a great height, and then descended into the water, at a short distance from where the vessel was stationed; but the vessel had suddenly disappeared amidst "the wreck of matter," leaving no trace behind! The scene was indeed a grand and imposing one. The trial appeared to us to be completely successful. In about twenty seconds after the signal gun was fired, Mr. Colt applied his powerful apparatus (placed five miles distant near Alexandria) and in the twinkling of an eye the vessel entirely disappeared. Every one present, of the vast multitude assembled in steamboats, carriages, on horseback, and on foot, (amounting we should think, to no less than six or eight thousand spectators,) seemed to be highly gratified with the imposing grandeur of the scene, and to regard the experiment as eminently successful. We have never witnessed so complete powerful, and singular an illustration of the force of gunpowder, united with the power of science. The arrangements seemed to have been admirably planned and executed—not the least disappointment or failure to produce the tremendous and mighty effect which was promised, precisely in the manner and at the time proposed. It is gratifying to learn that no accident of any kind occured, during, or in consequence of the explosion. The weather was fine, and a good opportunity was afforded for every one to see the great and wonderful experiment.—*Washington National Intelligencer.*

## British News.

### HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO SCOTLAND.

DEPARTURE OF HER MAJESTY FROM WINDSOR.

WINDSOR, MONDAY, AUG. 29.—Precisely as the clock in the quadrangle chimed the hour of five, the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert (escorted by the detachment of the 2nd Life Guards) left the castle in an open barouche and four. Her Majesty and the Prince looked remarkably well. Two pony carriages and four followed, containing the Duchess of Norfolk, the Hon. Miss Paget, the Earl of Morton, Col. Bouverie, Major Bere, and Mr. Wemyss, and Mr. G. E. Anson. Her Majesty arrived at Slough in less than fifteen minutes from the time of leaving the castle. The special train was there in readiness with the steam well up. Her Majesty, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the royal suite, immediately upon alighting, took their seats in the state carriage. The usual preparations were made at the Slough station, upon the platform, for the reception of the Sovereign, which was covered with a crimson carpet, and every arrangement was carried into effect to ensure the comfort and safety of the illustrious party, by the officers of the Great Western Railway in attendance.

Before six o'clock, several of the royal carriages, drawn by post horses, arrived containing her Majesty's pages, officers of the household, and the upper servants, who immediately went on board the royal yacht, to be in readiness to receive their royal mistress and her illustrious consort. The preparations for the reception of her Majesty were completed at a very early hour. Shortly after six o'clock the Earl of Delaware, lord chamberlain; the Earl of Liverpool, lord steward of the household; the Earl of Jersey, master of the horse; the Earl of Haddington, (in uniform), as first lord of the admiralty, Sir R. Stopford governor of Greenwich Hospital; Lord Bloomfield, commander of the royal artillery; and a number of other distinguished officers arrived. A number of cadets, of the Royal Military School, were admitted into the yard, and also a few ladies and gentlemen acquaintances of the dockyard officers. At half-past six o'clock, the Duke of Cambridge, accompanied by Baron Knebeck, arrived in a carriage and four, for the purpose of paying his respects to her Majesty. At a quarter before 7 o'clock, it was ascertained that the royal cortege was approaching. In a few minutes afterwards, a discharge of cannon from the dockyard battery announced the arrival of her Majesty, Prince Albert, and suite. The band of the royal marines immediately played the "National Anthem," and the soldiers of that gallant corps presented arms. Her Majesty and court arrived in three of the royal travelling carriages and four, preceded by outriders, and escorted by a detachment of Light Dragoons. Her Majesty was handed out of her carriage by the Earl of Delaware, lord chamberlain, and the Earl of Liverpool, lord steward, and was immediately conducted to the Admiralty barge. Her Majesty was attended down the steps by Sir George Cockburn, and handed into the barge by the Earl of Haddington. Prince Albert immediately followed.

As soon as her Majesty was afloat, the yards of the different vessels that comprised the squadron, and others in commission in the river, were manned and formed a very imposing spectacle; and as her Majesty stepped on board the royal yacht, the sailors loudly cheered. The cheering was caught up by the men of the other vessels, and was continued on the shore. The Royal standard was then struck on board the barge, and immediately hoisted to the mainmast of the *Royal George*, and another discharge of cannon announced that the Sovereign had embarked. Precisely as the clock struck seven the royal yacht was under weigh, and towed by *Monkey* steamer; proceeded down the river amidst the continued cheers of those assembled. Sir James Clerk, her Majesty's physician, accompanied the Queen on her voyage, and will remain in attendance until the court returns.

