

From the London Literary Gazette.

RUSSIAN VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY.

The last account received at St. Petersburg of the voyage of discovery under the command of Captain Lutke, holds out the prospect of great additions to our geographical and nautical knowledge.

Our ship, the Siniavin sailed from the harbor of St. Peter and St. Paul on the 19th of October last year, and arrived on the 22d of November off the island of Ooalan, which was re-discovered by Captain Duperey, in the Coquille, in 1824; where we had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with a people in the purest state of nature, who had remained hitherto unknown and were wholly unacquainted with Europeans.

The islands may become very useful and important to Kamtschatka. The climate is extremely fine, and the plants and fruits of the torrid and temperate zone flourish equally well. A few hogs which had been left by the standard ship, have increased to the amount of several hundreds.

The turtles were so numerous and close together in the bays, that the strand looked as if it were paved with them. There was also an abundance of the finest fish. Fourteen days that we spent here afforded the naturalists an ample harvest.

On the 28th of May, the Siniavin arrived again in the harbour of St. Peter and St. Paul, where the trees were still without leaves, and a few spring flowers were but just beginning to appear.

The Death of Major Laing.—The following interesting letter, written from Timbuctoo by Major Laing, the day before his departure from that city, and a few days before his death, and the account which follows of his death, we copy from the London Standard of Jan. 27, where they are given to us by Mr. Harcourt in the Quarterly Review, which was published in London on the following day.

My Dear Consul—A very short epistle must serve to apprise you, as well as my dearest Emma, of my arrival at, and departure from the great capital of Central Africa; the former of which events took place the 18th ult.—the latter will take place, God willing, to-morrow morning.

After remaining three weeks among these people, whose natural innocence is so amiable, the Siniavin continued its voyage on the 20th of December. On the 2d of January, 1828, they discovered a new group of islands, the highest and also the largest of all the Carolines, except the Pelew Islands.

On the 2d of February, we discovered the island of Rug; and on the 8th, Union Island. On the 17th, the Siniavin arrived in the harbour of Caldera de Apra, during which time the Spanish Governor shewed us every kind of attention and politeness.

“Did you remain with him at Moktas? Yes.” “Did you accompany him from thence to Timbuctoo? Yes.” “How was he received at Timbuctoo? Well.” “How long did he remain at Timbuctoo? About two months.”

“Did you leave Timbuctoo with Major Laing? Yes.” “Who went with you? A kofee of Arabs.” “In what direction did you go? The sun was on my right cheek.” “Did you know where you were going? To Sansandix.”

“Did you see any water, and were you molested? We saw no water, nor were we molested till the night of the 31st day, when the Arabs of the country attacked and killed my master.” “Was any one killed beside your master? I was wounded, but cannot say that any were killed.”

“Were you sleeping near your master? Yes.” “How many wounds had your master? I cannot say—they were all with swords; and in the morning I saw the head had been cut off.” “Did the person who had charge of your master commit the murder? Sheikh Barbash, who accompanied the Reis, killed him, being assisted by black servants, by swords, when asleep.”

“What did the Sheikh then do? He went on to his country. An Arab took me back to Timbuctoo.” “What property had your master when he was killed? Two camels; one carried the provisions, the other carried my master and his baggage.” “Where were your master's papers? In his bag.”

“Did you endeavor to preserve them? I was so stunned with the wound, I never thought of the papers.” “Were the papers brought back to Timbuctoo? I don't know.” “This Arab thus deposes before the Kadi of Tripoli.—“Appeared before me, &c. &c. and made oath according to the established form of the Mohammedan faith, Bungala, servant of the late Major Laing, who swears that he was with his master three days beyond Timbuctoo, and saw his master murdered, and that he actually saw the head separated from the body.”

“I promise to pay the month, from the 15th December, 1826, till my return to Gadamis; or on failure of that event, till the 15th December, 1826; previously deducting fifty dollars which I paid for his freedom.” “A. GORDON LAING.”

“Were you with Major Laing at the first attack? Yes, and wounded, (showing his head.)”

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A CHRONOLOGY FOR 1828.

