

Born at Broadlands in October 1784, he commenced his studies at Harrow and graduated at Cambridge in 1806. Having been returned to the House of Commons soon after for the borough of Blotchingley he was, in 1807, made a Junior Lord of the Admiralty, and had sat in Parliament either in or out of office ever since. For ten years he discharged the responsible duties of Secretary of War under the Percival, Liverpool, Canning, Goderich, and Wellington administrations. It was as a Tory that he had first accepted office, and he continued to act with that party until 1828, when having espoused the cause of Mr. Huskisson in that gentleman's quarrel with the Duke of Wellington, he passed into the ranks of the Opposition and became a decided Whig. Two years later, on the accession to power of the party with which he had become identified, he was made Secretary of Foreign Affairs in Earl Grey's cabinet—a position he occupied afterwards under several administrations. Among the many diplomatic successes which his vigorous policy achieved about this time, were the recognition of the independence of Belgium, the alliance with France for the protection of the constitutional governments of Spain and Portugal against the Holy alliance, and last but not least, the masterly political combinations which for the time preserved the integrity of the tottering Empire of the Turks. While he recognized the Emperor of Austria as the ruler of Hungary, Lord Palmerston admitted the right of the people to be governed by their old constitution, and it was also through his influence that Kossuth was liberated when Austria sought the extradition of that patriot from the Sultan. The revolutionary crisis of 1848 called the resources of his active mind into play as it required extreme tact and ability to escape being swept into the vortex of Continental anarchy and war without a sacrifice of principle. This he achieved, upholding the doctrine of self-government and constitutional representation, and, on the perpetration of the *coup d'Etat* which placed Napoleon III. on the French throne, he readily gave an official recognition to the new state of things—an act which led to his immediate retirement. He was accused of having sent off at this time some of his more important despatches unread by the Sovereign, a charge which, from the published accounts, seems to have had a coloring of truth. On the formation of the coalition, after the fall of the Derby cabinet, he accepted the office of Home Secretary in the Aberdeen administration, a position he occupied until its fall in 1855, when he became Prime Minister. Three years later, his cabinet having become unpopular, chiefly on account of an attempt to enact a law for the punishment of conspiracy for murder in a foreign country intended to reach such cases as that of Orsini's, he had to give way to Lord Derby. But his retirement was only temporary, he soon resumed his place and continued at the head of public affairs until his death.

Viscount Palmerston was descended from a younger branch of the Temples of Stowe whose founder settled in Ireland in 1609. The first Lord Palmerston was created Peer of Ireland in 1722.

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.

—We have been shewn by Messrs J. & W. Hilton, of this city, a sample of looking-glass plates silvered by them. The backs are coated with a hard red enamel, by a process of their own. This enamel hardens, and protects the silverings so that the plates can be handled and subjected to pretty rough usage without danger of damage. Hitherto the article (commonly known by the name of red back silvering glass plates) has been only made in Germany, and very large quantities have been brought from thence into Canada and the United States. Messrs. Hilton are now prepared to furnish as good an article as the imported one, and at a less price. A better proof of their facilities for furnishing these goods cannot be found than in the fact that they are now supplying orders for them from the United States. These plates have been on exhibition during last week at the Crystal Palace, and have attracted considerable attention. We are glad to notice this new branch of Canadian industry, and the trade should encourage it by giving it the preference in their orders.—*Trade Review*.

—Artificial refrigeration is evidently destined to receive most important industrial applications. Already in the paraffine-oil manufacture, and in the ingenious process by which M. Balard and M. Merie obtain chloride of potassium from sea-water, it renders most valuable service, and now M. Alvaro Reynoso, of Havana, is applying it to the concentration of sirups. In face of the well-known fact that water in freezing becomes completely separated from whatever it may have previously held in solution, and of the successful working of the process by which Carré and others produce any desired degree of cold, by mechanical means, at a scarcely appreciable cost, one wonders that no one should have thought before of applying artificial cold to the extraction of sugar from sirups, especially when it is remembered how injurious the action of heat is apt to be. However, M. Reynoso has conceived the idea at last, and is devoting himself energetically to its realization. He is in England just now, testing the respective merits of the various cold-producing appliances in use here. He has found that a sirup marking only 6 deg. of Beaumé's saccharometer becomes converted by congelation into ice, to a sirup of 30 deg. Should it be found that the cold does not injure the sirup, we may look to see great changes in the processes of the sugar manufacture.—*Mechanics Magazine*.

