

Tuesday, April 23, 1867.

The Clamor for Reform in Great Britain.

In considering the Reform Bill of 1832, we are forced to the conclusion that a peaceable or a violent change was inevitable; in choosing between the two, was there room for reasonable hesitation? The political machinery was out of order, and had the repairs of the "frame of Parliament" been longer delayed, very great hazard of its total dislocation would have been incurred. The task of renovating, no doubt, was a delicate one, and not unattended with risk; but the attempt was necessary, and it succeeded. As a matter of fact, that movement derived its strength from something much stronger than the lower class; it was not to insurrectionary violence that the Legislature yielded. The movement proceeded mainly from the "middle class." The middle class, before the Reform Bill, possessed little, if any, direct political power. After the Reform Bill, it enjoyed the largest share. The middle class, reinforced by the discontent which intense distress, at that time, had produced among the lower, presented a formidable combination, which any Government might well fear to encounter. The House of Lords actually yielded to the extraordinary pressure put on them by the King; but it is more than probable that had they been able to surmount his opposition, they must have given way to the middle class. They were fighting a battle in which almost every element of social power was ranged on the other side. Those who compare those times with these, and threaten the opponents of the Reform Bill with the rout that befel the antagonists of its greater prototype, forget the material fact that the middle classes were on the wrong side of the pale then, and that they are on the right side now. We read the threats of the Radical orators. In 1858, Mr Bright told the people that a reduction of the Franchise would soon be demanded in "rougher tones" than his; and in 1866, he declares that unless it is granted an "accident" would happen to British institutions such as drove Charles X. from his throne. Orators of less distinction than Mr Bright, and the writers in his daily organs, follow in the same strain more boldly, and tell us a great deal about "the people rising in their might." We notice discussions upon questions of organic change that are carried on as if it were under the shadow of revolution. Issues between the legislature of the country and the lower classes in the great towns are quietly assumed by Radicals and believed by timid Conservatives to be mere questions of the patience of the latter. When once they are piqued by the enemies, or persuaded by their friends, to "rise," the ultimate tribunal of the nineteenth century has spoken. No one, says an able writer who has watched the recent tendency of political discussions, can have failed to observe how deeply this theory has tinged our political philosophy, and to a certain extent our political action. Yet it is a curious doctrine to have lifted itself so high, especially in England. No one can say that its history gives the slightest countenance to it. Its whole course is a chronicle of constant concessions to enlightened public opinion; but it does not record a single instance of concession to mob violence. The case most nearly in point, in recent times, is the agitation under which the Reform Bill of 1832 was carried, to which we alluded above. It is not, however, from any English experience that the popular notion of the inviolability of the lower classes, if aroused, has arisen. The political history of their neighbors across the channel has always produced a strong effect on the imagination, of all classes in England; a stronger effect, perhaps, from the slight distance and the strangeness of the surrounding circumstances, than would have been produced by similar events if they had happened at home. The events of the

last session show that no future Government can venture to present any such measure which shall involve a large transfer of power, or which shall be constructed under fear of the artisan or laboring classes, in order to satisfy the agitation their advocates have made. Let us now glance for a moment at the real position of the working classes who are said to be excluded from the franchise. The Pall Mall Gazette, of the 6th of March, 1866, informs us: "That as soon as the Ministry had decided on the principle and outlines of their reforms, they began to collect information about it. As soon as they had fixed their franchise, they asked for returns to show how many and what sort of persons that franchise would admit. The result startled the Ministers and surprised the public. It appeared, from the statistics furnished to them by the local authorities, that so far from there being scarcely any working men upon the register—so far from the laboring classes being 'serfs,' as Mr Potter called them, or 'outside of the pale of the Constitution,' as Mr Bright and Mr Foster phrase it—from 20 to 22 per cent. of the electors now on the list belong to the working classes; and a further investigation has confirmed the main conclusion—viz., that one-fifth to one-fourth of the actual constituency of England consists of those very classes who were believed to be virtually excluded from the franchise, and whose admission was the object of the contemplated Reform Bill." Such is the position of the working classes, shown by the official returns furnished by Mr Gladstone himself. To say, then, that Parliament, or any party in it, is opposed to the admission of the working man to the polling-booth, is studiously to falsify the facts. When the working man and his advocates have become so practical and sincere in their demands for Reform that they will accept "participation" without "predominance," the "settlement of the question" will have been attained, but not till then. A large majority of the people of England are indignant that Mr Bright should have, or appear to have, dictated to the late Government; they desire some measure which, leaving the franchise in the hands of the middle classes, should so distribute the electoral privilege as to bring the House of Commons more than it is into unison with the feelings of the people. They do not choose to see all other classes of voters "swamped" by the lowest. Lord Russell rightly insists that "the aim of all Reform should be to make Parliament the mirror of the nation," and any further enfranchisement of the working classes, or of any class, is desirable only as a means to this end. The managers at Reform committees and demonstrations frankly avow their ultimate object to be universal suffrage, vote by ballot, and equal electoral districts, although it is perfectly plain that if these objects were realized representatives government would entirely disappear. It has been well observed that the decisions that are taken within the next two or three years will determine, in all probability, the future character and complexion of our constitution. The public apathy upon questions of domestic policy is profound. The nation is too intent on other matters to point out to its rulers the course it would have them to take; its destiny is in the hands of a score or so of influential politicians of various schools. If they understand the supreme importance of the crisis to forget awhile, for their country's sake, old antipathies or personal aspirations, the men who really love our ancient constitution will be gathered under one banner, and their united force will defy democracy. But if the opportunity is squandered in personal self-assertion or sectional bickerings, they must pale before an enemy who, at least, may claim the praise of never suffering private ambition to impede the attainment of a great end. Trouble with Spain. The telegraph announces the departure of a fleet of war vessels, followed by an ironclad, for Cadiz, Spain, to demand satisfaction for the seizure and confiscation of the British steamship Victoria by the Spanish Government. The Victoria was seized by

