

# The Standard.

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## European Intelligence.

From papers by the *Cambria*.  
LIVERPOOL, April 19.

**Parliamentary.**—The House of Commons met on Friday, when the Irish Coercion Bill again formed the subject of debate. There was as usual a good deal of angry talk on the part of the Irish members, and the debate stands adjourned until tomorrow night. All this talk is prior to the debate on the first reading, and the residue of the week it is probable, will be devoted to the same threadbare subject. Sir Robert Peel never committed a greater mistake than introducing such an apple of discord into the national councils at so inappropriate a period. The Irish members, in order to strangle the bill, seem determined to talk against it until the measure seems best with so many strictures, that their opposition has something noble and patriotic about it.

In the course of the debate, Sir Robert Peel took credit on behalf of the Government for having ordered a supply of Indian Corn and American Cotton for Ireland, and it was only the fear of interference with private capital and enterprise that restrained them from ordering more. Government had no right he contended, to impede the legitimate operations of business by competing with the enterprise of individuals. But the attention of Government, by night and by day, had been given to the melancholy position in which the sister country was placed. Sir J. Graham intimated that Government had done all they could, but that the landlords of the country, had done nothing. However, a further sum of money for the public works would be voted.

The members stand at present, and looking upon the present position of affairs in the House of Commons, it is impossible to say when the long deferred Tariff will again come before it.

## THE ARMY AND NAVY.

**Great Preparations.**—The greatest activity exists at and about all the army and navy depots in England, recruiting is in full operation; at all the dockyards every hand is full employment; parties who hold government contracts for engines for steamships are held to the fulfilment of their engagements as to time; and, in fact, movements in every department connected with the two services were never more fully employed. All the fleet of battle ships in England, and all steamers on the home station, that are not especially employed, will be assembled together in about a month as an experimental squadron. Within the past two or three weeks the bounty paid to recruits upon their enlisting in the infantry regiments has been raised from £3 4s 6d to £4. The bounty upon enlistment into cavalry regiments is now raised, the sum paid being £5. Formerly the bounty paid by the infantry was £3, and by the cavalry £4.

A letter from an officer engaged in the African affair observes that it was a superb sight to see the 16th Lancers, with the native cavalry, breaking through the Kalahari square, the former cutting up their opponents at every side. Rich shawls and gold bracelets without end fell into the hands of the victors.

The *Gazette* of the 8th contained her Majesty's letters patent, elevating Sir Henry Hardinge and Sir Hugh Gough to the peerage, the former by the title of Viscount Hardinge of Kang's Newton, in the county of Derby, and the latter by that of Baron Gough of Ching Kewasong, in China, and of Maharajah and the Sutlej, in the East Indies. The same *Gazette* contained the nomination of Col. Sir Harry Smith, K. C. B., to the dignity of Knight Grand Cross of the Bath, and granting him the brevet rank of Major General in the staff in the East Indies. Colonel Cotton, of the 16th Lancers, is appointed to succeed Sir Harry Smith as Adjutant General to the forces in India. Major General Gilbert is made a Knight Commander of the Bath, and a number of field officers are nominated companions of the same distinguished military order.

**The Navy—Flag Promotion and Retirement.**—It is now reported that the first 50 names on the list who are eligible for the service as flag officers, will be promoted to the rank of rear admiral; the vacancies which this promotion will occasion will then be filled up, and afterwards an officer of 25 years' standing, with the retired rank of rear admiral, will be made to the seniors, and corresponding advantages to the other captains on the list, to induce them to retire.

**Flogging in the Navy.**—It is stated that the Lords of the Admiralty are determined to put an end to the practice of flogging in the navy, except in extreme cases of misconduct; and that any officer having recourse to that mode of punishment either frequently or on insufficient grounds, will be considered unfit to command, and be shelved as quickly as possible.

There are two vacant seats in Parliament at present; but there seems very little disposition at present to contest elections on their side. The death of the Hon. Mr. Colborne, has created a vacancy for the borough of Richmond, which is proposed to be filled up by Henry Rich, Esq., formerly Member for Knaresborough. It is understood that Lord Milton will succeed Mr. Childers (who has resigned his seat) for Malton. The borough is under the influence of his father, Lord Fitzwilliam.

