

How fearful the thought that such publications circulated throughout the length and breadth of our land, and constituted the sole reading of millions! How great the necessity for increased exertion on the part of Christians!

The Beren.

QUEBEC, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1848.

It is exceedingly gratifying to record the following important information:

THE POST OFFICE ARRANGEMENT.—It is with pleasure that we learn from sources on which we place considerable reliance, that an arrangement has been made between the representatives of the three colonial governments—our own and those of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, for putting the Post Office Department on a better footing.

We cannot doubt, the result of this experiment will be such as to justify a yet farther reduction of the proposed rate of postage, at a future period; but we entirely approve of the commencement of the new plan at the charge named in the above paragraph.

It is, of course, hoped that among the improvements which will go along with the reduction of postage there are several of immediate bearing upon the interests of the proprietors of periodicals. A very important one would be the privilege of enclosing bills to Subscribers. The rates of postage, hitherto, have made it next to impossible for proprietors to give notice of the time for remitting subscriptions, until the amounts due have run up so high as to disguise the burden of postage; and even at the reduced rate, a reluctance will be felt to enclose the bills in a letter-cover, which would not exist at all against slipping it into the paper—as is uniformly done, under the Post Office regulations, in the United States.

The conveyance of English newspapers from Halifax to Quebec will, we earnestly hope, meet with such attention as shall speedily obviate the serious inconvenience felt since the dissolution of the arrangement with the United States under which letters and newspapers were forwarded with equal promptitude. We believe that the loyal inhabitants of this Province—by which we mean the bulk of our fellow-colonists—have been united in approving the firm dignity with which the Imperial authorities have met the petulance of the United States government in throwing up the arrangement; and that it is the general wish among us to continue independent of our republican neighbours with respect to our communications with the mother-country. Some inconvenience has been willingly submitted to; and credit has been readily given to the Post-Office authorities for the measure of success which has attended their efforts to accelerate the transmission of the mail-bags by Extra from the port of landing. But it is not to be disguised that the interval between the delivery of the letters and the arrival of the newspaper-bags from Halifax is a weekly recurring cause of mortification; and it is highly desirable that every inducement to wish for a return to the system which forced the English mail through the United States should be removed, if it possibly can.

Until lately, the mortification referred to was kept down by an expedient which it seems plain to us could only be tolerated as long as it did not become the subject of inquiry by the authorities. The European Times—published at Liverpool regularly on the eve of the Mail-steamers' sailing, for the express accommodation of Subscribers on this continent—enjoyed the privilege, above all other periodicals, of being forwarded from Halifax by the Express which brought the letter-bags. It was, of course, preferred to every other English publication by those anxious to have the latest news with the greatest promptitude, when, upon a representation from Messrs. Cary & Co. of this city, as agents for similar periodicals to which the same privilege was not accorded, the Post-Master-General in England put a stop to the transmission of the European Times in advance of the other newspapers. It is to be inferred from this, that the department never had authorized the peculiar privilege which that publication had enjoyed; and it is difficult to understand how it could ever have been accorded without a departure from strict official impartiality somewhere. The European Times has since that period been transmitted with singular irregularity.

A good deal of feeling has been manifested, on the occasion, against Messrs. Cary for their interference. The proprietors of the European Times have imputed it to motives which are disavowed by the Quebec house. We have nothing to do with the motives which prompted the interference; but though we, like the rest of the Subscribers to the European Times, are inconvenienced by the cessation of the privilege, we can not at all see that the proprietors of that paper have any thing to complain of. They never had any right to have their papers transmitted with greater despatch than those of any other establishment. Of course we take it for

granted that the object of the representation addressed to the Post Master General was not to have the transmission of the European Times retarded, but to have that of every other newspaper accelerated.

To this end, we hope that the best attention of the authorities will be directed, as to one among the benefits which it may be in their power to confer upon the community. But as, looking at the bulky English newspaper-bags when they find their way to our Post Office in a caravan of carts, we anticipate insurmountable objections to their being transmitted with speed quite equal to that of the Extra which conveys the comparatively slim letter-mail, we would venture to suggest whether the privilege might not be offered to all newspapers alike, to be transmitted together with the letter-bags, on paying a certain postage, sufficient to cover the expense of acceleration. This would answer every legitimate purpose of the proprietors of periodicals, and would be fair towards the department which has dealt liberally towards the public by gratuitously forwarding our papers. The far more effectual remedy to every present inconvenience we may justly notice in closing—it is one which we trust is in course of maturing, but some time must elapse before it can bring our papers with all the speed we wish for.—THE HALIFAX AND QUEBEC RAIL-ROAD.

