988—(hear, hear)—in 1834, 23,035; and in the next seven years, from 1835 down to 1841, the average force was 16,810 men. The lowest force in Ireland in any single year was 14,687 men; and the present despotic, arbitary government, on the average of the two years, 1842 and 1843, have had in Ireland a force of 14,833 men. (Cheers.) In the month of May, 1842, they had in Ireland a force below 13,000 men, the lowest military force that had ever been maintained in Ireland since the union. [Hear hear, and cheers.] But in 1843 commenced a system in that country which I think I may venture to describe as a system of most pernicious agitation. Multitudinous meetings were held every part of the country, which, if not in themselves strictly illegal, I think no man can deny were such as to cause reasonable and serious alarm—tho' they did not commit violence, because that was not the object of those leaders at whose back the people rose or were still.—But will any man tell me that a succession of these meeting of 200,000 and 300,000 persons, under the plea of petitioning parliament, but not petitioning parliament—[hear]—meetings, the scenes selected for which were calculated to excite the most rancorous hostility towards England—meetings at which language was used, the tendency of which was undoubtedly to create ill-will and animosity between the two countries; will any men tell me that, if these meetings were not in themselves illegal, their tendency was not such as to create reasonable apprehension, if not of immediate disturbance of the public peace, at least of the overthrow of the functions of the settled government. Will any man tell me that the minister of the crown, who is responsible for the peace of the empire, would be justified in seeing day by day, and week by week, multitudinous meetings of 200,000 and 300,000 men arrayed, disciplined, and taught their own strength, and, after the declaration of the hon. and learned gentleman who had just sat down, that it needed but the holding up of the finger of one man to raise that strength, will any one say that the conduct of the government would not have been deserving of impeachment, if they had not met this display of physical force by an accession of physical force sufficient, thank God! not only to check any outrage, but to oversee the possibility of such outrage being committed. [Cheers from the ministerial benches.] If the house will allow me, I will take the liberty of dealing with some of the topics to which the noble lord called attention in his opening speech, and to which many hon. gentlemen have alluded in course of the debate.—And I may venture to say that the whole course of this debate has singularly illustrated the prudence of the noble lord the member for the city of London [Lord J Russell] in bringing forward a motion for a committee instead of making any substantive proposal; for, though there has been great unanimity in condemning the government—and some divergency, nevertheless, as to the causes for which they are condemned—[a laugh]—there has been great difference of opinion as to the course which ought to have been pursued by her Majesty's ministers, and as to the nature of the measures which the government succeeding the present administration ought to propose. Great blame has been attached to the course adopted by the government. An objection has been taken that they did not interfere soon enough; then an objection was taken that they interfered too soon; and then they were blamed for issuing a proclamation too late, when my right hon. friend proved, by a fair statement of dates, that it was impossible, by any physical power, to have issued the government proclamation, relative to the Clontarf meeting, one day earlier. [The noble lord was interrupted by loud cries of oh, and laughter, from the opposition benches.] I really thought this question had been settled. [Renewed cries of oh!]

I will not weary the house by a repetition of the statement of my hon. friend. We have had it said over and over again, repeated usque ad nauseam, that 65 Catholics were omitted from the list—[oh, oh]—at least 65 persons the greater proportion Catholics. [Renewed shouts of oh! from the opposition.] That was the statement originally made. [hear, hear.] The charge made was this—that the traversers, or the majority of them, being Catholics, they were prejudiced on their trial, in consequence of the exclusion of a number of Catholics from the jury list. [Cries of hear, hear, from the opposition benches. That was the charge. What turns out to be the fact? Sixty names were not omitted—no nor 30. [Oh, oh.] Only 24 names were omitted. [An hon. member—Yes, 27.] Fifteen of those names were those of persons residing in one parish. [Renewed interruption from the opposition benches.] I am stating what I have heard from the Recorder of Dublin. [cheers.] The Recorder does not know of these 15 persons who were Catholics, or who Protestants; but this he knows that the gentleman from whose negligence, or in consequence of whose omission these names were not placed on the list is himself a Catholic. Then a charge was bro't against us for striking the jury. [An hon. member—Challenging. A laugh, and some cries of order.] This is a term which has been used, but it is an inaccurate expression. What was the fact? The noble lord [Lord J. Russell] has very ingeniously contrived to omit noticing the distinction between common and special juries; he has omitted to tell the house that if the government had had a common jury, which they might have had, the crown had the power without limit of causing persons to stand by, and the crown might under such circumstances have been charged, though unjustly, with packing the jury. We resorted to no such advantage; we appealed to a special jury, and we took it as the jury list then stood. The traversers complained that the special jury list was not an accurate list, and they applied for time. This request was acceded to, and the trial did not take place until the new jury list was formed. How was it framed? —not by a law which we introduced—not according to any new fangled system—no, but according to a law framed, I believe, by my learned friend the administration of justice—introduced, I believe, by sir Michael O'Loghlen, at that time attorney general. What were the conditions of that law? Out of the whole number of 700 persons 48 were to be taken by chance. After this was done, did they exert their right of challenge? Did they cause persons to stand by? Did they exercise any discretion whether they would or would not strike any names out? No; but of the 48 names, the government on the one hand, and the traversers on the other, were each compelled to strike off 12 names. 'But,' it is said, 'it happens that Catholics were struck off.' The answer made to this statement is that to the best of our belief these Catholics were all Repealers, and not Repealers only. [The noble lord was here interrupted by an observation from Mr. Shiel, which was inaudible in the gallery.] The right hon. gentleman must recollect that he has a little professional bias in this case. [A laugh.] I have none. They were not struck off on account of their religion, nor for the sake of producing prejudices. Hon. gentlemen talked of striking off Roman Catholics, and thought it a strong assertion that Roman Catholics were not to be believed upon their oaths. I entirely agree with this. I have just received the affidavit which the hon. gentlemen opposite [Mr. Shiel] said was not made. It is here. [Loud cheers from the ministerial benches.]

