

THE GRAVE OF A LOVED ONE.

Oh, the grave! the grave! It buries every terror, covers every defect, extinguishes every resentment. From its peaceful bosom spring none but fond regrets and tender recollections.

Who can look down upon the grave even of an enemy, and not feel a compunctious throb that ever he should have parted with the poor handful of earth that lies mouldering before him? But the grave of those we loved,—what a place for meditation! There it is we call up in long review the whole history of virtue and gentleness, and the thousand endearments lavished upon us almost unheard in the daily course of intimacy; there it is we dwell upon the tenderness of the parting scene, the bed of death, with all its stifled grief, its noiseless attendance, its mute, watchful assiduities; the feeble flutterings, thrilling.

Oh! how thrilling is the pressure of the hand; the last fond look of the glazing eye, turning upon us even from the threshold of existence; the faint, faltering accents struggling in death to give one more assurance of affection. Aye, go to the grave of buried love, and meditate. There settle the account with thy conscience, of every past endearment, unregarded, of that departed being who never, never can return to witness thy contrition! If thou art a child, and hast ever added a sorrow to the soul, or a furrow to the silvered brow of an affectionate parent; if thou art a husband and hast ever caused the fond bosom that ventured its whole happiness in thy arms to doubt a moment of thy kindness or thy truth; if thou art a friend, and hast wronged by thought, or word, or deed, the spirit that generously confided in thee; if thou art a lover and hast ever given one unmerited pang to the true heart that now lies cold and still beneath thy feet: then be sure that every unkind look, every ungracious word, every ungentle action will come thronging back upon thy memory, and knocking dolefully upon thy soul; then be sure that thou wilt lie down sorrowing and repentant on the grave, and utter the unearthly groan and pour the unavailing tear, bitter because unheard and unavailing.

Selected for the Berean from a collection of scraps by a Wanderer.

The Berean.

QUEBEC, THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1846.

We remember a remark once made to us by a venerated friend of no mean station in the Christian Church, when he mentioned a bereavement recently added to others by which he had been severely tried: "God designs me to be heavenly minded!" It is our hope that these words, with all their soothing and elevating power, find a willing response in some now bowed down under the weight of the calamity which visited this city last Friday. It is not pangs of bereavement that God designs in permitting the trial to come upon us, though pangs are inseparable from our earthly condition; it is the patience, the experience, the hope which the trial is calculated to work, if the heart be open to the inflowing of love ready to be shed abroad by the divine Comforter.

Shall we express hope that this community at large will extensively benefit by the renewed warning of a controversy which God has with us? It can scarcely be difficult for even the most unthinking to discover what abundance of provocation has been given to the Supreme Ruler. We were severely warned last year; did our repeated calamity work seriousness of thought, penitent sorrow, and religious consistency among us as a community? Or did covetousness, and giddy pastime, and the ambitious scheme, and selfish calculation scatter the monition to the winds, and provoke the more awful dispensation of last week?

We address this question the more directly to that large portion of the community who have not recently suffered in their near relatives—though no one may think it safe for himself to keep off the call to self-inquiry—because it is remarkable in the present case, that destruction has involved persons who stood before the community with a testimony in favour of earnestness and sobriety and a sound mind. God has chosen them to be impressive preachers to us. It is but justice to many of those who were assembled in the theatre last Friday night, to say, it was not in the pursuit of frivolity that those walls enclosed them with their children, but rather with a view to the improvement which as striking representation of Scripture scenes might convey to all, while the novelty and show of the arrangement promised that sort of gratification to the younger branches which it might be lawful and safe to afford to them.

Whether the result, if all had terminated without destruction, would have justified these anticipations, might become a matter of inquiry which at the present moment we only so far indicate as to say that, from the testimony of some who were present, we are led to conclude that the levity displayed by individuals, amidst the exhibition of most solemn and awful scenes, justifies a doubt whether representations of this kind, however lawful in their conception, are expedient when they must be thrown open to a promiscuous attendance.

