BRITISH NEWS.

In the House of Lords on the 24th June, the Earl of Aberdeen in a call upon Ministers for a disclosure of the state of foreign affairs, observed—"Their lordships had not failed to observe that his Majesty's ministers had not thought themselves justified in speaking with any degree of confidence respecting the prospect of the preservation of the peace of Europe; and, indeed, it was impossible to consider all the events which had lately passed, likely to have an influence on that matter, without entertaining very serious apprehensions." Earl Grey in reply, among other observations, made the following:—"We lived at a period when the public mind in almost every state in Europe was in a state of the highest excitement, and when premature disclosures, such as discussions like the present, were calculated to bring forth, might have the most pernicious effects. Their lordships should consider the difficulties in which ministers had been left by the late government with respect to the several governments of Europe,—the state of excitement in which the minds of the people in nearly every country in Europe were at the present moment,—some anxious to acquire rights which they considered withheld, and others jealous of any infringement on those they already possessed. In such a state of public feeling, the Government were engaged in negotiations of high importance, which an indiscreet discussion, a premature disclosure, might not only break off, but have the effect of throwing Europe into a general conflagration. He did therefore entreat noble lords to lay aside any party feeling on such an occasion, and not risk any disturbance by calling for any disclosures which could not be made without danger to the general tranquility. A certain confidence must be reposed in any government, or if not it was no longer fit to continue a government.—(Hear, hear.) If the noble Earl did not think that such confidence should be reposed in the present ministers, his motion should be an address for their removal. He did hope, however, that, as a government, they should receive the support and confidence of Parliament, and a generous public; but if they possessed that confidence in such a degree as that the noble Earl did not feel called upon to submit an address for their removal, he submitted that he ought not, by the introduction, of such a discussion as this, unacquainted as he must be with the particulars of some of the pending negotiations, to scatter arrows in the dark which might wound this country, and thro' this endanger the peace of Europe. As long as Parliament has confidence in ministers, he hoped it would allow them to proceed with negotiations, without calling for those disclosures which might break them off forever."

THE REFORM BILL.—Colonel Sibthorp last night commenced the adjourned debate on the English Reform Bill. In expressing himself strongly against the Bill, he said he understood that the Ministers were about to press for a division, in the hope of getting a triumphant majority, as in that case there would be an "illumination" *this* evening. He hoped they would be disappointed. He denounced the Bill as absurd, chaotic, mischievous, and incomprehensible; as a screen for Ministers; and as a cataplasm with which they hoped to allay the excitement existing in the country. Lord W. Lennox followed, briefly, but decidedly supporting the Bill, and contending that it was a struggle of right against usurpation. Mr. K. Douglas admitted that some reform was necessary, but resisted this Bill as being of too sweeping a character. Sir Franco Lopez (the descendant of the celebrated Sir Manasseh Lopez) declared that he should support the Bill: however his personal interests might be affected by it, he should cheerfully sacrifice them for the sake of a Bill which he deemed so well calculated to sustain the institutions and best interests of the country. He added, he did not consider the Bill to be perfect; he thought it defective, in not making special provision for the return of the Ministers to that House, &c; but, rather than endanger the success of a Bill that had so many excellencies, he should waive particular objections. Mr. F. Lewis said, though he objected to the destructive parts of the Bill, he would not oppose the second reading, as it was impossible to resist reform. Some change of the representation was inevitable, and he should vote for the Bill going to a Committee, in the hope that there all his objection to it might be in some way removed. Mr. Campbell eulogised the Bill as sustaining, not destroying the Constitution, and the best interests and security of all parties.—Sir R. Peel, at a late hour, spoke at great length, repeating his conviction that the Bill was destructive on account of its uniformity—that the demand for Reform resulted more from the events on the Continent, than the people's desires—but that, rather than risk the consequences of farther changes of Government, he would agree to "compromise," if a safe plan of reform were proposed. He spoke as an individual Member, adding that he would not incur the responsibility of proposing any plan of Reform, because if the question was once opened, he knew not where it would stop. Sir F. Burdett followed, strongly supporting the Bill, and declaring that Sir R. Peel's defence was in favour of that which was indefensible—the rotten boroughs and the interference of Peers. He denied that the claims of the people, still so justly urged, resulted from any events on the Continent; they were only the continuation of what had been constantly and consistently maintained for 50 years. Lord J. Russell having replied, the House (which for more than five hours had been excessively crowded, even in the side galleries) proceeded to a division. The numbers were—for the second reading, 367; against it 231; majority in its favor, 136. The Bill is to be considered in Committee on Tuesday next.

ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF IRELAND.—An important return has just been printed, by order of the House of Commons, containing a statement of the wealth of the Irish Church, and other information relating to that establishment. From this we learn that since the month of August, 1812, to which date the returns go back, there were twenty-six promotions or translations to the bishopricks: the names are principally those of aristocratical houses, or of families possessed of parliamentary interest; perhaps the only one of the whole in which such interest did not influence the selection is that of Dr. Brinkley, who was elevated to the see on account of his great talent.—The yearly incomes of the Archbishops are stated to be—Armagh, £15,080 15s. 6d.; Tuam, £5548 19s. 11d.; Cashel, 3,500 and upwards, while of Dublin no return is made; of the others, Clogher is returned £9000 late currency; Derry, £10,000 and upwards, late currency, Meath, £5845 14s. 5d.; Raphoe, £5379 14s. 1d.; Leighlin and Ferns, £5009 to a fraction; Ossory, £7000 to a fraction; Dromore, £5863 3s. 5d.; Waterford, £5000 exact money; Cork £3000 ditto; Limerick (renewal fines, nearly as much more, not included.) £2915 19s. 8½d.; Cloyne, £2000 "and upwards at the least;" Killala, £4,000. From the dioceses in Tuam there is no return made, "as there is no record of the value of the several bishopricks and dignitaries of the province in the Registrar's Office." A curious fact observable throughout the return is the number of individuals of the same name as the Bishop who had the good luck to get into livings soon after his attainment of the episcopal dignity; for example, in Derry the Knoxes abound in preferment, and altogether, have got since 1812 (mention is not made in these returns of what they had before) £5230 7s. 8d. per annum, and 3555 acres of land, besides the annual income of one of which no return is made. There are two Knoxes in Dromore, with 1082 acres.—W. Magee, See of Raphoe, 1819; May, 1820, John Magee, rectory and vicarage of Mevagh, £375 a year; July, 1825, John Magee again, prebend of Killyman, £276 18s. 5½. and 450 acres; let us here follow his Lordship to the See of Dublin, whither he was translated in 1822. Wm Magee, vicarage of Finglas, March, 1823, no annual value stated; April, 1826, T. P. Magee, rectory and vicarage of Inch, and vicarage of Kilgorman, £365 9s. 4½d. a year. T. P. Magee, December, 1826, prebend of Tipperkiven, £127 10s. and 78 acres; T. P. Magee (third time) same month and year, curacy of St. Michael, Dublin, no amount stated; May, 1829, T. P. Magee (fourth) prebend of St. John's, no value stated; January, 1830, W. Magee, recovery of Donganstown, no value returned; April, 1830, T. P. Magee (fifth time) prebend of Wicklow, so much talked of, value not stated. T. P. Magee seems either a very fortunate gentleman, or the brightest ornament of the church, judging from the number and rapidity of his promotions, for, in addition to those conferred upon him by his father, we find him appointed, in April, 1830, Archdeacon of Kilmacduagh.—*Abridged from the Morning Chronicle.*—The same observation applies, in a greater or lesser degree, to the dispensation of the good things in other dioceses.—*Liv. Mercury.*

HALF PAY.—The half-pay and retired allowances, civil and military, paid in the year 1830, are as follows:

	£	s.	D.
Army	2,939,606	9	6
Navy	1,531,646	17	11¾
Ordnance	357,060	0	0
Civil Departments	485,370	13	7
	5,313,714	6	0¾

Coffee—Cotton—Indigo—Sugar.

LONDON, JULY 4.—*State of Trade.*—In Coffee the most remarkable feature is the great increase of its consumption in the United States, where, owing to the reduction of the duty, it is estimated to have advanced from a consumption of 12,500 tons to 20,000 tons within the year, which is supposed to be nearly double the consumption of Great Britain. A considerable quantity of coffee has, in consequence, been exported to the United States from this country. The exports of this article to the continent are stated to have fallen off materially, compared with what they were in the first half year of 1830, owing, probably, to the great political excitement which has prevailed, and which by disturbing credit, has prevented the accumulation of large stocks of this and some other articles.

