

for himself, the increase of his conveniences and competence. But be it as it is! I know that the earth is the great bride-well of the universe, where spirits descended from heaven are committed to drudgery and hard labour.—*Goodwin's Fleetwood.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD.—The States of New York and Vermont have lately been deluged simultaneously by a destructive freshet—the loss of property has been immense.

RELIGIOUS STATISTICS OF AMERICA.—From statistical accounts published in 1829, we learn that the congregations in the United States amounted to about 15,000, of which there were—presbyterians, 2,253; congregationalists, (in union with the foregoing) 960; methodists, about 2,500; episcopalians, 598; quakers, 1,000; Lutheran and reformed, 1,350; baptists, (mostly Calvinists) 3,723; Roman Catholics, 1,000; other denominations, 1,240; total, 14,624. Recent information makes the number considerably more, of almost every denomination. The *New York Baptist Repository* states, that there are, at least, 308 associations, 6,129 churches, 4,080 ministers, and 408,846 actual members of the baptists, in the United States! From these tables we learn the astonishing increase of the professors of religion in America; a subject worthy of our most serious consideration in Great Britain. It is ascertained, that during the last thirteen years, in the state of New York alone, the congregations have been more than doubled: in 1819, they being 716; but in 1832, they were 1470!—*Christian's Penny Magazine.*

THE PRESENT STATE OF GREECE.—The state of Greece, at present, is melancholy and wretched beyond the power of fancy to exaggerate. With the single exception of Napoli di Romania, the actual seat of government, every town and village on the main land—I do not speak hyperbolically—is in ruins; Athens, Corinth, Tripolitza, are almost utterly swept away. In many cities the people supply the place of their ruined habitations with temporary hovels of straw or mud, refusing to build more substantial dwellings till they have some security that their labour will not be thrown away. Others live in tents of the rudest construction, while many have no better shelter than the walnut or fig-tree. Few, if any, of the chiefs are able to support their followers; and, since the death of Capodistrias, the soldiers have had no pay, because the government has had no resource. Pillage, therefore, is their only resource; they wrest from the miserably peasants the little they possess. The cultivation of the ground has, in consequence, ceased; and all are now reduced to the most meagre and scanty subsistence. A little bread—when they are fortunate enough to procure it—an onion, a few olives, and, occasionally, even the softer parts of of the thistle, form the daily nourishment of this impoverished and exhausted people. Add to this, that the country is at the mercy of a needy and ferocious soldiery, who exercise on the unresisting peasantry, every species of outrage, license, and rapacity,—and the picture is painfully complete. I speak of nothing I have not seen. There is no temptation to exaggerate.—and the condition of Greece needs no exaggeration.

Hamburg papers, of a late date, speak of some disturbances having broken out in Podolia concurrently with those of Frankfort, and, as they contend, necessarily connected with them. Great pains appear to be taken to give importance to these outbreaks, apparently desultory and unconnected, and to prove them to be the working of a general plan of insurrection throughout the north of Germany and Poland. The Russian government affects much alarm at these demonstrations, and has made them the pretext for crowding the provinces with fresh bodies of troops, and vexing the unfortunate Poles by new and more rigorous restrictions. All was quiet at Frankfort, but the place was occupied by Austrian and Prussian troops, and under a sort of martial law. The magistrates had published a proclamation, justifying these measures, but the Diet was understood to be hatching new restraints on German liberty.

A MEDAL OF ST. PATRICK.—A small brass medal has recently been found in a field, when being ploughed up, near Glastonbury. The obverse represents a venerable half-length figure of St. Patrick, attired in a cope with a rich mitre on his head. His right hand is raised in the act of blessing—his left supports the archiepiscopal cross. The inscription is "St. Patr. Vet. Scotiae. Sev. Hiber. Ap." The reverse presents the half-length figure of an Abbess, holding a lily in her right hand, and the cross turned from her, resting on her left shoulder, with this inscription, S. Brig. V. Hiber. SS. Insvlae, Pat." St. Bridget, or Bride, died about the middle of the 6th century.

