

his throne of glory, while adoring cherubim and seraphim bow in reverential awe before that throne; and at his feet, nearest his throne, and nearest to his heart, his own dear people shall cast their blood-bought crown, and cry with a loud voice, saying: "Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain, to receive honour, and glory, and blessing, and praise, and power, for ever and ever; Halleluia! Amen!"—*Hugh White.*

"THEY DRANK OF THE ROCK."—This is not a transient supply. The stream from Horébat in the wilderness constantly. Neither a burning sun nor a thirsty soil could dry it up, nor distance nor time lessen it. During eight and thirty years it followed Israel in all their wanderings. At Kadesh, indeed, it failed; why, we know not.—But the miracle was again renewed, and the people still "drank of the rock that followed them," till they entered Canaan. Thus constant in its communication is the grace of Christ. It is lasting as it is abundant. It took its rise in the eternal ages that are gone; it entered the world as soon as sin had made a way for it; it has ever since been flowing on like a mighty river, widening and deepening as it goes, and it will flow on as long as there is a mourner to be comforted, or a sinner to be cleansed. No drought can exhaust, nor cold arrest it. In eternity the stream of grace shall not be lost; it will be seen in heaven a pure river of life, "making glad the city of our God," a sea of salvation, an ocean of blessedness.—*Bradley.*

## THE TRAVELLER.

### MOUNT SINAI.

The following is extracted from a letter written by President Durbin to Bishop Waugh, and dated Summit of Mount Sinai, 4 o'clock Sabbath afternoon, February, 5, 1843:—

"I have stood upon the Alps, in the middle of July, and looked around upon the snowy empire; I have stood upon the Appenines, and looked abroad upon the plains of beautiful, eventful Italy; I have stood upon the Albanian mount, and beheld the scene of the *Aeneid* from the Circæan promontory, over the Campagna; to the eternal city and mountains of Tivoli; I have sat down upon the pyramids of Egypt, and cast my eyes over the sacred city of Heliopolis, the land of Goshen, the fields of Jewish bondage, and the ancient Memphis, where Moes and Aaron, on the part of God and his people, contended with Pharaoh and his servants, the death of whose first born of man and beast in one night, filled the land with wailing; but I have never set my feet on any spot from whence was visible so much stern, gloomy grandeur, heightened by the silence and solitude that reigned around; but infinitely more heightened by the awful and sacred associations of the first great revelation in form from God to man. I feel oppressed with the spirit that breathes around me, and seems to inhabit this holy place. I shall never sit down upon the summit of Sinai again, and look upon the silent and empty plains at its feet; but I shall go down a better man, and aim so to live as to escape the terrible thunders at the last day, which once reverberated through these mountains, but have long since given way to the gospel of peace. I can scarcely tear myself away from the hallowed summit, and I wish I too could linger here forty days in converse with the Lord."

SINGULAR ELECTRICAL PHENOMENON.—An English traveller through the Alps of Savoy, whose work is recently published, thus describes certain remarkable sounds caused by electricity.

The atmosphere was very turbid, the ground was covered with half melted snow, and some hail began to fall. We were, perhaps, 1,500 feet below the Col, or still about 2,000 above the sea, when I noticed a curious sound, which seemed to proceed from the Alpine pole with which I was walking. I asked the guide next me whether he heard it, and what he thought it was. The members of that fraternity are very hard pushed, indeed, when they have not an answer ready for any emergency. He therefore replied with great coolness, that the rustling of the stick no doubt proceeded from a worm eating the wood in the interior! This answer did not appear to me to

be satisfactory, and I therefore applied the experimentum crucis of reversing the stick, so that the point was now uppermost. The worm was already at the other end; I next held my hand above my head, and my fingers yielded a fizzing sound. There could be but one explanation; we were so near a thunder cloud as to be highly electrified by induction. I soon perceived that all the angular stones were hissing round us, like points near a powerful electrical machine. I told my companions of our situation, and begged Dumatter to lower his umbrella, which he had now resumed, and hoisted against the hail shower, and whose gay brass point was likely to become the paratonnerre of the party. The words were scarcely out of my mouth when a clap of thunder, accompanied by lightning, justified my precaution.

