

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The King of Prussia has outwitted the Swiss Cantons, and the Neuchâtel Conference are adjourned for the present—to be resumed probably when the Swiss have acceded to his preposterous terms. The monarch has hitherto passed for a weak man, but either he or his advisers have a dash of the opposite quality in their nature. The Swiss were foolish enough to give up their strong position—the retention of the royalist rebels. When this had been conceded his Prussian Majesty quietly turned round, and agreed to renounce his claim to sovereignty when the following terms were complied with:—1. A full amnesty to those who took part in the events of September last. 2. Payment to the King by the Swiss Confederation of a sum of 2,000,000 francs, being the capitalised amount of the revenue of the domains he is to cede, at the rate of 5 per cent. 3. Restitution of the church property confiscated to the State in 1848. 4. Payment by the Swiss Confederation of the expenses resulting from the events of September. 5. Guarantee by the State of the capital and revenue of the pious foundations, almshouses, &c., and particularly of those founded by Herr von Purg. 6. Suspension of the discussion of the constitution of Neuchâtel until after the expiration of a delay of six months.

It is not to be wondered at that Dr. Kern found it impossible to admit these pretensions, and referred to his Government for instructions. Switzerland is hardly likely to accept these terms, but then it has disbanded its forces, and must now trust for an abatement of these demands to the generosity of the Power which it was about to oppose in the field.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.—Letters from various parts of Italy are quoted in the Times. One writer says:—"It grieves me much to be obliged to confess that the state of public feeling here (in Lombardy) is nearly as bad as it was three months ago. The recent measures towards Sardinia has produced a very bad impression, and has induced the Lombards to believe that the Austrian government has an inveterate and incurable antipathy to the Italian nationality. The Milanese are blinded by their prejudices, and consequently totally unable to make allowance for the morbid sensibility which Austria displays whenever the justice of her claims to the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom is impugned." A second writer speaks of the discontent which has been caused by the "unusually large conscription" in Venice and Lombardy; and a third declares that the Venetians are extremely indignant that three millions of lire should have been advanced by the state, at very low rate of interest, to the Podesta Count Correr, who a few months ago was in great pecuniary difficulties.

THE FIGHTING IN CIRCASSIA.—The following official report of the warfare in Circassia has been received at Constantinople:—"The Hetman of the Cossaks of the Black Sea received orders to surprise and seize Chapsu. He took with him four thousand men from Olbinski, a fortified place which defends and commands the bridge that the Russians have built over the Kuban. The Russians marched in a southerly direction along the river Alfins, hoping to surprise the enemy, but as their ill-luck would have it, they were watched in their movements by Naib Pacha, who, without loss of time, sent orders round about Chapsu and Apash for every man capable of bearing arms to repair instantly to a certain spot which was indicated. In a short time Naib had around him several thousand men, whom he briefly harangued with a few heroic words, and then took up a position on the right bank of the Alfins. Although the Cossaks advanced with considerable caution, they had no suspicion of meeting with an ambuscade; and when actually attacked they fought very gallantly; but the Circassians, numerically superior, and with a spirit much excited against them, inflicted upon them a severe defeat, and pursued them as far as Olbinski. The Russians lost several men and three guns, which the mountaineers took home in triumph. This affair proves that the presence of Mehmed Bey in the country has already produced its effects. Upon his landing he was received by a deputation of the Circassian nobles, and some 250 Polish deserters, and some strong detachments of the national troops. Each detachment, headed by its captain, was drawn up on the coast, where the ships of the expedition came to anchor, and all in readiness to encounter and repel any Russian attempt at a diversion.

SPAIN.
A letter from Madrid of the 2nd has the following:—"It is said that the Russian Government is employing all its influence to bring about a reconciliation between the members of the royal family of Spain, and to cause the most influential Cortes to acknowledge the Queen's Government, so as to enable them to return to Spain and to obtain high places; but the Narvaez cabinet has nothing to do with these projects. Reforms in the tariffs are spoken of, but it appears that the Government will not undertake any without the co-operation of the Cortes."

