

it are few—that because no Bishop signs it no Bishop sympathizes with it—or that the sense of injury is confined to a handful of persons who may be driven by active persecution to Rome—would be much to misconceive the matter. The feeling we have described, not in exaggerated colours, is alive, we believe, in every class, order, and rank in the Church (by which we do not mean the clergy alone), and will show itself whenever it finds a clear path and a seasonable time.—*Guardian*.

News Department.

Extracts from English Papers by the Niagara.

ENGLAND.

THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY AND HARVEST HOMES.—The good old British custom of harvest-homes has just been revived on St. Giles's estate, Dorsetshire, the seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury. Having previously entertained at a festivity of this description the peasantry on a portion of his domain in that county, to the number of nearly 300, his lordship last week invited those residing in the parishes of Horton, Woodlands, Sutton, and Gassage All Saints. The labourers and servants on the various farms, numbering about 350, assembled during the morning in the yard adjoining the mansion of St. Giles's, under the care of their respective employers, and shortly afterwards proceeded to church, headed by a band of music. The sacred edifice was soon crowded with an attentive and decently attired congregation, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Countess of Shaftesbury, Lord Ashley, and the other members of the family being present. After prayers a sermon was preached by the Rev. James Webb, from the 6th chapter of John, verse 27—"Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life." On returning from church a bountiful dinner was provided for the guests beneath a spacious tent that had been erected and gaily decorated for the occasion, and each of the party was apportioned a supply of good old beer, sufficient to "cheer but not inebriate." The Earl of Shaftesbury presided at the head of the tables, and Lord Ashley took the post of carver at the other end. Among the interested spectators were Count Creptowitsch, the Russian Ambassador, and his countess; the Marquis D'Azeglio; and other visitors and friends of the family.—The repast being over, and grace pronounced, the noble Earl rose, and said he desired to address a few words to those around him before they left that place. He wished to say with what gratification he saw them there as his guests—his honest, hard working peasantry, who, under the providence of God, had been called to bring in and store up a most bountiful harvest. He thought these celebrations were of great value in bringing together all classes of society—he thought they were of value, to show that they were all dependent one upon another; and that although he was the possessor of that estate, he could have no enjoyment of it without the good conduct of the honest labourer and peasantry. If they derived any benefit from him, he, on the other hand, derived benefit from them; and if they had derived any from these good things at his hands, he had received them at the hand of God; he was but the channel for conveying them to his neighbour. Whatever their thanks, he wished them to be offered to the main source, and that they should only look upon him as the instrument through which any benefit had been conveyed. That was the greatest honour to which a man could aspire, namely, being the instrument under God, of conferring benefit upon his fellow man. He then proceeded to observe that he rejoiced they were beginning to revive throughout the length and breadth of the land the good old British custom of harvest-homes. He believed such gatherings were a benefit to them all. If any one doubted the good that arose from them, he should wish that person to see the decency of demeanour and the joyous faces of all present. He was quite certain that many of them had formed good resolutions that day, and that, as they had been an honour to that estate, and, he trusted, an honour to their Christian profession, so, under the blessing of God, they would continue to be so, and that they would endeavour to perform that which was the highest honour to which they could attain, to do their duty in that state of life to which it had pleased God to call them. And now he wished them hearty joy. The park was open; there was a band for their amusement, and cricket and other games would be provided. He trusted that at the close of the day they would rejoice that under the blessing of God they had had an opportunity by rational mirth and by honest, sober enjoyment, to cele-

brate His praises, not only with their lips, but in their lives (loud applause).—The party then repaired to the park, where dancing and a variety of rural sports were kept up with much spirit, the whole proceeding being of a most pleasing and gratifying character.

Mr. Spurgeon did not preach at the Surrey Gardens on Sunday last, though it is stated he will do so next week. He appeared, however, at his own chapel in Park street, which was densely crowded. Not having quite recovered, the preacher confined himself, we are told, to prayer and "exhortation," instead of a sermon. In both he alluded to the recent catastrophe. The following is reported as a part of the prayer:—

"Thanks to thy name! Thanks to thy name! Thy servant feared he should not have addressed this congregation again. But thou hast brought him from the fiery furnace, and not even a snell of fire has passed upon him. Thou hast, moreover, given thy servant strength, and he desires now to confirm these great promises of free grace which the Gospel affords. Thou knowest, O God! our feelings of sorrow. We must not open the sluices of our woe. O God! comfort those who are lingering in pain and suffering, and cheer those who have been bereaved. Let a blessing rest upon them—even the blessing of the covenant of grace and of this world. And now, Lord, bless thy people. We have loved one another—we have rejoiced in each others joys—we have wept together in sorrow. Thou hast welded us together, one in doctrine, one in practice, and one in holy love. Oh that it may be said of each that he is bound up in the bundle of life. Oh Lord, we thank thee for all the slander, calumny, and malice with which thou hast allowed the enemy to honour us, and grant that we may never give them cause to blaspheme with reason."

Mr. Spurgeon concluded with a personal reference to the various classes of his hearers, calling upon despisers to tremble, scoffers to weep, and bidding all true penitents rejoice. A great crowd awaited his departure from the chapel, and many eager admirers ran after the carriage to grasp the hand which he extended from the window of his brougham.