We are permitted to hope that none of the persons who mixed their idle jest with subjects of Scripture history was among those so suddenly called from the scene of probation. But we will now say that the probability of such a conflagration, and loss of life was just as great on any one of those days when the house used to be filled for dramatic representations, generally closing with the performance of a farce. If the commission had gone forth to the devouring flame on such a night, will our young, and light-hearted, and excitable readers pursue for a moment the idea of performers and attendants having their state for eternity fixed at a moment when such a scene had been leading the train of their thoughts? Will our readers of riper years, and of serious minds, and who exercise guardianship over their offspring, pursue the idea, will those who value for their children the care bestowed upon them in Sunday-Schools and under religious education generally,

and who take them to the theatre as to innocent amusement notwithstanding.—We say, will they pursue the thought for a moment, but we shall deeply regret if that moment's thought does not lead them to a train of reflections not to be shaken off until it has fixed upon them a conviction of the inconsistency of such pastime for those who would live as citizens of heaven, and heirs of everlasting life.

So far as our observation has extended, we find that sympathy of no ordinary kind towards the bereaved survivors has been awakened in the community. In the mournful processions of the last Sabbath were many hearts touched with more of fellow-feeling with the widow and fatherless than what is called forth in the less marked cases of attending the earthly remains of our neighbour to their burying. It is satisfactory to find the following announcement in one of the city-papers:

"We are pleased to hear that a subscription in aid of those rendered fatherless and widows by the awful calamity above mentioned, is now in course of collection. Messrs. H. BERTALL, J. B. FORTY, F. X. PARADIS, and W. WELCH have undertaken to collect and distribute, and the charitable throughout the Province are requested to forward to any of these gentlemen what they may contribute.

"We may state that whole families are reduced to utter helplessness, and on referring to the list of the sufferers, it will be seen that many have lost their stay and support, and are rendered widows and orphans."—Gazette of Monday.

So far as loss may be repaired and sorrow relieved by the aid here proposed, a liberal and ready proof of sympathy will, we confidently trust, be tendered to the sufferers so situated as to require it.

In consequence of the melancholy event of Friday night, the procession which it has been usual for our Roman Catholic neighbours to hold on the Sunday after the festival of Corpus Christi was omitted this time, and the last Lord's Day was resigned to the stillness and solemnity which alone are suitable for that season at any time. We are so thankful for the favour that we gladly abstain from any remark upon the circumstance, otherwise than as expressive of gratification and of our deep anxiety that we may have a call to express the same feeling next year, through the operation of some restraining force not of so calamitous a nature as that which has influenced the ecclesiastical authorities on the present occasion.

We now resume the subject which could not find space in our last number and which, we must confess, we are scarcely in a train of thought to pursue today, when we are greatly occupied with matters much nearer the heart. The attempt ought, however, to be made at offering some further remarks upon the VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLE.

As indicated in our last number but one, we do not mean to speak in condemnation of that principle. Its operation has been mainly supporting the ministrations of the Church of England in these North American Dioceses for a succession of years already. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel had been dependent upon it since the parliamentary grant was withdrawn; that Society's funds have since that time furnished the salaries of nearly all the Clergy in this Diocese, and it has recently warned us that we must look to the same principle, brought into operation among our congregations in the Diocese, to supply our increasing wants as they shall arise, and to make up the deficiencies which may result from the gradual diminution of the Society's grants to us. Our Clergy have never complained of inconvenience from the circumstance that their salaries were raised by voluntary contributions in England. They do not seem disposed to do so, if they may draw their salaries out of some general fund that may be raised in the Diocese. Such, however, as our friend whose letter was adverted to in our last number but one, are uneasy at the prospect of having to receive their support in the shape of contributions from the people under their immediate pastoral charge. The objection, then, is not to the voluntary principle in the abstract, but to its operation in that sense which will make the Clergyman dependent for his support upon the people over whom he is to exercise the pastoral office.

We do not think that a sound judgment will be formed upon this matter upon the suggestions of mere theory. It may seem preposterous that the people who are to be guided in paths from which their natural disposition constantly leads them to stray, should be appointed to judge of the qualifications and services of him who is thus to guide them: but it appears not any more consistent with true wisdom that, in the matter of the highest moment to them—even in their guidance in the path to eternal life—the experience of the people upon the profitableness, or the assiduity of his services should not be taken into account. When the practical working of the principle has been subjected to a trial, the result of it deserves the most attentive consideration. Perhaps, the Editor of the BEREAN has derived some advantage in forming his opinion on this subject, from a two years' stay in the United States, where the voluntary principle almost unmixt sustains the ministry. An acquaintance with the aspect of affairs there is worth more than one merely with matters in England where that principle has a very different position, viz—of the Establishment. An English Churchman, with his stereotyped notions of an endowed national Church, can ill brook the idea of exchanging the position of the beneficed Rector and Vicar in the mother-country for that of the dissenting Ministers of whom alone he knows as a substitute. We do not propose to him to relinquish the advantages of a Church-Endowment where he has it; but if he comes among us, we bid him not to be disheartened at the necessity of inviting and tolerating the immediate co-operation of the flocks towards the sup-

