government, was, that the duty on rolled Iron had been increased, not as on a manufactured article simply, but as on a raw material in manufacturing it. It was charged with a higher duty than other manufactures of the same material, on that account; and Mr. H. justly remarked, that similar duties might be laid on other articles, because they might be made by water power, or steam, instead of by hand; and the British Government were unwilling to be bound by a convention beyond its fixed term of duration, while subject to such violations of its spirit. They therefore would consent to nothing further than giving twelve months' notice of an intended discontinuance of the obligation of the Convention, by either party.

We are told at one time, that we must not look at the opinions of foreigners, nor quote them, nor attend to acts of foreign Governments; that the policy of England is narrow and selfish; and that all her acts are those of counter-legislation, intended especially to bear upon us. The whole Tariff was got up, and passed, through the influence of men who were more familiar with the acts of Parliament, than with the true interests of their own country; and when it suits their purpose, they can and do quote them, and refer to them, as the causes of the depressed state of our manufactures, and even of our commerce, in a spirit, too, of hostility rather than rivalry. Let such men read the debate on Mr. Huskisson's Motion, and whatever they may think of him in other respects, they must, if they give him credit for veracity, believe him when he says that "he made no complaint; and it was not on the ground of interference that the remonstrance had been made to the United States by a free country, but in furtherance of that very principle which should be inherent in all free states." He was not one of those who would like to enter into the war of prohibition.

The debate was of a pacific character throughout, but when the full effects of the Tariff shall have been felt, and the Government shall have been called on by the people of Great-Britain, matters may wear a different aspect, and our trade with India may be lost with that to Great Britain.—We shall hereafter look into the probable consequences in case Great Britain should determine on a contracting policy, for small as some may deem her power to injure us, we will use the language of Mr. Huskisson—we do not belong to the class that "would like to enter into the war of prohibition."

QUEBEC, SEPTEMBER 20.

SUBSTANCE OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ON THE CIVIL GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, delivered on the 22d July, 1825, and ordered to be printed.

They offer as their opinion, that it would be advantageous that the Declaratory Enactments of the Tenures Act for free and common socage Grants should be retained; and that mortgages on these lands should be special, and forms of conveyance provided for, as in England. On the registration of lands granted in socage should also be established, as in Upper Canada.

That means should be found for the mutation of tenures when desired, and that the retention of the seigniorial rights of the Crown should not be an obstacle in the hope of deriving a profit therefrom.

That Circuit Courts should be established within the Townships to try and decide causes arising out of socage property.

They strongly express their opinion that the Canadians of French extraction should in no degree be disturbed in the peaceful enjoyment of their religion, laws and privileges, as secured to them by British Acts; that when the seigneuries are fully occupied, lands in seigneurie, distinct from the townships, should be granted to them, if desired.

That an augmentation of the representation might be advantageously adopted on a basis similar to that of Upper Canada.

That, although with modifications, the power of Escheat already granted may be advantageously used to remedy the abuses resulting from the unsettled grants of Crown Lands, a system should be adopted similar to that of Upper Canada; viz. levying a small duty on unimproved and unoccupied lands.

That although the Law officers had given an opinion that the appropriating the revenues under the Act of 1774, was vested in the Crown, the real interest of the Province would be best promoted by placing the receipt and expenditure of the whole public revenue under the superintendance and control of the Assembly. [The territorial and hereditary revenue excepted.]

That they are strongly impressed with the advantage of rendering the Governor, the Members of the Executive Council and the Judges independent of the Annual vote of the Assembly.

That they are convinced that it would be inexpedient that the Crown should be deprived of the power of removing the Judges.

They express their deep regret that the state of things under which appropriations of the revenue have been made, for such a length of time, without the consent of the representatives of the people,

should have been suffered to exist, without any communication or reference to Parliament.

That steps should be taken by efficient committees and by a regular audit, to prevent a recurrence of losses similar to that which have been sustained by the Receiver General and Sheriff.

That it appears to them to be desirable that the Estates which formerly belonged to the Crown should be applied to the purposes of General Education.

