GREAT-BRITAIN, &c.

SPEECH OF MR. SHIEL

At a meeting called in Dublin on hearing that the Catholic Bill had passed the House of Lords.

Mr. Shiel said—As yet we have not received the intelligence that the King has given to the determination of Parliament the Royal "le veut," but that ere this, his Majesty has attached to the great Act of his immortal minister the expressions of his gracious volition, little doubt can be entertained. It is probable that to-morrow we shall learn that a glorious consummation has been given to the noblest enterprise in which a British statesman ever adventured, and that the new era of Irish liberty is begun. What part does it become us to act? what course did we pursue in adverse circumstances?

"*Oequam memento rebus in arduis*
"*Servare mentem*,"

was the precept to which we undeviatingly adhered.—When we were encompassed with difficulties—when obstacles apparently insuperable, and which could be only overcome by matchless and united energies stood in our way, we did not sink under the weight of national calamity, but persevered with that dauntless determination which has been crowned at least with surpassing success. We, who have endured adversity, have now to bear with what it is sometimes difficult to sustain, a great and unexpected prosperity; and as we encountered our evil fortunes with a noble fearlessness, let us meet our better destinies with an equally lofty moderation.—[Cheers.]—Let us embody the rest of the aphorism in our conduct and obey the wise and moral injunction,

Nes secus in bonis,
Ab insolenti temperatam
Lætitia."

Let there be no offensive ostentation—let there be no vulgar and tumultuous ovations—let there be no effort to humiliate our former antagonists, in whom we may expect to find our firmest friends.—[Cheers] A victory indeed has been won, but God forbid that we should disgrace it by making our opponents pass beneath the yoke. In my judgment no class of Irishmen have sustained a defeat. The spirit of faction indeed has been subdued, and long and deeply arrayed prejudices have been put to flight, but so far from thinking that our former adversaries (for I trust that they are so no longer) have been ignominiously conquered, I am convinced that they will, ultimately, share the benefits of the great measure of national equalization with ourselves, and before many months shall have elapsed, that they will, convinced by the demonstrative power of events, (reasoners who cannot be withstood,) participate in the feelings of deep national exultation which already prevails through the country. [Cheers.] The great result of emancipation will be the national tranquility and the union of the Irish people. It becomes us to accelerate them. The great measure is teeming with glorious consequences—let us hasten to bring them forth, and with that view let us studiously avoid any proceeding which could, in the least degree, tend to excite any painful or humiliating recollections. In so doing we shall only act in conformity with the principles which have hitherto characterised our conduct, It cannot be questioned that the Catholic body has manifested the best dispositions. I have lately sojourned in several counties in the south, and in districts peculiarly Catholic. So far from their being any demonstrations of arrogance or of galling triumph, the greatest solicitude was every where exhibited to reconcile the prejudices of the Protestant population to the great boon which has been conferred upon us. The effect has been that through the South of Ireland, Catholics and Protestants are already brought into coalition; a kindly intercourse is beginning to be cultivated, and those social ties which had been torn and lacerated are about to be renewed. It is not exaggeration to say that the very physiognomies of men have undergone a change, and they who formerly passed each other with a scowl, meet in the public way with that kindness and cordiality of look which speaks more than words, and is better than any thing which mere phrases could convey. [Cheers.] It behoves us, then, to hold out in the metropolis a useful example, which may contribute to promote the feelings that have begun to spring up amongst us. There can be no doubt that if illumination did take place, many individuals would be wounded by such a celebration—their eyes would be pained by the glare of such a triumph. Is it not wise upon our part to avoid giving the least annoyance? [Hear, hear, hear, and loud cheers.] Surely our victory is one which does not stand in need of a midnight clamour in our streets to set it off, and does not want any noctural blaze from the windows of our City to throw light upon it. The great event should not be prophaned by such vulgar exultation. A transitory incident may be thus commemorated and lamps may be kindled in order to give lustre to what will be forgotten almost as soon as the oil that feeds the flame is wasted. But that which hath befallen Ireland is inextinguishable and shall not pass away. It will leave a track of light which shall endure through time. It is like that streak in the heavens on which men will forever gaze; it is bright and everlasting. I may, perhaps, be deemed to use a wild and extravagant diction in speaking of this great incident—but am I not to be excused? Where is the man that does not feel his heart beat more rapidly within him at the thought of it? Where is he who does not burst out in expressions of mingled astonishment and delight at this marvelous and most thrilling event? It is indeed, a new epoch; it is a kind of Hegira; from the day on which this great measure reached its consumation that the years of Ireland should henceforth be counted. Sir, I regard this magnificient concession with an unmodified and unmingled gratitude. True it is that a colateral expedient is its comcompanion, which I could desire to see apart from it; but though I regret that the forty-shilling freeholders have been immolated, let us remember the altar at which the sacrifice was performed at the godlike principle of freedom to which it was offered up. Abstractedly, considered, the rights of the pesantry had the greatest weight—and when the great scales were held forth, and their franchises were thrown in, they seemed to predominate—but when the liberty of a whole nation was flung into the opposite side of the balance even the forty-shilling freeholders were weighed up. It was, Sir, the fashion among the Romans, when a master liberated a slave, to give him a blow even in the act of manumission; but when the slave started up a freeman he did not feel it. Ireland has been touched with the baton of the great duke, but it is only a tap upon the cheek, of which she is scarcely concious as she springs from the earth, and resumes the attitude of liberty again [Loud cheering.] We do not feel the minor deprivation, and can remember nothing but the glorious gift of freedom with which it is attended. But let not our joy, lofty and exalting as it is, bear us into any unworthy manifestations of arrogant and contumelious triumph. No, Sir, it is far wiser, and it is far nobler to endeavour by our subdued and well regulated demeanor, to disarm our adversaries of any remaining asperities, and to prove to them that we are fallen. Let "the sweet oblivious antidote" he applied to "the mind diseased"—let large draughts from the sulubrious fountain of oblivion be ministered to the country—let every thing be forgotten—and yet not so—let nothing but injuries be forgotten, and let nothing but services be remembered. [Loud cheers.]

