

Spirit of the English Press.

A perusal of the English papers will reward the most indifferent observer of European politics. The papers contain a great many articles on the question of English Reform, to which, however, it is barely necessary to allude here. On all sides it is conceded that while the Government has lost by the amendments to the Bill, the Liberals have not gained that "full measure of liberty" they had a right to expect from the professions of certain members of their party when called latly before their constituents to express their views on the rating franchise; and the action of the Administration in permitting the Reformers to gather in Hyde Park in opposition to the order of Mr Walpole, the Home Secretary, has called forth lively expressions of condemnation from its own party organs and a cry of exultation from the Liberal papers. The meeting was held in absolute contravention of a law of the land. Mr Bradlaugh, the new President of the Reformers, actually threatened violent resistance to any attempt that might be made to prevent the meeting, and the Government receded at the eleventh hour from its position; Mr Walpole resigned and the Reformers entered the Park, held their meeting and retired at their leisure. The "Wooden Walls of England," so celebrated in song and prose, are fast passing away. The Spectator says: "The Admiralty have just sold to Messrs Castle and Beec, the well known ship breakers, whose wood everybody in London burns, the Colossus, Collingwood, Orion and Cressy ships of the line; the Imperieuse, Buryalus, Termagant, Arrogant, Chesapeake and Leander, frigates, 24,305 tons of shipping built in Government dockyards, for \$68,000. We are not learned in shipping, but surely this is a most extravagant bargain. Have Messrs Castle and Beec bought the ships as they stand, copper bolts and all, or only the wood? Mr Corry will hear more of this business than we will like, that is quite certain, and we recommend him, for his own sake, when he next sells ships, to do it by auction, in London, and after considerable advertising, £3 15s. a ton for oak and copper!" Mr Disraeli's Bill for the better prevention of bribery and corruption has been laid before Parliament. The Economist says that the bribing candidate, once convicted, loses his seat and is disqualified for election for a period of five years; a second conviction disqualifies him for life. The Economist supports a stronger measure. Referring to Mr Bright's Return speech at Birmingham, the Globe remarks that Mr Bright sets himself to flog the Reformers; lane with his customary vehemence. He attributes the progress of Reform mainly to the riot in Hyde Park, and he advises a renewal of the organized agitation. He wants more peaceable riots, and more orderly conflicts with the police; and, above all, he counsels the working classes to meet in bodies of "50,000, 100,000, or 150,000," and parade up and down the Westend streets, in order to make themselves as disagreeable as possible to all the better classes. He repeats to them Mr Beales' exhortation to make themselves a "nuisance." Such is Mr Bright's programme. But the failure of the open air demonstration yesterday at Birmingham ought to teach him that even the working classes are getting sick of such proceedings, and now that a fair Reform Bill is offered to them, do not feel disposed to reject that bill merely for the sake of putting the Liberals into office again." The Times, speaking of the same meeting, says that "Mr Bright's whole method of analysing the Government scheme of Reform is, essentially vicious, and the comparison he institutes between it and Mr Gladstone's rival plan is accordingly quite untrustworthy." The Day (a new London daily of much vigor) thus refers to the proposed Synod of the Anglican Church, at Lambeth Palace, which Bishop Hills of this Colony has been summoned to attend. "Dr Lee of Manchester has expressed a hope that the proposed synod will not attempt to do more than deliberate. The doctor does not mean to take part in the business." What, asks the Day, have the bishops to bestir themselves about? "Is the Church in danger? Certainly not, if we may believe its leaders and teachers. We cannot read an account of any clerical meeting without being told, in stereotyped phrase, "that the Church was never more completely rooted in the heart of the people than it is now." Is the episcopal order in any peril? So far from it, that the only question seems to be, How shall we get more bishops, and where shall we send them when they are obtained?