Of Cotton it is stated that the importation into G. Britain, for the first five months of 1831, compared with the same period last year, has decreased, the quantity being 403,000 bales in 1830, and 368,000 in 1831. The consumption of the article would not appear, however, to have diminished, as the deliveries for home consumption since the first of January have been at the rate of 18,200 bags weekly, while the average weekly consumption during 1830 was 16,000 bags. There has been some partial cessation of the demand for export yarns to the north of Europe, but that of raw cotton for export, notwithstanding the disturbed state of the continent, is said to be decidedly on the increase.

In Indigo, so far as regards its production in the East Indies, the crops are supposed to be somewhat less than those of the year preceding: but the stock in hand appears, nevertheless, to be gaining on the consumption. The purchases of the article in this country seem likely to fall off, as foreign merchants, particularly the French, are resorting to the countries where it is produced for their supply, and they, of course, ship it direct for their own ports. The French have purchased in the Calcutta market, this season, about 7000 chests of indigo, part of which have already arrived at Havre and Bordeaux. The low price which indigo has borne for some time past, will check, it is thought, to a certain extent, its production, and some of the large factories in the East are said to be on the point of being abandoned.

Sugar is believed likely to yield a deficient crop in the present year, from the West Indies, Demerara, Trinidad, Mauritius, India, and Cuba; but the increase of production of this important article is so great in Brazil as to promise, in some degree, to supply the deficiency in other parts of the world. The consumption of sugar in Great Britain appears to be somewhat on the decline. From the 1st of Jan. to the 31st of May, 1830, the quantity on which duty was paid amounted to 84,615 tons; and for the same period of 1831 to 83,590. It is thought probable, however, that the dealers have smaller stocks on hand. The trade in sugar is said to be in a depressed state; and, as one mode of relief, application has been made to the Government to allow the use of molasses in the breweries; but no decision has yet been given.

From the London Courier.

It is impossible in taking a general view of European politics, not to be struck with the very unsettled and dark appearance which they now present; nor can it escape the most shallow observer that this state of gloomy disorganization arises from the contest between two principles acting in direct opposition to each other, and whose working are partly open and partly covert, but not, therefore, the less effective.—We have the selfish feelings, the prejudices, the despotic policy of a few rulers, opposed to the wants, the wishes, and the liberties of their subjects. Things cannot long remain in such an unnatural position, and it is, therefore, too much to be apprehended that a collision must soon take place, and the ascendancy of the ruler or the liberties of freemen be established.—In France, too, we fear that a mine of combustible elements is ready to explode against Louis Philip, and in its consequences to light up a war against other Sovereigns. This unfavorable feeling towards the French King arises from the suspicion perhaps unfounded, that he has abandoned or sacrificed those principles which they attributed to him when they chose him for their chief. Many of the French people ascribe his conduct to a pusillanimous trimming policy, which they say suffers him to degrade France in its relations with Foreign Governments, and leads him to substitute at home, for popular Ministers, men who have sympathy neither for the freedom nor the glory of their native country. They say of their King, that his sole object has been to continue the dynasty in his own family, and that he regards peace upon any terms as the most certain, as well as the most cheap way of securing that object.

When nations, as is the case with individuals, find themselves in a false position, their wants and inclinations will urge them to have recourse to such charges as they fancy will satisfy the one, and please the other. France thinks that she has many wants; and, with the means of redress for her grievances, real or imaginary, in her own hands, it is not probable that she will long abstain from using them. From the consideration of France we are inevitably drawn, by the affinity of the subject, to notice the condition of other countries.

The revolution in Belgium—the conduct of the Autocrat of Russia towards Poland—the intervention of Austria in Italy—joined to the sentiments of the great mass of the people of Germany, shewn on many occasions in the course of last year by open acts against their Government—all tend to heighten the difficulties of the present crisis. Much of this embarrasment and of the miseries that may still further result from it, is to be attributed to the vicious principle upon which the Holy Alliance was founded, and which seemed to guide its decision. However arbitrary the proceedings of the Allies at their Congress at Vienna might have been with regard to Genoa, Norway, and Belgium, when these holy arbiters of European happiness were securing for themselves territories to which they had no right, and trampling on the independence of smaller states, disregarding localities and prejudices—if such a term can be applicable to national dislikes—we must confess that their arbitrary conduct is far exceeded by the blundering policy which led them to join together Belgium and Holland.—The manners, the customs, and the religion of the Dutch and the Belgians were so different as to make a union between them impracticable. The national differences were unfortunately quickened into actual disgust by the inconsiderate measures of the King of the Netherlands. The parchment union of the Holy Alliance soon lost its charm, and affairs reached that point which rendered adjustment out of the question. In such a state of things it remained for the opposite parties to adopt a line of conduct that would produce the greatest good to themselves, as well as to the neighbouring States. The independence of Belgium, under a Sovereign of their own choice, was well adapted for that purpose, but the declarations of Belgium and Holland, and the intervention of other States, (some of which have not the most distant right of interference, their own territories not being in the slightest degree affected) have retarded a settlement which all good men must have desired.