It is reported that the Millionaire, Sir Andrew Spottiswoode, the proprietor of the *Pictorial Times*, is ruined by Railway speculations. The adverse legal decision recently given against him as a Director in one Company, having brought about this catastrophe. Hosts of writs were, it is said, poured in upon him in succession, by scheming Solicitors and litigious share holders. His princely funds were more than ample to meet over and over again, any just liabilities he had individually incurred; but when he was singled out (from being a wealthy capitalist) from among the many Directors in public Companies, as the scape-goat against whom engineers, advertising agents, solicitors, &c., might freely sue, with the certainty of recovery, he found it useless to defend further actions, and acting under advice, is said to have surrendered his property—£1500 a year being allowed him to live upon; this is a hard case, but should prove a lesson to speculators. Besides his office of Queen's Printer, and having one of the largest printing establishments in the Metropolis, he was also proprietor of the United Service Gazette, Chairman of several Railway Boards, and held shares in an immense number of gas, water, and other public Companies. He has a splendid Mansion in Carlton Terrace, and a beautiful country seat, Broom Hall, in Surrey. No man was more popular—more business like in his habits, or more generally esteemed—and no one had heretofore been so fortunate in his ventures and speculations, till the tide turned and the Railway panic set in.

Repeal seems to be dying away of its own accord: the last weeks' was barely £190; I don't remember to have mentioned the fact of O'Connell's evidently declining health. It was lamentable to see the great burly figure of the old man and hear his piping treble in the House of Commons, opposing the Irish Coercion Bill. Scarcely a sentence of what he said was heard in the galleries so as to be distinctly understood.

A very beautiful form of Prayer and Thanksgiving, prepared by the Arch Bishop of Canterbury, for the victories obtained by our troops in India, was read in all Churches throughout the Kingdom last Sunday.

**Refusal of Irish Paupers to eat Indian Meal.**—The last number of the *Limerick Reporter* contains the following statement:—"Yesterday the workhouse paupers—men, women and children—turned out (when it was presented to them for the first time for breakfast) against the use of strabub, consisting of half oatmeal and half Indian meal. A ton of the latter had been purchased from Mr. John Norris Russell, at £10 in order to try it. It was mixed with half oatmeal and made into hasty pudding, and when it was served up nearly all the women, most of the children, and every man, save seven refused to eat it. That this was the result of a conspiracy of those who refused to eat did not taste it to try whether they would like it or not; but having made up their minds beforehand, they determined to fast rather than to eat it. We think the master and the guardians will be sadly wanting in their duty if they do not permit them to adopt their own alternative, until they are brought to their senses, except such as medical gentlemen will say it does not agree with." In Dublin, on the contrary, we find that bread made of Indian corn, from its wholesome and nutritious qualities, as well as its cheapness, meets with a rapid consumption among all classes.

The Repeal Association had its usual weekly meeting on Monday. Mr. O'Connell was present, and spoke very forcibly against the Coercion Bill. The rent was upwards of £200.

## FOREIGN.

The latest accounts from Spain announce a very gratifying fact. Narvaez, in consequence of his quarrel with Christina, has been driven out of the country. He has fled into the South of France, and at Bayonne was met by his wife. The liberty of the press has been restored, and other outrages on popular freedom, which this licentious and unprincipled despot perpetrated, are being softened, or in some way atoned for.

The cause of the quarrel between this precocious minister and the Queen-mother, was fomented by a passion which had taken possession of both of their souls—avarice. Gambling on the Bourse has been the game of the ex-Premier and the ex-Queen, and how to outwit each other has been the cause of the cabal. Practices so paltry, dishonesty so palpable, would, in any other country but

Spain, bring monarchy and constitutional government into contempt. The Queen is an infant in intellect as well as in years; and ruled by such a mother, the condition of that beautiful but benighted land is a sorrowful subject for contemplation.

But when matters have reached the worst, they must mend; and affairs in Spain have approached a crisis which renders it questionable whether they can possibly sink lower in the scale of degradation. The people are enthralled, the Cortes are slavish, the nobles corrupt, the crown debased. Rumours abound that the Queen-mother, now that matters have come to this pass, is anxious to patch up her differences with Espartero, who is to be recalled, and restored to power and to his forfeited honors. He appears to be the only hope of the country. But the soul of a high spirited man like Espartero, must sicken and revolt at being a mere tool in the hands of such an instrument. The parties know each other well, familiarity breeds contempt; and it is questionable whether Espartero will forfeit his own and his countrymen's respect by accepting power under the circumstances which now present themselves. It is greatly to be feared that the present anomalous state of things must continue as long as the evil genius of Christina is in the ascendant. When the indignant spirit of the country rises in its might, and sends her on her travels after her late favorite, Spain may become a land of promise but not of truth.

## (From La Presse.)

A campaign of less than two months has conducted the English army to the gates of Lahore. Sir H. Hardinge rules in the holy city. The cannons of Bombay and the Tower of London, and the enthusiastic applause of the House of Commons, have hailed the memorable victory of Alwal, the Waterloo of the East Indies, as Sir R. H. Inglis exclaims, who does not hesitate to place General Sir H. Gough, on a par with Marlborough and Nelson. This parade of panegyric sufficiently attests the importance attached by our neighbors to their new conquest; it is at the same time the highest glorification of the heroism displayed by the vanquished. Five successive battles, fought with an unparalleled boldness and obstinacy, have swallowed up the moiety of an army of 70,000 men, desperately struggling for the defence of their territories! But who can resist the fortune of England! The kingdom of Ranjeet Singh will soon be added as a British province to the defunct empires of Tipu, Saib, of Timour, of Serajie, and of Holkar. The Sikhs, like the Malabars and the Moguls, will only live, at some future period, in recollection.