We feel much satisfaction in stating that the reduction to half pay of the lieutenants of the regiments of infantry recently serving in the Crimea will not take place. The sole object of the authorities at the War Department in seeking to carry out the reduction was one of economy. We believe that a more close investigation of the financial part of the question has satisfied even those who are more immediately responsible for the control of the national expenditure, that the saving caused by placing these officers on half-pay, instead of leaving them with their regiments, would not be of a character proportioned to the injury necessarily resulting. The reduction resolved on will, therefore, not take place. We have also some reason to anticipate that a plan will be carried out by which not more than two captains, instead of four, in each of the battalions from the Crimea, will be placed temporarily aside.—*Globe*.

The *Newcastle Guardian* says it is whispered that the "more matured and chastened inclinations" of Lord Ernest Vane-Tempest now incline towards the Church! "As the noble family," adds our contemporary, "to which he may still prove an ornament, have more than one living in their gift, it is not improbable that this may be his ultimate and not ungraceful destination, however distressing may have been the events which led to it."—[We believe that the sentence of dismissal from the army constitutes a bar to the noble lord's entering the Universities or taking holy orders.]—*London Guardian*.

The famous Mrs. Seacole, of Crimean notoriety, was gazetted last night in company with a partner she has picked up in England. She does not, however, appear on promotion.

Dr. Campbell, writing in a recent number of the *British Banner*, said that there was no human being living who could say so much that was false, scurrilous, and malicious, in the same amount of space, as the individual whose conduct he was criticising had said. Who do you imagine that individual to be? Readers unacquainted with the peculiarities of a section of our so-called religious press will be not a little shocked when I say that this language was applied to no less eminent a brother minister than the Rev. Mr. Binney.—*Cambridge Independent*.

The *Spectator* (after describing the decided refusal of Lord Palmerston to enter into any transactions which had not for basis the complete execution of the Treaty of Paris), says: "It has nevertheless been recognised

on both sides that no better alliance can exist for England than that of France, and for France no more fruitful alliance than that of England; the discussion on the execution of the treaty of the 30th of March has therefore ceased. If we are well informed, despatches were sent off on the 31st of October, which will remove all the partial difficulties that exist, which have, moreover, proceeded rather from subordinates than from the Governments themselves. The treaty of the 30th of March will be executed in all its rigour, and afterwards, if Russia or any other Government wish to submit questions to the Congress of Paris, the Congress will examine them with that spirit of progress beyond the range of which it is now impossible to effect anything in Europe that is destined to last."

The *Constitutionnel* asserts, in a laboured article, that the continued occupation of the Principalities, and the presence of the English fleet in the Black Sea are 'infractions of the Treaty of Paris.' It boasts that the French Press has 'unanimously' condemned 'the pretensions which the Governments of England and Austria, in an interested connivance, have arrogated to themselves.' The *Constitutionnel* goes on to say that the Russian claims to Bolgrad are just, and calls for the renewal of the Congress to settle the disputed questions.

A despatch in the *Post* this morning from Marseilles states that the French Ambassador to the Court of Persia has arrived from Constantinople on his return from Teheran; and it is said that his Excellency had prevailed on the Shah to make peace with England. The preparations for the English expedition to the Persian Gulf nevertheless continued, and on its side Persia was fortifying Herat.

There can be little doubt that the Prussian Government is seriously taking up the question of the recovery of its sovereign rights over the Canton of Neuchâtel, and it appears to be doing so on grounds which involve a point of honour, and which cannot therefore be readily or easily explained away or relinquished. Faithful feudatories of Prussia, it considers, have recently loyally endeavoured to reestablish the just rights of their liege lord; and, having failed in the attempt, are about to be handed over to a revolutionary tribunal as traitors. To abandon them, and to a sentence likely to be most severe, would not only be impolitic, but cowardly. The King of Prussia feels this, and has therefore addressed communications to the great Powers, reminding them, not only of the right accorded to him by the treaty of Vienna, but also of the recent recognition of those rights by the Cabinets of England, France, Russia, and Austria, at London, in 1852. He has also, it is affirmed, sought and obtained from the Governments of Bavaria, Baden, and Wurtemberg, permission, if necessary, to march a force through their territories, for the military occupation of the Canton. An appeal for their intervention, and for mercy to the criminals, has also, it seems, been made to the Swiss Federal Government, in hopes of forestalling Prussian intervention on that ground; but the only condition on which such intervention can be obtained is that the King of Prussia renounce finally all sovereign rights over the Canton, as incompatible at once with its annexation to the Swiss Confederation and with the new Constitution of 1848, promulgated, recognised, and accepted by all Europe.—*Corresp. London Guardian*.

TURKEY.

It is announced through Paris that Redschid Pacha is once more in Office, and Lord Stratford's influence would appear to have triumphed once more over M. Thouvenot's. Accounts to the 27th state that—

Baron de Prokesch, the Austrian Ambassador, and Lord Stratford de Redcliffe have visited the new Ministers, and urged the prolongation of an occupation of the Principalities and of the Black Sea.

Some disturbances have broken out in the neighbourhood of Jerusalem. Abd-el-Kader has returned to Damascus. Some disturbances have taken place in that city, in which a French medical man was knocked down by some of the fanatic people. The consul has obtained the arrest of several of the guilty parties.

Another shock of earthquake was felt at Broussa on the 22nd, but no serious injury was caused.

The body of the Brave Hungarian, General Guyon, was carried to Galatabridge, at Constantinople, by Turkish soldiers, and was there received by Englishmen, and interred according to the rite of the Anglican Church in the cemetery of Soutari; the Rev. Mr. Blakiston, chaplain to the Embassy, reading the service.