As the squadron passed majestically down the river, the vessels working about generally by tow, and lowered either their colours or sails in compliment, while, ever and anon, some small battery ashore sent forth its salute, amid the cheering of those gathered around it. At Gravesend the spectacle was really imposing. The river was crowded with vessels of all rigs, and of many nations. Bunting of every shape and hue fluttered amid the sails and rigging. St. George's cross and the tricolour bending in amity together; the light forms of cutters and yachts shot hither and thither among the heavier merchant vessels impelled by a breeze just sufficient to keep the sails asleep, and to blow the flags well out from the rigging. And as the royal squadron passed through the fleet balls ringing, the people of Gravesend cheering and the classic old fort opposite, the redoubtable Tilbury, blazing away as it might have done in the stirring days of Drake and the Armada. From Gravesend to the Nore the distance was gone quickly over. A signal was now run up to the mizzen top-gallant mast of the Royal George, and straight the long ranges of the batteries of saluting ships poured forth their stunning welcome; gun after gun followed in rapid succession from the guard ship, the frigate, and the sloop-of-war.

THE ROYAL GEORGE YACHT.—This beautiful model of a man-of-war vessel is undergoing a complete renovation, and a number of hands are employed without intermission to have her finished for the reception of her Majesty. Dr. Reid, the inventor of the most approved mode of ventilation, was on board yesterday and to-day personally superintending they laying of the pipes for the free ventilation of the vessel. The royal bed has been removed to London, and a new one, expressly made for her Majesty, will be substituted. The interior of the state cabin is superb, beautifully carved in the more prominent parts, and richly gilt, having a most pleasing effect. It is lighted by five windows in the stern, and two on each side of smaller dimensions, of the finest plate glass. Round the whole of the interior are placed ottomans and sofas, the latter convertible into beds, and by richly gilt rods, appearing at first supports for picture frames, curtains of graceful drapery are made to surround them. Near the stern windows is a beautiful brass stove of a most elegant pattern, in the form of a handsome covered vase, the smoke descending behind the grate, and finding egress at some distant part of the vessel. In recesses are neatly fitted shelves for book cases. The floor is covered with rich Brussels carpet of a very chaste pattern, and in the centre stands a splendidly finished round mahogany table. The royal bed-room is in keeping with the rich appearance of the state-cabin, the floor covered with the same Brussels carpet, and very light and airy in its form, and in every respect adapted for the comfort of her Majesty during the voyage. It is entered from the right of the state cabin by a spacious door in character with the dimensions of all the other parts of this model of elegant ship building. The dining-room is also very handsome, but not so highly ornamented as the other cabins, and conveys an idea of the comforts a small select party of royal and noble guests could enjoy gilding along on the surface of the sea that surround our beloved island. The pannels of the doors of the state cabin are filled with mirrors, but her Majesty's excellent taste and judgment appear to dislike them, and they have been ordered to be covered, so that the privacy of the state cabin will be preserved, and not have every movement of the forms of the occupants presented to the eye in all quarters. The deck of the vessel is kept beautiful and clean, and being filled in the seams with a white, yet permanently hard composition, will not soil the most delicate shoe.—At present, while the work of renovation is going on, the deck is covered with canvas. The binnacle compass is covered in the form of a lantern, and surmounted by a royal crown. On the exterior of the stern is a beautifully carved royal arms, richly gilt.