Our remark as to the improper intervention of other Governments in this question, is particularly applicable to Austria and Russia; and, indeed, the conduct of Nicholas towards the chivalrous Poles must render his interference in matters of any free people liable to great suspicion. If the Five Great Powers will apply to a good end, now, a very little of that power which they before exerted in an arbitrary manner for unjust ends, in the doing of evil, they might, by taking the geographical position of the Netherlands as the basis of their proceeding, soon remove the difficulties which still embarrass that question. The left bank of the Scheldt forms the natural boundary of Belgium on that side, as it has the command of the sea sluices. That part of Limberg, on the Belgian side of the Meuse, with Maestricht, also afford a natural boundary in that quarter, being, as they are, quite detached from Holland. If the Congress, as it is generally understood, had not arranged the point relating to Luxembourg, there could have been little reasonable objection to the Sovereignty of that Province remaining with the second son of the King of Holland, and distinct from Holland, in the manner that was arranged at the Congress of Vienna, when it was settled that it should be incorporated in the Confederation of the Rhine. Indeed, upon that occasion it was stipulated that the only town of any consequence in the Grand Duchy should be garrisoned by troops of the Confederation. In a fiscal point of view, the Province of Luxembourg is of little value; the territory is poor, and a large portion of it consists of the Ardennes. Any matter of dispute which may lead to a renewal of hostilities between Belgium and Holland, which in its consequences may bring on a general war on the Continent, must be seriously deplored; and therefore, we look on the acceptance of the throne of Belgium by Prince Leopold as the most calculated to avert calamities to which no limit can be assigned, not only from Belgium and Holland, but from the neighboring States. Should he not accept the Belgian crown, it requires but little of the spirit of prophecy to forsee that Belgium will be either actually united to France, or become a separate State, wholly dependant on, and governed by, French influence.

PARIS, July 6.—The drain of specie to the Continent, which has existed for some time, exhibits no symptoms of abatement. Those who are best acquainted with the subject, attribute it to the unsettled state of the continent, and the general apprehension of disturbances, which lead men to hoard specie. Some unpleasant effects have already resulted from this state of things.

We are not aware that the Bank has yet refused to discount the paper of any merchant of good credit, but the interest of money has risen to five per cent.

IRELAND.—*Massacre at Newtonbarry.*—The jury which was empannelled to inquire into the circumstances of this dreadful affair, in which a great number of lives were lost, and which jury was composed of an equal number of Protestants and Catholics, has been discharged by the coroner, the jury not being able to agree on their verdict—so divided were the opinions of the Protestants and the Catholics on a matter of fact! The business must not be suffered to rest here. The *Dublin Evening Post* says:—"At half past ten o'clock on Wednesday evening, the coroner visited the jury, and there appearing no likelihood of their agreeing, he left them for the night. A police guard was placed round the house. The jury remained the entire night without any prospect of an agreement, and at eleven o'clock on Thursday morning the foreman (a captain of yeomanry) complained of being ill, when Surgeon Hyde, another officer of yeomanry, gave his opinion, not on oath, that he could not be any longer confined with safety, and the coroner immediately discharged the jury."

EDINBURGH, JUNE 15.—*Death of Dr. Meikiejohn.*—We regret to learn that Dr. Meikiejohn expired on Sunday morning. The Rev. Gentleman had been confined with fever ever since the protracted sederunt of the General Assembly at the hearing of the case of Mr. Campbell of Row. By this lamentable event, the parish of Abercorn is deprived of its venerated pastor, and a vacancy occurs in the Chair of Church History in the Edinburgh University.

