

out his team, turn the soil, and expose the worms and grubs, they saw over his fields, and make the same lamentation that a hungry man does when he knows that there is meat in the house, but the careless servant has lost the key of the larder. But if the teams are a-field by times, slicing the sward or the stubble, and turning up the fresh and fragrant earth to be mellowed by the action of the sun, there is not a complaining note among all the field-ward rooks. Gallantly they strut, and incessantly they peck up the larvæ and the worms, so that the returning plough cannot bury, and so preserve in the soil a destructive thing." During the period when the parents are feeding the young brood, the number of worms that a crow will carry to his nest is almost incredible.

NEWS.

BRITAIN.

In the course of a debate in the House of Commons on the 30th ult., when the policy of the Governor General of British North America was discussed the following observations were made by Lord Stanley:—"Sir, I do not underrate the importance of Canada to the empire. I do not look on it as a source of strength in war—it is more likely to be a source of weakness. It could give us little or no support in an European war; and in case of a war with the United States, which God forbid, it would be our most vulnerable point. In a military point of view, therefore, Canada adds little to the strength of the empire. Indirectly, the connection strengthens us by forming a nursery for our seamen; and, in a commercial point of view, it is of great importance to us, as giving us a command over the inlet and outlet to a great continent, through a mighty river, which is one of the finest water communications on the globe. Commercially and politically, then, I will not deny that it is of great importance to us; but if the connection be of importance to this country, I ask the honourable and learned gentleman whether, in his judgment, it is not infinitely more advantageous to the people of Canada [cheers]? Are they slight advantages which the people of Canada derive from it? They enjoy as free a government, and, I venture to say, the lightest taxation of any people on the inhabited globe. They have perfect religious freedom. They have, at no cost to them, the naval and military protection of one of the mightiest powers. They have annually an immense expenditure in the shape of commissariat and other establishments distributed over their territory. They have been enabled during the last year to borrow (while the United States are unable to obtain money at six per cent), from their connection with this country, and nothing else, for the improvement of their internal communications, a million and a half at a little, if at all, exceeding 3½ per cent [hear, hear, hear]. Canada has an immense indirect expenditure from the establishment of British merchants and the investment of British capital. I have stated already she has the protection of this country. She has also for her produce (and no inconsiderable addition has lately been made to this advantage) the exclusive benefit of a free admission to the richest market in the world [cheers]. These are the advantages which Canada possesses through her connection with this country; these are the advantages which Canada must be prepared to sacrifice if a separation should unhappily result. It is for Canada well to consider whether the price she has to pay in the slight and all but nominal subordination to this country is too high a price for the protection, advantages, and substantial benefits conferred on her. I am persuaded, that by the exercise of sound sense and discretion, the people of Canada may long continue to enjoy the advantages she now possesses; and that in connection with, rather than in subordination to, this country, she may assume the position of a thriving and happy colony."

GAMBLING.—The attention of the Government having been at length aroused by the appeals made to them through the daily and weekly journals, with respect to the gambling-houses at the west end of London, orders have been issued to the Commissioners of Police to enter by force, if necessary, all which were suspected, and respecting which two housekeepers had in writing sent in the notices required by the act of Parliament. Acting upon this order the Commissioners of Police, after receiving the written affidavits of two respectable inhabitants of the parish of St James, Westminster, matured a plan, and, in obedience to their orders, between twelve and one o'clock, on Tuesday night and Wednesday morning, detachments from the C, R, P, D, G, S, A, L, F, B, and

V divisions, each headed by the superintendent of the respective divisions, armed with axes, crowbars, ladders, and everything necessary to force an entrance if it was denied, proceeded on this service. At one o'clock each party succeeded in entering the particular gaming houses they were ordered to attack, and in securing an immense quantity of gaming implements, I O U's and cash to the amount of nearly £3000, and also in capturing 73 persons, several of whom were in the first circles. The hearing of the cases occupied seven hours at Marlborough-street Police-court on Wednesday. Mr. Wilkins defended the prisoners. On many of the parties a fine of £3 was imposed, and others were fined 20s each, for being in the houses for unlawful purposes.

[In connection with the above we may state that the Queen, and Prince Albert, have refused, to patronise Ascott Races, on account of their tendency to promote gambling. We hope this will prove a death blow to races.]

The Anti-Slavery Society at its last anniversary manifested a great division in its ranks on the subject of giving free labour sugar a preference over that produced by slave labour. The free traders appeared in great strength, but the chief supporters of the abolition cause are in favor of the law recently passed, admitting free labour sugar at a moderate duty, whilst the other remains as before.

The free traders have been defeated by a small majority in an important election in Lancashire.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.—The extensive premises of the Gilcomston Brewery and Distillery, Aberdeen, the greater part of which were erected about twenty-five years ago, and cost above £30,000, were last week sold by auction to the Incorporation of Bakers for £5460.

All parties, with the exception of the Duke of Wellington, appear to be satisfied with the recall of Lord Ellenborough from India.

Sir Thomas Freemantle has been appointed Secretary at war in the room of Sir Henry Hardinge, the new Governor-General of India.

The Bishop of Exeter has brought in a Bill "for the more effectual suppression of brothels, and trading in seduction and prostitution."

The Free Church influence is found to be highly prejudicial to the interest of Government candidates in Scotland.

IRELAND.

Ireland is tranquil, although the O'Connell rent is again on the increase.

The long-protracted proceedings arising out of the State Trials have been brought to a close. The Court having unanimously refused to grant a new trial, passed sentence on the traversers on the 30th ult.

Daniel O'Connell.—To be imprisoned for twelve calendar months; to pay a fine of £2000, and to enter into securities to keep the peace for seven years—himself in £5000, and two sureties of £2500 each.

John O'Connell, John Gray, T. Steele, R. Barrett, C. G. Duffy, and T. M. Ray.—To be imprisoned for nine calendar months; to pay a fine of £50, and to enter into securities to keep the peace for seven years—themselves respectively in £1000 and two sureties of £500 each.

The Traversers immediately surrendered into the custody of the Sheriff.

The Rev. J. Gould, of Dublin, stated at the recent Anniversary of the Baptist Irish Society, that Father Mathew "has circulated, out of his own private resources, several thousand copies of the Douay version of the Scriptures," and that Dr. Croly, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh, has given away 30,000 copies of the same version.

CONTINENTAL EUROPE.

The *Constitutionnel* says, that it is assured that M. Guizot has protested, in the name of France, against the annexation of Texas to the United States of America.

The *National* announces, in terms of deep regret, the demise of the celebrated banker and deputy, Jacques Laffitte, which took place on Sabbath evening.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN THE FRENCH COLONIES.—In the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday last, a petition, presented by the operatives of Paris for the abolition of negro slavery in the French colonies, was referred to the Minister of Marine, after an animated debate, in the course of which M. Guizot declared that it was the