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the north-west passage is solely the duty of government, and the resulting credit, both at home and throughout the world, ought to be solely theirs. He therefore recommends the Society to endeavor to prevail with the government to fit out a small expedition *this summer* for Wager Bay, according to the general plan of Sir John Franklin; and that it should leave England in May.

This recommendation, conveyed by a deputation of the Council of the Society, has, we understand been favorably received by the two departments concerned—the Colonial Office and the Admiralty. As regards the present year, it is obviously too late to make preparations for the grand object of accomplishing the north-west passage. But we do confidently trust it will not be abandoned, and that the plan and route pointed out by the President of the Geographical Society, and sanctioned by the approbation of Captain Beaufort, will be adopted, and brought to a successful issue.

NOTE.

On No. CVI.—Article 'English Charity.'

WE have received a letter from a clergyman who supposes himself to be alluded to in this article, which, on his partial recollection, very from a long and severe illness, had been put in his hands by his friends. The reverend gentleman states that 'the words and sentiments imputed to him in that passage convey a charge contradicted by his whole ministerial life—are opposed to facts in the parish, which he is in a condition to prove—and attribute to him language which he unhesitatingly asserts, and undertakes to declare on oath if necessary, he never used.' We are very sorry for it, if any such misrepresentation has occurred; but we believe the author of the article on 'English Charity' quoted the *ipsissima verba* of a report sent to the New Poor Law Board by one of their assistant-commissioners. We conclude, therefore, that if our correspondent be right in taking to his own parish the case alluded to, the assistant-com-

missioner had—most probably owing to the hastiness of his interview with an invalid—unfortunately mistaken the purport of the communication made to him. As to the matter of fact itself, if he really was alluded to, the reverend gentleman's solemn statement is conclusive.

NOTE.

On No. CIX., p. 32.

WE are informed that the Marquess of Westmeath thinks himself entitled to complain of the passage in this page, where we had occasion to introduce an allusion to his lordship's evidence before the commissioners for inquiry into the condition of the poorer classes in Ireland. Lord Westmeath must have misunderstood the passage in question. We impugned his lordship's doctrine that 'a poor law can IN NO SHAPE be levied in Ireland without an atrocious violation of the rights of property'—and we put an hypothetical case in order to apply to that doctrine the logical argument called the *reductio ad absurdum*. We had not the remotest intention of so far overstepping our jurisdiction as to express any opinion concerning the noble marquess's private character as a landlord.

NOTE.

On No. CIX. p. 87, Article 'Life of Lord Exmouth.'

THAT excellent work, the 'United Service Journal,' calls our notice to the omission of the name of Lieut.-General Sir Hudson Lowe, who certainly ought to have been mentioned as the able coadjutor of the late Lord Exmouth in the deliverance of Marseilles from the threatened violence of Marshal Brune, and as having equally participated in the honorable acknowledgement of that city's gratitude. The omission was entirely accidental: there is no case in which we should have been more unwilling to exhibit the slightest disrespect than in that of the worst used public servant of this age, Sir Hudson Lowe.