## in this i A MILLEN AFFE I TALE I THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CHRONICLE. -JULY 2, 1858.

Till to spanne that the GALWAT AND PHE UNITED STATES TOC Horning Herald says :- When the contract , between, the Post Office and the City of Dublin Steam Packet Company comes into operation it will be easy for a passenger from Löndon to reach Galway in thirteen or fourteen hours, and if he intend to proceed to America he will then find himself, as far westward on his journey as he would be had he left Liverpool thirty-six hours before in one of the Cunard steamers. With the new boats now constructing for the service between Holvhead and Kingstown the passage will be made in two or three hours, and, without any of the inconveniences hitherto experienced in crossing the Channel; so that, by taking the Galway route, supposing it to be established-and that will obviously depend upon the support it may receive-the passenger between England and the United States will not only get rid of nearly two days of a sea voyage, which must be esteemed a great relief by the majority of poople, but will save an equal space of time in his journey. For all with which speed is essential, viz, letters and high class passengers, a glance at the map and an acquaintance with the means of rapid transport across Great Britain to Galway will suffice to show that the latter port has superior attractions. We hope, therefore, we may augur the best success to this enterprise.

Not long ago a conviction was obtained in the court of assizes at the instance of the Queen against John M'Gowan, Mayor of Sligo ; Hugh Connellan and Joseph Foley, the mayors deputies, and William Ward and John Brien, poll clerks, ' for conspiring together previous to the last election for the borough of Shgo to return Mr. Somers,' the Liberal candidate, ' by a fictitious majority, produced by corrupt and illegal means. An objection was taken by the defendants as to the right exercised by the prosecutor of challenging jurors, and the point was decided against the objectors in the Court of Criminal Appeal a few weeks ago The conviction was thus affiirmed, and they were bound to surrender themselves within ten days after notice had been given them. The ten day's notice has expired, and the parties have accordingly surrendered themselves, and are all now lodged in Sligo jail.

It is to say the least, one advantage of the system of examination and competition which has lately been so much extended in public offices, that Ireland is more and more taking its natural place. Irish Protestants have never had reason to complain. They have had at least their share of honours and dignities and of the services by which they are commanded. Not to go back to the Duke of Wellington or Burke, Sheridan or Grattan, no man doubts the power of the present Solicitor-General, however they may, on other grounds, regret his high position. We have at this moment on the Judicial Bench in England, at least two Irishmen. Even where services of another kind are wanted, which may be called " dirty work," the Tory party has found no need of Irish ta-lent. Captain Fishbourne is an Irishman, and so is the notorious W. B. With these gentlemen the Catholics of Ireland have no wish to compete. The evil is that they have hitherto been shut out from the honourable branches of public service. The compe-titive examinations promise to alter this. We lately pointed out the success of the Irish candidates in the military examinations. The Times now announces that the first certificate of honour awarded in the legal examination of the students of all the English Inns of Court held at London on the 19th, 20th, and 21st ult., has been awarded to Mr Charles A. Russell, a Belfast Catholic, who has the honour to be nephew to the distinguished President of St. Pawick's, Maynooth .- Wevkly Register.