American Claims on France adjusted.—Our readers will recollect, says a London paper, that under Napoleon's ridiculous Berlin and Milan Decrees, several vessels, the property of subjects of the United States, were seized by the French, and burnt, or condemned as prizes, between the years 1806 and 1812. For these outrages the American Government, through Mr. Warden, its Consul General in France, demanded reparation of the French Government, but, notwithstanding the energetic perseverance of Mr. Warden, Napoleon protracted the negotiation until his own downfall. The application was renewed on the accession of Louis XVIII. and continued to be pressed on the Government of Charles X. and again renewed under that of Louis Phillippe. This long-pending negotiation has at length been brought to a close. The French Government has agreed to pay as an indemnity to the subjects of the United States, for their loss of property above mentioned, 25,000,000 francs, exactly one million sterling. The original sum claimed was 60,000,000 francs—£2,400,000 stg.

FOREIGN NEWS.

POLAND.

Movement of the main Polish Army—Partiality of Prussia to the Russians.—Private letters from Warsaw of June 21st, state that the Polish army had just executed a movement which will probably decide the campaign one way or the other. The effect of the movement was to cut off the communication of the Russian army with Lithuania, and compel them to concentrate their forces on the Prussian frontier. If Prussia were strictly neutral, this step would be hazardous, if not fatal, but as it is known that she supplies the Russians with provisions and other aid, the consequences to the Poles are to be feared.

Success of the Insurgents in Lithuania and Volhynia.—The accounts from the theatre of war are of a gratifying nature. The insurrection in the Russo-Polish provinces is extending with great rapidity. Lithuania and Samogitia will soon be able to establish their independence, and to send Deputies to the national Diet at Warsaw. Gen. Giełgud is at the head of 30,000 men, and is proceeding towards Wilna and the sea coast. In Samogitia, 20,000 insurgents are under arms; and the Commander-in-Chief has transmitted to the government the report of a victory gained by a party of the same gallant people in the province of Volhynia. Gen. Dembinski with another auxiliary force, entered Lithuania at Olita, 50 or 60 miles south-west of Wilna, where he also was joined by a strong body of the insurgents, who had previously beaten a Russian detachment and captured two pieces of cannon and supplies near Troki, not far from the capital of the province. Gen. Chlapowski, who entered Lithuania near Bialystock, before the other corps, after having dispersed two columns—one near Bielsk, the other near Prouzana—marched northward, crossed the Niemen east of Grodno, and arrived at Lida on the 5th of June, where he was joined by many detachments of the insurgents, and a large body of the nobles of Lithuania.

Battle of Ostrolenka.—The Polish Generalissimo has published a full report of the battle of the 26th of May, in which he states the loss of the Poles on that memorable day to have been as follows:—Killed, 2 generals, 9 superior officers, 39 subaltern officers; and 1769 soldiers. Wounded, 15 superior officers, 87 subaltern officers, and about 2000 soldiers, besides a few hundred who, on the taking of Ostrolenka, were made prisoners. The loss of the Russians is not stated.

BELGIUM.—Prince Leopold has actually accepted the crown of Belgium, under certain conditions. The London Times of the 28th June, contains his reply to the Belgian Deputation, as follows:

"*Gentlemen*—I entertain a deep sense of the wish of which the Belgic Congress has made you the interpreters.

"This mark of confidence is to me the more flattering, as it was not sought for on my part.

"Human destinies do not present a more noble and more useful task than that of being called to maintain the independence and consolidate the liberties of a nation.

"A mission of such high importance can alone determine me to abandon an independent position, and to separate myself from a country to which I have been attached by ties and recollections the most sacred, and which has given me so many proofs of its benevolence and sympathy.

"I accept then, gentlemen, the offer which you make me, it being understood that it will belong to the Congress of the National Representatives to adopt the measures which can alone constitute the new state, and thus secure for it the recognition of the European Powers. It is thus that the Congress will give me the power of devoting myself entirely to Belgium, and of consecrating to its well-being and prosperity the relations which I have formed in countries whose friendship is essential to it, and to secure it, as much as depends upon my co-operation, an independent and happy existence. "June 26, 1831."

Such (says the Herald) is the result of eight or nine months of continued negociation—of conferences, at which not only the ordinary ambassadors of the great Powers now in London assisted, but extraordinary envoys, sent for this special object—of more protocols than might have reconstructed the political system of all Europe—of discussions in three or four legislative assemblies, and of two national deputations "in search of a Sovereign" to the two first capitals of Europe.

Proposed Treaty between Belgium and Holland.—In the Belgian Congress, 27th of July, M. Lebeau, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, read the terms of the offer of the crown made to Prince Leopold; and his Royal Highness' reply, which we have given above. On the same day he communicated to Congress the Treaty of Peace, which the Plenipotentiaries of the Great Powers suggested might be agreed on between Belgium and Holland. The treaty consists of 18 articles. The most important are the following:

1. The limits of Holland shall comprehend all the territories, fortresses, towns and places which belonged to the former Republic of the United Provinces of the Netherlands, in the year 1790.