[We have selected the following from materials furnished by the London Standard.]

JANUARY.

1. A meeting of Jews takes place to consider a Ukase of the Emperor of Russia, respecting the Jewish inhabitants of that Kingdom.

2. A most sumptuous party is given by the Duke of Clarence, in honour of Don Miguel.

3. The Portuguese Cortes assemble.

4. The Fall of Villele's ministry takes place.

5. Don Miguel assisted at the inspection of the horse and foot guards on the parade in St. James park.

6. The year's Revenue of the Post-Office, is compared with that of the former year, and shows a deficiency of £111,000.

7. The Duke of Wellington gives a grand entertainment to Don Miguel.

8. The resident Portuguese in London present Don Miguel with an address and gold medal.

9. Sir Lowry Cole is appointed Governor of the Cape of Good Hope.

10. Sir C. Colville is appointed Governor of the Mauritius.

11. An irruption of water takes place upon the works of the Thames Tunnel, when five men lose their lives.

12. Miss Turner, the heiress so celebrated for having been merely made the victim of the vile arts of the Wakefields, is married to Mr. Legh, of Lymeal, Cheshire.

13. Mrs. Canning is created a viscountess by letters patent. The dignity of Baron is also conferred on the following persons:—Sir H. Wellesley to be Lord Cowley; Sir Charles Stuart to be Lord Stuart de Rothesay; Sir William A'Court, to be Lord Heytesbury; Lord Rosebery (Scotch earl) to be Lord Rosebery; Lord Clanwilliam (Earl in Ireland) to be Lord Clanwilliam; John George Lambton, to be Lord Durban; Edward Boodle Willbraham, to be Lord Skelmersdale.

14. The death of the margravine of Anspach takes place at Naples.

15. Lord Stowell has resigned his office of judge of the Court of Admiralty.

16. The new Ministry is declared in the Gazette of this day.—The Duke of Wellington, first Lord of the Treasury (premier); Mr. Goulbourn, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Mr. Herries, Master of the Mint; Lord Aberdeen, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; Sir John Beckett, Advocate-General.

17. Sir C. Wetherell resumes the office of attorney-general.

18. Parliament assembles.

19. The cutter Fanny is shipwrecked on the coast of Jersey, when, amongst others, Lord Harley loses his life.

20. Mr. Peel is re-elected member for the University of Oxford.

21. The Duke of Gordon is appointed the keeper of the great seal of Scotland; Sir Henry Hardinge appointed Clerk of the ordinance.

22. The election for Liverpool takes place, when Mr. Huskisson was duly elected.

23. Mr. Frankland Lewis is appointed President of the Board of Trade.

24. The death of De Witt Clinton, governor of the State of New-York, takes place at Albany.

25. Mr. Brougham makes his long speech on the reform of the Law in the House of Commons.

26. The Duke of Montrose resumes the office of Lord Chamberlain, occupied for twelve months by the Duke of Devonshire.

27. The navy estimates for 1828, are £25,995,995.

28. Mr. Hobhouse proposes a vote of thanks to Sir Edward Coddington, in the House of Commons, which, after a long debate he withdraws.

29. The Marriage of Prince Hohenlohe of Laugenberg and Princess Fendora, takes place at the residence of the Duchess of Kent, in the King's palace, Kensington.

30. The dignity of Baronet is conferred on Francis Freeling, Joseph de Courcy Laffan, and Patrick Macgregor, by letters patent.

31. A Treaty of Peace is signed between Russia and Prussia.

32. The Petition of the Catholics of Ireland, for a repeal of the Laws affecting Dissenters, is presented by Lord King in the House of Lords.

33. The Marquis of Anglesea departs from London to assume the government of Ireland.

34. Don Miguel takes the oath to maintain the charter, in presence of the members of the two chambers.

35. Lord John Russell brings forward his motion for the repeal of the test and corporation Acts, which, after a lengthened debate, is carried by a majority of 44.

36. The King in Council declares the Marquis of Anglesea, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

37. Sir Colin Campbell is appointed Governor of Tobago.

38. The dreadful catastrophe of the falling in of the Brunswick Theatre takes place during a rehearsal in the morning, when several lives are lost, and many persons grievously injured.