LONDON, May 14.

Intelligence from Odessa of the 18th ult. brought by the Flanders Mail this morning, informs us that a corps of 6000 men, embarked on board Admiral Greig's fleet, is to be landed at Bazaridjik, in order to impede the communication between the Turkish Capital and the Turkish Army in Asia. But the amount of that army is stated to be 60,000 men, which will be reinforced by 16,000 men from Egypt. We should apprehend that the Russians have no army in that quarter capable of resisting such a force.

The head-quarters of the Russian army are, in the French Papers of Monday, said to be at Gallatz—and the head quarters of the army intended for the siege of Silistria at Kallarush.

The Sultan is said to be most anxious to re-establish a good understanding with France and England. The means of doing it are entirely in his own hands. They have no enmity, no personal quarrel with him. Let him consent to the Treaty of London and all differences will be adjusted at once. And this we trust he will do, for he has shewn himself to be a sagacious Monarch; and he must see that the longer he delays his consent the more does he complicate the question, and fetter his own efforts. The Morea and the Cyclades seem to have been originally considered as the proper boundaries of the new Greek State.

But other notions, and more ambitious projects, have since been entertained. Now France and England have no interest in supporting excessive demands upon the Porte. They have no wish to crush Turkey or to prevent her from being a great and independent Empire—nay, their clear interests is, that she should be both. Will the Sultan consent to an argument which shall establish the Independence of the Morea and the Cyclades?—*Courier.*

UNITED STATES.

NEW-YORK, June 6.

DREADFUL CATASTROPHE.

Blowing up of the steam-frigate *Fulton*, and awful destruction of lives.

We have to perform this morning the unpleasant office of announcing to our readers the occurrence of a most deplorable and fatal event. The steam frigate Fulton, lying at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, is now a perfect wreck, being almost literally blown to atoms.

We have taken much pains to procure a correct statement of the details connected with this melancholy affair, and we offer the following as being as accurate as the confusion necessarily attendant upon such a tragic scene would permit.

About three o'clock on Thursday afternoon the noise of an explosion was heard at the Navy Yard, not louder than that made by the discharge of an ordinary cannon. At the same moment and even before it was heard, it is stated, that the three masts of the steam-frigate were seen to rise—the next instant all was gone. It appears that the old gunner of the vessel was discharged on Wednesday, his term of service having expired, and a new one appointed, who was sent down to the magazine to procure the quantity of powder usually required for firing the gun at sunset. He was desired by Lieutenant Breckenridge to be cautious with the light, and to place it in the location invariably provided for it, on such occasions, viz. behind a magnifying glass in the partition, through which the rays of light are thrown. It is supposed that he had been careless in this particular, and that having carried the candle into the magazine some of its sparks were communicated to the powder and the whole was exploded. The usual allowance of powder on board the ship was 5 barrels. On this occasion it was supposed there could not have been more than three and a half barrels. The gunner, as might be readily supposed from his situation, is missing. No account, therefore can possibly be expected from him, and we are left to infer the cause of the disaster from the circumstances, as related.