Mr. Shiel.—I don't deny it.

Lord Stanley—Signed 'William Bourne, clerk of the crown.' The honorable gentleman opposite [Mr. Shiel] denied the existence of that affidavit. It is signed by W. Kemmis, and sworn before Wm. Bourne, clerk of the crown. I cannot help thinking that in this case, so great and so important, the right hon. and learned gentleman has brought into this house those quibbles and quirks—[ministerial cheering]—those quibbles and quirks by which in a court of law it is sometimes sought to impede the course of substantial justice. The right hon. gentleman says not a word about repealers. No; but we have a declaration that they either were repealers or had subscribed to a fund called the loyal national repeal association. [The noble lord threw down the document which he held in his hand, while his countenance betrayed marks of great indignation, and he was loudly cheered by the ministerial members.] He continued—sir, we are charged with striking off the names of the Roman Catholics from the jury list. The crown exercises an alternative right with the traversers to strike, and though it is an insult of a grievous character for the crown to strike off the Roman Catholics, if is not of the slightest note that upon the part of the traversers, who had an alternative strike with the crown, it is so happened that none but Protestants were struck off. [Loud cheers.] I don't blame them. [Hear, hear.] I hope I have disposed of this question of striking the jury. [Loud cheers.] Hon. gentlemen who talk so much about that subject and upon matters of religion do not seem to think that Protestants can be in the least offended by the oft repeated assertion that it is impossible for a Catholic to have a fair trial before a Protestant jury—[hear]—for such are the allegations most unhesitatingly made by gentlemen of the Roman Catholic persuasion. [Hear] But I say more. The hon. gentlemen sneered when I said we had strained no law. Was there any doubt upon the law of the matter? Was there any hesitation upon the subject by the bench? If so, the learned gentleman will have no opportunity to tell us of it. [Cheers.] Some gentlemen commented, and as I think commented most unfairly, upon the charge to the jury; and I must add, that I don't think it very decent of a member of the legal profession to avail himself of his privilege as a member of this house for the purpose of attacking one of the highest functionaries in that country. [Great cheering] And for what? For misdirection? No. No man imputed that to him. But for some expression—because he summed up too much, according to the right hon. gentleman, against the traversers. Why, he delivered the law in which the bench was unanimous. Did he strain the law? No; he did not. The judges all concurred, and he delivered the unanimous opinion of the bench. [Loud cheers.] He gave the fact exactly to the jury, and I must say that I never in my life remembered a jury who appeared to have a more conscientious sense of the value and the obligations of an oath—[loud cheers]—or to whom more praise is due for passing, not a verdict of condemnation, but a verdict most discriminating with regard to the separate guilt of the various parties. [Loud cheers] Was there any haste? any over forward zeal? Did they not, on the contary, retire a second time, because they did not altogether agree as to the terms of their verdict? Will any man tell me that that jury did not apply their minds, their time, and their attention in a most praiseworthy manner to the merits of the case?—[Hear, hear, and cheers] And by that the verdict was agreed to upon the facts, and by that bench upon the law.

