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The Garland.

THE SOLDIER'S WIDOW.

(*From the "New-Year's Gift," by Mrs. A. A. Watts.*)

"Wo! for my vine-clad home!
That it should ever be so dark to me,
With its bright threshold and its whispering tree!
That I should ever come,
Fearing the lonely echo of a tread,
Beneath the roof-tree of my glorious dead!

Lead on! my orphan boy!
Thy home is not so desolate to thee,
And the low shiver in the linden tree
May bring to thee a joy;
But, oh! how dark is the bright home before thee,
To her who with a joyous spirit bore thee!

Lead on! for thou art now
My sole remaining helper. God hath spoken,
And the strong heart I leaned upon is broken;
And I have seen his brow,
The forehead of my upright one, and just,
Trod by the hoof of battle to the dust.

He will not meet thee there
Who blessed thee at the eventide, my son;
And when the shadows of the night steal on,
He will not call to prayer.
The lips that melted, giving thee to God,
Are in the icy keeping of the sod!

Ay, my own boy! thy sire
Is with the sleepers of the valley cast,
And the proud glory of my life hath past,
With his high glance of fire.
Wo! that the linden and the vine should bloom,
And a just man be gathered to the tomb!

Why, bear them proudly, boy!
It is the sword he girded to his thigh,
It is the helm he wore in victory!
And shall we have no joy?
For thy green vales, O Switzerland, he died!
I will forget my sorrow—in my pride!

MISCELLANEA.

MONT ST. MICHEL.—The Edinburgh Observer gives the following account of the fortress of St. Michel, in Normandy, where Polignac is to remain for life:—

The state prison of Mont St. Michel stands on a lofty pyramidal rock, situated in a spacious bay bearing the same name, which separates Normandy from Brittany. Seen from a distance, especially from the sea, it greatly resembles the rock of Ailsa in the Firth of Clyde. The channel that separates the mount from the main land may be crossed by pedestrians at low water, but numerous quick sands, and the rapidity with which the tide rises, render a guide necessary. The rock shoots up steeply on all sides, and round the base about one hundred houses are clustered within strong defensive works. Stairs cut in the rock, and carefully guarded, lead up to the prison, which is near its summit; and the extreme pinnacle is surmounted by a stately abbey, about seven hundred feet above the level of the sea. This edifice is esteemed a place of great sanctity, and is still a famous place of pilgrimage among the devotees of the Church of Rome.

As far back as the days of William the Conqueror, Mont St. Michel was a strong hold of note, and many distinguished men pined and perished in its dungeons. Ten thousand troops we were assured, could find accomodation in the fortress and abbey alone; and the subterranean apartments, scoped in the entrail of the mountain, and of which many bloody and barbarous traditions are on record, form a labyrinth of which even the officials do not know the boundaries. At the time we speak of (1822) about eight hundred prisoners were reported to be immured in the fortress, part of them for crimes against the state, and part for common felonies. Among the horrible contrivances in this dreary retreat, there is an abyss called "Montgomerie's Hole," of prodigious depth, which is supposed to have been an obligatory or concealed trap door, upon which, in barbarous times, criminals inimical to the state, and whose death it was deemed advisable to cover with mystery, were lured to step unwittingly, and so hurried into eternity. In one of the dungeons, so late as the end of last century, there was a huge cage, constructed of strong wooden bars, in which many eminent victims pined and suffered; and among others, Francis de la Bretonniere, a printer of Leyden, who was clandestinely seized in Holland, for publishing a satire on Louis XIV., and who died in this horrible cell after a long and severe imprisonment.

Louis XI. one of the cruellest and meanest despots that ever dishonoured the throne of France, had a great liking for Mont St. Michel, and made frequent pilgrimages to its shrine; and one of his improvements was, the formation of *oubleites*, (pits, or "forgotten holes," shaped like inverted cones,) in which the wretched beings immured in them could neither lie, sit, or stand, and into which they were lowered with the knowledge that they were left to die of starvation.

