

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

(From the Illustrated London News.)

THE MUTINY IN INDIA.

The state of affairs in India may well excite the alarm of the nation; but it will more: it will excite its courage and its wisdom. At one time, and before fuller details had corrected, explained, and supplemented the curt and fragmentary announcements of the electric telegraph, the intelligence created a feeling of dismay. But that speedily wore off, and the prevalent feeling is no longer that of dismay, but of anxiety. The full extent of the danger is seen and appreciated, and the means which are in existence to meet and to subdue it are obvious and palpable, and ready to our hands. Our house in India is on fire. We are not insured. To lose that house would be to lose power, prestige, and character—to descend in the rank of nations, and take a position more in accordance with our size on the map of Europe than with the greatness of our past glory and present ambition. The fire must be extinguished at any cost. All ordinary considerations give way before the greatness and the suddenness of such a danger. Fortunately the Indian Government has vigour enough for the emergency, and if it have not means will be supported by all the wealth, power, energy, and resources of Great Britain. In this case there will be no grudging. The nation knows its work, and woe betide the statesman who shall stand between it and the consummation!

If we in England had to quench this mutinous spirit, which had so fearfully and suddenly displayed itself among the native troops, any speculations upon the causes, which provoked the outbreak would be inopportune. But fortunately the people of England may speculate and argue on the subject if they please, for while they are cogitating the Indian Government is working. By the next mail we shall in all probability hear that the Mutiny has been confined to one Presidency in which it originated; that it has been quenched in the blood of the mutineers; that every native regiment that took part in it has been annihilated; that the murders of English men, women, and children in Delhi and Meerut have been signally avenged; and that such an example has been as will strike Terror into the minds of the native population, and keep it there for a century to come. Whether it were desirable that we should win India by the sword is no longer a question. Having won it we must keep it. The sword procured it the sword must guard it. We rule both by the dread of our present power, and by the remembrance of our past invincibility. The dread and the remembrance must be maintained at all costs and hazards, or the day will but too speedily come when British dominion in the East will be of as little account as the might of Sesostris or the throne of Nebuchadnezzar, or any thing else that has passed away for ever.

If any inquiry into the cause of the Mutiny stayed in the slightest degree the hands of those who are engaged in quelling and in punishing it, we should deprecate it as impolitic and injurious. But, as it is probable that the Mutiny will have been effectually crushed and punished long before the debates in the British Parliament, or the comments of the British press, reach India, the British public may well employ the interval in considering whether our officials, civil or military, in the East, have been in any way to blame for the results? Whether the system of government of the East India Company be altogether guiltless in the matter? Whether the native Indian army is sufficiently officered by Europeans? Whether, having no wars or projects or annexation upon hand, the native army becomes mutinous, as the natural result of its own acuity of spirit? Or whether the mutiny be not the result of intrigues traceable to the agencies of that other great European Power which shares with Great Britain the empire of Asia? It may so happen that all these causes have been at work. We know that the religious prejudices of the Hindoo population have been offended and hurt. We know that the question of the greased cartridges, ridiculous as it may appear, has exasperated the Sepoy soldiery, who feel that they have been made to touch what they consider to be the "unclean thing." We know, too, that some of the British officers in Sepoy regiments, who ought to have known better, have been engaged in distributing tracts and Bibles to the soldiers, and that they have thereby strengthened the suspicion that Great Britain not content with destroying the political independence of India, had determined to subvert its religion. We know also, for the Mutiny shows it, that we have not a sufficient number of European officers, or of European regiments; and, if we do not positively know, we have the strongest reason to suspect, that Russian emissaries are, and have long been, at work, not only at the outposts and frontiers of our Indian Empire, but in the very heart of the country, in exciting dissatisfaction against British rule, and in stirring up the native population against us.