The following, from that Tractarian Journal, the English Churchman, seems to be an admission of the correctness of those statements, in the main, which Mr. Horsman lately made in the House of Commons, respecting the inefficiency of the Cathedral Establishments for the purpose of exhibiting a model of well conducted public worship:

"While the members of the Cathedral choirs are allowed to enter and depart from the choir without any decent propriety—while they are permitted to sit, or loll, where the Church directs them to kneel—while the men talk, and the boys laugh and play, or turn over their muses, during the reading of God's Holy Word—our Cathedrals will remain a bye-word for impropriety and irreverence, instead of being, as they should be, a pattern for the whole Diocese to imitate. Until Deans and Chapters make it their daily duty—or appoint some special and fit person for the purpose—to watch over, guide, and control the behaviour of the members of their choirs—especially the lambs of Christ's flock solemnly committed to their care—this most injurious stigma will remain, and our Cathedrals, on the week days at least, will still present that cold, task-like, professional, undevotional aspect, which they have done for so many years; people will still come to sit and listen, instead of kneeling and praying.

"We are aware that improvements have been made, and that some Cathedrals have, for many years, been favourably distinguished, but in most of them much reform is still required in such matters, and in none, perhaps, more than in our own Diocese."

Perhaps some reflections will present themselves upon the causes why the aspect of Cathedral service in the mother-country has become so "cold, task-like, professional, and undevotional," as it is here, not very willingly admitted to be. The justice for making it otherwise has been wanting. The parochial Clergy go to and fro from their closets among their people in the course of pastoral visitings, and to their churches for the performance of public worship: they bring with them to the latter duty the animation, the concern, the hopes, the solicitudes which have arisen in the course of personal intercourse with their people. Warmth, engagedness and devotion characterise the duties in church of those who are faithful pastors in the closet, at sick-beds, and in instructing the young and the aged in private conference. Well may the true friends of the Church desire that the funds now absorbed by the holders of Cathedral preferment should become free to supply the urgent want of increased parochial labours.

PROTESTANT ASSOCIATION.—The Annual Meeting was held on the 10th of last month, GEORGE ROCHEFORT CLARKE, Esq., in the chair. The Society's income during the last year, including balance from the year preceding, was £1,554. 19. 5. Expenditure £1,503. 18. 6. Thus there was a small balance in hand, but the liabilities amounted to four thousand pounds. The report detailed the steps which had been taken to procure Petitions, to cause Meetings to be held, and to diffuse information preparatory to the election; the Secretary, James Lord, Esq., had delivered lectures in a number of places, which produced a very salutary effect. The Chairman held in his hand a petition against the Bill for opening Diplomatic Intercourse with the Court of Rome, which had been signed by 1,230 Clergymen; to which he referred with some very striking remarks upon the position of the Sovereign of the Roman States at the time, which suggested the thought whether the Sovereignty of those States might not, ere long, be with one with whom the Court of Great Britain could hold intercourse without the violation of any Act of Parliament.

The Rev. DANIEL WILSON, Vicar of St. Mary's, Kingston, wound up an address in favour of the adoption of the report, with the following earnest appeal to a scripturally enlightened people: "It was well that in such days there existed, not only a strong body of Christian Protestants, but of praying ones—a body who would not give God rest until he had heard their supplications. They saw that the time was approaching when Christ's kingdom on earth would be established—they saw the period was nigh when it would be said, 'Babylon is fallen, is fallen!'"

Then now was the time for prayer—now was the time for united supplications to the throne of God—now was the time for Christians throughout the world to unite in one common, fervent prayer,—"That He will be pleased to fulfil his promise." Oh, that the latter influence of the Holy Ghost might be brought to bear upon all Christians, so that the present period of trial and of anxiety might be sanctified into a time of supplication. Then might we see, in all their fitness and glory, the Divine purposes of mercy—the prophecies of Christ the Lord fulfilled, and Christ the Saviour placed upon that throne on which he shall reign for ever.

From the Rev. Hugh Stowell's speech we select the following passages.