A letter from Madrid says:—"Very active communications are taking place between our Government and those of France and England on the subject of the difference between Spain

and Mexico. Our cabinet hopes to obtain the moral support of those two Powers; and in the event of the question going beyond a war between Spain and Mexico, their material support also."

NAPLES.

A despatch from General Martini, the Austrian Ambassador at Naples, repeats the statement that the court of the Two Sicilies is more and more disposed to make advances towards the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with the Western Powers.

According to the Court Journal the marriage of the Princess Royal is not to take place until January next. As the young lady is only in her 16th year the delay is not a matter of serious import. One of the causes alleged for the postponement is that the residence which is now preparing in Berlin for the young Prince and Princess will not be completed before the end of the year. There will be some amusing debates in the House of Commons respecting the allowance which the country is expected to make the young lady on her marriage; and very pertinent questions were put to many of the candidates at the hustings during the late elections on this subject. It is well known that the civil list of the Sovereign is so ample that her Consort is enabled to save large sums of money out of it; and there are very good Conservatives who think that the Royal, like all other families, ought to provide for the education of its children, and meet, besides all the contingencies incidental to the family, the contingencies of the State. The fact is, that the continental potentates believe the English people to be rolling in wealth, and to ease them of a portion of it is one of the main causes of these Royal Alliances.

The Sound Dues treaty has been ratified, and the first ship that passed through the Sound without stopping at Helsingfors was a Prussian.

Some stir, according to the last accounts, has been caused in Newfoundland by the convention between the British and the French Crowns relative to the rights of fishing, which was signed in London in the early part of last year.

Another convention between ourselves and the French has been concluded, the object of which is to prevent misunderstanding with respect to the right of trading at and near Portendic, on the West Coast of Africa, and at Albrede, on the river Gambia, between English and French subjects. Some rights are conceded on each side, and others are given in return, and the general result will further, no doubt, the amity of the two nations.

DUMAS ON LORD PALMERSTON.—M. Alexander Dumas, *fi s.*, in his last letter to *La Presse* about the English general election, says:—"Lord Palmerston appealed to the people. The people have already responded to that appeal by returning a formidable majority, of perhaps a more formidable one than the limited liberalism of the noble lord would wish. For the noble lord undoubtedly belongs to the religious party which is not progressive—that is, to the low church; and the noble lord has always refused, if not in word, at least in deed, to consent to any real reforms. Now, the great cry of the English nation at this moment is for liberty of conscience and for an extension of the suffrage, which will always encounter in him a resistance, cleverly disguised but therefore the more invincible. Lord Palmerston in his speech to the electors of Tiverton plainly declared that he would never comply with the demands of those who expected radical reforms. On the other hand, the members just elected have pledged themselves to the full accomplishment of the wishes of their constituents with regard to those reforms which public opinion considers to be necessary, such as the extension of the suffrage and liberty of conscience. Some of them have even declared that if Lord Palmerston did not propose measures as liberal as they hoped, they would compel him to do so. The minister has called to his aid the giant power which is called public opinion. Now he will have to struggle with that giant. Do you remember what Pyrrhus said after the battle of Heraclea? 'One more such victory as this, and I shall be ruined.'"

NOBLE LADIES AND THE ELECTORS.—An influence that largely contributed to Lord John Russell's return was the admiration excited by the appearance at the hustings, and active interest taken in the poll, by his wife. Lady John Russell appeared in the City with her children, visited the different polling booths, had a smile and a courtesy ready for every voter, and completely won the hearts of the multitude, who here, as elsewhere, like to see a strong display of the domestic ties. Another candidate's wife in the country carried matters even further than did Lady John Russell. Lady Mildred Hope, the daughter of the marquis of Salisbury, and wife of Mr. Beesford Hope—who has just got in for Maidstone—by the admission of all parties carried the election for her husband. She did not exactly canvass for him, but all through the election she was constantly driving about the town; she also was most active at the nomination and during the polling; and at the close, unable to restrain herself any longer, she threw up the window of her hotel, and addressed the mob in a speech which everybody agreed was

better than her husband's, delivered immediately afterwards from the same place.

