Imperial Parliament

The House of Commons met at twelve o'clock.

On the motion that the Distilling from Sugar bill be read a third time,

Mr. D'Israeli rose and took an elaborate review of the session about to close. It was a session of unexampled duration, and one the efficiency of which was by no means commensurate with its length. It opened with a gaudy array of promises, and would close with a miserable sum total of performance. After a sitting of ten month's duration they were now about to separate, having done little or nothing that was useful to the country. For this there were blame somewhere. To whom the Ministry thought it attached was evident from a paragraph, which had appeared in a Sunday paper, which attributed the postponement of the government "fish dinner" to the quantity of talk with which the House was inundated, and by which the progress of public business was obstructed. Assuming, then, the view of the government to be, that the delays which had characterized the session were to be attributed to the conduct of members, and the forms of the House, he proposed to inquire how far such views were correct; and if incorrect, who were, in reality, the parties to blame for the present unsatisfactory state of things. He utterly denied that the blame lay either with the forms of the House, or with the conduct of the members, and prove d it to maintain his denial by refuting *seriatim* to the chief features of the session. Parliament had been summoned together at an early period, on account of the commercial distress which weighed upon the energies and enterprise of the country. Had there been too much talk in the House upon that subject? He denied that there had been—all discussion upon it having been stifled by the opportune appointment of a committee to inquire into the whole subject. The ventilation of the Government in reference to this and to the other subjects, was the chief cause of all the delays which had taken place. He then adverted to the committees which had been appointed to examine the estates, a course which he denounced as unconstitutional, as tending to withdraw, more or less, from the consideration of the House, to which appertained the exclusive control of matters of finance, questions relating to supply. Having disposed of this point, he made the House exceedingly merry at the description which he gave of the financial policy of the Government, which he illustrated with apt quotations from "Don Quixote," whose return from his fourth and last expedition he compared to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's fourth financial effort for the session.

Alas for the country, at the dreary hour at which, after waiting long for them, it expected glad tidings from the Government, it found the last budget nearly as unwelcome as the first, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer was about to commemorate his second year of financial management by a second loan. We had had the Government of "all the talents," but we might now congratulate ourselves on having the Government "of all the budgets." If under the circumstances, the present session was unproductive for good, the Cabinet coolly threw the blame upon the cumbrous nature of the forms of the House, and the obstructive loquacity of its members. He again totally denied that the House was justly chargeable with obstructing public business. The delay which had taken place in connection with financial business was entirely attributable to the mismanagement of the Government, and the protracted labours of its unconstitutional committees. Nor was the House to blame for the tardiness with which the Public Health Bill had reached its final stages. The story of that Bill, in both Houses of Parliament, was replete with curious incidents and remarkable episodes, and but for the "fine talents and amiable character" of Lord Morpeth, who had charge of it, it would *not have escaped* the multitudinous perils which threatened it with an untimely fate. Nor could anything be more monstrous or extravagant than to charge the House with the failure of the measure for the repeal of the Navigation-laws. Far be it from him to regret or mean over that failure; but he could not avoid attributing it to want of firmness and of practical capacity on the part of the Government. It should have been introduced at an earlier period; but was postponed for other measures of far less importance. When at last introduced, it was pushed boldly for a time, when its after-progress was interrupted by what he considered one of the most remarkable episodes of the session—the attempt at legislation for the West India Colonies. Having thus introduced, in due turn the Sugar Duties Bill, the honble. gentleman, much to the amusement of the House, dwelt at considerable length upon the extraordinary incidents which had characterized its passage through the House, commencing with the oft-repeated declarations of the Prime Minister that no departure was to take place from the Act of 1846, from which the Bill was, in reality, after all, an actual departure, and ending with the "budget of blunders," the correction of which has caused much time to be wasted. The progress of this Bill had been delayed by several obstructive incidents, such as the third budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the two days discussion which occurred on the "missing despatch." It was to this bill, which ultimately passed only in the third shape in which it had been introduced, that the measure for the repeal of the Navigation Laws was sacrificed.—What ground [illegible] there for charging the premature fate of that measure, either to the conduct of members, or to inconveniences arising from the forms of the House?

