

mentioned that both in exposition and in reply he was equally eminent. His statements were perspicuous, complete, and dignified; when he combated the objections or criticised the propositions of an opponent, he was adroit and acute; no speaker ever sustained a process of argumentation in a public assembly more lucidly, and none as debaters have united in so conspicuous a degree of promptness. The taste of Sir Robert Peel was highly cultivated, but it was not originally fine. He had no wit, but he had a keen sense of the ridiculous, and an abundant vein of genuine humour. Notwithstanding his artificial reserve, he had a hearty and a merry laugh; and sometimes his mirth was uncontrollable. He was gifted with an admirable organ, perhaps the finest that has been heard in the House in our days, unless we except the thrilling tones of O'Connell. Sir Robert Peel also modulated his voice with great skill. He may be said to have gradually introduced a new style into the House of Commons, which was suited to the age in which he chiefly flourished, and to the novel elements of the assembly which he had to guide. He had to deal with greater details than his predecessors, and he had in many instances to address those who were deficient in previous knowledge. Something of the lecture, therefore, entered into his displays. This style may be called the didactic.

Sir Robert Peel was a very good-looking man. He was tall, and though of later years he had become portly, had to the last a comely presence. Thirty years ago when he was young and lithe, with curling brown hair, he had a very radiant expression of countenance. His brow was very distinguished, not so much for its intellectual development, although that was of a very high order, as for its remarkably frank expression, so different from his character in life. The expression of the brow might even be said to amount to beauty. The eye was not good; it was sly, and he had an awkward habit of looking askance. He had the fatal defect, also, of a long upper lip, and his mouth was compressed. One cannot say of Sir Robert Peel, notwithstanding his unrivalled powers of despatching affairs, that he was the greatest minister that this country ever produced. But what he really was, and what posterity will acknowledge him to have been, is the greatest member of Parliament that ever lived. Peace to his ashes! His name will be often appealed to in that scene which he loved so well, and never without homage even by his opponents. — *Disraeli's Life of Bentinck.*

DUBLIN.—MISSING EMIGRANT SHIPS.—Three vessels, with nearly one thousand emigrants, which left the port of Dublin for New York early in October last, have not since been heard of, and very serious apprehensions prevail for their safety. The relatives of some of the emigrants residing in this city express their fears that the vessels have foundered at sea. On Friday last a letter was received by a mercantile firm in Dublin from their agent at New York, stating that the non-arrival of those emigrant ships, nearly three months out, had caused much uneasiness, especially as several large vessels from Liverpool and other European ports, on the return voyage, were much over-due, and it was known that the weather, for some weeks, had been more stormy and severe than ever had occurred during the memory of some of the oldest voyagers across the Atlantic. The owners of the missing emigrant ships from Dublin still entertain some hope that the long delay might have been caused by their having been driven out of their course in a northerly direction. The parties interested look with the deepest anxiety for the next account from New York.

A PERVERT REBUKED.—Mr. Gordon, an English pervert and Romish priest, having attempted to convey clandestinely to one of the pupils of Trinity College, Glendalmond, controversial books, which were intercepted by the authorities, the Warden returned them, with a letter of rebuke, in which he expresses his hope "that the boy who has been Mr. Gordon's correspondent will be awakened into a true sense of his folly and danger by what has taken place, and will feel convinced that a minister of religion, who could begin by tempting him to be false and disobedient to man, can never end by teaching him to be true and faithful to Almighty God."

DIOCESAN CLERICAL COLLEGE.—The Bishop of Oxford has determined on opening a Diocesan College in which candidates for Holy Orders may pursue their studies systematically, and prepare themselves without interruption for the ministry. The College will be at Cadlesden, under the Bishop's own eye; the Rev. Mr. Pott, his Lordship's Chaplain and Curate, acting as Principal.

O'CONNELL'S LAST APPEARANCE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—He sat in an unusual place—in that generally occupied by the leader of the opposition, and spoke from the red box, convenient to him from the number of documents to which he had to refer. His appearance was of great debility, and the tones of his voice were very still. His words, indeed, only reached those who were immediately around him, and the ministers sitting on the other side of the green table, and listening with that interest and respectful attention which became the occasion. It was a strange and touching spectacle to those who remembered the form of colossal energy and the clear and thrilling tones that had once startled, disturbed, and controlled senators. Mr. O'Connell was on his legs for nearly two hours, assisted occasionally in the management of his documents by some devoted aide-camp. To the House generally it was a performance of dumb show, a feeble old man muttering before a table; but respects for the great parliamentary personage kept all as orderly as the fortunes of a party hung upon his rhetoric; and though not an accent reached the gallery, means were taken that next morning the country should not lose the last and not least interesting of the speeches of one who had so long agitated the mind of nations. — This remarkable address was an abnegation of the whole policy of Mr. O'Connell's career. It proved by a mass of authentic evidence, ranged over a long term of years, that Irish outrage was the consequence of physical misery, and that the social evils of the country could not be successfully encountered by political remedies. To complete the picture, it concluded with a panegyric of Ulster and a patriotic quotation from Lord Clare. — *D'Israeli's "Lord George Bentinck."*

