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ENGLISH LETTER.

LONDON, May 1, 1873. LONDON, May 1, 1873.

Mr. Disraeli, it is generally known, is prepared to take office on the dissolution of the present Parliament; and entertains the hepe that an appeal to the country would result in his favour. Of the latter no one can speak confidently; of the former the present Government seems to have "other views." With an intention of drawing the Government into a declaration of policy, on Monday evening last, Mr. W. H. Smith, M. P. for Westminster, came forward with a metion on the Government's financial policy; which, as a matter of fact, was a motion of want of confidence. He moved "That before deciding on the further reduction of indirect taxation, it is desirable that the House should be put in possession of the views of the Government with reference to the maintenance and the adjustment of direct taxation, both Imperial and local."

In the course of his speech the hon, member hald that local taxation claimed reduction.



prefrumes, latening to the size United States one of Confidence, he expressed the hope that some who were to follow Mr. Smith on the ame side of the House, would tell them what was to be done if the resolution were carried. Were they to have another fortnight of walking backward and forward and doing nothing? There was no division, a motion of adjournment being carried.

On Friday evening last Mr. Chichester Fortecare paid a high compliment to the administrative capacity of the Dominion Government. In the House of Commons, the Right Honourable gentleman, in reply to Sir J. Pakington, said that the investigation into the loss of the Adantic had been made the authority of a Colonial Act, which gave a Colonial Government similiar authority to that held in this country under the Merchant Shipping Act. He was flot in a position to know that all had been regular, but he might state "that Canadian inquiries of that kind were generally well and carefully conducted." The sentence of the Court also was final as regarded the Captain, but the question of the provisioning of the ships, as affecting the owners and the officers of the Board of Trade, could only be settled by a searching investigation at the Port of Liverpool. I may add that Messers Ismay, Imrie Co., court this investigation.

The case of the Crown versus the Tichorne Claimant draws its weary length along. In a most masterly way, and with a tonch of grim humour, here and there cutting irony, and, on occasion, righteous invective, Mr. Hawkins has laid the case for the Prosecution before the jury. Supplying material for half's a dozen three volume novels, he had detailed the life histories of Roger Tiebhorne and Arthur Orton, the latter of whom he identifies with the defendant: and showed how all the evidence for the case for the Claimant was concosted by this "boild but ignorant adventurer." Mr. Hawkins is more senecessful, I think, than the Attorney-General was, from the fact that, while more successful, I think, than the Attorney-General was, from the fact th

in the box with the bonds were numerous documents and things belonging to George documents and things belonging to George with the second that Austin 18th well has been given up to the British Consul Havans, who will forward him to England on board a man-of-war. It would almost be a forward of the second the second of the second that the second tha days ago on a pugilistic encounter that came of reprobation, that among the spectators there were a Marquis, two lords, and many others of rank; and that the prize was bestowed on the better man by the said Marquis, two or there were a Marquis of Queensberry. For the next two or three days persons connected with the proprietory of the Hall rushed into print to express their ignorance of the purpose for which the Hall was taken; and their disapproval—dear in mocent souls—of so highly improper an exhibition. The noble Marquis also appeared in print; but in a more manly strain. He asserted that he was not present nor did he give the prize: but added—"Hall known of it, it is quite probable that I should have been present, as, thank God, I have no objection to see a good fight with gloves, or without them, for the matter of that." Then deprecating the frequent blackguardism stendant on these encounters, he said he feared that this black guardism would lead to the depreciation of the "noble art" in public opinion, and ended by asying: —"Yet England may regret some day that her sons should substitute for the use of their first the first deadly weapon that comes to their hand." Those who are able to contrast a street row in New York with one in London will sympathise with the Marquis in this expression of opinion. Not a few who have "seen stare" in the course of boyinh days, or who have been "incacked silly" by a friendly hand, have in later years, maybe in escorting a fair incanorata home after nightfall, blessed their stars for firsts and the contrast a street of firsts and on the Gordine was acquired, in our teaching with some insulting blackguard, and our . One can and our . One can

of boyish days, or who have been "knocked silly" by a friendly hand, have in later years, maybe in escorting a fair inamorata home after nightfall, blessed their stars for the skill and confidence so acquired, in contending with some insulting blackguard, We may be thankful that a pair of fist (weo betide the assailant if they be adorned with diamond rings) still answer all practical purposes here.

A painful sensation has been produced by the suicide of the Earl of Delawarr, who drowned himself in the Cam last week. From the evidence it appeared that since the death of a lady who had lived under his protection, his Lordship's mind had been addly deranged. The lady referred to had died under painful circumstances—from the teo free use of stimulants, in fact—and the Earl had got the idea into his head that he had been the means of her death. Of course the medical testimony proved that this was clearly an hallucination, and that the mental tissue which gave it birth had sprung from the strong love his lordship bore his mistress, in suite of her miserable failing. The death of Earl Delawarr has brought sorrow to the noble House of the Stanleys, the Countess of Derby being his sister.

Whatever the Fenian Amnesty Association may be guilty of, it cannot be charged with wanting in persistence. That body has determined on entering on the prosecution of cruelty to Daniel Reddin, a well-known Fenian. The case is to be argued before the Queen's Bench sitting in Danoe: and a formidable array of connel has been engaged for the prosecution, vis:—Mr. Butt, Q.C. M.P., the Irish supporter of the Opposition in the House of Commons, and one of the leading Home Rule members, Mr. Matthews, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. Russell, all able men; but men of rather too advanced opinions, perhaps, to advise on an Irish question dispassionately, and ministration will be exposed. Well, that may be a benefit, though I doubt if the system will not be found to be one on which it would be difficult to improve. A meeting was held last Saturday evening at