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PLYMOUTH, MAY 25.

The Parliament will re-assemble on Monday, when, if the arrangements entered into before the Recess, be carried out, the first step will be the election of a Speaker, in the stead of the Right Hon. James Abercrombie, who has resigned. The Ministers, it appears, intend to bring forward and support Mr. LEBEVRE, one of the Members for North Hampshire; and it is generally reported that the Opposition will nominate for that office the Right Hon. HENRY GOULBURN, one of the Members for the University of Cambridge. If such be the case, the election of Speaker will be made the trial of strength, and the result of the battle will depend on the course which the Radical section of the House may take; the power is in their hands—they hold the balance, and which ever party they lean toward, victory will follow. It is, however, generally believed, that the Movement party will on this occasion, vote with the Government, and consequently in that case the Hon. Member for Hampshire will be elected to the dignified situation of Speaker, for which, it is admitted by all parties, that he is eminently qualified—the only ground of opposition towards him being, that of party, which, unfortunately at this period, is mingled more or less with almost every public question.

Rumour are afloat, but we know not on what authority, that important changes in the Cabinet will immediately follow the meeting of Parliament, in order—using a term generally applied to the contemplated change) "to infuse new blood into the Ministry;" which infusion means, we have no doubt, in other words—the carrying out measures which will give to the Democratic portion of our Legislature greater powers than it already possesses. To such a change we are, in conjunction with the great body of intelligent men in the Country, strongly opposed—on the conviction that such an extension of political power would in the end destroy the constitution of King, Lords, and Commons, by giving to the latter an overwhelming power.—The Queen's Government are, we know, urged on to this step by some violent men, but we trust no such attempt will be made—at all events it is certain that Lord John Russell will not, after his declaration to the Electors of Stroud, be a party to any such schemes,—and we doubt very much the stability of any Ministry, who would throw the Noble Lord overboard, because he did not go far enough in Liberty. We do not, however, believe that any material change is contemplated; but how any Government is to go on—with the two great parties in the State so nicely balanced as late events have shown to be the case—in beneficial Legislation, is beyond our knowledge. The state of affairs is deeply to be regretted, as it almost leaves the destinies of this great Empire at the rude mercy of a section of Radicals—contemptible in number, and whose wild opinions and mad theories, would, if carried out, bring destruction on the country.

From the London Britannia, May 18.

The statements of Lord MELBOURNE and the Duke of WELLINGTON in the House of Lords on the night before, settle the whole subject of the Ministerial negotiation. The question is now perfectly plain. Lord MELBOURNE resigned through notorious and self-acknowledged incapacity: he was unable, by any art, to carry on the Administration. He declared, in the first instance, that the Ministry had "lost the confidence of Parliament;" and in the debate of the 14th he further declared that "they had lost the confidence of each other;" that their union could not be kept up; and that they had, of course, nothing to do but

so to the country. Thus broken down, both externally and internally, to have attempted to remain in office would have been ridiculous and impossible.—He recommended, in consequence, the summoning of the Duke of WELLINGTON and Sir R. PEEL to relieve the Queen from the difficulties into which his Cabinet had brought her, and having given this final attestation to the long absurdity of his tribe, and the hopeless imbecility of their operations, he made his bow, and left the Court open for wiser counsels and better men.

So far the necessity of the case forced confession; but there was a contrivance behind, worthy of his lordship's dexterity, and the craft of his coadjutors. The state to which those men had reduced the empire rendered it a matter of alarm to themselves to remain in the Ministry.—The work of extricating the country was then to be left to the Conservatives; but a back door was to be left open, through which the old contemptible Cabinet was to steal back into office again. Lord MELBOURNE and his set were to be turned out, but a knot of partizanship was to be kept in place, to take advantage of the first opportunity; and when the public danger was blown over, and the vigour of the Conservative Government had made it possible for slaves and sycophant premiers lounging all day on Court sofas, and secretaries whose sole employment was to draw their salaries, to constitute the government of this vast empire, then a turn of the head, or the flirt of a fan, was to call up the lurking lord, and all was to be dancing, dining, and drivelling again.