Spain on a charge of being a Chilean privateer fitted out in England to prey upon Spanish commerce after the fashion of the Confederate steamer Alabama upon American vessels. It was proven to the satisfaction of our Government that the Victoria was a peaceable merchant vessel, engaged in a legitimate trade, when seized. A fate similar to that which happened the Victoria befel the steamer Tornado, seized about four months ago by Spain on a like pretext. In the case of the last named vessel, the officers and crew were imprisoned and submitted to great indignities. Spain has treated with contempt all our demands for redress, and "patience having at last ceased to be a virtue," a fleet of British vessels have gone down to enforce the claim of our Government at the cannon's mouth.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE Thursday, April 18, Municipal Council.

The Council met last evening. The Mayor and four Councillors were present. Further time was granted the committee appointed to report in relation to the offer of J. P. Davies' Fort street premises as a city market. MR TITUS' CLAIMS. The Council having on several occasions discussed this matter and taken evidence on the same resolved itself into committee of the whole, Mr Gowen in the chair, and unanimously agreed on the following, moved by Mr Gibbs: That this Council having carefully deliberated upon the claim of M M Titus for the construction of the View street drain, and after having reviewed the action of the preceding Municipal Council upon the same, have come to the unanimous conclusion that they would not be justified in entertaining or otherwise acknowledging such a claim. The clerk was instructed to notify Mr Titus accordingly. The Council rose, reported progress and took up the communication of Jeffrey, Bray & Reynolds, and came to the decision not to interfere with the recommendation of the Finance Committee of last meeting, viz to pay 25 per cent. on claims, balance to be paid quarterly. Council adjourned until Tuesday evening next at half past seven.

Bankruptcy Court. [Before Chief Justice Needham.]

Wednesday, 11th April, 1867. Re Harris—Application of the Official Assignee in the matter of Murray's bill of sale. Judge ordered the issue to be tried by jury on the 2nd of May, to be heard with counsel on both sides. The summons was dismissed. Re Evans—Upon application of counsel (Mr Ring) a return debitors summons was ordered to be heard in chambers. For the bankrupt Mr Ring and Mr Robertson were instructed by Mr Peakes; for the opposing creditor (Casamayor) Messrs Drake & Jackson appeared. Re steamer Fly—\$56 10 ordered to be paid the Marshal of the Court for fees attendant upon the sale of this vessel. Re Fry—Bankrupt ordered to be discharged from his debts. Unclaimed dividends in the estates of Wm Culverwell, W J Carr, A Blackman, F Peter sen, Moore & Insley, were ordered to be paid into the Treasury.

THE NORTHWEST COAST SURVEY.—We

yesterday visited the H. B. Co.'s stern-wheel steamer Alexandra, which has been thoroughly overhauled and strengthened by the use of Her Majesty's officers, who, under the command of Capt. Pender, are charged with the duty of completing the survey of the Northwest Coast of the Colony. The hands were engaged in putting aboard 125 cords of wood for the use of the steamer, which, with 80 tons of coal, it is expected, will last for two months. A new promenade deck has been laid on the steamer, and the great stern-wheel shortened by eighteen inches; a neat forecastle has been fitted up for the men. The officers will occupy the cabins of the steamer, which have not been altered. The engines of the boat have received the attention of Mr Elliott, a Company's engineer, who will go north with the Alexandra—the engineer of the Beaver, Mr Bowditch, remaining, to receive and place in position two boilers for that steamer, which are expected daily by the Princess Royal, from England. The Alexandra will steam round to Esquimaux to-day, and will depart for the north as soon as possible after the arrival of the Sparrowhawk from San Francisco.