39. The Marquis of Anglesea lands in Ireland, and takes up his residence at the Castle of Dublin.

40. The Irish Roman Catholic Association vote an address of congratulation to the dissenters.

41. The consecration of Dr. Wards, as bishop of Sodor and Man takes place in Whitehall chapel.

42. York-house is about this time purchased by the Marquis of Stafford, for 75,000 pounds.

43. Sir James Lyon appointed Governor of Barbados.

44. A meeting is held for promoting a monument to the memory of Mr. Canning.

45. Lord Grenville publishes a retraction of his opinions respecting the sinking fund.

46. The subject of the Corn Laws is brought before the House of Commons.

47. The subject of the Corn Laws brought before the House of Lords by the Duke of Wellington.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

NEW-YORK, MARCH 23.

The Britannia arrived yesterday from Liverpool, with London papers to the 3d February.

Parliament was to meet on the 5th, when it is confidently stated to the Times and Morning Chronicle, measures will be taken by the Government in favour of the Catholics. Ireland is in the same disturbed state, and Mr. O'Connell declares his intention of being in London on the 8th to "take his seat."

The Speech of the King of France has caused great satisfaction, and it is fully expected that the efforts of England and France to induce the Sultan to acknowledge the independence of Greece will be successful. Mr. S. Canning is still in the mediterranean, and hopes are entertained that he will speedily in concert with the French Minister, renew his intercourse with the Porte.

The following paragraphs, which we cut from the Courier, would seem to indicate an immediate recurrence to hostility on the Danube. We believe, however, that the accounts are much overrated, and that nothing is contemplated but an early campaign, for which both parties are making the most gigantic exertions.

England is perfectly tranquil, and the King in good health. Funds on 31st Jan. 87 1/8. Last weekly average of Wheat 74s. 7d.

Though no operations appear to have been undertaken since the beginning of December by the Turks against any of the Russian positions, yet the accounts from Constantinople received this morning, inform us that some changes have taken place in the destination of the different Pashas and their troops.

The Grand Vizier is said to have proceeded to Choumla, and Hussein to Silistria. Tahir Pacha, who commanded in Choumla, is gone to the Danube, whither Tchassan Oglou has marched with his cavalry. Large reinforcements have been sent to Erzerum, and in general the greatest activity prevails in every Department to renew the war with vigour.

Four fire ships and a corvette have been sent from Constantinople to the Dardanelles. The blockade of the Dardanelles has been enforced; but Lord Collingwood has sufficiently shown, that it cannot be effectually enforced during the winter. Several vessels have reached Constantinople with corn, and supplies, though in smaller quantities, have been received by land. No apprehensions of scarcity seemed to be entertained by the Turks.

If the intelligence in the Paris Papers of Wednesday be correct, the Turks have speedily disclosed the objects for which they have been so largely strengthening their fortresses on the Danube. One of these papers states, "The Danube is passed at every point. The Pacha of Widder is marching with 30,000 men against the principality, and it is thought that unless the Grand Duke Constantine arrives in time to stop the invasion, the Russian army will be obliged to retrace the Pruth."

Tchassan Oglou is said to have notified to Count Lagerberg, who was formerly a prisoner in Turkey, his intention to attack him, and that he should penetrate to Tournoul, opposite to Nicolopi, with 12,000 cavalry. The Count immediately took the necessary precautions to resist the attack; a large body of Cavalry had actually arrived at Tournoul, and the Pacha of Widder was said to be on his march, with 30,000 men, up to Crojova and Bucharest; so that there would be a general movement of the Turks along the whole line of the Danube, from Widdon to Silistria.—Courier, Jan. 31.

At a late hour on Monday night Count Matschewitz, one of the principal Ministers of the Emp. of Russia, arrived at Ashburnham House, Dover-street, the residence of Prince Lieven, the Russian Ambassador, from St. Petersburg. Prince Lieven was not in town at the time of the arrival of the Count, but came to town with the Princess Lieven, at an early hour yesterday morning, from their seat at Richmond.