The Fulton was used as a receiving ship and had long rode at anchor at a distance of about two hundred yards from the shore. None of the vessels at the wharves were in the least injured and even the slight bridge, by which the frigate is approached, escaped totally unharmed. The sentinel upon the latter received no wound whatever, and continued to perform his duty after the accident, as unconcerned as though nothing had happened. The sentinel on board the ship was less fortunate and escaped with a broken leg.

The whole number of persons attached to the vessel was one hundred and forty-three—of these, several were at the time, on shore on duty. The precise number on board is not ascertained though the nearest calculation fixes it about 70. The number of killed and wounded at the latest accounts was forty-three—as will be seen by the skedule below.

It happened fortunately that sixty-two men formerly attached to the frigate, were drafted on Tuesday, and had proceeded to Norfolk to form part of the crew of the frigate Constellation, now on the eve of departure for a foreign station. The band, seventeen in number were on shore. The Officers on board are all accounted for. At the time of the explosion, they were dining in the ward-room. Mrs. Breckenridge, and a son of Lieutenant Platt, were guests at the table. Lieutenant Platt, had returned only yesterday morning, having been absent one month, on leave. Com. Chauncy, with the Commander of the frigate, Captain Newton, left her only a few minutes before the explosion—the former having been on board on a visit of inspection.

The property destroyed was of considerable value.

The magazine was situated in the bows of the vessel. This part of the ship, as may be well imagined, is completely demolished. The timbers throughout appear to be perfectly rotten. Many of the guns were thrown overboard, and some of them (of large dimensions) now hang as it were by a hair. The ship is sunk completely in the mud, and her bows are blown out down to the water's edge.

The bodies of the dead and wounded were brought on shore as soon as circumstances would permit. The former, after being recognized, were put into coffins. The latter were carried to the hospital of the Navy Yard and every attention paid to them. All the physicians of Brooklyn, and several from th[e] [city], proffered their services which proved v[ery] [ac]ceptable.

The scene throughout was one of the most distressing and awful that can be imagined. We will not pretend to portray them. The bodies of the dead were presented in conditions horribly lacerated and in every variety of mutilation—bowels portruding, limbs wrenched off, brains scattered to the four winds of heaven—the recollection is too sickening to be recited.

When the explosion was first heard in the ward-room, where the officers were dining, Lieutenant Mull, who was sitting next to the son of Lieutenant Platt, a lad about nine years of age, with great presence of mind, caught hold of him and placed him in one of the port-holes, by which means he escaped uninjured.

The escape of Midshipman Eckford was truly miraculous. When Com. Chauncy, (who was one of the first to reach the vessel) got on board, the first object he saw was young Eckford hanging by one of his legs between the gun deck, whither he had been forced by the explosion. A jack screw was immediately procured, by means of which the deck was raised, and he was extricated from his perilous situation.

It is not a little remarkable that a Midshipman who was, at the time of the accident, asleep on board of the frigate United States, within two hundred yards of the frigate, was not at all disturbed by the report of the explosion, and was not aware of the occurrence until he was told of it after he awoke.

The vessel remains as complete a wreck as was probably ever beheld. Her whole frame is almost shrivered to splinters, and each of her tall masts "seems withered to a shrub."

The tide being at the ebb, immense quantities of fragments of the ship floated down in front of the City, and hundreds of small boats were seen busily engaged in securing them.

The interest and anxiety excited throughout the city last evening, by the tidings of ths melancholy event, were universal and of a description not ordinarily aroused.

There can be no doubt but that there are many bodies beneath the ruins within the hold of the frigate. The vessel is totally irreparable.

Names of Officers killed—Lieut. Brackenridge. Officers wounded—Lieuts. Platt and Mull, slightly; Sailing master Clough, severely; Midshipmen Johnson, M'Dougal, Welsh, Eckford. Mrs. Breckenridge (lady of the Lieutenant) and son of Lieutenant Platt, dining on board slightly. Total killed, 25; total wounded, 21; females killed, 3; general total 49. Of these, 23 were buried in one grave, yesterday with military honors. Six persons remained unaccounted for.—*N. Y. Gaz.*

Further particulars.—Since the foregoing was prepared, we have had a call from an officer who left the hulk since ten o'clock. The tide had come in, so that she was filled with water.

We are pained to learn, that Mrs. Breckenridge is not slightly but severely wounded; and the injury of Lieutenant Platt, is so serious, that but a faint hope is indulged of his recovery.

What is a very remarkable circumstance, although several of the persons at dinner, escaped, with their lives and some of them uninjured, not a vestige of the table, chairs, or any of the furniture in the room remain. Every thing was blown to atoms.