He was aware that some of his Reverend brethren took views of unfulfilled prophecy which prevented their going with him on an occasion like the present. They conceived that the doom of England was sealed, and England's day of grace departed. But he would ask them to look at the merciful interposition of God on a recent occasion, when he who stilled the waves of the sea, stilled the madness of the people. Let them look at the attitude, after all, which England holds in the midst of rocking and reeling Europe, and say, if God had yet deserted her. Was there not a bow of promise and hope; and when God had not despaired of her, ought his people to despair? Besides, he gathered hope from the very danger which surrounded her, and believed that she would be forced either to rush into ruin or to come back to her primitive principles. Already the disturbance on the Continent had exercised a wholesome influence on the public press. Already in the Houses of Parliament the tone of the debates was of a more thoroughly loyal, Protestant, to a certain extent, and certainly patriotic character. Already did they find that the miserable measure for instituting diplomatic relations with Rome, which was precipitated through the House of Lords with such unprecedented and indecent haste, had been scotched in the House of Commons, and it seemed as if Her Majesty's Ministers were arrested in their progress, and stood suspended and confounded, not knowing with whom these diplomatic relations were to be instituted, for, in advocating them, they professed to divide a certain singular compound personage into two halves, and the legislative relationship was to be with the secular half and not with the ecclesiastical half of the man. But now which half had they to choose? If they instituted diplomatic relations with the secular half, and the rumour that was afloat was to be believed, already that half had ceased to exist, or, at least, was trembling on its throne. But if their diplomatic relations were to be with the ecclesiastical half, then let the Ministers speak out honestly, and say, "We intend to acknowledge the Vicar of Christ at Rome as the Vicar of Christ in England and Ireland, and to give you over, bound hand and foot, to him. He could very conceivably Her Majesty's Ministers, bessed upon the horns of this awkward dilemma; that from the ecclesiastical horn they were tossed to the secular horn, and from the secular horn to the ecclesiastical horn, and upon these horns he would have leave them to settle the matter among themselves.

The Pope had undoubtedly given to the Italians, perhaps, more of constitutional liberty than they could bear, and more than he himself could control. He had given them gas-lights, and sanctioned the construction of railways, though he (Mr. Stowell) was afraid that he would find the electric telegraph a very dangerous thing for conveying to his subjects tidings of the march of liberty in other lands. But though he had given them a large amount of civil and political amelioration, was there any liberal advocate of the Pope who would say that spiritual or ecclesiastical liberty he had granted them? Had he set the Bible free? Until he had set the Bible free, he would taunt him before God and man as a vile impostor and deceiver. Had he set free our Protestant missionaries to go up and down his land? Was there a clergyman now present who dared go to Italy to-morrow, and preach Christ and him crucified to the poor Italians? No; if he did, the police would soon have him in custody, and some one of the Pope's dark secret dungeons would soon enclose him within its walls. Did the Pope allow his subjects to turn Protestants if their consciences bade them, and the word of God conducted them to the truth? Nay. Did he allow any religion to be tolerated except his own? Again he said, nay. In the case of the Neapolitan revolution, a large amount of civil liberty had been conceded to the people, but express reservation was made that there should be no toleration for any religion but that of the Church of Rome. In France, the Pope had allowed his cardinals, bishops, and priests, to fall in with the revolutionary current; but the Church of Rome was playing a deep game. Was she not trying to preserve her revenues, her power and authority in that country? The Pope had got upon the back of that monster of revolution, anarchy; he was endeavouring to maintain his seat, and to keep his feet in the stirrups, but the career of that fiery courser would shake his Holiness in his saddle, and it was by no means unlikely that ultimately the very beast he had tried to rein would throw its rider and trample him beneath his hoofs. But in the meanwhile, what was our duty in reference to this Liberal Pope? His voice was the voice of Jacob, however the hands might be the hands of Esau. And we might be assured, if we took the preferred hand of the Pope of Rome, it would be to drag us under his dark dominion; and not that we might drag him into the glorious liberty of the Gospel of Christ? He had no expectation that modern Liberalism, or any other ism, would destroy Popery; in the way some appeared to anticipate. Even if the Pope were hurled from the throne, he would still be the Pope, in Ireland as well as in Italy—and if we did not make haste and drive out the Jesuits, we should, by and by, perhaps have the Pope among us; and if we once got him here, we should find him a troublesome visitor, and one whose absence it would be very difficult to enforce.

