

to whose guidance the good ship of the State is now committed; and, after some involuntary expressions of surprise, we have little doubt that the list will be generally so regarded.

Such considerations will qualify and mitigate the general results of criticism, but of course they cannot prevent it. No one can read the list before us without applying some measure of fitness and standard of ability, and in the remarks we have to make we merely anticipate the spontaneous reflections of most of our readers. No one can doubt that Mr. Disraeli is the man to lead the House of Commons, but he certainly has consulted rather his ambition than his genius in his selection of office. It is very true that he has dived into the depths and flown to the heights of financial theory; but the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not merely to make projects or elucidate maxims of finance; he has also to learn and comprehend the numerous relations between the commerce and the revenue of the country, to make elaborate financial expositions, and to be prepared with replies on any complicated question of details which convenience or even malice may suggest. In preparing for such tasks Mr. Disraeli will at least work against the grain, and he will possibly find it difficult to be both a wit and a Chancellor of the Exchequer. Perhaps this is not his own choice. Mr. Thomas Baring has declined the post for the reasons we mentioned yesterday, and we must say in so doing he has neither done justice to his party nor to his own character. A man who claims a political position is bound to make sacrifices and to run risks. If Mr. T. Baring thinks the Chancellorship of the Exchequer a "let down" for a wealthy merchant, or if he has a slight opinion of his party's prospects, and will not inconvenience himself for a short period of office, he is scarcely acting up to the British estimate of political or party obligation. His absence from the list is likely to be a serious injury to his friends, as they cannot but feel. Mr. Walpole is a man of talent and attainment, but his fitness for the Home-office is far too speculative a question to be discussed in this place. The Earl of Malmesbury descends from a diplomatist, and is said to be a sensible and clearheaded man; he is certainly not deficient in good temper; but he has undertaken an office which did not pass from Palmerston even to Granville without exciting misgivings, and which some recent incidents, as well as the whole state of things in Europe, seem to prove the most responsible in the British Cabinet, if not in the world. But the two most disproportionate terms in this list are Sir John Pakington and the Colonial office. It is a great demand on our faith to suppose the active Worcestershire magistrate equal to the task of governing our fifty colonies, all more or less in a state of disaffection. However, we are ready to believe if we can. The names of Sir E. Sugden, the Earl of Lonsdale, and Lord Lyndhurst require no comment of ours. Mr. Herries is possibly as competent to the Board of Control and the construction of the new Indian Charter as his predecessor, though that is more than we should venture to say in his favor. Mr. Henley's appointment to the Board of Trade is as good as any in the list. Lord John Manners may easily manage the Woods and Forests as well as any that have gone before him; nor need the Duke of Northumberland be ashamed to sit in the seat of his predecessor at the Admiralty, while the Earl of Hardwicke is undoubtedly equal to the duties of the Post-office.

We must confess to one regret. There has not been much dignity, still less sentiment, in the public surrender of power from the old Cabinet to the new. There was very little of a scene in either House yesterday. Lord Derby was not in the Lords to "expiate," and the task of acknowledging Lord Lansdowne's leave office was scarcely adequately discharged by his substitute. A public life which has literally embraced the first half of this century, and which was last night most gracefully concluded, deserved an ampler and richer tribute than our new Foreign Secretary seemed able to bestow. Lord John Russell spoke well, but he took care to leave some bequests. He left the words "Free Trade," "Extension of suffrage," and "Peace," as the grounds on which he meant to take his stand, in or out of office. Very well. It was natural to say this. It was more; it was unnecessary. But we trust these are not the mere watchwords of a war to be immediately forced on the new Government, because, if they are, they may possibly, to some extent, defeat their own purposes. —Times.

