

THE GREAT WILL CASE. This case excited intense interest. The Grand Jury returned three bills of indictment, two of them implicating the female servants of the prisoner, Thomas Williams, Esq., as well as himself, in the charge of forging and uttering, as true, at Doctors' Commons, paper writings, purporting to be the will and codicils of Jones Pantou, Esq., deceased, of Plasgwyn, North Wales; and the third indictment charged Thomas Williams alone with the offence. On this latter charge the prosecutors elected first to proceed, and the trial commenced on Monday morning, at ten o'clock, before Mr. Baron James Parke, in the New Court, which was crowded to excess by a most respectable audience. After a protracted investigation of the case for six days the prisoner was found "not guilty."

The scene that ensued baffles description. The Court at the time was crowded to excess in every part, even the gallery was filled with respectably dressed persons. The moment the verdict was pronounced, the cheering in every part of the Court was tremendous. The officers in vain called silence: as often as they did, so the cheers were renewed. Many respectably-dressed females waved their handkerchiefs, and some of them shed tears abundantly; indeed, the feeling displayed on the occasion exceeded any thing of the kind we ever witnessed in a Court of Justice, and afforded a strong proof of the respect entertained towards the prisoner. Every person, male and female, who could get near him, cordially shook hands with him, and those who could not get near the dock, called out "God bless you." The Learned Judge seemed perfectly astonished, and beyond waving his hand, did not attempt to check the ebullition of feeling that in fact, appeared to be beyond all control. At length he ordered that the two female prisoners, Ellen Evans and Ann Williams, should be placed at the bar, and they were brought up accordingly. They both trembled excessively, and appeared extremely agitated. They looked at Mr. Williams with great earnestness, as if to ascertain what had been the result of his trial, of which they were evidently ignorant. The indictment charging them jointly, with Mr. Williams, with having forged and uttered a codicil to the will of Jones Pantou was then read. Mr. Bodkin, on the part of the prosecution, declined calling any evidence in support of the indictment, and the Jury returned a verdict of *Not Guilty*. The three prisoners were then arraigned on a third indictment, and no evidence being offered on the part of the prosecution a similar verdict was returned. Mr. Baron Park then said, "Let the prisoners be discharged." This announcement was the signal for renewed cheering; and many who had not before been able to get near the dock, now pressed forward, and shook hands with the prisoners. Ellen Evans was so overcome that she fainted away, and was carried out of the dock by the matron of the prison. Mr. Williams came from the dock into the body of the Court, where he again received the congratulations of his friends.

THE PEARL.

HALIFAX, FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 8, 1838.

By her Majesty's Packet *Sheldrake*, in 28 days from Falmouth, London dates have been received to the 3d. of May. We have looked over our files, but find them remarkably barren of any news of much importance. They contain more than the usual amount of accidents, riots, murders, duels, executions, etc. The abolitionists are still agitating the public mind, and producing a national feeling against the slave-apprenticeship system of the West Indies. The Coronation of England's Queen is postponed to the 28th June, two days later than previously commanded. It might have been expected that with a beautiful female on the throne, all the grace and adornments of royalty would be employed to give splendour and gorgeousness to the coronation scene. The reverse, however, is to be the case. Much of the brilliancy and pageantry of former coronations is to be omitted on the present one. Economy, may dictate such a course of procedure, but we think it hardly comports with the grateful loyalty (not to mention chivalry), of the British nation towards Victoria the 1st.

We copy the following from the Falmouth Papers with much satisfaction, and trust the next arrival from England will bring the pleasing intelligence of the Officers and Crew of the *Briséis* having been restored to their anxious families and friends:—

FALMOUTH, May 5.

We trust we may congratulate our readers, as we do most heartily, on the safety of the crew of H. M. Packet *Briséis*. The following is an extract of a letter received from Plymouth this morning (Friday):—

"H. M. S. *Rainbow* passed the wreck of the *Briséis*, and took out the crew, carrying them to Vera Cruz. The *Rainbow* spoke the *Jupiter*, and hailed her, telling her that if they got to England before her, they would be the bearer of the happy tidings that they had the crew on board."

The *Jupiter* is a transport which arrived at Plymouth this week. This account confirms the report which was brought in by the

Meteor on Monday, and which, from some apparently improbable circumstances, was then generally disbelieved. We trust that next week we shall be enabled to report the safe arrival of the crew.