There are many persons in England who laugh at this idea, who treat it as a monomania or a Russophobia, and think that the alleged intrigues of Russia in the East are idle bugbears, engendered only in the diseased brains of bigoted politicians. But those who know Russia best, and India most, do not treat this supposition with scorn; but, contrary, find too many reasons

for believing that every act of hostility against us—whether it springs from Cabul, Burmah, or Persia, or whether it arises from the circle of our own frontier—is more or less connected with Russian intrigues and Russian money. Asia knows but two European Powers. They do not believe in the separate identity of the French, and they never heard of the Germans, and in their minds Europe is divided between the English and the Russians. They believe that these two are forever striving to obtain the mastery of Asia. Were Russia Lord of Hindostan the Asiatic races would look to England for deliverance. As England is the Lord they look to Russia to aid them in throwing off the yoke; and, if they do not burst out into open hostility it is not because they are unwilling, but because they are afraid. All these things, and many others, must be taken into account by the British people if they would learn the true state of their relation to India, and of the efforts that must be made to retain that magnificent possession, which is alike our chief treasure and our chief danger.

What the nation has now to do is to punish. After punishment will come inquiry as to the best and most available means of prevention for the future. And among these means two of the most essential are—a large increase of the European force, both of officers and men, and on extension of railway throughout the length and breadth of India. It may suffice to have single lines of rails to begin with, and to lay them down upon strategic as well as upon commercial principles, so that these forces may be easily moved at the shortest notice from one extremity of India to the other. When these great military lines shall have been completed, we may alike defy Russia and the native tribes and populations to stir up hostility against us, and may then devote ourselves to our leisure to the peaceful development of the immense resources of the country. We owe the people of India much. We owe them peace, we owe them security, we owe them good government; and if we pay them these debts many blessings will follow. By these means we may be enabled to make amends for the arbitrariness of our rule by its justice and its beneficence. Let us not make the mistake of thinking that we owe them Christianity, and of endeavouring to force it upon them before they are ripe to receive it. Christianity was never yet successfully inculcated by the sword, and never will be. Soldiers and railroads are what are needed in India; and, if the savage outbreak of Meerut and Delhi prove the means of providing both, that Mutiny, distressing as it is, will have, in all probability, the great merit of being the last, and of preparing the way for the permanent pacification and real prosperity of India.

(From *Willmer & Smiths European Times*)

THE VICEROYALTY OF IRELAND.—On the 13th the corporation of Dublin presented an address to his excellency on the question of abolition, insisting upon the impolicy of destroying the office of viceroy. Lord Carlisle has returned a reply which has given great satisfaction to the Dublin public. His lordship said:—"I am convinced that the continuance of the viceroyal court contributes materially to make our own capital a place of increased resort and importance, and I cannot treat as purely frivolous the influences that act upon the trade and prosperity of an ancient and populous city, or believe that they do not radiate to a far wider circuit. And while I should be far from seeking to prejudice what alteration of existing establishments the lapse of time or change of circumstances may recommend, I still conceive that the precipitate abolition of an office which under one modification, or another, has now subsisted for nearly seven centuries, which has preceded and survived a separate legislature, and has ingrained itself into the laws, customs and feelings of an entire people, cannot be effected without difficulties and complications which very great and obvious commensurate benefits should alone persuade us to encounter. There is one point on which I yet feel more strongly assured. We have perceived how small a fraction of the Irish representation have voted in favour of the abolition of the Irish viceroyalty. I am clearly of opinion it would be neither prudent, generous, nor just to change this ancient form of administration, without a marked concurrence on the part of the loyal and well-disposed portion of the Irish people."

FROM THE MORNING POST.

An important alteration has been made in the arrangement for laying the Cable. It has been determined upon, and the plan now instead of commencing mid ocean, is to submerge the whole cable in a continuous line from VALENTIA BAY to NEWFOUNDLAND.

The NIAGARA will lay the first half from Ireland to the middle of the Atlantic; the end then to be joined to the other half on board of the AGAMEMNON, which takes it to the Coast of Newfoundland.

During the whole process, the four vessels will remain together, and give whatever assistance is required. Constant communication will be kept up with the Coast of Ireland during the progress of the work.

THE FIRST MESSAGE, IT IS BELIEVED, will be from QUEEN VICTORIA, to PRESIDENT BUCHANAN.