THE MANCHESTER AND SALFORD EDUCATION BILL.—The Town Council of Manchester have declared against the Bill, now before Parliament. A special meeting of the Corporation was held on Wednesday to consider what position the Council should take in respect to it, and Councillor Medcalf proposed the following resolution:—

"That this Council admits the inadequacy of the existing means of education for the children of the poorer class, and fully recognizes the importance of embodying in any Bill proposed for such objects, the principles of local rating and of local management. That further consideration of the Bill now before the Parliament, and entitled 'A Bill for promoting education in the municipal boroughs of Manchester and Salford, and in the contiguous townships of Broughton, Pendleton, and Peasebury,' be adjourned. That, under the direction of the Committee for general purposes, a petition be presented by and on behalf of and under the common seal of the Corporation, to the House of Commons, against the said Bill, so as to enable this Council hereafter to appear for the purpose of either opposing the passing of the same, or of obtaining such modifications and alterations therein as may be hereafter determined upon by the Council."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Simpson, though favouring the national scheme. Alderman Bancroft, a voluntary, proposed as an amendment:—

"That the Bill before the Council entitled 'A Bill, for promoting education in the municipal boroughs of Manchester and Salford, and the contiguous townships of Broughton, Pendleton, and Peasebury,' is not necessary; that the powers sought by such Bill would, if obtained, usurp the most important functions of the Council, operate oppressively on the ratepayers, invade the rights of conscience, and interfere with the sacred duties of parents. That it be an instruction to the Committee for general purposes to take the steps necessary to prevent the said Bill from passing into law."

Councillor Heywood seconded it, and, after a long debate extending over six hours, the amendment was carried by 43 to 22.

The *Morning Herald* announces that "the ship-owners of the empire are about to issue a manifesto, calling upon all individual members of that interest to discard at the approaching general election all personal and party considerations, and to unite as one man in giving their support to those candidates only who will unequivocally pledge themselves to a calm revision of

that fatal policy, which by rapidly undermining the commercial marine of this country, is destroying the only safeguard on which, in the present critical state of Europe, England can rely."

COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT.—On Saturday was printed a bill brought forward as a Government measure to enable Her Majesty to carry into effect a convention (which has been made public) with France on the subject of copyright, to extend the International Copyright Act, and to explain the acts relating to copyright in engravings. There are 14 sections in the bill on the subject. Her Majesty may, by order in Council, direct that the authors of dramatic works represented in foreign countries may for a limited time prevent unauthorized translations.

SCOTLAND. DOMESTIC.

DEATH OF ROBERT BLACKWOOD, ESQ.—We record with much regret the death, on Saturday last, of Robert Blackwood, Esq., of the firm of Messrs. Blackwood and Sons, the eminent publishers in this city. An infirm and almost hopeless state of health had occasioned Mr. Blackwood's retirement from active life during the last two years. A better understanding was never exemplified between author and publisher: on the part of the former, unbounded confidence, affection, and esteem—on the part of the latter, the utmost liberality, sagacity, and enterprise. Mr. Blackwood died in the 44th year of his age. —*Edinburgh Courier*.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

SPAIN.

Our accounts from Madrid are of the 18th inst. This being the day fixed for the pilgrimage of the Queen to the Church of Atocha, all the streets through which the Royal cortege was to pass were crowded at an early hour by an immense multitude of people, anxious to give Her Majesty enthusiastic proofs of their sympathy and devotedness. The troops of the garrison were drawn up in double lines from the Palace to the Church. The balconies were tastefully adorned, and occupied by ladies, holding bouquets in their hands, and doves decked with ribbons, and poetical devices about their necks, to let fly on the passage of the Queen.

The most perfect order prevailed, and the Queen returned to the Palace amidst the same demonstrations of joy and affection. At night the whole city was to be illuminated.

RUSSIA.

THE RUSSIAN FLEET.—The Russian force in the Baltic, at the present moment, numbers 42 sail of the line, all powerfully equipped, ably manned, extensively stored, and ready for action. —*Portsmouth Times*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SPARE MOMENTS.

A lean, awkward boy came one morning to the door of the Principal of a celebrated school, and asked to see him. The servant eyed his mean clothes, and thinking he looked more like a beggar than anything else, told him to go around to the kitchen. The boy did as he was bidden, and soon appeared at the back door.

"I should like to see Mr. —," said he.

"You want a breakfast, more like," said the servant-girl, "and I can give you that without troubling him."

"—," said the boy, "I should have no objections to a bit of bread; but I should like to see Mr. —, if he can see me."

"Some old clothes, may be, you want," remarked the servant, again eyeing the boy's patched trousers. I guess he has none to spare; he gives away a sight; and without minding the boy's request, she went away about her work.

"Can I see Mr. —?" again asked the boy, after finishing his bread and butter.

