THE CHURCH.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 1842.

The Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto have taken possession of their house, 144 King Street: and yesterday the Central Board held its Monthly Meeting there for the first time. The proceedings were of an interesting nature: and we look for much good to the Church from the friendly discussion and interchange of opinion upon these occasions.

Mr. Thomas Champion is on the spot, and has already taken charge of the Depository. He will be ready to attend to any orders on Monday the 8th inst., and, we have no doubt, will greatly promote the interests of the Society by his zeal in the cause, his fitness for the office, and his general acquaintance with the condition and wants of the Church. All that at present can be offered for sale are Prayer-books of various sizes, several publications of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and the Bristol Tracts. A catalogue of what is on hand will be furnished at an early opportunity in this paper.

It is particularly requested that all communications intended for Mr. Kent, as Secretary, may be addressed to him not by name, but thus:

To the Secretary of the Church Society,
144 *King Street,*
Toronto.

This request is made in order to prevent confusion respecting the payment of postage.

The Pamphlet containing the Constitution, and setting forth the objects of the Society, will certainly be ready for delivery before the end of August.

Our first page contains a report of the speeches delivered at the late meeting held in Montreal for the formation of *The Church Society of the Diocese of Quebec.* Some of these have before appeared in our columns in a different and shorter form; but, with the exception of the Rev. F. J. Lundy's speech, which we gave entire in our paper of the 22nd July, and which has not been differently or more fully reported, we have inserted them all.

It will be seen, by reference to the advertisements, that the Society are in want of a Secretary, who must be a Clergyman.

We are gratified to observe in the Montreal *Courier*, that "An Unknown Friend" has transmitted to the Treasurer the sum of 16*l.* 5s.

It is a matter, we are sorry to say, of very frequent complaint, that strangers wishing to hear Divine Service in St. James's Cathedral, are either not invited into a pew, or, if already seated in one, are rudely turned out, when there is ample room for their accommodation. We ourselves have seen most respectable-looking persons walk round one half of the Church, without a single door being opened to receive them,—the inmates of the half-occupied pews vacantly staring at the embarrassed stranger, as if there were no link of human brotherhood between them.

Of such conduct it is impossible to speak too severely. It exhibits pride in the House of God: it shows a criminal disregard to the salvation of souls: it drives individuals into schism: it renders the Church hateful to ill-informed persons, who cannot distinguish between a system and its agents, or rather its abusers, and who have yet to learn that their own feelings being deeply wounded by a churlish Nabal is no excuse whatsoever for separation from the one Catholic and Apostolic Church.

Our blessed Saviour has expressly told us that at the day of Judgment he will not know those, who refused to recognize Him in the persons of the thirsty, the hungry, and the naked. How much fiercer will be His righteous indignation against those, who see a brother hungering for spiritual nutriment, and unable to obtain it for want of Church accommodation, and yet "pass him by on the other side," and slam, as it were, as much as in them lies, the very door of Heaven in his face! Do these persons think that men are made of different kinds of clay? Do they imagine that Heaven will be partitioned into pews, and that human distinctions, and the rights of human property, will there be acknowledged by Him who is no respecter of persons, and who avengeth the wrongs of the poor, and of those who suffer contumely and hardship in this world of selfishness, and insensate pride?

While condemning with intentional severity the conduct of those who exhibit such lamentably uncharitable and un-christian conduct, it gives us great pleasure to say, that there are some members of the congregation whose pews are ever open to receive the stranger, without any distinction of persons, and who set an example of humility and brotherly love which, it is to be regretted, should not be more generally imitated.

It is with the deepest regret that we record the following instance of melancholy perversion. The statement seems too circumstantial to afford any room for doubt:

We regret to say that Miss Gladstone, daughter of John Gladstone, Esq., of Fasque, and sister to the Vice President of the Board of Trade, has recently been admitted a member of the Roman Catholic Church. On Tuesday week she was confirmed by Dr. Wiseman, in the Chapel at the Nunnery, near this town, and afterwards partook of the "Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist." The lady is described as being highly intelligent, and about 30 years of age. During her stay in Birmingham both she and her attendants resided at the Convent. —*Birmingham Advertiser.*

We have little doubt that a recoil from Dissent has driven the deluded lady into the opposite error of Popery. The subjoined paragraph is some counterpoise to the distressing intelligence:

On Sunday week, Dr. Graham, a respectable Surgeon in Birkenhead, publicly read his recantations of the errors of Romanism in Holy Trinity Church. The solemn ceremony was very impressive, and evidently produced a deep effect on the minds of many Romanists who were present. At the conclusion of the service, four other Romanists expressed their anxious wish to do the same.—*Liverpool Mail.*

If there were less Dissent, there would be fewer victims to Popish wiles.

We have been favoured with a copy of a Sermon, entitled, *The claims of the Established Church of England to the favourable consideration and affectionate support of British Christians*, preached at Sydney Mines, Cape Breton, by the Rev. William Elder. It is a very plain and excellent discourse. The circumstances which led the author, who was formerly a Dissenting preacher, to unite himself to the Church, are thus very forcibly and clearly stated by him:

"It is known to you, my brethren, that I was not educated in the peculiar principles of the Established Church. When any one changes his opinions in religion, it is apt to produce different impressions on those who know of the occurrence. Some will suppose him to have been actuated by worldly and interested motives; others will consider it a proof of an unsettled state of mind; others, again, who may have reposed confidence in him, more especially if he have been a public teacher of religion, may be grieved, and their faith in the truths of religion shaken, imagining that if such change their minds on so important a subject, religion must be a subject of uncertainty, and the Bible cannot be that divinely inspired volume we have been taught to believe. I have therefore thought it necessary to submit to you, on this occasion, some of the reasons which have induced me to embrace the principles of the Church of England.

"I trust, then, I have complied in some measure with the injunction contained in the first part of the text, by proving, to my own satisfaction at least, the truth of the principles I have embraced; and it is my earnest desire to practise the remainder, by holding those principles fast, and recommending them to others as 'worthy of all acceptation.' I dare not hope, however, that all who hear me will view the subject precisely in the light that I do, or that arguments which appear to me convincing will be equally so to all. If I can succeed in impressing upon them the conscientiousness of my own belief, one object at any rate will be gained—I shall be justified in my profession, and they will be more open to my arguments on other occasions, and upon other subjects.