Another subject on which much time had been wasted, which might have been saved, had the House at the first adopted some definite principle of action, was the conduct of the delinquent boroughs, and the measures which were to be taken respecting them.—During the session there had been sedition in England, insurrection in Ireland, and revolution in Europe. What if the Whigs had been in opposition with such a combination?—Considering the magnitude and importance of these events, but little time had been spent over them in the House. How much time would have been spent over them had the Whigs occupied other benches, he left the House to determine. The time of the public, then, had not been wasted either by the conduct of members or by the forms of the House. To show the consequences of the waste of time which had undoubtedly taken place, the honorable gentleman then read what he termed the "bills of mortality of the session of 1848." They were forty-seven in number, all of them being on interesting and important subjects, and two-thirds of which had been Government measures. Having endeavored to vindicate the House from the opprobrium of being the cause of what he termed this great public calamity (the waste of time,) he proceeded to show what he considered to be the real cause of it. That cause he found *there* (pointing to the Ministerial bench,) in that body of men, who acceded to office without a Parliamentary majority. They were perhaps justified in the course which they then took, situated as they were, but they were not now justified in persisting in it. So weak were they that they never concocted a measure, of the success of which they could be certain. So long as this state continued, the House and the country could not expect from Government those mature measures for which they had a right to look. He did not charge all the evil upon the imbecility of the Government, much of it being attributable to the disorganization of party; but he could not permit the House of Commons to be blamed for it, by wholesale accusations, that either by its members, or by its forms, it had thrown needless obstruction in the way of the public business. He was proud of the opportunity which he then had of thus vindicating the House of Commons before the people of England. The honorable gentleman then concluded, thinking that he had said enough to show that, although the curtain had risen, at the commencement of the Session, on a magnificent tableau, it was about to drop on a shabby performance; and that, in the whole annals of Parliamentary annals, no session could be found more inglorious to a Ministry or more frustrate to a people.

On resuming his seat, he was greeted with prolonged cheers from the Opposition benches.

Lord John Russell, after thanking the honorable gentleman for his kindness in consulting his personal convenience as to the time of bringing forward the subject, expressed his thanks likewise to him for the amusing speech with which he had just favoured the House; but whence that speech originated, or to what it tended, it was impossible to divine. The honourable gentleman seemed to labour under the idea that he had to defend the house of Commons from a charge made against it. But who had vituperated the House? It was certainly not for the Government to assail the House, which Mr. D'Israeli had taken upon himself to patronize and defend. The honorable gentleman dreaded the forms of the House as something which could not be touched, without compromising the liberty of debate. That this might be done without any such circumstances, was evident from what had been done with reference to debates on petitions. Before alluding to the honorable gentleman's commentary upon the events of the session, the noble lord alluded to the duties which the existing state of affairs had involved upon the Government. That for which a Government was chiefly appointed, was to administer the affairs of the empire. The honorable gentleman had alluded to the existence of sedition in England, insurrection in Ireland, and revolution in Europe. When it could be said that sedition in England had been met by a vigorous hand, that incipient rebellion in Ireland had been crushed, and peace preserved with foreign nations, in the midst of all the convulsions of Europe, he thought he said enough to show that after all, the administration of the empire had not been so very defective. The noble lord then reminded the house that the supposed duty of the Government to introduce a great number of measures and to carry them through Parliament, was a duty new to the Government of the country, and was hardly known to or recognized by the greatest ministers the country ever had. It was neither the sole nor the principal duty of the administration to introduce measures and carry them through Parliament. In times of great difficulty and peril, its attention must be chiefly given to other matters. But even if it were its duty to introduce measures, the fact that since the commencement of the session, it had introduced no less than 125, showed that it was not chargeable with remissness in this respect; and if it were its duty to carry them through Parliament, that duty had not been so imperfectly fulfilled, when it was known that no less than 106 had either already become law or would receive the Royal Assent, at the close of the session. The noble lord then proceeded to justify the course taken by the Government in reference to various measures, its conduct concerning which Mr. Disraeli had impugned, and to which he had attributed the loss of time which had occurred. In doing so, he rapidly passed in review what had been done in reference to commercial distress and the finances, denying, as regarded the latter, that the different statements made, during the session, by the Chancellor of the exchequer could be termed budgets. This session was not the first occasion on which a ministry had brought forward a financial proposition which had not met with the concurrence of the house. The Government was blamed for having referred the estimates to committees, and was charged, in doing so, with having transcended the strict limits of the constitution. But essentially the same thing had been done during the administration of the Duke of Wellington, Lord Castlereagh, and Mr. Pitt. In appointing those committees, the Government had shrunk from no responsibility, for it stood by its own estimates, with regard to our own military establishments. In reference to this matter, then, the honorable gentleman labored under a great delusion.—And as to the Public Health Bill, so far from being ashamed of it, he boasted that the Government had been the means of passing a measure of such importance in a new and untrodden field of legislation. * * *

