

The policeman produced a roll of flash notes which the prisoner Munford had thrown from him on their way to the station-house, and also a purse containing 19 shillings sovereigns, which was found concealed underneath the sleeve of his coat.

Sergeant Coleman stated that the prisoner Lovitt had been ascertained to be a highly respectable man, who had accidentally fallen into the prisoners' company. He therefore wished to withdraw the charge against him, and Mr. William Shaver, cashier at the establishment of Sir H. Meux, was a person of unimpeachable integrity. He had come to town to settle his annual accounts, and had £63 in his pocket, of which he would not doubt have been speedily dispossessed, had he remained much longer in company with the prisoners.

The Magistrate instantly ordered Lovitt to be discharged, and on asking him how he felt into the prisoners' company, he said he had entered the public-house to procure refreshment, and found the prisoners in the parlour, who were in the act of relating a story, when the recital was cut short by the arrival of the policeman, who conveyed them all to the station-house.

Sergeant Coleman applied to the Magistrate to remand the prisoners, as he expected to be able to establish other charges against them.—The prisoners were accordingly remanded.

Home and Foreign News.

THE STEAM NAVIES OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

There is no subject which so much engages the attention of the naval community as that of our steam navy, and it is well understood that in the event of a war, our maritime superiority must depend solely on this new and important branch of the service.

The recent publication, in *La Presse*, of the number of armed steamers which France has (built and building) in her service, has shown a fact which few persons are acquainted with, and which many will scarcely credit, that France steam is not inferior to England, and that the total number of armed steamers which France has—completed and in progress—is 103, with an aggregate force of 25,930 horse power. This statement, however, is incorrect, and below is the actual amount of her strength, which consists of 114 steam vessels, with a united force of 32,000 horse power.—She has—

6 steamers of 540 horse power.
33 ditto of 450 ditto.
5 ditto of 320 ditto.
24 ditto of 230 ditto.
43 ditto of 160 ditto.

The number of steamers built or in progress, in Her Majesty's service is 38, whose united propelling force is over 20,000 horse power, viz:—

3 steamers of from 650 to 750 horse power.
9 ditto of from 220 to 300 ditto.
15 ditto of from 250 to 350 ditto.
15 ditto of from 140 to 200 ditto.
46 ditto of from 60 to 120 ditto.

From the foregoing statement, it appears that the French have in their steam navy twenty six vessels more than the English, and a greater amount of steam force, to the extent of 12,000 horse power, but it is not merely in the number of her vessels that France has the advantage over this country. The mere superiority of twenty six vessels would not be a matter of much importance, if the vessels were of various classes; but when the whole of them are of the largest and most powerful class, it gives an advantage to the French, and renders their steam marine greatly superior to ours.—While England has 12 steamers of 230 and upwards of horse power, France has no less than forty-four vessels of this description. It has long been a subject of complaint among naval officers practically acquainted with our war steamers, that more than nine-tenths of them have not engines of sufficient power, and that their efficiency is very much impaired in consequence. Out of the twelve first class steamers in our service, three of them are engines of only 650 horse power; the *Palmer*, 22; the *Captain Jones*, and the *Watt*, and the *Whale*, (building). It is considered that the whole of the remaining nine ought to have engines of at least 450 horse power. One of these vessels a few weeks ago was dispatched from Malta harbor to tow in the *Yemen*, 50, frigate, which was on the port, and unable to make the harbor in consequence of a strong head wind. The steamer, however, had not sufficient power, and was obliged to return to the harbor unaccompanied by the *Yemen*.

Of fifteen second class steamers, which now have from 220 to 300 horse power, ought to have from 300, to 400 horse power; and the third and fourth class of steamers should have their power increased in proportion. Speed in a war steamer is as essential as her armament; this the French well know, and are seeking it to their vessels by supplying them with engines of sufficient power. There is no nation so much interested in having a powerful steam navy as the English. Not her commerce, but her very existence as an independent nation, depends upon her maintaining the sovereignty of the seas. Hitherto, by the superior skill of her officers and seamen, her fleets have been invincible; but in future wars a novel and untried system of warfare will be adopted, and it is incumbent upon those persons who have the superintendence of our maritime affairs to see that we are at least equal, if not superior, to any other nation, in the number and power of our steamers. The French navy is so fully impressed with the necessity and importance of having a powerful steam navy, that they readily voted 34,000,000 francs last year for the purpose of building new and large steamers. This was exclusive of the 28,000,000 francs previously voted for the construction of armed steamers to be employed as transatlantic packets.

Whilst thus increasing her steam marine, France is not neglecting the other portion of her armament, but her very existence as an independent nation, depends upon her maintaining the sovereignty of the seas. Hitherto, by the superior skill of her officers and seamen, her fleets have been invincible; but in future wars a novel and untried system of warfare will be adopted, and it is incumbent upon those persons who have the superintendence of our maritime affairs to see that we are at least equal, if not superior, to any other nation, in the number and power of our steamers. The French navy is so fully impressed with the necessity and importance of having a powerful steam navy, that they readily voted 34,000,000 francs last year for the purpose of building new and large steamers. This was exclusive of the 28,000,000 francs previously voted for the construction of armed steamers to be employed as transatlantic packets.