The course pursued by the government has been fully vindicated by the verdict and by law, and the leaders of what was not denied to be dangerous conspiracy were brought to the bar of justice.—That we effected, without a breach of the peace or without a violation of the law, and now is it the time, forsooth, above all others, for a political party to come forward and make a motion for a committee of inquiry. The noble lord then proceeded to refer to the proposition for abolishing the established church, and quoted several authorities, to show, that previous to and after the union, up to the passing of the emancipation bill, the Roman Catholics uniformly disavowed the intention to deprive the establishment of her temporalities. His lordship then spoke as follows:—I have cited Roman Catholic authorities in sufficient number, and I may well call the attention of the house to a passage in the speech delivered by the commissioners of his late Majesty, King George IV., on the assembling of parliament in the year, 1829. The responsible advisers of the crown at that period had made up their minds to the introduction of a measure for the relief of the Roman Catholics from the disabilities under which they laboured; and, with a view to that, the following words were introduced into the King's speech at the opening of the session:—'You will consider whether the removal of those disabilities can be effected consistently with the full and permanent security of our establishments in church and state, with the maintenance of a reformed religion established by law, and the rights and privileges of the bishops and the clergy of this realm, and of the churches committed to their charge. These are institutions which must ever be held sacred in this Protestant kingdom, and which it is the duty and the determination of his Majesty to preserve inviolate.' Now, the house of commons, in passing the relief bill, were governed by the principles laid down to them in the speech from the throne, and, long before the introduction of the measure itself the house, in the address which was voted in reply to the speech from the throne, adopted the principles which the speech set forth—the inviolability of the established church, and the sacred duty of maintaining its rights. At length, when the house was called upon to proceed to the business of legislation on this subject, and when my right hon. friend moved a resolution preparatory to the introduction of the bill of relief, that resolution fully embodied the sentiments inculcated in the speech from the throne. In submitting that measure to the consideration of parliament, my right hon. friend most truly told the house that the measure would impose an oath upon Roman Catholics, the form of which should be as strong and as binding as it was possible for language to make it. Before the passing of the emancipation act the Roman Catholics declared over and over again that they had no intention to interfere with the revenues of the established church—that was the language which they held; and my right hon friend, trusting to that which they then affirmed to be their feelings and intention, would not introduce any provision to debar a Roman Catholic from legislating upon any subject which might come before him as a member of parliament. My right hon. friend said that he had obtained every security which, under the circumstances, it was possible for him to obtain. He said that he thought the oath had been framed with the utmost care, that, looking to the reverence with which Roman Catholics regarded an oath, he would accept their declaration on oath, and he would not seek for any higher or more binding security. [hear, hear.] I now approach another branch of the subject, but I do so, I can assure the house, with an earnest desire to offend no man—to charge no man with any wilful violation or evasion of the obligations undertaken by or imposed upon him. I am ready to admit that a Roman Catholic has as good a right as a Protestant to legislate upon matters connected with the church, provided only that he adhere to that conscientious belief which he entertains respecting the obligations imposed upon him by the oath which he has taken. In saying this, I appeal not to the passions of the Protestant, but to the conscientious feelings of the Roman Catholics. I may, therefore, without offence, read the oath imposed by the emancipation act, and be permitted at the same time to connect it with the previous declaration. This oath, be it remembered, was enacted as a security for the Protestant church, and these are the terms of it: 'I do swear that I will defend to the utmost of my power, the settlement of property within this realm, as established by the laws; and I do hereby disclaim, disavow, and solemnly abjure, any intention to subvert the present church establishment, as settled by law within this realm. And I do solemnly swear that I never will exercise any privilege to which I am or may become entitled to disturb or weaken the Protestant religion, or Protestant government in the united kingdom, and I do solemnly, and in the presence of God, testify and declare that I take this oath in the plain and ordinary sense of the words, without any qualification or mental reservation whatever.' [Hear, hear, hear.] Those are the terms of the oath, and this is the spirit in which the parliament of this country legislated for the relief of the Roman Catholics. I do not charge any Roman Catholic with being capable of violating any such obligation. I can readily imagine that there are those who think that a reduction of the temporalities of the established church might increase the efficacy of that church; but this I will say, that it behoves the Roman Catholic, with that oath in his hand, and influenced by the reverence which he entertained for such an obligation, I say it behoves him well to examine his own conscience, and to look most carefully at the nature of any enactment affecting the church before that he gives his vote. (Hear).

But then I am told that the mere existence of the established church is an insult to the Roman Catholic. The hon. gentleman said the oath in the act of settlement was useless, because the Roman Catholic line which it was meant to exclude is now extinct. Why, in that view it was a worse insult, for it is a gratuitous insult. But the case is not so; it is not as the hon. and learned gentleman states it; the oath is imposed because this country feels that it is not consistent with the welfare of the country, that in so high a situation as that of head of the state there should be quite an equality between Protestant and Roman Catholic. As had been stated to the house, I now state that her Majesty's government are prepared to go to the fullest extent in doing justice to the Roman Catholics, but I do not consider it inconsistent with the determination to do the fullest justice to Roman catholics, by removing everything which they may in reason, nay, even in point of feeling, consider a grievance, to be at the same time fully resolved to maintain the established church. (Hear, hear, hear). What do they ask? To be endowed with the produce of the estate of the established church? No. They will refuse that if you give it them. (Hear, hear). They do not want the plunder of the church; they do not wish to set aside the prescriptive rights of property which have been growing up through so many ages, they refuse all alliance with the state; if you ask them, they cannot come into your plans on these terms; they ask equality; they ask that the church which does ally itself to the state, which does maintain obedience to her laws, should be disunited from the state. Because they refused all alliance with the state they insist that no other body should be allied to it. Is this equality? The hon. and learned gentleman talks of equality. Endow the Roman Catholics. Are they on equality? Will they submit to your laws; admit of your control in ecclesiastical matters; permit the crown to appoint their bishops; or consent to your regulating their ecclesiastical sees? Will they allow you to interfere in any portion of their policy? No. But they say, "Give us the advantages of an establishment in alliance with the state, and relieve us from all the restrictions which you impose on the Protestant church, and which are the consequences of the alliance of the establishment with the state." Does he mean to admit the Roman Catholic bishops to the house of lords? (An hon. gentleman sitting near the noble lord here said, "Yes, he does; but")—

Lord J. Russel said—I do not.