The scene, even this morning, at the Navy Yard, is distressing beyond description. Indeed to attempt a description of such a spectacle, at the very moment when our feelings are harrowed up to a painful degree by the shocking reality, seems too revolting to be undertaken. We might speak of the wounded living, and the mangled dead, and of the fragments of bodies blown to pieces, mingled among the broken relics of the ship, —but such particulars may better be left to the reader's imagination.

When we left the Navy Yard at 11 o'clock, only *five* men were unaccounted for. These have doubtless perished either by drowning, or by be ing crushed among the timber.

The interment of the bodies of the seamen, &c. was to take place this day—that of Lieutenant Breckenridge at 6 o'clock this afternoon.

The room in which the officers were dining was situated about midship. The whole company at the table were forced by the concussion, against the transom, with such violence as to break their limbs, and otherwise cut and bruise them in a shocking manner.—*Commercial Advertiser.*

June 12.

The packet ship Pacific, Captain Crocke, arrived last evening bringing us our files of London and Liverpool papers to the 16th May.

The subject of opening the trade to India and China, was brought before the House of Commons on the night of the 14th ult. A motion was made for a Select Committee to enquire into the State of Trade between Great-Britain, the E. Indies and China. The motion was resised by the Ministry, solely on account of its being introduced so late in the session, and because they thought that the documentary evidence necessary to enable the members to form an opinion on the question should first be produced. They intend to take the proper measures for the production of that evidence, and early next Session to ask for the appointment of a Select Committee. The motion was therefore lost for the present. The London Courier says of this question, "Perhaps there never was submitted to Parliament a question affecting more important interests, involving more vital considerations, the fate and fortunes of so many millions, professing different modes of faith, different habits, different customs; a question more closely connected with the power, the splendour, and the dignity of the British Empire."

Advices from Constantinople up to the 13th of April say, that the Sultan has re-established the free trade in corn, and the capital is now well supplied. The government had formerly a monopoly of the trade in corn, flour, rice, and oil. The Sultan has now given it up and the city has experienced the good effects of the change in an immediate reduction of prices. The merchants are no longer obliged to deliver these articles into the public magazines, but may dispose of them at their own discretion.—The blockade of the Dardanelles has not been able to prevent the entrance of English vessels laden with wheat. The negociations with the envoy of the Netherlands are going on, and as an indication of a disposition to terminate the difference with England and France, it is said that the Porte has, by the omission of the Pacha of Morea in the list of functionaries, consented tacitly to the emancipation of the Morea and the Cyclades.

A letter from St. Petersburgh of the 20th of April, in relation to the late assassination of the Russian Minister and his officers at Teheran, says that there is every reason to believe that the Persian government had no part in it, and that it eagerly offers the most complete satisfaction that the case will admit of. A person in the confidence of Abbez Mirza has been sent to Gen. Paskewitsch at Teflus, to make the necessary explanations, and one of his sons will soon follow on a similar mission. The letter proceeds to say:—

"As soon as Mr. Macdonald, the English Envoy to Tauris, was informed of this melancholy event, he sent to Mirza Hassan Khan, the Schah's Minister of Foreign Affairs, a despatch of which the following are the principal points. He observes that, in consequence of this catastrophe, all confidence is destroyed, and that it would be in vain to pretend that the representative of any power can henceforth think himself safe in Persia; that it is not enough that the Government disavows proceedings, the consequence of which, perhaps, it fears itself, but that it must offer complete satisfaction; that the instigators of the massacre, and those who perpetrated it, must be given up, wherever they may be; that no rank ought to protect them, no sanctuary serve them as an asylum, no subterfuge be employed to screen them from the punishment which they have merited; and that if the Government is not able to clear itself completely from the suspicion of any participation whatever in the crime which has just been committed, not only Russia, but the whole civilized world will become its enemy.

"It is Captain Macdonald, brother to the Envoy, who has been sent with this note to Teheran. He had orders to take under his special protection the officers and individuals of the Russian Legation, who had survived the massacre, and to conduct them to Tauris.—He has besides declared, that the slightest insult or violence towards them would cause him, and the British subjects placed under his orders, immediately to quit the Persian territory.

All the members of the English Legation as well as the subjects of his Britannic Majesty at Tauris, have gone into mourning for three months, as a mark of their profound affliction at this sad event which has taken place."