port of their own pastors, with that certain measure of influence which it will throw into the hands of those who furnish the support. We see, under the operation of this influence in the United States, a body of Clergy naught inferior to that in the Church of England, in the essential pastoral qualifications of piety, acquaintance with Scripture, pulpit eloquence, readiness at the religious instruction of the young, and judicious dealing with the tried and afflicted. Dependence upon the Laity has its peculiar mischievous effects, no doubt, to which we may have occasion to advert in our remarks on a future occasion—for we cannot pursue the subject any further to-day; but Church-endowment of such a character as to fix pastors over congregations, regardless of the existence of a bond of mutual affection and confidence, is not less to be deprecated. We do not profess to know the most promising mode of proceeding to ensure the pastor's freedom in performing his duty, together with the security of the congregation against the infliction of a heartless course of routine-duty, destitute of that life and energy which marks prayerful and soul-loving ministrations. The inquiry, however, is becoming a matter of pressing duty; and our wisdom is, to keep off dependency at the prospect before us, and endeavour to make the most of circumstances as they force themselves upon the Colonial Churches.

Our Correspondent W. D. (Quebec) will give us credit, we hope, for wishing to do right in the matter which his communication gave us occasion to open, two weeks ago. We must decline his appeal to candour and impartiality. His first letter was inserted, and we offered our remarks upon the subject treated by it, as he wished us to do; and we have done him no wrong. We must use our own judgment in admitting articles into our columns or keeping them out. He may be assured that the publication of certain strictures contained in his recent letter—coming from a Correspondent unknown to our readers—would do harm. We are ready to publish such, when they are found in the writings of men of established character and who cannot be suspected of disaffection to the Church. However we ourselves may esteem the writer as a man zealous for the truth, to our readers he is an anonymous Correspondent, and his strictures would, by most persons, be either disregarded or resented.

RELIGIOUS ANNIVERSARIES.

THE LONDON SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE JEWS held its Anniversary on the 8th of May, Lord Ashley in the Chair. The Hebrew children under the Society's care were in attendance, who sang several hymns appropriate to the occasion, and were addressed by that friend of the Hebrews, the Rev. Dr. Marsh of Leamington (formerly of Colechester). The Society's income during the past year was £25,591 16s. 2d. We do not find the expenditure mentioned in the account before us. The income before stated does not include the sum of £2,500, which has been contributed by Miss Jane Cook of Cheltenham, towards the expense of completing the church at Jerusalem. Large numbers of Hebrew Scriptures and Tracts have been circulated; 17 adults and 20 children have been baptized during the year, and 36 Hebrew converts had recently been confirmed by the Bishop of the Diocese. Our first page contains some interesting portions from addresses delivered at the Anniversary. The following remarks form part of a speech by the Rev. Dr. Marsh, subsequent to his address to the children:

"Truth was making rapid progress throughout all the world; and he would earnestly impress upon the minds of all there present, the necessity of earnestly praying to God; and the petition he would recommend them to put up was, 'Suffer me not to be ignorant of Satan's devices.' Satan's devices were abroad—seducing spirits were abroad, and great efforts were making to hinder the progress of evangelical truth, to hinder the principles of peace and truth, and it was for the interest and peace of their own souls to pray for a knowledge of Satan's devices, or they might run the danger of being diverted from lending their aid to that glorious and most Christian Institution. The danger was great, because the great question of the present age was, whether human nature was to predominate over faith and grace—whether the traditions of men, or the glories of God, should be the rule of the Church—whether the prayers of the Church, or the blessed word of God and of Christ, should be the foundation of their hopes of everlasting felicity: the great question was, whether man was to take part in his own salvation, or whether he would give all the glory to God and to the Lamb."