"I by no means think it desirable for men to be lightly given to change in things pertaining to religion, but we should not press our censures too far upon this point. Our opinions on this subject are generally formed at an early period of our lives, by the circumstances in which we are placed, and when our judgment is immature; and if, in an after period of life, by reading, reflection, and observation, we are led to believe that our first formed notions were erroneous, candour requires we should pronounce those hard words 'I was mistaken.' I may add here, that in the change which has taken place in my sentiments, there is nothing affecting the great fundamental truths of divine revelation; on the contrary, advancing years have only confirmed my conviction of the truth and importance of the religion of the Bible, and of the insufficiency of all other means to make us truly happy either in time or eternity. I would also observe further, that I do not state my reasons for preferring the Church of England in a spirit of hostility to any other denomination of Christians. I trust I can cordially say, 'Grace be with all them who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity,' by what name soever they may be distinguished, or in what country soever they may be placed. But believing the prevalence of truth to be conducive to the best interests of religion, I will endeavour to set it before you in love.

"It will be unnecessary for me to say much respecting the circumstances which led to my embracing my present sentiments. Though educated in the principles of dissent, and not without the usual prejudices against the Establishment, I was early led to form a very favourable opinion of many of her Divines. I remember particularly reading, when young, a portion of the works of the Reverend James Hervey, of Weston Favel, and being much struck with the piety, benevolence, and elegant style of this good man. Advancing in life, and becoming, I trust, more decidedly under the influence of religion, I became gradually acquainted with the characters, and part of the writings, of Archbishops Usher, Tillotson, and Leighton; as well as with those of Bishops Hall, Beveridge, Burnet, Wilson, and Horne; together with those of other Divines of the Church of England. Being mush instructed and edified by ther writings, I could not but entertain a favourable opinion of the Church to which they belonged. So, upon examining the Book of Common Prayer, although in a cursory manner, I failed not to perceive how greatly it was in accordance with scripture, and how well calculated for edification. When I further understood there were above ten thousand parish churches in England, wherein these evangelical services were performed every Sabbath, besides those in the Colonies, I could not but feel a persuasion that the Established Church was eminently useful in promoting the temporal and spiritual welfare of the people.

"I had at this time imbibed the idea, that no very determinate plan of church polity and government had been laid down in the New Testament, and I consequently believed the Church of England to be a lawfully constituted Church of Christ, without investigating or even knowing the peculiar claims she puts forth to that effect. I may here observe, that a gradual change had for some years been taking place in my mind, in some measure unknown to myself. I had at an early period of life been an advocate of popular Church government, believing every member to have a right to a voice in the election of officers, and the management of Church affairs. Subsequent experience led me greatly to doubt the propriety of these sentiments, and to believe that what is generally termed 'the voluntary system' in religion is of a very unstable and fluctuating nature.

"Under the influence of these doubts, I was led to examine more closely the peculiar claims of the Established Church; and, having procured books upon the subject, I proceeded, with prayer offered up to the Father of Lights for divine illumination and guidance, to read them with candour, and diligently to compare them with Scripture. As the result of this careful examination, I came to the conclusion that the Church of England approaches nearer to the standard of the Primitive Church, as exhibited in the New Testament and in the writings of those who flourished in the first centuries after the introduction of Christianity, than any other denomination with which I am acquainted. My investigations also further proved to my own satisfaction, that her Book of Common Prayer is in entire accordance with the Bible, most happily calculated to prove a bond of union among those who use it, and a valuable means of promoting their spiritual advancement and welfare. I would wish to record my deliberate opinion that the sincere use of this excellent Liturgy, by every person throughout the British dominions, would most essentially contribute to the best interests of Christianity."

We have little doubt that many Dissenting preachers at this very time are undergoing the same mental process, through which Mr. Elder has, so satisfactorily to his peace of mind, already passed.

The advantages of Episcopal Ordination are very briefly, but unanswerably, stated by Mr. Elder:

"One who has received Episcopal Ordination, possesses a satisfaction that others want, viz., he has received such a commission as was alone considered to be valid for fifteen hundred years, and is still so considered by the great majority of the Christian Church. Far differently is he circumstanced who has received the laying on of hands in any other method. The validity of his admission to the ministerial functions would have been denied by the whole Church for fifteen hundred years, and is disputed by the greater number to this very hour. I bring this forward from no disputatious spirit, or wish to give offence; but, in all charity, as a subject for reflection and attentive consideration."

We have received a short Poem, entitled, "*Consummation, a Vision,*" with a request that we would notice it. The author very modestly describes himself as "a young man in an humble walk of life,"—we understand that he is a journeyman printer,—and expresses his intention, should his present effort meet with approval, to "publish a work of an extensive character." As an act of sincere, although unpalatable, kindness, we would strongly recommend him to abandon all idea of authorship, and to place whatsoever literary gifts he may possess in subordination to his regular occupation. Literature is a lottery with innumerable blanks, and but very few prizes. Our author exhibits a command of language, and a vein of thought exceedingly creditable to him, but, at some future day, we are sure that he will thank us for recommending him not to follow a pursuit which has involved many a man of genius in all the ills of poverty, and which even Sir Walter Scott regarded as a very barren and harassing field of labour.

The *Christian Guardian* is very unfortunate in its statements of pretended *facts.* In the number of 20th July, the editor writes a long article, in which he makes a quotation from the London *Watchman*, levelled against the Bishop of Oxford's admirable Charge, and in which he refers to "the OFT-RECORDED secessions of the Church of England ministers to the Church of Rome in *The Church* paper." We call upon our cotemporary to point out these *oft-recorded* secessions in *The Church* paper—two or three cases will not be sufficient—he must make good the words "*oft-recorded*," or else stand charged with inaccuracy and rashness.

