

**POLITICAL SOCIETIES, EXCLUDING PERSONS OF A DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS FAITH,** using secret signs and symbols, and acting by means of associated branches. It is my firm intention to discourage all such societies in my dominions; and I rely with confidence on the fidelity of my loyal subjects, to support me in this determination."

The General Order to the Army, forbids them to join such societies only, as are above described, and with the Freemasonry has no sort of connection. The Princes and the Nobles of the Realm, in very many instances are Masons; and at present His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex is Grand Master of the Craft in England. In the Army, Masonic Lodges are upheld, and in several of the Regiments now stationed in Canada, there are Lodges in operation. The admirable explanation of the principles of the order, given by the Rev. Mr. Leach, in his discourse on Monday could not fail to impart to those unconnected with the Craft, who heard him, some of the beneficial ends of the Institution, and of the feelings of brotherly kindness and charity which must govern those who conform to its precepts.

The Editor of the British Colonist of Dec. 29, is very short sighted indeed, if he does not see his own Masonic Society included in our late King William's prohibition "of Orange Lodges; and generally of all political Societies, excluding persons of a different religious faith; using secret signs and symbols; and acting by means of associated branches."—Do not Masonic Societies exclude "persons of a different religious faith?"—Catholics, for instance; who, indeed, are forbidden by their Church to enter into any Society "using secret signs and symbols, and acting by means of associated branches," under pain of *ipso facto* excommunication! If Masonic Societies are not included in this royal prohibition, then neither are Ribbon Lodges, Hunter Lodges, nor secret Lodges of any kind, Orange Lodges alone, as named, being the only excepted ones. It is singular that William the Fourth should be the first of our Sovereigns to take steps for the effectual discouragement of "Orange Lodges," &c. &c., thus putting down the worship of the Orange Idol, the Dutch Moloch, the Statue of William the Third in College Green, Dublin.

Since writing the above we find it mentioned in the papers received by the Caledonia, that his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, is about to resign the Grand Mastership of the Ancient Order of Freemasons.

In connection with the same subject, our cotemporary of the Express has the following:—

#### ORANGEISM AND MASONRY.

We learn from the Colonist that the commanding officer at Toronto, declined to allow the Band to assist at the Masonic celebration of St. John's day in that city. The Colonist thinks the officer acted under an erroneous opinion of the general order issued to the Army, respecting Secret Societies, and *italicises* that part of the order which alludes only to Orange Associations. It will be seen, however, that the order extends to all Societies using "secret signs and symbols, and acting by means of associated branches." This is clearly the character of Masonic Lodges, as understood by the uninitiated,

who consider the officer exercised a very proper and laudible discretion on the occasion. The less the army has to do with Societies of any description, the better.

[The order alluded to is inserted above.]

We present the following little paragraph to the attention of those persons who have always resisted the assertion that there was an Orange Lodge in Hamilton. The mischievous tendency of these secret societies is well known.—

They have been denounced by the King and parliament as unconstitutional, and all truly loyal subjects should discountenance them.—*Hamilton Express.*

*From the Hamilton Gazette.*

Mrs. Bull begs to acknowledge the receipt of five dollars from the members of the Royal Arch Purple order of *Loyal ORANGE Lodge, No. 286, for the Ladies' Benevolent Society.*

*La Gazette de Quebec* of yesterday, contains a retraction by the Rev. Mr. Etne Chartier, priest, of his errors of opinion and conduct, in regard to the political events of 1837. Mr Chartier, we believe, is a native of *St. Pierre Riviere du Sud*; studied law in this city, and afterwards entered into the Ecclesiastical state, became a Professor at St. Anne, from which he was removed, in 1829, and in 1837, was Curate at St. Benoit, in the county of Two Mountains. He sided with the insurgents of that County, and after the affair of St. Eustache, removed to the United States, and has also been in France. We cannot doubt of the sincerity of his retraction. We believe he was the only Roman Catholic Clergyman, who, in opposition to the Mandement of the late Bishop LARTIGUES, decidedly espoused the cause of the insurgents.—*Quebec Gazette.*

[We shall give in our next a full translation of the retraction of the Rev. Mr. Chartier.]—*Ed.*

