

value of 9s. shillings since the beginning of last month, and of 18s. since the commencement of February. Capitalists and others, who have hitherto lent their money upon commercial bills, refrain now from such a course, and prefer having less interest or approved securities than a more advantageous return where they are liable to serious loss and uneasiness. India Bonds have likewise advanced considerably from the same cause. They were marked to-day at 34s. premium, being a rise of 20s. since the beginning of the year.

O'CONNELL AND THE WORKING CLASSES.

(From the London Mercury.)

O'Connell is a great man, so far as influence in England is concerned. He has fallen never to rise again—and no man ever more nobly merited such a fall. But eighteen short months ago, O'Connell might have been all powerful for honest objects. He then enjoyed opportunities of doing good such as have rarely fallen to the lot of a human being. All those opportunities he missed. He now looks with the fumes of vanity; and he has based himself by acts of a merely ostentatious meanness, cowardice, opposition, and treachery. May all talents be to the interests of the masses of mankind, and the law which has already, in part, overruled him!

O'Connell's coming, however, has not dejected him, and he would fain recover, if possible, the ground which he has lost. At Dublin he has thought fit to speak of the English labouring classes in the following terms:

"The prospect becomes still brighter when I turn to England. There the progress of liberal opinions amongst the operative classes has been much greater than could have been anticipated. They have suffered much injustice. It is said that property ought to be represented. There is one species of property that has certainly a paramount claim in that respect, and that is the property which the labourer has in his bone and sinew. (Hear and cheers.) If a man has a house worth ten pounds a year, and lives in idleness, he can exercise the franchise; whereas the operative, who has a property in his labour, is denied the privilege. That is unjust. It has accordingly excited a feeling of discontent and of inquiry amongst the operative classes, which is rapidly spreading throughout England. According as political information is diffusing itself among them, they are casting aside their former prejudices, and their sympathies are aroused in favour of Ireland. There is, to be sure, amongst them a little jealousy as to who should be leader; but this will wear away; the good workman has always found his energies better directed by having over him a skilful engineer. (Cheers) They will find that the advice of persons of political experience should be listened to. They are now looking for universal suffrage. (Cheers.) I am delighted at that. I once thought that the reform bill was sufficiently extensive—I now find that is not."

The English radicals entertain, at the present moment, all the political views which they did six months ago. Yet then, they were, according to O'Connell, "enemies to Ireland." At that time, they were "playing the game of the Tories"—they were "Tory-Radicals," in short. Now, according to the same variegated personage, they are "making rapid progress in liberal opinions," and in love for Ireland!

Mr O'Connell is, moreover, a convert now to the necessity of universal suffrage. Formerly, he thought the reform bill "sufficiently extensive!" Yes! the honest gentleman venerated the reform bill during the whole period when he could have served the labouring classes in their struggle for universal suffrage;—now, when his dishonesty has been followed by the forfeiture of his influence, he is content to give up the reform bill, as "insufficient!"

Mr O'Connell had better reserve his cunning for another market. He devoted his strength to the service of the whigs. Let the whigs turn his weakness and his disgraces to the best account they can. The English radicals know him not. He is not of them. They trusted him once, as few men have been trusted. He betrayed them most basely. He will never have the opportunity of betraying them again!

LORD DURHAM'S SCHEMES.

(From the Newcastle Journal.)

It is now some months ago that we had occasion to draw the attention of the public to a scheme then on foot for entrapping the Princess Victoria into a marriage with one of the young sprouts of the Cobourg breed. It will be remembered that to favor the project, a lot of these people were imported last year from the miserable village and dreary swamps of Cobourg, consisting of the elder brother of him that was Prince Leopold, and of the Duchess of Kent, styled Duke of Cobourg, with his two sons, called prince, attended by a competent allowance of that genus denominated barons, which swarm in the court of every paltry German prince who is blessed with a hundred sub-