—Condensed ale is among the latest discoveries. It is the invention of a citizen of Rochester, N. Y., and he claims that by this method the ordinary

extract of malt and hops is reduced seven-eighths in quantity, and to the consistency of sugar-house sirups, without throwing off any of the volatile matter, or aroma which brewers seek to retain if possible, not always with success. The heat applied in cooking the extract is steam, and burning of the liquor is entirely avoided, so that, by the peculiar method of brewerage and condensation, the ale is allowed to retain all the finer qualities that impart to it the rare merit that "cheers but not inebriates." The condensed product is put up in ale-casks, and may be shipped to any part of the world unspoiled by heat or climate. This is the greatest advantage which is claimed for it.—*American Artizan*.

—It has been estimated that the ocean contains 160,000 cubic miles of magnesium—a quantity which would cover the entire surface of the globe, both sea and land, to a thickness of more than eight feet. In obtaining salt from sea water, the residuum is largely magnesium. It constitutes 13 per cent of magnesium limestone, a rock found in all parts of the world in enormous quantities. Three years ago all the chemists who had obtained it probably did not possess an ounce among them. One year ago its price was 112 guineas (about \$600 in gold) per pound! Now, owing to improvements recently introduced, magnesium wire is sold at *three pence per foot*. It has been suggested that when it shall be cheap enough, vessels of war should be built of it, for whilst but little heavier than "heart of oak," it is as strong and tenacious as steel.—*American Gas-light Journal*.

—We learn from the *Scientific Review* (published by Messrs. Cassell & Co) that some curious experiments have recently been made by M. Emile Duchemin on a new and, it is probable, very important use of electricity. He attaches to a small buoy or float a piece of carbon and a plate of zinc, and having, by means of two thin lines connected with its poles, attached this battery to an electric bell apparatus placed on the shore, he throws it into the sea. Not only is the bell, by this means, kept ringing continuously for an entire month—and longer, if desired—but sparks may be taken between the extremities of the wire. This suggested the placing of a similar battery, communicating also with an electric bell, at a certain height against the wall of a harbour. The battery will begin to ring the bell the moment the tide will rise high enough to immerse its elements; and thus it will be announced to ships ready to sail that the water is high enough for the purpose. It is evident that the power of the apparatus may be increased to any extent by increasing the size and number of the battery elements; and the current may be used to sound a large bell, or, by means of Geissler tubes, to produce an electric light so as to give a signal perceptible at a great distance. It is suggested, even, that an electric buoy of this kind would be highly convenient for telegraphic purposes.—*Exchange paper*.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

—The several literary clubs formed in connection with the Laval University have recommenced their annual meetings. At the first of these, held by the students in the Petit-Séminaire, under the auspices of Mgr. de Tloz, an essay by Mr. Isidore Belleau, some Latin verses by Mr. Clovis Laflamme, and a paper entitled *Almanzor*, were very much admired. At the meeting of the Medical association, Dr. Larue experimented with the *Spectroscope*, an instrument by means of which so many novel and important discoveries have been made in chemistry and astronomy.

STATISTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

—Philadelphia, the City of Brotherly Love, contains 536 Lawyers and 600 regular Physicians, including 95 Homœopathic, 5 Eclectic, and 1 Hydropatic. Besides these, there is a host of *Doctors*, whose pills and plasters, judging from advertisements, will cure all imaginary ills, from a guilty conscience to the wound occasioned by a mosquito's bite. The Medical Schools, 8 in number, are said not to be surpassed in excellence by any in Europe. There are also 244 druggists. The honest gentlemen first named are proverbially sagacious. This is owing chiefly to the fact that emptiness of stomach, if not excessive, promotes vigor of intellect.

The religious houses of worship are classed and numbered as follows:—Baptist, 34; Presbyterian, 76; Methodist, 60; Protestant Episcopal, 63; Roman Catholic, 34; Lutheran, 14; German Reformed, 8; Dutch Reformed, 4; Jewish Synagogues, 7; Evangelical, 5; German Baptist, 2; Congregational, 3; Friends' Meeting Houses, 14; Bible Christian, 1; New Jerusalem, 5; Christian, 1; Disciples of Christ, 1; Mariners, 4; Moravian, 1; Mennonist, 1; Unitarian, 2; Universalist, 2; Spiritualist, 1; Independent, 1; Colored Baptist, 4; Colored Methodist, 10; Colored Presbyterian, 3; Colored Episcopalian, 1.—*Advertiser*.