WOOLWICH, August 25.—*Death of Lieutenant-General Lord Vivian, G. C. B. and G. C. H., lat-Master General of the Ordnance.*—Intelligence was received last night, which caused the deepest regret in the garrison at Woolwich, that Lieutenant-General the Right Hon. Richard Hussey Lord Vivian, had died in Germany. This brave and gallant officer, on being appointed Master-General of the Ordnance on the 19th May, 1835, performed the duties of his office with great zeal and ability, and by his urbanity, kindness, and attention to all, was universally looked upon as the officer and soldier's friend. His Lordship continued Master-General until the accession of the present government to power in September, 1841, when he retired, having been previously raised to the peerage by the government of which he was a member. Lord Vivian was born on the 28th of July, 1775, and entered the army as an ensign on the 31st of July, 1793, promoted to lieutenant October 20, 1793, captain, May 7, 1794, major, March 9, 1803; lieutenant-colonel, September 28, 1804; colonel, February 20, 1812; major-general, June 4, 1814; and lieutenant-general, July 22, 1830. The Lieutenant-General served in Flanders and Holland under the Duke of York from June in the year 1795, until the return of the army in 1795. He was present in the sortie from Nimeguen, and was left with a picquet of the 28th regiment, in conjunction with other picquets, to hold it after the retreat of the army. He was present in the affair of Geldermalsen, in which his regiment (the 28th) suffered severely, and in other skirmishes. His lordship was also present in all the different battles which took place during the expedition to the Helder, excepting in the landing. Commanded the 7th Hussars in the campaign under Sir John Moore, in 1808 and 1809. Commanded a brigade of cavalry in the Peninsula from September, 1813, until the return of the army, including the battles of Orthes, Nive, and Toulouse. He was severely wounded in carrying the bridge of Croix D'Orade, near Toulouse, and served at the battle of Waterloo. Lord Vivian received a medal and one clasp for Sahagun and Benevento and Orthes. His lordship's death causes a vacancy in the 1st Dragoons, of which regiment he was colonel. The deceased lord was married first, in 1804, to Miss De Crespigny, daughter of Philip Champion De Crespigny, Esq.; and secondly, in 1833, to Miss Webster, third daughter of the Rev. James Agnew Webster. His lordship is succeeded by his son by the former marriage, Major the Hon. Chas. Crespigny Vivian, M. P. for Bodmin, now Lord Vivian, who was born in 1808, and married, in 1833, to the daughter of the Rev. John Scott, and niece of the Earl of Meath.

Although a Whig in Politics, Lord Vivian was a worthy and amiable man, and a gallant and able soldier. He was considered as one of the very best Hussar officers in the service. It is a curious fact that the deceased veteran, who reached, and most deservedly, the highest honour of the military profession, was originally intended for the law, and if I mistake not served part of his time as an articled clerk to a solicitor in the West of England. This is the only modern instance in which a pen has been advantageously exchanged for a sword. Sir James Kempt, an officer distinguished as Lord Vivian, and also like him a past Master-General of the Ordnance, was for some time a clerk in an army agent's office.

MINISTERIAL OPPOSITION.—We have learnt within the last few days that Lord John Russell has signified to Lord Palmerston, in answer to representations by the latter as to the necessity of the Liberals advancing with the popular feelings that closely connected as he (Lord John) is with the Bedford family, he could not consent to be a party to further reform; and that rather than he thinks it were better if the opposition would look out for some other leader before the commencement of another parliamentary campaign.—*Morn. Adv.*

*Trial of Bean for Shooting at the Queen.*—John William Bean, the deformed boy, aged 16, a wretched and diminutive looking being, apparently not more than 12 or 13 years of age, was on Thursday tried in the Central Criminal Court for misdemeanour, in having presented a pistol at the Queen, on the 3d July last. The prisoner pleaded not guilty. The evidence having been heard, Lord Abinger summed up, and the jury, after two minutes deliberation, returned a verdict of guilty on the second count, intending to harrass, perplex, and alarm her Majesty. His lordship then sentenced him to be *imprisoned in the jail of Newgate for eighteen calendar months.*

*The West India Mails.*—The arrangements between the Lord Commissioners of the board of Admiralty and the Right Hon. Lord Lowe, the postmaster-general, respecting the transmission of the West India Mails twice a month by sailing packets, are now finally concluded. Twelve ten gun brigs are now fitting out with all expedition at Plymouth, as packets for the purpose of conveying the Madeira, Jamaica, (and all the West India islands), Panama, New Orleans, British Guiana, Surinham, and Mexican mails, which will be made up at the General Postoffice, St. Martin's-Le Grand on the 1st and 15th of every month, and forwarded, via Falmouth. The average time of the voyage from and to Falmouth and the West India Islands, Mexico, &c., is computed at fifty-seven days. The Madeira, Brazils, and Buenos Ayres mails will be also conveyed by her Majesty's brigs Linnet, Penguin, Swift, Crane, Express, Petrel, and Ranger, on the first Tuesday of every month. The time from and to Falmouth is on an average 149 days. From August to January the packets will touch at Pernambuco and Bahia on their outward passage to Rio Janeiro, and the other six months on their homeward. This new arrangement of the post office is in consequence of the continued complaints that have been made to government by the merchants of London, Liverpool, Manchester and Glasgow, of the delay they have experienced in transmitting and receiving their intelligence from our West India Islands, South America, and the Brazils by the steam packets of the Royal West India Mail Company. We regret this change, and confidently hope the post-office authorities are not about to return to the old worn-out system. If these ten gun brigs are as bad as those formerly in use, the alteration will be for the worse.