The *Guardian*, in his paper of the 13th July, observes, "We are pained to see it said in the editor's description of the vignette, that the sacraments are 'generally necessary to salvation'"—and adds that though *The Church* [*i. e.* the newspaper] does say so, the Bible does not. Why does not the *Guardian*,—instead of attacking this paper, and the editor of it,—find fault with the Church of England itself for affirming in the Catechism that the two sacraments are "generally necessary to salvation." There is either disingenuousness, or ignorance of the Church Catechism, on the part of the *Guardian.* We would strongly recommend him to read more and write less. The perusal, amongst other books, of Bishop Stillingfleet's *Unreasonableness of Separation*, would save him from making many mistakes.

The misrepresentations of two of our Lower Canada cotemporaries are not overlooked, and we hope to correct them next week.

A Correspondent,—whose communications we particularly value, and whose zeal never fails to stimulate us to increased exertion,—has favoured us with some extracts from a Charge lately delivered by the Bishop of Down, and Connor, and Dromore. Our attention had been previously drawn to this invaluable document in *The Irish Ecclesiastical Journal*, and our friend will be glad to hear that we intended, and still do intend, transferring it entire, at an early opportunity, to the columns of *The Church.* We avail ourselves of this occasion to express our admiration of the great learning and vigour, and the pure Christian orthodoxy displayed in *The Irish Ecclesiastical Journal.*

We also contemplate, at no distant period, the insertion of extracts from the Bishop of Glasgow's Charge, as furnished by *The Church Intelligencer*, and of the Charge of the Bishop of Exeter, as it appears in a late number of the *St. James's Chronicle.*—Articles of great value and learning crowd so fast upon us that we scarcely know how to find room for them.

We insert, from our valued Conservative cotemporary, the *Niagara Chronicle*, the correction of an error in the proceedings of the Niagara District Branch of the Church Society, which appeared in this paper on the 22nd July. Mr. Charles has been a steady supporter of this journal from its commencement, and we are always glad to record his name in connexion with the advancement of our holy Church:

"We are requested to say that there was an error in the reported proceedings of the recent meeting at St. Mark's Church, in this town, on the subject of forming a District Branch of the Diocesan Church Society. The 4th resolution was stated to have been moved by John Clark, Esq., and seconded by Dr. Mewburn, whereas in fact it was moved by Dr. Mewburn, and seconded by Mr. Henry Charles. The error arose from copying the proceedings as arranged to take place, instead of as they actually did take place."

☞ We have, on more than one occasion, adverted to the course pursued towards this paper by the public departments, in the distribution of their advertising patronage.

We do not like alluding to our own circulation, as it may seem boastful: but, as it is our intention to make a remark or two regarding advertisements, it becomes necessary for us to preface them, by stating that few papers in the Province have so great a circulation, and still fewer a circulation so generally diffused throughout the whole country, as our own.

As a matter of convenience and right, the subscribers to the paper—hundreds of whom take no other—are entitled to learn, through our columns, what contracts are advertised by the Government, &c. Is a man, because he is a subscriber to *The Church*, to be debarred the means of seeing the advertisements of the Commissariat and the Board of Works, and thus be prevented from offering tenders?

The whole system of public advertising in this Province, would afford ample scope for a long article, and materials are not wanting to enable us to dilate upon the subject. But we hope that these brief remarks will ensure justice to us for the future, and that we shall not have again occasion to complain of rights withheld from our subscribers, and of injury inflicted on this journal.

We will add that this paper presents a most desirable medium for advertisements of every description, and that our new sheet enables us to appropriate a larger space for their insertion.

Canadian Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

Church Society—York Mills.—On Monday, the 18th July, a meeting was held in the vestry of St. John's Church, York Mills, for the purpose of forming and putting into operation the St. John's Parochial Committee of the Church Society; when, after several resolutions were unanimously adopted, the Chairman, the Rev. A. Sanson, acknowledged the receipt of *Two pounds*, as an annual subscription from *A Lady*, who manifests a lively interest in the proceedings of the parish and Church at large; and the following additional yearly subscriptions were then made:

Mr. C. Vanostrand,......................	£1	5
" H. Papst,..............................	1	5
" J. Vanostrand,......................	0	10
" W. Marsh,............................	0	10
" C. Garret,............................	0	10

York Mills.—As a reward of past merit, and an incentive to future good conduct, a festival was given to the children of the Sunday School of St. John's Church, York Mills, on Wednesday, July 20th. The principal inhabitants came forward with their accustomed liberality, and the subscription was more than sufficient to defray the expenses. The weather was most propitious, the breeze light and refreshing, and the sun, with his most radiant smiles, seemed to sympathize with the bright, joyous looks of the youthful assemblage. At three o'clock, evening prayers were read by the Rev. A. Sanson, who afterwards addressed the children in language at once simple and impressive: he dwelt on the duty of constant attendance at Church and at the Sunday School, and his words were well calculated to sink deep into the young hearts of his auditors. The children were then satisfactorily examined in the Catechism of our Holy Church, and it was pleasing to notice the glad faces of the parents, as

"each little voice in turn
Some glorious truth proclaimed."

After books had been distributed to the most deserving, the whole party adjourned from the Church to the lawn which surrounds the parsonage, and opens into a romantic ravine, the wild beauties of which the eye would never weary of exploring. Here, under the pleasant shade of luxuriant trees, were placed tables, loaded with a variety of dainties, not forgetting the long-famed plum-puddings of merry England. To this repast due justice was done, and the superintendents had ample employment in replenishing the cups with tea. The happy party did not separate till sunset, again to meet, we trust, on a similar occasion. The Sunday School of St. John's is now only in its infancy, but the labour of love is begun, and will not cease, and the sharers in the sweet toil will be cheered by a continual increase to their little flock. It is purposed appropriating the surplus of the above subscription towards laying the foundation of a Lending Library for the Sunday School.