DENMARK AND THE DUCHIES.

The following despatch has been published at Paris dated Berlin, 22nd inst.:—"Prussia refuses to refer the decision of the question of the Danish Duchies to the Western Powers, as desired by France and England, on the ground of its being a purely German matter. It is thought that Austria will also refuse."

The abolition of the Sound Dues has caused very great satisfaction to all classes in Sweden as the trade of the country is thus relieved from a yearly tax of no less than a million of rixdollars or the interest of a capital of 20,000,000 rixdollars. The proposed new tariff is a worthy addition to this treaty and will place the customs law of Sweden on the most liberal footing, making free trade a reality in that country.

(From the Ledger.)

TO P. F. LITTLE ESQ. H. M. ATTORNEY GENERAL.

As leader of the ministry and legal adviser of the Governor you are responsible to the people who placed you in power, for the measures of that Administration, I shall therefore offer no apology for thus addressing you with reference to the French Fishery Convention. In doing so I shall only refer to Governor Darling, inasmuch as he has put himself forward as the apologist and counsel for the acts of himself and advisers, with that consideration, candor and truthfulness to which the absent are entitled, feeling assured that should I exceed the bounds of fair criticism his ministry will not be wanting or unwilling to apply the lash. The specious pretence of a defence of Governor Darling was too transparent to cover the real design, to excuse your own administration, whether from your paid organ in pamphlet form, or anonymous scribbles. The tenor of the whole was to throw dust into the eyes of your dupes and tools, some of whom are gullible enough to believe, that neither the Governor nor the Little Administration had anything to do with the French Fishery Convention. The reply of His Excellency Governor Darling to the inhabitants of St. John is also open to something more than a suspicion of his casting a lurid light over his complicity with you and your colleagues, in that monstrous scheme of spoliation, some of its most injurious articles being based mainly on your 66 Despatch. When I say your, I wish to be understood as meaning you and your colleagues, who unanimously concurred with Governor Darling in all its contents, and are therefore responsible, I wish again to remind you that it is not against Governor Darling that these remarks are directed, but against the advocate of a wily Administration. To the great mass of those who signed the Address, the Reply may have appeared as a conclusive and triumphant refutation of the suspicious intimations, or charges, openly or covertly made by the Governor and his advisers—but I will not insult the intelligent portion of them who are accustomed to look beneath the surface, by supposing that they have failed to discover with pity and surprise that the retutation and defence of Governor Darling and his ministry is based upon equivocation the most despicable. There is no denial of the knowledge of the *existence of negotiations*. He could not deny it! can you Mr. Attorney General? I await your answer, you are arraigned at the bar of public opinion, you are charged with guilty complicity with the authors of the French Fishery Convention, that can and will be sustained only by reference to parliamentary and other documents published by Governor Darling, your counsel has failed in making out a case in your favor, you are challenged to defend this measure of your administration if you can and dare try.

Yours obediently

JUNUIS.

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

HARBOUR GRACE WEDNESDAY MAY 6

The question often presents itself to our mind are those papers which are termed Government organs, really and truly the exponents of ministerial policy—the indices of Cabinet feeling; as they undoubtedly are the defenders, and fulsome adulators of that unaccountable and irresponsible body. If such must be taken as the true state of things political; what a contracted and lamentable feeling must pervade the august body which now sways the destinies of the Country. From the Newfoundlander's Editorial we take the following elegant extract.

"He [Mr. Robinson] came to first light, even as his noble friend Lord Palmerston, without original sin 'born a protestant' above the vulgar need of Baptismal rite."

This quotation would sufficiently show the present animus of the Newfoundlander, which to a certain extent might be made to operate upon the minds of a few prejudiced and ignorant partisans, but in the name of the Country, and of society generally without respect to sect or party, we protest against the reintroduction of such principles into our Colonial polity, or among the people.