POSTSCRIPT.—We understand an account of the safety of the crew of the *Briséis* has been received by another vessel which spoke the *Rainbow*. The *Mailand* transport which received her account from the *Jupiter*, and which communicated to the *Meteor* steamer the intelligence circulated here on Monday, has arrived at Portsmouth, and accounts to the same purport have been received from her. The *Rainbow* may be hourly expected at Portsmouth.

PORTSMOUTH, April 24th.—The Earl of Durham, with the family and suite, arrived at the George Hotel yesterday to dinner. This day at 1 P. M. the Lightning steam vessel, with Sir Philip Durham's band on board, took his lordship, the countess and three daughters, with a number of his attaches on board the *Hastings*, 74. On his arrival on board, the *Hastings* got under weigh, was taken in tow by the Lightning, and towed round St. Helen's, from whence she made sail, with a fair wind, for Quebec. His lordship was attended at the embarkation by the Earls of Radnor and Dundonald; Admirals Sir Philip Durham, Fleming, Sir T. Briggs, and Bouveire; Captains the Hon. F. Grey and A. Ellice; and the Lieut. Governor, Sir Thos. M'Malton, &c. &c.

Our Madrid correspondent's letter of the 23d represents the state of the ministry as precarious, and totally dependent on the success of a loan. NEGRI was flying into the Asturias; BASILIO endeavouring to collect his scattered band in the mountains of Toledo. The rumoured destruction of the mining establishment of Almaden turns out to be an incursion of 40 Carlists to procure corn. General NOGUERAS has been ordered to fortify the place. The *gerant* of the *Graduada* has been condemned. The proceedings of the ministry and the petty persecution of DON FRANCISCO had produced a succession of popular insults, by means of placards and otherwise, to the QUEEN. The Marquess of MIRAFLORES is on his way to London to attend the coronation.—*Morning Chron.*

The *Morning Chronicle* of May 2nd contains the advertisement we copy below. It would seem that a very general feeling prevails in Great Britain to have the Coronation of Victoria celebrated in the most splendid and gorgeous manner possible.

CORONATION OF HER MAJESTY.—On Friday next, the 4th instant, a MEETING will be held at the London Coffee-house, Ludgate-hill, for the purpose of adopting such measures as may appear desirable to induce her Majesty's Ministers to advise that the ceremonial of the CORONATION be observed in a manner suitable to the dignity of the Crown, and the affectionate feelings of her Majesty's subjects.

W. T. COPELAND, Esq., Alderman, M. P., in the Chair.

The Chair will be taken at Twelve o'clock precisely.

FAST INDIES.—Intelligence is said to have been received at the Board of control and the India House, confirming the capture of Herat by the Persians, as reported a short time since. It is not a little singular that no public notification should have been made of so deeply important an event, as the government is stated to have been in possession of the fact for some time, and have themselves individually communicated it to more than one party. The incredible number of 200 pieces of artillery are said to have been employed in the siege, served by Russian officers; and what renders this occurrence of more particular interest is the statement, that immediately after the taking of Herat the Persian army advanced into Lahore, which, it need not be mentioned, is on the frontier of our East India possessions, and contiguous to the kingdom of Oude.

Letters from St. Petersburg, dated the 23th ult. state that Count Woronsow has been appointed specially to represent the Emperor of Russia at the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

The following is from an English gentleman on the coast of Circassia:—

"Semez, March 4.

"An express has this day arrived here from the south, bringing intelligence of a great and decisive victory won by the Circassians at Shushen. The Russians having suddenly appeared in the harbour with 20 ships of war, effected a landing without any resistance on the part of the Circassians, and having invited the latter to a conference, they told them it was intended to erect a fort there, and recommended them to submit with good grace. The Circassians promised them an answer in a few days. In the meanwhile the gathering cry spread swiftly through the adjacent country. At Vardan, Ouwhin, and Rhissa the Koran was suspended in the usual manner, and a solemn oath was taken by every warrior that he would never revisit his home and family till they had expelled the invader from their shores. The united force of the Circassians, when assembled under their leaders Ubiab, Hadji, Bersk, Islam, and Zefkar Bey, amounted to 7,000. The scene of action, consisting of an amphitheatre of wooden hills encircling the bay of Shushen, was most favourable to the operations of the defenders, who poured from their covert a murderous fire into the Russian ranks. The latter, after a futile attempt to

dislodge them, fell into confusion, and were then charged and routed by the Circassian horse. The reserve then advanced to cover their retreat and embarkation; but the Circassians in full tide of success, were not easily to be checked, and before these objects could be completed, the sea, covered with floating carcases, appeared no less bloodstained than the shore. These events occurred about nine days ago, and have greatly encouraged the people of Natakotch, who will probably exert themselves more than they did the last campaign, and endeavour, in the reception they give to the Russians, not to be outdone by the people of the south."