A PUBLIC MEETING TOOK PLACE yesterday to consider the subject of an appropriate demonstration on the arrival of the Atlantic Telegraph Cable Fleet which may be expected here about the close of next week. Patrick Tasker, Esq., was called to the Chair, and Edward D. Shea, Esq., was requested to act as Secretary. The Chairman having stated the object of the Meeting the Colonial Secretary, the Hon John Kent, in a speech replete with eloquence, took a review of the Telegraph Enterprise from its first introduction into this Colony by its talented projector F. N. Gisborne Esq., (who had successfully carried it through a succession of difficulties and effected its completion when all others had failed;) down to the present time. and which was soon to be crowned by the great event, the present meeting was called to decide upon an appropriate way of commemorating. Robert Frowse, Esq., M.C.P., followed with some practical and pertinent remarks, and was succeeded by Nicholas Stabb, Esq., who spoke well and to the point, as did also Bryan Robinson, Esq., Q.C., W. M. Barnes, Esq., and others. Mr. Henry Winton having previously proposed that there should be a Regatta on the occasion, the Hon. Mr. Kent expressed his conviction that the Government would defray the expenses of that part of the demonstration in which the public at large could participate, and suggested that the dinner and the ball which had been alluded to, should be severally subscribed for by the parties who might wish to join both or either.

Mr. L. Anthony, Esq., proposed that there should be a Dinner, a Regatta, and a Public Ball, and that a General Committee should be appointed to make the necessary arrangements; which having been seconded by Nicholas Cusack, Esq., was unanimously carried and a committee for that purpose was then appointed.

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

HARBOR GRACE, WEDNESDAY AUGUST 19, 1857

Now that an almost universal interest is excited to the utmost tension, in expectation of the greatest triumph of human science, over natural obstructions, which has ever yet been attempted or conceived; and whilst the public mind in this the nearest part of America—to the "Mistress of arts and arms," is bent with all absorbing solicitude upon the probability of failure or success in the stupendous undertaking; it must appear obtrusive to persevere in the consideration of subjects of a local character, or to press even the just claims of a much wronged class of people (the fishermen of the country) upon the ears of the Government or upon public consideration. Such a state of things, however, does not relieve us from the necessity of replying to the curt, but significant observations of the Express, upon our notice of the amounts paid, and to be paid, by this Colony to the Electric Telegraph Company.

The first thing which strikes us as distinguishing this Express production is its disingenuousness. We are charged with, "calling attention to the extensive privileges conferred upon the Telegraph Company &c.," now so far from wishing those privileges curtailed, we would not object to their extension if necessary to facilitate the invaluable object had in view, but we did, and still do consider that this country could ill afford the singular appropriation of a large sum of money out of an all but insolvent exchequer for even this purpose. The natural privileges and advantages of the country, might have been yielded for us, even to a much greater extent, but money advanced in the anticipation of increasing taxation, we certainly did, and still do complain of; and on the part of thousands have to regret that our sapient ministers, should have had to come in contact with more practical, talented, and able tacticians, than themselves, and in this view of the case, and believing that the intention of the Telegraph company would not have been frustrated by the exercise of a more economical spirit on the part of our government; we repeat our conviction, that the ministry acted in this as in many other respects, "without due regard to the" immediate and pressing "interests of the people," but, says the Express "is it not apparent that the" Telegraphic enterprise is calculated to confer greater benefits upon us, than upon any or all of the other B.N.A. Provinces? To this we reply, without any wish to detract from acknowledged advantages, that it is scarcely credible, and we challenge our Contemporary to the proof; from the succeeding sentences, it is plain that he had in view, the successful issue of the great project in hand—that of uniting both hemispheres by means of the electric chain—and such being effected, Newfoundland must be considered but as a speck, on the Map, in comparison with those neighbouring colonies, how then can it be said that, "the enterprise will confer greater benefits upon us than upon all the other colonies together." We are not loath to admit considerable advantages to the commercial community "from the opening up of" Telegraph Communication with the American Continent," nor are we inclined to question, that they may "be greater than the most sanguine anticipated." We further admit that "none can anticipate the result to Europe and America—to the cause of civil-