[The animating close of this speaker's address is too valuable to be omitted.]

Christian Brethren, let us be zealous, but let us be discreet whilst we are ardent; let us "watch and pray that we enter not into temptation." We are fallen on dark and dangerous times. "Behold, I come quickly," seems to be the announcement that is sounding in our ears. May we remember the corresponding sentence, "Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame." And God grant that we may be found so stedfast, watchful, and uncompromising, that our garments of watchfulness and salvation may be ever girded round us in the dark and stormy day; and that when our master cometh [He may find us watching, and address us in the approving words, "Well done, good and faithful servants; ye have been faithful in few things, I will make ye rulers over many things; enter ye into the joy of your Lord." Amen, and Amen. (The Reverend Gentleman, having seconded the Resolution, resumed his seat amidst most vehement and long-continued cheering.)

GOOD NEWS FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE LOST THEIR HEADS.—On the morning of the 1st inst. (April) his eminence the Cardinal-Vicar caused the following notice to be published:—"God has deigned to hear the prayers of the Sovereign Pontiff, and of the pious population of Rome, in causing the head of the glorious Apostle St. Andrew to be miraculously recovered. To celebrate this happy event, the superiors of all the churches are to have the bells of all the churches rung this evening for the Ave Maria for half-an-hour, as upon festival days." Scarcely had this notice been issued by the Cardinal-Vicar than the sound was heard of all the bells in the city, and all the houses were spontaneously illuminated. An extraordinary illumination of the facade of the portico, and cupola of St. Peter's, as it were carried the news of this happy event to the inhabitants of the mountain districts. Next day a solemn Te Deum was chanted in the church of St. Andrea della Valle, in the midst of an immense concourse of the faithful of all classes. [Gazzetta di Roma, quoted by the London Tablet.] We hear (adds the Editor of the Tablet), the circumstances were as follows:—"The chief of the police, despairing of success, had informed the Holy Father that a large reward must be offered for the recovery of the relic; the exchequer would not allow of this, and his Holiness told the chief of the police he was certain the relic would be discovered. Next day Pius IX. spent some time in prayer in the Church of St. Peter's and before night a person came and informed the chief of the police that if he sent to a place which he described the relic could be discovered, which happened accordingly. This is not the only remarkable incident connected with the prayers of Pius IX."

DECEASE.—Again has the good sense of our community been outraged, by two of our fellow-citizens deliberately attempting each other's lives, as a consequence of some trivial quarrel—each having attributed to the other corrupt and dishonourable conduct; while, we will be bound for it, neither values the other's opinion of him, at one pin's purchase. This is the second time, within the last few months—fortunately, whatever the danger, with perfect impunity to the actors—that attempts have been made to establish a character for personal courage, by the open exhibition of mortal cowardice. To attempt to argue, with a duellist upon the folly of his conduct—they all admit its immorality—would be a mere waste of time. He who gauges truth, and honour, or even valour, by a willingness to risk a shot, at a duelling distance—the average of fatal bullets being about one in fifty—must be impregnable to argument; while his firmest and most cherished convictions fall passive victims to the meaningless ridicule of fools, or the malicious sarcasm of knaves—in one or other category must every duellist, now-a-days, be contented to have his name recorded.—Montreal Herald.

DIOCESE OF MONTREAL.—The Lord Bishop of Montreal left town last night, accompanied by the Rev. OFFICIAL MACKIE, D. D., his Lordship's examining Chaplain, for Lennoxville, where an ordination will, (D. V.) be held on Trinity Sunday. The Bishop proposes to remain at Lennoxville until after the annual examination at Bishop's College, and to proceed from thence, in the beginning of July, to Montreal, where his Lordship will hold the triennial visitation of the Clergy of the Diocese, and also attend the anniversary meeting of the Church Society; returning to Quebec in time for the stated meeting of the Central Board of the Society, on the 7th July.—Tuesday Mercury.