An article dated Malta, March 28, states, that Mr. Waghorn arrived there on the preceding day from Marseilles, on his way to Egypt, to open a steam communication by the Nile, and a regular conveyance across the desert, with a view to secure the communication with India through Egypt.

HIGHLAND SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA.—In pursuance of the notice given in the Times, and Gazette newspapers, a Public Meeting was held on Thursday evening at Mason Hall, which was numerously and most respectably attended.—*William Young*, Esq. was called to the chair, and opened the business of the meeting by exhibiting a Commission, signed by the Earl of Aboyne now *Marquis of Huntley*, the President, and *J. Macdonald*, Esq. the Secretary of the Highland Society of London, addressed to His Excellency Sir Colin Campbell, and Roderick C. McDonald, Esq. then present, both members of the Parent Society. The commission is in Gaelic and in English; it recites the objects and aim of the Society, and earnestly recommends the establishment of a Branch in Nova Scotia. Alexander Keith, Esq. having been appointed Vice President, and John McGregor, Esq. Secretary of the meeting, the business proceeded and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting highly approving of the patriotic and liberal objects for which the Highland Society of London was instituted, and being of opinion that some of these may be attained in this Province, gratefully accept the offer that has been made to them to become a Branch of the Society, in pursuance of the Commission addressed by the Noble President and Secretary, to his Excellency Sir Colin Campbell, and to Roderick C. McDonald, Esq., and now produced.

Resolved, That the Title of the Society shall be The HIGHLAND SOCIETY, of Nova Scotia. That the annual Subscription shall be Ten Shillings; and that any person subscribing Five Pounds shall be a member for life.

Resolved, That his Excellency Sir Colin Campbell having signified his warm approbation of the Society, and his anxious desire for its success, be requested to act as Patron; and that the following Gentlemen be the Office bearers for the first year:

William Young, Esq., President. The Right Rev. the Bishop of Tanen, the Hon. George Smith, the Hon. Alexander Campbell, Rev. Donald A. Fraser, Charles W. Wallace, Esq., Roderick C. MacDonald, Esq. and James McNab, Esq., Vice Presidents.

Rev. J. Martin, John Williamson, James F. Gray, James Leishman, Alex. Keith, A. McKinlay, William Murdoch, W. McDonald, 93d. Regt., and Archibald McDonald, Esqrs., Directors.

Rev. James Mackintosh, J. M. McGregor, Secretaries.

Charles W. Wallace, Esq. Treasurer.

Resolved That it shall be the duty of the Office bearers to prepare and circulate a Prospectus, illustrating the views of the Society, the principal of which is the introduction of suitable Schoolmasters, and the importation of Books from the Mother Country into the eastern parts of the Province, and the Island of Cape Breton, so as to diffuse more widely among Scotsmen and their descendants, whether Highlander or Lowlander, Catholic or Protestant, the blessings of a sound, practical and moral education.

Resolved, That the Scottish population be encouraged to form themselves into Branch Societies in connection with this Society, so as to keep up a Correspondence, communicate their wants, and form an united and effective system, and that the annual Subscription in such Branch Societies be not less than two shillings and six pence for each member.

Resolved, That the Office bearers should take an early opportunity of communicating with the Society in London, and soliciting their powerful co-operation and assistance in forwarding the objects of this Branch.

Resolved, That the Office bearers be authorized to frame Bye Laws for regulating the meetings, and business of the Society, subject to the approval of the Society at the next Quarterly Meeting.

Resolved. That the Office bearers of the Society, on all public occasions in future, and such of the Members as may think proper, shall wear Scarfs of the Highland Tartan—that of the Office-bearers to be the tartan that may be selected by the society.

The thanks of the Meeting were voted to Mr. M'Donald, for the very lively interest he had taken in the formation of the Society; and to Mr. Young and Mr. Keith, for the manner in which they had conducted the business of the meeting.