Presbyterianism in Canada.—It would appear from a roll of the Presbyterian Church [in connexion with the Established Kirk of Scotland] in Upper and Lower Canada, as published in the *Montreal Gazette*, of the 12th July, that the entire number of "settled Pastors," in the two Provinces is 84. Besides those, there are "several Preachers and Ministers without charge."—*Statesman.*

ST. PETER'S CHAPEL, ST. ROCH'S SUBURBS.—CEREMONY OF LAYING THE CORNER-STONE.

On Monday evening, the 25th July, the members of the Congregation of St. Peter's Chapelry, and other parishioners of Quebec, amounting to a considerable number, in compliance with an invitation which had been given through the medium of the public prints, assembled at the house of Mr. William Brown, St. Valier Street, in the vicinity of the site of the new Chapel, where a procession was to be organized with a view to the performance of the ceremony of laying the corner stone.—At half-past 6 o'clock, the Lord Bishop of Montreal arrived, attended by five of his Clergy, viz:—

The Rev. R. R. Burrage,
" E. W. Sewell,
" Geo. Mackie,
" W. W. Wait,
" W. Chaderton, Minister of the Chapelry.

The procession was then formed by Mr. Ward, one of the Committee, in the following order:—

Members of the Congregation and others, Subscribers,
Two abreast.
Building Committee.
The Builders.
Chapel Wardens.
The Vestry of the Cathedral.
The Clerk of St. Peter's.
The Clergy.
The Verger.
The Bishop.

On arriving at the foot of the ascent to the platform, the Procession halted and formed two lines, through which the Bishop walked, followed by the Clergy, &c. On arriving at the corner stone, the minister of the Chapelry, in the name of the Congregation, requested his Lordship to lay the corner-stone, and the Bishop having signified his assent, the Minister presented to him the deed of the lot—Mr. J. Parker, one of the Chapel Wardens, presented the plans. A sealed bottle, containing the inscription, several coins, and one of the newspapers of the day, was presented by Mr. Wm. Brown, one of the Committee, to the Bishop, who placed it in the excavation prepared for its reception. The upper stone was then laid, and the trowel and other instruments of masonry were successively handed to his Lordship, who applied them to their proper purposes. Appropriate prayers were next offered up by the Minister of the Chapelry—the 100th Psalm was then sung by the numerous assemblage, with a very solemn effect; after which the Bishop delivered a most animated and impressive address, concluding with a benediction. The procession returned in the same order as before, to Mr. Brown's—and, it is believed, that all who witnessed the ceremony went away both delighted and edified with what they had seen and heard.—*Quebec Mercury, 30th July.*

Later from England.

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITISH QUEEN.

(*From the New York Commercial Advertiser, 28th July.*)

The Belgian Government steamer British Queen, Captain Eyckholdt, arrived last night from Antwerp, via Southampton, which latter place she left on the 10th instant.

IN PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons, July 5, the affair of Col. Dundas was brought up by an inquiry from Lord Worsley. [The Colonel was charged with having spoken very disrespectfully of the Queen, at a public dinner table—although one of her Majesty's aids. He did good service during the Canada rebellion in 1837.]

Sir Henry Hardinge replied that Colonel Dundas had been called on for an explanation, by which he did not succeed in absolving himself from the charge. He had consequently been dismissed from his office of Queen's aid, removed from the command of the 83rd regiment, and put on half pay.

Lord Ashley's mines and collieries bill had its third reading; its passage was hailed with loud cheers from all parts of the House.

The tariff bill had its second reading in the House of Lords.

July 6.—The House of Commons was occupied, during nearly the whole sitting, in debate on Mr. Wallace's motion for an inquiry into the distress of the country, its causes, &c. Most appalling accounts were given by the different speakers of the prevailing destitution and misery, as to the causes of which members took divers views—some charging them upon the corn laws, some to the dearness of food generally, some to restraints on trade, some to the manufacturing competition of other countries, some to the currency system and the Bank of England, some to the reciprocity laws, and some to the Chinese war.

July 7.—In the House of Commons Mr. Bannerman offered a resolution, giving the Queen power to suspend the operation of the corn laws, during the recess of Parliament, and until the 1st of January, 1843, or for six weeks after the commencement of the next session. Mr. Gladstone and Sir Robert Peel opposed, and the resolution was negatived, 175 to 113.

July 8.—Lord Ashley's mines and collieries bill came up in the House of Lords. Reference to a select committee was moved, but the motion was opposed as out of order, and the Earl of Devon gave notice that he should renew it on the 12th.

The tariff bill had its third reading and was passed, 52 contents, non-contents 9.

In the House of Commons Lord Howick gave notice that on the 14th he should move the admission of foreign corn at a duty of 6 shillings the quarter, until the 1st of March, 1843.

The debate on Mr. Wallace's motion was resumed, and occupied the whole sitting. Motion lost, 174 to 49.

The new tariff bill received the royal assent on the 9th inst. A protest against it was to be signed on the 11th.

Reported Attempt to shoot Sir Robert Peel.—Some addle-brained fool most industriously circulated a report on Wednesday night, that Sir Robert Peel had been shot at on his way home from the House of Commons. Although the report was of too absurd a nature to cause much alarm in London, omnibus drivers and others journeying to and from the suburbs carried the tale thither, and it readily gained credence. At Wandsworth, Clapham and even Chelsea, the writer was most earnestly asked by many respectable persons if the report was correct, and whether Sir Robert Peel was much injured. He assured the anxious inquirers the story was a hoax; and a general feeling of indignation was expressed toward the brainless idiot who could set afloat so heartless a hoax.

The Marchioness of Waterford.—Our accounts from Curraghmore come down to last Tuesday evening, and we are gratified at having it in our power to state that the marchioness was recovering as speedily as could be expected from the effects of the late frightful accident. She is able to sit up in bed, but has not ventured out of her room. Some idea of the shock which the marquis sustained may be formed from a knowledge of the fact, that he did not partake of food during the two days next after that whereon the accident occurred. So devoted has he been ever since, that he has been only absent from the marchioness's room while taking his hurried meals in an adjoining apartment. The Waterford Chronicle of Thursday announces that her ladyship is rapidly advancing toward perfect health, and will in a day or two be herself again.