Mr. O'CONNELL.—The Times of the 16th contains the proceedings in the House of Commons the day before. Mr. O'Connell was expected to take his seat under the provisions of the Catholic Relief Bill, and a very great sensation was in consequence excited. The gallery and avenues to the House were crowded at an early hour, and the House was filled with Members long before the Speaker took the Chair. After prayers the Speaker said—"If there are any persons to be sworn, let them please to come to the table." Mr. O'Connell immediately came forward, accompanied by Lords Ebrington and Duncannon, when a conversation took place with the Clerk concerning the papers tendered by Mr. O'Connel, and the Oath which had been repeated by the late act. After conferring with the Clerk and Speaker, the latter said:—

"It is my duty to state, if I have been correctly informed, that the course which the honorable member has proposed to take, is a course which, until overruled by stronger authority, I do not conceive it my duty to acquiesce in. I understand that he proposes to take the oath prescribed to be taken by Roman Catholics, as it is to be found in an act of Parliament recently passed. As I read that act of Parliament, it is my impression—and on that impression it is my duty to act—that it involves two points relative to the course to be pursued in taking seats in this House. The first point is that of repeating the declaration against transubstantiation; the other that of appointing an oath to be taken by such members of this House as profess the Roman Catholic creed; but with condition, that those Members should be returned subsequent to the passing of the act. Now, the honorable member was returned, as the house is well aware, long before the passing of this Act. I have, therefore, only to refer to the law affecting all the Members of this House until the late Act passed; and with the single exception of repeating the declaration against transubstantiation, I have to state, that the construction which has been uniformly put on the law of the land, and which has been repeatedly sanctioned and confirmed by act of Parliament, is, that every member before taking his seat, shall take the oath of allegiance and supremacy before the Lord Steward, and the oath of adjuration at the table of this house. This is the course which by law the dignity and the privileges of this house require. I state this the rather, because it is well known that this house is open to an appeal by petition, or it may be brought forward by any member in this house. In that case, the house will be better able to judge, and to state its opinion of the propriety of the conduct which it appeared to me to be my duty to pursue. (Hear, hear.) I therefore state to the honorable gentleman, that he must withdraw."

Mr. O'Connell then withdrew, and Mr. *Brougham* rose, and amidst great uproar and confusion, stated with all due submission to the Speaker, his opinion that the right honorable gentleman had a right to state his reasons for adopting the course he had. The noise and cries of "bar," "bar," still continuing, he requested to be heard, and then stated that he had a proposition to make respecting the case. "I have now (said he) to advert to the right of the honorable member for Clare to be heard in that place alone, which I think I am entitled to call his place, before he is entitled to take his seat in this house,—namely, at the table on the floor."

He then cited precedents in the cases of Sir Henry Menson, Mr. Archlale, and Lord Sandford, and contended that Mr. O'Connell ought to be recalled and heard.

As regards the honorable member, [said he] the case involves a very great hardship, because a high privilege, the highest civil right—is not taken from him, certainly it is not—but it is, up to a certain extent, interfered with, without his being heard. I wish the house to decide this point; and that they may be enabled to do so, I shall bring the question before them in the most regular and formal shape, by moving 'that the honorable member for Clare be called back, and heard at the table.'"—[Hear, hear.]

Mr. *Peel* followed on the other side of the question, and concluded by proposing that the house adjourn till Monday, in order to give the members an opportunity to get information on the legal points in the case. He was followed by Mr. W. Wynn and Mr. Sugden, and a debate occurred between Messrs. Peel, Brougham, and others, whether Mr. O'Connell should be heard at the bar, at the table, or at all before the house. The question was then put "That the debate on this question be adjourned till Monday next." Sir F. Burdett concurred in the propriety of an adjournment, and the Speaker explained, before he put the final question, his views, and the reasons for the course he had pursued.

With respect to not hearing the individual at the table, (he said) I found myself on this,—that I know of no instance where any person has been heard, without a decision of the House that he should be heard, short of being a Member of the House (hear, hear,); and it was obvious if a debate were going on, with a person thus situated standing on the floor of the House, that he might subject himself, not to the provisions of the statute of Elizabeth, but to those of the statute of Charles II. (Hear, hear.) This is the ground on which I stand. (Hear, hear.) I do not advance any thing to prejudice the case itself, but merely state the ground on which I proceeded."

After some further debate Mr. Peel said, his idea was, "that they could not hear this gentleman until they had determined whether he should be heard at the table or at the Bar. There were some gentlemen who might think that he ought not to be heard at all; and to give honorable members an opportunity of considering what course was most proper to be pursued, he had moved the adjournment of the question,—reserving to himself the right of hereafter stating his impression on the whole case, but abstaining from giving any opinion now."