It was currently reported at Canton that the Emperor, rather than await a visit from General Sir H. Gough and Admiral Sir W. Parker at his palace at Pekin, had preferred retiring beyond the Great Wall with his family, considering himself to be much safer in Tartary than in China. His Celestial Majesty before going was graciously pleased to command his loving subjects to fight away, promising that if they killed all the barbarians he would return and rule them as before. Such imperial condescension must be very gratifying to them.

Thomas Quested, the intruder into Windsor Castle, was examined at the Home-office on Thursday; at its conclusion no doubt remained that the unfortunate man was insane. An order was made for his committal to Bethlem Hospital.

The news from France during the last fourteen days, has not been altogether devoid of interest. There were two or three warm debates, both in the Chamber of Peers and Deputies, on the Regency bill, which was finally passed by both houses in the forms as brought forward by the Ministry. The Chambers have been prorogued until early in January. The King and family have taken up their quarters at Eu. The Paris papers of Wednesday announce that great fears were entertained there, in high quarters, that the Treaties between England and America would not be ratified. The Royal ordonnance, promulgating the Regency Bill, appears in the *Moniteur* of Wednesday. A letter from St. Petersburgh, in the *Augsburg Gazette*, confirms the reports in circulation of the complete failure of the Russian expedition in the Caucasus, under General Crabbe. The loss of the Russians is estimated at 6000 soldiers and 80 officers. Austria has lowered her duties on raw cotton. The *Journal Militaire* publishes a circular from Marshal Soult, authorising the soldiers whose time of service expires in 1843 to return to their homes. Admiral Hugon's squadron was expected to return from Hyeres to Toulon on the 1st inst.

The intelligence from the United States, and the arrival from thence by the *Great Western*, of a special messenger with the treaties for the settlement of the many pending questions between England and America is considered favourable, and the latter event has given universal satisfaction. Nothing has, as yet, transpired here as to the terms of the treaties, but they are generally supposed to be such as cannot fail to give the utmost satisfaction to the people of both countries, and, at all events, the settlement of the long pending difficulties is regarded as a matter of no mean importance. The news gave an impetus to the cotton trade, and little doubt is entertained here, but that as soon as American credit shall have been re-established, these treaties will tend much to the extension of the trade and commerce between the two countries.

### THE QUEEN IN THE HIGHLANDS.

The last Sovereign that visited the Highlands of Scotland was also a Queen—the beautiful and unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots. The Royal journey was made about the same time of the year as that proposed by Queen Victoria; but Mary rode on horseback. Roads there were none; and no wheeled carriage was seen north of Perth before 1715. Charles the Second, when in Scotland, during the Commonwealth, was crowned at Scone, on New Year's day, 1651; but while the scepter was held by the more vigorous and able hand of Cromwell, Charles is scarcely entitled to the honours of monarchy; and he does not seem to have made any permbulation of our High district. The Scotch Queen left Stirling on the 15th of August (old style) in the year 1562 and took nine days in travelling to Aberdeen. The accommodations could not have been very princely, for the two secretaries—Randolph and Maitland—who accompanied Mary, had to sleep together in the same bed! From Aberdeen the Queen proceeded to Inverness and the room there occupied as her palace is now the counting-room or office of Mr. Ferguson, wine merchant. The house has since been completely modernised in appearance—the old turnpike stair and projecting balcony, with the capacious kitchen, are removed. Mary got but a stormy reception here. The Marquess of Huntly was all paramount, and he was in arms against the Queen. The Castle of Inverness was taken by storm, and the Governor put to death. The Queen was of an intrepid spirit—she had not then tasted deep of adversity; and Randolph writes that, when the Lords and others at Inverness came to her in the morning, after the watch, she wished she had been a man "to know what life it was to lie all night in the fields, or to walk the canseway (rough enough our causeway was then, and long afterwards, though often *darned*) with a kinspeck, a Glasgow buckler, and a broad-sword!" Queen Victoria visits the North in happier times; but if danger were near, she would be as little inclined to quail as her predecessor. Her journey will be one continued triumph. If a parallel were drawn between the state of Scotland at Mary's journey, and as it is now, with its commerce, its means of communication, its arts and luxuries, it would be seen how mucknay be done by industry and public spirit, supported by freedom, in surmounting the difficulties of a rugged soil and northern climate. We wish that Queen Victoria had resolved on penetrating as far north as Queen Mary; but this may be done at some future period. At all events (as we consider the whole of the Highlands to be within our *beat*,) we shall attend the Royal movements, and chronicle them faithfully and fully for our readers.—*Inverness Cour.*

### OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE DESTRUCTION OF BRITISH TROOPS AT PORT NATAL.

PORT NATAL, May 25.