This contemptible plan was seen through, and Sir ROBERT PEEL, disdainful to be the cat's-paw of the Premier through the intrigue of a coterie of gossiping women, refused to accept the Ministry. But the outcry is now sentimental, and worthy of a chapter in Lord Normanby's most pathetic novel. The lamentation is,— "Will you break the Queen's heart? Will you deprive her of her only solace for the cares of royalty? Will you rob her of all the friends of her youth?" All the world laughs at this, and asks which of all these bedchamber people was the friend of the Queen's youth? Is it not notorious, that no female in England was ever less suffered to have friends among her own sex; that she was kept in utter seclusion, and watched with cat-like vigilance, till the moment when she was placed upon the throne. Every intrigante of the whole tribe was as new to her a twelvemonth ago, as the Queen of Otaheite would have been. So much for this folly.

The next clamour is—what will become of the unhappy Queen, if she is to be put into the hands of strangers, and those too not rampant Whigs? The truer question would be, what worse could happen to her than what has happened, as the notorious result of her being surrounded by Whigs. A twelvemonth ago she was held in that respect which must be essential to the satisfaction of the Sovereign; and in which it is important to the national safety that she should always be held.—But what species of public greeting is it that attends the Royal cortege now?—Can this be the work of conservatism? The populace in the streets cannot have been either corrupted by the hope of office, or chagrined by its loss. But is the feeling more propitious in the higher orders? What is the attendance at the Drawing-room? As thin as the attendance on the Ministerial bench of the peers, and for the same reason; that the public hate the Whigs. We protest wholly against imputing this most extraordinary and most ill-omened state of things to the Royal individual. But we deny that it could have been more painfully distinct, even had the whole circle of Whig intrigantes been stripped of their beloved salaries, cashiered of their gossiping influence, and their places sup-

plied by respectable women, who disdain- ed to dabble in political trickery.

The splendid steam ship British Queen, is advertised to sail from Portsmouth for New York, on the 1st July; and will again do so on the 1st of September and November in the present year. As speedily as possible, another steamer of the same power and size, the President, will be added to the line, when a regular monthly steam communication will be kept up, each way, between New York and Portsmouth. These vessels, in addition to a full supply of fuel, will each carry 500 tons of freight goods, 100 passengers in the after saloon, and about the same number forward; they are of 500 horse power each, of upwards of 2,000 tons burthen, and are 280 feet in length.

MR. HUME.—The members of the Kilkenny Citizens' Club have, at a meeting called by special requisition, come to certain resolutions relative to the course recently pursued by Mr. Hume, which wind up with the following declaration:—"That while we are ready to give to Mr. Hume the credit of acting as conscience suggested, though his vote has aided in doing deep mischief to Ireland, we consider that having declared our opinion to him before he did vote his recent vote against Ministers has virtually left the ancient and Liberal city of Kilkenny unrepresented in the Imperial Parliament."

The Ordnance Department in the Tower has been particularly busy during the last week, in shipping and forwarding military stores to all parts of England and Wales. Bedding and stores of every description for about two thousand men have been forwarded to Bristol in waggons. Two van loads were sent away to the West of England at a late hour on Wednesday night, camp equipages, muskets, &c. have been forwarded to the troops in the north. The troops in the neighbourhood of the manufacturing districts are so numerous, that there is not sufficient barrack room for them, and camps are to be formed. Thirty thousand muskets for the home service have been ordered, and the furbers and gunsmiths in the Tower, have been, and are still actively employed in getting them ready.

FRANCE.—It appears by the Paris journals of Thursday, that the number of lives lost in the insurrection of Sunday is already ascertained to amount to 150. The National Guards have been thanked for their promptitude, zeal and loyalty, a little beyond their deserts. Not more than a tenth of the body answered to the summons at the moment when their services were called for. There is no other French news.

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS.—The Standard seriously inquires whether "Is it true that the Marquis of Normanby was at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday the 7th, from 10 o'clock A. M. till 6 o'clock P. M. without seeing the Queen? "and whether "Is it true that during the first interview Sir Robert Peel had with her Majesty, Lord Melbourne was in an apartment immediately adjoining?" The Sun in ridicule puts the following poser—"Is it true, that, during Sir Robert Peel's first interview with the Queen, Mr. O'Connell was stationed in the door-way with a barrel-organ, playing "St. Patrick's day in the morning?"