Mr. Brougham repeated what was said at first, and Lord Duncannon stated that he was requested by the Honorable Member for Clare to apply to the house that he might be heard before it in support of his claims. The motion for adjournment was then agreed to.

In reference to this affair, the Times observes, "that the account of the debate can convey but an imperfect idea of the silent, the almost breathless attention with which he was received in the House, advancing to and retiring from the table. The benches were filled in an unusual degree with members, and there is no recollection of so large a number of Peers brought by curiosity to the House of Commons."

The London Morning Herald of the 15th ult. contains the following:—

"It is reported in the City that a coolness has arisen between a certain illustrious personage and the Duke of Wellington, on the subject of the Russian and Turkish war. His Grace, it is said, wishes to put a stop to the ambitious projects of the Czar, and that he has proposed, in the first instance, firmly to remonstrate with Nicholas; and, if that should fail, to declare war against him. To neither of these propositions, it is asserted, the illustrious personage alluded to, will agree. That, in short, he has determined neither to declare war against the Emperor, nor to risk one by any decided remonstrance. For our part, we do not believe this story."

The London Morning Journal of the 16th, in reply to the above says:—"We have the very highest authority for saying that the statement of a coolness between an illustrious person and the Minister of the Crown, which we published a few days ago, was substantially correct. The Minister to whom we allude has had no private conference with the King, since the expressions he used in reference to the Marquis of Anglesea's defence were made public.—These expressions have, as they merited, given serious offence.

"They were directly levelled at the sovereign —at that Sovereign who is son of George the Third—and who *can* vindicate his dignity, as he ought to do, even at the sacrifice of private partiality. The Duke of Wellington cannot long be Premier; and as for Mr. Peel, his retirement is settled. We wish him all peace and every happiness in those shades where neither the smiles of the Court, nor the reproaches of the people, can penetrate to his annoyance.

COLONIAL.

MILITARY EXECUTION.

From the Quebec Official Gazette, May 28.

This morning, at half-past 4 o'clock, the troops in garrison proceeded from their respective barracks to the Citadel, in pursuance of the General Order, commanding the execution of the prisoner Moor, 66th Regiment, under sentence of death for desertion, and for a violent attack on the life of Serjeant Surby, of the same regiment, while in the execution of his duty. The public are in possession of the facts of this case.

The troops were formed under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Cockburn, R. A. Commandant of the Garrison, in the ravelin near the eastern Barrier, making two sides of a square. When the arrangements were completed, the prisoner was brought out from the Cape Guard, with an escort preceded by the Band of the 66th Regt. playing in slow and solemn time the dead march. Next came the coffin, borne by six men; the prisoner followed, attended and supported by the Rev. Mr. M'Mahon, the Roman Catholic Clergyman, whose attentions to the unfortunate man were most humane and unremitting, and surrounded by the escort. The prisoner advanced with an apparently firm step to the place of execution, passing in front of the whole line, and through the firing party to his coffin, on which he knelt while the proceedings of the Court Martial, the sentence, the approval, and the order for his execution were read aloud by Town Major Frost. When these were concluded, the Reverend Clergyman and the prisoner were engaged a short time in earnest prayer; and on the former slowly retiring, the fatal signal was given to the retiring party, drawn up at about six paces. His death was instantaneous, not a motion being perceived. The whole garrison then filed past the corpse in ordinary time, and immediately returned without music playing to their barracks.

The men appointed to the firing party were drawn by lot, from his own regiment, three from each company, in all eighteen. Two were reserved, and of the other sixteen, one musket only was unloaded. The pieces were charged by the non-commissioned officers, who informed the men that one piece was unloaded, with the humane intention of leading each man to believe he had a chance of avoiding the necessity but disagreeable duty imposed upon him. It is supposed, owing to this arrangement, that almost every shot took effect.

It is almost satisfactory to learn that the prisoner, having no hopes of a remission of the sentence, on account of the enormity of his offence' became speedily resigned to his fate. He fully acknowledged the justice of the sentence, and it marks a good trait in his character, that he earnestly desired to see Sergeant Surby, and in an affecting interview exchanged christian forgiveness with him, remarking that he might have given much stronger evidence against him than he actually did on the Court Martial.

By permission of the commander of the Forces, the body of Moore, who had always expressed great anxiety on the subject, was given up to the disposal of his friends.

The prisoner M'Cormick, servant to Mr. Gibson, 66th Regiment, who in addition to his desertion most ungratefully robbed his master, was present during the awful scene. His sentence, transportation for life as a felon, was also read to him.

