

# The Weekly Observer.

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## THE WEEKLY OBSERVER.

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### Weekly Almanack.

APRIL—1833.	SUN	MOON	FULL	
Rises.	Sets.	Rises.	Sets.	
10 WEDNESDAY	5 29	6 31	1 19	2 54
11 THURSDAY	5 27	6 33	1 11	3 48
12 FRIDAY	5 25	6 35	1 57	4 54
13 SATURDAY	5 23	6 37	2 37	6 8
14 SUNDAY	5 22	6 38	3 12	7 22
15 MONDAY	5 21	6 39	3 43	8 20
16 TUESDAY	5 20	6 41	4 11	9 2

Last Quarter 11th day, 7h. 28m. evening.

### MARKS OF NEW-BORN CHILDREN.

HEAVY GILBERT, Esq. PRESIDENT.

Discount Day ... THURSDAY.

Hours of business from 10 to 3.

Notes for Discount must be lodged with the Cashier before 3 o'clock on TUESDAY.

### MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

JOHN WARD, JR. Esq. PRESIDENT.

Committee for April.

W. BARTON, C. CALVERTLEY, B. WIGGINS, W. JARVIS.

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Office in Mr. BAAO'S building in King-street, corner of Cross-street.

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D. JOADAN, Esq. CASHIER.

### THE GARLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE OBSERVER.

Sir.—The debate at the late Session, on the LOCAL LONDON NEGRO BOUNTY, was one of the most lively of the whole Session, both with the Members, and in the lobby. Being one of the latter, and having partaken of some part of the animation, I have ventured the subject; and now if you will give it publicity, you will perhaps amuse many of your readers, and oblige yours, &c.

Daughter of History, fair fame,  
Who art ever wont to trace the deeds  
Of ancient times, (those of renown)  
To future generations, O lend thine aid,  
While my feeble muse shall faintly scan,  
A recent triumph, by a single warrior gained,  
Against a host of five-fold pow'rs combin'd.

The onset first began, Loch Lomond Negroes!  
Was the cause of war. Provincial spoils,  
With lavish hand, had been too bestow'd  
On worthless Sons of Africa's barren soil,  
Inured to idleness and growing sloth,  
By lavish bounty, hardly gained,  
Tara's white man's industry and toil.

Up rose the single combatant, the white  
Man's friend, (nor yet the Negro's foe,  
Whose dire disease, age, or infirmity,  
Call'd loud for help.) At length he vindicates the  
White man's cause; and, with all of  
To place him on the level, with the man  
Of colour, in every case of age, disease, or wo.

Strongly he urg'd the stern necessity,  
At least to equalize the Province Bounties.  
The Irish Emigrant, tho' squatted here and there  
In the vast wilderness, at his inclement time,  
With Wife and Bairns, thro' pining hunger press'd,  
A shivering cold, affording no relief,  
The least claim possess'd. For pining want  
And shivering cold, was not with him,  
The just reward of sloth, or inactivity.

Thus urg'd the single warrior in the contest dire,  
When strong arguments fill'd the opposing view.  
Up rose their leader, well inured to war,  
Who stoutly charg'd the venerable Sage,  
With ignorance, and unbecom'ing views.

Next came to onset, he, whose magic powers,  
Could make even paper speak unutterable things;  
But here, his voice, tho' loud and sonorous, shut  
But pointless arrows, most of which  
Fell short; and those that took effect, 'st  
Their whole force, at slightest touch.

The single hero stood and heard unhurt,  
Their loud artillery; and declared,  
That he could still maintain his ground,  
Altho' his colleagues should, with sulph'rons heat,  
Attack him on both sides, or all at once.  
Nor did he flinch, while all around  
The gazing warriors, saw, th' unequal strife,  
Enjoy'd the scene, and ready stood, to lend  
Auxiliary force, when such should be requir'd.

