

"I think I do. He seems to have reckoned all play fair in a time of war."

"Doubtless. Well, the countess could also see through a milstone as far as her neighbours, and could not help smiling at the strange whim of Allan of Mull; although, knowing how matters stood between the armies, she at once perceived how it could be turned to advantage.

"In a word, the message was sent, and the invitation was accepted. All was bustle at the Callender House, for a splendid *dejeune*; and at the hour appointed, Hawley arrived on his prancing charger, all glittering with gold and trappings. Well, there they were met, and down they wore set. She was a grand woman the countess—splendid and imposing, and as beautiful as Helen of Troy. She could talk on all subjects, play on all instruments, and sing like a nightingale. The general was fascinated—was caught like a bird in the net of a fowler. From the roll of drums, the blast of trumpets, the sweating of dragoons, and the bustle of the camp he found himself transported, as it were to a paradise. All about him wore the bravery of fairy land, and before him moved the elfin queen. He forgot time—he forgot his army—he forgot his danger—he forgot himself. Grandfather determined, as he had done his best with his head and advice, to do his best also with his lungs and fingers, in the way of musical accompaniment to the breakfast cheer. While the pair were at talk, he paraded about the antichamber, playing 'The Gathering of the Clans,' 'M'Gregor O Ruara,' and pibrochs, that were Gaelic to the ear of General Hawley; or, sitting down, sounded softly the low, wild, and wailing lament for the perishing maiden, or the death-struck warrior, while the two favourite stag-hounds crouched at his feet, and drank in his music with long eared wonderment.

"He was a good looking man, my grandfather, and the countess had his picture painted as he sat there, and the two dogs listening to his tunes. A fine picture it is,—I have seen it at the Calander House.

"It was thus the important hours passed on; and lo! instead of Hawley being the assailant, a mounted dragon arrived, full gallop, at the gate, calling out that the rebels were on them, pell mell. The Prince Charles had taken the advantage of the wind, which blew from the south-west, by moving to the grounds on the right of the English, in order that he might come down upon them with greater impetuosity from the heights."

"The general would immediately find that he was in a scrape, then?"

"My wicked old grandfather endeavoured to persuade his excellence that it was a false alarm, and that the Highlanders were no better than he supposed them, a pack of hungry despicable savages, who would scamper like their own wild deer before a charge of dragoons; and advised him, as the day was showery, not to venture abroad without an umbrella, or more certain intelligence.

"Well—off the first courier was sent, with his plumb in his cheek, and by and bye, another came to tell the general, that, if he did not instantly ride and run, the battle would be either won or lost without him. Old Hawley now saw that it was a bad business, and that he had been decoyed into the foxes' den; but, having been at the King's Court, he was a pattern of politeness, and pocketing his internal frustration, he made a thousand formal conges, to the countess, as he withdrew. No sooner, however, was the drawing room door shut, than he took the flight of stairs at three steps, and off and away, full gallop, without so much as a hat on his head.

"All was hurry skurry without; the people were flying to and fro between the armies in desperation, not knowing where to seek safety or succour; the bells were tolling; and, the clouds deepening, a severe winter storm seemed about to aggravate the dismal aspect of all around. The Highlanders had, by this time,

emerged from the Torwood, and crossed the Carron by the steps of Dunnipace."

"The poor general," I said, "had a pretty prank played upon him."

"Indeed he had; but, to do him justice, he tried every means to make up for the lost time. But it must have been sore chagrin and mortification to him to find not only that he had underrated the enemy, but that he had been duped by two rank jacobins—a beautiful lady and an old bagpiper!"

"Your grandfather, no doubt, reckoned that he had done the state some service."

"That was too true; as you may well believe: nor is it necessary for me to say, that he was in the habit of asserting, to the day of his death, that the battle of Falkirk, was half won by him, and half by the Prince."

Just as he was concluding this "Tale of a Grandfather," the wheels rattled along the pavement of Linlithgow, ere while the favoured abode of Scottish royalty. The garrulous, but not disagreeable descendant of Allen of Mull had reached the end of his journey; and the coach drawing us to change horses, he wished me a good morning. The traveller still reclined in the corner, in as brown a study as ever—even as if he had been one of the disciples of Pythagoras, to whom was enjoined a seven years' silence, as probationary of future wisdom. I could have much wished that a few minutes had been offered me to inspect the ruins of the magnificent palace, which, by the force of association, brought a thousand delightful occurrences to mind. But this the improvements of modern travelling forbade; for in less than five minutes Silenus and I were off at the rare of nine miles an hour; and glancing back through the trees, I was forced to content myself with the lines from Marmion,—

"Of all the palaces so fair,
Built for the royal dwelling,
In Scotland, far beyond compare,
Linlithgow is exelling;
And in its park, in jovial June,
How sweet the merry linnet's tune,
How blithe the blackbird's lay!
The wild duck bells from ferny brake,
The coot drives merry on the lake,—
The saddest heart might pleasure take
To see a scene so gay!"

