

Weilburg, into the hands of that sovereign, he was detained in prison till his death, which took place in the year 1654, after seven years of distressing captivity. This prince left two sons, John Frederick, founder of the old line of Saxe-Gotha, and John William, in whom commenced the line of Weimar, of which the present representative is Charles Augustus, the reigning Duke of Saxe-Weimar. The marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Kent was first performed at Coburg, in May 1818, and again at Kew in July of the same year. A few weeks after the second ceremony they returned to the continent, and retired to Amorbach, the residence of the late Duke of Leiningen, the first husband of the Duchess, who left her the occupation of the palace, and the guardianship of their only son. The Duchess acceded to the wish of the Duke to return to his country, and the young Princess was born at Kensington, the 24th of May, 1819, but 7 months before her father's lamented demise.

LONDON, July 27.

MONEY MARKET—The over-abundance of money begins to be much complained of by the capitalists, who declare that the Bank might and ought to take some steps to rectify the inconvenience; which, it is also likely to cause great evil by the inducement it holds out to embark in hazardous speculations, in the hope of realising a more adequate remuneration than can be obtained in the Funds or any first rate security. The transactions in the English Stock Market are limited, and at steadily advancing quotations. Consols, 91½; Exchequer Bills and India Bonds, 48 to 58 premium. The Foreign Market is languid.—South American Stocks have declined again as we anticipated, to their old position. Colombian, 25; Mexican, 24½. In peninsula Bonds there is no alteration.—*London Patriot.*

[From the London Chronicle.]

BALLOON AND PARACHUTE ASCENT.

AWFUL CATASTROPHE.—Vauxhall Gardens were crowded during the whole of Monday afternoon by an immense assemblage of persons to witness the hazardous and, we regret to add, fatal experiment of Mr Cocking to descend from an altitude of upwards of a mile in a parachute of his own invention. No attempt of a similar description has been made in London, we believe, since the (then nearly fatal) experiment of M. Garnerin, upwards of thirty years ago. Thousands of persons filled all the streets and avenues in the neighborhood of Vauxhall, and a joyous crowd swarmed on every eminence and spot that commanded a view of the horizon. The time fixed for the ascent was five o'clock, but on our entering the Gardens at that hour, the process of inflation of Mr Green's balloon was not yet completed.—This afforded us an opportunity of inspecting the parachute.

Mr Cocking, was a gentlemanly man, short in stature, and somewhat stout, and apparently of the age of fifty-two or fifty-three he gave the most obliging answers to our queries, and explained that his parachute was constructed on a totally different plan from that of Mr Garnerin. The latter he described as of the form of an umbrella, closed at the very moment of descent, but expanded by the atmosphere as it approached the earth, and forming a sort of canopy over the aeronaut. Mr Cocking's parachute, on the contrary, was in the form of an umbrella reversed, the cavity being turned upmost, with the view, he said, of preventing the oscillation which proved disastrous to M. Garnerin.

As the parachute stood upon the ground, we were unable to see very exactly the place to be occupied by the aeronaut, but shortly afterwards it was raised to an altitude of about four feet, when we perceived a circular orifice

of about a yard in diameter, surrounded by a hoop, to which a basket or car was attached by several cords. Mr Cocking expressed by words the utmost confidence in the result of the experiment, but it appeared to us that it was a confidence which he did not feel. His restless looks and nervousness of manner seemed to belie the bravery of his speech. When questioned as to the danger, he remarked that none existed for him, and that the greatest peril, if any, would attend the balloon of the Messrs Green, when suddenly relieved from the weight of himself and the parachute (about five hundred weight). Notwithstanding the confidence of his assertion, an uneasy twinkle in his eye convinced us that he was not so confident as he appeared to be.

