

is here spoken of, but how long subsequent the sacred historian does not tell us, and we have no means of discovery. We may imagine myriads of ages to have elapsed between the creation and the period when some divinely appointed convulsion reduced this globe to chaos; we may speculate upon the succession of animal existences, that were suited to the prior conditions of this earth; the Scriptures tell us nothing upon the subject, and therefore is not in opposition to what geology unfolds.

The use of the word "replenish," in the 26th verse of the first chapter of Genesis, seems to recognize the fact that the earth had previously been filled with other animals than were now upon it; but whether this be so or not our positions remain unshaken, namely, that the first verse in Genesis assigns no time for the creation, and does not undertake to say when the beginning was, and that the second verse describes a condition of things subsequent to the creation, it may be long subsequent, to speak humanly. All that follows is descriptive of the gradual settlement of the earth in its present shape and condition, and that this may have occurred in the comparatively short space of fifty-nine centuries, geology cannot either prove or disprove. In the absence of all other evidence, we are satisfied with the Scripture account.—*Episcopal Recorder.*

News Department.

From Papers by R. H. S. Europa, Aug. 19.

The British Parliament was prorogued on Saturday the 12th August, by Her Majesty in person. Omitting all the preliminary routine, which our limited space, and a due attention to other matters, do not admit of publishing, the Royal Speech is as follows:—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

My Lords and Gentlemen:

"I am enabled, by the state of public business, to release you from a longer attendance in Parliament.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons:

"In closing the session, it affords me great pleasure to express my sense of the zeal and energy you have shown in providing means for the vigorous prosecution of the war in which, notwithstanding my efforts to avert it, we are now engaged. This liberality in granting the supplies for the public service demands my warmest thanks: and although I lament the increased burthens of my people, I fully recognise your wisdom in sacrificing considerations of present convenience, and in providing for the immediate exigencies of the war, without an addition being made to the permanent debt of the country.

My Lords and Gentlemen:

"In cordial co-operation with the Emperor of the French, my efforts will be directed to the effectual repression of that ambitious and aggressive spirit on the part of Russia which has compelled us to take up arms in defence of an ally, and to secure the future tranquillity of Europe.

"You will join with me in admiration of the courage and perseverance manifested by the troops of the Sultan in their defence of Silistria, and in the various military operations on the Danube.

"The engrossing interest of matters connected with the progress of the war has prevented the due consideration of some of those subjects which, at the opening of the session, I had recommended to your attention; but I am happy to acknowledge the labour and diligence with which you have perfected various important measures well calculated to prove of great public utility.

"You have not only passed an Act for opening the Coasting Trade of the United Kingdom, and for removing the last legislative restriction upon the use of foreign vessels, but you have also revised and consolidated the whole statute law relating to merchant shipping.

"The Act for establishing the direct control of the House of Commons over the charges incurred in the collection of the revenue, will give more complete effect to an important principle of the constitution, and will promote simplicity and regularity in our system of public accounts.

"I rejoice to perceive that amendments in the administration of the law have continued to occupy your attention, and I anticipate great benefit from the improvements you have made in the forms of procedure in the superior courts of common law.

"The means you have adopted for the better government of the University of Oxford, and the improvement of its constitution, I trust will tend greatly to increase the usefulness and to extend the renown of this great seminary of learning.

"I have willingly given my assent to the measure you have passed for the prevention of bribery and of corrupt practices at elections; and I hope that it may prove effectual in the correction of an evil which, if unchecked, threatens to fix a deep stain upon our representative system.

"It is my earnest desire that, on returning to your respective counties, you may preserve a spirit of union and concord. Deprived of the blessings of peace abroad, it is more than ever necessary that we should endeavour to confirm and increase the advantages of our internal situation; and it is with the greatest satisfaction that I regard the progress of active industry, and the general prosperity which happily prevails throughout the country.

"Deeply sensible of these advantages, it is my humble prayer that we may continue to enjoy the favour of the Almighty; and that under His gracious protection we may be enabled to bring the present contest to a just and honourable termination."

The Lord Chancellor then declared that it was her Majesty's pleasure that Parliament should stand prorogued till Thursday the 10th October, and that Parliament was accordingly prorogued till that date.

Her Majesty then rose, and bowing to the assembled Peers and Commons, returned to her carriage of State.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY BILL.—The Act to make further provision for the good government and extension of the University of Oxford, of the colleges therein, and of the College of St. Mary, Winchester, which received the royal assent on Monday, was printed on Friday. It contains forty-eight clauses and a schedule. The preamble declares that it is expedient for the advancement of religion and learning, to enlarge the powers of making and altering statutes and regulations now possessed by the University of Oxford and the colleges thereof; and to make, and enable to be made, further provision for the government and for the extension of the said University, and for the abrogation of oaths now taken therein, and for improving the discipline and studies and good government of the University and Colleges. The commissioners appointed for the purposes of the Act are the Earl of Harrowby, Earl of Ellesmere, Bishop of Ripon, Mr. Justice Coleridge, the Dean of Wells, Sir John W. Auldrey (late Chief Justice of Bombay), and Mr. Goo. Cornwall Lewis. The powers of the commissioners are to remain in force until the 1st of January, 1857, and her Majesty may continue them in force another year. After stating the powers of the commissioners, the Act proceeds to set forth the constitution of the University. Upon the 14th day of Michaelmas next, the powers of the Hombomadal Board are to cease, and on the 15th a council is to be elected to be called the "Hombomadal Council," to which shall be transferred all the powers now possessed by the Hombomadal Board. The council elected in the manner ordered is to meet for the despatch of business on the 15th day of Michaelmas Term next. There is to be a periodical vacating of seats in the council. Several provisions detail the manner of the proceedings, to be adopted, and the promulgation of the statutes. Power is given in congregation to speak in the English tongue. The convocation of the University is retained.