TURKEY. On the whole, it appears evident that the Ottoman empire is fast approaching the term of its existence; and the tardy and feeble efforts which have, of late, been made, are utterly inadequate to renovate a state of such advanced decrepitude.

The signs of the times are fearfully portentous, and the Sultan seems to read their meaning. His splendid new palace is built on the Asiatic shore, and, by a curious coincidence, the spot on which it is erected, is called "the Valley of the Cross." The empire is fast falling to pieces in every direction. Greece, one of its fairest portions, is already swept away—Bosnia gets up an almost annual rebellion, which, every year, becomes more difficult to quell—Albania has long been watching an opportunity to assure its independence—and now the Pacha of Egypt has openly thrown off his allegiance, and Syria is already in his hands. It cannot be for a moment doubted that his final success will be the signal for the total dismemberment of the Ottoman dominions; an event which it will be impossible to regret. A wiser and more auspicious government will, it may be hoped, succeed. The vast extent of favoured and fertile territory, which has so long been withered up under the blight of despotism, when relieved from the nightmare of oppression, will rapidly develop its rich and manifold resources: population will spring up in the race of increase with an elasticity unknown for ages; the wealth and happiness of Europe and the Levant will be augmented by a vast and varied commerce, of which no human eye can see the extent or termination; and smiling provinces, and a happy people, will succeed to that 'barbarous anarchic despotism,' (to quote the language of a master spirit) 'beneath which the finest countries in the most genial climates in the world, are wasted by peace, more than any others have been wasted by war—where arts are unknown—where manufactures languish—where science is extinguished—where agriculture decays—where the human race itself seems to melt away, and perish under the eye of the observer.'

PARIS POLICE.—According to the reports of the police of Paris for 1832, there were arrested during the year 77,543 individuals, of whom 26,653 were women; 25,702 drunkards were placed in confinement, 10,291 of them being women. The magistrates inflicted punishment upon 23,428 women, and committed 3,656 persons to take their trials before the tribunals. In 1832 there were 4,719 persons arrested more than during the preceding year.

HOUSE AND WINDOW TAX.
A strange Scene.

A public meeting was lately held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, in the Strand, London, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament for a total repeal of the House and Window Taxes. There was a very large assemblage of persons by the time appointed for taking the chair.

It was expected that Sir F. Burdett would have presided, and that Sir J. C. Hobhouse would also have attended. However, shortly after twelve o'clock, neither of those hon. baronets having arrived, the chair was taken by Mr. Alderman Wood.

The CHAIRMAN opened the business of the meeting by stating he had no doubt, in a few minutes, their much respected representatives would be present. (Loud uproar and cries of "They are turncoats!" "They are traitors!" "We don't want them!") He implored them, if they had met for business, not to let any such feelings interfere with so important a question. (Hear, hear.) He would say that the minister had the power of giving relief without adding to the public burthens. (Loud and continued cheering.) Some of the taxes taken off he considered very proper to remove—the soap tax was one of them, but it ought to be entirely taken off. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. D. W. HARVEY, M.P., on rising to propose the first resolution, said, as a member of the House of Commons he might, by the fastidious be condemned for speaking at a meeting upon a petition which he should have to give his judgment upon; but this he disregarded. (At this moment Daniel O'Connell, Esq., M.P., entered the room, and was received with music and the loudest applause.) The reception of the hon. member by the meeting, was, he (Mr. Harvey) would say, in perfect accordance with his feelings, and he could not but be gratified at the interruption. (Cheers.) He had to propose the first resolution at a meeting which, he must say, was most appropriately called; for if it had been called earlier, it would have been denominated a mark of impatience on the part of the people, to ask for a repeal of the obnoxious window-tax, or any other tax, until the Chancellor of the Exchequer had opened his budget, and shown, at the head of a reformed parliament, the blessings he had in store for the people of England. (Loud shouts of laughter.) It was now, he said, for the people of England to say aye or no—were they satisfied or no with the budget. (No, no, no.) The whole of the expenditure embraced in the two millions must undergo the severest scrutiny. (Cheers, during which Sir F. Burdett entered the room, and proceeded towards the hustings.) He was received with such a shout of hisses, groans, and cheers, together with a loud flourish of trumpets, that defies all description. The hon. baronet then took

the chair, which Mr. Alderman Wood vacated; immediately after which the groans and hisses were, if possible, louder, and various were the cries of "Ah, Old Glory!" "Turn him out of the chair!" "Alderman Wood, chairman!" &c. and much confusion. At length silence was obtained, and Mr. Harvey proceeded.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS seconded the resolution.