The conquest of the Punjab is the most important event in Indian history since the fall of the empire of Mysore; it is the completion of the gigantic work commenced by Clive just a century ago, and followed up by Hastings, Wellesley, and their successors with such persevering skill. England, mistress of the Ganges and the Indus, reaches the natural limits of her empire from east to west. On the north, the Himalayas scarcely restrain by their barrier of 8000 metres this covetous genius, always ready to overflow its boundaries. If, however, the policy of England be carried on in conformity with wise principles, she will not go beyond; and this seems to be the gist of Sir Robert Peel's words in concluding his speech to the House of Commons with the expression of a hope that henceforth peace will no more be disturbed in India; which, probably means that England for some time hence will not seek a quarrel with any body.

The extraordinary enthusiasm excited in London by the success of Sir H. Hardinge testifies how well the advantages of his new conquest are comprehended in his own country. It is not for vain glory that so reflecting a nation is moved to this degree; and a simple *apex* will suffice to render it apparent. Already in 1843 a solemn act incorporated the Scinde territory with the Company's possessions, after the Emirs had been crushed in two bloody battles. Certain grievances, of a futile character, served as the pretext for this war. Besides, the Earl of Ellenborough wanted a success to avenge the defeat in the defiles of Cabul, and to prepare for the invasion of the Punjab, the only military road leading to Afghanistan. The annexation of Scinde gave the English all the Lower Indus; and the conquest of the Punjab puts them in possession of the rest of the river. From Attock, at the foot of the mountains of Cabul, to the sea, the Indus is navigable for an extent of 500 leagues.

**Newspaper Support.**—Much depends upon the supporters of a newspaper, whether it is conducted with spirit and interest. If they are niggardly, or negligent in their payments, the pride and ambition of the editor is broken down, he works at thankless and unprofitable tasks—he becomes discouraged and careless—his paper loses its pith and interest, and dies. But, on the contrary, if his subscribers are of the right sort—if they are punctual, liberal-hearted fellows always in ad-

vice on the subscription list, taking an interest in increasing the number of his subscribers now and then speaking a word for his paper, cheering him on in his course by smiles of approbation; with such subscribers as these he must be a dull indeed who would not get up an interesting sheet; with such patrons as these, we would forewear comfort, ease, leisure, everything that could possibly step between us and the gratification of every laudable desire on their part. We would know no other pleasure than that of satisfaction. How much then can the supporters of a newspaper do to make it interesting and respectable; indeed, without concurring efforts on their part, the publisher of a newspaper will not, cannot bestow the attention which is necessary to make it what it should be.—*Washington News*.

**The Origin of the Potato Disease.**—Atmospheric conditions seemed to explain the difficulty best, and, in the absence of a more rational solution, we have looked to them; but we are now bound to say, that circumstances have by degrees come to our knowledge which weaken this hypothesis materially, if they do not entirely destroy its value. So long since as the autumn of last year we were made aware of the singular fact, that in the possession of Sir John Lubbock, upon placed in dry sand under a shed, where they were guarded from the weather, produced diseased tubers; but their malady was somewhat different in its aspect from that of the open fields, and as the cases at that time stood alone, we could not attach much importance to it. At a later period similar intelligence reached us, but not having seen the potatoes alluded to by our informant, that too was not calculated to shake our first opinion. Two other facts have, however, come to our knowledge, which, in connection with those above mentioned, are calculated to give rise to a very different speculation. The British Consul at Lisbon states in his despatch, dated December 1845, that the few potatoes diseased near that city, were grown from seed received from England. We have now before us young potatoes raised in the garden at Bodorgan from seed sown in 1844, and kept in a shed till August 1845, when they were planted in the open ground, a large proportion of which are very much diseased; and those the most so which are oldest. This looks as if the murrain was engendered in 1844, and only showed itself in 1845. The facts may, perhaps, be otherwise interpreted, but they seem to point to that conclusion. They are scarcely reconcilable with the action of unfavourable seasons, or of an epidemic, which was first contended for, we believe, by Mr. Moore of Glasnevin, and has since been recognised by others of undoubted authority, among whom Dr. Greville and Mr. Goodwin more especially be mentioned. If, however, they do nothing more, they certainly cast upon the question, and render the fate of the succeeding crop more doubtful than ever, for if they lead us to assume that murrain was engendered in 1844, and only manifested itself in a formidable degree in 1845, we must look out for the worst consequences in 1846, as the experience of the United States indicates, and as the gathering evidence already brought forward by us seems so strongly to point out.—*Gardener's Chronicle*.