"TAKE NOTICE."—That the writer in the Morning News who accuses the proprietors of the Colonist of suppressing a telegram intended for that office, is guilty of a deliberate, wilful and malicious misstatement, which he knew to be false when he penned it. No telegram intended for our cotemporary has been suppressed in this office.

CATALOGUE SALE OF FURNITURE.—The most extensive furniture sale that has yet taken place on the Island will be held at the St. Nicholas Hotel, on Wednesday next. The furniture is contained in fifty rooms of the hotel, and comprises about 1000 lots. Catalogues will be ready on Saturday.

THE REVENUE OF CARIBOO.—The total revenue of this district for 1865 was \$33 872 83; for 1866, \$34,745 37, showing a balance of \$872 99 in favor of last year. It is to the several items however that we look for the signs of slow but sure progress. There is a balance in favor of last year from all the general sources of revenue except spirit licenses and mining receipts general. There is a balance of \$827 in favor of 1866 for Free Miners certificates, and a balance of \$715 80 in favor of the same year for Postage, in fact, the Postage receipts have nearly doubled in one year. The receipts for 1865 were \$931 70; for 1866, \$1647 50. Fines, forfeitures and fees of Court show a balance in favor of 1866, and Trade Licenses a balance of \$901 25 in favor of the same year. From these figures it appears that there has been less spirituous liquors sold in 1866; that there has been a greater number of Mining and Trading Licenses issued in 1866 than in 1865, and nearly twice as many letters and papers received; and, sad to relate, there has been more law. With the exception of this last item the balances all show progress.—Cariboo Sentinel.

GROUSE CREEK FLUME.—A grant has been given to the Flume Company, consisting of 1250 feet, beginning at a point 500 feet from the head of their flume, running up stream, on conditions that they will relinquish their former claims, work continuously on their present ground and complete the remaining 750 feet of flume before the end of the season 1866. A proclamation was issued by the Gold Commissioner on the 23rd inst., declaring all that part of Grouse Creek which was held by the Flume Company, four and a half miles in length, to be open for pre-emption, reserving of course the 1250 feet for the company. This is a valuable gift, prospecting above and below, and on both sides by industrious miners, and the conditions of tenure are very easy. Under the old charter, the Flume Company had 1500 feet of flume to construct each year, when they knew nothing of the value of the ground; under the new charter the company have only 750 feet of flume to construct in two years; one-half the amount in twice the time, when they know the ground is rich.

A BAD PRECEDENT.—The News says that the Inspector of Weights and Measures has been allowed to "nominate a successor" during his absence at Cariboo as overseer for a mining company. We shall next hear of the Sipiendary Magistrate, or the High Sheriff, or the Superintendent of Police, accepting a position in some other part of the Colony and "nominating a substitute" during his absence. The system is a highly improper one; and if done to "compensate Mr Sparrow for the loss sustained by him in being removed from the Post Office" because the Colony was too poor to pay him, it is still more improper. According to this argument, every business man who risked his all in the Colony and lost it, is entitled to "compensation," just as much, if not more, than Mr Sparrow, who held a situation for several years under the Island Government.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—Mr Pemberton, acting as coroner, yesterday held an inquest over the body of John Primer, late stoker of H. M. S. Malacca, who was drowned in Esquimaux harbor, about seven weeks ago, by the upsetting of a boat. The evidence went to show that deceased and three others got into a boat at the Esquimaux landing late at night; that the boat contained some water which they neglected to bale out; that when some distance from the wharf, deceased refused to pull the oars; that as Riley, one of the survivors, was stepping from the stern to take the oars, the boat careened; and that the occupants were thrown out and Primer and one other drowned. The jury returned a verdict of accidental drowning.

GUBERNATORIAL TRIP.—Governor Seymour has chartered the Fraser River steamer Onward to carry a number of invited guests from Westminster to Yale, on Tuesday next. From the Island, Chief Justice Needham and family, Hon. W. A. G. Young and family, and a number of others will participate. The Governor and Mrs Seymour will take the stage at Yale and go as far as Boston Bar. The party expect to leave New Westminster on Tuesday next, and to return on the following Saturday.