"Well, he's in the library; if he must be disturbed, he must; but he does like to be alone sometimes," said the girl in a peevish tone. She seemed to think it very foolish to admit such an ill-looking fellow into her master's presence; however she wiped her hands, and bad him follow. Opening the library door, she said:—

"Here's somebody, Sir, who is dreadfully anxious to see you, and so I let him in."

Don't know how the boy introduced himself, or how he opened his business, but I know that after talking awhile, the Principal put aside the volume which he was studying, and took up some Greek books, and began to examine the new-comer. The examination lasted some time. Every question which the Principal asked, the boy answered as readily as could be.

"Upon my word exclaimed the Principal, 'you certainly do well,' looking at the boy from head to foot over his spectacles. 'Why, my boy, where did you pick up so much?'

"In my spare moments," answered the boy.

Here he was poor hard-working, with but few opportunities for schooling, yet, almost fitted for college, by simply improving his spare moments. Truly, are not spare moments the 'gold dust of time?' How precious they should be! What account can you give of your spare moments? What can you shew for them? Look and see. This boy can tell you how very much can be laid up by improving them; and there are many, many other boys I am afraid, in the jail, in the house of correction, in the fore-castle of a whale ship, in the tippity shop, who if you should ask them when they began their sinful courses, might answer:—

"In my spare moments."

Tentation always hunts you out in small seasons like the, when you are not busy; he gets into your hearts he possibly can, in just such gaps. There he hid himself, planning all sorts of mischief. Take care of your spare moments. —*Mrs. H. C. Knight*.

ADVE TO WORKING MEN ANENT SELF EDUCATION.

An Old Working Man, in the *Glasgow Citizen* speaking of new education schemes, addresses the following very judicious remarks to the working classes:—If you wait any longer for the settlement of those disputes, you will act very unwisely for your own interest and happiness, if you have only an earnest purport is quite within your power to educate yourselves, without waiting for, or even asking help from any of these parties. They say "our education was needed in youth, the proper time for learning, and now we are engrossed by so many cares, and our time much occupied, that we have neither time nor money spare to remedy the defect; if we are to instruct ourselves, a state of things must be brought to pass which will allow us more leisure and a better remuneration for our labour." This objection is more specious than solid more seeming than real; and if you really earnestly desirous of being better instructed, you can command a sufficiency of time, and all the money that is necessary. My exhortation, therefore, is, wait no longer for the settlement of any

plan—the means are quite in your hands—do the work yourselves. The powers of mind chiefly necessary, and principally employed in education, are memory, judgment, apprehension, and attention; now, it is quite a fallacy and a mistake to suppose that any class or party have a monopoly of these powers—there is no such thing: they are possessed by the poor as abundantly as the rich—by working men and women, as much as by ladies and gentlemen, who are set above the necessity of working; all men have the power and the capacity of being instructed if they will; and there are hundreds of instances among ourselves to prove that these powers are vigorously exercised, and produce splendid results on the part of persons belonging to the very humblest order of society. Witness Cobbett, James Ferguson the astronomer, Burns, Hogg, and a long list of names equally honourable. As to judgment, apprehension, comparison, it may be true that those who have wealth and leisure have much in their power as to command of the best books, and time to profit by them, but even here the advantage is more matter of fancy and appearance than reality; for, in the first place, the very best books in the language—in our own country and in our time—are nearly as accessible to the working man as to the rich man; and in the second place, that knowledge of the very necessities of his condition, often supplies a more valuable commentary on books than the man of wealth and leisure can command. The next point of the objection is, that working men have no time to improve their minds and instruct themselves; and here I must say, very plainly and once for all, that much more stress is laid on this point than it deserves. There is an old proverb which tells us "where there is will there is a way, where there is no will there is always a lion in the way." Working men, in by far the greater number of instances, have or can command all the time that is necessary for this purpose, if they could be induced to economise and properly apply it; but in this lies the whole of the difficulty, for in too many cases they exhibit so much apathy, so much indifference, and so much positive unwillingness to do anything towards the business of self-instruction—they are so careless about taking advantage of those helps which are provided for them, as to leave too much room for the bitterly sarcastic saying of Lord Brougham, "the great body of the people of England do not want to be educated."