At the latter hour the House re-assembled and went into committee on the Copper and Lead Duties Bill. The clauses of the bill having been agreed to, the House resumed; and after disposing of the other orders of the day, adjourned at the unusually early hour of half-past nine.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

STEAM-SHIP ACADIA.

The Steamship United States, Captain Hackstaff, left Cowes on Sunday, 3rd inst., at 3 o'clock, with eighty passengers, and a large cargo of fine French goods. After proceeding as far as the Scilly Islands, her condenser became damaged, and she was obliged to put back to Southampton.

It is stated that she will be at least some four or five weeks before she will be able to repair this derangement of her machinery, and be again fit for sea.

The chief portion of her passengers has left her.

The Hermann, from New-York, arrived off the Isle of Wight on the 4th instant, and, in consequence of a thick fog, which in charge of a Pilot, got on shore in Garnett Bay, near Cowes, on the top of the tide, and, although the engines were immediately reversed, it was found impossible to get her off. A special steamer, waiting off Cowes for the mails, went to her assistance. A tug steamer was sent to relieve the ship, and the coals were discharged into lighters. This step was effectual, and, at 3 P. M. on the same day, she floated, and shortly after anchored in Cowes roads. Her coals were again put on board, and she again proceeded on her voyage, without having, it is said, sustained any damage.

The weather continues fine in Great Britain, and the grain market has declined to almost the entire extent of the recent advance.

The Queen, on the 5th inst., prorogued the two Houses in person, by a speech from the throne, recapitulating the chief events of the session, and immediately afterwards took her departure for Scotland.

Ireland continues in a state of profound tranquility.

The visit of Lord John Russell to Earl Clarendon, seems to furnish almost the only theme for speculation amongst the Irish politicians. The Premier landed at Kingston on the afternoon of the 1st inst., and was received with a certain degree of respect. Demonstrations of applause, or disapprobation, seem both to have failed.

In France, M. de Lamartine has published a pamphlet defending himself from the various charges against him.

Public opinion has so unequivocally found its way to the Assembly, that Gen. Cavaignac has been compelled to deny his intention of suppressing the *Constitutionnel*. This journal and the *Presse* have now resumed their fierce attacks upon the government, and the latter wages open war against the republic, in spite of Gen. Cavaignac's declaration that he will not allow the republic to be impeached. The approaching elections to fill the vacant seats in the Assembly, begin to occupy public attention.

Emile de Girardin, the Orleanist, editor of the *Presse*, is a candidate with M. Delessert and Marshal Bugeaud. The latter, it is said, has refused the command of the army. If an armed intervention should take place in Italy, indeed, he would not accept any command offered by General Cavaignac.

The Bonapartists are moving both in Paris and the departments, with a view to promote Prince Louis Napoleon's election to the presidency.

Local disturbances in the Provinces continue to occur, chiefly arising from the obnoxious and extraordinary tax of 45 cents imposed by the Provisional government.

On the 3rd instant, the garrison of Paris and portion of the National Guard were reviewed on the Boulevards, by General Cavaignac, who was loudly cheered; between 70,000 and 80,000 were under arms, of whom about 20,000 belonged to the National Guards, only one battalion being called out from each legion. Although the National Guard was invited to attend the review, in great force, it was found that not more than 300 men mustered from each battalion, and in one battalion the number was under 50. This rebuke, proceeding from such a body, has been keenly felt, and has given serious uneasiness to the head of the government.

It is generally understood that several causes of dissatisfaction have led to this species of negative demonstration.