Sir F. BURDETT rose to put the resolution to the meeting, but was received with such a shout of disapprobation, mingled with a portion of applause, that it was impossible to hear his observations.

At this moment Mr. Hume entered the room, and was received with the most hearty applause, and cries of "Hume to the chair!"

Mr. O'CONNELL was received with shouts of applause. He said he came to the meeting well influenced by a single sentiment, and that was the pledge he had given, that whatever might be the wretched state of his own country, he should be always ready to use his efforts to lessen the burdens—to ameliorate the condition of Englishmen. (Cheers.) For he did not blame the people of England for the miseries inflicted upon his own unhappy country. (Cheers.) He would offer his honest advice to them—he would urge them not to confide in his Majesty's ministers. (Cheers.) He would advise them, instead of confiding in them, to mistrust them. (Hear, hear.) He asked them, do you want relief? (Cries of, "We will have it." "You will have it," said he, "aye you shall have it." (Loud cheers.) He would advise them to place no confidence in the present ministry. Could they place confidence in the reformed parliament? (Cries of "No, no.") What good had the reformed parliament done? (None, none.) He would tell them at Westminster to-night of the glorious meeting that took place there to-day—of the thousand that came together and said there was no re-acton; that would be an answer to those who said the people were satisfied with reform.

Mr. HUME next addressed the meeting, and was followed by Mr. Savage, Mr. Robinson, M.P., and Sir S. Whalley.

Sir F. BURDETT then entered into an explanation respecting some expressions attributed to him in the *Times*. He felt himself bound to attend a meeting which was convened by so large a portion of his constituents, but it was necessary that he should request that they should not be led away by their passions. ("Off, off," and hisses.) He asked not for applause or approbation. (Here the noise and uproar became so great that but very few sentences of the hon. baronet's speech were afterwards heard. The itinerant orator, Dr. Wade, jumped on the table, at one end of the platform, and bawled out, "I move that Mr. Murphy takes the chair." This proposition was met with volleys of hisses, and cries of "No!" The scene which took place upon this is impossible to be described.) The hon. baronet, we understood, amid this confusion, complained that his name had been advertised as chairman without his sanction, and he had never been consulted on the resolutions. (Here Dr. Wade addressed the meeting amid general uproar and much confusion. After making a few further observations, which were wholly inaudible, the hon. baronet left the chair amidst loud expressions of applause and disapprobation. The room presented, at that period, a scene of universal confusion.)

After Sir F. Burdett had retired, a show of hands was called for a chairman, and Sir John Key was declared to be voted in, and the business proceeded.

From the London Times of May 22.

GERMAN PAPERS.

VIENNA, May 10.

An English courier from London has arrived here, who is said to be the bearer of communications relative to the affairs of the East. The English government, it is said, will not indeed interfere directly in the matter, but will use its influence that the independence of the Porte may not be endangered. For the present, however, this danger seems to be past, and the Sultan to be certain of weathering the storm, for all the powers have manifested the greatest desire for his preservation, and even the French government is said to be resolved to declare itself more decidedly in favour of the sultan. We hear that some French men-of-war have lately arrived at Smyrna, and are placed under the command of Admiral Hugon, to awe Ibrahim Pacha, and, in case of need, compel him to give way. These ships seem to have come from the Archipelago. The Porte is reported to have drawn up a memorial, in which it endeavours to show the impossibility of giving up Adana, representing this as the most unreasonable demand of Ibrahim. This memorial has been communicated to all the Foreign Ministers at Constantinople. The memorial also enumerates the reasons which induced the Sultan to accept the assistance generously offered by Russia. Mehemet is reported to have