THE COLONIAL CHURCH SOCIETY held its annual Meeting in London, on the 6th of May, J. P. Plumtree, Esq., M. P., in the Chair. The report stated the intention of the Committee to meet exertions which were making by Colonists in Western Australia, where two missionaries of the Society were already labouring, by a grant towards the support of a third. At the Cape of Good Hope, where the Governor, Sir Peregrine Maitland, one of the Society's Vice Presidents, was encouraging its labours from his experience of their usefulness, its missionaries and catechists found great and promising fields of exertion both in church and in school. In Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward's Island, it was obliged to confine itself to the employment of catechists and schoolmasters, but it received satisfactory accounts of the beneficial results of the operations of these agents. The Society's attention is also successfully directed towards the establishment of Chaplains to the English residents on the Continent of Europe. A schoolmaster had recently been settled at Calais, who was received with the most unalloyed joy. The funds have somewhat improved, but are still wholly inadequate to meet those calls for help which reach the Committee from the European Continent and the foreign colonies. The Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel mentioned two cheering instances of liberality towards the Society, the first of an anonymous benefactor who had recently contributed the sum of £1000, the other of a servant maid at Calais who, when the Secretary preached there, a short time ago, brought a five-frank piece to contribute to the collection. It seemed as much as she could offer. It was received with thankfulness, and it seemed her heart had been touched, and she had done her duty generously. But it did not seem so to her. She had been gathering some little savings from her wages, as every prudent young person ought to do, perhaps, for a rainy day,—for a time of sickness or old age; but her heart was appealed to by the wants of these poor colonists; by knowing what was doing among her countrymen; and our Secretary had the pleasure, not unmingled with some pain, to receive from the same person a packet of these five-frank pieces, amounting in the whole to 105 francs—per-

haps but little all. We might have questioned whether he should receive it; he might have asked whether it was prudent she should give it; but a few moments' reflection would have rebuked the idea if it had entered his mind: since we recollect what our Lord said of one zealous contributor when she gave all and had nothing else to bestow; he gave his engly to the contributor, and condemned it not for imprudence, but accepted it for faith. There was, in accepting it, only one feeling to mingle with it—one feeling of pain; not because that young Christian had given her all, for God will certainly make up to her that loan which was made by faith and charity, and she will not eventually suffer from an instance of so much Christian zeal; but perhaps the thought might occur to him and to us, why do we do so little, not for this cause alone, but for the promulgation of our Redeemer's cause everywhere, and in every way? and if we feel the power of such noble examples even in the humblest circumstances, let us learn day by day to live more in the spirit of our religion, and as imitators of him who made such great sacrifices for those who were his enemies; and then this Society, and every other Society which has similar principles, will be sure to flourish under the zeal of his people, and under the approbation of their Lord."

HOME AND COLONIAL INFANT AND JUVENILE SCHOOL SOCIETY. On the 4th of May, John Bridges, Esq., the Society's Treasurer, in the Chair. The Report states the gratifying fact that the number of members of the Church of England who have applied for admission to the Training Department of this Institution has increased in a surprising manner. Two houses are provided for the accommodation of the Teachers under training, one of which is exclusively occupied by those in connection with the Church of England; the number of these who have been admitted during the year is 109; of others 47; making a total of 156, besides 36 who have returned to the Establishment after passing through their course, with a view to further improvement. Many satisfactory accounts have been received of the schools to which Teachers from this Society have been sent, and the great majority of these persons are found to remain permanently at their employment. The Juvenile Schools, designed for the benefit of those children who have passed through the Infant Schools, have proved highly conducive to the efficiency of the Society's operations, by harmonizing that more advanced period of education with the course pursued in the introductory department. The death of the Rev. Dr. Mayo was feelingly alluded to in the report and by several of the speakers. The Rev. Edward Auriol, Rector of St. Dunstan's, with reference to that departed friend of the young, expressed himself thus: "His full and comprehensive mind and large heart were ever at the service of the Society; and I think that, upon occasions like this, we should look up with thankfulness to God, that he has been pleased to raise up such instruments of usefulness at a time when they are most needed, and we should pray also that we may be endued with the same grace to be followers of them as they were of God." The Society's income has been about £1500 for the past year, and is found quite inadequate for the many openings for usefulness which invite its agency.