EXAMPLE.—Example, any act or word which disposes to imitation. The example of a superior officer has considerable influence over the mind of an inferior; but in no instance does it appear more important than in the good or bad behaviour of a non-commissioned officer or corporal. These characters, therefore, should be particularly correct in their duties, tenacious of every principle of military honour, and remarkable for honesty. Old soldiers should likewise direct their attention to the strict observance of rules and regulations, as young recruits always look to them for example.—*Military Bijou—by Lieut. Shipp.*

ROYALTY IN 1830.—This has been an ominous year for Princes. Three have died—the Kings of England and of Naples, and the Pope of Rome. Three have been driven from their dominions—the Kings of France and Saxony, and the Duke of Brunswick. Queen Donna Maria has been refused admittance into her kingdom, and the King of Holland has lost half of his; while two thrones, Belgium and Greece, are going a-begging.—*Age.*

ROBINSON CRUSOE.—DEFOE.—His inimitable "Robinson Crusoe" has been translated into every continental language, and has even kindled the enthusiasm of the Arabs, as they listened outside their tents to its incidents, rendered into the vernacular by the skill of the traveller Burkhardt. By more discriminating and fastidious judges it has been equally well received. It warmed the unsocial heart of Rousseau, and taught him to feel that there were other things in nature worthy consideration besides himself: relaxed the cynical frown of Johnson: delighted Blair and Beattie; and in our own days has received the unqualified commendation of such men as Scott, Lamb, and Hazlitt. Public opinion, split into a thousand nice distinctions on other literary topics, has been unanimous on the subject of "Robinson Crusoe." It has received the suffrages and interested the feelings of all ages and grades in society, of the schoolboy and the man—of the peer and the peasant. The reason of this is obvious. Crusoe is nature herself speaking in her own language on her own most favourite and intelligible topics. Art is no where present, she is discarded for matters of higher and more general interest. While the poet and the scholar appeal to the select few, Defoe throws himself abroad on the sympathies of the world. His subject, he feels, will bear him out; the strongest instincts of humanity will plead trumpet-tongued in his favour. Despite the extraordinary moral and intellectual changes that a new fashion of society, a new mode of writing and thinking, have wrought in England, "Robinson Crusoe" still retains (though partially dimmed) his reputation, and the reader who can unmoved peruse his adventures, may assure himself that the fault of such indifference lies with him; Defoe is wholly guiltless. Will it be believed that this tale, so perfect in its descriptions—so affecting in its simplicity—so entirely and incorruptibly natural—was refused by almost every bookseller in the metropolis? Yet strange as it may seem, this was actually the fact. "Robinson Crusoe" was hawked about through the trade as a work of neither mark nor livelihood, and at last accepted, as a proof of especial condescension, by an obscure retail bookseller.—*Lon. Monthly Mag. for Jan.*

LORD HILL AT TALAVERA.—Hill was moving up to reinforce Colonel Donkin, and was in the act of giving some orders to the colonel of the 48th regiment, when he was fired at from this summit; and not doubting that the shots proceeded from some British stragglers, who mistook the direction of their fire, he rode smartly up, accompanied by his brigade Major, Fordyce, to stop them. These two were instantly surrounded by the enemy; Fordyce was killed on the spot; and the hand of a French grenadier was already on the bridle of Hill's charger; but the general spurred his horse hard, broke away, and galloped off. Directing the wounded beast downwards, he met a part of the 29th; and turning, led them up with uncalculating courage to the charge. The old 29th did not disappoint him; they won back the summit at the point of the bayonet. But scarcely had the general placed them in position by the side of Colonel Donkin's brigade, ere a heavy mass of French battalions again advanced; and a violent attack, of which the first was but a prelude, burst upon them.—The fire flashed red upon the night; and was delivered so close, that the combatants discerned each other's formation within a few paces. The British having poured in their deadly volley, rushed on with their bayonets, broke the dark column, and drove it down.—*Dr. Lardner's Library—Memoirs of Wellington.*

FORGERY.—We are enabled to state, that the government have determined on modifying the forgery bill of last session, and that capital punishment for any offences against property will not much longer disgrace our statute-book. The Attorney-General is said to be one of the most zealous advocates of this measure.—*Sun.*

A correspondent of the Liverpool Courier of the 5th Jan. says:—The detected frauds of mendicants would be incredible were they not authenticated by credible witnesses. It is supposed that in London above 16,000 persons live by beggary alone, and that they extort from the public considerably above £100,000 a year. There are public houses, whose chief support depends on beggars, who earn from three to five shillings a day, and who eat the very best food, and drink copiously of beer and spirits. They sham blindness and lameness, and every variety of human infirmity: they hire children to carry about for the purpose of exciting pity; and Mr. Butterworth mentions the case of a negro beggar, who retired to the West Indies with a fortune, it is supposed, of about £1,500 obtained by begging.

