

duties, are known to be wrong or forbidden by the laws of nature, like murder or theft by their manifold evil consequences. Political science and moral science are, in all cases only deductions from the actions of men, more or less correctly generalised, and, by being reduced to simple rules, rendered proper guides for human conduct. On this analogy it is just as natural for a merchant to resolve that a little cheating will surely be beneficial; for a careful, well-seeming man, like Tawell, to consider that he will promote his own happiness, by dabbling in murder, as for our statesmen to believe that they can, in the long run, improve the condition of Ireland, and uphold their own reputation, by interfering with the industry of the people, and directing the employment of capital.

It was indeed customary for statesmen to act on abstract principles, and oppose them to popular demands. But then, they relied on certain party principles, as they were Whigs or Tories, on certain constitutional doctrines, and certain prescriptive maxims. We, however, have seen these party watch-words, these old constitutional doctrines, these prescriptive maxims fall into disuse, and there is nothing left to guide our statesmen but those general and abstract principles of political science, which experience has established. Our present Ministers are in this respect worse off than their opponents, because they have, by adopting measures of reform, given up the old landmarks by which their predecessors were guided, and they have nothing left to walk by but such principles as those established by Smith. Wanting faith in them, however, they are repeating in politics what has just dishonoured us in mathematics. An English gentleman, by the name of Adams, calculated the position of the newly-discovered planet before M. Verrier, but he wanted, and the mathematicians of England, to whom he imparted his discovery, wanted confidence in the science of Newton, and thus they gave to France the honour of announcing to the world, the most brilliant discovery which has resulted from the principles established by our illustrious countryman. A want of faith has ravished from Mr. Adams the immortal crown, which a full faith in his own deduction from abstract principles, has conferred on M. Verrier. Let us not repeat in politics the fault of the mathematicians. Smith has made, as Newton made, a great branch of science, peculiarly British; and should we want faith in his principles, it will lead to more disastrous results than the loss of scientific reputation. We shall falsify the principles on which, at this moment, the human race are fixing their hopes. We shall make England the laughing-stock of Europe, we shall bring discredit on free trade, and we shall impede the progress of knowledge and improvement.

A COLONIAL GOVERNOR.—That the relations between the mother country and its dependencies may be seriously affected by the probable course of our legislation, is a matter which must be as clear to everybody as it is to ourselves the fact that such course promises equal advantages to both. Our measures have tended to interrupt the support which the mother and its dependencies conceived themselves to be rendering to each other; and though this peculiar interchange of offices is now understood to have been productive of mutual injury rather than of mutual good, yet the utmost care must be taken to supply the colonies, by a liberal compensation of sterling benefits, the loss of those delusive privileges which are not cheerfully resigned without more sagacity and enlightenment than it would be reasonable to expect everywhere at so short a notice. In no point could our colonial system be more wisely or more judiciously reformed than in the appointment of governors to these distant and varied settlements. The governor of a colony, independently of the vast influence he may exercise on the happiness and tranquility of its inhabitants by his personal disposition and deportment, has higher and more complicated duties to discharge. As the representative of his Sovereign; he is not only called upon to receive and secure the vicarious allegiance of the colonists, but he is bound to return, in the same capacity, that care and protection by which such allegiance is earned. He stands in the place of his Queen, to watch over the interests of the detached territory intrusted to his care, and not only to guard its frontiers and ensure its security, but to regulate its external and internal life by the ablest application of judgment and discretion. In proportion as his authority is more absolute and less limited than that of the Sovereign whom he represents, so is his duty more arduous, and his responsibility more severe. He is the champion of his quasi-subjects, and if it ever should happen that the real interests of the Mother Country and the Colony could come into collision, he should remember that he is the advocate of the latter as well as the viceroy of the former. He is the representative of the old colonists and their fortunes, and his aid and interference is the boon which they purchase with their loyalty and good faith. It is his duty to foster the productive power of the dependency, to regulate its finances, to adjust its assessments, and to improve its revenues, with all the care and forethought which these complicated considerations require. He may, possibly, have to revise a monetary system, or to substitute for a detrimental system of taxation one better calculated to equalize pressure and to liberate the spirit of enterprise. He may have to establish a police; to reform, collect, or publish a code of laws. All the abilities which at home are presumed to be furnished by the division of Ministerial labour, are frequently required of him alone, on the exigency, perhaps, of the moment, and when he is without any other guidance than may be gathered from his general instructions, or derived from assistants too similarly situated to be capable of offering a corrective to his views.—*London Times.*

PENNY LABELS FOR PARCELS.—A parcels post is about to be established in the metropolis, on Mr. Rowland Hill's plan. Labels are to be issued at a penny each, to prepay parcels weighing eighteen ounces. Three deliveries per day are promised.

