

his franchise as such, it is necessary that he should pay only two taxes—considered in fact a one. That is, the poor rate, including the borough rate, if any imposed under the Corp-rate Reform Act. The only impediment, therefore, in the way of voting for aldermen and town councillors, is the payment of one, or at the utmost, two taxes.

Now contrast this with the case of Dublin. No burgess can exercise his franchise in that city unless he has paid off no less than ten taxes at the least! and in some wards as many as fourteen! Thus in Liverpool, the Englishmen residing there exercise his franchise as a burgess upon the payment of one or two taxes, whereas, in Dublin, the Irishman residing there cannot exercise his franchise as a burgess without having paid at the least ten, and in some wards fourteen different taxes. And, what is yet worse, the majority of these taxes are, each of them, higher in amount than the English poor-rate or borough rate, or than both put together.

We now venture to ask, without losing our respect for this house, but with some disdain—how can any man assert that there is practically a union between the two countries, when such striking difference is made between the rights and privileges of the people of both countries?

The next grievance we complain of is this, that by the English reform act the Town Council has a just, proper and necessary supervision over the local courts in the borough. The Town Council have the appointment of their municipal and other officers, and the regulation of their fees and duties, whereas in Ireland the reformed Town Council are deprived of all right of supervision of the local courts, of the appointment of the register and other officers, and of any regulation of fees and duties; and all this authority is handed over to a single individual, distinguished for nothing but his unrelenting hostility to the rights and franchises of the great mass of his countrymen.— Surely no man will dare to say that, under such circumstances, there can be a political union between the two countries!

Another bitter grievance of which we complain, is this; to the town council in English boroughs is committed the regulation of the watching, lighting and general police of the town, to be exercised by them, or by committees of their appointment. They have power to elect constables for the preservation of the peace, and otherwise to discharge all duties in relation to that important jurisdiction. The levying and application of the funds for these purposes is also an important privilege enjoyed by the English Town Council. Of all these very important functions, the Irish Town Council are totally deprived. There is scarcely any domestic jurisdiction left for them! They are treated with contemptuous suspicion and disqualification.

We do solemnly assure your honorable house that or so branded them as slaves, that they should acquiesce without discontent and constitutional remonstrance on the indignities thus heaped and accumulated upon them. We respectfully insist that it is not wise or prudent (though the Irish are so loyal that it may be perfectly safe) to treat them with such outrageous injustice.

There is another indignity inflicted upon the people of Ireland. It is this; the Town Council in such boroughs in England as are counties in themselves, continue to possess that most ancient Saxon privilege of annually electing their own sheriffs, without the interference of the Crown, from the Irish Town Councils this privilege is totally taken away.

What we respectfully demand and pray for is, that this honorable house will, without the least delay, proceed to assimilate the Irish Municipal Reform Bill with that of England on this subject. We ask no more; we will never be content with less, either in this respect or any other.

And now, in language of perfect respect, we call upon this house to declare, that any statesman is, in truth and reality, a traitor to the crown and the constitution, who shall resist the placing of the people of Ireland on a perfect equality of political privileges and rights with the people of Great Britain.

It is, in the present state of public affairs, folly of the deepest dye, to leave the people of Ireland, suffering under the infliction of causes of just discontent and irritation—nay, it is a crime of the

blackest nature, to insist upon the continuance of a legislative union unqualified by identification of all municipal and constitutional rights, liberties and privileges.

May it therefore please this honorable house forthwith to assimilate the municipal corporation law of Ireland with that of England. And your petitioners will ever pray."

SINGULAR FATALITY.—It is stated in the *Picotaquis (N. J.) Herald* on the authority of a report from credited sources, that a mortal sickness is prevailing in the woods among the lumbermen on the Allagash, a branch of the St. John, and that sixteen dead bodies were hauled out of the woods at one time for interment. What the disorder is, is not stated—but by persons from there, says the *Herald*, it is stated that they were seized with a soreness of the throat, and an immediate swelling up, which ended in strangulation and death.

