

THE COLONIAL SOCIETY.

Yesterday afternoon the first meeting of this important society took place at the Thatched House Tavern, St. James's street.

Sir G. Sinclair, Bart, M. P. in the chair.

Among the influential individuals present connected with Colonial interests, were Mr. Ward, M. P. for St. Albans; Sir William Symonds, the Hon. J. King, Colonel Marshall, Col. M'Dougall, Mr. Montgomery Martin, the Attorney-General for Barbadoes, Capt. Wakefield, R. N. Lieut. Col. Wells, of the Royal Engineers; Capt. Washington, R. N. Octavius Smith, Esq. and Philip D. Cooke, Esq.

The chairman having briefly stated the objects of the meeting.

Capt. Anderson, of the R. E., moved the first resolution relative to the formation and objects of the society. The resolution embodied the following statement:—

"That the Colonial Society intended to afford a place of rendezvous to persons interested in the various dependencies of the empire in every quarter of the globe.

"By means of this institution, information upon all colonial subjects may be collected and circulated through the intercourse of many individuals having the same object in view; and thus a want, long felt by many, who, for the promotion of public or private purposes, desire to obtain accurate and extensive knowledge of all circumstances connected with the colonies, will be readily satisfied.

"Many classes likely to derive benefit from the formation of this society, will doubtless avail themselves of the facilities, afforded to the attainment of their respective objects; such as members of the Legislature, naval and military officers, merchants, shipowners, persons about to emigrate, colonists visiting England, either for a short period or for a permanence; and those who take an interest in missionary labours, or the condition of the Aboriginal tribes; as well as all who have relations, or property in the colonies. Moreover, the diffusion of information respecting the valuable resources of the British Colonial possessions, hitherto comparatively unknown, is calculated to aid the purposes of those whose attention is directed to emigration.

"Party politics of every description to be absolutely excluded from the objects of the institution."

The resolution was seconded by J. Gliddon, Esq. and carried *nemine contradicente*.

Mr. Ward, M. P. moved the second resolution:—

"That, in the present state of the colonial dependencies of the British empire, the colonial society is an institution likely to prove highly useful to all classes of the community, both in this country and in the colonies."

The hon. gentlemen, in adverting to the advantages derivable from emigration, observed, that if any thing was wanting, the passing events of the day sufficiently attested its value; he would forbear to allude to Ireland, he would speak only of Scotland, and the deep distress that the inhabitants of the Western districts were suffering—(hear, hear) not from any want of labour, arising from the limited spot wherein they resided.—In fact, things had come to such a point, that even liberal professions were overstocked; the population had gone altogether beyond the line of demarcation; and, to touch on a very tender point of illustration, there was not a man present who had children who could look forward to his son or daughter's preferment—(hear.) Competition had arrived at that extent, their sons stood but little chance, and their daughters could not marry without stooping below their proper stations—(hear.) Well then let them look abroad and observe the millions and millions of acres, of rich and fertile land that lay unoccupied, and which but required cultivation, to cause it to add not alone to the prosperity of the colonies, but also to that of the mother country. He had strenuously endeavoured to engraft the system of emigration on the Poor Law Bill for Ireland, and would have the honour of a seat in Parliament in the ensuing session, the question would receive his warmest support, and he would endeavour to the utmost to bring into action those vast resources with which Providence had been pleased to bless this country—(cheers.)

Sir William Symonds seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Colonel Torrens moved the third resolution.

"That the colonial society is calculated to afford great facilities to all persons taking an interest in the foundation of new colonies, an object of great importance in the actual position of affairs in Great Britain and Ireland."

The gallant Col. briefly alluded to the state of the population of the country, and the surplus labour in the market, and content that a land revenue to a very great amount might be derivable from our colonies if properly managed—(hear.)

Dr. Evans very eloquently and warmly seconded the resolution, which was put from the chair, and carried unanimously.

The third resolution was put by Dr. Evans, L. L. D. and seconded by Capt. M'Carthy.

"That the thanks of this meeting be given to Wm. Bryan Cook, Esq. for his indefatigable and persevering exertions in the formation of this society, and for the manner in which he has performed the duties of honorary secretary, and that he be requested to continue in that appointment until the society is sufficiently advanced to offer such a salary as will insure the appointment of an individual capable of undertaking the important duties of the situation."

Mr. Cooke very warmly returned thanks, and the meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr. Churchill, Mr. Montgomery Martin, and by the Treasurer; the latter reported that the funds of the society were in a healthy condition, the liabilities being only £80 while they had in hand £103 17s. 81—(cheers.)

A committee having been appointed to carry out the objects of the society with regard to local arrangements—the hiring of suitable premises, &c. thanks were voted to the hon. chairman, and the meeting separated.

There can be no doubt that the formation of this society will be highly beneficial to all who have an interest in colonial matters, and the manner in which it has been conceived and commenced, affords a goodly promise of all desirable success. The society already numbers upwards of 30 members.

A report is current that the French government is about to send out an expedition against Hayti, under the command of Admiral de Mackau, to enforce the execution of the treaty of 1825.

The Journal du Commerce says, that a matrimonial alliance is on the tapis, between the Princess Mary, (the King's eldest unmarried daughter,) and Prince Alexander of Wurtemberg, cousin to the King of Wurtemberg.—The Prince has been in Paris for several days.

It is said that 20,000 persons have died of the Cholera at Palermo. The inhabitants of the adjoining villages rose in insurrection to prevent the introduction of provision into the city; but the garrison marched out, dispersed the insurgents and handed the prisoners over to justice.

The expedition to Constantia, it is fixed shall take place during the present month. A squadron, to be called the African squadron, composed of four ships of the line and two fire ships, has been got in order, and steamboats have been sent to Algiers, Oan, and Bona, to convey instructions relative to the campaign.