**ANOTHER SPECK OF WAR**—It is to be regretted that another difficulty has arisen between Great Britain and the United States. The circumstances we shall briefly relate. The Brig, *Creole*, sailed from a port in one of the Northern slave States, with a cargo of slaves bound for New Orleans. The slaves mutinied, killed one of the passengers, agent for a slave owner, took possession of the vessel and carried it into the Port of Nassau, in the Isle of Providence. The American Consul immediately applied to the British Governor, who sent a company of coloured soldiers on board, and after making due enquiry arrested 19 men charged with mutiny and murder, who were sent to prison. The remainder of the slaves, upwards of 100, we believe, were told that they were free, that they could be looked upon in no other light but as passengers. This decision, which reflects the highest honour upon the British Crown, will give general satisfaction to the whole nation. The slaves were sent off immediately to Jamaica, where they will be employed as free labourers. The British authorities have refused to send the 19 mutineers to the United States to be tried until they receive further orders, and we most sincerely hope that such orders

will never be given. The negroes instead of being punished deserve the highest praise, and if every white man on board had been sacrificed, not a hair of their heads should be injured. This nefarious slave traffic must be put down, and the British Government will be sustained by the entire nation in taking any step to accomplish that object.—*Examiner.*

#### ARRIVAL OF THE COLUMBIA.

15 DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The British Royal Mail Steamship *Columbia* was telegraphed a little past ten o'clock, and arrived at the wharf a little before 12.

Some part of her voyage was mild and pleasant, but for the last few days she has encountered bad weather and heavy gales.

By this arrival, we have Liverpool dates to the 4th instant, and London to the evening of the 3rd.

The London money market was tolerably easy, and plenty of money could be obtained on good securities. The heavy importations of specie from the United States and from South America, would it was thought, be an ample guarantee against any further panic in the money market for some time, and capitalists were loath to king about them for safe means of investment.

Her Majesty the Queen. On Monday afternoon last, Her Majesty, in company with her illustrious consort, was able to take an airing in a close carriage for the first time since her accouchment. The Queen and Prince Albert were absent from the palace nearly an hour. Several statements have been circulated respecting the christening of the infant prince, but we understand nothing has yet been determined upon, and all such assertions are mere conjecture.

It is rumoured in circles likely to be well informed, that her Majesty the Queen Dowager will be the godmother of the infant prince, which cannot fail to give the greatest satisfaction to the country. The christening, as far as can be learned, is to be as private as the exalted birth of the prince will allow, but the banquet which is to be given on the occasion will far exceed in splendour the entertainment that was given when the Princess Royal was baptized.

The health of the Queen Dowager fluctuates between better and worse, according to the bulletins issued, from day to day, by her medical attendants; but, there is now, we believe, no hope of her eventual recovery from the insidious disease, which is gradually undermining the springs of life.

There was no material alleviation of the distress in the manufacturing districts—the contributions from other parts of the kingdom, though apparently liberal, being totally inadequate to meet the emergency of such a general want of productive employment. A faint hope yet seemed to linger with some of the newspapers that the crisis had passed, that the principal causes of depression had ceased to exist, and that business would soon resume its wonted energy and life.

There is no truth in the story that the silver paid by the Chinese to Commodore Elliott for the ransom of Canton was spurious.

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The commercial depression which had prevailed so long in England had spread over the whole of Europe. In Russia it was felt very severely. Not less than two hundred and fifty failures had taken place in Moscow alone, and nearly as many at St. Petersburg. The emperor is reported to have issued a peremptory ukase, to the effect that those insolvents whose estates did not pay 40 per cent of their debts, should be compelled to join the army as common soldiers.

The failure of the potato crop in Ireland appeared to be even more extensive than it was at first represented; and, coupled with the but too apparent indications of a severe winter, caused many melancholy forebodings of distress among the countless poor of that oppressed and ill-governed country. The spread of the temperance reform, it was hoped, would go far to mitigate the evils of scarcity, and to ameliorate the condition of the suffering poor; but it could hardly atone for the great falling off of a crop which to Ireland is more important than all others combined.

Thirty-two charges of felony, and one hundred and forty-two charges of drunkenness and disorderly conduct, came before the borough magistrates of Manchester in a single day. This is in some measure the result of a phrenzied desperation to which the distresses of the people in manufacturing towns have driven them.

The British 50th and 98th Regiments were to proceed immediately to China, having been fully recruited. No difficulty appearing to exist in enlisting a requisite number of troops, as a great many of the vast multitude out of employment prefer to brave danger and disease abroad, rather than starvation at home.

It is stated that nine thousand pounds of powder were thrown into the Thames during the conflagration of the Tower.—No great danger of an explosion appeared to be apprehended in consequence thereof.

A large and powerful association is now in progress of formation, having for its object the establishment of an extensive and national system of Emigration to our North American colonies. This association is also supported by an union with the baronets of Scotland and Nova Scotia, whose territorial claims on the ancient province of Nova Scotia will thus, it is anticipated, be made not only available to themselves, but beneficial to the distressed population of these kingdoms.

It is proposed by the friends of Mr O'Connell, in Dublin to make him permanent lord mayor of that city by recalling him every year.