THE SUSPENSION BRIDGE AT NIAGARA FALLS.—Major C. B. Stuart, one of the Commissioners for procuring subscriptions to the capital stock of the Niagara Suspension Bridge, informs us that measures will be immediately adopted to secure the requisite subscriptions, with a view to the commencement of the work next spring. The charter is now complete, having received the sanction of the Legislature of this State, and the signature of the English Queen. Major Stuart has shown us a plan for this bridge, designed by him, according to which the structure is to consist of suspension wire cables and a substantial cast-iron arch combined. This plan would, it is thought, secure in an eminent degree the unyielding stability especially desirable in a bridge over which railroad trains are to pass. The span of the arch and cable would be only 450 feet. Plans are also in preparation by Charles Ellet, Jun., Esq., of Philadelphia, John A. Roebling, Esq., of Pittsburgh, and other engineers of distinction.—*Rochester American.*

LOCAL, PROVINCIAL AND GENERAL, INTELLIGENCE.

His Excellency the Governor General made his public entry into Montreal on Saturday last. Although, in consequence of a heavy fall of snow the previous night, the road from Monklands was almost impassible, there was a very large turn-out of the different societies, public bodies, &c. On passing the *barrière*, and entering the city limits, His Excellency received from the Mayor a congratulatory address to which he returned a courteous answer, and inviting His Worship to a seat in his carriage, passed on through a line of citizens to Government House, when he received the oath of office in the presence of Lord Cathcart, the judges, and a numerous and brilliant staff. At the conclusion of this ceremony, His Lordship intimated his willingness to receive the address of the citizens of Montreal, which was accordingly read by the mayor, and to which His Excellency returned the admirable reply we have inserted elsewhere.—A public meeting of the friends of the late Lord Metcalfe was held at Daley's Hotel, on Monday last, to consider the best means of erecting a monument to the memory of that nobleman; the Hon. Peter McGill presiding. The result was the appointment of a numerous committee to collect subscriptions throughout the country, the amount of each subscription to be limited to one dollar.—A meeting, numerously attended, was held in this city on Tuesday afternoon, at which preliminary steps for the formation of a new Gas Company were resolved on.—*The Kingston Chronicle* announces that a meeting of persons interested in the Wolf Island, Cape Vincent, and Rome Rail-road, was held in that city a few days since, when several thousand dollars were subscribed, and Messrs. Counter and Gildersleeve named as a deputation to invite the aid of the inhabitants generally, for the support of the undertaking.—The inhabitants of Quebec have met and unanimously voted a congratulatory address to Lord Elgin.—Addresses from numerous other bodies have also been voted to His Excellency.—In consequence of the extreme inclemency of the weather, the Governor General's Levee, which was to have taken place yesterday, was postponed.—Sir John Harvey, the Governor of Nova Scotia has, in his speech to Parliament, drawn attention to the projected Rail-road between Halifax and Quebec, and also to the continuation of a line of telegraphic communication between those two cities.—The same subjects are also being agitated by the newspapers in New Brunswick.—A public meeting, in aid of the famishing Irish, is to be held in this city on Monday next. The advertisement calling it will be found in another column, and we would add our voice to those of our contemporaries in calling upon men of all classes to come forward without delay and discharge their duty towards their unfortunate countrymen, at home.

THE MARKETS.

MONTREAL. *Friday Evening, 5th Feb.*

There have been few transactions in produce during the present week worth recording. We hear of some sales of Canada Fine Flour, for spring delivery, at 32s. 6d. Lower Canada Wheat sells at 5s. 3d. to 5s. 6d. Peas, 4s. 3d. to 4s. 6d. Barley, 3s. 1d. to 3s. 3d., and Oats 2s. per minim.

Pigs are worth 30s. per 100 lbs.

Pork, old, held at \$16 Mess, \$12 Prime Mess, and \$10½ Prime.