PRINCE ALBERT A POET.—A work of a new class called a "Man of the Time," is on the eve of publication. It is a compact biographical dictionary of living notables. Under the name of Prince Albert, we have a specimen of his Royal Highness's poetical talents, in the shape of a versified German legend. The original was written in German, and it is difficult to say how far the version given is that of the poet, or the translator—the late Mr. Richardson, connected with the geological department of the British Museum. The story relates to a giant and his daughter, who lived in a mighty castle—that of Inselberg. The second stanza sets forth how—

"The giant's daughter once came forth the castle gates before
And played with all a child's delight before her fathers door;
Then sauntering down the precipice, the girl would gladly go,
To see, perchance, how matters went in the little world below."

The youthful giantess wanders on until she sees a peasant ploughing, when, being highly delighted at what she conceives the gambols of the man—

"O pretty plaything, cries the child, I'll take thee home with me
Then with her hand she spread her kerchief on her knee,
And played with all a child's delight before her fathers door;
She bore them home quite cautiously—afraid to do them harm."

The papa giant is not only a mild but a sensible and respectable giant, probably something like the inoffensive monster whom the famous Jack made short work of, "although he was a Welsh giant, and never did anybody any harm." He, therefore, explains to his child that her new found toy is no toy, and that she must descend and place him in the field where she had found him—

"So go, without a sigh or sob, and do my will, he said—
For know without the peasant, girl, we none of us had bread;
'Tis from the peasant's hardy stock the race of Giants are,
The peasant is no plaything, child, and God forbid he were."

Were these stanzas intended to be allegorical—the giant to stand for King or Prince—and the moral to be inculcated on the Prince of Wales, or the Princess Royal, the vital importance of the prosperity of the lower to that of the highest classes? Worse allegories have been fished out of vaguer lines. If you take them literally, the assertion that peasants breed giants seems startling. However, poets have a license, and royal poets a very wide one.

A POUND WEIGHT OF PINS IN THE STOMACH.—The *Lancet* records the death of a tradesman's wife under peculiar circumstances, which rendered a post mortem examination necessary. The stomach contained, in its lower half, 9 ounces of pins of a purple-black colour, not corroded, all bent or broken, many very pointed. The contents of the stomach were very much thickened. The intestines contained a mass of pins, very tightly packed, of various shapes, similar to those found in the stomach, and wholly obstructing the tube. Their weight was about a pound. The husband of the deceased had never seen her put pins into her mouth; but her son said that he had observed his mother biting pins, and believed that she swallowed them; and stated, moreover, that he had occasionally taunted her with the fact, when she corrected him. It appeared that her appetite was always capricious, occasionally very keen; but her sister informed the doctor that, when a child, she was in the habit of eating starch and slate pencil, and that she had seen her biting pins.

Colonial.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The news from Newfoundland, received during the past week, is more interesting than usual. The Legislature met on Thursday, Jan. 29th, and his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor laid before it on the 6th Feb. a Despatch from Earl Grey, refusing to concede to the prayer of the Assembly the establishment of Responsible Government within the Colony. The Colonial Secretary, after urging strong reasons against applying the Responsible system to Newfoundland, based upon the anomalous condition of the Colony, postpones a final decision upon the subject, until after the return of the new Assembly, and the opinions which may be then expressed by the component parts of the Legislature. He then points out, as a consequence of the introduction of the Responsible system, that a provision would have to be made for public officers who might be deprived of it of offices which they had been justified in expecting to be permanent; and that it would also be necessary that the Colony should defray the expense of the military force which is stationed therein for the purpose of preserving internal tranquility.

The Despatch has caused no small sensation in Newfoundland. The Council, the majority of which is Protestant, have passed a vote of thanks for the Despatch. The House of Assembly, on the contrary, the majority of which is Roman Catholic, have passed Resolutions expressive of surprise and regret at the contents of the Despatch, and have framed an address to Her Majesty, which has been presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, for transmission to the foot of the Throne.

The following quotation from a speech of Mr. Holye's, one of the members of Assembly, when the subject was under discussion, will show the grounds of the popular opposition to the system:—

"To the establishment of the system here, there were insuperable objections until other changes were first effected. On that subject he would state his views fully and fairly without any desire to say anything unpleasant to any one, but with that openness and honesty which, as a member of that house, he was bound to do on a question of such importance as that under consideration. He did say that it was not expedient to concede responsible government to this colony at present, because the effect of doing so would be to place the government of the colony in the hands of the Roman Catholic Clergy, who influenced the return of the majority of that house. The ten who voted in the majority that carried the responsible government resolutions in 1846 were all Roman Catholics, with one exception, while the minority of nine were Protestants; and the same religious distinction marked the division on the second reading of the address last session. The majority were all Roman Catholics, while those who voted in the minority were, with one exception Protestants. The majority of the population was Protestant, but by the existing arrangement of the districts the majority of the members returned were Roman Catholics."