From the report of the gardiner to whose care the trees of the Crystal Palace were entrusted, it seems that the old elms under the glass shade have increased in their branches from six to seven feet, whilst the elms in the park have made on the average, only one foot of shoots.

A dispatch was received at Vienna the other day from London via the submarine telegraph; the time occupied was three hours and a half.

A male and female teacher were recently advertised for an institution in Paisley; there were 106 applicants for the one, and 84 for the other, rendering selection almost an impossibility.

AN ANECDOTE OF THE EMPEROR AND HIS NEPHEW.

—The following story is extracted from "A Life of Prince Louis Napoleon," published by Newby:—At that time Prince Louis Napoleon was seven years old. One day, the eve of the Emperor's departure for the fatal campaign of Waterloo, Napoleon, followed by Marshal —, had just entered his cabinet; he appeared anxious and sad, and the brevity and sharpness of his words revealed the deep and engrossing thoughts which occupied his mind. Suddenly a young boy slipped into the apartment and approached the Emperor; his whole countenance was impressed with an air of sorrow and his whole proceedings gave evidence that he was under the influence of some deep emotion which he was endeavouring to restrain. The child, having approached, threw himself on his knees before the Emperor, hid his head in his lap, and clasped his legs with his arms, and then his tears began to flow in abundance. "What ails you, Louis?" cried the Emperor, in a tone which indicated his annoyance at the interruption. "Why have you come? For what are you crying?" The child, frightened by his manner, could only reply by sobs. Having, however, by degrees recovered confidence and became calm, he at last said, with a sweet, but melancholy voice,—"Sire, my governess has just told me that you are about to set out for the war! Oh! do not go! do not go!" "But why do you not wish me to go?" said the Emperor, with a voice suddenly rendered mild by the solicitude of his youthful nephew—for it was Prince Louis, the young favourite of the Emperor. "Why do you not wish me to go, my child?" repeated he, lifting up his head, and running his fingers through his beautiful light hair. "It is not the first time I have left for the war. Do not be alarmed—fear nothing, for I shall soon return." "Oh!" replied the young Prince, whilst he continued to weep, "Oh! my dear uncle, those wicked Allies are eager to kill you. Let me go, uncle; let me go with you." To this the Emperor made no reply, but having taken up the young Prince upon his knee, he pressed him in his arms and embraced him with warmth and affection. Napoleon appeared profoundly affected; but having soon recovered all his firmness of voice, he called "Hortense! Hortense!" On the Queen hastening to obey his summons, he said, "Come, and take away my nephew, and severely reprove his governess for having, by her inconsiderate remarks, excited the boy's sensibility." Then, after addressing some kind and affectionate words to the Prince, in order to console him, he was about to restore him to his mother, when, perceiving the effect of his emotion upon Marshal —, he said, "Come embrace him; he will have a good heart and amiable dispositions. He is, perhaps, the hope of my race."

The *Augsburg Gazette* states that the greatest efforts are making by the Government of Bavaria to induce M. Liebig to leave the university in which he had so long taught, and accept the highest chair of chemistry in that of Munich.

There is a great influx of Scotch farmers into Ireland at the present time.

A Company has been formed for establishing a line of steamers between Galway and Halifax.

Mr. Van Wart, one of the most extensive manufacturers in Birmingham, says that in the whole course of his experience he knew no year so generally prosperous as the one just brought to a close.

NEW ZEALAND.—A parliamentary blue book has just been printed, containing a good deal of statistical information respecting New Zealand. Last year the population of the colony was 4,047, being an increase of 675 on the preceding year. The actual revenue of the year 1850 was £3,506 18s. 6d. and the expenditure £3,213 18s. 11d. In 1850 the exports were £7,116, being a decrease of £1,576 10s. on the preceding year. It is stated that the decrease had arisen by the increased population consuming the flour which otherwise would have been exported. In 1850 the imports were £17,507 2s. 6d. being an increase of £3,253 1s. 6d. on the preceding year. There has been a great increase in the number of acres fenced, cleared, and cultivated last year, compared with 1849. It appears that the native population within the district of Wellington, Waikanae, Otaki, Manawatu, Rangitikei, and Wairarapa, in the province of New Munster, is 4,711, of which number 2,955 are Christians. Of those stated to be Christians, 1,148 can read and write, and 444 can read only. There are 39 churches and chapels within the province.