The Times takes Mr. Horsman to task for his treatment of Irish Members, and for his speech on Thursday evening. " One of the most cherished privileges of memoers of Parliament (says our contemporary) consists in their right to talk with any Minister on matters relating to the business of his department; and judicious functionaries willingly submit to a process which in innumerable instances obviates or dilutes a formidable parliamentary attack. To the complaint that the ex-Secretary for Ireland was exceptionally inaccessible, Mr. Horsman replies by an original and untenable distinction among different classes of politicians. He professes to have divided the Irish members into three arhitrary categories, consisting of allies upon whom he bestowed all his sympathies, of opponents whom he treated with reenectfully and courteous recognition, and of an anomalous group of impracticable neutrals, who would neither support the good principle as personified in Palmerston, nor the evil as personified in Disraeli, bat who were for themselves, for tenant right, and other impossible demands not included among the legitimate doctrines of parties. Accordingly, Mr. Horsman, like the scornful poet in the infernal regions, talked neither of nor to Mr. M'Mahon and his confederates, but glared on them and passed silently by He could understand friends or enemies, but if the Brass Band had anything to say to the Government he insisted that their communications should be put juto writing. It is strange that a clever and experienced man of the world can attempt to vindicate so whimsical an exception. It is as representatives of the people, and not as supporters of present or future Ministers, that members of Parliament are entitled to the attention of the heads of the various departments. A gentleman who is pledged to oppose every Government which refuses to repeal the Reclesiastical Titles Bill may not be a judicious politician, but he is undoubtedly exercising a constitutional right; nor would a real statesman think that an intermediate and wavering section ought to be driven by neglect into the hostile ranks. The question whether Mr. M'Mahon and his friends were members of the majority in no degree affected their right to interviews at the Irish office." A serions and widespread evil, is the practice, now become general in the National Schools of the North of Ireland, of the Catholic Children reading the Protestant Bible in Protestant or Presbyterian National Schools. We are assured that many tens of thousands of the children of Catholic parents are in this way led into daily temptation of losing their faith, or of having its influence greatly weakened or deteriorated. For this the National Board are directly responsible, because this gross and dangerous abuse in the working of the system has arisen in consequence of a change made in one of its fudamental rules. The rule regarding the attendance of children at religious instruction, which existed from the first establishment of the Board until a comparatively recent period, made it imperative on patrons and managers of schools to exclude Catholic children during the time devot d to Protestant or Presbyterian religious instruction or Bible-reading. That rule has been changed confessedly to conciliate Protestant support, and the result is as we have stated - Tablet. On Wednesday morning, the east end of this heautif I watering place (Portrush) was thrown into indescribable confusion and dismay. Mr. Joseph Young, Innkeeper, was attacked by delirium tremens, and in a fit of it, broke out, on the morning in question, and having forced open the hall door of Mr. Siewart's house, went into the bed room of a superannuated cust in house officer, Mr Purcell, and dragging him from his bed, beat the helpless old man with a soude till be inorgined he had killed him .--Fortunately, however, he was arrested in his career. and tied down by his neighbors till the volice were sent for to Bushmills, ise he would have murdered his wife and child, who were wrested from his grasp by Mr. Compbell, Soringhill. The hody of Mr Harris, one of the young gentlemen drowned in Waterford harbor by the capsizing of a b at on May 16th has been recovered, having heen washed ashore about a mile below Passage, where it was iscovered by a poor woman who was picking shellfish on the strand. The jewelry which the young gentleman wore when the sad accident occurred was all found on the body.

Moretus Our, - A Billis now before the, House of ficincy of the police at Belfast, and he feared there Commons, brought in by Mr. Southern Batcourt, was much truth in the expressions which had fallen Commons, ' which, if passed into law, will somewhat mitigate men, who are forced to apply for relief in England and Scotland, are subjected. But the English Board of Guardians have become alarmed, and have sent a number of petitions to the house against the measure, and a deputation, consisting of no less than thirty members of Parliament, with a number of Guardians, waited last week on Mr. Estcourt for the purpose of inducing him to withdraw the Bill. Mr. Estcourt. however, did not yield to their request. Now, it is the duty of every Board of Guardians in Ireland, and of other bodies and individuals who are desirous of having an act of common justice done towards our countrymen resident in England, and of putting an end to a rankling insult towards his country, to give their support in every possible manner toward the passing of Mr. Estcourt's measure. We hope the frish representatives of every creed and party will be found united in this point, on the merits of which there can be no second opinion. Should their united efforts fail when put in opposition to the selfishness and national prejudices of English people, then wo will have learned another leaf of the lesson England is teaching us, and we may yet turn the knowledge to account.

There were two persons named Kiely and Greene brought into Tipperary by the police on Saturday morning charged with the murder of William Greene, one of them a brother to the man previously committed and the other a nephew to the deceased. There were also twelve persons brought in by the constabulary as witnesses, who have been privately ex-amined by P. C. Howley, Esq. The police have dis-covered a hatchet, hay knife, and a turnip cutter, implements likely to inflict wounds similar to those which the body of the deceased exhibited. These wcapons were in the house of the prisoners .- Clonmel Chronicle.