"Sir,—It is with feelings of deep regret I have the honour to communicate to you the disastrous termination of the attack made by the commando of the emigrant farmers congregated at the Congella camp at this place.

"In my last despatch I detailed the various steps taken by the farmers to annoy the troops, and my determination to abstain, if possible, from hostilities, if it could be done without detriment to the honour of the service, in the vain hope of conciliating these misguided people, and smoothing the way to the quiet settlement of their long-disturbed position as regards the government of the Cape. But the prestige of insolent inaction, emboldening the force I commanded should instantly quit Natal, followed up by the removal by armed men of a quantity of cattle belonging to the troops, rendered it absolutely necessary that some steps should be taken in order to prevent the repetition of such outrages.

"I therefore determined after mature consideration to march a force and attack their camp at the Congella (a place about three miles from our position, where they have been for some time collected), and set apart the night of the 23d inst., for that object. As the road leading to the Congella from the post the troops now occupy lies for the most part through thick bush, I thought it best to cross the sands at low water, as, by this means, I could avoid annoyance from the farmers until within a short distance of their station. Fitting a howitzer, therefore, in a boat, under the superintendence of Lieutenant Wyatt, of the Royal Artillery, and leaving it under the charge of a sergeant of the same corps, I gave him directions to proceed up the channel to within 500 yards of Congella, and await the troops, in order that they might form under the cover of its fire, aided by that of two six-pounders, which accompanied the force I took with me. This consisted of one subaltern, and 17 privates, Artillery; one subaltern, and two privates, Royal Sappers; two captains, two subalterns, six sergeants, and 100 rank and file, 27th Regiment; and two mounted orderlies of the Cape Rifles.

"Having previously sent out a picket to feel the skirts of the wood in front of our position, in order to prevent our movements being discovered, I put the whole party in motion at 11 p. m. (it being bright moonlight), and arrived without molestation till within nearly 800 yards of the place I proposed to attack. To my great mortification I found the boat had not dropped down the channel according to my instructions, but as I considered it imprudent to wait the chance of her arrival, I was forced to make the attack without the valuable assistance a discharge of shells and shot from the howitzer would have afforded me. Giving the order to advance, therefore, the troops had just moved to where the termination of a range of mangrove bush opened to a level space in front of the Congella, when a heavy and well-directed fire from the bush was poured on them; upon which they immediately formed and commenced a fire in return while the two six-pounders were loading.

"Unfortunately, one of the draught oxen being shot caused some interruption, but this being soon got over, a destructive fire from our guns silenced for a while our opponents; but several more of the oxen being wounded, on escaping out of the traces, rushed amongst the troops and caused much delay and confusion in the ranks. This circumstance again favoured the Boers, who, taking advantage of it, opened a renewed fire with their long pieces (much more destructive than a musket), and a severe loss among the troops was the consequence.

"Finding, then, that I was not likely to accomplish the purpose for which I had put the detachment in motion, and that the men were falling fast, I thought it expedient to retire; effecting this object after some delay, the partial rising of the tide rendering the road difficult. The troops, however, reached the camp about two o'clock in tolerable order, leaving behind them, I regret to say, the guns, which the death of the oxen rendered it impossible to remove.

"Thinking it probable this partial success of the farmers might induce them to make an immediate attack on the camp, I made such preparations as I thought necessary, and found my suspicions realized shortly after by a large body of them opening a heavy fire on three sides of it. This was met by a spirited resistance on our part, but they did not finally retire until about an hour before day-break.

"Such, I regret to inform you, has been the result of this attack, and the consequent loss has been severe, the total in both skirmishes being such as detailed in the enclosed return. One great cause of failure I attributed to the mismanagement of the boat, in which I had placed the howitzer, by the shells of which I had hoped the farmers would have been thrown into confusion, but she dropped down too late to be of any use, and even they took up a position too distant for her fire to produce much effect.