EFFECTS OF PERPETUAL DAY.—Nothing made so deep an impression upon our senses as the change of alternate day and night, to which we had been habituated from our infancy, to the continued day-light, to which we were subjected as soon as we crossed the arctic circle. Where the ground is but little trodden, even trifles are interesting; and I do not, therefore, hesitate to describe the feelings with which we regarded this change. The novelty, it must be admitted, was very agreeable, and the advantage of constant daylight in an unexplored and naturally boisterous sea, was too great to allow us even to wish for a return of the alterations above alluded to; but the reluctance we felt to quit the deck when the sun was shining bright upon our sails, and retire to our cabins to sleep, often deprive us of many hours of necessary rest; and when we returned to the deck to keep our night watch, if it may be so called, and still found the sun gliding the sky, it seemed as if the day would never finish.—What, therefore, at first promised to be so gratifying, soon threatened to become extremely irksome, and would, indeed, have been a serious inconvenience, had we not followed the example of the feathery tribe, which we daily observed winging their way to roost with clock-work regularity, and retired to our cabins at the proper hour, where, shutting out the rays of the sun, we obtained that repose which the exercise of our duties required. At first sight it will no doubt appear to many persons that constant daylight must be a valuable acquisition in every country; but a little reflection will, I think, be sufficient to show that the reverse is really the case, and to satisfy a thinking mind, that we cannot over-rate the blessing we derive from the wholesome alternation of labour and rest, which is, in a manner, forced upon us by the succession of day and night. It is impossible, by removing to a high latitude, to witness the difficulty there is in the regulation of time, the proneness that is felt by the indefatigable and zealous to rivet themselves to their occupations, and by the indolent and procrastinating to postpone their duties, without being truly thankful for that all-wise and merciful provision with which nature has endowed the more habitable portions of the globe.—*Captain Beechey's Narrative.*

## CIVIL INTELLIGENCE.

### PROVINCE OF CANADA.

#### OPENING OF THE PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

Our limits will not admit of our inserting the speech delivered by His Excellency Sir Charles T. Metcalfe on the opening of the third session of the First Parliament of the Province of Canada; but we gladly avail ourselves of the remarks of the *Montreal Transcript*, which we fully agree with:—

"His Excellency's speech on the opening of Parliament is, to our minds, a manly, sensible, straightforward document—written without any attempt at effect, and embodying all that it was important that a speech of this nature should embody. That which particularly distinguishes it, in its practical character, and its freedom from everything like political chicanery. The subjects which are referred to are the most important that could be introduced. The enumeration of the laws which are to be laid before the Legislature [viz. the improvement of the system of Judicature in Lower Canada, of the Municipal Institutions, the laws relating to Education, and the Jury System of both divisions of the United Province, and

of the Assessment laws in Upper Canada,] will satisfy the country that the session is not intended to be spent in useless cabal; but that good results may be looked for from its labours. The allusion to the Eastern Townships is calculated to give the highest satisfaction to that part of the country, since it is an admission that the complaints those townships have long urged are not ill-founded, and it leads to the rational hope that some remedy will be attempted.

The remarks which are made in respect to the present state of our prisons, and of the necessity which exists for the establishment of a Lunatic Asylum, are also important. It is, in fact, in respect to what are sometimes considered minor matters, that the country requires relief. For years and years public attention has been called to the state of the prisons, and yet little or nothing has been done to make them better. The reference, therefore, which is made to this subject by Sir Charles Metcalfe, will give general satisfaction.

It has been observed that no allusion has been made in the speech to the several important questions about which a great deal of interest is felt at the present moment. Three, in particular, are mentioned—Registration, Feudal Tenure, and the Seat of Government. We are not disposed, however, to cavil at this, and we would much rather that Sir Charles Metcalfe should honestly tell us what we are to expect, than that we should be cheated into a belief on matters which are not so near at hand. In respect to the Registration Ordinance, however, we still insist that no further delay ought to take place. That measure is absolutely necessary for the welfare of the country, and every interest will suffer so long as it is withheld.

As to the Seat of Government, we think Sir Charles Metcalfe acted wisely in making no allusion to it. Already the question is one which threatens to occasion the most serious uneasiness to the country, and to be a thorn in the side of the Government. His Excellency has, therefore, acted with his accustomed good sense in leaving it to the action of the Legislature, whose decision must be binding on all parties.

In conclusion, we can but echo the prayer of His Excellency, that Parliament will set to work in good earnest, and that the numerous and important questions which will come before it, will be the great end and sole object of its labours."

### LATEST EUROPEAN NEWS.

The following is the substance of the most important news brought out by the last arrival: which we have condensed from contemporary journals:—

Parliament was prorogued on the 24th August, by Her Majesty in person. The most important items in the speech are: the riots in Wales, the Scotch Church bill, and the Irish Repeal agitation. All attempts to carry the latter measure must now be regarded as futile, if we may judge from Her Majesty's speech, in which she declares her "firm determination to maintain inviolate that great bond of connection between the two countries."

The Queen and Prince Albert had visited the chateau of the King of the French, at Eu in Normandy; they were received by the Royal Family of France with marked distinction, and entertained with great splendour. May we not hope that this well-timed visit of our beloved Sovereign may tend to prevent a collision between those two distinguished nations, and to perpetuate peace and harmony between them.

Louis Philippe and his family had a providential escape from being dashed to pieces while taking an airing in the vicinity of Eu. While crossing a bridge three of the horses were frightened by a discharge of artillery; and had not the traces of the fourth horse been cut in time, the whole must have inevitably perished.

Espartero, the ex-regent of Spain, had arrived in London, and was presented to Her Majesty.

In Ireland the Repeal agitation increases; the rent for the week amounted to £1,380. The Royal Association have published their plan for the restoration of the Irish Parliament; it proposes in strong language to uphold upon the throne of Ireland her Majesty Queen Victoria; to preserve the Irish House of Lords as it existed before 1800; to insist on the res-