

were the first to welcome the birth of the Royal Mother, were pealing forth their joyous strains on the occasion of the birth of her illustrious daughter.

"Below the bridge the Thames presented a peculiarly gay and picturesque aspect. The shipping in the Pool and on each side of the river, from the Custom House down to Limehouse and Rotherhithe, were decked in their most gorgeous ensigns. The foreign vessels, of which there are so many now in port, seemed to vie with the British commercial marine in their homage to the royalty of the Queen of the Isles and her illustrious offspring. The various foreign steamers, as well as those of the river, sported their ensigns, flags, and streamers: whilst even the tiny craft of various clubs hauled up every inch of bunting they could muster, to make glad the bosom of old Father Thames. The brightness of the atmosphere materially contributed to enhance the variegated aspect of this exciting spectacle."

It is stated in the English papers that the PRINCESS ROYAL is to be christened ADELAIDE VICTORIA LOUISA, and the christening will be deferred until after the meeting of Parliament.

The length of time which we have had to include in our abstract this month has necessarily confined us to a bare epitome of leading facts, with which we have embodied the substance of various public documents, in order to form a record of principles avowed by the Government, as well as of facts. To these principles appeal can be made if necessary hereafter. In future, we shall be able to make this department of our work short and more interesting, by explaining the reasons and pointing out the effects of government measures as they transpire. The chief objections that have been made to the measures of the Government are answered in the first article of the present number; and it is matter of surprise that some of these objections were ever started at all, especially that which complains of Executive interference with the freedom of election. Ministers of the Crown in England are always candidates for seats in Parliament; yet the most ultra-radicals that ever lived never dreamed that their becoming candidates was an interference of the Executive with the elections. Even the Chartists never committed this absurdity. It was reserved for some sagacious spirits in Canada to make this sublime discovery. Doubtless they expect a place among the stars for it; but whether it will be among the fixed or falling stars we leave the public to determine.

The management of public business, in the Legislature by heads of departments differs from the kind of provincial ministry that was asked for by most of the advocates of responsible government, but the difference is more in appearance than reality. They would have made the *Executive Council* that ministry: but if the heads of departments are to manage public business in the Legislature, they must of necessity consult and advise with the Head of the Government respecting all that business, and thus they will be a managing council, whether they are all members of the Executive Council or not. It will be observed also, that the responsibility is still with the Head of the Government: because, as it is his policy which they have to execute, so he alone can be responsible for it. The Governor General stated in his reply to the Halifax address, that Her Majesty's Representative can "devolve the responsibility of his acts on no man, without danger to the connexion of the Colony with the Empire, and injury to the best interests of those whose welfare is committed to his care." As to his responsibility, if his policy does not obtain the support of a majority of the people's representatives, he must change it and his advisers together, except in the very few cases which have been specified in the first article.—Some persons entertain an idea that the head of the Government is merely the Queen's representative, but the fact that he is liable to impeachment for his conduct sufficiently disproves this notion. If he were merely Her Majesty's representative, he could no more be impeached than the Queen herself could be impeached.—His liability to impeachment proves that he is the Queen's Minister as well as Her representative. The opposite notion is necessary to those who would attach all responsibility to the Executive Council, but this has never been admitted by Her Majesty's Government.

The new position that Government officers will sustain in the Legislature will impose new duties upon them, and render them more effective public servants. It is probable that some public officer will sustain a position analogous to that of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in England, and on him will devolve, besides his present duties, the duty of providing the ways and means for each financial year, and of organizing and maintaining a regular system of finance throughout. How much this will aid