Wheat from South America.—A cargo of wheat, grown in the Southern part of the republic of Chili, was imported into Liverpool last week. We understand that it is of excellent quality, and that the speculation is likely to turn out well. It is reported that the wheat was bought in Chili at 24s. a quarter; and supposing the freight and charges to be as much more, it will still leave a profit at the present prices and duties, besides paying a good freight.—*Liverpool Times.*

State of the Country.—On the evening of Friday week, Sir James Graham announced in the House of Commons, the terrible fact, that twelve hundred thousand people are at present receiving parochial relief in England and Wales! One in every thirteen of the population is on the poor rates, and we may safely assume that one in every ten is destitute. This state of distress is unparalleled, we do believe, in the history of any nation on the face of the earth.—*Aberdeen Herald.*

National Debt.—A notice appears in the Gazette, stating that the Lords of the Treasury having certified to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, that the actual expenditure of the country for the year ending 5th April, 1842, exceeded the revenue by 2,139,984*l.* 4s. 6d., no sum will be applied by the said commissioners on account of the sinking fund, between the 7th July and 10th Oct. 1842.

The Iron Trade.—Most of the Welch works have now a sufficiency of orders, the demand for iron having become comparatively brisk during the last fortnight. We do not, however, perceive that the market has yet exhibited any improvement in prices.—*Silurian.*

The oldest man of France is M. Noel de Quersonnieres, who was formerly a commissary of the army, now living in Paris, though born at Valenciennes in 1728. He is not subject to any infirmity, takes four meals a day, shaves himself, reads and writes without spectacles, sings very agreeably, and sleeps soundly. He writes very good poetry, and his conversation is full of wit and sense, abounding with anecdotes. At the age of ninety he married a young English girl, aged only sixteen, who died in giving birth to a son. He states that his grandmother died at the age of one hundred and twenty-five, and would have lived longer but for a severe fall. When conversing gaily he will frequently invite his friends to his funeral in the next century.

ARRIVAL OF THE GREAT WESTERN.

(*From the New York Commercial Advertiser, 30th July.*)

At six o'clock this morning, the favourite steamer Great Western, Captain Hosken, was telegraphed as being in the eastern offing, and at a quarter before nine o'clock we were in possession of our files of English papers. The dates are Bristol to the evening, and London and Liverpool to the morning, of the 16th instant.

The Great Western left Bristol on the afternoon of the 16th instant, and arriving here on the morning of the 30th, has accomplished the voyage in about thirteen and a half days, being the quickest trip to this port that she has performed, with one exception.

DEATH OF THE DUKE OF ORLEANS.

The heir-apparent to the French throne was killed on the 13th instant, by leaping from his carriage while the horses were running away.

The official account, published by the Government, is as follows:—

"A dreadful disaster has fallen upon the King, the Royal Family, and France. The Prince Royal is dead! This morning, at half-past ten, the Duke of Orleans went to Neuilly, to take leave of the Royal Family, intending to set off in the evening for the camp of St. Omer. A short distance from Neuilly the horses ran away. The Prince leaped out of the carriage. He was taken up senseless. One moment there were hopes of saving him, but the evil was beyond all earthly remedies. At half-past four, after having received the succours of religion, the Prince breathed his last, surrounded by the King, Queen, and Royal Family, whose grief no words can express."

The following is a translation of the telegraphic despatch which has been addressed by the Minister of the Interior to the Prefects of the several Departments throughout France:—

"*The Minister of the Interior to the Prefects.*

"The Prince Royal has had a severe fall from his carriage; he died from the effects thereof at half-past four this morning. The King has borne this severe blow with his customary firmness. His Majesty is in good health. What a loss for France."

From the Gazette de France.

This forenoon, at half-past twelve, the Duc d'Orleans, who was about to set off for Plombieres, where the Duchess is staying at present, was returning from Neuilly, after having taken leave of his family, when in the centre of the Chemin de la Revolte, a short distance from the Porte Maillot, the horses ran away, in spite of the efforts of the postillion, and there was every reason to fear that the carriage would be overturned on the slope at the side of the road.

At this moment the Duke, to avoid the danger, leaped from the carriage, but unfortunately his spurs, or, as some say, his sword, caught his travelling cloak. This accident caused him to fall, and the Prince received some contusions on the temple and the wrist. A cerebral congestion was occasioned by the shock, and was succeeded by a suffusion on the brain.

Having fainted in the road, his Royal Highness was removed to the nearest house, occupied by a grocer, and assistance speedily arrived from the Tuileries.

Bleeding was resorted to almost immediately, but the Prince did not recover his consciousness. Dr. Baumy, happening to be on the spot, gave every assistance to Dr. Pasquier, his Royal Highness's physician, who had come from Paris.

A clergyman of St. Philippe du Roule, and the *cure* of Neuilly, were called in; but could only administer extreme unction.

The Prince died at three o'clock, at the house to which he had been carried, No. 4, in the Chemin de la Revolte. The body was removed to the Chateau de Neuilly, and placed in the chapel.

All the Ministers repaired to Neuilly, as well as Marshal Gerard and General Pajol. A Council of Ministers was held.

The Duke d'Aumale, who was at Courbevoie, as soon as he heard of the accident that had happened, set off in a hired cabriolet. This carriage broke down on the road, and the Prince was obliged to continue his route on foot to see his dead or dying brother.

His Royal Highness proceeded to Nancy, and will go on to Plombieres, where the Duchess d'Orleans is staying.

The late Prince had testified the greatest pleasure at his intended voyage, for which great preparations had been made in the various towns through which he had to pass. He was to have taken the command of a camp of 40,000 men—but who can calculate on the morrow!

It appears certain that the unfortunate Duke would have sustained no injury if he had not jumped out of the carriage, for in a few minutes afterward the postillion regained his command of the horses, and brought the carriage back to the place at which the Duke had fallen.

The result of the French elections, as far as known, was the choice of 254 conservatives, and 173 of the different shades of opposition. The city of Paris had gone strongly against the Ministers, and this defeat was considered more than an equivalent for their successes elsewhere. The opposition papers triumphantly proclaim that the Cabinet will not be able to stand against the new Chambers.