It would appear that there is abundance for every prelate to do in his own diocese, and nothing, or next to nothing, at Lambeth. How many of the 100 bishops to assemble will be able to advise us as to the peculiar wants of our own community? The African bishops may tell us what is good for the Cape, or for Natal—although they seem to be by no means agreed upon that. The American bishops may have strong views on slavery and the right of negro voting, but how can they advise as to the difficulties of our overgrown parishes? How, in short, can a body—the majority of which is placed under circumstances widely different from our own—advise us for their credit and our own benefit? The Army Purchase System has come in for a fair share of criticism, and is generally condemned. The adoption of a new system is advocated, but a motion to effect a change, brought forward in the House of Commons by Mr Trevelyan, was lost. Some of the papers openly aver that "officers of the army are engaged daily in the illicit and clandestine transactions of buying and selling commissions at prices far above those that are legal." The gentleman who "liquidated the affairs of the Agra Bank charged a whopping fee for his services—a fee which, from its roundness, would make some of our colonial lawyers stare. The Spectator says he "collected £4,000,000 owing to them, paid their clerks in London, settled with creditors, and generally put affairs straight. He made no bargain, but when the Bank was reopened—a measure he, according to the chairman, opposed—he demanded £25,000. The Directors thought the claim exorbitant, and referred him to Chancery, and he has appealed to that Court and to the public. The verdict of the latter will be, we think, against him. If Mr Cannan did anything an able Bank manager could not do, he should have fixed his price beforehand, not, then the sum is too much for less than one year's work as a bank manager, for that, and nothing else, is what a bank liquidator really is. He has extra hard-worked, and ought to claim ends. If he does not like those terms, he should make a strict bargain beforehand, leaving those concerned to find some one who does." The Times and the News grow eloquent in a discussion of the late successful Volunteer Review, which this year was held at Dover, instead of at Brighton. The Times says "the review is described as perfectly successful. The weather, though not quite favorable, was nothing that soldiers should care about, and, of course, was not allowed to interfere with the progress of the manoeuvres. Saturday was as bad as could be, and the prophets of evil naturally asserted that on Monday all the rain of the preceding days would be cutdone. The event dissipated these sombre predictions. A pouring rain would not have stopped the fight, but it would have damped its spirit by driving away the spectators, at least those of the fairer sex. But the day was favorable, and the spectators were sufficiently rewarded for any danger of a wetting too, had a character of novelty about them. The old castle was attacked by an enemy supposed to have landed Deal, and defended successfully by its garrison. The squadron from which the enemy was supposed to have disembarked stood in and engaged the Castle, and the thunder of heavy artillery was added to the usual sounds of a land battle. We congratulate the volunteers on having added one more to the list of their successes." The Advertiser cannot "refrain from contrasting such an exhibition with the state of things which we see in neighboring countries, and congratulating ourselves on the spontaneity with which our army of citizens has sprung into efficient existence without costing the country annually the price of a single ship of war. This is not only a blessing which comes to us as one of the results of commercial prosperity, or even of love of country. Men may love their country well enough, yet not feel disposed to give up their leisure time to go through the tedious monotony of drill, and submit themselves to the will of superiors in order that they may one day have the chance of being shot down as the reward of virtue."

Central School Examination.

The half yearly examination at the Central (Free) School, boys' department, came morning till half-past three in the afternoon. The scholars were of less numerous than last year, 51 pupils (many of them older scholars) having left both the school and the colony since midsummer last, so that the present list only numbers 63, and that diversified. Nevertheless the general progress was considered upon the whole as satisfactory and indeed superior to that of last year. Such was the opinion not only of the Superintendent of Instruction, but of the gentlemen who took a part in the examination. The answers in some branches were very good, such as grammar, geography, history and arithmetic, especially in the higher classes; and the monthly written examinations, which have been adopted in the school for some time and which all of them undergo the scrutiny of the Superintendent, were, some of them, declared to be remarkable. We were also glad to observe that the outside attendance was more numerous than usual; probably on account of the precarious position of the public schools. There were many mothers and ladies present, and were marked among the male visitors the Rev Mr Somerville and Mr C B Young, who both took an active part in the examinations, besides Rev Dr Evans and Mr Browning and many other gentlemen, who gave a passing visit. The Governor had been invited, but was unable to attend on account of his visit to Leech River.