jects. The beautiful, innocent, and illustrious princess, heirress of the noblest crown and destined to reign over the first empire of the world, was to be seduced into engagements with one of these two round-faced young gentlemen, with the mighty privilege, it is believed, however, of choosing between the two. In order to carry on operations with greater security and convenience the gentry who came a-courting were invited, and actually took up their quarters in Kensington Palace—under the same roof with the princess. Such things may be *en regle* for aught we know, in Cobourg or Germany, where the people are said to be not over nice; but what would be said here of any decent tradesman even, to say nothing of higher folks, who should invite and allow the suitor, at the very first moment, to take up his lodgings in the same house and the next room to the daughter or relative who was to be wooed? Even this was not all, however. His majesty the king, who is exceedingly attached to the young princess, his niece, is in the habit of inviting and having her at Windsor Castle during the festivities of Ascot races, which she was wont to enjoy in company with their majesties. But last season the princess was not permitted to accept the customary invitation and join in amusements so natural and so pleasing at her age. No. She was detained at Kensington, in order to entertain and contribute to the amusement of this couple of sprigs of royalty from Cobourg. Only to think for one moment of the princess of the blood royal of England occupied in a manner so befitting her high station!

The affair met with little countenance in any quarter out of Kensington palace. The nation was not sunk so low as to accept a husband of Sir John Conroy's dictation, and so the plot, without being abandoned, was postponed. The two princes were dispatched to Paris, to learn quadrilles and galopades, and polish off their rusticity, where we presume they are yet under the care of the *matre de danse* and the *friseur*. But ever and anon some small feelers make their appearance in the Belgian papers, under the disinterested superintendance, doubtless, of Leopold, the King of Belgium, announcing that negotiations are in progress for the marriage of the Princess Victoria with one of the Cobourgs, or that the match is agreed upon, but put off until the princess shall be of age. Latterly, however, as these did not take with the sovereign or the higher powers here, whilst with the press generally they were scouted with well merited disgust, coming Sir John Conroy has changed, not his object but his tactics. In concert agreement with our neighbour, no less amiable than kind-hearted, now abroad, it has been announced that Lord Durham is forthwith to return from Russia and place himself at the head of the separate establishment about to be formed for the princess, now that she is attaining her majority. Now, under this hint a design much more deep is sought to be concealed than what the conspirators choose to avow. Lord Durham, for anything we know, might prove as able to regulate the household of the young princess as anybody else. He might be a scare-crow and terror to her servants, as he is to his own. He may possess just talent sufficient to qualify him for a lord of the bed-chamber, as once he was judged admirably designed for a groom of the stables. But Sir John and My Lord look somewhat higher. His lordship covets the household only as the path to the premiership, and Sir John means the household for himself with a peerage when that event and one more have taken place; as thus, Lord Durham was the personal friend of Prince Leopold, and therefore the convenient tool of the Cobourg people. He has some influence with the radicals, and once controller or chamberlain of the princess's establishment, he might, through this double interest, succeed in manoeuvring the sacrifice of the future queen to one of the fortune hunting Cobourgs. By this he ensures the gratitude of the Duchess of Kent, herself a Cobourg, and aunt to the young gentleman. When in the natural order of things her illustrious daughter shall succeed to the throne, the sway which the mother and husband may naturally be supposed to possess over the young queen, is of course to be exercised in rewarding the match-maker, by making him prime minister—in exalting the convenient Sir John Conroy—and in swelling the stature of the dowager duchess, perhaps to the dimensions of that of a queen consequently to that of a queen consort. The King of Belgium may also perhaps perhaps have an eye to the resumption of his £50,000 a year. The scheme is no doubt a very pretty scheme, and ingeniously concocted.