HO! FOR SITKA.—The Sitka fever has commenced to rage in this locality, and no doubt exists in quite a virulent form at San Francisco. Already visions of a great metropolis in the Polar regions and dreams of sudden wealth by a rise in town lots begin to form the day dreams of speculative citizens, and anxious inquiries are made as to when a steamer, by means of which they may visit the locality and prospect for "rich strikes," will start. The owners of the New World have been approached with an offer for the trip, express themselves in favor of accepting it should a sufficient number of passengers offer.

A. D. RICHARDSON, correspondent of the New York Tribune, who was here in 1865 with the Colfax party, was recently shot in that city by an enraged husband, with whose wife he was walking. The wound is not dangerous.

NEW WESTMINSTER ITEMS.—From the Columbian and Examiner we glean the following items:—A dairy has been started at Sumass... Chinamen have gone up the river for Kootenay... The filling of a cistern with water was made the occasion of a grand torch-light procession by the firemen... There are eighteen prisoners in jail at the Capital.

SAILED.—The bark Lono and Scotland sailed from Esquimaux harbor yesterday morning. The Lono is laden with lumber, and is bound for Honolulu, S. I. The Scotland goes to San Francisco with a cargo of Nanaimo coal.

SERENADE.—Lieut Hansell, of the U. S. Revenue Service, and Mrs Hansell, (a newly married couple) were serenaded at the St George, last night, by a number of congratulating friends. The bridegroom acknowledged the compliment in a graceful manner.

FROM NANAIMO.—The U. S. mail steamer New World returned from Nanaimo yesterday morning. She has on board 150 tons of coal for her own use. The bark Glaramara, for San Francisco, and the steamer Alexander III., for Sitka, are loading with coal.

CURES AND COMFORT FOR THE BED-RIDDEN.

Holloway's Ointment.

"This wonderful Ointment acts like magic in relieving and curing old sores, wounds, bad legs, ulcers and eruptions of the skin; when rubbed on the surface it penetrates and purifies each tissue on its passage, and cures the most wholesome influence over the internal structure in contact, and thereby procures a sound and permanent cure." Gout and Rheumatism. To sufferers from the racking pains of rheumatism and Gout this ointment will prove invaluable. After fomentation with warm water the soothing action of this Ointment is most remarkable; it seems as if to loosen the inflammation, ease pain, reduce the swelling, restore nature's circulation, and expel the disease. For the above complaints Holloway's Ointment and Pills are infallible remedies. Diphtheria, Bronchitis, Sore Throats, Coughs and Colds. In all cases of disease may be cured by well rubbing the Ointment, three times a day, upon the throat, chest and back of the patient. It will soon penetrate and give immediate relief. In all stages of Influenza, Colds and Bronchitis, this treatment may be followed with efficiency and safety—indeed, it has never been known to fail.

Dropical Swellings.

"Severe of this dangerous and stealthy complaint which frequently creeps upon us by slight swellings of the legs begins to swell. The cause of the evil must be looked for in the liver and stomach, therefore set to work earnestly by taking Holloway's famous Pills according to the printed instructions and rubbing the Ointment right into the pit of the stomach and the right side where those organs lie. Most dropical cases will readily yield to the combined influence of the Ointment and Pills.

Piles, Fistulas, and Internal Inflammation.

These complaints are most distressing to both body and mind, cause delicate oozing humors from the knowledge of the most intimate friends. Persons suffer from these and similar complaints when they might be cured by the use of Holloway's Ointment with instant relief, and effect their own cure without the annoyance of explaining their ailments to anyone.

Disorders of the Kidneys, Stone and Gravel.

Are immediately relieved and ultimately cured if this Ointment be well rubbed twice a day, into the small of the back, over the regions of the kidneys to which it will gradually penetrate and in almost every case give immediate relief; but perseverance will be necessary to effect a radical cure.

MAGENTA.

"JUDSON'S SIMPLE DYES FOR THE PEOPLE." Are undoubtedly the most useful article ever offered to the public. They can be used on any material, and are the only dyes in England. "Judson's Dyes" are as "Household Words." Articles of clothing that have been put aside as faded and useless, may be made nearly equal to new, by merely following the simple directions appended to each bottle of Dye.

NEW "VICTORIA" DYES

JUDSON'S Victoria Violet. These Dyes are in FINE POWDER—dissolve thoroughly in warm water in the space of one minute—no other admixture; suitable for Cotton, Wool or Silk. Feathers, Ribbons, Ivory, Hair, &c., &c. Trade Mark: "A. FRACKOCK." Packed in 1 lb Tins, at 10s. per lb. 8 oz Bottles 1s. 6d. per oz. Order JUDSON'S Victoria Dyes through any Merchant in England.