Supreme Court.

MONDAY, July 1, 1867. Hathaway & Titus vs. Corporation of Victoria.—Mr Bishop, attorney for plaintiffs, made application for further time, to move on the points of law in this case. Mr Bishop the learned counsel who appeared in the case, and who had declined to move the point at all. The Chief Justice, in granting an extension of time, for any motion to be made in the case, drew the attention of Mr Bishop to the points which had to be argued, namely, the absence of the Corporation seal from the contract, the absence of the signature of the Mayor, and the fact of there being no such contract on behalf of the Corporation, and the absence of any ratification of the contract under seal. The Chief Justice added, that he thought it desirable that the law on these points should be argued and ventilated for the satisfaction of the parties, although his present opinion was against the plaintiff on the law. On the consent of Mr Sebright Green, the attorney for defendants, the time was extended till Monday next, the 8th inst., with leave to apply for new trial or to enter verdict for plaintiffs.

The Hudson Bay Company.

The Hudson Bay Company.—The New York Times says, "It is not probable that the Hudson Bay Company will long survive the establishment of a united government of the British provinces on the Atlantic coast. The majority of the settlers under British rule on the Pacific coast should either link their former allegiance to the United States, (and one or other of these results, the Company's days are at no distant date,) or the Company's days are numbered. They are not perhaps a great obstacle in the path of civilization; but their removal from the old hunting-grounds, both east and west of the Rocky Mountains, demanded—first, by the more active class of settlers bordering on the territory; next, by the more ambitious provinces which have led the way toward confederation. So the great association of fur-traders are to be bought out, if they are possessed of any rights which are to be maintained as of right, or they have no such rights, and are voluntarily to retire. The prospective overthrow of this great old concern brings to mind the undisturbed fact which might possibly serve as an example for them when they are finally gone; next towards the Indians, a policy of kindness of any serious kind have arisen between the Company's agents and the native chiefs. At such points as Edmonton, Fort Pitt, Carleton Place, Rocky Mountain House and Rainy Lake, where the Indians have so long been in the habit of coming to trade, the bargains struck, if generally less favorable to them than to the Company, as a rule gave material satisfaction. And the provision made by the latter for furnishing religious instruction to their converts, has always been liberal. Will this state of things continue to prevail under a new protectorate?"

Young Ladies' Academy.

Young Ladies' Academy.—The classes in Miss Fa'west's Academy were yesterday examined in the presence of their parents and friends. The Rev Mr Grubell conducted the examination of the junior classes, the Rev Mr Somerville the senior classes, and Dr Tolmie the class in geography. The various classes, six in number, acquitted themselves well, manifesting the carefulness of the teacher and their own diligence during the past year, those in grammar, music and geography being especially commendable, and an essay composed by Miss Henrietta Dorman on Napoleon was pronounced a model for beauty of penmanship and good sense displayed. At the close of the proceedings, Mr Somerville said that Miss Fa'west acted on the principle that knowledge itself was the best prize for diligence, and that gifts, which were not to be taken as distinctions of merit. He had also much pleasure in observing that the school, without seeking eleemosynary aid from the public or pretending to monopolize the Christian element of education, maintained its efficiency and popularity. He asked the parents to encourage the teacher, who always took a most lively interest in her pupils, and counselled the young to keep far from the ways of evil and to maintain the principles of truth and industry by which they were now characterized.

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FURS AND SKINS.