Lord Stanley resumed—Happy, united party! The noble lord at once denies the intentions imputed to him by an hon. gentleman sitting near him: that if the hon. gentleman would admit the Roman Catholic bishops to seats in the house of lords, does he mean that they should be appointed by the Crown? No. But he says that bishops nominated and appointed by a foreign potentate, are to take their seats as peers of the realm, and become entitled to vote in the house of lords. (Hear.) He must mean that, for what is the alternative? If they are not to be admitted to seats in legislature, what becomes of your equality? (Cheers.) There is one point I wish to refer to briefly. It is stated that the Roman catholic clergy would not accept any endowment from the state. There appears to be great agreement upon this point; for, if the government were disposed to endow the clergy, there would be a disinclination on the part of a large body of the people of England to agree to it. The hon. gentleman seems to treat with contempt a proposition which might have the effect of making the Roman catholic clergy more independent of their flocks, with regard to estates; I mean the proposal which relaxes the law at present in force, in such a manner as to enable the Roman catholic clergy in Ireland, where persons hold property, to dispose of it in the same manner as by a recent statute that privilege was conferred upon Roman catholics and Dissenters in this country. By the 2d and 3d of William IV., the regulations are somewhat different in England than in Ireland and more stringent, for in Ireland a priest cannot at present hold a real property, and no valid deed can be given to him, or any other person for his advantage, in his capacity as a Roman catholic clergyman. I hope that those who claim this right for the Roman catholic clergy, to enable the Roman catholic landlords and people, by their united efforts, to obtain for their clergy fixed estates, will not take the fact of my government upon this subject as an indication of any hostile feelings to the Irish people. (Hear.) If you show that there is a practical grievance, in not having a provision made for them, which they will not accept, but if there is any grievance which can be altered—if there is anything that can go to improve the condition of the Roman catholic population and priesthood, you will not find, on the part of her Majesty's government—bigotry, as you choose to represent them—any disinclination to view those claims with the consideration which I admit is due, to a priesthood connected with so large a body of her Majesty's government. (Cheers.) But to any proposition to exterminate the established church I cannot consent; against in the first instance any attempt to pass a vote of censure, which, in my conscience, I believe to be unmerited on the part of the government, I shall humbly and firmly protest; and against the confiscation of the property of the Church I shall raise my voice as long as I have a voice to raise. (Cheers.)

Some mirth was here created by several hon. members on the opposition benches, amongst whom we observed Mr. Gisborne and Sir V. Blake, rising under the impression that the noble lord had finished his speech, and moving the adjournment of the debate, while others were hastening out of the house.

Lord Stanley, however, having only paused to take up a book, proceeded to read an extract from a speech made by a noble lord, the member for Tiverton, in 1829, on the subject of the catholic relief bill, in which he (Lord Palmerston) strongly condemned the admission of Roman catholics to Parliament, and every attempt to interfere with the property of the established church. Such in 1829 was in the opinion of the noble lord, the fate, and the well-merrited fate, which would fall upon any administration which should be, as the noble lord says, profligate enough to entertain a proposition for the injury or subversion of the established church. (Cheers.) I will not use terms so strong as those used by the noble lord; but this I say, that while I believe the bulk of the people of England is fully determined to do full and substantial justice to the civil rights of ther Roman catholic fellow-subjects, this, I believe, I share in common with the vast majority of the people of England—a fixed and an unalterable determination to maintain and uphold in every portion of this empire the Protestant established church. (Loud and continued cheers.)

[*From Charles Willmer's News Letter, April 4.*]