A CURIOUS FACT.—One of our late London papers says there is a curious fact connected with the duty on coals, which is at present exciting so much attention both in and out of Parliament, which is worthy of serious notice. It is this: Newcastle coals are actually sold cheaper in Egypt than in London; and, consequently, the infant manufactories of that country are in a better situation, in respect to the coals, than the manufactories of the metropolis of the kingdom in which those coals are procured!—*N. Y. Eve. Post.*

In 1463, during the civil war in France, William Armand, Viscount Polignac raised the standard of rebellion, but was soon afterwards arrested. It was a General Lafayette whom the King sent against him, and who took possession of his chateau. Is it not strange that now, after three centuries and a half, a Lafayette should again have overthrown a Polignac.

The religious ceremonies at the Catholic Chapel, in Edinburgh, were conducted with unusual splendour and solemnity on Christmas day, and a large congregation were present.—High mass was celebrated in the morning and vespers commenced at half-past two o'clock in the afternoon, the Archbishop of Rheims (Cardinal Latil) presiding. This is the first instance since the days of Cardinal Beaton, of such a high dignitary of the Romish Church officiating at public worship in Scotland. What rendered the service still more interesting, was the presence of Charles X, the Duke and Duchess D'Angouleme, Duchess de Berri, Duke de Bordeaux, and his sister, and the different noble and distinguished personages composing their suites, who occupied, for the first time, the seats lately prepared for them, on the epistle side of the altar. On the royal party leaving the chapel an immense crowd assembled, the greater part of whom uncovered as his ex-Majesty entered his carriage.

Orders have been given by the Duke of Hamilton to have his palace in readiness for the reception of their Majesties, who are to visit Scotland early in the summer, and will take up their residence, while in the west, at Hamilton Palace. By the death of the late Earl of Rochford, his Grace has an accession to his already great income of upwards of £8,000 a-year, derived from landed property, besides £100,000 in ready money.—*Glasgow F. Press.*

Phephecy of Lord Byron.—In his journal, under date of January 13, 1821, Lord Byron writes—"Dined—News come—the Powers mean to war with the Peoples. The intelligence seems to be postive—let it be so—they will be beaten in the end. The *King-times* are fast finishing. There will be blood shed like water, and tears like mist; but the Peoples will conquer in the end. I shall not live to see it; but I foresee it."

MARRIAGE.—"Young women," says Montesquieu, "are sufficiently ready to marry." How should they not be? The pleasures, the avowed sentiments of love, are only permitted in this condition. It is thus only, that they are emancipated from a double subjection, and that they are placed at the head of a little empire. "It is the young men," he adds, "who need to be encouraged."—But why? Do the motives which lead men to marry want force? It is only by marriage that a man can obtain the favors of the woman who in his eyes is worth all others. It is only by marriage that he can live freely and publicly with an honest and respectable woman, and who will live only for him. There is nothing more delightful than the hope of a family, where proofs of the tenderest affections may be given and received; where power blended with kindness may be exercised; where confidence and security are found; where the consolations of old age may be treasured up; where we may behold ourselves replaced by ourselves; where we may say, I shall not entirely die. A man wants an associate, a confidant, a counselor, a steward, a mistress, a nurse, a companion for all seasons. All these may be found united in a wife. What substitute can be provided?—*Bentham: Rationale of Reward.*

INFANT'S SLEEP.—So motionless is its slumber, that, in watching it, we tremble and become impatient for some stir or sound that may assure us of its existence: yet, is the fancy of the little sleeper busy, and every pulse and artery of its frame engaged in the work of growth and secretion, though its breath would not stir the smallest insect that sported on his lip,—though his pulse would not lift the flower-leaf, of which he dreamed, from his bosom. Yet, follow we this emblem of tranquility in after-life, we see him exposed to every climate—contending with every obstacle—agitated by every passion: and, under these various circumstances, how different is the power and degree of the heart's action, which has not only to beat, but to "beat time," through every moment of a long and troubled life.—*Wilson's Lectures.*

BIOGRAPHY.

SIMON BOLIVAR.

[From the New-York Observer.]