The dismissal of Lord Palmerston from office, as it is now ascertained to be, is the topic which engages the public prints and permeates social conversation. The intelligence which has reached this country through the foreign journals since the announcement of the fact, which came upon the nation like an electric shock, completely reveals the workings of an intricate and disgraceful plot of which the Noble Viscount has been made the victim. Dissenting as we have frequently done from the general principles which have governed Lord Palmerston's foreign policy, we shall not be misunderstood as supporting his political views whilst merely expressing our detestation of the arts by which he has been hurled from power. If the peculiar course which the late Secretary for Foreign Affairs, during his long and repeated tenure of that office, thought proper to pursue, was likely to terminate in a general alliance of the despotic powers of Europe against the empire of Great Britain, it was due from the Noble Lord's colleagues who have always sanctioned those principles of which no prudent man could avow otherwise than that they would produce this result, either to have braved the storm, or to have relinquished the helm of affairs to abler hands. But anything manly and straightforward would have been foreign to the character of Lord John Russell. The same wretched duplicity which led him on a recent memorable occasion to carry on a "secret" correspondence with Cardinal Wiseman, whilst "openly" writing an epistle full of Protestant furor to the Bishop of Durham, has again been brought into conspicuous action. It has transpired, to the immortal disgrace of the Premier, that the "retirement" of Lord Palmerston from the Russell Cabinet was an event partaking as purely of the "histrionic" character as any of those religious "mummeries" against which his Lordship so powerfully inveighed in a late memorable epistle. As so much, however, of the plot in this mysterious State drama has been transacted "behind the scenes," we are unable to say more at present than what the intelligence from Vienna confirms, viz., that the whole business was concerted by the Premier—behind the backs, not only of Lord Palmerston, but of most of his other colleagues—with the Cabinets of Vienna and St. Petersburg, capitals where rumours of the result were in circulation long before the arrival of the intelligence from England. As may be expected the feeling of the bulk of the Liberal party in this country is considerably excited against the Ministry on account of the undignified treatment of their most popular Statesman, whilst that love of fair play which is so predominant an element in the English character, will

produce in all classes a powerful sympathy with the cause of the ex-Foreign Secretary. The electors of Westminster, it is said, intend to offer him their suffrages at the next election, whilst the opening of the ensuing Session of Parliament is eagerly looked for on account of the interpellations which will be then put both to Lord Palmerston and the Premier—a "racy" correspondence between whom, it is further rumoured will at the same time see the light. But whatever portents appear to surround the disappearance of Lord Palmerston from the Ministerial stage, the introduction of Earl Granville to the diplomatic world has been marked by no such disturbances to mental tranquility. On Tuesday, we perceive his Lordship held his first "reception," which was rendered imposing enough by the attendance of all the Foreign Ambassadors in their state costume, and wearing insignia of the orders of their respective nations. It is not by the ceremonial amenities which usher in the new possessor of office, that the new Foreign Secretary is likely to be irritated; but in the discussions of the world outside the walls of Downing-street he will not meet with the same punctilious consideration. A fretting sore has already been discovered in the circumstance of the Countess Granville being a Romanist,—and whilst we are not of those who deem personal topics concerning private individuals the proper theme of public animadversions, yet it behoves well the country to regard with vigilant jealousy the kind of influence which is likely to be associated with or exerted upon, its leading statesmen. Speculations are rife as to the probable combinations in high places which will result from Lord Palmerston's recent dismissal from the Foreign Office. It is stated that the Duke of Newcastle and Mr. Caldwell, members of the Peelite section, have been invited by the Premier to fill the offices vacated by the elevation of Earl of Granville. The Duke of Newcastle being a member of the House of hereditary legislators, will not be deterred from accepting the offer by that insecurity of Parliamentary position which would render the Hon. M. P. for Liverpool a very doubtful accession of strength to an already sinking Cabinet. But we may confidently predict that the seats in the House of Commons of many even of the distinguished leaders who retired from office with the late Sir Robert Peel, will not receive them in another Parliament. There is no reasonable doubt that a dissolution of the Russell Cabinet is imminent. It is by no means certain that the present Ministry will live till the opening of the approaching Parliamentary Session, and mingling in the speedy advent of a Conservative Government to power, is the surmise on the part of Lord Palmerston's friends that he would not find the differences between himself and the Protectionists so great as to debar him from realising some scope for his acknowledged abilities in that new Administration.