The French Harvest.—The Courier du Haut Rhin says, the harvest will be a very fine one, and consequently the fall in our markets continues. The ear is full, and promises to produce abundance of flour. The straw will be short, but this forage still is at a low price. On the other hand, the trefoils and other seeds are very scanty. The vines have suffered severely from the heat and drought. As we have before reported, the blossom of the vine has been attacked by the pyrale, to such an extent, that the whole of the vine growers from Ribeauville to Guebwiller will lose all hopes of a gathering unless they have some rain very shortly. In the Bas Rhin, on the contrary, vines which are most always a fortnight behind ours are in a very flourishing state. Even there, however, the want of rain is severely felt.

IN PARLIAMENT.

On Monday, the 11th instant, in the House of Lords, Lord Brougham moved for a select committee to consider the distressed state of the country; and upon this text delivered a long and powerful discourse, giving a vivid and fearful description of the miseries endured by the people in almost every part of the kingdom.

The Earl of Ripon opposed the motion as useless, if not more than useless, and the motion was negatived—14 to 61.

In the House of Commons, Sir Robert Peel, Lord Palmerston, and Sir John Hobhouse, had a bout on the everlasting subject of the Affghan war—the discussion being mainly on the question whether the conduct of Lord Auckland had or had not been sanctioned or approved by the Peel Ministry on coming into power.

Mr. Villiers moved that the House go into committee on the repeal of the Corn Caws—for about the twentieth time—and the motion was supported by Mr. Hume, Mr. Fielden, and some others, among whom was Lord John Russell. The motion was negatived—117 to 231.

July 12.—In the Commons Sir Robert Peel introduced a bill for the better protection of the Queen's person. It provides transportation, imprisonment, and whipping as the punishment for attempts not aimed at the Queen's life, but tending to her bodily injury or annoyance. All parties expressed their approbation, and the bill was read once, twice, and ordered to be committed on the next day.

The House then went into committee on the poor law continuance bill, for five years; but Sir James Graham gave a pledge that at the next Session a bill should be introduced, making extensive modifications of the existing system.

Notwithstanding this, an amendment was moved, to continue the law in force only one year; but it failed—92 to 164.

The votes for expenses incurred in China were agreed to without opposition. On the vote of £108,000 for services in Canada being proposed, Mr. Hume objected, because some time ago he had moved for certain returns, in order to ascertain how the money previously voted had been expended, having been informed that it had been sqandered away in a most extravagant and improper manner. This was denied by Lord Stanley, but asserted by Mr. C. Buller.

Sir Robert Peel, in reply to Mr. Hawes, said, that the Government did not contemplate any grant for Church Extension.

July 15.—The Queen's protection bill was read a second and third time, and passed. Lord Brougham, in supporting it, made a touching allusion to the death of the Duke of Orleans.

The House of Commons was again engaged, in committee of supply, upon the estimates.

Dinner to Sir A. Macnab.—A grand complimentary entertainment was given by the British American Association to Sir A. Macnab, at the Thatched-house Tavern, St. James's-street, in celebration of his distinguished gallantry and patriotism during the rebellion in Canada. His Grace the Duke of Richmond was in the chair, and the greatest cordiality and good feeling characterised the proceedings, which did not terminate till near one o'clock.

The dividends at the Bank, due the 5th of July, have been paid. The coin used (silver as well as gold) was all new from the Mint.

The Harvest in Ireland.—The anxiety regarding the crops, produced by the heavy rains during the past week, has been removed by the favourable change in the weather which took place this morning. We have received accounts from various parts of the country, which, we are most happy to state, give most encouraging reports of the crops. A friend who has just returned to Dublin from a tour in the counties of Dublin, Kildare, King's and Queen's counties, Galway, and Tipperary, has sent us the following as the result of his observations and inquiries:—"The wheats are thin in general, but good in the head. Oats are short in the straw, and promise a good crop. Potatoes are every where a good crop. The rain has done no serious injury any where."

A landed proprietor in the county of Meath thus writes:—"You may announce in the Evening Post that there never was a better prospect of a good and abundant potato crop, and that it is more forward than usual. The corn crops present a very luxuriant appearance. A very small breadth of wheat has been sown, but what there is of it is very good." The next report we shall introduce is less favourable, but it comes from a gentleman who has access to the most correct information in the district where he resides:—"For our district here, say from Drogheda to Swords, and within 15 miles, the wheat crop, with partial exceptions, is very light—the seed time was so bad, caused this. The oat crop also bad; were it not for the late rains it would be almost a total failure. Meadows very poor; potatoes a fair crop, partial failures, but less than at first anticipated."—*Dublin Evening Post.*

PORTUGAL.

Intelligence had been received in London of the signing of the commercial and slave-trade treaties with England, on the 3d instant.

A Cadiz journal mentions the appearance of a disease strongly resembling the plague, on the shores of Portugal, where, as well as in Spain, it had occasioned no little uneasiness.

The Wurtzburg Gazette of the 7th instant states that the report of a conspiracy having been discovered in Russia is not confirmed, but that it would appear the Emperor had banished to Siberia several persons connected with the first families in the empire, without assigning the cause for that new act of imperial severity.

The contract for supplying the carriages to convey passengers across the Egyptian desert has been obtained from the Peninsular Company by Mr. Andrews, her Majesty's coachmaker in Southampton.—Each carriage is to be in the form of a small omnibus, to carry four inside and two out. They will be of a very light construction, for the purpose of passing easily over the sandy soil of the desert. Each carriage will be drawn by two Arab horses that will run seven-mile stages. Forty carriages must be ready by the 1st of September next.

From the Times, July 13.

Our private letters from Constantinople of the 23rd ult. announce the sailing from that port on the previous day of two frigates and three corvettes, having a large reinforcement of troops on board, together with a million and a half piasters for the Ottoman army in Syria, where the Divan was determined to pursue the same line of policy against which the representatives of Great Britain, Austria and France had remonstrated.