"Among the many matters connected with the subject of this report, and awakening the deepest regret, is the death of Lieutenant Wyatt, of the Royal Artillery, who for the two previous days had exerted himself much in making the necessary arrangements. He was killed early in the action. Of the zealous exertions of Captain Lonsdale and Lieutenant Lonnard, of the 27th Regiment, I was also deprived both these officers being severely wounded. In fact, under the trying circumstances in which the detachment was placed, I have only to regret that, with such willingness to perform the duty assigned to them, the result should have been so unfortunate.

The loss on the part of the Boers it is difficult to estimate, but I am told it has been severe. The whole of this day they have made no movement, but I have to give them the credit of treating such of the wounded as fell into their hands with great humanity. These, with the bodies of those who fell, they sent to the camp in the course of the afternoon, and to-morrow the sad duty of interring our departed comrades will take place.

"What steps the farmers may take I cannot at this moment surmise with any degree of certainty, though I think it probable they will again demand that I quit the territory they call their own within a certain time. I shall, of course, do what I can to maintain myself in my present position; but considering the number of the disaffected, and the means they possess of molesting the troops, I beg to urge the necessity of a speedy reinforcement, as I scarcely consider the troops at present stationed here sufficient for the performance of the duty to which they have been assigned.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,
"T. G. SMITH,
"Captain, 27th Regiment, Commanding.
"His Honour Colonel Hare, C. B. and K. H., Lt. Governor, &c."

### INDIA AND CHINA.

The mail from India has arrived, and we have papers and letters from our correspondents to the 19th of July. The intelligence which they communicate, although of considerable interest, is not of a striking character.

The state of the war in Afghanistan continued to be the subject of warm discussion throughout India, and the most confiding rumours were in circulation as to the decision of the Governor General. While the opponents of the future campaign asserted that Lord Ellenborough had adopted the decision of immediately withdrawing the British troops from that country there were others, who, in the absence of all official orders, maintained that such withdrawal at this juncture was calculated to inflict a most serious injury on the supremacy of Great Britain, and that the arrangements made by the Supreme Government led rather to the inference that it was intended to use the most determined measures for obliging the refractory Afghans to enter into satisfactory terms. Of those measures, one was the formation of "a large army of reserve" in the district of Sirhind, under the command of Sir Jasper Nicoll. The name given to this force, which was ordered to amount to 20,000 men, together with the locality selected for its immediate assembling, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Sikh country, and the appointment of the Commander-in-Chief to be its General, led to the supposition that it was not intended merely to prevent the retirement of the British troops from the banks of the Indus, but to aid their future operations in Afghanistan.

Another of those measures was the collection of beasts of burden, which were to be sent to General Pollock, who still remained with his troops at Jellalabad. The *Friend of India* of the 30th of June, shows the spirited manner in which the mere menacing armaments of the clamourers against the Cabul campaign, to relieve our injured troops, are scouted by the English in India. The plan for the next campaign, for the next campaign, for the preparation, is said to have been arranged by the Duke of Wellington in England, and will be to the end of having not only an effective army of reserve in case of any future reverses, but at the present moment of concentrating all the troops in Afghanistan in proper positions until the opportune time arrive of the commencement of the movement on Cabul of the divisions under General Pollock from Jellalabad, and of General Nott with his division from Candahar. The fort of Khelat-i-Ghilzie has been evacuated in consequence of the concentration of General Nott's division at Candahar. The Afghans, however, prior to the execution of that order, attacked the garrison in considerable force on the morning of the 21st of May; they were, as stated in the accounts of last month, repulsed with considerable loss. The official despatches published by the Governor-General at Allahabad on the 2nd of July represent the conduct of Captain J. H. Craigie and his troops as worthy of the highest praise.

Official details have been published of the attempt made by Akbar Khan, chief of Zemindawar, at the head of 3,000 men, and in conjunction with the rebel force under Prince Saffur Jung, the fourth son of Sehah Soojah, and Attah Mahomed, to take the city of Candahar by surprise during the absence of Colonel Wymer, detached with a large force into the Ghilzee province. On their appearance near same corps, it gave him directions to form and attack the channel to within 500 yards of Congella, and await the troops, in order that they might form under the cover of its fire, aided by that of two six-pounders, which accompanied the force I took with me. This consisted of one subaltern, and 17 privates, Artillery; one subaltern, and two privates, Royal Sappers; two captains, two subalterns, six sergeants, and 100 rank and file, 27th Regiment; and two mounted orderlies of the Cape Rifles.

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Your obedient humble servant,
"T. G. SMITH,
"Captain, 27th Regiment, Commanding.
"His Honour Colonel Hare, C. B. and K.H., Lt. Governor, &c."

