The Weekly Mail.

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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

The Queen's Speech.

Foreign Relations—The Abyssinian War—The Ashantees in India—Russian and Servant.

LONDON, March 19.—Parliament was assembled today. The Queen's speech was read as follows:—

"*My Lords and Gentlemen:*

"I regret to your notice at the earlier period permitted by the adjournment of the Parliament from the illness of the Vice President of the Council.

"My foreign relations continue most friendly, and I shall not fail to exercise my influence arising from these cordial ties for the maintenance of peace in the interests of the faithful observance of international obligations.

"The marriage of my son to the only sister of Russian Emperor has taken place, and a period of friendship between two great nations.

"The Abyssinian war has terminated in the capture and destruction of the capital, and the negotiations which have been conducted by my forces, and which are now in a satisfactory state, will, I trust, lead to a more satisfactory adjustment of affairs. The bravery, courage, discipline, and endurance of my troops, and the energy and skill evinced in the conduct of the expedition, have brilliantly maintained under the most trying circumstances the honor and military fame of the British army.

"I deeply regret that drought has afflicted the more precious Provinces of the Indian Empire, and produced extensive scarcity, in some parts amounting to famine. I shall ever as area inhabited by many millions. I have directed that the Prince of Wales, India to spare no pains in entering to mitigate this terrible calamity.

"*Gentlemen of the House of Commons:*

"I have caused the estimates for the ensuing year to be prepared with the utmost care.

"*My Lords and Gentlemen:*

"The delay and expense attending the transfer of land in England have long been felt to be a reproach to the law. A poorly-drawn, ill-conceived bill, which I shall place before you, has been passed by the Commons, and I trust it may receive your speedy attention.

"The state of the judiciary and the blending of the administration of law and equity, which were affected in England by the enactment of last session, ought to be extended to Ireland. You will be asked to devote a part of your time to the accomplishment of this object. A greater part of these changes are inapplicable to the tribunals in Scotland, but you will be invited to constitute a most satisfactory mode of bringing the procedure of the Scottish appeals into harmony with recent legislation. Among other measures relating to Scottish interests, a bill amending the law relating to land rights, and for facilitating the transfer of land, will be laid before you.

"Serious differences have arisen, and demonstrations have been made by large classes of the community, as to the working of the present Act affecting the relationship between master and servant, and of the act of 1871, dealing with the rights of trade unions. The law of the land, and the law of conspiracy, on these subjects, are now under the consideration of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. Your attention will be directed to the subject, above all, to put down ball-playing and cock-fights.

"St. Leonards, who is the only living Ex-Lord Chancellor who has ever held the Great Seal successively in Ireland and England, attained his ninety-fourth birthday last month, and is in the full enjoyment of his faculties.

The *Courrier de Paris* states that when the Prince Imperial was born, endowment insurance to a large amount were effected on his life, and made payable at the age of eighteen. Consequently, on the 16th of March he will receive several millions of francs from the assurance companies.

How hard it is for a talking politician to be consistent may be gathered from the following criticism of M. Louis Blanc. Some, the lobby of the French National Assembly—First citizen to another: "You do not like citizen Louis Blanc?" "No." "But why?" "Because he is always in contradiction with himself." "You are positively wrong!" "No, for here is an example. He says that real workmen ought only to sleep for three hours, and his speeches last four."

The King of Bavaria, who, as is well known is very fond of music and the ballet, and a constant attendant at the theatres, took a cure armed soldier in Munich, and entered into conversation with him. The soldier answered abruptly, but apologized when he found whom he was addressing. "How was it," asked the monarch, "that you did not know me?" "How could I, asked the one-armed hero, "when you were to the army, and I never go to the theatre."

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The sentence and despatch with which quaaks finish their unfortunate patients is illustrated by a case which has been taken from a French court. A poor woman, a resto in a French village, being somewhat indisposed as to intellect, her family applied to a quack for advice, and received instructions to administer cold shower-baths. This apparently barbarous prescription was carried out in a very remarkable manner. They put the patient in a tree, and her husband, climbing up into it with a large watering-pot from his garden, calmly and conscientiously drenched his poor wife with its icy contents. The consequence of this performance, which took place in open day close to the high road from Paris to Toulouse, was the death next day of the thoroughly chilled patient.

A piece of armour-plating, fourteen inches in thickness, representing the side armour of the sea-going monitor Fury, building at Pembroke, has been tested with satisfactory results at Portsmouth, England. The plate was a part of a plate selected by the Admiralty Improved Armor, 1,000 tons, which was manufactured at the Atlas Works, Sheffield, under contract with the Admiralty, as side armour for the Fury. The plate was tested in the usual manner, being bolted on to the face of an immensely strong attached ship timber target, and fired at with a Palliser-chilled shot from a seven-inch muzzle-loading rifle gun with thirty pounds of pebble powder, thirty feet being the distance between the plate and the muzzle of the gun. Five overlapping shots were planted in the form of a square extending over four superficial feet. The greatest penetration was nine inches.

According to the *Imperial*, steps have been taken to organize a Spanish society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, the chief aim, above all, to put down bull-fights and cock-fights.

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R. A. REEVE, M. D., OCULIST and Aurist, 31 Sherbourne street, corner of Wellington, Toronto.

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TO TRAPPERS. — SEND $1.00 to the subscriber and get printed receipts for tanning all the fur-bearing animals, by the use of which he has made $40 in two weeks while teaching school. R. E. HAMILTON, Seaward, P.O.

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Hamilton, Feb. 20, 1874.

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THE WEEKLY MAIL

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THE WEEKLY MAIL can form an advantageous medium through which to reach the public, circulating from every Post Office and prominent point in Ontario, and largely in the adjacent Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Rupert's Land, and the Northwest Territories. In an attention to the Commercial interest of the country, the Weekly Mail has been established and calculated to unduly influence in the employment of the Government patronage, but to give to the public the news of the week, and to be a reliable and trustworthy medium of communication between the Government and the people. In connection with the Weekly Mail is a well-equipped Job Printing Office, and all kinds of Job Printing executed at reasonable rates.

THE WEEKLY MAIL and Advertisements will be received at the Office, corner of King and Bay streets, Toronto, by G. BANCROFT, Manager.

AMERICAN.

A Kentucky belcher gives away a chromo with every ten pounds of meat.

Chicago merchants say that insanity among negroes, which used to be very rare, is increasingly frequent since the war.

The Boston *Advertiser* did state:

"What a great Commonwealth our Province of Massachusetts is!"

"Farewell, Gussie—you have driven me to the brink, you have made Tom Lamb, of Alabama, four years ago, and left the note on the river bank. He was arrested in Cincinnati the other day, living with another wife."

"Do quarrel about the kind of religion that shall be taught to children in public schools, has extended to Minnesota, and the Catholics of that State have passed a bill providing that science shall be admitted to the religious faith of their parents.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

"I have caused the estimates for the ensuing year to be prepared with the utmost care in view of the historic association. They are beautifully bound in morocco, and have made of wood taken from the wreck of the celebrated steam ram Albemarle, which was built in the Roanoke River, and which was carried by a crack Boston sealer into the Charles River, and left on the rock, which was cut and widened by the energy of the loyal people of Boston, to which of the advance of the guns.

"The Chairman regretted that he had worked the bill which was referred to in the last Queen's speech, and the Chairman regretted that the bill was not passed in the last session, and the Chairman regretted that the bill was not passed in the last session, and the Chairman regretted that the bill was not passed in the last session