Morocco and the United States.—A letter from Gibraltar, dated June 22d, in the Madrid journals, says:—"An officer of the American squadron having solicited an audience of the Emperor of Morocco, for the purpose of representing to him the complaints of two agents of the United States, was refused, although, it must be admitted, in terms of exquisite politeness. The representative of England, however, had an audience on the same day, the motive of which is not known. The American officer immediately embarked on board a Spanish vessel, to report the result of his mission to Commodore Morgan."

THE BALLOT.

(*Extracts from two Speeches, delivered in the House of Commons, 21st June.*)

Lord John Russell.—I cannot understand how any man, not an enthusiast in the cause of secret voting, can propose to vote for the proposition of the Hon. Member without ascertaining what portion of his whole scheme it will form. (Cheers.) The statement made to-night, with respect to the Ballot, by the Honourable Gentleman whose motion is under discussion, has this difficulty; it does not contain the whole of the plan with which his proposal of secret voting is to be connected. What would be the result of the plan for secret voting as the electoral body is now constituted? If you take the small borough, containing 300 or 400 electors, the great probability is, that with a system of secret voting, they would be purchased by wholesale. An unprincipled but clever attorney, acting as an election agent, might easily purchase 250 votes, without any possibility of detecting the fraud.—(Cheers.) The corrupt practices which would ensue, would become much more general and much more serious, and the plan which was intended as a satisfactory settlement of the question of bribery would only be attended with dissatisfaction and disgust. (Hear, hear.) I, for my part, cannot imagine that the country would be satisfied to grant the power of secret voting to those who now have possession of the franchise. (Loud cheers.) The Hon. Member for Montrose calculates that those who posssss the franchise are as one to seven, compared with those from whom it is withheld, and on that ground urged the extension of the franchise. There is in the country a great body called the Chartists, who propose the adoption of universal suffrage. If a law were to be enacted by which one person out of seven were to vote secretly and without responsibility, is it to be supposed, under the present circumstances, that the other six would be satisfied? (Cheers.) On the contrary, the adoption of such a course would increase rather than allay the feeling which now exists out of doors. This at least was the language held at the public meetings of the Chartists, who declared that the Ballot would only augment their grievances unless accompanied with other measures. Does the Honourable Member for Sheffield think that the Ballot alone would be a sufficient remedy for the corruption and evils which he, I am sorry to say, with so much truth displayed? Would it not be found ultimately insufficient, and should we not be called upon to complete the noble scheme of a fair, full, and free representation? (Hear, hear.) The Honourable Gentleman did not say that the Ballot would be sufficient. The Hon. Gentleman was for an extension of the suffrage; but I do not know, nor neither does the House, upon what plan; but I perceive the present measure is not an ultimate one, but merely the preface to other changes.—(Cheers.) If so, I cannot discuss this present proposition alone, without having also before me what he has kept. Let me have the whole plan, and then I shall be able to judge if it will render matters better. Let all be submitted to the House at the same time; but let not Hon. Members be seduced to vote for the Ballot as in itself the means of perfecting the system, and then have it made a ground of complaint that the franchise was exercised by a limited number of persons in a fraudulent and clandestine manner. (Cheers.) I say nothing now against the plan, taken as a whole, of my Hon. Friend who has brought forward this motion. I shall be ready to discuss it when it is brought properly before us, but I will ask those who propose to vote for the Ballot, as if it were in itself sufficient,—I will ask them, what are the remaining measures which they think calculated to give satisfaction as regards the constitution of this House? The reasons which influence these gentlemen must be different from those entertained by the Hon. Member for Poole, who urged his opinions with great ability; but that Hon. Gentleman told us, that though advocating the Ballot, he was opposed to further change. Let him consider who were the advocates of the Ballot, and let him recollect what was urged by those who advocated the Charter, before he comes to the conclusion, that the Ballot, if once passed into a law, would be the barren statute which he wishes it to be. The Hon. and Learned Member for Cork gave the highest possible character to the Ballot, when he described the very superior moral consequences it would produce in making men generous, humane, kind, and noble minded. (Cheers and laughter.) That certainly is a high recommendation, but I doubt very much the efficacy of the plan proposed for producing this noble-mindedness, more especially as Hon. Gentlemen have been so cautious of making any references to those countries where the Ballot is adopted. As far as regarded the accounts of the working of the Ballot, derived from the records of ancient history, the Right Honourable Baronet at the head of her Majesty's Government had quoted a passage most aptly applicable, as showing its effects in Rome. Secret voting was the practice in the latter period of the Roman empire—the period when corruption was at the highest; but, unfortunately, it did not arrest that corruption, or in any degree tend to make men noble, generous, or humane. On the contrary, that was the most base, bloody, and brutal period enrolled in the records of civilised society. (Loud cheers.) I have looked more than once over the works of Cicero to ascertain what he said in favour of the Ballot; but I might as well have looked to speeches uttered in the other House of Parliament, for in both cases I should find, on adjusting the balance, that the demonstration was against it. (Cheers and laughter.) It must, however, be admitted, that Cicero enforced his opinions with an eloquence equal to that of any orator of our own time. At the present day the Ballot is the practice of two great countries—France and America. I have watched the working of the system in France, through several elections, and I find that it was well known which way every person gave his vote who held any office under the Government. I find that these persons were turned out of office for so voting, and I further find that the Government defended itself against the charge of these dismissals, but I never find it alleged that by the system of the Ballot it was impossible to find out which way the elector voted. That is an allegation which I have not found attempted to be made with respect to the working of the Ballot in France. (Hear.) In the United States, it appeared by the evidence of Mr. Ticknell, taken before a committee of the House, that no man votes in secret. I can well imagine this to be the case, for be it right or be it wrong, I shall not stop to argue. The sovereign power in the United States is vested in a majority of the adult ale population, and no influence whatsoever could prevent the will of the majority from being carried into effect. I shall not dispute—nor, I am sure, will the House expect me to go into an argument, with respect to the superiority of republican or monarchical institutions; but in discussing the Ballot it was impossible to institute a fair comparison between a limited constituency and one where universal suffrage was adopted. (Hear, hear.) I again ask, and I am glad to have the authority of my Hon. Friend the Member for Middlesex [Mr. Byng] with me on this subject, if the Ballot has never been found to produce wholesome and salutary effects in other countries, is it likely to produce them in this country? And I say, with my Hon. Friend that I can imagine nothing more contrary to the English character than secret voting. (Hear.) I can well imagine, and I am told that there are ingenious persons who have carried to perfection the machinery of the Ballot-box—that they can place in a room a certain contrivance, by which, without the possibility of any body searching or discovering them, the votes may be secretly taken. I can conceive that by ingenuity of the mechanism the promoters of the Ballot may be so far successful. But tell me what mechanism is there which will make an English farmer or an English tradesman reserved and cunning, and secret in all his transactions? (Cheers.) Show me, if you can, by what contrivance the character of Englishmen can be so changed that the landlord shall not be able to tell for a year before what are likely to be his opinions when he shall throw his vote into the Ballot-box? (Hear, hear.) Show me the contrivance by which, at no club, at no dinner, neither in the privacy of his domestic life, nor on any occasion of public excitement, shall he betray his sentiments, and it shall not be till the day of voting, and on the day of voting alone, that he will at length avow his political opinions, while from that day forth till the occasion again returns they shall be perfectly secret and concealed. (Hear, hear.) Sir, I know that these things were contrived in the Senate of Venice. In that council there was in use a most ingenious contrivance, by which, in the election of a Doge, the votes were made to pass through eight or nine different stages—first, 7 persons electing 49, then 49 electing 5, thon 5 electing 36, and so on in the same way, each person giving his vote secretly, till at length an election was to be produced without bribery, corrupt influence, or intimidation of any sort. That might suit the close and reserved character of the Venetian senators, but it does not suit the character of the English people. (Hear, hear.) And for my part, I must confess, I rejoice that it does not suit that character. (Loud cheers.) If you could introduce the Ballot-box; if, by means of secret voting, you could produce a change in the English character, you might get rid of much evil, you might produce resentment against intimidation, you might in some cases prevent expense and bribery: but the evils, the monstrous and gigantic evils, which you would introduce, would far overpower all the good you would thus effect; and the loss of the honest, brave, and truthful character of Englishmen would be one which nothing hereafter could repair. (Cheers.) Sir, I have now stated the reasons upon which I have acted on former occasions with respect to the Ballot. I have stated that I cannot imagine the proposed change to be the only one which the advocates of the measure recommend. I therefore ask to have the whole plan produced before I vote for any change of that kind. Taking the Ballot alone, I have said I doubt its efficacy, that I know no country in which it has ever produced those excellent and beneficial consequences which it is said to have a tendency to produce. I think it is in itself calculated, if it were successful, to generate a disposition to frauds and concealments, which would be most injurious to the character of the people; and I must now, as I have on former occasions done, record my decided vote against the motion of the Honourable Gentleman. (Cheers.)