PARIS, MONDAY, SEVEN P.M.—I have just learned that the Marquis of Normandy is to leave Paris in two days for London, where he has been summoned by Earl Granville, to give some explanations on recent events. I have already had occasion to mention that ever since the resolution of the 2nd December the noble marquis has been on terms of such coldness with the President of the Republic, that his departure has not created any violent demonstration of grief on the part of the *habitués* of the Elysee. — *Chronicle Correspondent.*

At a dinner lately given to Sir John Ross, at Stranraer, some preserved veal and mutton, which had formed part of the stores of the Arctic discovery ship *Fury*, thirty years ago, were placed on the table, and the persons who partook of them pronounced them to be in excellent condition.

SENTENCE OF DEATH UPON DISTINGUISHED ENGLISHMEN IN TUSCANY.—The Italian papers state that the prosecution of the three sons of the late Lord Alborough has at length terminated. Henry Stratford and his brother Edward Stratford have been condemned to death by the court-martial, upon the charge of conspiracy to overturn the Government, and the unlawful possession of arms. The third brother, Charles Stratford, has been sentenced to a year's imprisonment in chains. But the punishment has in each case been commuted. Henry Stratford is to suffer ten years' imprisonment Edward Stratford six years, and Charles Stratford has been set at liberty.

Colonial.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

The Hon. Mr. Howe, in his letter to Earl Grey, dated 25th Nov. 1850, makes the following remarks:—"Suppose that having done my best to draw attention to the claims of those I have the honour to represent, I return to them without hope, how long will high-spirited men endure a position in which their loyalty subjects their mines to monopoly, their fisheries to unnatural competition, and in which cold indifference to public improvement or national security is the only response they meet, when they make to the Imperial authorities a proposition calculated to keep alive their enthusiasm, while developing their internal resources?" When the Hon. Delegate returned from England, he inspired hope—in Nova-Scotia, in the Northern section of New-Brunswick, and in Canada. He spoke confidently of loans at 3½ per cent.; he delighted admiring audiences with his golden promises. His credulous disciples proclaimed the glorious news, and assembled multitudes filled the welkin with his praise; his public speeches cheered the disheartened Provincialists with the speedy approach of an Augustan era; and at convivial boards the sparkling glass proclaimed the happier feelings of those who heard him; the charmed imagination beheld the pleasing metamorphosis of a howling wilderness into populous settlements, and of imported "convicts" into moral and useful inhabitants. The Howe scheme was the paramount scheme, and the Legislature of Nova-Scotia was convened to confirm it. But—"how long will the high-spirited men" of the Province endure the unwarrantable impositions upon Colonial credulity, which Earl Grey's recent despatch has exposed? This despatch calls for an explanation from Mr. Howe, as it is utterly irreconcilable with the assurances which he has made respecting the European and North American Railroad; and unless the Hon. Secretary of Nova-Scotia can adduce some better authority than any at present before the public, for the hopes which he excited, his railroad journey, assemblages, speeches and publications will be considered by many persons as parts and parcels of an electing scheme. Earl Grey's despatch respecting the European and North American Railroad is in keeping with his previous communications before the public; nor can Mr. Howe refer to Mr. Hawes' published letter for any justification of his assertions to the people of these Provinces.

Mr. Howe and his confederates authorized the public to believe that some satisfactory despatches from the Colonial Office would be laid before the Provincial Legislatures; and they confidently calculated upon the profits of the European and North American line to

meet the deficiencies of the Quebec trunk upon the Northern route. But what says Earl Grey? He says, that the Imperial Government will not furnish funds for the European and North American line. Is this the promised intelligence, which would impart universal satisfaction? Is this the intelligence which is to soothe the "keen feelings" of the spirited people of the Colonies? Is this the despatch which affords a satisfactory explanation of Earl Grey's irritating conduct respecting the "Facility Bill" for the European and North American Railroad? His Lordship's first refusal to submit this Bill to Her Majesty was considered by many as an act of official tyranny; and when his requirements respecting certain alterations in the Bill were fully met by the Railroad Company, they reasonably anticipated the Royal sanction. But what says the Colonial autocrat? He informs the Company that he cannot submit the Bill for Her Majesty's approval until the whole subject—not the formerly required alterations—was re-considered by the Legislature—by that Legislature which had previously approved of the whole subject, and whose re-consideration will probably be re-submitted by the Colonial Minister to a future Session of our Legislature, for further delay and annoyance of dependant Colonists. If the people of these Provinces do really possess the "keen feelings" and "high spirit" which Mr. Howe has ascribed to them, it is to be hoped that the Legislature of New-Brunswick will demonstrate some of it, by an adherence to their former Bill, subject to the alteration already allowed by the Company, otherwise we must confess that Colonial Legislature is a mockery, and that we want intelligence to discern, as well as freedom to enforce, those measures which are best calculated to advance our prosperity. The Colonial Minister has really tantalized our feelings respecting Railroads; and the continuance of such annoyances will inevitably destroy the loyal attachment of the Colonists to the Imperial Government; and unless the present Session of our Legislature effects something satisfactory in reference to the hopes from Railroads, and the destruction of those hopes by Colonial Ministers, we must confess our insignificance and degradation, and cease to talk of keen and spirited feelings.