Luring the thunderstorm last Saturday, one of the instruments at the telegraph office at the Limerick Junction was struck by the lightning, and the plate of the instrument was burned up like a cinder, and the connecting wires melted as if in a cauldron --The report of the shock was louder than the report of a gun. Mr. Lewis Hansard, the principal telegram clerk at the station, had a providential escape, as he was close to the instrument at the time,-Na tion. 12th June.

Edward Dwyer, the prisonr in our county gaol, who was tried at the Spring Assizes for the murder of Edward J. Greene, and in whose case the jury disagreed, a portion being for finding him insane, has declined to cat any food for the last fourteen days. He takes any liquid which is offered to him, but will receive nothing solid. He appears much reduced, but his pulse is strong, and he himself declares that he never felt in better health during his life.—Kilkenny Moderator.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS AND THE JEWS .- The first of the two Jew Bills in the House of Lords is called the "Oaths Substitution Bill," and is presented by the venerable Lord Lyndhurst. It substitutes one general oath of allegiance to Her Majesty for the present oaths of allegiance, supremacy, and abjuration, and retains the form of affirmation for members of the Society of Friends. Clause 5 cnacts that whenever, in either House, a new member shall declare that he cannot conscientiously use the words, "on the true faith of a Christian," the offensive words may be omitted pro hac vice, and the oath be taken by the conscientious objector without the passage in question. This omission must be determined by the House itself. In all other cases where the oath is to be administered the obnoxious phrase "on the true faith of a Christian," may also be struck out. Persons of the Hebrew persuasion may subscribe the de-claration set forth in the Act 8th and 9th Victoria. cap. 52, in lieu of the declaration required by the Act 9th George IV., cap. 17. The Act will not touch the Papists' Relief Act of 1829, nor enable Jews to bold certain high offices in the State. The Bill of the Earl of Lucan is called the "Jews Bill," and enacts that conscientious Jewish members of Parliament may take the oath of abjuration in a modified form, if the House so resolve. Of course, as the Bill stands, any member may oppose a motion to omit the (to the Jew) offensive passage, "on the true faith of a Christian." HOUSE OF LORDS, JUNE 7.-ORANGE OUTRAGES. Lord Dungannon, in rising to put a question to the government upon this subject, said, it was matter for considerable regret that Belfast had again become the scene of riot and disorder. The present disturbances in that town had, it appeared, their origin at a funeral of a member of the Catholic persuasion who had been president of a political society, by a large number of the members of which his remains had been followed to a cemetery in the neighbourhood of Belfast. He had observed with satisfaction that the noble lord the Chief Secretary for Ireland had, in answer to a question put to him in the other house of parliament, declared it to be the intention of her Majesty's government to introduce a measure placing upon more efficient footing the police in the large towns in Ireland, and he could from his own experience bear testimony to the fact that some measure was needed. He should not trespass further on their lordship's time, but should conclude by asking the noble earl at the head of the government whether he had received any information relative to the circumstances which had given rise to the recent riots in Belfast? The Earl of Derry said, her Majesty's government had received from the Lord Lieutenant and the authorities in Ireland such information with respect to the causes of the late disgraceful riots in Belfast as they had been able to afford. The only cause, in truth, for those occurrences which could be assigned was that religious rancour and animosity which existed between the members of the Protestant and Catholic persuasions in that locality. A species of minor civil war, in fact, prevailed between the lower classes connected with the two parties to which he had alluded, and the result of that state of feeling was that the slightest insult or offence offered to a member of one party was at once taken up by the partisans of the opposite side. Now, he could not help saying that it did not reflect much credit either upon the inhabitants or upon the local authorities of one of the largest, the wealthiest, and the most thriving towns in Ireland that such disturbances should take place, requiring the intervention of the police and the military from other districts to aid in putting them down (hear, hear). The town of Belfast had in consequence of those disturbances been for several nights in a state of great confusion. The Lord Lieutenant had, howeve, taken every precaution in his power to prevent their recurrence. Fortunately, owing to the step which had been taken in connexion with previous proceedings of a similar character, the greater number of the inhabitants were unarmed, and their weapons of offence consequently confined to paving stones and missiles of that description. It had, nevertheless, been found necessary to collect a very large force of police and military, with cavalry and infantry, which was now stationed in the town, which was divided into four distinct listricts, each of which was placed under the superintendence of a resident magistrate. Taking into consideration what had occurred last year in Belfast, and the causes which had led to the disturbances in question, the Lord Lieutenant had decided to keep up a very considerable force in that quarter, at all events until after the 12th of next month. Belfast itself, of course must to a considerable extent bear the pecuniary consequences of the injuries which had ben done as well as of the additional number of constabulary which had been collected there owing five shillings, including beer, half a pint of wine, to those disturbances (hear). His nohle friend in the and waiters." The anusual addendum to the citato those disturbances (hear). His noble friend in the