We have been kindly favored with the following Circular, published in New York by Adolph Muller: Having received the news of the late sales in Europe, we inform you of the change in the price of the different kinds of Furs. Beavers are 25 per cent lower. Fisher are 36 per cent higher and in good demand. Silver Fox are about 10 to 15 per cent higher, while Cross, Red and White Fox are fully 20 per cent lower; the great quantity of Red Fox offered for sale caused the decline. Marten are full 15 per cent lower. Dark selected skins are scarce, and pale ones plenty and very low. Mink are about 10 per cent lower—same as the Marten; the prime dark are only wanted. Sea Otter are about the same; this article has declined considerably during the last two or three years, and now a very large lot has been thrown into the market by the Russian Company, hence the decline. Land Otter, best, prime, dark skins, very little lower; second or poor, 10 per cent lower. Raccoon are very low for the European market, but can be used here. Fur Seal are very high, and in good demand; are fully 50 per cent higher as an average price than for ten years, and no doubt a great decline will take place before long. Beaver are much lower, full 60 per cent, than last year. Raw Deer skins are in fair demand, at about the prices ruled before the war. Indian dressed skins, as there is a surplus in the market for domestic use, can only be shipped at low prices. Wolf, Wolverine, Grey Fox, Wildcat, Linx, Badger—These articles can all be sold here, and are all in demand at fair prices, without the influence of the European market.

THE FIRE ON DEADMAN'S ISLAND.

The fire on Deadman's Island—The fire of Sunday evening on Deadman's Island destroyed the Indian graves and remains. The Island has been used as a burial place for the Sanguish or Flathead Indians for many years. The dead were placed in boxes or square coffins and left above the ground to decay. All the "big" men of the tribe, the *Hayas tyhees* and their wives—were sent to the island for their last sleep. Carved images, intended to represent departed chiefs, generally appeared at the side of the boxes. The boxes were covered with blankets, and occasionally a few blankets, were deposited by the side of the cove, in the belief that the right of possession did not cease with death, and that the more the deceased was encumbered with this world's goods when he departed for the happy hunting-grounds, the more acceptable he would prove to the Great Spirit. All the relics and mementoes were destroyed on Sunday. The torch of some of the Sanguish incendiary fired the shrubbery that covered the island, and the fire-flend sent forth his tongues in every direction. The flames raged all Sunday, destroying nearly every consumable object on the island, and a foling rest like what is worn in England at evening parties. His hair is black, with a lofty tuft surmounting a good forehead. He formerly wore a large black beard, which he has shaved off since his arrest, leaving an imperial and moustache. His complexion is rather sallow, his features regular and handsome. His voice is agreeable, but betrays a Limerick brogue, modified by an American accent. He is a native of Limerick, during the American rebellion, and travelled the United States, on Fenian business, with Stephens, Hapline and others.

FROM BOB BEND.

FROM BOB BEND.—Our *British Colonist* advises from French Creek are to the 16th inst. The steamer '49 arrived at the landing on the 15th and was to leave on the 16th. She would make one more trip and then lay up till after the high water. A good quartz specimen was reported to have been taken out of a bench on French Creek by one Kelly. The *Windsor* Co (4 men) were taking out from 6 to 1000 a day. Diggart Co (4 men) had taken out \$2000 worth of gold to the share since the season commenced. The Gold Hill Co were taking out at the rate of \$30 to the foot width of tunnel. Discovery Co taking out over expenses. The weather was very pleasant.

LEECH RIVER.

LEECH RIVER.—Governor Seymour, accompanied by Gold Commissioner O'Reilly and others, started for Leech River yesterday morning to inspect the diggings there. An arrival from the river yesterday reports a few men making 'grub' below Bacon Bar. It is feared the ditch and flume will not be finished until too late to be of service this year. A small flume is being put in by miners to sluice ground near Bacon Bar. Williamson & Co's tunnel claim is idle for want of water.

THE HONOLULUANS.

THE HONOLULUANS.—The Honoluluan are rejoicing greatly over the fact of their forestalling San Francisco in the matter of mails to Alaska. Russian America. The clipper bark *Marche*, of New Bedford, Captain Thomas, sailed from Honolulu for the Arctic whaling grounds on the 9th of May, carrying the first mail dispatched to the newly-acquired Russian American territory. Over 600 papers and several hundred letters were dispatched to the fleet, which numbers sixty-five vessels.

DENTISTRY.