The last issue of our publication gave intelligence of the conviction of O'Connell and his associates. Since the day of the trial terminating, the Agitator has been making progresses through England, haranguing the people on the subject of his conviction, and endeavouring to get up a sensation, such as he hopes will awe the Government and prevent them enforcing the penalty which the law must necessarily record against him. There exists a vast diversity of opinion on the subject of the punishment to be awarded, and the papers abound with reports and statements, most of which if carefully examined will be found utterly worthless, and in no way consistent either with the law or common sense view of the matter. The best informed parties seem decidedly of opinion that whatever punishment the court inflicts, will be steadily adhered to and carried out. It is not at all likely the Government will interfere in any shape or form, unless it be to see that justice takes its course, and that the agitators are not allowed to escape from the net just at the moment of its being closed around them. We are confirmed in our opinion in this matter by the London Standard and Morning Herald newspapers, both of which have for some weeks past been gradually pressing the public mind for a result such as we mention. From the very commencement of the Irish State Trials these two journals seem to have been minutely correct in their views of future results, and therefore we can hardly be wrong in taking their opinion on the grand finale. The Morning Herald emphatically declares, and, as it says, "upon authority," that there is no foundation whatever for the rumours that have been circulated as to the intentions of the Government, and the desire imputed to them, not to have the traversers called up to judgment this approaching term. O'Connell and his associates will most certainly be brought up for judgment on Monday the 15th. It is competent to the accused to have what is called "a writ of error," and this without the assent or approval of the Attorney-General. This writ of error will most likely be taken, but even if the conspirators should sue it out, it cannot delay the passing sentence more than four days at the very utmost, and the sentence may be pronounced even *before* the writ of error can be taken. The Morning Herald declares that all the arrangements are actually made to have the sentences on the traversers carried into effect IMMEDIATELY after they are pronounced by the Court. This is saying in plain and distinct language that O'Connell will very shortly find himself lodged in one of her Majesty's gaols, and there are a multitude of circumstances which go to prove this view of the case. O'Connell himself is said to be of that opinion, and his only hope is in setting up an agitation in England such as might awe the government into a remission of his sentence. But his course is hopeless. There have been several demonstrations—one in Covent Garden Theatre, in London, and another in Liverpool, but neither of them have excited any interest in England. Englishmen cannot forget the former revilings of the man who now seeks to seduce them by the fawning flattery and whining sycophancy, the use and application of which he has made himself so familiar with. We repeat, there can be no doubt of O'Connell being sentenced, and quite as little doubt of his sentence being carried into execution; and with regard to sympathy in England, there is very little of it, and that little is daily becoming weaker. In Ireland the Government are well provided with troops, so that no disturbances can possibly gain head.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO LORD W. HILL

(From the Ipswich Express.)

A painful sensation was created in Ipswich, at about 2 o'clock yesterday (Monday, March 18), by the rumour that Lord W. Hill, a Captain in the Scots' Greys, now stationed in our barracks, and second son of the Marquis of Downshire, had met his death while hunting near the village of Bramford, about four miles from this town. Unfortunately the arrival of expresses at the barracks, and subsequently at the residence of Mr. C. Gross, coroner, confirmed the report that the young nobleman was dead.

It appeared that his lordship was killed in Bramford park, the seat of the Dowager Lady Middleton, having mounted his horse, which he took from his servant near the house, his lordship seems to have dashed with all his well-known boldness down the park, riding his horse at the very top of his speed. At the bottom of a hill there is a pond, and, in endeavouring to turn the horse to avoid it, the animal in the highest state of excitement, bore his lordship with so much violence against a large tree, as to knock him from his seat and cause instant death.—The trunk of the tree jutting out considerably, the unfortunate nobleman's head came in contact with it. No fracture took place, and there was scarcely any appearance of violence; but so violent was the shock, that his lordship appears not to have moved or breathed after his fall.

ARRIVAL OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS IN ENGLAND.

Woolwich, March 26.

At an early hour this morning it became generally known here that her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians was expected to land at the Dock yard about five o'clock in the afternoon, and the necessary preparations were immediately made for the reception of the Royal visitor with the usual honors.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, arrived at the Woolwich Dockyard, at half-past eleven o'clock a. m. attended by Colonel Sir George Couper, Bart., and on alighting, entered the residence of Commodore Sir Francis A. Collier, Knt., C. B. and K. C. H. The Belgian minister and Madame Van de Weyer arrived shortly afterwards, and the Marquis of Ormonde, Lord in Waiting on her Majesty, and Captain Francis Seymour, Groom in waiting on Prince Albert, to be in readiness to receive the Queen of the Belgians on landing.

A guard of honor with the colours and band of the Royal Marines, arrived in the Dockyard, at 3 o'clock, p. m., under the command of Captain Walter, and about the same time, an escort of the Royal Horse Artillery, under the command of Lieutenant Gardiner, and B field battery under the command of Captain Taylor, to fire a royal salute.

The day being very fine, the scene in the Dock yard became animated by the arrival of Lieutenant General Lord Bloomfield, commander of the garrison; Colonel Parke, commandant of the Royal Marines; Lieut. Col. Wylde, of the Royal Horse Artillery, and Major Sandilands and Brigade major Cuppage of the Royal Artillery, Captain Washington of the Blazer steam vessel, Commander Smith of her Majesty's dockyard and Capt. and Adjutant Varlo of the Royal Marines, with a number of officers in her Majesty's services.