Simon Bolivar, was born at Caracas, (Venezuela,) on the 25th of July, 1783 consequently was in his 48th year at the time of his death. "He lost his parents," says the Journal of Commerce, "at an early age, and in his sixteenth year was sent to Europe to finish his education. He made the tour of France and Italy,—married at Madrid, and returned to Venezuela, where his wife died a few months after her arrival.—He visited Europe at two subsequent periods, and was present at the coronation of Napoleon. His third voyage was made in a public capacity, in 1810, for the purpose of asking the protection of England against the mother country. From that moment he was engaged heart and hand in the great work of giving liberty to Spanish America: a work, which, though attended with immense difficulties and discouragements, he lived to see successfully accomplished." The following description of his person and habits we copy from the Memoirs of General Miller, vol. 2. pp. 191—3:

The person of General Bolivar is thin, and somewhat below the middle size. He dresses in good taste and has an easy military walk. He is a very bold rider, and capable of undergoing great fatigue. His manners are good, and his address unaffected, but not very prepossessing. It is said that in his youth, he was rather handsome. His complexion is sallow: his hair, originally very black, is now mixed with grey. His eyes are dark and penetrating, but generally downcast, or turned askance, when he speaks; his nose is well formed, his forehead high and broad, the lower part of the face is sharp; the expression of the countenance is care-worn, lowering, and sometimes rather fierce.—His temper spoiled by adulation, is fiery and capricious. His opinions of men and things are variable. He is rather prone to personal abuse, but makes ample amends to those who will put up with it. Towards such his resentments are not lasting. He is a passionate admirer of the fair sex, but jealous to excess. He is fond of waltzing, and is a very quick, but not a very graceful dancer. His mind is of the most active description. When not more stirringly employed, he is always reading, dictating letters, &c. or conversing. His voice is loud and harsh, but he speaks eloquently on all subjects. His reading has been principally confined to French authors; hence the Gallic idioms so common in his productions. He is an impressive writer, but his style is vitiated by an affectation of grandeur. Speaking so well as he does, it is not wonderful that he should be more fond of hearing himself talk than of listening to others, and apt to engross conversation in the society he receives. He entertains numerously; and no one has more skilful cooks, or gives better dinners; but he is himself so very abstemious in both eating and drinking, that he seldom takes his place at his own table until the repast is nearly over, having probably dined in private upon a plain dish or two. He is fond of giving toasts, which he always prefaces in the most eloquent and appropriate manner; and his enthusiasm is so great that he frequently mounts his chair, or the table, to propose them. Although the cigar is almost universally used in South America, Bolivar never smokes, nor does he permit smoking in his presence. He is never without proper officers in waiting, and keeps up a considerable degree of etiquette. Disinterested in the extreme with regard to pecuniary affairs, he is insatiately covetous of fame. Bolivar invariably speaks of England, of her institutions, and her great men, in terms of admiration. He often dwells with great warmth upon the constancy, fidelity, and sterling merit of the English officers who have served in the cause of independence, under every vicissitude of the war. As a collateral proof of his predilection towards England, he has always had upon his personal staff a number of British subjects.

POLITICAL.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Sir James Graham, in the H. of Commons, Dec. 20, said—"Ireland was greatly agitated, and that a powerful party was busily engaged in that country, in attempting to dissolve the Union; & he thought that a repeal of the Union with Ireland would be equivalent to a dismemberment of the Empire."

In reply to which, Sir Robert Peel remarked:

"The part of the Right Honorable Baronet's speech to which he had listened with the greatest satisfaction, was that in which he announced the determination of the government at all hazards to support the Legislative Union with Ireland—(cheers) and if those who agitated that question continued to refuse to bring it before the House for its decision, he would suggest to the government whether it would not be beneficial to the repose of the country that they themselves should call upon the House to pronounce an opinion upon it, not to prohibit its discussion, but to place upon record the sentiments which they entertained. (Hear, hear, hear.) He hoped that upon such an occasion the real friends of Ireland, Protestant and Catholic, would be seen casting aside all distinctions, and animated by one common interest. The Honourable Member for the County of Clare, in that address which introduced him so favorably to the notice of the House, had made an allusion to him which could not be otherwise than grateful to his feelings. He would assure the Honorable Member, that he should feel himself amply compensated for all the sacrifices he had ever made to his sense of public duty, in finding himself united with him, and others partaking his opinions, as well as with all honorable men on all sides of the House, in coming to an almost unanimous resolution that the two Countries should continue to share in common the fortunes of peace, as they would again be ready to fight the battle and to win the victory of right, which they never could if disunited. (Cheers.) The Legislature would then have done its duty, and he doubted not that its example would be followed by the country. But if designing men continued to agitate the question, and endeavored to induce the people to follow the examples of Paris and Brussels, he called upon all men possessing any property, however small, in the State, to consider—first, whether the same inducements existed; and secondly, to look at the condition of the countries where revolutions had taken place, and compare it with what it was before. It was not for him to question the right of the people of France to resist the Ordinances of their Government, or to justify or defend those measures. But he had a right to inquire into the evils which even such a revolution inflicted upon a country. Look at the condition of France at the present moment—look at the state of Paris—but, above all, let them look at the condition of the working classes in Paris and in Brussels. Let them compare the state of the funds in France at this moment with what it was before the breaking out of the revolution. Be it remembered, too, that the Revolution was complete, and had run its course without impediment. Yet what was the condition of France? Her public credit impaired—business paralyzed—workmen dismissed by their employers—the foreigner, who before spent his money to benefit the general community, departed—all her present interests plunged in distress and privation—all her future prospects covered with gloom. He implored every man to contemplate such an example, and pause before he incurred the risk of inflicting upon his country, or upon Ireland, the irreparable evils which must there attend a similar state of confusion and distress.—He desired to be understood as saying this not with any view of prejudging the important questions which must shortly be discussed by that House.