2. Belgium shall be formed of all the other territories which received the denomination of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the treaties of 1815.

3. The Five Powers will employ their good offices that the Duchy of Luxembourg may remain in statu quo during the course of the separate negotiations which the Sovereign of Belgium will open with the King of the Netherlands and with the German confederation respecting the Grand Duchy, which negotiation is distinct from the question of the boundaries between Holland and Belgium.

10. Belgium shall be a neutral state, but without giving up the right of defending itself against every aggression.

11. The port of Antwerp shall continue solely to be a commercial port, according to article 15 of the Treaty of Paris of May 30, 1814.

12. The division of the debt shall be made in such manner that the whole of the debts before the union shall fall upon the country by which they were contracted, and those contracted since the union shall be divided in a just proportion.

These 18 articles, as they are called, appear to have given very great dissatisfaction to many of the Belgians. A popular movement broke out in Louvain. The people assembled upon the Grand Place and demanded, with loud cries, the rejection of the 18 articles of the preliminaries of peace. A proclamation was posted up, and a deputation set out for the residence of the Regent.

LETTER OF O. P. Q.

CASSIMIR PERIER SAYS "ALL IS SETTLED"—FRENCH ELECTIONS—BELGIUM—POLAND—CAN YOU NOT AID THE POLISH LOAN?

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

PARIS, July 3, 1831.

Sir—I have just quitted an intimate friend of Cassimir Perier's, and, in a state bordering upon ecstasy, he has assured me that "all is settled!" I asked him what was settled? Why, first of all, the affairs of Belgium are settled; for he declares that the Government has received a telegraphic despatch, announcing that the Congress had adopted all the Articles of the late Protocol by a large majority. I doubted the accuracy of this information; but when he said I might rely on the truth, I felt bound to believe him, and presume that the Moniteur of to-morrow will repeat after M. Cassimir Perier that "all is settled." And next I asked him what else was settled? He told me that the question of Poland was arranged—that England, France, and Austria, were perfectly agreed upon the conduct to be pursued immediately after the arrangement of the Belgian question—that the independence of the Duchy of Warsaw would be acknowledged—that the other revolutions would be put down, and that the Emperor of Russia would yield some points to the Poles, whilst the Poles would make concessions to the Russian Emperor. "In fine (said my informant,) you may calculate as a matter of certainty, that all is settled as to Poland, and what remains to be done will be arranged diplomatically!" He would not hear one word I had to say about the refusal of the Poles to compromise the Revolutions of Lithuania, Volhynia, &c., and evidently repeated the lesson he had just learned from his instructor, Cassimir, "that all is settled!" I ventured to ask him two questions—the first was, whether the Austrian troops had yet left Italy? He answered 'Oh, no, but they will leave so soon as the Pope has organised his own army. It cannot be expected they should leave before, for that would be to encourage another revolution. They will very speedily retire, and the report which will be made to the Chambers in August, will show that all is settled.' The other question I asked him was this, 'Will the Minister have a majority in the new Chamber?' His answer was, 'Most certainly, a majority of 80 or 90.' He admitted that the elections in Paris would possibly be anti-Ministerial; but he was full of hope that M. Cassimir Perier would be elected for the 1st arrondissement. He grounded this opinion on the fact that M. Mathieu Dumas, his opponent, had not given any pledge on the question of the hereditary Peerage—and that the other candidate, who belonged to the war and movement party, was not sufficiently known to oppose himself to the 'long tried servant of the public, M. Cassimir Perier.' He told me that the Minister laughed at the idea of any serious troubles in Paris during this month—that he was determined to stand his ground, and face the Chamber—and that if he had a majority in favour of his system he would not yield. He begged me to read an article in this day's Moniteur, and took his leave of me, by repeating, with an air of confidence amounting to triumph, "All is settled!"

I obeyed the wishes of my informant, and read the Moniteur. It contains a Ministerial article, denouncing the Anti Ministerialists as makers and propagators of false news—says they have sent emissaries into the departments to terrify the electors—declares that the Prefects have received orders to contradict all rumours which may reach them of an unpleasant or alarming nature—announces that the telegraphs are to be kept constantly at work to inform the Departments during the elections of any news which may be of interest or moment; and, finally, declares that the Minister is sure of a majority—that the Opposition are aware they must be defeated—that the Opposition are enemies to order, liberty, and the Throne; and that the New Chamber will at once put an end to the hopes and designs of these agitators and rebels.

