

indispensable to the education of the man or the citizen, and could only have been proposed by such men as presented Robert Owen to the Queen. The Established Churches are resisting the introduction of this anti-christian system—while the Roman Catholics, and certain bodies of orthodox Dissenters, have combined their strength in favor of it. The grant, for this purpose, was carried in the Commons by a Ministerial majority of only two—and the House of Peers voted and presented, in a body, an address to the Queen, condemnatory of the whole plan. The Penny Postage Bill, the originator of which is Mr. Rowland Hill, is now a law. The plan is simply this, that all letters put into any of the post offices shall, on the payment of *one penny*, be sent to any part of the United Kingdom. The Canadian Episcopalian Petitions, praying that the whole of the Clergy Reserves may be given to that Church, were presented in the House of Commons, on the 30th July. This movement seems to have proved a failure every way—as it deserved to do—the petitions not having been signed to any extent; and the bill, for the reinvestment of the Reserves in the Crown,—to which they had reference,—having, through an informality, been found inoperative.—The privilege of the House of Commons, of publishing such evidence before committees as may contain statements injurious to private character, has been called in question before the law courts, and a decision has been given against the House, in the person of its printer. This privilege, however, can hardly be dispensed with, without injury to the public interests, and steps will no doubt be taken to establish its validity. Mr. Abercrombie has resigned the Speakership—being succeeded by Mr. Shaw Lefevre. Parliament was prorogued on the 27th August—and some changes in the Ministry have recently taken place,—but none likely to alter materially the course of policy. The most important to Colonists, is the exchange of offices made by Lord John Russell and the Marquis of Normanby, the former being now at the head of the Colonial Office. The recent news respecting the crops and harvest, in Great Britain, is very unfavourable. The application of steam in the British navy is advancing rapidly. The number of steam vessels of war already amounts to thirty-three; of those, for commercial purposes, in the United Kingdom, seven hundred and sixty-six.

EUROPEAN STATES.—Under this head there is but little of permanent interest to report, and it is far from being our purpose to give a detail of the multitude of minor movements and events.—Having formerly mentioned the interruption of diplomatic intercourse between Austria and Belgium, because of the countenance shown by the

latter to a Polish refugee leader of great note—but most unpronounceable name—it may be proper to add, that a friendly understanding and communication have been restored between the two countries. In France, the King, Louis Philippe,—who seems to be his own Prime Minister,—appears to have succeeded in dividing, if not in breaking up, the powerful coalition formed by various parties against his administration. An insurrection, of a formidable character, broke out in Paris during this contest between the King and the coalition, which was not quelled without considerable bloodshed. The civil war in Spain is at last terminated; Don Carlos, having been abandoned by his general and troops, has taken refuge in France.

IN THE EAST.—Affairs continue in a very unsettled state, and occupy a great share of attention among the European powers. In the midst of his increasing difficulties with the Pacha of Egypt, Sultan Mahmoud, has closed his earthly career, and is succeeded by his son, an inexperienced youth of 17 years of age. The Turkish army has suffered a total overthrow from the Egyptian, under Ibrahim, and, on the death of the Sultan, his Admiral delivered up the Turkish fleet to Mehemet Ali, of Egypt. The European powers, however, have interfered vigorously, to prevent the subversion of the Turkish dominion. Britain and France have large fleets in the Levant. The peace of Europe is, no doubt, put in imminent peril by these difficulties, and it is to be hoped, on this account particularly, that they may be speedily adjusted. The insidious and grasping policy of Russia has long been directed to the subjugation or dismemberment of the Turkish empire, with a view of securing a large portion of the spoils; and this will greatly aggravate the difficulty of adjusting these difficulties. At the same time, the ambition of the Pacha of Egypt will hardly be satisfied, without establishing an independent sovereignty, and, perhaps, not without an increase of territory also, at the expense of Turkey. Hostilities are still carried on with no very decided success, between the Russians and Circassians. The progress of the Anglo-Indian army towards Afghanistan and the borders of Persia, has been attended with less difficulty than was anticipated. The intrigues of Russia, in connection with Persia, against the peace and security of our Indian empire, by which this expedition has been rendered necessary, have at length been discovered, and Russia has found it expedient to disavow and condemn the proceedings of her own emissaries in this matter. The great object which the British have in view, of establishing an effective barrier on the north-western frontier of India, against Russian and Persian