While these things were done, notwithstanding the liberal professions of hon. members opposite, he would resist to the utmost of his power the concession of responsible government to this colony. And he hoped every Protestant in the colony would do so, until by a new division of districts, or some other change, the representation was so appropriated that neither party could have any ascendancy over the other. Until then the only safety was in the present system, under which, while the majority in the house were Roman Catholics, the majority in the Council were Protestants, and by that means no measure could be passed injurious to either party. If hon. members opposite were sincere in their desire for responsible government, let them act in the spirit of that despatch. Let them pass a bill for increasing the number of representatives based in justice—such a bill as would be sanctioned by the Council, and when that bill was tested—when it was seen that it gave a fair representation to the people of the country, then they would find the Protestant population join them in the demand for responsible government, and then they might hope to succeed. But till then a majority of the population would oppose the concession.

If hon. members desired to be consistent liberals, let them be liberal in their practice as well as in their professions, and then they would receive credit for being in earnest. But let them not suppose that mere profession of liberality would induce the Protestant population to consent that the Council be modified to suit the views of the majority of the Assembly, and that His Excellency's advisers, whose advice he would be bound to follow, should be taken from the said majority.

After this it will only require the publication of the annexed curious epistle of Dr. Mullock, the Roman Catholic Bishop, to prove the importance which is attached to the concession. Nothing but hopelessness of attaining the end through plausible means, could have induced the publication of a letter so well calculated to dispell the fog of Newfoundland which may heretofore have clouded the perceptions of Colonial Secretaries, and obstructed a clear vision of its religious and political condition.

Letter from the Right Rev. Dr. Mullock, R. C. B.

Harbor Grace, 7th Feb., 1852.

MY DEAR MR. LITTLE.—I was never more pained in my life than when reading this evening the insulting document forwarded by the Colonial Secretary, in answer to the address for Responsible Government. Holding as I do, an office of some consideration in Newfoundland, deeply anxious for the welfare of the country to which I am bound by so many ties, I feel the ill judged and irritating despatch an insult to myself and to my people.

Nothing since the days of the *Tea Tax* which raised the trampled provinces of the American colonies to the first rank among nations, as the great Republic, has been perpetrated, so calculated to weaken British connexion, or cause the people of Newfoundland to look with longing eyes to the day when they can manage their own affairs, without the irresponsible control of some man in a back room in Downing street ignorant of the country, and apparently only desirous of showing British colonists that they are but slaves to a petty, intriguing clique.

Acquainted as I am with many forms of government having lived and travelled in many lands, having paid some little attention to the history of despotic and constitutional governments, I solemnly declare that I never knew any settled government so bad, so weak, so vile, as that of our unfortunate country; irresponsible, drivelling despotism, wearing the mask of representative institutions, and depending for support alone on bigotry and bribery. I see the taxes, wrung from the sweat of the people, squandered in the payment of useless officials; the country, after three centuries of British possession, in a great part, an impassable wilderness, its people depressed, its trade fettered, its mighty resources developed, and all for what? To fatten up in idleness, by the creation of useful offices exorbitantly paid, the members of a clique.

A tabular statement of the offices, the salaries, the families, and the religion of these state pensioners, will show that I overstate nothing.

I was anxious, however, hoping for a reform, to give the present government, if it can be called one a fair trial. As a matter of conscience I can do so no longer. My silence would betray the cause of justice and of the people. I hope that all honest men will unite in demanding justice, and by an appeal, not to the Colonial Office, but to the British Parliament.

Lord Grey's cautious retreat on the Treasury Note Bill shows that justice must be done, if demanded by a united people. Should any petition for this object be forwarded before my return, I authorise you to put my name to it, and to state publicly to the people my sentiments. I do not aspire to the character of a demagogue—every one in Newfoundland knows that in my position I need not do so. But it is the duty of a Bishop to aid and advise his people in all their struggles for justice, and I have no other desire than to see justice done to the country, and equally administered to all classes of her Majesty's subjects in this