DIOCESE OF TORONTO.—The sixth Annual General Meeting of the Church Society of the Diocese was held in the Old City Hall, Toronto, on Wednesday of last week, at 2 p. m. Divine service was held in the Cathedral Church of St. James, at 1 p. m. The Meeting was opened, with some introductory remarks, by the Bishop of the Diocese, after which the report was read by the Secretary, the Rev. W. H. Ripley, M. A., and a series of resolutions was adopted, being moved and seconded, with appropriate addresses, respectively, by the Hon. Mr. Justice Sprague and the Rev. Sallern Givins—J. G. Draper, Esq., and Rev. B. Cronyn—Rev. Jonathan Short, and Absalom Shade, Esq.—J. H. Hargarty, Esq., and Capt. LeRoy, R. A.—Rev. H. Scadding, and Alex. Dixon, Esq.—Rev. R. J. Macgeorge and G. W. Allan, Esq.—Rev. G. M. Armstrong, and H. Rowse, Esq. A vote of thanks to the Lord Bishop of the Diocese for kindly presiding on the occasion, was moved by Capt. McLeod, seconded by the Rev. Septimus Ramsay, after His Lordship had vacated the chair, which being acknowledged by a few suitable remarks, the Meeting was closed with the customary prayers. The Lord Bishop of Toronto has extended his list of appointments for Confirmation, as we learn by The Church, from the 3rd of July (as mentioned in our number of the 25th ulto.) to the 16th of the same month, including London—on Friday the 7th—and closing at Hayesville on the 16th.

CHAPLAINCY AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—From letters received in town by the mail just arrived from England, we learn that the Rev. HENRY SWELL, M. A., late of this Diocese, was expected to set out on the 27th of last month, to proceed to the interesting sphere of labour, to which he has been appointed, as Chaplain to the British Embassy at Constantinople.

The Rev. C. L. F. HAENSEL acknowledges, with many thanks, the receipt of Six Shillings Ten Pence, being the contents of a Missionary Box from the Masters Hall, of Sorel, towards the funds of the Quebec JUVENILE CHURCH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

NEW BOOKS AT OUR PUBLISHER'S.—We direct attention to Mr. Stanley's Advertisement of more new books received by him; we have not had time to look over his supply, but the works specified are such as can be confidently recommended, and they will, we feel assured, meet with a ready sale.

INDEX & TITLE PAGE.—Circumstances over which we had no control have retarded the completion of our Index and Title Page, but we are informed by our Publisher that it will be completed by the end of next week.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Received W. C. E.;—A. S.;—Mrs. N.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED.—Rev. Chs. Bancroft No. 209 to 210; Rev. Dr. O'Meara, No. 131 to 132; Rev. Alex. Sanson, No. 156 to 208; Messrs. R. Peniston, No. 209 to 210; John Birks, No. 159 to 214; Thomas Dallas, No. 209 to 210. Mrs. Alex. Gillespie, 2 copies, No. 209 to 210.

Local and Political Intelligence.

Telegraphic news of the arrival of the Acadia at New York was received in town on Saturday; the letter bags arrived on Monday afternoon, but no papers; the Mercury of Monday evening contained intelligence received from his London correspondent, which we are happy to say, does not confirm the telegraphic report that "Ireland was very turbulent." We are afraid that our dependence upon our republican neighbours for intelligence, which seems to mould itself in their hands according to what would please them best, acts unfavourably upon the interests of British colonists, and we long for the time when telegraphic news will come to us direct from Halifax, along British territory exclusively. We make large use of the intelligence given by the Mercury.

Irish affairs do not possess much interest. Mr. Mitchell had, on Monday night, tabled a bill against him for felony, by the Commission Grand Jury, Dublin. His counsel attempted to crush the indictment on the ground of error, but has not succeeded—the trial is now going on. Mr. Devlin Reilly has been arrested; and also Mr. C. M. Duffy, of the Nation, whilst visiting his friend, Mr. Mitchell, in Newgate.

On Wednesday we had the important intelligence, from Vienna, of the Emperor and his family quitting the capital and of the attempt to proclaim a republic. The ministers issued a proclamation, stating that a verbal communication had been received by them of the Emperor's intention of quitting Vienna, that the same was unexpected, and given at the moment of his departure; that a confidential person had been sent off after his Majesty, entreating his immediate return, or to give some reasons for his quitting his subjects. Though Vienna was under much excitement, there had been no outbreak, and the return of his Majesty is thought probable. The next unexpected intelligence by which we were greeted on Wednesday last, was from Spain, and to the effect that our ambassador at Madrid, Sir H. Bulwer, had received his passport with orders to quit within forty-eight hours. The letters are to the 18th May, and announce that Count de Masratal had been sent off, to London on a mission relative to the affair, which has had its origin in the note sent some while ago from Lord Palmerston. On the departure of Sir H. Bulwer, the British arms were removed from the front of the embassy, and placed inside. The circumstance has provoked much discussion, though nothing very serious is anticipated as the result, the conduct of Lord Palmerston, alone, having been the cause of the ill-feeling.—Sir H. Bulwer arrived in London on the 21st.