Towards six o'clock the Messrs Green entered the car of their balloon, which was allowed to ascend about forty feet, that the parachute might be brought and fixed directly under it. It was seven o'clock before the preparations were completed, at which time the whole apparatus was distinctly visible to every one in the gardens. Considerable impatience had been manifested, but as the position of the parachute became more clearly defined, a general clapping of hands expressed the approbation of the multitude. Another half hour passed during which time Mr Cocking was engaged, in earnest conversation with several of his friends. The band of the Surrey Yeomanry suddenly struck up the national anthem, which being considered the signal for the cords to be loosened, a loud huzza proceeded from the gardens, and was re-echoed by the impatient mob outside. At this moment a tube or pipe of linen was lowered by the Messrs Green from the car of their balloon through the orifice in the parachute, and put the basket in which Mr Cocking was to sit.—This, we soon discovered, was for the conveyance of the ballast it is found necessary to discharge on the ascent of a balloon, and which, if it had been thrown out in the usual manner, would have lodged in the parachute. Mr Cocking, having previously stripped off his coat as too cumbersome, and put on a light jacket, then stepped into the car amid acclamations. Some of his friends offered him a glass of wine, which he drank, and shook them all cordially by the hand, for the last time, and the balloon and its parachute arose amid renewed cheering. The early part of the afternoon had been remarkably fine and clear, but about this time (half past seven) the sky had become somewhat overcast, and a breeze had sprung up. No apprehensions however, were entertained, and the scene at that moment was as gay and cheerful as it is possible to imagine. Above was the majestic balloon, sailing majestically aloft, with the adventurers waving their flag in triumph, while below was the gaily dressed multitude, mixing their acclamations with the music of the band, and clapping their hands, unconscious that it was the death hour of the principal actor in the scene. The balloon had hardly attained an altitude of two hundred feet when the tube destined for the escape of the ballast from the car above detached itself by some means or other from the basket of Mr Cocking, and floated like a rickshaw in the air. We are, of course, not aware what effect this accident had upon the operations of the Messrs Green, but cannot augur that it was favourable. The balloon remained in sight for about half an hour, taking a south-easterly direction, during which time Mr Cocking had not made any attempt to commence his descent. It then entered a cloud, and was lost to view. As there was nothing more to be seen, we followed the example of the crowd, and retired from the gardens.

Mr R. Underwood of Regent'sreet, followed on horseback in the direction taken by the

balloon, to witness, if possible, the descent of the parachute, and from that gentleman we have learned the details of the fatal result.—Mr Underwood was in the neighbourhood of Blackheath when he saw the Messrs Green sever the cord which attached the parachute to their car. The parachute, thus left to itself, rapidly descended, and swayed from side to side in the most fearful manner. In a few seconds, the dreadful oscillations still continuing, the basket which contained Mr Cocking broke away from the parachute, and he was precipitated to the earth from a height of several hundred feet. Mr Underwood spurred his horse on to a field near Lee, where several labourers had picked up the parachute. They would not believe that a man had fallen with it, but on hearing his explanations, and an offer of five guineas to whoever should find the body of Mr Cocking, they commenced a search.—After traversing four fields they heard groans from a field called Burnt Ash, near Lee, and they found Mr Cocking literally dashed to pieces. Just as they were loosening his cravat he breathed his last in their arms. He was speedily conveyed to the Tiger's Head Inn, where his body awaits the coroner's inquest.

Mr Green and his companion effected a safe landing near Maidstone—and arrived at Tiger's head, Lee green, on Tuesday morning, by the Maidstone coach. He saw the body of Mr Cocking, and appeared to be very much affected.

[From the Herts Reformer.]

THE QUEEN AND THE KING OF HANOVER.—We hear but one opinion expressed on every side as to the grace, the dignity, the touching voice and sweet, but impressive manner, with which the Queen discharged the arduous duties, that, for the first time, devolved upon her on Monday last. We hear but one opinion, and that expressed with an unanimity most singular in our times, as to the reckless and tyrannical spirit,—the total disregard of all legal and moral obligations, with which the Duke of Cumberland has signalled his accession to the throne of Hanover by the utter destruction of the Hanoverian Constitution. He had no more right to destroy it, than he would have to repeal the Magna Charta to-morrow. He had no more right to annihilate, by proclamation, the liberties of the Hanoverians, than Charles X. had to publish those *ordonnances* against the liberty of the Press in France, which cost him his throne in 1630. The *Standard* alone attempts to justify an act, which every Englishman, except the editor of the *Standard*, regards with horror. It may furnish us, however, with a useful lesson. It may teach us to value that which we have, more highly, by the force of contrast. It may teach us to guard against the possibility of being subjected to this fierce and brutal tyrant, the King of Hanover, should Providence, in its anger, deprive us of that Queen, whose precious life alone stands between us and his hated dominion. That his recent conduct in Hanover furnishes us with a full justification for bringing in a bill of exclusion, in the ensuing Parliament, we entertain no doubt whatsoever, and we hope that the spirit to do this promptly and effectually, will not be wanting. No man, who values the liberties of his country, can feel either safe or happy, until it shall have been declared by Act of Parliament, that, if our most Gracious Queen were to be taken from us to-morrow, it is not to Ernest of Hanover, but to the Duke of Cambridge and his sons, that we should be called upon to offer our allegiance.

PARLIAMENTARY.—The Queen is reported to have said that if the Parliament does not please her, she will dissolve it.—*Cheltenham paper.*