ization and progress; of the laying down of the Atlantic Cable," but we are at issue with the Express upon the point "that patriotic and candid Newfoundlanders will ere long point with honest pride to the sagacity and forethought of their Legislators who passed such a liberal and judicious measure"—connected as it was with a Bonus or hard Cash, which the country could ill afford, and the withholding of which would neither have checked nor turned aside the well matured determination of the Telegraph Company. The few thousands which were thus wrung from an already overburdened and laborious population, however substantial, was not "the consideration, which led to the construction of the line hence to Cape Briton," nor "the cause of that line having expanded into the magnificent project of the Atlantic Telegraph," on the contrary we feel assured that the latter always held precedence in the mind of the company, and that the former was but a preliminary measure to a vast and unparalleled enterprise, to which our all but exhausted Treasury was primarily and cleverly made to pay "substantial" tribute.

To sum up our defence:—We would never object to the necessary privileges to any company for such a praiseworthy object, but we consider the amount of public money thus appropriated, an unnecessary subsidy, insignificant when compared with the vastness of the enterprise, but oppressive upon the people in the present state of our finances, and inequity, when taken into consideration with the perfect immunity of our richer and more "sagacious" neighbours.

Admitting to the full, the benefits anticipated, we do not see how they can be greater to us than to our neighbours, on the contrary according to extent, population and commerce, must those benefits be increased, even four-fold to some of those colonies, which have paid nothing in advance; we therefore repeat our convictions that the necessary privileges and immunities freely yielded, with the grant of 100 square miles of our best soil, would have sufficiently connected the names of our Newfoundland Solons with the world renowned undertaking, without the bonus of £5000 and the annual subsidy of £2500 for 20 years.

Mr. KENT, on behalf of the Government, guaranteed that the larger proportion of the expenses would be defrayed from the public funds."

THE HON. MR. KENT expressed his conviction that the Government would defray the expenses of that part of the demonstration in which the public at large could participate.

THE HON. JOHN KENT stated that the local Government had appropriated £250 to meet the outlay contemplated.

And is it come to this? Has the Government fallen so low, and will the St. Johns public share in its degradation? What has become of the generous spirit, by which Regattas were formerly sustained? Two HUNDRED AND FIFTY POUNDS stg. out of the tax-chest for such a purpose! Said we not that a corrupt Government has a demoralising effect thro every grade of society? If aught be done to commemorate the triumphant establishment of Ocean telegraph, let it be something worthy of the great occasion—for the honor of the country and for the benefit of posterity: If our voice could effect it, the foundation of a suitable home for out-port fishermen, whilst in St. Johns, would be permanently established; where spring and fall, this invaluable but neglected class of men might be properly entertained without becoming prey to sharper, the subjects of inebriety robbery and outrage. Let the salt of society—the Clergy of every denomination be heard on this occasion; and the merchants, we feel assured that their attention only requires to be drawn to this subject, to secure their sanction and assistance; and many of the young men in shops and counting-houses, we can answer for their willingness to make some sacrifice for this purpose. We have heard them express regret, that they sometimes are obliged to put considerable sums of money into the hands of persons, when in a state that warranted the apprehension that they would soon be foully deprived of it: we knew several instances where parties lodging in public houses, missed sums of money, and had to return to their families penniless; let us not reproach the publicans, they are licensed by law, nay more, their status has become elevated, they are Grand Jury men: without offence to any, much may be effected to remedy evils which are becoming more and more ruinous vicious and degrading.

H. M. Ship 'Basilisk' Commander Phayre R. N. Having on board His Excellency the Governor and Lady, anchored in this harbour at 5 P.M. on Thursday last, the next morning His Excellency accompanied by Lady Bannerman landed at 10 A.M. and was most respectfully received by the principal inhabitants, in waiting.

The shipping generally displayed their flags on the occasion, which with the groups of people variously assembled, gave quite a holiday appearance to the time, His Excellency and Lady were the guests of the Hon. Mr. Ridley who accompanied them on a visit to Carbonear on

Saturday and Bay the distinguished much pleased with Bay.—His Excellency and we understand there to await the visit of Man the inhabitants, w Phayre and his O this fine ship.

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