The signal-flag was hoisted on the steeple of the parish church, at 5 o'clock, at 15 minutes past five o'clock, p. m., that the Princess Alice steam vessel, Commander L. Smithett, (accompanied by Capt. Hamilton,) was in sight, with the Belgian flag at the mast-head. The guard of honor, the Royal Horse Artillery, and the field batteries immediately occupied their respective positions, and Lord Bloomfield Sir Francis Collier, the Marquis of Ormonde, the Belgian minister, Colonel Sir George Couper and Captain Francis Seymour, proceeded to the residence of the gallant superintendant, and accompanied her royal highness the Duchess of Kent to the landing place.

In consequence of the state of the tide, the Princess Alice went up the centre of the river nearly as far as Charlton Pier, and came down again inside between the vessels moored in the river and wharf wall and the Commander brought her up beautifully to the landing place. Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians on the near approach of the vessel was observed standing on deck beside Captain Hamilton, and her suite, Madame d'Hougvorst & Major Moerkerke.

Lord Bloomfield, Sir Francis A. Collier, the Marquis of Ormonde, and the Belgian Minister, went on board the Princess Alice steam vessel, and escorted her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians when landing, which was very easily accomplished by a gangway covered with green cloth and the rails with flags. At the moment her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians stopped on shore her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent warmly welcomed her royal relative, and the field batteries fired a royal salute, to announce that the Queen of the Belgians had landed. As her Majesty proceeded along the pathway covered with green cloth to one of the royal carriages the guard of honor of the Royal Marines presented arms, the band playing the National Anthem. Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians was escorted to the royal carriage by Lord Bloomfield and Sir Francis Collier. Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent entered the same carriage, and immediately left the dock yard and proceeded by the road through Greenwich for Buckingham Palace, followed by two other royal carriages, and several private carriages with her Majesty's suite and attendants from the British court.

Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians embarked in the Princess Alice steam vessel at Ostend this morning at half-past seven o'clock, and although a strong north-west gale prevailed, performed the voyage in ten hours, having arrived at the dockyard Woolwich, at precisely half past five o'clock p. m. His Majesty the King of the Belgians accompanied the Queen to Ostend, and on board of the packet, but his departure for England has been delayed.

Her Majesty the Queen of the Belgians and her royal highness the Duchess of Kent were dressed in deep mourning.—*Gazette.*

England and Switzerland.—A Berne journal says—"The direct annual imports from England into the canton of Berne are valued as follow:—Spun cotton, 1,200 quintals, worth 70,000f.; woollen tissues, 330,000f.; other mixed tissues, 170,000f.; spun hemp, 3,500 quintals, worth 400,000f.; spun wool, 40,000f.; hardware, 25,000f.; ironmongery, 56,000f.; tin, 2,000f.; castings, 12,000f.—giving a total of 1,107,000f."

The Missouri.—A mechanist in London, named Blackburn, has bought the wreck of the American steam frigate Missouri, which was destroyed by fire at Gibraltar six months ago, for £4,500; and he is about to proceed there with steam engines, air pumps, and condensing apparatus, for the express purpose of diving in 36 fathom water. It is expected it will be a most profitable job, the boilers alone, being of strong copper, are considered worth from £10,000 to £12,000 old metal, and the facilities for operating against the engine and boilers are very great, the decks having been entirely destroyed.

Expenditure of Ireland.—The total expenditure of Ireland last year was £3,184,695, of which £1,211,313 was for the interest of debt, £994,500 for the army, £84,870 for the navy, £561,328 permanent charges on the Consolidated Fund exclusive of Public Works, and £322,682 Miscellaneous services. In this return, however, the share of Ireland in the general expenditure of the Imperial Government is not included.

The Ojibbeway Indians.—Nottawakin, (the strong wind,) one of the Ojibbeway Indians lately exhibited in London, is about to enter into the matrimonial state with a very pretty and interesting young lady of English birth, about 18 years of age and of respectable connexions resident in Somerstown. He acts as interpretor to the other Indians, and speaks both English and French tolerably well.

Post Office Statistics.—In 1839 the number of letters amounted in one week, to 1,585,973; one week in 1842, to 4,292,546; in one week in 1843, to 4,222,658, showing that the penny postage system had trebled the number despatched through the post office. In May 1843, the total number of persons employed in the post office of the kingdom, was 11,302. The net revenue of the establishment, exclusive of all charges, in 1843, was £478,479. In the same year, 981,194 money orders were issued to the amount of £2,055,192.

A letter from Adrianople in the Augsburgh Gazette, states that a sudden thaw had caused a great inundation, which had destroyed 3,000 houses in that city, and carried away a considerable quantity of goods. The loss is estimated at about 3,000,000 piastres.

Another Infernal Machine.—In the Sentinelle of Marseilles, we learn that M. Daniel Borme, a navigator, 28 years of age, has invented a machine of such effect that, defended by it, towns can no longer be carried by assault. This machine of which gunpowder forms no part of its composition, would be capable of destroying by an explosion, without noise, all the enemy's troops, at a distance of 1,000 yards from the town to be attacked.