The opposers of Mr. Archibald's proposition have expressed their surprise that the "members of the meeting in the Bank parlour" did not demand some voucher from that gentleman, as a satisfactory testimonial of agency; but they unhesitatingly adopted the Hon. Mr. Howe's scheme, based, as it now appears, upon the very ambiguous "provision" in Mr. Hawes' letter, which authorizes no inference respecting pecuniary aid, but merely a provision for connecting the European and North American line with that portion of the Quebec Trunk running in the same route to Halifax. A careful review of this letter will show this obvious conclusion. In one paragraph we read the following:—"Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that they would not be justified in asking Parliament to allow the credit of this country to be pledged for any object not of great importance to the British Empire as a whole; and they do not consider that the projected Railway would answer this description, unless it should establish a line of communication between the three Provinces." Here we are told emphatically that the pledge of the Imperial Government will be given for a road connecting the British Provinces, and only for such a road, for Mr. Hawes goes on to state that—"it must be distinctly understood that the work is not to be commenced, nor is any part of the loan, for the interest on which the British Treasury is to be responsible, to be raised, until arrangements are made with the Provinces of Canada and New Brunswick, by which the construction of a line of Railway passing wholly through British territory from Halifax to Quebec or Montreal, shall be provided for to the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government." Shortly afterwards come the Howe-scheme-paragraph, viz:—"It is also to be understood that Her Majesty's Government will by no means object to its forming part of the plan which may be determined upon—that it should include a provision for establishing a communication between the projected Railway and the Railways of the United States." Here we have no allusion to the whole plan of the European and North American line, through the British Provinces, namely, from its junction with the Trunk Line through New Brunswick to Calais or Lincoln—nor one syllable about an Imperial pledge in favour of the Provinces. The provision refers to a junction, and not to any pecuniary provision for it; and yet the Hon. Secretary of Nova Scotia has put his forced construction upon the word *provision*, and, with no other apparent authority, has blown his Railway bubbles throughout the Provinces.

It is now apparent that Great Britain will give no assistance to the European and North American line; this must be accomplished by other means. We must look to our Legislature for the accomplishment of the Facility Bill, and appeal to the Throne for the Royal sanction. This will place the Company in a position to exert themselves. If Canada and New Brunswick concur in the route by the Valley of the St. John to form an intercolonial communication between the three British Provinces, agreeably to the Imperial requisitions, the European and N. American line will follow as a consequence. Canada would naturally prefer this route, as it would open communication with the winter harbours of St. Andrew's, St. John and Halifax; whereas, the Northern route would give but the winter harbour of Halifax, unless a retrograde movement was made by some connecting branch from the North Shore to St. John. Halifax may declaim against any other route, but New Brunswick may dictate the route best suited to the general improvement of the Province, and Nova Scotia must eventually concur, as the benefits from any route will contribute largely to the prosperity of Halifax as a terminus.

P.S.—We are informed that the Canadian Delegates and our Government have concluded that the Railway by the Valley of the St. John, with the main terminus at St. John, as the Canadian outpost on the Atlantic, is the only Railway scheme that can be entertained by Canada and New Brunswick. We presume, however, that unless Canada builds to Woodstock, and Nova Scotia to the Bend; the whole scheme must fall to the ground—and so will end the great Howe bubble. — *Courier.*

NARROW ESCAPE.—On Wednesday night at nine o'clock the inhabitants of Petite Cote, some three miles below this place were alarmed by loud cries for help proceeding from the river. Mr. Richardson a gentleman residing near there, happened to be passing at the time and immediately proceeded together with Mr. Hennel and some others to render what assistance they could. It appears that a person whose name we have not ascertained was driving upon the barge, and it being very dark the horses took an old track leading across the river. The first