REFORM.—The principal points in the great measure of reform should, in our opinion, be as follows:—the intellect of the country should be represented equally with the property—every freeholder, copyholder, and leaseholder—every man in a state of solvency, and bearing the rates, burdens, and assessments of his place of domicile, should also be represented. Every election throughout Great Britain and Ireland should take effect on the same day. No person should have the privilege of the franchise in more than one place, and that the place of domicile; and even then the franchise should not be capable of being exercised until a year and a day after his settlement in the particular town. Poll-booths for county elections should be erected in every wapentake, or hundred; and the various out-booths should send up their several votes to the head booth, presided over by the sheriff, who should then make the majority known to the candidates. This plan was well expounded by Lord Brougham on the occasion of his return as a member for Yorkshire; and we hope he will not now unsay the words of promise which he then made to the people of England.—*Frazer's Magazine for January, 1831.*

ELECTION OF MR. HUNT.—Mr. Hunt has been returned for Preston. Without having any respect for the man, we are well pleased to see him in Parliament, on the single ground, that he possesses the confidence—we wish he were more deserving of it—of a large proportion of the working classes. We admit that representation, taken in the gross, should be connected with property; but it has always appeared to us a revolting feature in the plan of our House of Commons, that while it was considered no abuse to have six or eight members returned by one opulent peer or commoner, the millions of the labouring classes were deemed unworthy to have so much as a single representative in the House to utter their grievances, and watch over their interest! As matters stand in this country, we would oppose any plan of reform which would throw the representation wholly or chiefly into the hands of these classes; but it is intolerable, on the other hand, that a mass of men, composing two-thirds of the whole population, should be absolutely without a voice in the legislature, as if human nature were nothing, and money every thing! In framing a general plan for reform for Britain, it must rest upon property as a basis; that is, the franchise must be connected with the payment of a certain amount of rent or taxes; but we think it would be wise, and no more than just, to select a few towns, where the working classes are numerous, and either to extend the franchise to every householder, or to separate these classes from the rest of the inhabitants, and confer the franchise on the former alone, accompanied with the ballot, as a protection against the influence of their employers. It is sheer folly to talk of any danger resulting from the introduction of a dozen or a score of persons, elected on this principle into a House of 650 members. The true danger, indeed, lies in treating such a mass of men as aliens, and denying them a legitimate and peaceable channel through which they can make their wants and grievances known.—*Scotsman.*

Scotch Pension List.—We this day publish a table of the Pensions on the *Civil List of Scotland*, which is one of the monuments that meet us on every hand, of the scandalous profusion of our Government. We beg our readers to bear in mind, that this table exhibits but a small portion of the useless or corrupt expenditure connected with this corner of the kingdom, but it is that portion over which an impenetrable veil has hitherto been thrown. There are some pensions in this list which are well merited; but their number is too small to redeem the others from public odium. The country ought to shelter from poverty the children of men who have sacrificed their wordly interests to the performance of patriotic labours, from which it reaps [illegible] in our list, the largest pensions are bestowed on those who have absolutely no claim at all upon the public liberality. We deny the right of the poor nobles of Scotland to a single shilling of the public money simply as nobles. Scotland squanders *four and a half* times as great a portion of her revenue in pensions as England does; and in Ireland, where corruption always rises to the heroic, the amount of this species of waste is *eight fold* when compared with that of England! The pensions, which are 322 in number, go as low as £9 10s. and as high as £276 10s., but the limit as to the sum is of no consequence, for some individuals have two pensions, and other perhaps three, without including those which they hold on the Irish or English lists, or on both. It is scandalous, too, that families not only titled but opulent, and drawing great sums of money from the country, actually get their governesses and other upper domestics fastened on this fund. In the list we find *forty-two* persons bearing titles of nobility, or the designation of "Honourable;" but if we include all those who are related to the noble families of Scotland, the number we imagine will be at least double; and when the magnitude of the allowances is taken into account, the sum they receive is probably in a still higher proportion. The whole Civil List Pensions of Scotland consume £31,000 per annum.—*Scotsman.*