Long was the contest eagerly pursued,  
Fierce, and more fierce, the onset and array;  
And now the victory betwixt to ensue, (wont)  
The corps, as yet reserved, (as they were always  
Must be call'd up. Rouse, said the man  
Of pen and ink, to his confederates, and give  
Our cause, your best support, or we  
Shall fail; up, from your seats, your energies,  
As well as your corporeal powers, employ,  
And let us hear him down by massy weight,  
For how can it be possible or right  
For him, alone, to weigh against our bodies five?

But now the stores of war became defunct,  
The Province Clock fast verging on  
To that delightful hour—"four."  
At which the war worn heroes oft were heard  
For quarters! quarters! cry.—  
The auxiliary force now made their first advance  
With volleys three, to silence rest the host.  
And lo! the champion in the matchless strife,  
Victoriously from off the battle field.

### MISCELLANEA.

#### PARENTAL CRUELTY.

On Monday a strange story was related at the public office in Bow-street, and which has told very effectively with the crowds of idlers, who have found attraction in it to draw them in the morning and keep them till night every day since, opposite a house in Maiden-lane.

Elizabeth Hunter, aged 20, was brought before Sir F. Ross, to complain of the cruelty with which her parents had treated her. The girl was discovered on Saturday evening, huddled up in a corner of the yard of No. 6, Maiden-lane, with an old piece of green bawse wrapped around her shoulders, and her appearance was filthy and wretched in the extreme. She stated to the persons who found her in that state that she had escaped across the adjoining wall, to avoid a beat-

ing from her mother who lived in the next house, and who had also threatened to tie her up in the kitchen. Hunter and his wife were placed in front of the bar, and a second daughter, whose dress and appearance differed widely from that of the persecuted sister, formed line with them.

In reply to the magistrate, the girl said that she was 20 years of age, and daughter of John Hunter, now present, who kept a cheese-monger's shop at No. 8, Maiden-lane, where her mother, brother, and sister also resided. On Saturday evening last, at seven o'clock, she escaped from the house by scaling the yard wall, in consequence of having been beaten by her mother for taking food from a cupboard because she was hungry. The scratches on her face and neck were the marks of her mother's nails. She sometimes went without food, and her mother was daily in the habit of beating her. She was afraid to complain, and indeed had no opportunity of making her situation known, as she had not been permitted to leave the house since last September twelve months, when she was allowed to go to church with her grandfather, who came to town for a few days. She was made to do all the drudgery and hard work in the house, while her sister was required to do the light work only.—For the last five months she had been locked up in the back kitchen, and was never allowed to be seen by any stranger, nor suffered to leave the house of her father's shop, which she was required to perform her daily drudgery. Her bed was composed of a piece of sack, and her only covering was a thin piece of bawse. There were some young men hid in the house, but she never saw them, and whenever she went to clean out the shop, some one was always with her to prevent her escaping into the street. She was never permitted on any occasion to take a meal or associate with the rest of the family, and the reason which her mother gave for beating her was, that she did not do the work to her liking, although she always did her best. She had suffered this usage for three years.

Mrs. Morgan, a neighbour of Hunter's, swore that she had frequently heard the neighbours complain of the cruel manner in which the girl now present was treated. About three months ago she spoke to the mother on the subject, and expressed surprise that she never saw Hetsy about the house. The mother replied that she had gone into the country for a holiday. Witness had frequently heard the sound of blows accompanied by cries proceeding from Hunter's house. On one occasion she saw the girl in a miserable plight, gnawing a bone which she had picked up in the back yard. She spoke to her sister respecting her, but the answer she received was, to trouble her head about her own business.

Mary Wing had lived two years next door. In August last she saw the poor girl, now present, washing some butter cloths in the back yard. She was dressed just as she now appeared, and she seemed quite neglected and deserted. Witness felt for the situation of the girl, and remonstrated with her mother respecting her cruel treatment. From that time until the present, she never saw the girl by any chance. Hunter declared, that, to his knowledge, the girl experienced no ill-usage whatever. He had kept her at a good school until she was fifteen years of age, and wished to bring her up in a moral and religious manner, but her habits were always ill, and they grew worse as she got older, until at last she would steal almost every thing she laid her hands on.