The prince, after his arrival in town, was closely engaged during the day with Count Matschewitz, who, it is understood, is charged with an important mission from the Emperor of Russia to our Government.—Courier, Jan. 28.

C. Cramer, Esq., one of His Majesty's Pages, and Master of the King's Private Band, is to succeed the veteran Shield as Master of the King's state band, which only performs on birth-days, &c., or occasionally before His Majesty and a select party.

The successor to the Count De La Ferronay, as Minister for Foreign Affairs, had not been officially announced at the opening of the Session on Tuesday. We still think that the choice will fall on M. De Polignac. M. De Polignac had a private audience of the King on Saturday last and again on Sunday.—COURIER, JAN. 29.

As the opening of Parliament approaches, the public expectation becomes more intense with regard to the mode in which the great measure of emancipation will be announced by His Majesty's Ministers. That emancipation will be proposed to Parliament by the Duke of Wellington in the ensuing session, we have no more doubt than of our own existence.

When we pen this brief production of an occurrence whose consequences will be beneficially felt by Englishmen and Irishmen to the remotest generations, our readers may be assured that on the "coming event" we do not speak but from conviction.

Ireland.—On Tuesday the 20th January a great and important meeting was held in the Rotunda in Dublin. The Morning Chronicle says—“This meeting may be deemed to have commenced a new era in Ireland, or rather a revival of the period of 1782, almost the only chapter in the history of Ireland on which an Irishman can look with unmingled satisfaction.

On Tuesday, Catholics and Protestants, laying aside sectarian jealousies, and animated only by a sense of the evils which afflict their common country, entered into a holy alliance to use their utmost endeavours to put an end to the great obstacle to the happiness and prosperity of Ireland. It was a meeting of the men most distinguished for rank, property, character and influence in the country.

The principle which united Protestants and Catholics in this noble endeavour was happily expressed by the Grattan, in an answer to an address of the Volunteers of Ireland, as quoted by his nephew Mr. E. Herwick: “The Irish Protestant can never be free until the Irish Catholic ceases to be a slave.”

At this meeting several of the most distinguished Protestants made the amende honorable to their Catholic brethren. They frankly and honestly owned that they had not exerted themselves for the common cause with the zeal and energy which became them. “Hitherto,” said Mr. E. Herwick, “I speak with the utmost respect, you have done but little for the Catholic. I know, that as individuals you feel strongly, and speak warmly on the subject—that as members of Parliament, you have furthered it by your eloquence and your vote; but I still assert, that as a body, considering the magnitude of the question, and the immense— the crowning assistance, your rank, your wealth, your talent, your virtue could give it, if properly brought to bear upon it, your exertions in its behalf have been trifling and insignificant; and I say, that what you have done till now for the Catholics has been more in the light of the condescension of a patron than the energetic assistance of a friend.”

This feeling was expressed with equal cordiality by Protestant Gentlemen from all parts of Ireland. Justice was done to the Catholic agitator, a tardy justice, but not the less valuable; for, the magnanimity which confesses error elevates a man, while the sullen obstinacy which persists in error in spite of conviction is deserving of contempt.”

It cannot escape observation, that this meeting of Protestant and Catholic Noblemen and Gentlemen is a very different Meeting, in point of respectability, from any meeting yet held of the enemies of Emancipation. These meetings have been strong in rancorous Parsons, strong in Corporation men, but they have not been strong in rank, property and character. It cannot have escaped observation, that at the late election of a Representative Peer for Ireland, the candidate opposed to Emancipation was left in a humiliating position. What name then shall we give to that state of things in a country, to which the rank, property, and at least five-sixths of the population are opposed?

We repeat the observation, that Tuesday was a proud day for Ireland.

Mr. O'Connell has received one hundred and fifty pounds. Catholic Reports, from Baltimore, (America.) Mr. O'Connell's appearance for London is now said to be fixed for the 13th Proximo.—Dublin Evening Post.

Mr. O'Connell, intends to present himself at the Bar of the House of Commons on the 8th of February.—Bell's Messenger.