made a declaration on his part, the very temperate language of which would almost induce us to believe that he will not prosecute his victories, but be satisfied with the concessions made by the Porte. Does he not, at the same time, make immense military preparations? It is affirmed that he is, at this moment forming a fresh corps of 20,000 regular troops to send to his son. Besides this, a great quantity of artillery and military stores of all descriptions, have been embarked at Alexandria, which seems to indicate that he has extensive projects. But a country like Egypt cannot long persevere in such efforts; in fact, much discontent is said to exist, which a long duration of the war must increase. A speedy restoration of peace would therefore be, perhaps, as desirable for the Pacha as for the Sultan.

The letters from Holland still affirm that the Cabinet of the Hague is well disposed to settle the differences with Belgium; but the last notes exchanged between Messrs. Dedel, Talleyrand, and Palmerston, appear to be contrary to this assertion.

Count Munch Bellinghausen, President of the Diet, sets out for Frankfort the day after to-morrow. On his arrival there the affairs of Germany will probably be taken into serious consideration.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that we have to announce that a preliminary treaty was signed yesterday by the Plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, France, and Holland. By this convention the English and French embargoes will be taken off Dutch vessels in the ports of England and France, and the interruption of their navigation, on the part of the Dutch Government, will be removed. The services of the English and French united squadrons will thus likewise be dispensed with, and the intercourse between the respective parties and Holland placed on the same footing as before the French expedition in November last. The Dutch garrison of Antwerp, now prisoners in France, will, by the same arrangement, be sent home. The armistice between Holland and Belgium will be continued till the definitive settlement of a permanent separation, and till that time the navigation of the Scheldt will remain free. This convention has been agreed upon with the Dutch Plenipotentiary, and was sent off to Holland for ratification yesterday.

The Jury which sat on the Inquest held to investigate the circumstances connected with the death of CULLEY, the policeman, who was killed in a late affray with the people, have brought in a verdict of "Justifiable Homicide."

The discussion which took place on Saturday last, in the French Chamber of Deputies, relative to the French guarantee of the Greek loan, was extremely interesting. The Duke de Broglie, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, defended the measure in a speech which lasted two hours, and which is said to have produced a striking effect on his audience. Never, in any of his former addresses, did he display a more enlightened intelligence, or a more elevated cast of feeling, expressed in a more forcible or eloquent language.

The proposed loan to the kingdom of Greece, it is well known, amounts to 60,000,000 francs (or 2,400,000l. sterling), of which France guarantees one third, England another, and Russia the remainder. The violent members of the Opposition, who, under the Bourbons, urged the support of the Greek cause with most zeal, have expressed a hostility to this arrangement, and call upon the French Government not to fulfil its diplomatic engagements on the subject. Their grounds of objection are various, but happily most of them seemed to admit of a satisfactory answer from the noble minister. They objected to the establishment of a monarchical form of government in Greece. He showed that the chief authors of the Greek revolution thought any other kind of government in that country a chimera, and that the martyrs of freedom had seen their salvation from anarchy only under the shade of a Christian throne. They objected to the Bavarian prince Otho, as the nominee of Russia. The minister replied, that France had first suggested the propriety of this selection, and had, with much difficulty, overcame the repugnance of the Russian Court. His triumph over other objections, equally ill-chosen, was equally striking.

The 18th report of the committee on public petitions has been printed. From it we learn that in favour of the vote by ballot there have been presented this session, 33 petitions, with 18,876 signatures; for putting an end to the profanation of the Sabbath, 931 petitions, with 235,754 signatures; against the church temporalities (Ireland) bill, 82 petitions, having 4,983 signatures—these are principally from clergymen; from Dissenters, praying further relief, 82 petitions, 15,550 signatures; for the Jewish relief bill, 43 petitions, with 43,227 signatures; against colonial slavery, 2,398 petitions, with 527,547 signatures; against the house and window tax, 90 petitions, with 57,155 signatures; for the repeal of the malt duty, 41 petitions, with 24,235 signatures; for the repeal or alteration of the beer act, 129 peti-