After disposing of these preliminaries, may we presume to enquire how the Lord of Lambton means to remain premier when once placed? It is notorious that none of his old colleagues will serve *under*, when all and each of them have before refused to serve *with* him. But for that—but for a temper intolerable to all, and by none sufferable—he had been, so far as office and salary, a minister still. So glaringly inconsistent was he in principle and conduct—so insolent of speech—so violent in demeanour that the cabinet councils whilst he sat at

them were the constant scenes of the most violent outpourings of a bilious temperament. So much so, indeed, that on one occasion of these ungovernable displays, Lord Palmerston, who was the object, appealed to the noble chief and president of the assembled cabinet, then Earl Grey, against his own relative; and the once haughty Earl Grey, then old, unnerved, broken in spirit, stung with shame, but powerless to restrain, fairly laid down his head on the cabinet table, covered his face with his hands, and wept. If the whig-radicals will neither serve with nor under Lord Durham, where and how he can make a ministry? The radicals cannot give him a majority, even if they could supply materials for a cabinet, which they cannot. They are even more scantily furnished than their whig-radical allies with statesmen. But were it otherwise: were Messrs Molesworth, Grote, Wakley, Hume and Reibuck really the stuff of which statesmen are made, how long would they endure, even for the sake of the pay, which to some of them is a necessity, the insulting freaks and capricious tyranny of the Earl of Durham? The patience of Job himself would be insufficient under the infliction of a scourge worse than all the plagues of Egypt. The scheme, therefore, as we said, is a very pretty scheme; but my lord carries that about him that has spoiled many, and will mar any scheme, however neatly arranged. Sir John must look elsewhere, or he will find that he has carried the eggs, which have cost him so much pains to hatch to a miserable market.

**BILL FOR THE REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.**—We are authorized to state, (says the *Salopian Journal*), that a clergyman, having been in correspondence with the Registrar-General, has received the following information: In sending notices to the Registrar that he has buried a person whose friends have neglected to register his decease, the expense of the messenger is to fall on the clergyman. The clergyman is permitted to deliver the same notice through the post-office, but in that event he is to transmit it free of expense to the registrar. Thus, the clergyman is to pay a nulet of the postage, or the expense of a messenger, because the friends of the deceased have neglected a duty imposed on them by the act; and that under any fine not exceeding ten pounds, for the recovery of which, by information, there is no limitation in point of time.

**DEATH OF THE EX-KING OF SWEDEN.**—The ex-King of Sweden, Gustavus IV., known for many years past under the name of Colonel Gustavson, expired suddenly on the 7th instant, at eight in the morning, in the town of St. Gall. Gustavus was born on the 1st of November, 1778. Though unlearned, he succeeded to his unfortunate father, Gustavus III., under the guardianship of his uncle, the Duke of Sudermania. On becoming of age on the 1st November, 1793 he assumed the reins of government, and married on the 31st of October, 1797, the late Queen Frederica Dorothea, Princess of Baden, the daughter of Prince Charles Lewis. Later he was crowned at Nonkoping. After various calamitous events, both to him and his kingdom, he abdicated on the 29th of March, 1809, and on leaving Sweden, lived since November, 1813 under the title of the Duke of Holstein Gottorp, and subsequently as Gustavus Adolphus Gustavson, alternately in Germany, the Netherlands, and Switzerland, the three last years at St. Gall. He has died of a disease in the chest.

THE BLUNDERING MINISTRY.

(From the Dublin Evening Packet.)

From the first moment of their entering upon office down to the present time, the whole career of the Melbourne cabinet has been one continued series of impotent attempts and stupid blunders. In most of their clumsy efforts at legislation they have totally failed, and in many others the superior wisdom and controul of the House of Lords has saved the country from the mischiefs which their measures, if unmodified and uncorrected, would inevitably have produced. A blunder, if it be a fine, bold, dashing one, has some redeeming qualities. It evinces at least a noble rashness, which is not unfrequently the concomitant of a lofty mind. In the wildest and maddest freak of Don Quixote, when he mistook a windmill for a castle, or a barber's basin for a helmet, we cannot fail in some degree to admire his enthusiasm, although we may feel a pity for the weakness of his judgment. But that species of poor, miserable, creeping, blundering of a Polonius or a Marplot, which proceeds tediously and slowly, "like a wounded snake, dragging its slow length along," has nothing in it to save it from unqualified contempt. Great men may err, but then their faults are easily forgiven. When little minds commit blunders, they must expect to meet with deserved censure and reprobation.