The first and principal is the offensive expression used by General Cavaignac against the legitimist party, and particularly against some legions of the National Guard, which, he affirmed, were conspiring against the government.

The second cause was that the government abstained from contradicting a report that was generally circulated of the arrest of two high military functionaries, understood to be Gen. Lamoricière, minister of war, and Gen. Changarnier, commander of the National Guards.

The third cause assigned was the dissatisfaction produced by the distribution of the crosses of the Legion of Honor amongst the legions of the National Guard.

The Paris papers of the 7th instant state that, notwithstanding the appointment of Gen. Lamoriciere to the command of the Army of the Alps, there appears every probability that peace will be preserved.

It appears that Gen. Lamoriciere and M. Marie have been endeavouring, by a transaction with Odillon Barrot, Berryer, and others, to form a fusion of all parties, in which they have not succeeded.

It is said that the Sardinian ambassador has offered the command of the Piedmontese army to Gen. Bedeau, who has taken time to consider the proposition. Should he refuse, application will be made to Gen. Dornelle.

The *Moniteur* states, that the Roman government had recognized the French republic, and that General Aupick, the French minister plenipotentiary, presented his credentials to the Sultan on the 29th ultimo.

The *National Suisse*, of the 4th instant, publishes a letter from Turin, of the 2nd instant, which states that the Austrians, having imposed an extraordinary contribution of 400,000 florins (£32,000) on the city of Parma, to be paid within four hours, that sum being not forthcoming within the period stated, the Croats, according to custom, commenced pillaging the city. The inhabitants, however, encouraged by the patriotic defence of Bologna, rung the tocsin, and commenced a fearful battle, in which they were assisted by the women and children. They threw their furniture from the windows upon the heads of the Austrians, and the inhabitants of the country hurried to their assistance, armed with their implements of husbandry. The result of the struggle had not been ascertained.

It is said that a serious quarrel has arisen between Gens. Changarnier and Cavaignac, out of the deflection of the National Guards, at the review on Sunday last. General Cavaignac has addressed a letter to Gen. Changarnier, in which he laments the slender muster on that occasion in terms which seem to reflect upon the latter rather severely.

M. Ledru Rollin is about to establish a new journal, being dissatisfied with the *Reforme*, which, in conjunction with M. Flocon, he founded in 1843. The editor in chief of the *Reforme*, the friend of the late Godfroy Cavaignac, maintains a closer intimacy with the head of the government, and is more influenced by him than M. Ledru Rollin approves of.

Advices have been received from Hamburg, to the 6th instant. They state that the provisional government, of the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, have refused to acknowledge the armistice lately concluded by Prussia, in the name of the Germanic confederation. The greatest jealousy of Prussia prevails amongst the democratic party of the north of Germany, and it is feared that the exertions of that power to promote peace will be rendered fruitless.

The blockade of the Elbe, Weser, and Jahda has been raised since the 5th, and the Prussian ports on the Baltic have also by this time become free.

The London papers of the 8th instant announce the important intelligence that the French government, on the 7th, received despatches from M. E. Arago, the French Minister at Berlin, announcing officially that Austria had accepted the joint mediation of France and England.

We have just received positive intelligence of the landing of the four thousand French troops at Venice. This news may be relied on.

General Garibaldi, who has lately been forced by the Austrians to fly from Italy, has arrived at Besancon, on his way, it is thought, to Paris.

The accounts from Italy and Rome, declare the whole country to be in a distracted and excited state. At Genoa, Leghorn, and Rome, tumults had occurred, which were with difficulty suppressed.

Miscellaneous.

THE MODEL WAITER.

Every Model Waiter is single, of course.—What time has he to make love, excepting to the cook, and she is hot-tempered and cross, as all tavern cooks are; and he has far too many spoons to look after, to think of increasing his responsibilities with a family of children.

He is always "Coming! coming!" but rather, like the auctioneer, he is always "Going! going! gone!" for he has no sooner jerks off "Coming!" than he is out of the room. Ask him for his name. It is "Bob," or "Charles." The Waiter never has a surname. He takes his dinner how he can, off the sideboard, or a chair in the passage. If he is very busy, he has no dinner at all. He approaches his plate to steal a mouthful, when fifty shouts of "Waiter!" call him away.—Of many contendin cries, he attended to that of "Money" first.