Great consternation has been excited in Salisbury by the stoppage of the large brewery and coal concern, formerly the property of Messrs. Whitechurch. The returns of the house were from £40,000, to £60,000, per annum; and it is feared that several persons will be involved in ruin by the failure, as the deficiency in the estate is immense.

THE OLD SCHOOL HOUSE

BY LYDIA H. SIGOURNEY.

Once, in travelling, I observed an old building, which appeared to be fallen into ruins. No smoke issued from its broken chimney. No foot crossed its grass-grown threshold. The casements were gone, and through their vacant places the winds whistled, and the rain fell.

I asked, "what is this building, which is thus suffered to decay?" They answered, "A School House. But a part of its materials have been used to build a better one, in a more convenient spot for the village children."

So I paused there a little time to meditate.— And I said to myself what a variety of scenes may have passed within these tottering walls. Where are the teachers; who, in years gone by, sat in the chair of state, and ruled, and gave instruction?

In yonder corner, perhaps, was a low bench for the little ones, conning their alphabet. Those little ones have grown up, grown grey, and died.— The babes whom they rocked in the cradle have shown the same tenderness to their own babes.— "One generation passeth away and another cometh."

Beneath those windows, where that trim old sycamore looked in with all the show of green leaves, waving and gossiping in the breeze of summer, I imagine a row of young girls, with their sunny locks, knitting, sewing, or listening with serious faces while the mistress taught them what it was necessary for them to know when they became women.

The snows of winter seem to spread around.—The frozen pond in the rear of the school house, is covered with boys. The clock strikes nine.— They hasten to their schools. The narrow entry rings with the jingle of their skates as they throw them down. One or two, who love play better than study, approach with more lingering steps.

Metaphors I see their ruddy faces as they take their clamor or stifled laughter, and command them to write their copies, and attend to their surns. But the treatise of arithmetic is thumbed, and the grammar lessons curled into dogs ears, by those whose roving thoughts are among their winter sports.

Then there was the long sigh of indolence, and the tears of such as were punished. And there was impatience there, and ambition, and the kinglings of intellect, and the delights of knowledge. The master endeavours to rule each for their good, as the wise magistrate restrains the people by laws.

I fancy I behold that teacher walking homeward, weary and thoughtful, when the day was done. He felt sadness for those who did not improve, and over those who did he rejoiced with a peculiar love.

Perhaps he repented mournfully the words of the prophet; "I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for naught." And a voice from Heaven answered in his heart: "Yet surely thy judgement is with the Lord and thy work with thy God."

Old school-house! Couldst thou speak, I doubt not that thou wouldst tell me that eminent men have been nurtured in thee; ingenious mechanics; on whom the comfort of the community depends; athletic farmers, laying the forest low, and forcing earth to yield her increase; physicians who the sick sufferers blesses; eloquent lawyers; wise statesmen; holy priests, who interpret the word of the Almighty.

I wish that the school-houses in our country were more commodious and tasteful in their construction; more spacious and airy, surrounded with trees, or beautiful with shrubbery.

There was once a benevolent man who went to the continent of New Holland. He found multitudes of Children, growing up, neglected and ignorant. He wished much to have them taught. But there was no school house. So he collected under a spreading tree, whose branches could shelter at least one hundred from the heat of the sun. He hung cards, with painted lessons among the boughs. And there he taught the poor colonists to read, and to spell and to sing.

There are very beautiful birds in that country. Many of them had nests in this large tree. So they were flying about and tending their young, while the children were learning below; and the chirruping of the new fledged birds, and the warbling of their parents, and the busy voices of the children, learning to be good, made sweet music in the heart of that benevolent man.

Did they not ascend, and mingle with the praise of angels, around the throne?

The Chartist so called in England or the Radicals, are reported to be arming in all directions, large masses of the population are in a very uneasy state. Horse Artillery, and Mounted Brigades of Foot Artillery have been suddenly ordered to Manchester, from Warwick.

A report was in circulation, that a message was to be brought down to Parliament for a supply of 20,000 additional troops to the army.

The Emperor of Russia, convinced of the mischievous effects of the lottery on the poor and industrious peasantry of Poland, has published a decree, ordaining that the lottery shall be abolished in the Kingdom of Poland on the 1st of January, 1843.