Prodigious Folly.—The Journal de Calais states that an Inhabitant of Southampton has recently been amusing himself by filling 14,000 bottles with 6,000 copies of an abridgment of "Universal History." These bottle well corked and sealed, have by his order, been placed in deep cavities in the icy caverns of Greenland, in the hope should a partial destruction of the globe again ensue, that they may survive the wreck and enlighten future ages, who would otherwise be ignorant of the events which have come to pass in this world. It is not stated what language this bottle conjuror has chosen to preserve the knowledge of the present race of mankind.

Reported Military Conspiracy in Paris.—The Courrier Francais states, "that although the report of a military conspiracy having been discovered amongst the troops in the garrison of Paris, as announced in the *National* of the 4th of March, gains ground amongst the public, the friends of the Ministry consider it as a pure invention. The Ministerial journals, however, are silent on the subject. The fact is sufficiently important to be contradicted if it do not exist. Marshal Soult held a conference on Monday evening with several generals and commanders of regiments." We find the following in the *Reforme*:—"The ministerial evening journals do not in the most remote degree allude to the arrests which have taken place within the last two days in the 70th regt. of the line. This news, however, formed the principal subject of conversation in the Chambers and at the Bourse. As ready as the Ministry were to speak of the pretended conspiracy in the Rue Pastourel, they appear to be equally anxious to conceal what occurred at the barracks of Neuilly and elsewhere. It is, therefore, difficult to ascertain the truth in the midst of so much contradiction. The report of certain superior officers having been arrested has been contradicted, but there exists no doubt of the fact of a number of non-commissioned officers and privates having been committed to the prison of the Abbaye. It is said that the conspirators had confederates in other regiments. The military authorities are increasing their precautions; the garrison is confined. All leave of absence has been withdrawn, and several councils, formed of general officers, have been held at the Tuileries.

The French government journal states that Admiral Dupetit Thouars, notorious for his repeated attacks on the rights of Queen Pomare in Tahiti, has been replaced in the post of Commander of the station of Oceania and of the Western Coast of America by another officer.

Portugal.—The government movements against the rebels are characterized by much weakness and apparent indecision. The royal troops have been marching and counter-marching, as though it were part of their tactics to avoid, instead of meeting the rebels. The reason is supposed to be, that the generals were afraid that their men would desert on coming near to the insurgents.

The Boscawen a fine new ship of 70 guns, was launched on the 3rd instant at Woolwich. The following are her dimensions:—

	feet.	in.
Length on the gun deck, ...	180	0
Ditto keel for tonnage	146	9¾
Breadth extreme	54	0
Ditto for tonnage	53	0
Ditto moulded	52	6
Depth in hold	24	0
Burthen in tons, old measure	2213	
Ditto new ditto	1911	

Marshal Soult attained his 80th year on the 29th ult having been born in 1765.

A camel mounted regiment has just been formed by the French Government of Algiers. The animals seem as capable of being taught military exercises as horses are.

The French army amounts to 344,000 men, including officers, and 83,416 horses. Of this total 284,000 men and 69,520 horses form the division in France, and 60,000 men and 13,416 horses those in Algeria.

Friday night's 'Gazette' announces, that the Queen has conferred the honour of Knighthood on Captain James Clark Ross, R. N., commander of the late Antarctic expedition.

It is rumoured that the contemplated visit of King Louis Philippe to this country will take place early in June, and that his Majesty will be accompanied by the Queen and the Prince and the Princess de Joinville.

His Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge completed the 25th year of his age on Tuesday last.

The Archbishop of York is now the oldest member of the House of Lords, being 87 years of age.

A deputation from London, Edinburgh, Glasgow &c., had an interview on Monday week with the President of her Majesty's Privy Council for Trade and Plantations, on the subject of the establishment of boards for the examination of masters and mates in the Merchants' service. The deputation was accompanied by several members of Parliament, Sir Howard Douglas being of the number.

The Great Western.—We hear that the Great Western steamer has been purchased by the Southampton Peninsular and Oriental steam packet company for the sum of £32,000.—*Bristol Journal.*

Iron Trade.—Great activity prevails in the iron market, and prices continue to advance; the price of Welsh bar iron is new £5 per ton, free on board in Bristol Channel, and the makers having sold pretty largely at this rate, are not disposed to contract heavily without obtaining even a higher price. Scotch pig iron has again advanced 5s. per ton, 55s per ton for No. 1 being now the general quotation, and upon Scotch manufactured iron we believe an advance of 10s per ton has taken place. The staffordshire and shropshire iron masters were to hold their usual meeting preliminary to Quarter-day, on the 28th, at Dudley, when we understand they we'd declare an advance upon manufactured iron of at least 20s per ton. From the immense consumption of iron at present, and the very large quantity of iron rails which will soon be required for the various railways going on in this country and on the continent, there is every reason to expect that the improvements in price will be maintained. *Glasgow Advertiser.*

THE LATE STORMS.