The following extract from the *Edinburgh Review* for May 1820, No. 66, article "*Dispositions of England and America,*" says the Editor of the *N. York Mercantile Advertiser*, breathes so much of the spirit of prophecy, that we are induced to offer it to our readers.

* * * * * * It is impossible to look at the state of the old world without seeing or rather feeling that there is a greater and more momentous contest impending, than ever before agitated human society.—In Germany, in Spain, in France, in Italy, the principles of reform and liberty are visibly arraying themselves for a final struggle with the principles of Established abuse—Legitimacy or Tyranny—or whatever else it is called by its friends or enemies. Even in England the more modified elements of the same principles are stirring and heaving around, above and beneath us, with unprecedented agitation and terror, and every thing betokening an approaching crisis in the great European commonwealth, by the result of which the future character of its Governments and the structure and condition of its society will, in all probability, be determined. The ultimate result or the course of events that are to lead to it, we have not the presumption to predict. The struggle may be long or transitory, sanguinary or bloodless, and it may end in a just and signal amelioration of all existing institutions, or in the establishment of one vast federation of military despots, domineering as usual in the midst of sensuality, barbarism and gloom. The issues of all these things are in the hand of Providence and in the womb of time; and no human eye can yet foresee the fashion of their accomplishment. But great changes are evidently preparing, and in fifty years—*most probably in a shorter time*—some material alterations must have taken place in most of the established Governments of Europe, and the rights of the European nations been established on a secure and more desirable basis. Half a century cannot pass away in growing discontents on the part of the people, and growing fears and precautions on that of their rulers. Their pretensions must at last be put in issue, and abide the settlement of force, or fear or reason. Looking back to what has already happened in the world, both recently and in ancient times, we can scarcely doubt that the cause of liberty will be ultimately triumphant.

But through what trials and suffering, what martyrdoms and persecutions it is doomed to work out its triumph,—we profess ourselves unable to conjecture.—The disaffection of the lower and the higher classes which was gradually disappearing with the increasing intelligence of the former, but has lately been renewed by circumstances which we cannot now stop to examine, leads, we must confess, to gloomy auguries, as to the character of the contest, and fills us with apprehensions that it may neither be peaceful nor brief.

COLONIAL.

[From the Nova-Scotian.]

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—The Legislature of this Colony assembled on the 3d of February, and having received his Excellency's commands to proceed to the choice of a Speaker, William McNeil, Esq. proposed Ewen Cameron, Esq. The motion was seconded by Thomas Owen, Esq. and unanimously agreed to. Mr. Cameron is a merchant of high character and respectability—of sound judgement—liberal politics, and intimately acquainted with the resources, wants and public business of the Island. He has been a member of the Legislature for several years. The House having waited upon the Governor, their choice was cordially approved; when, after the Speaker had demanded and obtained the usual privileges, His Excellency opened the Session with a Speech, from which we take the leading paragraphs.

'It affords me heartfelt pleasure to be enabled to congratulate you on the abundance of the late harvest, and on that spirit of improvement which evidently appears dawning on the Agriculture of the Colony—a branch of industry in all ages considered the main source of wealth and individual happiness.

'I feel equal satisfaction in being also enabled to congratulate you on a material increase in the revenue over the receipts of last year.'

The answers of both branches were presented on Saturday; reciprocating the congratulations from His Excellency, and justly attributing the rapid improvements making in agriculture to his active superintendence.

Parliamentary Reform in Upper Canada.—The prevailing spirit of parliamentary reform has extended to Upper Canada. On the 22d ult. a select committee consisting of Messrs. Mackenzie, Shaver, Buel, Howard and Lyons, was appointed in the Upper Canada House of Assembly to enquire into the state of the representation in that house, to report by bill, address or otherwise—yeas 28, nays 11. It is alleged that under the present system the majority of the House represents the minority of the electors; and that a system of corruption of the Members and Electors by grants of land and offices, and official influence, have prevailed to a great extent, to the dissatisfaction of the people at large.—*Quebec Gazette.*