Mrs. Hunter said she did not sleep well, and had had a great deal of trouble since she was married. She gave her five or six little "swishes" with it across the neck and shoulders because she answered her in a saucy manner. She denied, in general terms, the charge of cruelty, and said that she never beat the girl except for her own misdeeds.

Hunter was bound over to £100 securities to appear when called on, and the girl was sent to the work-house to be taken care of.

On Monday the house was besieged, and the windows broken with stones and mud. The assistance of the police was sought and at once granted, and several constables were sent down, and, to prevent further mischief, caused the shop to be closed. After the shutters were put up, however, mud was thrown, and the front of the house was plastered. The mob, by the indulgence in mischief, grew of course more riotous. The parties appeared at their doors and were pelleted to the upper rooms. In the evening, young Hunter appeared and was attacked by the crowd, and only saved by the police from a fate worse than that which his sister had endured. The disgraceful wantonness of mob law is yet more abominable than individual tyranny. Why should these wretches be persecuted rather than punished? Surely the legal power is strong enough.

Next day at noon, Hunter made his appearance, to beg protection from the police. The moment he stepped from the threshold he was recognized, and a scene of almost indescribable confusion and uproar followed. He was buffeted and huzled by the crowd, and with difficulty made his way through, and when he had done so, was followed to the station-house by at least 300 persons, amidst the most deafening yells. At the corner of the Piazza, Covent-garden, he was assaulted with some violence, his hat being knocked off, and he was pushed with much force against the wall. He at length got to the station-house in Bow-street, where he was immediately placed in an inner room, and a posse of constables stationed at the door, or the mob would unquestionably have endeavoured to force an entrance. In a short time Hunter was let out at a private door, and escaped unobserved by the crowd. An additional force of police was sent to the house, and remained there during the day.—*London Atlas.*

*From the Rev. Sydney Smith's Discourse "for the Blind."*  
The object of the Society for which I am now to implore your protection, is to diminish the misfortune of blindness, by giving to those afflicted with it the means of obtaining support by their ingenuity and labor, and of walking in the law of Christ, by attending to the religious instructions and exercises prescribed by this institution. They are instructed in a variety of works for which manual skill is requisite, rather than manual labor, and which they perform with a dexterity astonishing to those who have connected with blindness the notion of absolute helplessness and inequity. A charitable institution conducted upon such principles as the Asylum for the Blind, is superior to any common charity, as it interweaves science with compassion; and by showing how far the other senses are capable of improvement, takes off from the extent of human calamity all that adds to the limits of human knowledge. Who could have imagined, to speak of a kindred instance of ingenious benevolence, that the deaf and dumb could be taught to reason, to speak, and to become acquainted with all the terms and intricate laws of a language; or that men, who never from their earliest infancy enjoyed the privilege of sight, could be taught to read and to write, to print books, and the abject of them to penetrate into all the depths of mathematical learning? Such facts afford inexhaustible encouragement to men engaged in the benevolent task of instructing those in whom the ordinary inlets of knowledge are blocked up. They seem to place within our reach the miracles of those scriptures from whence they have sprung, and to show the fervent votary of Christ that he, also, like his great

master, can make the deaf hear, the dumb speak, and the blind see. Consider the deplorable union of indigence and blindness, and what miser of life it is from which you are rescuing these unhappy people; the blind man comes out in the morning season to cry aloud for his food; when he has longer the feet of men, he knows that it is night and gets him back to the silence and famine of night. Active poverty distinguishes the work of the soul have risen up to be strong; but he is forever blind and ever forsaken. The man who comes back to his native city, after years of absence, beholds upon the same extended hand into which he cast his alms; the self-same spot, the old attitude of sadness, the ancient cry of sorrow, the intolerable sight of human being, that

found old in supplicating a charitable support for a helpless, mutilated frame. Such is the life these unfortunates, children would lead, if they no friends to appeal to your compassion. Behold the evils we will continue to remedy, if the experience from you that compassion their magnitude so amply deserves. The author of the book of Ecclesiastes has told us, that the light is sweet; that it is a pleasant thing for the eyes to behold the sun. The sense of sight is, indeed, the highest bodily privilege, the purest physical pleasure, which man has derived from his Creator.—*The Spectator.*