was much truth in the expressions which had fallen from him on the subject. He would, however, asthe hardship to which our poor countrymen and wost sure their lordships that it, was the intention of his noble friend the Chief Secretary for Ireland to introduce at the earliest opportunity in the house of par-liament a bill, the provisions of which had, he believed, met with general approval in Ireland, and the object of which was to improve the character and condition of the police in the large towns by incorporating them with the police of the country at large, than which there could not be a finer or more effective force (hear, hear.) In conclusion he had simply to say that nothing would be omitted upon the part of her Majesty's government to put down the riots in question; but he must at the same time state it to be his opinion that, however the government might from time to time succeed in quelling similar disturbances. it was extremely expedient that the inhabitants of Belfast as well as the municinal authorities should exert themselves to prevent their recurrence. The Earl of Carlisle said, he should be unwilling

to say a word which would foment the religious discord existing already so extensively in Ireland. As, however, the subject had been mooted he must be allowed to make one or two observations upon it The recurrence of these unhappy and most disgraceful riots in Belfast only served to strengthen his conviction that the Irish government last year acted in consonance both with their duty and with the strictest policy and prudence in taking the only step which it was in their power as a government to take to show their disannroval of exclusive religious societies and organisation, by preventing any fresh appointment of members of the Orange Society to the office of magistrate. That course was made the subject of censure and of some sharp attacks, though not. as far as he could remember, in either house of parliament. It was, however, the identical course which had been previously adopted in 1836, and was then stamped with the approval of the other House of Parliament, and of his late Majesty King William the IV. A subsequent abatement of religious animosities had led to the suspension of that prohibition : but the events which occurred last year made it plain that it ought to be immediately re-adopted, and the occurrences of this year to which their lordships' attention had now been called made it plainer still. He was happy to think that the present Government had not, as far as his knowledge went, made any objectionable appointment to the office of magistrate, and he trusted that the scenes now being enacted at Belfast, would serve to confirm them in this wise abstinence. He need not dilate on the mischievous and wanton character of these tumults. It was an undoubted fact that last summer, at the very moment when reinforcements were most urgently required for our army in India, the movements of regiments was interfered with and delayed because one set of persons in the great town of Belfast were keeping it in a state of chronic alarm by shouting "To hell with the Pope !' and another set of persons by shouting 'To hell with King William I!!!' Now, the utter childishness and folly of all this, and above all its entire anachronism (laughter), would be simply ridiculous if it did not lead to such serious and dark results. The town of Belfast ought, in many respects, to be the most civilized and well ordered place of residence in Ireland, whereas it certainly now might be considered the least so. He believed in all these tumultuous proceedings it would generally be found that the blame might he pretty equal ly divided between both parties (hear, hear). With respect to a remedy, he feared much that the complete allaying of these ebullitions of religious hatred (and what two words those were when coupled !) could not be achieved by any government; but he was happy to think that a material though partial improvement might be effected by putting the town nolice of Belfast on a hetter footing He was glad to learn from the government that such a course was in contemplation. It was intended to be proposed to parliament by the late government, and he had no doubt it would be proposed in an equally satisfactory manner by the present; nor did he doubt that they would take every step in their power to soften and arrest those religious rivalries which were the main source and spring of all the mischief (hear, hear.)