Lord Prudhoe, the brother of the Duke of Northumberland, is expected to hold a distinguished post. The Hon. Maj. Grey, son of the Earl Grey, is to be one of the Aides de Camp of the Duke; and the Hon. Arthur Wellesley, son of the Hon. and Rev. Gerard Wellesley, another.—Statesman.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hugh Percy Davison, formerly Aid-de-Camp and private Secretary to the Marquis of Hastings, arrived yesterday from Paris, to accompany his Grace the Duke of Northumberland to Ireland, as chief of his Excellency's Staff.—Courier, Jan. 31.

To-day His Majesty opened the Session of the Chambers in the Louvre.

After the usual preliminary ceremonies had been gone through, and the Peers and Deputies had taken their seats, His Majesty delivered the following Speech: “Gentlemen,—I am happy in seeing you every year assembled round my throne, to promote, in concert with me, the great interests of my people.

This satisfaction is the more lively on the present occasion as I have pleasing communications to make to you, and important labours to intrust to you.”

My relations with foreign powers continue to be friendly. The assurance I receive from my allies offer me a pledge, that notwithstanding the events which have desolated the East, peace will not be disturbed in the west of Europe. To hasten the pacification of Greece, I have, in concert with England and Russia, sent to the Morea a division of my troops.

At the sight of some thousand Frenchmen, determined to accomplish their noble task, that celebrated country, too long ravaged, has been restored to peace and security. There, as at Navarin, the union of the flags has proved to the respect of the three crowns for the faith of treaties, and my soldiers take pleasure in recounting the sincere support which they have found in the English Navy.

A formal declaration, notified to the Porte, has placed the Morea and the neighbouring Islands under the protection of the Three Powers. This solemn act will suffice to render a protracted occupation unnecessary. I continue to assist the Greeks, to rebuild their ruins, and my ships bring back to them those Christian slaves whom the pious generosity of France has restored to their country and to Liberty.

So many cares will not prove vain. I have reason to believe that the Porte will be enlightened, will cease to oppose the treaty of the 6th of July, and it may be hoped that this first arrangement will not be lost for the re-establishment of peace in the East.

The situation of Spain has allowed me to recall the troops which I had left at the disposal of his Catholic Majesty. My soldiers are returned to their country, after having received from the inhabitants of all the countries through which they have passed, testimonies of esteem and regret, due to their excellent conduct. Considerable sums have been advanced to the Spanish Government, a convention has been signed to regulate the repayment of them.

The hope which I still retain of obtaining from the Dey of Algiers a just reparation, has retarded the measures which I may be obliged to take in order to punish him; but I shall neglect nothing to protect the French commerce from insult and piracy; and the striking examples have already taught the Algerines that it is neither easy nor prudent to brave the vigilance of my navy.

Engagements contracted by an ancient French Colony had ceased to be executed. After having convinced myself that this execution was the result of inability, I have consented to open with it a more efficacious negotiation for the interests of the colonies and of commerce.

Many of my subjects have suffered by the measures taken by the Emperor of Brazil in his war with the Republic of Buenos Ayres. Some of their vessels have been captured. The convention which I have just ratified, while it conforms with respect to the right of blockade, a conservatory principle always maintained by France, ensures to them the restitution of their property, and an indemnity proportioned to their loss. On this occasion, as on all others, I owe its praises to the French marine, which shows itself worthy of its noble mission.

The successive shocks which have agitated some of the new States of South America, have left the political situation of these States uncertain, and rendered it difficult to form regular relations with them. The moment is doubtless far distant when I shall be able to give to those nations a stability advantageous to my subjects, and to their interests.

Such, Gentlemen, is the happy state of our relation with Foreign Powers. Whatever may be the events that the future reserves for France is a sacred deposit, and that the glory of being the guardian of it is the fairest prerogative of my Crown.

Order and peace prevail in the interior. France, already so celebrated, is daily distinguished by new improvements. Some branches of our agriculture and commerce are suffering, but I hope that it will be possible for me to lessen the evil, if it should not be able to cure it.