It is a singular fact, that the blind man who has finished his journey through the nations, and has returned to his native country, is often found to be more sensible of the value of the light, than the native-born; for the latter, being used to the light, is not so much affected by its absence, as the former, who has been used to the darkness. The blind man, when he first sees the light, is often found to be more sensible of its value, than the native-born; for the latter, being used to the light, is not so much affected by its absence, as the former, who has been used to the darkness. The blind man, when he first sees the light, is often found to be more sensible of its value, than the native-born; for the latter, being used to the light, is not so much affected by its absence, as the former, who has been used to the darkness.

**IRELAND BEFORE AND AFTER 1720.**—The exports from Ireland to Great Britain amounted, according to Sir Charles Whitworth's work, to £2,307,722; whilst in one year, 1829, the amount of goods and live stock exported from the port of Waterford alone, according to evidence given before the Irish committee, was £2,136,934. In 1801, the aggregate official value of the exports of the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom from Ireland was £3,550,000; whilst in 1823 it had increased to £8,500,000. Since 1824, in eggs alone, there have been exported from Dublin only, to the value of £273,000, distributable among the poorer classes.

**INVENTORS OF FALSE NEWS.**—The Russian Government has recently published a list of regulations for the Exchange of St. Petersburg, amongst which we find the following:—"All inventors of false news shall be liable, for the first offence, to a penalty of 500 rubles; for the second, 1000 rubles; and for the third, shall be excluded from the Exchange for twelve months. Those who may sustain losses in consequence of such false news shall have a right to recover the amount from the inventor."—"When the product of fines shall amount to the sum of 10,000 rubles, the committee shall be allowed to apply the interest of the capital towards the relief of distressed traders, critics, messengers, and notaries of the Port of St. Petersburg."—*Goltsyn's Messenger.*

**ORIGIN OF DISEASE.**—I tell honestly what I think in the case of complicated maladies of the human race; it is their germinating and stuffing, and stimulating those organs (the digestive) in an excess, thereby producing nervous disorder and irritation. The state of the mind is another grand cause, the fidgeting and discontenting myself about what cannot be helped; passions of all kinds, malignant passions and worldly cares pressing upon the mind, disturb the cerebral action, and do a great deal of harm.—*Abracynth.*

**WALLED-UP ALIVE.**—Apparatus has lately been constructed in Brompton church for the purpose of walling it with hot air; and it is customary, in order to guard against accidents by fire, a wall was built round the furnace. The man employed in the structure, which is formed of bricks and Roman cement, continued steadily at his work by the light of a candle, until it was completed last Saturday, and it was "built in" ever an unhappy martyr in the days of persecution, that he was working within the circle instead of out. His first impulse was to pull out the last few bricks, and thus make himself a place of exit; but it was now too late, the cement had already hardened, and defied all his efforts to undo what he had once done. In this distressing dilemma he remained for a considerable time, calling in vain for help. His pitiable situation was at length discovered by one of the churchwardens and the sexton, who, after considerable difficulty, succeeded in extricating him from his imprisonment.

**MUNICH.**—The university of Munich at present contains 1,636 students, of whom 1,466 are natives of Bavaria, and 190 foreigners. Among the latter are two Brazilians, thirteen Greeks, seven Moldavians, and one native of Cape-town.

**COLLAPSE OF THE LUNGS.**—Some young children, when they cry, are apt to suffer a collapse of the lungs, in the language of the parents, "hold their breath." This occasions great alarm to parents, and is a real evil, for it is sometimes with difficulty that the breath can be recovered. The following is an easy and certain remedy: close the nostrils of the child with the thumb and finger, then put your mouth to the child's mouth and blow smartly; the lungs will be inflated, and the music will recommence in a moment.