At 9 o'clock, A. M. the troops in garrison attended divine service in the Cathedral, when at the conclusion of the sermon the attention of all was rivetted by the eloquent and impressive notice taken by the Rev. Chaplain, Dr. Mills, of the awful occurrence of the morning. We are told by an eye witness that the impression was sensibly to be traced in the countenances of the men returning from church. A sombre and religious air had banished the slightest appearance of levity.

The solemn effect of this necessary example must have been considerably heightened by the aptness of the spot chosen for the execution, the stillness and beauty of the morning, the early hour, and the complete abstraction of the mind from any thing which could divert its attention, or diminish the powerful lesson impressed on the military spectators. The scene has been described to us as beyond any thing awful and subduing. The effect of the Dead March, played as the Band advanced from the Cape Guard, and for a considerable period heard, but unseen, by the troops, until the procession doubled the angle of the Bastion, may be well imagined. The solemn expectation of the assembled troops—the measured pace of the prisoner approaching at a distance—his last death march along the whole line—the cessation of the mournful dirge—the kneeling on the coffin—the reading of the sentence—the last prayer—the volley—and the disfigured corpse—as they successively rivetted the attention, must have produced the most soul-stirring effect on all who witnessed the Military Execution.

COMMUNICATIONS.

(FOR THE COURIER.)

Mr. Editor.—There is no one fact existing which is more readily admitted; or which requires less demonstration than, that in all civilised and even in all christianized (in the common acceptation of the term) societies, immorality prevails to a greater or less extent.—The causes of this evil are variously ascribed, according to the views which different essayists entertain respecting its origin and consequences.—But however they may vary on these points, they all agree, that for the good of society no means should be left unattempted for its suppression. In the present day, I believe, no means are considered by persons of experience and observation so effectual in preserving society from indulgence in vicious habits, as an attention to the education of the rising generation. Solomon never penned a truer proverb than "train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Some exceptions, I know, can be brought forward as to the verification of this general rule; but, on a close examination of circumstances, so far as my knowledge of men goes, the parties who have gone astray, have generally been willing to confess 'that the way of transgressors is hard.'

I have several times intended to send you a few observations respectng the careless manner in which the Parents and Guardians of children bring up those whom nature, or particular circumstances, may have put under their care; as well as the indifference which Masters of apprentices display, as to the conduct of the latter, during the hours in which they are not occupied in close attendance to the duties of their various avocations. There is a laxity or total want of proper discipline throughout; the evil effects of which are felt by those more immediately concerned;—evident to the most superficial observer, and acknowledged by all. Incessant complaints, concerning the irregularities of the youth of this city, aromade from day to day—but there the matter is allowed to rest, as if they were made of different materials from those of other places, and incapable of being kept in subjection. But this is not the case Sir, instances to the contrary can be produced, though I am sorry to say, they are rare.

Two recent circumstances have induced me to send you these remarks at the present time, viz.—The very handsome manner in which the Editor of the City Gazette complimented the Mayor on the sentiments which he expressed in his charge to the Grand Jury, in reference to the evil effects likely to be produced on society by the Theatre; and, the very particular stress, which has been laid upon this subject, in effusions delivered from the Pulpit.

His Worship, in his address to the Grand Jury, very judiciously limited the evil effects which might be feared to arise from Theatrical representations, and attendance generally at places where they are exhibited, to the younger part of the community; who, from their inexperience of the world, are not capable of deducing the moral intended to be conveyed to the mind from the characters and incidents held up to view.—But that upon persons who had arrived at the age of the gentlemen he was addressing, he did not conceive there were grounds to apprehend any evil consequences of a serious nature.—To this line of distinction, few, I think, will object, except those who are "righteous over much."

The Gazette however says, His Worship stated, that the *majority* of those who frequented the Theatre, was composed of persons younger than the members of the Grand Jury:—if he said this, it was a mistake; and his informants, either wilfully or ignorantly led him into error:—for the case is not so.

But I am willing to admit, sir, that a number do frequent the Theatre at an improper age.—The question is, at whose door is the blame for this impropriety to be laid?—I answer, at that of parents, guardians and masters—alone and entirely.—The young are under their controul, and they only have the power of suppressing the mischief of which they complain. If they exert not the authority vested in them, by nature or the laws of the country, not only do they injure their own private interests in the meantime; but they are positively aiders and abettors in throwing into society, at some future period, members, who, for want of early instruction and a good example set before them, become a prey to vice,—useless to themselves, and blots on the moral character of the country. In short, until a change take place in the management of the young, I see no hope that the gross immoralities which are said to prevail can be effectually suppressed.—Let those who have the charge of bringing up the young reflect on the responsibility of their situation, and compare their real line of conduct, in this respect, with what it ought to be.