The long inclemency of the seasons, and the unfavourable delay which the harvest experienced, have awakened for some weeks the solicitude of my Government. Distressing doubts with respect to the state of our resources have been speedily dispelled by more positive information. The subsistence of all is assured; and if the price of corn, which augments the prosperity of the individuals, increases at a moment the distress of the multitude, Providence has created beneficences, to relieve those who suffer.

The Press, freed from restraints, enjoys a full liberty. If licentiousness, its fatal enemy, still shows itself under the cover of a generous and confiding law, public good stands, in my opinion, more firm and enlightened, does justice to its traditions, knows its duties, and will always fulfil them.

The necessity of placing the religion of our fathers in security against any attack, to maintain the same time the execution of the laws, and the of the priesthood, have induced me, after mature reflection, to prescribe measures which have been executed with that prudent firmness which reconciles the obedience due to the Laws, the respect due to religion, and the just regards to which Ministers are entitled.

Communications will be made to you on the state of our finances. You will be happy to learn that the estimates of the revenue for 1828 have been exceeded. This increasing prosperity, which Government, the system of economy in which we labour, without, however, forgetting that useful expense is also economy.

Numerous labours will occupy the Session which is opened to-day. You will have to discuss a code which is destined for the army, and to serve serious attention.

The law on the endowment of the Chamber of Peers, and many other laws worthy of your attention, will be presented to you. A serious and important project will, above all, call for your solicitude. It has been long since acknowledged that there is a necessity for a new municipal departmental law, the whole of which shall be in harmony with our institutions.

The most difficult questions are connected with the organization. It ought to secure to the Communes and to the Departments a just share in the management of their interests; but it must, at the same time, preserve to the protecting and moderating power which belongs to the Crown, the full scope of action and force which public order requires. I have caused a project which will be presented to you, to be prepared with care. I invite all of you, to be of your wisdom to this project, and I invite the discussion of it to your love of public good, and your fidelity. Every day gives me fresh proof of the affection of my people, and enhances the sacredness of the obligation which I have contracted to dedicate myself to their happiness. This noble task, which you, gentlemen, will assist me to fulfil, must daily become more easy.

Experience has dispelled the charm of insensate security. France, like yourselves, knows on what basis its happiness reposes, and those who should seek it aim where but in the sphere of the Royal authority and the liberties which the Charter has consecrated, would be openly disowned by it. You, Gentlemen, are called upon to render this union more close and more solid; you will accomplish this happy mission like faithful subjects and loyal Frenchmen, and your efforts will be equally certain of the support of your King and of the public gratitude.”

UNITED STATES. BOSTON, MARCH 20. [The following are some additional particulars, relative to the account of "Pirates and Murderers" given in our last number.]

We have been politely favoured with the following extract of a letter from a gentleman at Matanzas to another in this City, dated Feb. 26:—“The Brig Beaver, Capt. Cushing, from Portland, was chased into this Port 21st inst. and into—which being close into the mouth of the harbour, was distirly seized by several masters from their vessels. The pirate being to the leeward, and the wind favourable, enabled Capt. C. to get clear.

[The Beaver cleared last of Jan. for Havana.] The Attentive, Capt. Grozier, sailed from New-York, with a cargo of molasses, sugar, and coffee, on the morning of the 22d inst. and cleared the point about 10 o'clock, A. M. In twelve and 1 the same day, when within about 12 or 15 miles to the windward of this port, was brought to, by a small schooner of about 20 tons, mounting two long double fortified guns, and with a crew of 25 or 40 men. Capt. Grozier ordered on board, and with two men he accordingly went on board.

The boat soon returned, and the two men and 12 or 13 of the ruffians, detaining the two men on board the Schooner. On their reaching the deck, the second mate was ordered to clear up the mainmast, and when it was ordered to do so, he, with his sailors, raised a cry of “murder,” and with the exception of the Captain, who was ordered into the fore peak, every other man, till all had gone excepting the 2nd officer, who had crawled into the hold, and secured himself amongst the molasses—after repeated calls for him, a man cried out, in good English, “No, John, I say—why don't you come out?”

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