**BUFFETING THE SPEAKER.**—The march of intellect has completely annihilated this ancient parliamentary frolic. Formerly, after the Speaker of the House of Commons had been elected, he declined the honour, being unworthy of the dignity conferred upon him, &c., when a posse of Whigs and Tories assailed him by ... and hats, and actually drove or buffeted him into the chair, against his pretended disinclination. What a figure would the boisterous member for Pontefract have cut in this buffeting cloquence!

**DUKEDOM.**—The dignity of Duke was introduced into England in 1336, when Edward III. created his eldest son, Edward, commonly called the Black Prince, Duke of Cornwall.

**AN ACTUAL FACT.**—A man down Jersey, talking of the number of wives to which he had been married, was asked by a person present, "How many wives have you had?" "Well, I believe four or five," said he, "hanging to count them over;" "there was Polly and Peggy, Sally and Dorothy;" and here he made a kind of halt, during which intermission, a neighbor present said, "there's another, Molly; you forgot her." The man of many wives clapped his hand on his forehead, and musing for some time, said, in a tone inimitable, "Well, I believe it is so; I think I did have one with such a name, but it seems all like a dream. (A pause.) Yes, you're right! I remember now, she was a poor sickly thing, and didn't live more than a year or two; 'tis very strange that I should forget Molly, but it's quite natural; so many things happen in one's life, that it's plaguy hard to keep an account of 'em all."

**PAGANINI.**—This distinguished musician has just been created a Baron and Commander of Westphalia; the title is to be hereditary, descending to his male heirs.—*Le Nouvelliste.*

**IRISH PARLIAMENT.**—In the debate on the leather tax, 1793, in the Irish House of Commons, the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir John P.) observed, with great emphasis, "that, in the prosecution of the present war, every man ought to give his last guinea to protect the remainder." Mr. Vandeleur said, "that however that might be, the tax on leather would be severely felt by the barefooted peasantry of Ireland." To which Sir John Roche replied, "that this could be easily remedied by making the under-leathers of wood."

**PERSECUTION FOR CONSCIENCE'S SAKE.**—Conscience is not controllable by human laws, nor amenable to human tribunals. Persecution, or attempts to force conscience, make hypocrites or martyrs. There never was a single instance, from the Saxon times down to our own, in which a man was ever punished for erroneous opinions concerning rites or modes of worship, but upon some positive law. The common law of England, which is only common reason or usage, knows of no persecution for mere opinions. For atheism, blasphemy, and reviling the Christian religion, there have been instances of persons prosecuted and punished upon the common law; but here non-conformity is no sin by the common law; and all positive laws, inflicting any pains or penalties for non-conformity to the established rites and modes, are repealed by the act of toleration; and Dissenters are rarely exempted from all ecclesiastical censures.—*Lord Mansfield, in the case of Evans and the Churchwardens of London, in the year 1762.*

"In trouble to be troubled,  
Is to have your trouble doubled."

### SUMMARY.

Extracted from late English Papers.

We stated last week that the King's speech would not satisfy the expectations of the country. The result has verified the anticipation. The speech is illusive and indeterminate. It neither explains the past, nor explicitly declares the future; and is only positive on points which are sure to provoke unpopularity. Under ordinary circumstances, it might not be a great mischief in a King's speech that it evaded the wishes of the people; but in the present temper, perhaps, it is the greatest. The popular demands are loud and distinct; the minister cannot escape them by a subtlety; and it would have been wiser to have met them even with a reluctant consent to take them into consideration, than with an affectation that would seem to be ignorant of their existence.

Much was expected from the minister, and all reasonable men felt that expectation of the benefit to be conferred had out-run the means of accomplishment. The minister has contrived to enhance the disappointment even beyond the fears of his most timid allies. The reference to the state of our foreign relations is mere verbiage. We are told that our interference in the affairs of Portugal is carried no farther than the protection of the British residents, while it is notorious that the Virgin flag has been disgraced with impunity in the Douro; and we are assured, with unexampled simplicity, that the negotiations with Holland have been resumed—a fact which proves, beyond all doubt, the extravagant extent to which we have suffered ourselves to be duped.