LEGACIES TO SEVERAL RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.—The account which we copied from a London paper, in our number of May 28th, respecting some munificent legacies to the Church Missionary, the Pastoral Aid, and the Bible Societies, is corrected by recent intelligence, to the effect that the amount immediately payable to each of the above Societies is between £7 and £8,000; and a further sum of £5,000 is to be divided between the London Missionary, and Clerical Aid Societies, and the London City Mission; a further sum of £6,000, to be divided in like proportions after the death of the testator's widow.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

DIOCESE OF QUEBEC. THE LORD BISHOP OF MONTREAL, who was not in town at the time of the recent calamity, returned on Tuesday evening from Grosse Isle, where he had spent a week in attendance upon the sick at the quarantine station; the Rev. J. E. F. Simpson spent there the week preceding His Lordship's visit, and the Rev. E. W. Sewell is about to proceed to that station for a similar period.

DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.—Foundation Stone of Saint Anne's Chapel, Fredericton.—On Saturday, the 30th of May, at 12 o'clock, a number of public officers and inhabitants of this city, proceeded to the place where the Chapel is now in the course of erection, at the corner of George and Westmoreland streets. Among the persons present were His Excellency Sir William M. G. Colebrooke and family; Mr. A. Reade, his Excellency's Secretary, the Hon. the Master of the Rolls, the Hon. Judge Carter, the Hon. Judge Street, the Hon. Lieut. Colonel Shore, the Hon. Thomas Baillie, the Hon. L. A. Wilmot, John Ambrose Street and Charles Fisher, Esquires, members of the Assembly; several of the Magistrates and other principal inhabitants; and a number of ladies, also the children of some of the public schools.

The Bishop of Fredericton was attended by the Ven. Archdeacon Coster, and several of the Clergy. The Bishop having offered up several prayers, requested the Hon. John S. Saunders to lay the foundation stone, who proceeded to deposit the bottle with the inscription, in a cavity prepared in the stone. The stone having been correctly placed with the accustomed formalities, the Hon. Mr. Saunders then addressed the Lord Bishop and the other persons assembled; to which His Lordship made a suitable reply; and closed the proceedings with thanks to those who had aided this undertaking.—Condensed from "Fredericton Headquarters."

HALIFAX GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—We learn that the superintendence of the Halifax Grammar School has been conferred upon the Rev. Robert Arnold.—Halifax Times.

THE REV. E. C. PARTIN begs to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of £1 5s. for the distressed poor of his mission, from an unknown friend. Valcartier, 15th June, 1846.

THE REV. C. L. F. HAENSEL begs to acknowledge with many thanks, the receipt of Ten Shillings towards the funds of the Quebec Juvenile Church: Missionary Association, as "a small but sincere thank-offering to Almighty God for the deliverance of a beloved relative from the calamity of Friday evening last."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Received D. B. P.; J. K.; B. B.—Not Un-to-morrow.

PAYMENTS RECEIVED.—From Messrs. Wm. Macrae, from No. 105 to 156; V. Thus, No. 105 to 156; C. Forest, No. 105 to 156; J. C. Peirce & Son, No. 105 to 156; A. Lister, 105 to 130; W. K. Baird, No. 105 to 156; Dr. Wight, No. 105 to 156; Mrs. Rice, No. 105 to 156.

Total and Political Intelligence.

SKETCH OF MAJOR GENERAL SIR CHARLES J. NAPIER.—His long white beard tells you that he must have seen full sixty years in various climes; but his bright penetrating eye also tells that he is in the intellectual vigour of middle age, although the survivor of thirty-four of his people who had been struck with *coup de soleil*, and who with one exception, were dead corpses in three hours. A head which a phrenologist would delight to take a cast from exhibits a sword-cut which the thinness of the hair cannot conceal; a long raised scar at the side, and a smaller in front, indicate that a musketball had traversed his face; an involuntary motion of the muscles, the effect of other wounds received in the Wellington school, keep his hand and arm in perpetual motion. On his breast is seen a gold medal, inscribed "Corunna," surmounted with clasps bearing the names of other fields. Peering from beneath a broad red ribbon, from which is suspended a Grand Cross of the Bath, are seen two medals, on one of which "Meenace" is written, on the other "Hyderabad." At his side is a superb gold mounted sword, presented by the Earl of Ellenborough in token of his lordship's personal esteem, and commemorative of his brilliant services in India performed under his lordship's administration.