According to every probability, the attacking force will amount to 15,000 men, namely, 10,000 French troops and 5,000 natives, who have promised General Duviver, to join the expedition, and who may, it is believed, be relied on. It is fully expected that the chief command will be given to Gen. Bugeaud.

The effective force of the British auxiliaries remaining in the Spanish service scarcely exceed 700.

Honors for the French Press.—M. Coste, director of the Temps, is named chevalier of the Legion of Honor. The Cross of Honor has also been conferred upon M. Bethune, printer and director of the Chronique de Paris.

The French Minister of Commerce has presented a law for the establishment of Colonial Bonded Warehouses throughout the ports of France.

Destructive Hurricane and fire at St. Thomas.—St. Thomas and St. John's p. r. were visited by a hurricane and earthquake on the 2d Aug. which destroyed nearly all the houses in both places, besides doing great damage to the shipping.

The hurricane commenced at 4 p. m. of the 2d and continued all night. Hundreds of houses were demolished, and some literally blown to pieces. Out of 36 vessels in the harbor, all but 4 capsized, or sunk, or driven on shore. Many lives were lost among the seamen and inhabitants. The number has not been ascertained, but was supposed to exceed one hundred.

To add to the horrors of the night, at about 12, a fire broke out in some stores belonging to Mr. Stubs. It destroyed 2 dwelling houses.

The merchants have suffered greatly by damage to goods in stores. The tiles were blown off, and the rain poured through in torrents. Only one large ship and two schooners remained uninjured in port; all the rest were wrecks or thrown ashore. Some endeavoured to save themselves by cutting away their masts.

In the country great damage has been done. The fall of the barometer from the morning of the 2d until 8 o'clock in the evening, is reported to have been from 18 to 19 lines.

Curious Operation.—A singular surgical operation was performed by Professor Lizars at Edinburgh. The case was what is technically called aneurism of the subclavian artery, so near the heart, that the first large trunk required to be tied—namely, the arteria innominata. The young man, a carter from Dalkeith, was placed upon the table, and the Professor commenced by making an incision in the neck, and progressively cut down the artery, when the ligature was applied. The operation was completely successful. The patient, who bore it with uncommon fortitude, was only on the table for 15 minutes altogether. The operation was never before performed in Britain.

The Governor of New Brunswick has released Mr. Greely, the Agent of the State of Maine, who was imprisoned for illegal acts connected with the Boundary question, on application being made for that purpose. The confinement of Mr. Greely had, for some time past, been merely nominal.

The new Republic of Texas, has appointed a Minister Plenipotentiary to Great Britain, a Mr. Henderson.

The Madrid Gazette publishes a royal ordinance, dated the 19th restoring to the enjoyment of their offices and honors, all those who had refused to take the oath to the Constitution of 1812, on condition that they swear to the present Constitution. Another ordinance enacts, that hereafter the 18th June shall be kept a holiday, and the royal calendar shall record its having been the day on which the promulgation of the Constitution

of the Spanish monarchy took place in Madrid. This, with the amnesty, and the repeal of confiscations, ought to collect around the Queen many of the friends she has lost.

The King of the French for the first time during four years, went to the Opera on Friday night last, not only with perfect safety, but with an apparent sense of security not observed for many years. His majesty was exceedingly well received.

At the Committee of the House of Commons, on an inquiry into the punishment of transportation, the extraordinary fact was stated by one of the witnesses, that there is a person, originally a transported convict, whose income exceeds £40,000 a-year.

The King of Holland has presented Mr. Oliver Lang, master shipwright at Woolwich Dock yard, with a splendid gold snuff-box set with diamonds, for his improvement in ship building.

A railroad is proposed from Leadenhall-street to the Minories, at a cost of £778,000 per mile (the distance is 1,900 feet, and the estimate is £295,000 !)

The inquest on the bodies destroyed by the explosion of the boiler in the Union Steamer at Hull, closed its sittings on Wednesday, when the following verdict was given:—"Manslaughter against the engineer, Joseph Gamble." He was immediately committed for trial to the Hull assizes.

His royal highness Prince George of Cumberland, now Crown Prince of Hanover, will receive under the new law relative to the appanages of the royal family, when he comes of age, thirty thousand dollars in gold annually, a residence suitable to his rank, and when he marries, for the first time, an additional annual income of ten thousand rix dollars in gold.—Morn. Herald.

At Leghorn thirty four pupils of an academy have been imprisoned on a charge of participating in a treasonable conspiracy recently discovered there.

At a late meeting of the Dublin Temperance Society, the astounding and almost incredible fact was stated, that the sum of £6,300,000 was expended by the inhabitants of Ireland last year paying duty to the Crown for the single article of whiskey, and that if the cost of illicit spirits were added, it is supposed that the aggregate would amount to eight millions a year!

St. JOHN, N. B., Sept. 12.

Three officers and 60 rank and file of the 43 lt. infy. are ordered to proceed from the Garrison in St. John, to Fredericton, to-morrow morning under command of Capt. Egerton.

A Detachment of the Royal Artillery (to relieve Major Dalton's company,) arrived here from Halifax, in the steamer Maid of the Mist, on Friday last. Capt. Evans and Lieut. Roberts accompanied the detachment.

A number of American troops having marched from Houlton to the Madawaska, a detachment of the 43d lt. infy. has subsequently been despatched from Fredericton to the same neighbourhood, to

watch the movements of the Spanish monarchy.

The only man which has yet this to the other company of the was stationed at majesty's schr. John to-morrow. Halifax Jvnl.

Mr. Greely We learn that who was a few from Fredericton safely lodged having been a engaged in a and seditious a waska Territoring gentleman kept in duranc than on the fo threats of the to the contrary

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