With reference to a motion for a variety of returns, made by Lord George Bentinck in the House of Commons, it is said: "His Lordship, in an energetic and elaborate speech, contended that our free-trade legislation had proved a total failure; the house agreed to the return being granted. On Thursday evening the affairs of Spain came under discussion, but as the whole of the documents were not yet printed, though in the hands of the printers, it was agreed that an early day should be allowed for enquiring into the subject.—In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Jewish Disabilities Bill was thrown out on its second reading, by a majority of 35; their lordships being occupied until 2 o'clock on the morning of Friday, in its discussion.

Matters of the greatest importance at home and abroad have come before the British public, during the present week, and with the exception of some struggling chartist meetings, and the quiet proceedings of the reform movement, no political excitement is exhibited throughout the country; trade is becoming more healthy, and the unemployed are less numerous than reported some few weeks ago.

English Commercial news contains nothing of a very striking character. Consols closed, for money and account, at 81½ to 81. Money plenty at 3 and 3½ per cent.

Best English wheat, 50s. a 56s. per quarter; American, 48s. a 50s.; Indian Corn, 30s. a 35s. for white, and 35s. a 37s. for yellow; Western Canal at 28s.; Philadelphia and Baltimore, 25s. a 27s. 6d. Shipments to Ireland large.

DEADFUL MASSACRE AT NAPLES.—By the latest news from Naples we learn, that on the 15th inst. a difference between the King and the Chamber led to a breach of the peace, in consequence of which the troops were called out. The National Guard immediately raised barricades in the streets, and a combat ensued. The King granted a pillage to the lazzaroni upon which a scene of almost indescribable horror followed—a general massacre ensued. Houses were broken into, and soldiers, men, women and children murdered and their bodies thrown into the streets. The Royal Guard murdered two sons of the Marquis Vassalori in his own palace—the palace was sacked. The massacre continued for eight hours; in the hospitals were filled with wounded, in one Swiss regiment alone, there were 800 killed and wounded, of which 30 were officers. The aspect of the city was deplorable—it seemed converted into one vast tomb; it is now governed by martial law—the white Bourbonic flag is substituted for the tri-colour.—Corresp. Mercury.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 7.—The cholera increases daily in Constantinople and also in the surrounding villages; all the precautions in the world would fail in preventing its raging.

It has also broken out in Galatz; the cases are as many as twenty in a day.—Corresp. Mercury.

We subjoin a few selections from papers received by the previous mail.

DISASTROUS ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—On the 10th ulto., the express train from Exeter to Paddington consisted of two first-class carriages, four second-class carriages, which were drawn by one engine. Next to the engine was a luggage-van, which was followed by a second-class carriage that was unusually full of passengers. The train started at about twenty-five minutes to one o'clock, being five minutes after the usual time. Its progress was uninterrupted till, on its approach at the Shrewsbury station, where it is stated that the signal was given by the signal telegraph that the line was clear, in consequence of which the speed was continued. At this part of the line there is a branch rail for turning off the carriages. At the angle of divergence of the off-line was a empty horse-box, with a truck attached, on which was a gentleman's carriage, which, it is supposed, just overlapped the main or line, as a collision took place, the effect of which was, that the engine struck the horse-box, when, owing to the velocity with which the train was progressing, the horse-box, with the truck, were swung round and, in a moment, the second-class carriage, which was connected with the luggage-van in the rear of the engine, was dashed to pieces, and the unfortunate passengers were flung out in every direction, the shrieks and exclamations among whom were most appalling. The number killed on the spot was four; among them two clergymen—the Rev. Mr. Phillips, of Penzance, and the Rev. Mr. Sandys, of Woolwich. Fourteen persons were injured. A coroner's inquest was held, and a verdict of Manslaughter returned against the two porters who were concerned in placing the horse-box and cattle-truck in the position which caused the collision.