FOREIGN.

SPAIN.—Without troubling our readers with all the petty and unintelligible details which make up the Spanish news in the London and Paris papers, it is enough to say that the cause of Don Carlos seems all but hopeless. Weak as are the resources of government, his own are weaker—his strength is utterly exhausted, and there can be no doubt that one energetic blow by the Queen's principal general would bring the strife to a conclusion. The kingdom is in a wretched state, the finances, commerce, and agriculture being ruined by the civil war. It is stated that the Cortes has annulled the contract with the Rothschilds, for working the quicksilver mines of Almaden.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

GREAT BRITAIN.

BOSTON, January 16.

FROM ENGLAND.—The packet ship Wellington has arrived at New York, bringing London papers to December 10. They furnish no news of importance. It was again reported that Sir John Colborne was to be the successor of Lord Gosford in Canada, and that his instructions had been sent out. Sir Francis Bond Head's recall is said to have been ordered at his own request, the salary not being deemed sufficient by him for the maintenance of the dignity of the station. Col. Arthur was to sail for New York Dec. 16.

From the Providence R I Journal.

News of the first outbreaking in Canada, contained in the Montreal papers of November 13th, had reached London, and of course created no inconsiderable excitement, and much contrariety of opinion relative to the conduct of the Canadian authorities and their opponents. Many of the Whig papers are loud in condemnation of the former. The London Standard is bitter against Mr Papeau, and stigmatizes him as a "despicable bragart and convicted coward."—*O'Connell declares he shall resist the Ministry in all attempts of coercion towards Canada. Two transports were under orders to convey the 93d regiment to Halifax, from Cork.*

Col. Sir G. Arthur is said to have been recently appointed Lieut. Governor of Upper Canada, in the room of Sir Francis Head. The admission of this appointment was made by the house of Commons upon the occasion of Mr Hume's presenting a petition of Mr. Bryan, late of Van Dieman's Land. He declared that he had been subjected to severe losses in consequence of the illegal and oppressive treatment of Col. Arthur, against whom he had instituted legal proceedings for redress; and as the Government was about to send Col. A. to Canada as Lieut. Governor, unless security was given for damages that might be awarded, they should be left without a remedy.

The London Morning Chronicle describes the state of the House of Commons on 6th of December, from which we infer sunshine and calm do not always prevail there any more than in the Legislative Halls of this Country.

On the 5th Dec. in the House of Lords, the bill to abolish imprisonment for debt, came up for its second reading. It was supported, by the Lord Chancellor and Lord Brougham, opposed not so much upon the principle as upon certain defects in the bill itself, by Lord Lyndhurst but finally had its second reading and was referred to a committee.

The bill to relieve Quakers and Moravians from the necessity of making the Protestant Episcopal declaration, on taking the municipal office, coming up, Mr Grote offered an amendment, extending the relief to Jews and all other denominations. The amendment was rejected 162 to 156. After which the bill was referred to a committee.

On the 5th, application was made at Bow-Street, for a warrant against no less a personage than Mr Daniel O'Connell, M. P., by a Mr Edmonds, for an assault. The affair took place at a public meeting, which Mr Edmonds wished to address, but was prevented by Mr O'Connell. The application was denied, it appearing that Mr O'Connell only placed himself in the way of the ambitious speaker, and hindered him from reaching the platform.

COLONIAL.

NOVA-SCOTIA.

From the Halifax Acadian Telegraph, Jan. 19.

THE NEW COUNCILS.—The list of members of the New Executive and Legislative Councils appeared in last Gazette. We fervently hope that the changes may add to the prosperity and peace of the Province. The Presidency of the Legislative Council will devolve on the senior Member, with the exception of Lord Bishop and Members holding offices of emolument under the Crown. The Hon. S. B. Robie, therefore, will conduct the proceedings of that body. The Council will thus get a head possessed of the requisite legal knowledge, and well acquainted with parliamentary proceedings.