

Arrival of the Caledonia.

15 DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

House of Lords, August 24.—The House of Lords was opened to day a little after 12 o'clock. Her Majesty then read the following

SPEECH:

My Lords and Gentlemen:

The state of public business enables me to close this protracted session, and to release you from further attendance at your parliamentary duties.

I thank you for the measures you have adopted for enabling me to give full effect to the several treaties which I have concluded with foreign powers.

I have given my cordial assent to the bill which you presented to me for increasing the means of spiritual instruction in populous parishes, by making a portion of the revenues of the Church available for the endowment of additional ministers.

I confidently trust that the wise and benevolent intentions of the legislature will be aided by the zeal and liberality of my subjects, and that better provision will be made for public worship and for general superintendance in many districts of the country.

I view with satisfaction the passing of the act for removing doubts respecting the jurisdiction of the Church of Scotland in the admission of ministers, and for securing to the people and to the courts of the Church, the full exercise of their respective rights.

It is my earnest hope that this measure will tend to restore religious peace in Scotland, and to avert the dangers which have threatened a sacred institution of the utmost importance to the happiness and welfare of that part of my dominions.

I continue to receive from all foreign powers assurance of their friendly disposition, and of their earnest desire for the maintenance of peace.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the readiness and liberality with which you have voted the supplies for the current year. It will be my constant object to combine a strict regard to economy with the consideration which is due to the exigencies of the public service.

My Lords and Gentlemen—

In some districts of Wales, the public peace has been interrupted by lawless combinations and disturbances unconnected with political causes. I have adopted the measures which I deemed best calculated for the repression of outrage, and for the detection and punishment of the offenders.

I have at the same time directed an inquiry to be made into the circumstances which led to insubordination and violence in a part of the country usually distinguished for good order and willing obedience to the law.

I have observed with the deepest concern, the persevering efforts which are made to stir up discontent and dissatisfaction among my subjects in Ireland, and to excite them to demand a repeal of the legislative union.

It has been and ever will be my earnest desire to administer the government of that country, in a spirit of strict justice and impartiality, and to co-operate with parliament in effecting such amendments in the existing laws as may tend to improve the social condition and to develop the natural resources of Ireland.

From a deep conviction that the legislative union is not less essential to the attainment of these objects than to the strength and stability of the empire, it is my firm determination, with your support, and under the blessing of Divine Providence, to maintain inviolate that great bond of connection between the two countries.

I have refrained from requiring additional powers for the counteraction of designs hostile to the concord and welfare of my dominions, as well from my unwillingness to distrust the efficacy of the ordinary law, as from my reliance on the good sense and patriotism of my people, and on the solemn declaration of parliament in support of the legislative union.

I feel assured that those of my faithful subjects who have influence and authority in Ireland, will discourage to the utmost of their power a system of pernicious agitation which disturbs the industry, and retards the improvement of that country, and excites feelings of mutual distrust and animosity between different classes of my people.

ARRIVAL OF HER MAJESTY IN FRANCE.—

The King of the French, hearing of the Queen's intention of taking a short excursion by sea, commissioned his son, the Prince de Joinville, and the Duke d'Aumale, to invite her to his chateau at Eu, in Normandy, and their mission was successful. She took her departure on Monday, the 28th ult. from Southampton, amidst great rejoicings, and her progress along the coast is recorded with much minuteness by the daily journals. The royal squadron reached Treport on the afternoon of Saturday, the 2nd inst. where it was received by the King of the French and his family with great eclat. The Royal families of England and France then, amidst great rejoicings, left for the chateau d'Eu, which they reached at seven o'clock the same evening, and a splendid banquet was served at eight. The Queen's journey to France has excited not a little interest on both sides of the channel. Some of the Paris papers look upon it with any thing but satisfaction. This is the first occasion for upwards of three centuries, that the sovereigns of the two countries have met under similar circumstances. The last meeting, of a like nature, was that between Henry VIII. and Francis I. on the field of the Cloth of Gold, which was followed two years subsequently by a war between the same monarchs. During Victoria's stay, Eu will be the scene of great splendor. Louis Philippe, who superintends the most minute arrangements, seems bent upon giving his guest not merely a friendly but an enthusiastic reception.

Letters received from the French capital state confidently that her Majesty Queen Victoria had no intention of proceeding onward to Paris, but would remain at Eu until Thursday morning, when she would certainly embark for Brighton.

ARRIVAL OF ESPARTERO.

Espartero has arrived in England. The Prometheus, Lieut. F. Lowe, Commandet, with the Spanish party on board, entered Falmouth on Saturday the 26th ultimo

IRELAND.