They strongly recommend that a more independent character should be given to the Legislative Councils of both Upper and Lower Canada, and that they are of opinion that any other measures which may tend to connect more intimately the branches with the interest of the Colonies, would be attended with the greatest advantage.

That they entertain no doubt that the Judges had better not be involved in political questions, or in the Legislative Council, and that it is desirable that they should have seats in the Executive Council.

That they recommend as a principle that alterations of the Constitution of 1791, ought to be confined to such points as, from the relation now to exist between the Country and the Colonies, can be disposed of by the paramount authority of the British Legislature.

That under the present circumstances they are not prepared to recommend a union of the Provinces.

That it is highly desirable that some amicable satisfaction should be made, and if possible of a permanent nature, be made between the two Colonies, with regard to the imposition and distribution of the Duties of Custom collected in the St. Lawrence.

That proper exertion should be made to place both the Crown and Clergy Reserves in the hands of proprietors who will perform upon them the duties of settlement.

That any income from these lands should be applied both to the Church of England and Scotland in the Province of Quebec, if the Government consent, to other protestant denominations, having regard to the numbers of each.

That the Constitution of the Upper Canada University ought to be changed, and, independently of two professors of Divinity of the Church of England and Scotland no religious test should be required.

That the Upper Canada Sedition Law ought to be repealed.

That any defects in the mode in which Jurors are composed in the Colonies, ought to be remedied.

That an Agent for Lower Canada, appointed as in other Colonies, should be allowed, and sent to Upper Canada, if it is desired.

That although they have clearly expressed an opinion that there are serious defects in the System of Law and Constitutions established in the Colonies, and that the existing embarrassments and difficulties to which the Colonies are exposed, in the manner in which the existing system has been administered.

That they are most anxious to record their complete conviction, that neither the suggestions they have presumed to make, nor any other improvements in the Laws and Constitutions of the Colonies will be attended with the desired effect, unless an impartial, conciliatory, and constitutional system of Government be observed in these Colonies.

In reference to the conduct of Lord Dalhousie's administration, since the agents of the petitioners left the Colony, particularly the dismissal of many officers of the Militia, remodelling the Commission of the Peace, prosecutions for libels at the instance of the Attorney-General; they say it is impossible for them, not to call the serious and immediate attention of His Majesty's Government to the allegations relating thereto, and that a strict and instant inquiry should be placed upon the view to give rise to such instructions as shall be consistent with justice and policy.—Gaz.

COMMUNICATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COURIER.

SIR.—In your article of the 20th September, on the Sale of Crown Lands, I find you intimate as a condition of waiving your further consideration of the System lately adopted for such sales, until we see what steps the Legislature may take respecting it at the ensuing Session. Allow me to express my regret at this intimation, for I have silently watched the impression which the new paper communications have made on the public mind, and I should think that your suggestion would not serve the best purposes; for, however your convictions may remain unchanged, the public will be misled if there be no necessary check to those specious assertions, which will look like truth from the airbrush in which they are uttered.

Although I range myself on the side of the opinion which you have espoused, I must be permitted to express my dislike to one characteristic which pervades almost all the papers of both parties, and which is equally at variance with good taste and right feeling;—I mean personal abuse. The abuse of the writer from the path of argument, and like an ignis fatuus, leads him away to founder in the mire.

It must be a trying task for interested persons to avoid falling into this error, to give it no name, and most of the writers on the subject evidently of this description, for the very reason in which they couch their insinuations, evince a cautious duplicity, lest a word might slip out, which, as connected with the subject, would give the public a view of the black dog of their contentions? We know that which ever system will be established, must be carried into effect by "clerks and retainers," whoever they may be; but those are matters we can look to at the present time; at present we have only to regard the system itself, and in doing so, we should not clear of the miller and the sweep, and avoid receiving a white blur from the one, or a black dog from the other. That the parties on a black dog view to giving such personalities, such as openness and irritability do belong to the Commission of Crown Land's Office, is well known, and therefore it creates no wonder, that their argument should be lost in the withering blast of invective and spleen. Let us take care that the main subject be not overlooked or straggled by these tricks, nor the thing suffered to be lost in the mud of interested hirings, to be tried and with.