DENTISTRY.—We direct the attention of the public to the dental notice of Dr Barnd, who is now enabled by the aid of Ether or Rhigolene Spray to remove teeth without pain—welcome news to poor sufferers of a year's age. Dr Barnd, during a residence as a first class surgical and mechanical dentist, and is deserving of the confidence and patronage of our citizens.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.—We are glad to learn that one of the gentlemen (Mr Jessop) connected with the public schools has cheerfully acquiesced in the proposed reduction. Answers will be received from the other gentlemen in a day or two. The Board yesterday held a protracted sitting in considering the condition of education in the colony.

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MUSIC SWEET.

MUSIC SWEET.—The Volunteer Band, under Mr Harries, delighted the denizens of James Bay last evening with several choice pieces of music which were delightfully rendered.

ORATION.

ORATION.—Mr Harnett, the eloquent orator from California, has been selected to deliver an oration on the Fourth of July. Mr Harnett is an able and eloquent speaker, and will do the subject justice.

THE H. B. CO'S BARK PRINCESS ROYAL.

THE H. B. CO'S BARK PRINCESS ROYAL, Capt Anderson, loaded with 360,000 feet of Board and live stock, arrived early last evening.

FROM THE SOUND.

FROM THE SOUND.—The steamer *New World* and *Eliza Anderson*, with passengers and live stock, arrived early last evening.

THE STRAMER FLY.

THE STRAMER FLY, Captain Frain, steamed round to Saanich Inlet on Saturday for a trial trip, and the machinery worked remarkably well.

Obituary of Eminent Persons.

LORD LLANOVER.

The Right Hon. Sir Benjamin Hall, P.C., Baron Llanover, of Llanover and Abercarn, in the county of Monmouth, and a Baronet, Lord Lieutenant of Monmouthshire, who died on the 27th ult., at his town house, 9, Great St. Andrew Street, Park Lane, after a prolonged and painful illness, was the eldest son of Ben. Hall, Esq., of Abercarn, Monmouthshire, and for some years previous to his death of the county of Glamorgan, by his wife, Charlotte, daughter of William Crawshaw, Esq., of Cyfarthfa, Glamorganshire. He was born November 8, 1802, and was educated at Westminster School, and at Christ Church, Oxford. He entered Parliament as member for Monmouth in 1831, but lost his seat on petition. In 1832 he was again elected for Monmouth, and sat for that borough till the general election in 1837, when he was a successful candidate for Marylebone, which he continued to represent up to J. ne, 1858. He was highly popular as a member for Marylebone. He had voted in favor of the Reform Act in 1832, and was an early advocate of the repeal of the corn laws and also of the abolition of church rates, and a great extensor to both Universities, and a great extensor of the suffrage, together with votes by ballot. He, from August, 1854, to August, 1855, held the appointment of President of the Board of Health, when he was made a Privy Counsellor. He was subsequently, till February, 1858, First Commissioner of Public Works. Under his administration great improvements were made in the Royal and public parks. He was created a Baronet in July, 1858, and was raised to the peerage, as Baron Llanover, June 27, 1859. Lord Llanover married, December 4, 1823—Augusta, daughter and co-heiress of Benjamin Waddington, Esq., of Llanover, and had issue two sons, who died young, and a daughter, who survives him—Augusta Charlotte Elizabeth, the wife of John Arthur Herbert, Esq., of Llanarth Court, Monmouthshire, nephew, maternally, of Arthur James, ninth and present Earl of Fingall, K.P. As Lord Llanover had died without male issue, his baronetcy and peerage become extinct. Lord Llanover's widow, the present Lady Llanover, has done good service to literature by her able and interesting publication, in 1861, "The Diary of Mrs De la Hay." This eminent lady was the wife of Sir John De la Hay, Bart., who was subsequently, till February, 1858, First Commissioner of Public Works. Under his administration great improvements were made in the Royal and public parks. He was created a Baronet in July, 1858, and was raised to the peerage, as Baron Llanover, June 27, 1859. 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