Now, as to the blunders of the present ministry—cheer up, reader, we do not intend to enumerate them all. We might be able to do so—"Si centum linguæ sint oraque

centum." However, at present we only allude to their blunders on the church-rate bill. The chancellor of the exchequer, it will be remembered, introduced this measure, when he brought forward a string of arithmetical calculations, proving, as in the Irish appropriation scheme, that by some jugglery and management a surplus might be squeezed out of the church property in England, as an equivalent for church rates. "Good," as the grave-digger in *Hamlet* would say. This seemed very well. The ministry counted upon a majority of fifty or sixty at least. Well, Sir Robert Peel examined the calculations, found them in most instances to be incorrect, and in a most clear and powerful manner proved their fallacy to the House of Commons. The members, no doubt, wondered that such things should be, and to the majority was dwindled down to twenty-three—just by one less than the number of Irish Catholics who voted on the question. Well, what will the ministry do? It is now reported that they intend to give up their own measure and resort to the one which Lord Althorp brought forward in 31. Need we say more upon the point? What words can adequately expose the wretched empiricism of these audacious mountebanks, who have been from time to time dealing out their tentative nostrums, ready as soon as one fails to have recourse to another.

**"AN AWKWARD AVOWAL.**—In the House of Commons last night Mr Goulbourn taxed Lord Howick with having shamefully delayed the introduction of the estimates.—The simple Lord in reply said—"the right hon. gentleman ought to remember that ministers were at the mercy of other members." He alluded, of course, to Mr O'Connell and the tail. The great O was in the House, and gave his wig an additional pull when he heard the avowal from the son of the man he had so foully slandered.—*London letter in the Dublin Mail.*

It is very currently reported this afternoon, that ministers have determined on sending out to the north of Spain an additional body of marines for the purpose of affording greater assistance to the constitutional cause. Some of the officers attached to the marines at present on shore at Woolwich and Chatham have, it is stated, received orders to prepare immediately to proceed to Spain. It is further mentioned that a portion of the marines who have been stationed in the Tagus are desirous to join those who have been operating with the British Legion up to a late hour this evening no additional particulars came in from St. Sebastian. The next despatches are expected to bring information of a movement by Sarsfield upon Tolosa. Espartaco was also to have moved upon Bergara. Fears are certainly entertained that as soon as intelligence shall have reached the Spanish generals of the retreat of General Evans, they will show little disposition to move against the enemy.

**WRIT OF RIGHT.**—At the Devon Assize, on Friday se'night, four knights—Sir John Dunze, baronet, Sir John Duckworth, baronet, Sir Robert Newman, baronet, and Sir Warwick Hele Tonkin, knight—being summoned by virtue of a warrant from the sheriff of the county, appeared in court, each *girt with a sword*, to be sworn, in accordance with the ancient ceremony. It is more than half a century since this curious law procedure, which is the last resource for the recovery of real estate, has taken place in the county of Devon; and it may never occur again in England, as the original statute is repealed, excepting in cases where suits have been previously pending. The names of the parties in the present case, are, Henry Richards, demandant, and Lewis Gidley, tenant, the property in dispute being situated in Cysthydon. The form of proceeding was as follows:—The counsel moved that the four knights be sworn, after which they retired to select 20 jurymen from the special jury lists, who are termed recognitors; the knights then returned into court, and present 12 out of the 20 who had been elected by them at the present assize to constitute a jury for the next summer assize; which jury will include the four knights, and will be denominated "The Grand Assize." The attendance of the whole of the knights (*milites gladio cincti*) is indispensably necessary at the approaching trial, as the absence of one would render all the trouble and expense incurred useless.

A late decree of the Texas congress has declared that the national seal of the republic shall be of circular shape, bearing a single star, with the letters "Republic of Texas." The national flag to be denominated the "National Standard of Texas," with azure ground, and a large golden star in the centre; and lastly, that the national flag for the naval service of the republic of Texas, as adopted by the President at Harrisburg, on the 9th day of April, 1836, the confirmation of which is union, blue star central, thirteen stripes prolonged alternate red and white, be, and the same is hereby ratified and confirmed, and adopted as the future national flag, for the naval service of the republic of Texas.

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