The Model waiter never says *I*. He is quite editorial, and always says *We*—as, "We're very full at present, Sir. We had two hundred dinners yesterday, Sir, and three hundred and thirty-five suppers. We consume one hundred and sixty-nine sabbs regularly every night, Sir." He puts a "Sir" on to everything, and an old penny, if the same comes to an exact shilling. "Chop? yes, Sir, sixpence. Potatoes? yes, Sir, tuppence. Beer? exactly, Sir, tuppence: and Bread? yes, Sir, makes tenpence; and tuppence makes thirteenpence—precisely one and a penny, Sir." He's favourite word is "nice." He recommends "a nice chop, with a nice glass of half—and—half;" or he says, "You'll find that a nice glass of port, Sir;" or "It's the nicest breast he ever saw." He can unravel the mysteries of *Bradshaw*, without turning over every one of the tables two or three times; and he knows all the playbills of the evening by heart. He never calls a slice of Stilton "a cheese."

He is impartial in the distribution of the "paper," and gives the middle sheet invariably to him who has eaten the most dinners in the house. He shows no favour, either, with the evening papers, but awards them first to those who are drinking wine, to the spirits next, whilst to the beer he gives the Supplement of yesterday's "Times."

His shoes are perfect fellows, with upright heels and the strings are carefully tied; and his hand kerchief so white, it would do credit to a pet parson in the heart of Belgravia.—He has "everything in the house" till you cross examine him, when the "everything" sinks down to a "nice chop or tender steak, Sir." The joint is always in "very good cut," and has been up these two minutes. He is mute for a penny, says "thank ye, Sir," for two-pence, and he'p on your coat for every thing above it. Politics have no charm for him, and he never looks at a paper, excepting when he is waiting for the last customer, and is tired of killing flies. The only news that interests him are the "Want Places," and the pictures. He is good humored, and laughs at any joke, even those of a Fast Man. A stranger in his vocabulary is a "party." He takes of persons according to the loaves they sit in, and cuts down all gentlemen to "gents." He is not mean, with his nuts and or vinegar cruets, and does not hide them in a dark corner. He carries a lofty pillar, quite a falling tower, of plates, without dropping anything out of them, and does not spill the gravy down an old gentleman's neck. If anything is done to rage or to a cinder, or undercdone, or not done at all—if the punch is as weak as water, or there's too much sugar in it, or it's as sour as a pew-opener, he hears it all with unruffled meekness, and only begins wiping down the table with his napkin. If the wine is too old, or too young, or too fruity, or too tawny, his waiter's fine instinct tells him at once what the gentlemen will like, and he rushes out urbanely in a waiter's gallop to get it, and returns with something that elicits "Ah! that's just the thing." However, as a general rule, the port has never been less than ten years in bottle. The cigars, too, are imported, direct from Havanah, and sold at full 32s. a pound, Sir. We do not charge a farthing by them, Sir.

The Model Waiter very seldom has a holiday. If he does, it is to see some other waiters, or to help at the Freemasons', or to assist a friend at some grand dinner in a noblemen's family. His life vibrates between the kitchen and the parlor, and he never sets down from morning till long past midnight. He attempts to doze sometimes, but the loud clamor of "We won't go home till morning!" wakes him up, and he execrates in his heart the composer who ever composed that song; it must have been some wretch, he is sure, who owed a long score to an unfortunate waiter, who had cued him for it. He makes a faint effort to turn off the gas, but is repulsed with a vociferous call for "more kidneys." It is not wonderful, therefore, if in the morning he yawns over the knives and forks, and drops several involuntary tears whilst replenishing the mustard pot.