PICTORIAL TIMES.—The spirited proprietor of this periodical having been ruined by railway speculations, the paper has been sold to a Joint Stock Company, with Lord Brougham at the head, for £32,000. It is stated that the drawing for the prizes offered by the Pictorial Times is to come off shortly. At the same time we read, that "Ministers seem to be irrevocably set against the legalizing of the Lottery principle in drawing for Art-Union prizes." Surely it may be hoped that, with the quick-sighted law-lord to preside over it, the Joint Stock Company above spoken of will refuse its sanction to the Lottery principle involved in the announcement of prizes by the Pictorial Times.

CHINESE RANSOM.—Another portion of the Chinese ransom, packed in nine waggons, each drawn by three horses, was received a few days back at the Royal Mint. The value was upwards of half a million sterling. It has been purchased by the Bank of England.

STATUES.—The palace-gate entrance at Hyde-park is about to receive Wyatt's equestrian group in honour of the Duke of Wellington—the greatest piece of bronze sculpture in the world.

A monument to the memory of Dr. Southey is now completed for erection in Westminster Abbey. It is to be placed near the monument to Shakspeare.

COALS.—It appears from official returns laid before parliament that the coals—small coals, culm, and cinders—exported from the United Kingdom to foreign countries and the British settlements in 1845, amounted to 2,531,282 tons. The quantities of coal brought into the port of London, in 1844, were as follows:—Coastways, 2,490,910 tons; by inland navigation and land carriage, 72,256 tons. In 1845, coastways, 3,392,512 tons; by inland navigation, &c., 68,687 tons.

DISCOVERY OF COAL IN EGYPT.—A recent letter from Syout, in Upper Egypt, says: "A new discovery made in Upper Egypt fairly promises to alter sensibly the affairs of that country in her relations, both commercial and political, with England. I speak of several mines of coal found in the Oasis of Ghenne, on the Arab side of the Thebaid. Several loads have arrived here from the Desert on their way to the lower provinces, whither they are sent for the Pasha's inspection. I have examined several of the samples, and they seem to me equal to the very best coals of Scotland."

MURDEROUS PROPENSITY IN EGYP.—Upwards of eighty of the water-fowl have been recently found dead in the ornamental water at St. James Park, London. It was ascertained that a pair of Egyptian geese, which had not long been placed in the park, were in the habit of attacking the smaller birds, and that one bile was sufficient to cause death.

TUR TOWER.—The police force has taken possession of the Tower of London—a building connected with so many startling incidents in the history of the British nation—and they supersede the old ordinance watchmen with their long blue coats and large swords suspended to a belt.

AUSTRALIAN EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—This last attempt to explore the interior of New South Wales, under the orders of the governor and council, moved off from Paramatta in the middle of November. The party, including officers, consisted of twenty-eight. They carry on their drays two iron boats, so made as to take into two parts, and then they serve as coverings for the drays. When required to form a boat, the two portions are screwed together by joining the bulk-head sections, and the whole boat is ready for the water. The expedition is also provided with twelve horses, besides the bullocks for the drays. Sir Thomas Mitchell will conduct the party along his former route to Fort Bourke, and thence they explore their way in the direction of Port Essington.

POST-OFFICE RETURNS.—The Post office returns recently presented to parliament possess considerable interest. The payments into the Exchequer from the revenue of the Post office in the year amounted to £753,000, and the net profit to the Exchequer, after deducting the expenses, £47,581 17s. The gross receipt of the Post-office for the year ending the 5th of January was £1,927,006, from which was deducted £52,469 9s 7½d for returning refused, mis-sent, and re-directed letters; overcharges, and returns, making the net receipt of revenue £1,875,436 14s 9½d. The Charges of management, as detailed, were £1,114,849 2s 6d, payments made, of which £10,307 10s was for pensions, making the total payments out of the revenue of the Post-office in its progress to the Exchequer £1,125,556 5s, which with £3,157 10s 2½d, the difference in the amount of balances and bills outstanding at the commencement and at the close of the year, reduced the payments into the Exchequer to the amount stated (£753,000). Of payments out of the Exchequer, 705,418 3s was paid for expenses connected with the packet service, of which £655,418 3s was on account of the packet service defrayed from grants of Parliament for naval service, and £50,000 to the East India Company towards the expense of steam communication with India by way of the Red Sea and Bombay, according to the agreement made with the Company in 1837, voted in the estimates for miscellaneous services. The several accounts in the returns are given in detail.

UNITED STATES.—The capture of the town of Matamoras by the U. S. troops is confirmed by subsequent accounts from that quarter. The Mexican General having solicited in vain a cessation of hos-