ANOTHER DREADFUL AFFAIR.—A frightful Railway accident occurred on the Great Western Line, near Liverpool, on the 23d Dec. The train, laden with three hundred oyster barrels, and 38 poor passengers was thrown off the track, near Reading. The engineer and conductor jumped off—but eight passengers were killed on the spot, and seventeen were dreadfully wounded!! The precaution was taken by the engineer, to shut off the steam before he sprang from his station on the locomotive. One old man arrived shortly after the accident, at the scene of distress, and was dreadfully overwhelmed in gazing on the mutilated corpse of his son, aged about nineteen.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT IN MANCHESTER.—Fifteen persons buried in the ruins of a fire!!—A terrible calamity has resulted from a fire at the premises of the Union Carrying Company, in Picadilly. It appears that 2000 bags of cotton, valued at sixteen thousand pounds sterling, were destroyed. The front of the building fell during the fire and the south wall, which was over 90 feet high, was carried over the Rochdale Canal on two stone arches, and presented an unbroken surface of 10,000 square feet. The excitement in the neighborhood was immense. The result exhibited fifteen persons crushed in the ruins!

FLEET OF STEAMERS—UNITED STATES. It is hinted by some parties in the city, to whom credit is due, that there is something more in the wind than meets the eye, in the simultaneous departure of the fleet of steamers destined to ply on the West India stations, in the conveyance of the mails, passengers, &c., to and from her Majesty's colonial possessions in the direction alluded to. Some significant inquiries have been made from head quarters as to the number of troops each of these fine steamships could accommodate, and the reply given is, we are informed, that with very little alteration each ship could convey 1,000 men. We do not believe that there will be any relaxation in the activity that now prevails in all the naval departments of the country; and if our information be correct, the destination of most of the vessels of war now getting ready for sea will be to the American station. These steamships may, we hear, be found in company with our men-of-war on the coasts of the

United States and we are told, should the American executive refuse to adjust the boundary question those gentle admonitors in upholding British rights and British honour, may use something unlike "soft persuasion," in compelling "Bratler Jonathan" to settle the account that has been so long standing between this country and America.—*London Observer.*

Account of the Capture of Amoy.—On Friday evening (Sept 15,) between 7 and 8, packets were landed in Macao from the schooner *Psyche*, containing letters from officers of the fleet detailing the attack on, and capture of, the forts, and city, and Citadel of Amoy, and of those on the neighboring islands. From various letters which we have heard read, and from others and extracts kindly furnished us, we are enabled to lay the following important intelligence before our readers.—*Canton Press.*

The English fleet, numbering with the h. comp's, armed steamers and transports about 34 sail, left Hong Kong bay on Saturday the 21st August. Sunday was calm, but on Monday night the whole fleet were well clear of the land, standing to the eastward in three divisions, the *Blenheim* leading the centre, the *Blonde* the star-board, and the *Druid* the larboard division; on Wednesday, the 25th, at noon, they were only 32 miles from the rendezvous, Chapel island, which is distant about 10 miles from the anchorage in Amoy harbor.

The *Blonde* and *Druid* led in her signal to show the soundings; the forts on the islands on both sides opened their fire on the leading ships, which was not returned; at 7 p. m. the whole fleet came to four miles off the town of Amoy.

At daylight on the 26th the signal was made to hoist out all the boats; and at 6 Sir W. Parker, Sir Hugh Gough, captain Smith of the *Druid*, and others, went in the *Phlegathon* to reconnoitre; the commanders in chief returned at 8 a. m., about which time an officer with a flag of truce arrived in the fleet.

At 9, the *beat*—never beaten in vain—to quarters rattled along the English decks. The firing continued for four hours, when the mariners and troops landed.

Canton 23 Sept.—A letter received at Macao, 12th instant, from Sir Henry Pottinger announces the capture of Amoy on the 26th Aug. with very little fighting and little loss. It was intended to leave a few ships and some troops at Amoy, while the main body of the expedition was to proceed farther northward, probably to Ningpo and Chusan, which place would, no doubt, be easily taken. We have no accounts from Peking, and nothing to show that the Emperor is more inclined to yield than before.

A Boat, called the *Maria*, bound from Macao to Whampoa, went ashore the latter part of September. A party of Chinese boarded the vessel, and wounded several of those on board. Fifteen persons were in the vessel. Eight of them had arrived at Whampoa, but it was feared the remaining seven had been murdered.

INFORMATION Wanted of Ellen and Mary Duggan, who landed at Quebec from the parish of Skol, Co. Cork, Ireland, about 8 years ago. They are supposed to be residing in Chicago. Their brothers, Daniel and Michael Duggan, living in Hamilton, Canada, would feel the greatest possible pleasure at learning any thing concerning their sisters.

Will American papers notice this? Hamilton, Feb. 9, 1842.

OF A CARD.—MR. HELY, *Portrait Painter*, begs leave to intimate to his Toronto friends, that he will have the honour of waiting upon them, in his professional capacity, in the course of two weeks Hamilton, Feb. 9, 1842.

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