After wearing out innumerable pairs of shoes, a Testimonial is got up for the Model Waiter by the "Goats of this Room," and they present him with a full length portrait of himself, "as a slight token of their warm appreciation of his unfailing civility, cheerful demeanour, and uniform attention during a term of forty years." This testimonial represents him in the act of drawing the cork of one of the ten years' bottles of port for a party of gentlemen who are sitting in a box in the corner of the picture and who are portraits of Messrs. Brown, Robinson, and Smith, three of the oldest chop eaters of the house! It is hung in a glittering frame over the mantlepiece of the room, in and out of which he has been running for the last forty years, and becomes the property of the establishment, there being a special clause let in the frame, that it is never to be removed from the room. The Model Waiter, however, has been saving a little fortune of pennies during his long career of chops and steaks—his only extravagance having been the washing of his white handkerchief and Berlin gloves every now and then on state occasions—and his purchases, in his grey old age, the business of a landlord, takes unto himself the pretty barmaid as his wife, and dies without having once been fined for keeping open half a minute after twelve on a Saturday night, or serving a pint of beer on Sundays during the hours of divine service. His portrait still hangs over the mantlepiece as a moral public-house sign to all future waiters, that, to become landlords, they have only to keep in view the Model Waiter.

FROM THE WEST INDIES.—Bermuda papers to the 12th instant have been received at New York.

They are principally occupied with details of the hurricane in Antigua, St Kitts, &c. At St. Thomas the gale was not so violent as in some of the other Islands, and the material damage was done to buildings. One vessel, a French barque, was driven ashore, and became a total wreck.

From the St. Lucia Palladium, August 26.

Martinique

We learn from *Courrier de la* St. Pierre that the town of St. Pierre has been again the scene of tumultuous assemblages and riotous proceedings, in which the lately emancipated people were the principal actors.

Such was the disorder in the streets on Sunday night last—the town being besieged by a numerous band of ruffians, pouring to and fro, uttering the most fearful menaces against the more peaceable citizens, under the *Liberte-Egalite-Fraternite* system—that nothing less than a reenactment of the carnage of the 22nd of may last was every moment expected. Such extremity was, however, averted by the authorities.

Numbers were arrested, (as we learn by private accounts,) and among the implements of war found in the possession of the prisoners were several lasses, or large iron hooks, with a noose, intended to be used after the fashion of the lasso in capturing and strangling their victims.

We have not been able to gather anything positive as to the immediate cause of this rising, nor have we any indication of its object. The local writers themselves seem to be equally at a loss on these points.

We fear that the worst is yet to come and that until the white class, now emigrating in great numbers, shall have almost entirely left the political arena to their long rebuffed brethren of a darker hue—paradise will not a second Hayti be raised in Martinique—the true bearing of these unhappy proceedings will not have been correctly understood.

The election of delegates to represent the colonies in the National Assembly has terminated at Martinique, in the nomination of Messrs. Busselle, Pory and Schoelcher. The two first named being gentlemen of color, and the other the Wilberforce of France.

INDUSTRIAL FARMS.

From the Patriot.

There are few subjects of more importance than the best mode of finding employment for able bodied poor, who are idle either from necessity or disposition. Experience, not only in Great Britain, but in other parts of Europe and in the United States, has clearly demonstrated that where industrial pursuits have been steadily and judiciously carried out in places for the reception of paupers, they have fully paid their own cost, and in most instances have largely contributed towards the general support of the institution. It is a well known fact that spade labor is far more productive in proportion to the surface tilled, than plough tillage.

Mr. G. Poulett Scrope has addressed a letter to Lord John Russell, on the subject of the employment of the able-bodied poor in Ireland, in which he shows the great benefits that would accrue to that country by a proper system of drainage and waste land reclamation, if the Government were engaged to pursue it thoroughly, and enforce it on the landed proprietors. Our object now, however, is to draw attention to the following extract, proving what may be done by the careful management of an industrial farm, as a means of relief for paupers.

It must be conceded that even if such an establishment did no more than pay its own expenses, the *mode* of relief thereby afforded has such a different effect upon the minds of that of mere alms-giving, the advantages of it would be unquestionable. By the labor mode the mind is strengthened and invigorated and the health and bodily powers kept up and improved; by the alms-giving system the mind and body become equally debilitated and enfeebled, while the tendency to indolence, and the evil habits arising therefrom are encouraged.

We hope that the individuals who from time to time, have brought this important subject before our Corporation and Government, will not lose sight of its importance, but will renew and reiterate their meritorious exertions until such an institution be established for the relief of Toronto.

THE POTATO ROT.