And now, then, you have the system, the hopes, the expectations, and the plans of the Government before you. It agrees to abandon the Hereditary Peerage to its fate. It agrees to diminish the number of its political prosecutions. It agrees to present to the Chambers a more moderate Civil List. It agrees no longer to attack the "Trees of Liberty," planted in the Departments; and, finally, it agrees to interfere on behalf of the Poles, to the extent of the original Revolution made in the Duchy of Warsaw, but not about the Revolutions in Lithuania, Volhynia, or the Ukraine. It proposes to celebrate with great pomp the anniversary of the July Revolution; to abide by the result of a majority for or against the Minister in the new Chamber; and it means to contend that it was not the interest of France to encourage the Union of Belgium to this country, because by such union the commerce of France would be injured, and the manufactures of Belgium benefitted. You have now the Ministerial system before you, with all its hopes and intentions; and if you had conversed with M. Cassimir Perier and M. Sebastiani for hours together, you would not know more or more accurately what they mean or hope to do, than you will by the faithful recital I have now supplied you. Well, then, what do you think of this system? Will it last? I tell you a thousand times, no; and I will give you my reasons for saying so.

Let us begin with Belgium. Does the adoption by the majority of the Belgian Congress of the eighteen Articles contained in the last Protocol settle the Belgian question? By no means. The men who now vote for a settlement by means of negociation between the Sovereigns of Belgium and Holland of this Belgian question, would be the first to demand war, should those negociations not lead to the possession by Belgium of Luxembourg, Limbourg, and the left bank of the Scheldt. The Congress threw upon the Prince Leopold the arrangement of the question of territory. The Prince threw it back again upon the Congress, by accepting the Crown, subject to the 18 Articles; and now, if the rumours of this day be well founded, the Congress has thrown back upon the Prince the task of arranging, by adopting the 18 Articles. This is all very silly, though it may be very commercial.—It may suit the speculators "for the end of the month," and produce a rise in the French Funds to-morrow; but it settles just nothing at all. For what is to be done with the 1st Article, which settles that the limits of Holland shall comprise all the territories, towns, and places that belonged to the ci-devant Republic of the United Provinces of the Low Countries in the year 1790? Do you believe, that if this article shall remain unqualified and unaltered—and that if even the principle shall not be destroyed by the negociations which are to take place between King Leopold and King William, I say, do you imagine that in that case the Belgians will remain satisfied, and sink down into the small and incapable state of existence to which this article would reduce it? You must know better than this! Belgium, if merely constituted "of all the rest of the territories that received the denomination of the kingdom of the Netherlands in the treaties of 1815," could never maintain its independence, its neutrality, its happiness, honor or wealth. It must be ruined.

To ruin, the Belgians would not submit, and, therefore, the arrangement is but provisional; and the first and second articles must be altered by negociations, or those negociations will prove to be wholly useless.—And then what says the 3d Article? Why that the five Powers will employ their good offices for the maintenance of the *statu quo* in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg during the course of separate negociation to be opened by the Sovereign of Belgium with the King of the Netherlands and the Germanic Confederation, on the subject of the said Grand Duchy—a negociation which is totally distinct from the question of the limits between Belgium and Holland; it being understood that the fortress of Luxembourg shall preserve a free communication with Germany. Now, I ask you, how can this be called a settlement? 1st. The *status quo* is to be preserved—2d. Negociations are to be opened between Holland and Belgium; 3d. The fortress of Luxembourg is to be placed on a distinct footing; and 4th. These negociations and discussions are to be kept distinct from those relating to Holland and Belgium. Do you believe that the inhabitants of the Grand Duchy will ever consent to be united to Holland? Certainly not. Do you believe that the Belgians will consent to pay a large sum of money for the purchase of the Duchy, when, by every principle of justice and national sovereignty, Belgium is already entitled to the annexation of that Duchy to her country? Certainly not. And on the other hand, do you imagine that the King of Holland will consent to relinquish that Duchy, and no longer to hold it as an appanage to the Crown? His previous conduct and character in no way justify such a presumption.