LEGAL MISTAKE.—Sending forth a musket.—On Saturday, April 29th, the point reserved for the consideration of the fifteen judges by Baron Rolfe, at the Yorkshire Assizes, was argued in the Court of Exchequer, by Mr. Deasly, the prisoner's counsel. The indictment alleged that the prisoner, Michael Stokes (a private in the 59th), shot, discharged, and sent forth a certain musket, and then went on to allege that with the ball so shot, discharged, and sent forth, the prisoner caused the death. It was contended that these allegations were bad for uncertainty and repugnancy, for, that though the words to "shoot and discharge" a musket, would mean to "fire off a musket," the words "shoot, discharge, and send forth a musket," must be taken to mean that the musket itself is sent forth as a missile, the words "shoot and discharge" being controlled by the words "send forth." It was laid down in *Hughes v. Post* (11 C. & P. 261), that an argumentative certainty was not sufficient in an indictment, and that a precise certainty was always required in *favorem ree*. Mr. Deasly cited other authorities, contending that the words "sent forth" could not be rejected as surplusage. . . . The Judges took time to consider, and on Monday week intimated in the prisoner's counsel that in their opinion the conviction was good, and the cause of death was stated with sufficient certainty, the words "sent forth" being rejected as surplusage.—The Record.

The ceremony of the baptism of the infant Princess, fourth daughter of the Queen and Prince Albert, took place on the 13th of May, in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The princess was named LOUISA CAROLINA ALBERTA.

The following is from the London Times; it exhibits forcibly what hinders Ireland's prosperity. For months and months past a set of men, who would not have been tolerated for one hour in any other country of Europe, have made that city the focus of sedition and treason. Who ever heard that a thriving trade was driven in Paris on Saint Bartholomew's day, or at Palermo when the Sicilian republicans were in full force? At this very hour travellers the once gay and busy boulevards of the French capital, and you will see the effects of civil discord upon trade. The modern Irish plan of stimulating the commercial prosperity of a city is the strangest of which we have yet heard. It sounds like Dean Swift's cynical directions to servants how to conduct themselves in the way best calculated to give satisfaction. Form all the shopkeepers of a city into a National Guard with directions to pick off each other's customers. If any lady who may go out shopping should escape the heavy and well-directed fire of the rifle clubs that would be directed upon her, have ready for her reception and bottles of cold vinegar ready for a state of affairs that scatter broken bottles about the streets. Let it be known that a ferocious and brutal peasantry are at any time ready to be poured into the town, and you will produce a state of things at which the military hero or factious partisan might rejoice, but which the tailor, the wine merchant, the haberdasher, and the lady who keeps the baby-linen warehouse, would regard with unmitigated despair. This is just what has been the case in Dublin. Now that we see it in its results we can afford to laugh at that effete humbug—the Irish Confederation. But while every mail was bringing in the intelligence that now one capital of Europe, and now another, had fallen into the hands of the mob, it was no laughing matter that a set of impudent adventurers, taking advantage of the defective state of the law, should in the midst of the principal city of Ireland assume all the functions of an insurrectionary government, and disseminate on all sides the inspirations of their brutal ferocity.

FRANCE seems to have afforded no occasion for extended communications—which is giving as favourable an account of it as could be expected. The Government is described as divided, and a severe riot at Lyons is spoken of.

AUSTRIA.—The electoral law.—The Wahl-Ordnung, or provisional law to regulate the elections to the first Austrian Parliament, had appeared, and the following are a few of the more important provisions:—

The Chambers are to meet on the 26th of June. The number of the members of the Senate is not to exceed 200, to consist of the princes of the blood, 150 chosen from and by the chief landed proprietors for the duration of the Parliament, and the remainder to be nominated by the Emperor for life. The Chamber of Deputies to consist of 383 members, being at the rate of one for every 60,000 inhabitants, except in the case of the principal towns, which are to have a larger number of representatives in proportion to the population. Thus Vienna will have 15 members.

The elections are to be indirect, as for the Frankfort Parliament. The right of suffrage in the election of the Wahl-manner appointed to all Austrian citizens, without distinction as to religion, who have attained their 21th year, possess the free exercise of their civil rights, have been for six months resident in the electoral districts, and are not entitled to vote in the election of members of the Upper Chamber. Daily and weekly labourers, domestic servants, and persons receiving assistance from public charities, are excluded from the suffrage.