Sir James Graham.—With the hon. member for Dungarvon, he had no doubt but that the franchise was a trust.—The hon. member had said that he advisedly termed it a trust. If it were a trust, it necessarily involved the exclusion of a large body of the people from the privilege of voting, and were such a trust to be exercised secretly, he did say that the great body of the people would speedily overbear that secrecy, and would insist either upon a return to open voting, or else to a free participation in the right. Therefore, he agreed with those who thought that, if they once opened the door to ballot, universal suffrage would be the inevitable and necessary consequence. (Cheers.) But the right hon. gentleman, the member for Dungarvon, said that this was a trust which might be exercised in an improper manner from fear of the consequences of its free exercise. He confessed he was unwilling to refer more pointedly than was necessary to the circumstances of his own position in that house, but the county of Cumberland had been mentioned, and as he was closely connected with one division at least of that county, he might be excused a reference to that part of the hon. member's argument. In Cumberland he (Sir James Graham) was possessed, he might say, of considerable influence, and he had received the support also of a large body of the landed proprietary of that county. But yet, under the system of open voting, when public feeling ran high, and when his public acts were not sanctioned by the freeholders—(Cheers from the opposition benches, re-echoed from the other side)—he said he stood there a remarkable example, not only of the independence of the freeholders, but of the independence of the 50*l.* tenants, many of whom gave votes contrary to the principles and opinions of their landlords, and in a manner which, he must say, was at once bold, fearless and independent. (Loud cheers.) He, therefore, stood there an example of the independence of the Cumberland tenantry at least. But he must say, that apart from all these circumstances, he was of opinion with the hon. member for Middlesex, that the whole system of secret voting was inconsistent with the English character. (Hear, hear.) He said that to preserve silence both before and after the election was impossible, and even if a man could preserve such a silence, his own acts must betray him. To carry out appearances, he must belong to the wrong club, he must wear the wrong colours, he must drink the wrong toasts, he must profess friendship for the wrong man. All this it was impossible for him to do with success; but the fact was, that if he was an honest man and your friend, he would not want the ballot, whilst if he skulked he would not avail himself of it. (Loud cheers.) The system, in truth, was a mean, dirty, paltry, cowardly system (repeated cheers), only fitted for one who had not courage to declare his purpose—who only pretended to be your friend—who flattered you with vain hopes of support which he did not intend to realize—who bore in his heart other feelings than those of cowardice—feelings of envy, bitter hatred, and revenge. (Great cheers.) It was a mere deceit—

"To give to lies the confidence of truth."

It was a system at once incompatible with our institutions—incompatible with our manners—incompatible with the state of our society. (Loud and protracted cheering.) He said again that it was incompatible with our institutions. Some reference had been made to the United States of America.—He recollected a speech of General Jackson's, delivered, he thought, about 1835, in which he said, "Our Government is upheld by the ballot-box, not by the musket." This was true as regarded America, for the system was peculiar to republican institutions. It was republican in its tendency—it was republican in its effect (loud cheers)—and he repeated that he felt entirely convinced that if they introduced it, universal suffrage must follow, and republican institutions must be adopted. Agreeing with the noble lord (Lord J. Russell), "that whilst the storm was brewing around us, it was well not