### INDIA AND CHINA.

The mail from India has arrived, and we have papers and letters from our correspondents to the 19th of July. The intelligence which they communicate, although of considerable interest, is not of a striking character.

The state of the war in Afghanistan continued to be the subject of warm discussion throughout India, and the most confiding rumours were in circulation as to the decision of the Governor General. While the opponents of the future campaign asserted that Lord Ellenborough had adopted the decision of immediately withdrawing the British troops from that country there were others, who, in the absence of all official orders, maintained that such withdrawal at this juncture was calculated to inflict a most serious injury on the supremacy of Great Britain, and that the arrangements made by the Supreme Government led rather to the inference that it was intended to use the most determined measures for obliging the refractory Afghans to enter into satisfactory terms. Of those measures, one was the formation of "a large army of reserve" in the district of Sirhind, under the command of Sir Jasper Nicoll. The name given to this force, which was ordered to amount to 20,000 men, together with the locality selected for its immediate assembling, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Sikh country, and the appointment of the Commander-in-Chief to be its General, led to the supposition that it was not intended merely to prevent the retirement of the British troops from the banks of the Indus, but to aid their future operations in Afghanistan.

Another of those measures was the collection of beasts of burden, which were to be sent to General Pollock, who still remained with his troops at Jellalabad. The *Friend of India* of the 30th of June, shows the spirited manner in which the mere menacing armaments of the clamourers against the Cabul campaign, to relieve our injured troops, are scouted by the English in India. The plan for the next campaign, for the next campaign, for the preparation, is said to have been arranged by the Duke of Wellington in England, and will be to the end of having not only an effective army of reserve in case of any future reverses, but at the present moment of concentrating all the troops in Afghanistan in proper positions until the opportune time arrive of the commencement of the movement on Cabul of the divisions under General Pollock from Jellalabad, and of General Nott with his division from Candahar. The fort of Khelat-i-Ghilzie has been evacuated in consequence of the concentration of General Nott's division at Candahar. The Afghans, however, prior to the execution of that order, attacked the garrison in considerable force on the morning of the 21st of May; they were, as stated in the accounts of last month, repulsed with considerable loss. The official despatches published by the Governor-General at Allahabad on the 2nd of July represent the conduct of Captain J. H. Craigie and his troops as worthy of the highest praise.

Official details have been published of the attempt made by Akbar Khan, chief of Zemindawar, at the head of 3,000 men, and in conjunction with the rebel force under Prince Saffur Jung, the fourth son of Sehah Soojah, and Attah Mahomed, to take the city of Candahar by surprise during the absence of Colonel Wymer, detached with a large force into the Ghilzee province. On their appearance near same corps, it gave him directions to form and attack the channel to within 500 yards of Congella, and await the troops, in order that they might form under the cover of its fire, aided by that of two six-pounders, which accompanied the force I took with me. This consisted of one subaltern, and 17 privates, Artillery; one subaltern, and two privates, Royal Sappers; two captains, two subalterns, six sergeants, and 100 rank and file, 27th Regiment; and two mounted orderlies of the Cape Rifles.

"Having previously sent out a picket to feel the skirts of the wood in front of our position, in order to prevent our movements being discovered, I put the whole party in motion at 11 p. m. (it being bright moonlight), and arrived without molestation till within nearly 800 yards of the place I proposed to attack. To my great mortification I found the boat had not dropped down the channel according to my instructions, but as I considered it imprudent to wait the chance of her arrival, I was forced to make the attack without the valuable assistance a discharge of shells and shot from the howitzer would have afforded me. Giving the order to advance, therefore, the troops had just moved to where the termination of a range of mangrove bush opened to a level space in front of the Congella, when a heavy and well-directed fire from the bush was poured on them; upon which they immediately formed and commenced a fire in return while the two six-pounders were loading.

"Unfortunately, one of the draught oxen being shot caused some interruption, but this being soon got over, a destructive fire from our guns silenced for a while our opponents; but several more of the oxen being wounded, on escaping out of the traces, rushed amongst the troops and caused much delay and confusion in the ranks. This circumstance again favoured the Boers, who, taking advantage of it, opened a renewed fire with their long pieces (much more destructive than a musket), and a severe loss among the troops was the consequence.

"Finding, then, that I was not likely to accomplish the purpose for which I had put the detachment in motion, and that the men were falling fast, I thought it expedient to retire; effecting this object after some delay, the partial rising of the tide rendering the road difficult. The troops, however, reached the camp about two o'clock in tolerable order, leaving behind them, I regret to say, the guns, which the death of the oxen rendered it impossible to remove.