At the usual meeting of the Repeal Association on Monday, the 21st ultimo, the rent for the week was announced to be £1, 130. Mr. O'Connell was not present, and the meeting adjourned till next day; when he propounded his plan for the restoration of the Irish Parliament, as prepared by a committee.

[We shall publish the plan next week.]

REPEAL OF THE UNION.

The opponents of this great movement of the Irish nation, evince excessive anxiety to make it appear, that it is a Catholic question urged by the Hierarchy and Priesthood to advance their ambitious and selfish projects. The great Pilot who directs the storm of agitation has disclaimed at every meeting of the people, all ideas of a religious ascendancy for his own faith over the creeds of those who differ with him in doctrine. If the question were to depend on the votes of the Irish people, we are confident that an unanimous cry would be raised against any such assumption, and if the Bishops and Clergy of Ireland had the power to-morrow to determine the point at issue, the same unanimity would be found in their ranks against that pernicious union of the pure and spiritual power of the church with the gross policy and vices of the state. If they were differently inclined, if they holdly asserted that their design was the establishment of the Catholic Faith and the political degradation of Protestant creed, would there not be some excuse for their conduct? Would it not be like the retributive justice which overthrew Aman? When the savage persecution of the Irish Priesthood is considered, the murder of women and children, the brand of infamy attached by the state to every thing appertaining to the Catholic faith, when the very oath now taken by protestant members of the House of Commons, is remembered, the dispassionate citizen of other countries will be forced to acknowledge, that the people of Ireland could allege excusis almost amounting to justification, if they were to remove the protection of the constitution from the professors of a creed for whose maintenance such tyrannical laws were enacted. But the approaching triumph of the Irish will be sullied by no retaliation. Their victory will be peaceful, their combat bloodless, and the holiest charity which christianity teaches, will be the only vengeance which they will seek for long centuries of dire oppression.

If the enemies of Ireland think proper to assert that the Repeal is a Catholic movement, they may do so, for then all the glory will be our's and the brightest page in Irish history, will be radiant with the praises of the Catholic Church. Let it be hereafter said that a nation, by moral force alone, overthrew an iniquitous government and won liberty for every creed and gave free ingress and egress to every church, and gave the honorable security of law to all who follow the sincere dictates of conscience and broke down the laws which bigotry had devised to disqualify

ify since they could not control the aspirations of the heart. Let it be said that a gallant and virtuous people achieved this noble work, but let it be remembered that they who conquered were Catholics, and that with a Catholic generosity, they gave to all of every creed the privileges which they won for themselves. We have no objection, then, that the Repeal should be called a Catholic movement, but let not the pitiful bigots who struggle against it now, willing to be slaves sooner than see the Catholics free, let them not hereafter, when the glory of the revolution has filled the earth, urge their claims to a share in the risk and honor of the great constitutional battle for freedom.—*Catholic Telegraph.*

RELICS

The Rev. J. P. Durbin a methodist Preacher, has been visiting the old world. From the following extract from one of his letters, it appears that he will not return empty handed.

"I cut a stick from the tomb of Hector and another from the Banks of the Scamander."

Memorials are cherished according to the value of the subject to which they have reference. Catholics are ridiculed for their attachment to whatever belonged to holy men, or to places sanctified by the triumphs of the Christian Faith. This attachment is natural and noble, and we are glad that the example of Rev. Mr. Durbin corroborates the practice. But there is a woful difference in the respective value of the relics. We venerate whatever our religion has consecrated, but the methodist looks for memorials in the haunts of the Heathen. When the Preachers carried in solemn procession in New York an old chair which had belonged to the "Dairy man's daughter" and the whole audience, assembled in the tabernacle received it with alleluias, the world was somewhat amazed and the Catholics laughed at the inconsistency of the Protestant. Nevertheless, there was some show of religion on that occasion, but what in the world will they say, when they hear of the "two sticks" brought from the other side of the great globe by Professor Durbin?

A christian minister cutting a cudgel at the tomb of old Bully Hector, who lost his life defending an adulterer! We dare say a good hickory or a sprig of black thorn would be more servicable than any wood that grows in Asia, but we acknowledge, that they have not the same classic associations clinging around them, as a stick from the sepulchre of Hector the Trojan. We know of no use to which it can be applied but one, and that one will make it a national blessing. Let it be handed round from college to college and let every unfortunate teacher of Greek have authority to lay it on like thunder on the shoulder of his Boetians! It will help them to decline and conjugate and keep them alive to all the beauties of Homer. Before the commencement of its collegiate evolutions, it would be well to practice it a little on the Rt. Rev. Henry Hopkins, Protestant Bishop of Vermont. It would make him more lively than his seven year pamphlet? —*ibid.*