**Early Marriages.**—Great as may be the inconveniences attending early marriages, they are not to be compared to those attending long engagements. The position of both parties is, in a manner, the reverse of that which they will respectively occupy in after-life. The lady commands, the gentleman obeys; and when this state of things has lasted for any time, it is no easy matter to restore them again to their natural state; for although no woman of sense who respects her husband and herself, will ever wish to dominate, and no man of spirit would submit to it, yet the precise limits to which authority may fairly be extended on the one hand, and obedience expected on the other, are so ill defined, that it requires very often great tact and management to adjust the balance; and this difficulty is naturally increased, when the parties have been for a long time playing directly contrary parts. Lovers, too, are naturally living in a state of complete deception and hypocrisy, in most cases probably quite unintentionally; but where there exists a strong desire to please there must also necessarily exist a strong anxiety to keep one's faults in the back ground, and exhibit only the most pleasing part of one's character. Half the unhappiness that exists in unmarried life, I believe, to be attributed to the discoveries that are constantly making of the great difference of dispositions before and after marriage. Then come accusations of deception—very unfairly, for, as I before said, the fraud was an involuntary one, and inherent in human nature; accusations are followed by recriminations, and all the misery and bitterness of married strife, merely because the lovers expected to marry angels, and find out that they are united to human beings like themselves.—[Sir F. Vincent.

**Offerings and Offices to the Dying.** It makes a strange poverty in human nature, that we are wont to offer nothing but images of terror: no stars of cheering light to those who lie imprisoned in the darkness of a sick-bed, when the glitter of the dew of life is waxing gray and dim before them. It is indeed, hard that lamentations and emotions are frequently vented upon the dying which would be withheld from the living in all their health—There stands no spirit in the closeness of a sick chamber to awaken a cheering smile on that colorless, colorless countenance but only confessions, lawyers, and doctors, who order every thing, and relatives who lament at everything. There stands no lofty spirit, elevated above the circumstances of sorrow to conduct the prostrate soul of the sufferer, thence to the refreshment of joy, back to the old spring tide waters of pious recollection; and so to mingle these with the last extacies of life, so as to give the dying man a foreboding of this transition to another state. On the contrary, the death-bed is narrowed into a coffin without a lid. The value of life is enhanced in the departing one by ties which promise care, or words which promise consolation; the brier is represented as a scaffold, the harsh discord of life is trumpeted into the ears, which survive long after the eyes are dead, instead of letting life ebb away in sounds ever deeper, though fainter. Nevertheless, man has this of good in him, that he recalls the slightest joy which he has shared with a dying person, much rather than a thousand greater pleasures given to a person in health, perhaps, because in the latter case we hope to repeat and redouble our attentions; so little do mortals reflect, that every pleasure they give or receive may be the last.

It is not only necessary to consider the bad we do, but also the good we do not. But we are naturally prone on the contrary, to solace our consciences with the good we have done, and the evil we have left undone.

**Singular Marriage.**—A widower, at Camden, who was not very young, became smitten with a young and beautiful girl, and married her. A short time after, the son of the man by a former wife, became also in love, not with a younger person, but with the mother of the father's new wife, a widow lady, still in the bloom of life. He offered himself, and soon the young man and the widow were united in the bonds of matrimony, so that in consequence of these two connections, a father became the son-in-law of his own son, and the wife not only the daughter in law of her own son-in-law, but still more, the mother-in-law of her own mother; while the husband of the latter is father-in-law of his own mother-in-law, and father-in-law of his own father. Confusion may arise, if children should spring from these peculiar marriages.

The following "feeling but curious advertisement" is copied from an old paper, dated June 1795.

Whereas the Subscriber, through the pernicious habit of drinking has greatly hurt himself in purse and person, and rendered himself odious to all his acquaintance, and finding there is no possibility of breaking off from the said practice, but through the impossibility to find the liquor, he therefore begs and prays that no person will sell him for money, or on trust, any sort of spirituous liquors, as he will not in future pay it, but will prosecute any one for an action of damage against the temper and eternal interests of the public's humble, serious, and sober servant.

**A Yankee Outdone.**—"I say, mister, did you see a dog come by here, that looked as if he were a year, or a year and a half or two years old?" said a Yankee to a countryman at the road-side.

"Yes," said the countryman, thinking himself quizzed. "He passed about an hour, or an hour and a half, or two hours ago; and is now a mile, or a mile and a half or two miles ahead; and he had a tail about an inch, or an inch and a half, or two inches long."

"That'll do," said the Yankee; "you're into me a foot or a foot and a half, or two feet."

## To Let.

STORE and Dwelling No. 8 on the Market-Street adjoining Mr. Jones's Druggery. The Store will be let separately if required, and the apartments likewise separately. Apply to F. A. BABCOCK. April 8, 1846.