PLYMOUTH, JUNE 11 .- Attended by the Valorous and towed by two steamtugs, the Agamemoon left the Sound at 9 o'clock this morning and waited outside The Niagara, under steam and attended by the Gorgon, did not leave until 11 o'clock. At that time there was no wind, but a favourable breeze from the north having sprung up subsequently the sound-

Tis "Passa Pagazop 1948."—The indictments pre-ferred against Mr. Truelove, publisher in the Strand, and M. Tcherwiski, for alleged libels on the Empetor of the French are fixed for trial on the 18th inst., the first week after the after term sittings. The trials will take place in the Court of Queen's Bench, before Lord Campbell and a special jury. The Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, and Mr. Welsby will conduct the prosecution on behalf of the Crown. Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., Mr. Phinn, Q.C., Mr. Hawkins, and Mr. Simon have been retained for the defendants .- Times, 9th ult.

Colonel S. V Maxwell of the 88th Regiment writes to the Times respecting the conduct of the detachment of his regiment at Cawnpore on the 27th of November last, which had been unfavourably commented on by the Scotsman. He encloses letters from Brigadier Carthew, in command of the brigade, and from Captains Baynes, Henning, and Jones, in command of companies, which completely contradicts the statement. The Brigadier says-' Nothing can be more false than the statements therein made up to the time any part of the S8th were under my command. I know they behaved most gallantly on the 26th, when they formed a part of my brigade, and on the 27th, when a portion of them (I forget how many companies) were placed by General Windham under my orders, as we proceeded from the brick kilns to the Bithoor Bridge, round by the Soubahdar's Tauk, we came suddenly on a large number of the rebels, just as they were passing through the broken down hats of a native regiment ; the 88th at once gallantly charged them, and with the bayonet destroyed many. No men could have behaved more gallantly than they did on that occasion. As to the accusation of 'taking flight almost without a shot,' the character for fighting of the old Connaught Rangers is too well known for any one to heed such trash for a moment."

PROTESTANT JUSTICE .- We read in the Scotch newspapers of the week that the "General Assemwhich has just concluded its annual session at Edinburgh, has returned its answer to "the Queen's most gracious letter." In that answer we find the following words :- " We have received with deep gratitude your Majesty's Royal Warrant for £2,000 (annual grant), to be appropriated to the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands ; and it will be a great satisfaction to us to apply this munificent grant so as to advance the pious and beneficent purposes What for which it has been graciously conferred." the purposes are to which this Royal Bounty is applied, we learn from another passage in the "Acts" of the Synod :--- " Every year there is issued a ' commission to some ministers and ruling elders for the Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, and for managing Her Majesty's Royal Bounty.' And it usually begins-' The General Assembly did, and hereby do, nominate and appoint the Reveroud

of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, for promoting the knowledge of the true religion, suppressing Popery and profaneness, and for managing the Royal Bounty for these ends, according to and in terms of Her Majesty's grant to this Assembly."-Beyond this intimation, we are without means of knowing how this heavy amount of the public money is disposed of. No details are published ; but that it is so applied, we have evidence from the "Public Accounts of the Church;" which charge, e. g, in the year 1851, £1,812 1ts. 8d., as paid to the "Missionaries, Scripture-readers, and Catechists." Comment on the above facts, if necessary, I leave to you to make; but I buildly question, whether any more glaring instances of Royal Protestant oppression are to be found at the present day, then the condemna-tion of six Catholics in Sweden to the bighest penaly short of death, for the simple profession of their Faith; and the appropriation, annually, of a large sum out of the taxes paid by ourselves, to the avowed purposes of sectarian aggression.-Cor. Weekly Register.