EXTRAORDINARY UPRAR.

On Thursday evening a lecture was given at the Greenwich Literary and Scientific Institution, by Mr. Vernon on Mesmerism, which has lately excited great attention, particularly in

that district. At eight o'clock the lecture hall, which will contain upwards of 1,000 persons, was crowded to excess. Amongst the company were a great number of ladies, several of the county magistrates, gentry, and professional and scientific men. On the platform, which was devoted to the lecturer, patients, and medical gentlemen, who attended to take part in the proceedings, were Dr. Oak, of Park Health; Mr. Purvis, of Greenwich; and Messrs. Cook, Mitchell, Sherrin, Atkins, Appleton, Smith, and Wilson and Hoop, surgeons of the Dock, and Hospital; besides a number of medical students from the London hospitals in the gallery.

Mr. Bennett, silversmith, of Stockwell-street, Greenwich, was called to the Chair.

Mr. Vernon then came forward and introduced three mesmeric patients—namely a boy, Cook, a very intelligent-looking young man; a young man, apparently about 20 years of age, and a young woman, about the same age. Mr. Purvis, of Greenwich, was the first to enter the public-house to procure refreshment, and found the prisoners in the parlour, who were in the act of relating a story, when the recital was cut short by the arrival of the policeman, who conveyed them all to the station-house.

Mr. Vernon said he expected to have not with a professional reputation, it was of the utmost conduct which was more like that in the gallery of the theatre, than of those met for the acquisition of scientific knowledge. Whatever the general favor of their minds might be at that time they were not capable of appreciating any scientific explanation. Unless, therefore, some play was given to their naturally excited feelings, he would not deem himself justified in continuing the lecture to them. (Great applause.)

Mr. Purvis, of Greenwich, was the first to enter the public-house to procure refreshment, and found the prisoners in the parlour, who were in the act of relating a story, when the recital was cut short by the arrival of the policeman, who conveyed them all to the station-house.

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Mr. Vernon—It is one of the facts connected with the Mesmerism (Great applause, and cry of "you are practising an imposture—the imposture is sufficiently apparent," &c.)

The Chairman—Shall the meeting be dissolved?—(Applause.) The lecturer, of course, does not expect to make every man here of the same opinion, but he is entitled to a hearing. Those who are dissatisfied might have their money returned if they thought proper to leave.—(Hear.)

Mr. Vernon said he expected to have not with a professional reputation, it was of the utmost conduct which was more like that in the gallery of the theatre, than of those met for the acquisition of scientific knowledge. Whatever the general favor of their minds might be at that time they were not capable of appreciating any scientific explanation. Unless, therefore, some play was given to their naturally excited feelings, he would not deem himself justified in continuing the lecture to them. (Great applause.)

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men without the slightest change in his conduct.

This circumstance alone, ought to be sufficient, as Mr. De Bleyry observed, to relieve Mr. Nelson of the charge that his political opinions have not been uniformly attempted to fix on him, that he is not a friend to the French Canadians.

After Mr. De Bleyry had concluded, Mr. Nelson presented himself, and amidst the warmest cheering, proceeded to make some remarks, at first in French, and afterwards in English, on the position in which he stood in respect to the elections generally. If his remarks had not been so timely, they would have been a great deal more to the point, and the following resolution was carried by a majority of 29 to 5.

Resolved, that this Committee view with much satisfaction the recognition and exposition by His Excellency the Governor General, of the recently established system of a Responsible Government, as contained in His Excellency's late reply to the address of the Warden and Councilors of the Gore District in Canada West.

The next day the minority felt dissatisfied at their names not being in favour of the resolution, and they accordingly presented a petition to the following resolution was also carried by 12 to 11, the minority in this case consisting of those who objected to the repetition of the same declaration as formal.

Resolved, that this House doth heartily concur in the declaration of the Governor General, contained in the recent answer of His Excellency Sir Charles Metcalfe, Governor General, to the address of the Warden and Council of the Gore District, Canada West.

The Editor of the Sentinel referring to this answer, says: "That the Governor General, in a similar declaration to his late Council, that he would be guided by the advice of his Constitutional advisers, all the difficulty that has occurred in Canada would have been avoided; and if we mistake not, much of future trouble." We would ask him how he knows the Governor did not do so? In fact the first protest against their statement of the case as being in favour of the resolution, was made by Mr. Nelson, and in his answer to addresses he has availed himself of the only opportunity to make his own.

To His Excellency Sir Charles Metcalfe, Bart., Governor General, &c.

The humble address of the House of Assembly of New Brunswick.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

We, the Representatives of the people of New Brunswick, in parliament assembled, deem it a duty to express our warmest thanks to your Excellency for the high and judicious manner in which you have administered the Government of this Province, to express our high admiration of the constitutional principles promulgated by Your Excellency in the recent memorable conflict with Your Excellency's late advisers.

At a public meeting held in the Township of Rawdon, C. E., on Wednesday the 31st of January, 1844, agreeable to a requisition unanimously signed, and addressed to Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Griffith, and convened by public notice, the accompanying address was read and approved of; and ordered to be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, on behalf of the Meeting.

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