

The immense iron Steamship Great Britain, had been refitted at Liverpool, and was announced as preparing to sail for America on the first May.

In the East, the Burmese are in hostile attitude toward the British authorities. The court of Ava had at first consented to make the prescribed, *amende* for aggression on British subjects—but this being followed by acts of deliberate insult by the Governor of Ragoon, the place had been destroyed by the British Ships of war, when 300 of the Burmese perished. A force of 6000 men from Calcutta and Madras, had set out for Burmah, and a squadron of war Steamers have been despatched from Bombay for Ragoon, to compel a compliance with the terms previously dictated.

The postal treaty between England and Austria has been extended. A seizure of 900 Bibles belonging to the British and Foreign Bible Society, had been made by the Austrian government, and their two printing offices forcibly closed.

In France, Louis Napoleon continues his despotic rule. His sham parliament met on the 29th March. Five of the members elect, declined to take the required oath. The President's dotation has been fixed at ten millions of francs, per annum, with an increase in the event of marriage.

In literary intelligence, we have to record the issue of some important works from the English and American press. First in importance and interest, is Mr. Allison's continuation of the History of Europe from the fall of Napoleon, to the present period. Mr. McGregor is preparing a History of the British Empire, from the accession of James I. to the Protectorate—the point at which Mr. Macauley commences. Macauley's third and fourth volumes were on the eve of publication, but delayed in consequence of new and interesting matter since obtained, relative to William III. The new volumes of Lord Mahon's History, embrace the first years of the American War, and apart from the charming style of the writer, must contain much that is interesting to the reader on this side of the Atlantic. Mr. Roebuck has written "a history of the Whigs, from 1830," abounding in that terse, lively and waspish gossip for which the writer has always been remarkable. Mr. Dickens' new serial "Bleak House" is out; it opens with a monster grievance, "Chancery." As it will be perused universally, we leave our readers to form their own opinion of it. Lord Cockburn's Life of Lord Jeffery has been published, and is a most-interesting piece of biography. The life of the greatest critic that ever lived; the accomplished advocate; the learned and upright judge; the wit and man of the world,—moving for half a century amid what Byron has termed the *stone* of Society; written by one of the ablest men of the day, cannot be otherwise than deeply interesting. Jeffrey, like Watt, Scott and Chalmers, has left his impress upon the age in which he lived. We must mention, in conclusion, a new work on Canada, "Roughing it in the Bush," by Mrs. Moodie, a sister of Miss Strickland, author of the "Lives of the Queens of England." It is full of lively and amusing incident, and may be read with pleasure and profit by the colonist, as well as those who intend to become colonists. Other works of interest remain to be noticed.

It is a pleasing feature of the present day, that History and Biography occupy so large a proportion of the ablest pens—a circumstance which augurs well for the rising generation.