THE YANKES MERCHANT SERVICE .- On Wednesday ast the first, second, and third mates of the United States ship Gleaner, named Cunningham, Summers, and Brown, were brought up at the Police-court, Cardiff, on remand, charged with a series of brutal outrages upon the crew, consisting chiefly of negroes and coloured men. It appeared that the vessel had gone out of dock on Saturday week, and during that day and the following the crew were engaged in getting the ship ready for sea while lying in the outer roads of Penarth. The pilot, named Harris, force in England, because, among other reas who had taken the ship out reported on his return is a force which cannot readily be use for the purthat he had witnessed horrible acts of crucity com- pose of coercing the people. In France the same mitted on board, and Inspector Gifford was therefore despatched in a steamer to visit the ship, and apprehended the second mate, Summers, and brought away several of the crew, who said they would jump into the sea if left on board. Edward Riley, a negro seaman, was apparently in a dying state, and was at once taken to the infirmary, whence he was not able to be removed until Wednesday, when he was brought to the Town hall in a cab, and was scated in a chair while giving evidence. He said that he asked the mates not to beat "Jim," another black man, when they jumped upon him and beat him, inflicting two wounds on his head and one over his eye. He endeavoured to get into the forecastle, but hey prevented him, and he lay insensible on the deck. In the night he got into the forecastle, but the first and second mate pulled him out and kicked him about the deck until he was senseless. He could not see what weapons they had used, as the blood flowed over his eves, but Howis, the pilot, stated that he saw him struck twice over the head with an iron belaying pin, and that the second mate struck him with a brass knuckleduster. Another black man came to his assistance and was similarly treated .---The pilot remonstrated, and the officers threatened to throw him overboard. Jack Smith, a coloured man, was struck on the arm with an iron belaying in, by which one of the small bones was broken.-John Peters, a blackman, was knocked off the topsail yard down to the deck, but his fail was broken by the rigging; when lying on the deck the chief mate caught him by the throat and kicked him. Peter Hansan, a German, was beaten by the first and third mates, and the former put his fingers into his mouth to stretch it because he could not speak good English. He was afterwards sent out on the jib-boom ture of a war expenditure in self-defence, forced upon to clear it, and catching a loose rope he fell into the us by the threatening attitude of a Power which tells sea, where he hung some time by another rope, Cun- us in the same breath that it is our cordial friend and ningham and Brown looking at him, but offering him sure ally. We should prefer other proofs of cordialno aid until he dropped exhausted, when they called to the crew of a Bristol pilot-boat lying near, who an attitude which compels us either to trust ourpicked him up. When he got on deck he was again selves blindly and entirely to the professions of a sent aloft in his wet clothes. The statements of the men were fully corroborated by the crew of the Bristol pilot-boat who lay near on the Sunday afternoon and saw the mates follow the men on the yards and unprofitable force to defend us against attacks and beat them with handspikes while they were which may certainly never have been contemplated, bending on the sails. Mr. Paine, the officer of health, made the following report of the injuries sustained by the men whom he had examined, besides Riley, plainly on this matter. We have had somewhat too who was lying at the infirmary. Jack Smith, frac-tured arm, contusion on left ear, lower hip, and both the openness and sincerity on the part of England eyes. James Beale, contused incerated wound on right check, and wound on lip; John Peters, contused wound on lip and left temple; Domingo Spirit mit to the Emperor Napoleon that it is the sincere contusion of both eyes; John Smith had contused eyes; four others were less injured. The defence ally; that to this end we have made many sacrifices, set up was a spirit of insubordination on the part and are prepared to make many more; but he asks of the crew, but this was contradicted by the evidence too much of us if he expects that he is at once to of the pilots, who said that the men worked and behaved well. The three prisoners were fully committed for trial at the next assizes on the charge of wounding with intent to commit grievous budily harm. When the prisoners were removed to the police station it required a strong force of police to seep back a crowd of sailors and others who houted fearfully, and appe red willing to inflict summary justice on the culprits. - Times. Idleness travels very leisurely, and poverty soon overtakes her.