Respecting the effusions, which have been delivered from the Pulpit in this place against Theatres; I am told that the in emperate zeal shewn by the different Clergymen who have taken up the subject, has excited the astonishment of many, even of those who are opposed to this species of amusement.—They consider the denunciations against persons who may visit the Theatre, as amounting to *excommunication*; and that such denunciations are unauthorized. I have no hesitation in saying, and I know something of the merits of the case too, that it is out of the power of the clergyman of the Established Church either of England or Scotland, to withhold the Communion from a Member, merely because he frequents a Theatre.—To be sure he may do so, in the meantime; but the matter may be laid before a tribunal to which that clergyman is responsible for his conduct, when the decision would most certainly, so far as precedents go, be given against him.

But laying the powers of Clergymen aside altogether; for, as regards this matter they are if they exist at all, slender:—Why, I would ask have such *extraordinary* pains been taken, on this occasion, to attack so furiously theatrical amusements? not a word from the Pulpit regarding their evil tendency was heard last Season;—not one. Let me assure you, Mr. Editor, that conjectures on this point are afloat in the community, which, if they should in the end come out as facts, will not very much tend to advance the dignity of the clerical character in the public estimation.

But I must not lose sight of my subject—the education of the rising generation—the uttering of thundering flaming threatenings of excommunication against theatre-going folks, when weighed with the comparative silence which is preserved regarding the want of family discipline, the source from which all this mischief proceeds, as well as respects the existence of many popular vices, is like 'straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel.' Conduct like this, on the part of those who can piously tell you that they consider themselves, from the offices they fill, as charged with the care of public morals is ridiculous. Why are not those who allow their families to go to the Theatre—permit them to break the Sabbath—go to balls and other places of vain amusement—and even to common grog-shops, threatened with excommunication also? I am sure I cannot account for it, unless I set it down to caprice, prejudice, or want of reflection; for surely the conduct of the latter is more injurious to the morals of society than that of the former, inasmuch as one man, who is the head of a family may be the means of leading half a dozen to ruin, besides going there himself.—I have not done with this subject.—It opens a large field for remark; but I will not at present trouble you with more respecting it—you may hear from me again. Meantime, I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant, P.

St. John, June 12, 1829.

[FOR THE COURIER.]

No. I.

"Truth is open and consistent— it never tells a story two ways; while deceit will twist and turn to hide itself from the eye of the world, but in vain—the very effort to conceal its deformity makes its exposure."—*Anonymous.*

"To err is human—to forgive divine"—*Pope.*

MR. EDITOR,—That man is fallible and liable to err, is a truth, substantiated and confirmed, by our own experience, and almost every day's observation. It is true, Sir, and I am willing to admit, that there are some persons, whose general deportment and conduct agree with their profession, and whose *failings* are not so prominent as those of their neighbours;—but, Sir, let us only watch such attentively—let us draw aside the curtain of hypocrisy—let us follow them into their "secret places." and we shall soon be convinced, from personal observation, that there is no man, however venerable in *appearance*,—plausible in reasoning—or gifted in speech, without his faults, be they great or small—be they few or numerous.

But, Mr. Editor, there are, (and always have been,) ever since the dispersion of mankind from the Tower of Babel, down to the present enlightened Æra, some characters, who are puffed up with so much self-conceit, vanity, and egotism; and who entertain such vast ideas of their own imaginary importance, and literary prowess; and who assume such "*elevated ground*," that they will not "*descend*" to acknowledge their *faults*, even after they have been made known to them.—And, Sir, Man is such an inconsistent being, that he cannot, nay, he will not look for any length of time on his own peculiarities—they dazzle his eyes, like the light of the material sun—and his pride forbids their exposure.—While, on the contrary the faults of his fellow-beings are continually before him,—and with a disposition, truly charitable and christian-like, he endeavours to point out their motes, while the *huge beam*, in his own eye, stands unmoved, and is lost sight of.—Filled with *pure, genuine* LOVE, for the best interests of the community of which he is a member, he goes straight forward in his *christian career*; and, oftentimes, after having expended all his *ammunition* (i. e. goose-quill guns, and paper bullets), to little or no purpose, we behold him, in a reclining posture, seated, probably, in an editorial chair, *weeping*, and *lamenting* (like Alexander of old!) "*that he has no more Cities to conquer.*"

No arguments are wanting, to prove to a demonstration, that the world abounds with such characters at this time:—"wolves in sheep's clothing," and "painted sepulchres." Were individuals to apply the *mirror* oftener to themselves,