If the mercantile body thought proper to employ Mr. Robinson as a delegate, or to solicit that Gentlemen's professional opinions, upon the subject of French rights to our shore and Fishery; what was that to the Newfoundlander or men of his ilk? They (the Merchants) had long supported the said Newfoundlander, by subscription and voluminous advertisements, before the triumvirate which now rules the Country dreamt of significance or potentiality. And some of them had even deigned to avow their adhesion to that Government, which still owes and pays so much to the Newfoundlander; all were willing to give it a fair trial, but surely they could afford to act independently of their former hopeful protegee in such a matter as our Fishery rights, this was no party subject, nor would it have been so deemed, if the Newfoundlander, prompted by a guilty and consequently suspicious ministry, and goaded by a latent but rancorous spirit, had not violated all rules of Editorial, political, and social decency, to make it so.

But admitting for the sake of argument that the point in question was a fit subject for party discord, what had the religious profession of individuals to do with it? certainly nothing. Governor Darling's opinions were adverse to Mr. Robinsons, and both those gentlemen are Episcopalian, of the correctness of either of those opinions as to our fishery rights the public "which knows not how to spare but rarely blames unjustly" must and will determine.

We hoped that after the introduction of liberal and responsible principles into the Government, distinctions of creed would no longer form an element either of power or exclusion, that old prejudices would disappear under a just form of Government, and that men would no longer persecute or annoy their fellow citizens on the ground of religious difference, this to a great extent has taken place, and it may be presumed that Christian charity would soon completely set at rest those feelings of animosity which were of old encouraged by the interested and the unprincipled for party purposes, but the Newfoundlander true to its established character grasps at the Dictatorship, and changes venue when it suits his own purposes; not catholicism but Governmentism is engraven on his crest, when church and state policy was in the ascendant, the Newfoundlander was with the government which would retain his Co-religionists in subjection, but now that by the efforts of better men, that principle is eradicated, and a Government Established which might and should afford justice to all, the Newfoundlander scribes change their cue and to prove their sincerity, under new motive power at present in operation, or to gratify an envious and malicious propensity, spirit out their venom on characters which despise them, let them go on, one thing is certain they will find less sympathy in the public mind now than in other days, men who knew their rights, and how to obtain them, will no longer be swayed by catch words, but will allow all public questions to be judged by their merits, without appeal to discordant sectarian invocations.

We are compelled to trespass a little longer upon the indulgence of our subscribers, with regard to our type impressions, but have reason to believe that in a very short time, we shall receive from Boston a variety of new type, which will give our paper quite an improved appearance. It is hardly necessary for us to say how anxiously we expect the arrival which will thus enable us to give satisfaction (at least in this particular) inasmuch as we know that we have lost subscribers by our deficiency in this, and it may be in other respects; but this only impresses us the more with a sense of obligation to those generous friends whose support to a journal at once liberal, and independent, clearly evinces that they are worthy of liberal institutions and capable of appreciating Patriotic efforts to render them permanently beneficial to the Country. It matters not whether the government be in the hands of Whigs or Tories, Liberals or Conservatives, all are subject to venality, and all require the constant supervision of an independent and uncompromising public press.

We regret to observe that many of our sealers are returning slowly from the voyage and that they are not generally so well fished as those interested were led to anticipate. A few good trips have lately come in, and we have reason to believe that, with a few unfortunate exceptions the sealing voyage in this Bay will be a saving one.

It is Appointed unto all once to die.
DIED.—On Friday morning Leopora the beloved wife of Mr. Joseph Martin of this place, aged 54 years.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

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The following resolution of the Board on the 21st inst. Resolved.—That the accounts for the Public Buildings, or a has control, except ordered by the Board by the written order of the secretary for such expenses. Resolved.—That no Roads, or servant of have authority to give work of any description the written order of the secretary.

THE UNDERSIGNED dering his acknowledgments to his

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