Liebig, in his recent work "On the Motion of the Juices," points out the different which continued exposure to an atmosphere either deficient in moisture or over charged with it, have on the health of man and other animals. He also quotes an opinion of Hlem, to the effect that the blight and fire blast in hops arise from the above deranged states of the atmosphere, he further states that the potato disease is probably a similar origin "The cause of this disease is precisely the same which in epidemic influenza, and that is, the direct effect of the temperature and hygrometric state of the atmosphere, by which, in consequence of the disturbance of the natural exchange, a clerk is suddenly given to the motion of fluids, which is one condition of life, and thus becomes insufficient for the purpose of life, or even hurtful to the individual. The changes which have been observed on the potato, and the putrefaction of the tuber, are not the cause of the disease, but the consequences of the disease of the plants."

After a rather learned disquisition on the difference between an animal and a vegetable, Doctor Kloatch says that the potatoes produce more care than is usually devoted to them. Hitherto the whole cultivation consisted in cutting off the weeds and loosing up the earth about the stem. But of these measures are not necessary, but they are not alone sufficient, the plant is cultivated, not on account of its stem, but for the sake of its tubers; and our treatment should be modified accordingly. The chief points to be attended to with a view to the attainment of the object, namely, the increase of the tubers, are, 1st, "to increase the power in the root;" and 2nd, "to check the transformation which occurs in the leaf." He says "Both these ends may be obtained simultaneously, if in the 6th, sixth and seventh weeks after setting the tubers, we pinch off the extreme points of the twigs to the extent of half an inch downwards and repeat this on every branch or twig in the tenth, an eleventh week, no matter at what time of the day."

Dr. Kloatch asserts that the above simple plan is not only efficacious against the disease, but that it also improves both the quantity and quality of the crop. It is now under course of trial in Poitou, and should it be successful for three years he is to receive £700 from the Government of that country. There is every probability that it will succeed, because Dr. Kloatch has evidently studied the subject, and recommends the remedy on a legitimate inference from the information he has obtained.

It would be sufficiently interesting to the general reader to give the various steps by which Dr. Kloatch has arrived at his present position; but we would particularly direct attention to his advices as well worthy a trial, whenever the cause of any of the circumstances of the misfortune, which has so recently injured all the civilized world.

In addition to Dr. Kloatch, two other eminent men, Professor Hunting and Professor Martius, have, during the last year, directed their attention to this important subject. Neither of the latter appears to have observed any animal life in the early stage of the diseased potatoes; and Professor Hunting states that fungi are never visible at the commencement, and sometimes are wholly absent during the whole progress of the malady. The fungi are not capable of being spread by infection, says Hunting, though Von Martius succeeded in doing so. Both of these observers agree that the disease is not to be ascribed to insects. During the early stages of the disease nothing is to be seen either of them or their larvæ; they usually appear at the same time as fungi. Professor Hunting, led on by these facts, sought to find the temperature of the air and sun, the cause of the disease, and, like Liebig and Kloatch, he has gathered together some very remarkable facts which bear out what we have already stated—that it is to atmospheric causes alone that we are to attribute this extraordinary malady. Von Martius describes two different kinds of disease. The above facts deserve to be extensively known, as they seem evidently to be a step in the right direction, and, if properly followed out, may reasonably be expected to enable us to arrive at the truth.

It is true that such an evil as we suffered under in 1845 and 1846 may occur only at long intervals of years; but the fact of its occurrence will be a warning to the nations not to place their sole dependence on a single crop. Dublin, Ireland and the North of Scotland are mournful examples of this mistake.

A REMEDY FOR DEAFNESS.

An important paper appears in the *Lancet* for the month of August, contributed by Jas. Yearsley, Esq., the eminent aurist, promulgating his mode of relief for deafness attended with loss of the *membrana tympania*. Mr. Yearsley says, "In 1811, a gentleman from New York consulted me under the following circumstances:—He had been deaf from an early age, and on examination I found great disorganization of the drum of each ear. On my remarking this to him he replied, "How is it then, that by the most simple means I can produce on the left side a degree of hearing quite sufficient for all ordinary purposes; in fact, so satisfied am I with the improved hearing which I can myself produce, that I only desire your assistance on behalf of the other ear." Struck by this remark, I again made a careful examination of each ear, and observing their respective conditions, I begged him to show me what he did to that ear, which I would unhesitatingly have pronounced beyond the reach of remedial art. I was at once initiated into the mystery, which consisted of the insertion of a spill of paper, previously moistened at its extremity with saliva, which he introduced to the bottom of the meatus, the effect of which, he said, was "to open the ear to a great increase of hearing." The improvement would sometimes continue during a day, but he was obliged to repeat the quantity of the manipulation.