The Bank and East India monopolies are alluded to in a spirit of mystification. It would be quite impossible to derive from the expressions of the speech, a single inference either way as to the intentions of his Majesty's ministers. They have most carefully avoided all the responsibilities of language, as they most probably desire to avoid the responsibility of action.

A wish to reconcile the clergy to the laity, is avowed, and attention is directed to the present distribution of church revenues; but a sinister and equivocal warning for the security of the church established by law, accompanies the recommendation to modify, and paralyse it.

The state of Ireland commands the largest share of commentary, and there the minister is felicitous. He calls for additional powers to quell the disturbances which have been generated by misgovernment, and, without promising a solitary remedy for the manifold evils that afflict that country, he declares his determination to preserve and strengthen its union with England. If any one fact in domestic politics be more manifest than another, it is, that the insubordination of the Irish is caused by the wrongs to which they are subjected. It is right and proper to vindicate the authority of the laws and the dignity of the executive, but it is preposterous to assert the supremacy of laws that are admitted to be injurious, and to uphold the executive at the moment of confession and repentance. Unless the minister accompany his coercive vindication of the present state of things by measures of immediate relief, contradictory however such a proceeding may appear, he must attempt the salvation of Ireland, in vain. The people have been too long pained with one hand and struck with the other, to endure any further experiments of that sort. It will not do, even in a King's speech, which ordinarily passes for very little, to blow hot and cold.

On the whole, the speech is extremely slippery. You cannot seize upon any part of it, and say, "The minister means to do so or so." It is an admirable specimen of Cabinet duplicity, and may be referred to in future days as a choice example of that description.

of logic which is said to leave you in the end precisely where it took you up in the beginning.—*Atlas.*

The 7th and 4th regiments of Dragon Guards, and two infantry regiments, have been ordered to Ireland.

The Irish will be glad—Protestant and Catholic alike—to hear that it is not improbable Mr. Stanley may soon cease to perplex and misgovern them. He is a very dangerous and precipitate legislator; and although a brilliant young man, prompt and rapid in debate, of a warm temperament, and considerable talents, is about one of the most unfit youths in these kingdoms to be entrusted with the delicate charge of the affairs of that unsettled country. It is said that he will very soon be relieved of the burthen of office.

**THE BALLOT VOTED BY THE BALLOT.**—It is supposed that if the question of ballot or no ballot were to be the subject of a ballot among the constituencies of the metropolis, that the ballot would be black-balled. It would be a good test of the state of the public mind on the question to announce a ballot all over the kingdom, to be made by electors only. How strange if the majority should vote by ballot against the vote by ballot; how important to ascertain the number of the minority if the question were carried.

**POLITICS, COMMON SENSE, AND HUMANITY.**—While we pay in Great Britain about eight millions a year in postage, to support men, women, and children, for whom work cannot be found, thousands of little children, at an age when they should not be tasked to any thing but the learning of their spelling-book and catechism, are compelled, by means brutally cruel, to toil fifteen hours a day!

We learn that an envoy extraordinary from the Shah of Persia is daily expected to arrive in London charged with an important mission by his royal master. Apartments at one of the principal hotels at the west end have been engaged for the accommodation of the Oriental envoy. We recollect a minister from the Court of Teheran being here in 1819, accompanied by a fair Circassian, whose eminent personal charms occasioned much interest in the fashionable world.