There are various enactments as to the power of making and repealing statutes, &c. From the 1st day of Michaelmas Term, it will not be necessary to make a declaration or to take an oath on matriculating.—The University is henceforth to be subject to the rules of common law, and not of civil law. Stamp duties, payable on matriculation and degrees, are to be abolished so soon as provision has been made by the University to the satisfaction of the Treasury, in lieu of the monies heretofore voted annually by Parliament.

THE BISHOP-ELECT OF HYPHSSY.—The Rev. Frederick Barker has been appointed to the vacant see of Sydney. This episcopal appointment has been made on the recommendation of the Primate. Mr. Barker is, we believe, but a little above the middle age. Oddly enough, the height of his stature long ago caused him to be good-naturedly styled by his friends, "The High Priest." Perhaps the happiest augury of his general acceptability in his future sphere may be found in the gratifying unanimity with which local clergymen of varying shades of sentiment—both Evangelical and Paritan—both English and Irish—to the number of between thirty and forty—all joined in a cordial testimonial to him when he lately left our town. In short, whatever may be his "private interpretations," and though many like ourselves may not share his theological opinions, still most persons will agree that Mr. Barker is an educated Englishman and a perfect gentleman; a most palatable parish

priest; and a truly good man—altogether admirably qualified for a colonial bishopric.—*Liverpool Advertiser.*

THE CHOLERA IN LONDON.—There can be very little doubt that the dread visitant, the Cholera, has now taken up his abode with us. Swift and sudden as has been its progress, it has at least given us some warning. Five weeks ago, when a pestiferous breath was declimating the south of France, and our Baltic Fleet was threatened with its terrors, the return of deaths from cholera in the metropolis was nil. The next week the number was five; the week after, twenty-six; then, one hundred and thirty-three; the next week, three hundred and ninety-nine; and the week ending last Saturday, they reached the alarming amount of six hundred and forty-four, being rather more than one-third of the total amount of deaths for the week—viz., 1,832.

DEATH OF VISCOUNT JOCKLYN.—Lord Jocelyn, the eldest son of the Earl of Roden, died on Saturday of cholera at the residence of Lord Palmerston in Carlton gardens. He was attacked with Asiatic cholera while performing his military duties in the Tower, and was removed to the house of the Minister only to die there. The commencement of the illness was about three o'clock on Friday afternoon, and he was dead by one o'clock on Saturday. It is said that he had been imprudent in his choice of food previous to his illness. Here we have a nobleman in the prime of life, subject to none of those privations which render the body of the poor man so susceptible of the terrible influences of the cholera poison, who yet fell a victim, we can scarcely help supposing, to the malignant effects of the vitiated air of a cholera district. Lord Jocelyn is said also to have been nervous on account of the recent death of a man in the Tower by the same disease. The brilliant speech on the Eastern question delivered by his lordship during the past session, will be fresh in the minds of our readers.

GLASGOW.—The Glasgow returns of Cholera cases are rather irregular; but it would appear that during the first three days of this week there were at least one hundred and one cases and thirty-six deaths.

MANCHESTER.—We regret to state that cholera has made its appearance here. Three cases of virulent Asiatic cholera have already proved fatal.

We regret to announce the sudden death of Lord Beaumont, which melancholy event took place yesterday morning at his residence in Bruton-street, after a few hours attack of cholera.

MORE OPEN-AIR PREACHING.—The Rev. C. R. Alford, incumbent of Christchurch, Doncaster, commenced open-air preaching on Sunday last. In the afternoon the rev. gentleman took up his station at the junction of four streets in one of the poorest quarters of the town; and, having given out a hymn and offered up prayer, preached an energetic discourse from 1 Cor. x. 4—"For they drank of that spiritual rock that followed them, and that rock was Christ." A considerable number of persons collected round Mr. Alford during the service, which lasted about an hour, and seemed to pay respectful attention to the proceedings. Mr. Alford announced his intention of continuing his open-air preachings.

El Hami Pacha, the son of the late Pacha of Egypt, had an interview with the Queen, at Osborne House, previous to his departure from this country.

Rear Admiral Henry Byam Martin is appointed to Sir C. Napier's fleet in the Baltic. Rear Admiral the Hon. Montagu Stopford is appointed Captain of the fleet in the Black Sea, instead of to the Baltic, as previously stated.

Sir George Cathcart, the Earl of Lucan, and Sir Richard England, are to have the local rank of Lieutenant General in Turkey.

It is stated that two more regiments of cavalry and six regiments of infantry are to proceed to Turkey, and that the whole of the Militia are to be embodied.

Yesterday evening the Prussian General Prince Radzivil, was present at a review of the South Devon and First Somerset Regiments of Militia, now in garrison at Plymouth; Sir Harry Smith commanding. After the manoeuvres of the regiments in brigade on the Hoe, Sir Harry Smith introduced the officers to Prince Radzivil, who expressed himself well pleased with their performances. Addressing the Prince, Sir Harry Smith said, "Your Prussians fought well with us at the battle of Waterloo, and I have no doubt they will do so again if circumstances should render it necessary." To which the Prince replied, "Let us keep alive those reminiscences which began in the Seven Years' War, which have been continued since, and which I hope will not end to day."