"Thinking it probable this partial success of the farmers might induce them to make an immediate attack on the camp, I made such preparations as I thought necessary, and found my suspicions realized shortly after by a large body of them opening a heavy fire on three sides of it. This was met by a spirited resistance on our part, but they did not finally retire until about an hour before day-break.

"Such, I regret to inform you, has been the result of this attack, and the consequent loss has been severe, the total in both skirmishes being such as detailed in the enclosed return. One great cause of failure I attributed to the mismanagement of the boat, in which I had placed the howitzer, by the shells of which I had hoped the farmers would have been thrown into confusion, but she dropped down too late to be of any use, and even they took up a position too distant for her fire to produce much effect.

"Among the many matters connected with the subject of this report, and awakening the deepest regret, is the death of Lieutenant Wyatt, of the Royal Artillery, who for the two previous days had exerted himself much in making the necessary arrangements. He was killed early in the action. Of the zealous exertions of Captain Lonsdale and Lieutenant Lonnard, of the 27th Regiment, I was also deprived both these officers being severely wounded. In fact, under the trying circumstances in which the detachment was placed, I have only to regret that, with such willingness to perform the duty assigned to them, the result should have been so unfortunate.

The loss on the part of the Boers it is difficult to estimate, but I am told it has been severe. The whole of this day they have made no movement, but I have to give them the credit of treating such of the wounded as fell into their hands with great humanity. These, with the bodies of those who fell, they sent to the camp in the course of the afternoon, and to-morrow the sad duty of interring our departed comrades will take place.

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A letter from a military correspondent at Cologne, of the 23d instant, has reached, which announces that the King of Prussia, accompanied by the Emperor of Austria, the King of Hanover, the King of Bavaria, the King of Wurtemberg, the Grand Dukes of Baden and Nassau, and twenty of the reigning princes of Germany, will review on the 5th of September, the splendid army of the Rhine, 66,000 strong; consisting of the 7th and 8th corps of the Prussian army. This force is represented to be in the most effective condition, both as to appearance and discipline. A number of distinguished British have already assembled at Cologne for the purpose of witnessing this gratifying spectacle, and apartments have, it is said, been bespoken at the Belle Vue Hotel for the Duke of Wellington and several of his friends. It could not, however, be known with certainty whether his Grace would be able to attend or not until the 29th. He is said to have received a most cordial invitation from the King of Prussia. Should he attend, the interest of this imposing spectacle will be greatly enhanced. Of the 66,000 men who are to take part in the approaching review 48,000 are infantry troops, 10,2000 cavalry, and 7,000 artillery, with 272 field pieces. The reputation of the Prussian army for science stands so high at present, that permission is about to be given by the Horse Guards to a certain number of officers to study the art of war in that country.

On the 4th of September the foundation stone of the cathedral at Cologne, in which the King of Prussia has taken so deep an interest, will be laid with the usual ceremonies.

### LATEST FROM THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.

MANCHESTER.—Our cloth market is not so buoyant as it was on Tuesday, owing to many of the principal buyers hesitating to pay the prices now asking; they allege that it is highly probable, when the looms now standing are at work, that it will be impossible to support present rates: be this as it may, and though it will take some time to decide the point, the opinion operates sensibly on the market for the moment. Twist is saleable to a fair extent, at rather higher rates than were paid last week.

ROCHDALE.—To day there has been an improved demand for flannels, and the buyers have purchased very freely; but the manufacturers have nobeen able to get any advance in price: the wool market has been very dull, and a very limited business has been transacted at former rates.

HALIFAX.—There has been rather more doing than of late market days in most kind of goods, and some sales effected for foreign account, but we do not hear of any change in prices that has taken place in goods of any kind.

LEEDS.—In both hal's more has again been done than for some time past, but the transactions in the hal's are not any safe criterion by which to judge of the state of trade generally, as a very large business is now done direct with the warehouses, the goods thus sold never appearing in the halls; on the whole however, we are a little improved: there is not the least shadow of the late disturbance.

## THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, SEPT. 23, 1842.

The Royal Mail steamship *Acadia*, arrived at Halifax on Friday night last, in 12 days from Liverpool: the mail reached this city on Monday morning. We are indebted to Mr. CHARLES WILLMER, News Agent, of Liverpool, and other friends, for copies of the latest English papers.

The rioting in England had nearly subsided, and the workmen who had been induced by the disaffected to leave