**Headed Gall.**—The effects of a respected clergyman, who lately departed this life in the parish of St. Sidwell's, and who from his frugal habits, was supposed to be possessed of such superfluous wealth, having been examined last week, in several of the drawers a quantity of hard cash was found, which took two learned gentlemen of the law, belonging to this city, with their assistants, about five hours to count, when it was discovered to amount to upwards of £50,000. A wheelbarrow was provided, and a powerful driver procured to transport the treasure to one of our banks. It is said that one of the servants has been left £500.—*Exeter Gazette.*

**Explosion of a Powder Mill at Dartford.**—A dreadful explosion took place on the 23rd January, at the powder works near Dartford, by which eight persons and two horses lost their lives. The premises extend over nearly one hundred acres, but the explosion was confined to about three, which were literally covered with tiles, bricks, immense pieces of timber, corn from the granary, and other fragments. There are fifteen pair of mill-stones, each pair weighing ten tons, and, incredible as it may appear, eleven pair of them were blown to atoms; the dwelling-house of Mr. Wilks has not a window or pane left whole in it, and the house is literally shaken to the very base. The clothes of the unfortunate sufferers were lying in all directions, torn completely in ribbons. It appears to be beyond doubt that the explosion began at the packing room, and from thence communicated to the other parts of the premises.—*Coroner's Verdict, Accidental death.*

**ELECTIONS.**—In 1729 the estates near Birmingham now possessed by Lord Calthorpe were purchased by his ancestor for £23,000. In 1743 they were offered by the immediate successor of this purchaser to Mr. Taylor for £21,000, and refused.—They now produce an annual income of that amount.

A letter from Paris says, that in that city an immense project is spoken of; it relates to the Rue Louis-Philippe, which was projected under Napoleon, and then called the Rue Imperiale. A large and beautiful place will be laid out before the superb colonnade of the Louvre. In the midst of this place will open a large street leading down to the Barriere du Trone—that is, a length of about five English miles. The expense would be about 50,000,000 francs.

Paris is said to be very gay, and for the following reasons:—"A compact majority; the Dutchess of Berri a prisoner; the expedition to Antwerp terminated; the elections completed, and so favourable; the admirable conduct of our troops; the brilliancy which our capital has again recovered; the activity of our manufactures; the low price of corn; these are the grounds of confidence and rejoicing.

**MILITARY.**—Staff, 243; infantry, 89,280; cavalry, 7,820; artillery, 3,440; pontoon brigade, 137; engineers, 1,091; total effective, 104,019—invalide, depots, hospital staff, and agents, workmen, and artillery of civic guards, 110,000. Grand total, 213,019.—*United Service Journal.*

### HOUSE OF COMMONS, February 8.

**THE QUAKER MEMBER.**—Among the persons who appeared at the table to be sworn was Mr. Joseph Pease, member for South Durham. The honorable gentleman wore his hat.—The speaker then rose and said—"I am informed by the clerk, that there is a member at the table who objects to take the usual oath. I beg to know whether it is so or not?"—Mr. Pease—"I beg to be allowed to make an affirmation to the same effect."—Mr. Speaker—"I am merely discharging my duty when I refuse to allow such affirmation to be made without the sanction of the House. Not only are the privileges of the House concerned, and a question of law involved, but even the personal interests of the honorable gentleman are deeply at stake, unless the House should itself put a different construction upon the words of the act than is at present the received one. The case will be taken up by the House, and I have no doubt it will construe the law most liberally; in the mean time, I am sure the honorable gentleman will excuse me for requesting him to retire until the House decides upon the question."—Mr. Pease then bowed himself and retired.—Lord Althorpe immediately moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to search the journals of the House, and report to the House such precedents and acts, or parts of acts of Parliament, as related to the right of the people called Quakers, to take their seats in Parliament, and to the privilege conferred on them of making a solemn affirmation in courts of justice and other places, where by law, oaths were authorized and required to be taken." (His lordship observed, that it was not likely an individual member could have consulted all the acts upon this subject. One of them was entitled, "An act to prevent the undue exaction of Tolls or Fees on the River Thames, and to prevent the spreading of Disease among Horned Cattle."—Mr. Warburton and the Solicitor-General thought the motion should include reports of all cases decided by the judges on this point.—Mr. Baring thought they ought to know what part of the oath the hon. member refused.—Dr. Lushington said, that Mr. Pease only objected to the form of the oath. He would make an affirmation to any word it contained.—An hon. member hoped Mr. Pease would be admitted before the electors of South Durham could hear of his rejection. A committee was appointed.)