

has the whole Opposition with him, and he will easily find among his own friends a hundred votes to give him a majority.—Since the Reform Bill, the Parliament of Great Britain has not had a question of so much weight to resolve upon as that which is now submitted to it; and the changes proposed will, if they are adopted, have, most assuredly, immense consequences on the economy of the country."

The *Press*, after giving the heads of the proposition of Sir Robert Peel as regards articles of food, adds:—

"As regards manufactured articles, Sir R. Peel could cut away at full liberty for two reasons. First, because England—thanks to the secular protection which she has enjoyed, and all the mechanical resources which she has appropriated to herself before all other nations—is without a rival in all the great manufacturing branches. Next, because by the intelligent reform which she effected in 1843, the raw produce which she receives from foreign countries has been relieved from all duties: whilst elsewhere—amongst us, for instance—these matters are still charged with heavy duties, which necessarily increase the price of the manufactured article. In proposing to the English manufacturers to give up a protection altogether superfluous, Sir Robert Peel reminded them by a quotation from Adam Smith that they had been the first to invoke for their profit the establishment of those monopolies against which they protest loudly, now that they have no longer need of them. This little quotation, which has the merit of being just, was much applauded by the agricultural party. Sir R. Peel, therefore, reduces the tariff on cotton, woollen, and linen cloths. It may be taken as certain beforehand that the imports from abroad will scarcely increase from his doing so. As to silks it is another matter, as the diminution of duties may facilitate some ventures from France, although the duty is still tolerably high. The avowed object of these reductions, and some others, is to induce other countries to do the same. In this respect it is probable that each nation will consult its own advantage, convenience, and position, before considering itself bound to a reciprocity which for most of them would be perfectly illusory."

**PRESENT STAFF OF THE POST-OFFICE IN THE METROPOLIS.**—In the principal (or Secretary's) office there are 64 officers thus classed:—Secretary, assistant secretary, private secretary, chief clerk to secretary; senior clerks—first class 3, second class 6; juniors—first class 9, second class 14; surveyor's office 8, clerks to ditto 16; surveyor's (Scotland) 2, clerks to ditto 3. In the mail-coach-office there are 43—viz., surveyor and superintendent, first clerk seniors 2, juniors 4; inspectors of mail-coaches 8, railway clerks 27. In the solicitor's office 4—namely, solicitor, first clerk, second clerk, third clerk. Receiver-general's office 17—receiver-general, chief clerk, seniors 3, juniors 9, extra clerks 2, messenger 1. Accountant-general's office 31—accountant-general, deputy, chief clerk, principal clerks 3, seniors 6, juniors 19. Money-order-office 170—president, chief clerk: first class, senior class 4, second clerks 25, ditto 50; junior probationary class 89. Inland and foreign offices 645—superintending president, presidents 4, assistant president, vice-presidents 3, senior clerks 9, assistants 33, clerks 36, juniors 50; clerks to superintending president 3, inspectors of official correspondence 4, officers in charge of India mails 3, packet mail clerks 2, officers at paid windows 4, clerks of letter carrier's accounts 2, instructor of junior clerks, senior messengers 2, junior ditto 49, watchmen 2. The inspector of letter carrier's office (which is an adjunct to the inland office) contains an inspector, 7 assistant inspectors, 147 sub-sorters, and 281 letter carriers. Ship-letter office 8—inspector, chief clerk, senior clerks 2, juniors 4. Dead and returned letter office 21—inspector, first clerk, seniors 5, juniors 14. London district office about 600, viz., superintending president, chief clerk, assistant clerks 5, surveyor, remittance clerk. In the sorting offices there are 2 presidents, 4 vice ditto, 2 window men, 14 clerks of divisions, 12 first sorters, 12 second ditto, 10 sorters and 31 sub-sorters, an inspector, 2 assistant inspectors, 9 junior inspectors, 16 stampers,

and about 500 letter carriers, the last return only including the carriers attached to the office in St. Martin's-le-Grand, giving a grand total of 1,600 persons appointed in the London offices alone; independently of the various "receivers," and other paid officers of the establishment.

We learn our virtues from the bosom friends who love us; our faults from the enemy who hates us. We cannot easily discover our real form from a friend; he is a mirror on which the warmth of our breath impedes the clearness of the reflection.—*Jean Paul Richter.*

**MODE OF CULTIVATION ADOPTED IN CORNWALL, TO RAISE EARLY POTATOES.**—1. The potatoes are set in December and January. 2. The sort planted are the Kidney, and the ashleaf kidney. The best ashleaf kidney are procured from Somersetshire, and are planted in the neighbourhood of Uxbridge. 3. The best soil is a light loose soil, and the ground should be well worked. Old grass land is preferred. 4. The seed should be set about eight inches in depth, four inches distance from each, and the rows, fourteen inches apart. An open situation, facing south or south east, is the best situation—proximity to the sea is the most advantageous. 5. The best manure is long stable dung covered with seaweed, the seed being first slightly covered with earth. 6. The finest, cleanest, healthiest seed is best. When cut, never plant a piece with more than two eyes, some prefer one. When small potatoes are used, they are sometimes planted whole. 7. To protect the tops from being injured by early spring frosts is impracticable in extensive plantations; but, in small quantities, they may be protected by being planted in sheltered situations, and litter kept over them, or by trenching them as celery, and covering the trenches with litter transversely till the weather becomes warm.

**IMPROVEMENT OF BRITISH AGRICULTURE.**—At a late meeting in West Norfolk, Mr. Hudson, of Castleacre, made the following remarks:—He was able to prove that the farmers had not only kept pace with the increased population, but had actually "gone ahead." In 1821 the population of England and Wales was 11,978,875. It had been calculated, and he believed correctly, that on the average each individual would require a quarter of wheat for his sustenance during the year. Now, taking the ten years previously to 1821, he found that the average quantity of foreign wheat entered annually for home consumption was 429,076 quarters. If they deducted that number from the population (calculating every person to consume annually one quarter of wheat), the amount of wheat produced each year in this country at that time would appear to be 11,549,799 quarters. In 1831 the population had increased to 13,897,187; the average importations of foreign wheat for the previous ten years were 534,762 quarters; so that the growth of wheat in this country might then be taken to average 14,362,425 quarters annually. There was, therefore, an average increased production in the last ten years over the preceding ten years of 1,812,626 quarters per annum. Again, in 1841 the population was 15,911,757, the average importations of foreign wheat during the preceding ten years were 998,118 quarters, and the quantity produced in this country annually might be calculated at 15,003,639 quarters. The total increase in the home production during the period through which his calculation extended was 3,453,840 quarters. He considered, therefore, that he was justified in contradicting the assertion that the farmers had not kept pace in production with the increasing population of the country.

**THE WILD CATTLE OF TEXAS.**—The settlers who have recently opened farms near the sources of the San Gabriel and Brushy find the country well stocked with a singular breed of wild cattle. Large droves of these cattle are found not only on the San Gabriel, Leona, and other tributaries of Little River, but also on the San Sabá, the Llaho, and many tributaries of the Upper Colorado, far above the settlements. They differ in form, colour, and habits from all the varieties of domestic cattle in Texas. They are invariably of a dark brown colour,