FRANCE ARMING .- We have the happiness to possess a Government which, if we are to believe all it tells us, has found-means to conciliate France without condescending to any of the ordinary means of conciliation, and it is so much our interest to believe it that we are not disposed to weigh probabilities minutely, or call into question, what some might consider very doubtful assertions. Let us, then, by all means, take it for granted that our diplomatic feud is at an end, and that a state of feeling has succeeded very different from that which dictated the curt and acrid despatch with which Count Walewski concluded the correspondence. Let us turn our minds to the exploits now enacting on the tropical plains of India, to the oratorical thunder launched against us from the temple of the Capitoline Jove at Washington, to the destinies of Commissioner Yeh, to the blood-stained valleys of Montenegro, or to whatever other quarter may challenge the attention of the political observer. Still there is one unfortunate. fact which will force itself upon our attention in spite of the very best exertions we can make to persuade ourselves that the political atmosphere is quite as clear on the side of France as we could desire. For what purpose, or in what quarrel, against whom or for whom, we know not, France is undoubtedly arming on a scale, with a method, a system, and a deliberation, truly formidable to all her neighbors,-whether, like ourselves, they have the good fortune to be sheltered from the impending storm under the umbrageous branches of an entente cordiale, - whether, like Belgium, Piedmont, and Spain, in the consciousness of their inability to resist, they listen with no unreasonable trepidation for the first howl of the coming tempest, -- or whether, like Austria, they know not how soon they may be compelled to fight for their dominions against a brave and well-disciplined enemy. France is certainly arming, and arming both by land and sea .-Her army, already large, is undergoing considerable increase. She is just on the point of completing a railway which connects all her military stations with fortifications of Cherbourg, a port constructed at enormous pains and at vast expense, and possessing every facility that skill can devise for the simultaneous embarcation of very large bodies of troops .--France is, besides, busily engaged in the construction of a great steam fleet, armed and propelled on the very best and newest principles at present developed by the art of war; she is gathering up her colossal strength, and would appear to be on the eve of some vast enterprise, in the prosecution of which that strength is to be put forth to the utmost. Not only is the military element studiously strengthened and increased, but it is beginning to assert a predominance over civilians which shows itself more and more every day, and naturally makes us anxious about our relations with a country in which the balance is so completely pressed down by the superior weight of the military class.

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It is in vain that we seek for anything in the present condition of France which can account for the remarkable proceedings to which we must unwillingly allude. The finances of the country are in a state that must render any naval or military expenditure not absolutely called for by necessity or honour peculiarly inexpedient. The people of England have no wish nearer their hearts than to remain on. the very best terms with their formidab e and warlike neighbor, and we are sure that there is no country in Europe which would regard a rupture with France with any other reelings than those of the most genuine abhorrence and dismay. We cannot believe for a moment that the enormous preparations which France is making are intended for defensive warfare, for there is not the slightest symptom of a wish in any quarter to attack her. Her form of government agrees entirely with the notions entertained by the Governments of the greater part of Europe, and we in England have long learnt to denounce the Quixotic notion of forcing our own ideas upon other nations. If France is happy we are content she should be so in her own way, and desire nothing but to see her great, pescefel, and prosperous. Why, then, is France arming?

It may be that the peculiar form of government in which France has seen fit to indulge necessitates some increase of the army for parposes of domestic repression, and we would much rather believe it is so than suppose she is marshalling her force for some foreign war; but, if we grant thus her army is increased for the purpose of insuring domestic tranquillity, on what ground are we to account for the corresponding and contemporaneous augmentation of her fleet? The navy has always been a favourite principle must apply, and we are at loss to know for what pacific purpose a large steam navy is being prepared. France has but few colonies, and those of inconsiderable extent. She has no large foreign commerce to protect, no refractory India to reconquer and reorganize. She has nothing to fear from descent on her consts from any foreign Power .-Why, then, is Franco arming and augmenting her nav j We have a right to ask the question; for, whatover be the enemy against whom the thunderbolt is forged, there is no doubt that these warlike preparations in a time of profound peace tend to inflict upon us, in common with the rest of our neighbors, many of the calamities and miseries of war. If France will insist on increasing her armies and her navies, she forces us, her neighbors and ber allies, to do the same. We have too much at stake within this little island of ours to be content to exist by the permission and on the sufferance of any ally, however faithful,-of any forei a Prince, however mag-nanimous. History warns us against incurring the fate of those nations who have trusted the power of the sword in other hands than those in which they were content to trust their freedom. If France is determined to arm we must either be content to lie at her mercy or prepare to arm too. If she increases her regular army we can hardly do less than call out and embody our Militia. If she insists upon increasing her navy, she forces us most anwillingly, from the barest considerations of prudence, to undergo the expense of a Channel Fleet. This expenditure, which is not required for domestic purposes, nor for the defence of our colonies, nor for the reduction of the Indian Rebellion, is purely of the naity, friendship, and alliance than are to be found in powerful neighboring State, or to hanger our commerce, embarrass our finances, and retard necessary improvements for the pur, ose of keeping up a barren but which it is our hounden duty to render impossible. The time has arrived when we ought to speak would be refreshing, were it only for their novelty. We would, then, take the liberty respectfully to subwish of this country to be his good friend and true enjoy whatever power, support, or influence his alliance with England may give him, and at the same time to inflict upon us by his vast military and naval preparations a war expenditure which we are most unwilling to incur, and which casts upon us many of the evils of a state of actual hostiluties. In politics many things a, parently discordant may be made compatible, but it is impossible that two powerful and neighbouring nations can at the same time be arming against each other and united in close alliance and cordiat friendship .-- London Times.