Violent Storm.—*Shipwreck and Loss of Life.*—One of the most violent storms ever known upon the Irish coast blew from the eastward on Friday morning and Saturday. The injuries sustained by vessels and the damage done to property in Kingstown has been very considerable. On Saturday the sea was so convulsed, and the weather so tempestuous, that the railway trains could run only up on the rail farthest from the shore, as the waves, for a great portion of the line, made clear breaches over the wall, and in some places washed the ballasting away. The down train, at a quarter before eight o'clock, consisting of the Kingstown engine and eight carriages, got off the line, the rails having been disturbed by the terrific force of the sea. In less than three hours all was again set right, without any injury to engine or carriages. The gale blew from the E. S. E., commencing about 4 a. m., and did not terminate till Sunday morning; a more angry and awful sea has not been witnessed for many years in the Bay of Dublin, and to a certain extent raged within the harbour, by which many vessels have been wrecked. The schooner Seymour, of Bray, coal laden from Whitehaven, was overwhelmed by a sea when crossing the Burford bank, and all hands perished. This sad sight was seen by the crew of the brig Endeavour, of Whitehaven, which, also struck on the bank, and expected to have been swallowed up in a similar manner. The vessels lost are as follows:—The brig Hemer, of Maryport, total wreck; the brig Mary, of Whitehaven, sunk; the schooner Bettiss, of Liverpool, sunk; the schooner Tom, of Whitehaven, sunk; the Thomas Agnes, of Preston, sunk; the schooner Bellevue, of Greystone, perfect wreck; the Jane and Francis, of Wexford, much injured. The brig Pandora, of Whitehaven; the sloop Colonel Smith, of Carnarvon; the sloop Catherine, of Newry; the Maria, of Whitehaven, all more or less damaged.

Dreadful Shipwrecks.—Twenty lives Lost.—Within the last three or four days the destruction of two fine Liverpool ships has been reported at Lloyd's, namely, the Georgian, Captain Wilson, (a barque), 224 tons burthen, and the Caroline, Captain Jackson, burthen nearly 600 tons, the amount of which losses, it is said, is a little short of £45,000; and what renders the wrecks more painful is, that they were attended with the loss of upwards of twenty lives. The intelligence concerning the Georgina came to hand late on Tuesday evening. It appears that she left Liverpool for Arica, in South America, with a general cargo, on the morning of Saturday last, a stiffish breeze blowing at the time. She however proceeded favorably until the morning of the following day, when she was driven with much force on a dangerous shoal, called the Blackwater bank, about nine miles to the north-east of Wexford. Every endeavour was made to get her off; but the gale still increasing, she was completely driven right over the bank into the deep water. The commander instantly ordered the fore-anchor to be let go, in order that she might be brought up. This had the desired effect for a short time, but she soon broke adrift again, and a second anchor was then dropped. At that period, however, it was found that the vessel was fast sinking; and a cry was raised "To the boats!" They were speedily lowered, and the crew quickly shoved off from the ill-fated barque, and used all their exertions to gain the land. The surf was running tremendously strong, and the wind was as equally boisterous.—The boats, notwithstanding, made way until they had nearly approached the beach, when they were hurled bottom upwards, and the crew was quickly thrown into the sea. Some of the unfortunate fellows tried to regain the boats; others attempted to swim ashore; but out of the whole number, consisting of fourteen persons, only two survived.—W. Carren, chief mate, and David M'Lean, seaman, the remainder including the captain, perishing amidst the breakers. The Georgina subsequently foundered in twelve fathom water, and consequently, is a complete loss. She was the property of Mr. J. Worrsl, of Liverpool, and it is reported that her loss will amount to £30,000, a great deal of which is insured. The Caroline was a fine packet ship, and belonged to Wilson and Dawson, of Chapel walk, Liverpool. She left that port in the early part of last week, with a general outward-bound cargo for Africa, her crew consisting of 29 persons. On her arrival off the Welsh coast, it came on to blow very hard, and Captain Jackson deemed it prudent to run for the Stadwell roads for shelter. The entrance had scarcely been gained before both of her anchors were obliged to be dropped for her safety. The gale increased from the W. N. W. with a tremendous rolling sea on, and after weathering for a considerable time, she was driven from her moorings on to the rocks on the westernmost Stadwell Island, and quickly went to pieces. The captain and some of the unfortunate fellows swam to the Island, but were soon swept off with the surf, and perished. The remainder of the crew saved themselves by the jolly and long boats, although in a most dreadful state of exhaustion. Her loss will be very heavy, and she is partially insured in this city.

Nine Lives lost in Belfast Harbour.—On Saturday morning last, Lieutenant Victor, of the coast Guard service, proceeded with a boat manned by seven of his men to the mouth of the harbour, for the purpose of boarding the brig Sylph, from Buenos Ayres, then coming in, the wind blowing a gale.—As they neared the brig, the boat was capsized by a heavy sea. The lieutenant and his gallant crew were seen to rise upon the surface and make a gallant effort to get upon the bottom of the boat, but the sea was too rough to admit of it—the whole were drowned before assistance could reach them. In a short time afterw