On the contrary, we have every ground for believing that he will not voluntarily abandon a claim upon which he professes to set so much value. Nor does the 4th article at all assist the satisfactory settlement of the question. It says, "If it be established that the Republic of the United Provinces of the Low Countries did not in the year 1790 exercise an exclusive authority over the town of Maestricht, the two parties shall take measures between themselves to come to a suitable arrangement in that respect." Never was any thing so vague,—so unsatisfactory, and so absurd. To whose satisfaction is it to be proved that the Bishop of Liege did exercise, in the year 1790, a joint jurisdiction in the town of Maestricht? To the satisfaction of Holland, or of the Conference of London? In either case I should despair, as a Belgian, of convincing my antagonists. For, as to Holland being convinced, that she would never be; and, as to the Conference being convinced, the Ambassadors of Prussia and Austria will never be convinced of any proposition which should tend to place Maestricht in the hands of Belgium. And, on the other hand, can any one suppose that the Belgians will be satisfied with an arrangement which shall give Maestricht to Holland? Oh, no! Why, when even the proposal was made to the Belgian Congress of allowing a mixed garrison to occupy Maestricht, the proposition received the support but of one Deputy. And yet we are told, in the face of these difficulties—of these questions—of these vast and important matters of disagreement, that "all is settled!" I tell you "nothing is settled!" I tell you, that if it be true that the majority of the Congress has adhered to these conditions, that the majority of the Belgians have not, and will not give their consent.

I tell you, that if the Congress has acquiesced for the moment, it is only because it expects to obtain Luxembourg, Limbourg, and the left bank of the Scheldt, by means of negociation; and that should it fail in obtaining that result, still war must be resorted to in order to compel the King of Holland to listen to the voice of justice and reason. I go further than even this, and say, that the election of the Prince Leopold is but conditional—that his continuance in Belgium, even supposing he should ascend the Throne, must depend on the result of his negociations with Holland; and that if Belgium is to remain deprived of Luxembourg and the left bank of the Scheldt as the result of her involuntary submission to this system of protocolling, that the Belgians will again rise—that those who made the revolution will again revolt, and that Belgium will never close her revolution until she shall obtain that territory to which she is entitled, upon the best and first of all principles, namely—the Sovereignty of the People. In Luxembourg and Limbourg, the inhabitants have as much revolted against the dynasty of Nassau as at Brussels and Ghent; and it is therefore no longer of use to attempt to re-establish the arbitrary Jesuits of 1790 or of 1815, but those provisions which are determined on forming part of the new State of Belgium, will so act and so defend their rights and will, that even the Austrian Ambassador will be compelled to yield his objections to the "dangerous doctrine" of popular Sovereignty. There is another of the Articles of this last and famous Protocol to which I cannot but refer. It is the ninth, which states that "the Five Powers do not intend to interfere in the interior government of Belgium."—This is a very necessary declaration after the late proceedings of the London Conference. It prohibited a Republic—prohibited a re-union to France—prohibited the election of the son of Beauharnois—and prohibited the acceptance of the Crown by the Duke of Nemours. The Prince Leopold is their own candidate. The Belgian Congress has adopted him, and that choice the Five Powers have approved. Yet this is all not to be designated as an interference in the interior Government of Belgium! and it is to go down, I suppose, to history as a fact, that this settlement of the Belgian is a national one, and will be durable and complete. In a few years time, and perhaps sooner than that, we shall find, however, that the settlement was momentary, and that Belgium will re-demand her re-union with France. In this discussion I have kept out of view the opinions and wishes of the French Nation. I have said nothing of the heart-burnings and jealousies which this "settlement!" creates among us; nor of that unpleasant feeling which it engenders towards British policy and British interests. I deeply regret this. Nothing which has occurred for months past has given me so much pain. The hearty and sincere union of France with Great Britain I most earnestly desire. They ought to act, think, and feel together; but to effect this desirable object, there must be mutual concessions and mutual sacrifices.—The formation of an English colony in Belgium is not, I submit, the best means to obtain this result; and it is, therefore, I lament that France and England have not endeavored to make some permanent and rational settlement of the Belgic question. In conclusion, I however, repeat, that M. Perier and his friend are wrong, and that all is not settled.

The news from Poland is not consoling or satisfactory. The forces of the Poles are necessarily divided, and for the want of arms a large proportion of the population cannot aid in the defence of their common country. Besides the want of guns, there is also a want of money. The Government has been obliged to require the prompt assistance of all classes, and gold and silver articles of wear and use, as well as money, have been applied for by the representatives