ron started under canvass only for their destinations. When we informed our readers yesterday that each vessel was ready to go off at a moment's notice we did so under the firm impression that a steamer was appointed to tow the Agamemnon to the rendezvous in mid ocean. At the last momen', however, it hus been decided that she is to sail there, in spite of the fact that she is jury-rigged with 40-gun frigate masts and so deep in the water that she will scarcely move to anything short of half-a-gale. When to these drawbacks is added the important fact that lightwesterly winds always prevail at this season of the year, our readers will easily be able to estimate the time which the English portion of the expedition is likely to occupy in reaching the centre of the Atlantic. The Valorous, a steam frigate capable of towing two vessels like the Agamemnon, is to go with her, but on no account to tow her, and in case of her being tempted in any sudden emergency to infringe this rule, she is only supplied with coals enough to take herself back to England after sailing to the rendezvous. It may, and very likely will, be urged that the Valorous had not enough coals on board to tow the ship, but at least it cannot be denied that the Gladiator, a frigate capable of towing the Agamemnon half round the world, is left behind idle at her moorings here. How it is that the shareholders allow the Admiralty to have any voice in an affair of this kind it is hard to say. About a fortnight ago, when not an electrician or any engineer even was on board the Agamemnon, an order arrived from the Admiralty directing that vessel to go to sea immediately, and whether the Niagara was ready or not. Fortunately, the senior officer at this port had sufficient sense to disobey the order until a remonstrance could be sent, and only to this insubordination on the part of the Admiral is it due that the squadron was allowed to get ready at all. These things are to be regretted much, but it is better to know them now than that we should learn them hereafter in the exaggerated narratives of the New York journals. Even as it is, they will surely be distorted to the utmost. The reason for the Agamemnon being ordered to sea so soon and suddenly is that she may gain a day or two's start upon the Niagara, which is to steam to the rendezvous. Yet, hardly is it known that the Agamemnon is to sail to-day ere it is announced that the Niagara is to steam out a'so. Of course, with such an advantage, she is certain to be at the rendezvous some two or three days before the Agamemnon, and thus afford scope for a continuance of the same vapid platitudes against the Britishers, their ships, schemes, people, and Government, which have already, to say the least, made the officers of the Niagara tolerably, amusing in Plymouth. The Agamemnon sails with exactly 13 days' coal for half-speed, and six days' coal for full steam. Her voyage is sure to last 24 days .- Times. A CLERICAL DINNER.-The Archdeacon of Bristol

has just issued a citation to the Clergy, ordering them to meet him at a visitation for the purpose of transacting the ordinary Ecclesiastical business, and of hearing a charge from him on the subject of their Clerical duties, and generally on the state of the Church. Appended to the citation is an intimation that after this solemn proceeding the Archdeacon will meet at dinner, "the charge for which will be course of his observations had adverted to the inef- tion has created much amusement amongst the clergy.