Mr. Yearsley tried this remedy in several cases without success; but subsequently with modifications—"Instead of adopting my American patient's plan, it occurred to me to try the effect of a small pellet of moistened cotton wool, gently inserted, and applied at the bottom of the meatus, so as to come in contact with the small portion of membrane which still remained. The result was astonishingly successful. On the evening of a day in which she had risen from her bed with the sad reflection that she must be for ever debarred from social converse and enjoyment, she joined the family dinner party and heard the conversation which was going on around her, with a facility that appeared to all present quite miraculous. Day after day the remedy was applied with the same marked success, and eventually she learned the art of applying it herself, and became independent of me. It was observed that, until the wool could be brought in contact with a peculiar spot at the bottom of the meatus, the hearing was not at all benefitted, on the contrary, was prejudiced; but the moment it was properly adjusted on that peculiar spot, the hearing was restored. Subsequent experience in a vast number of cases, confirms the remarkable fact. It is not merely necessary to insert moistened cotton wool to the bottom of the meatus. Such a manipulation would, in most cases add to the deafness. It is essential to find the spot on which to place the wool, and so adjust it as to produce the best degree of hearing of which the ear may happen to be susceptible. This, of course, differs according to the variety and extent of the disorganization.

A very small quantity of wool is sufficient. It must be moistened in some fluid without any compression, and gently pushed down the meatus with the point of a probe. I have had constructed for the purpose a set of instruments, which are calculated to meet and overcome every difficulty; for I need scarcely say that it is very easy to talk of passing a foreign body down the meatus, but it is not so easily done. Besides it is not sufficient to merely pass it down to the side of the membranes but when there, the spot must be found, which it is indispensable the wool should occupy and cover; for then only, and not till then, will success attend this application, and the patient regain the hearing.

With a few rules, which, of course vary with the case, the patient may be taught to manipulate upon himself, and all that is required is to remove the dry wool, and replace it with moist, night and morning, or morning only. This is quite sufficient to maintain the improved hearing in the intervals."

EXPENSE OF IRISH CRIMINAL PROSECUTIONS.—No less than £71,891 is intended to be asked by the Chancellor of Exchequer, as an approximate estimate for defraying the expenses of criminal prosecutions and other law charges in Ireland for the year ending March 31, 1849. The details of this vote may not prove uninteresting to your Irish readers; Salary of the Attorney General, £2,500; the Solicitor-General £225 12s.; the Queen's Advocate £177 16s. 8d.; the Crown Solicitor in criminal cases £687; the President of the General Sessions of the peace, county of Dublin, £713 10s. 10d.; the Crown-Solicitor, including allowance for travelling expenses, Dublin circuit, £3,200; Munster £2,700; Leinster £2,200; Connaught £2,150; Ulster £2,100; North East £2,200; North-West £2,400; making total of these legal functionaries of £16,950, independent of the expenses of prosecutions and witnesses, which are stated at £18,000. Then comes part of the rent for Judges' Lodgings on circuit £691 15s.; and the expences of writing clerks, and other incidental charges of the Courts of Law in Dublin, which amount to the good round sum of £14,430, exclusive of the 500 intended to be allocated among the commissioners of the High Court of Delegates. This estimate of £71,891 exceeds that taken in the year 1846 by £5,783, and in 1847 by £712. The allowance to a Barrister for Irish business connected with the Treasury department is £1000 per annum. Maintaining the Convict Department in Dublin and the Constabulary barracks in the Phœnix park is set down at £6,791 14s. The cost incurred for the inspection of the Irish Lunatic Asylums, including £1800 as the salaries of two inspectors, reaches nearly 3,000.

News reached the Merchants' Exchange, by telegraph, on Saturday night, that two boats had been upset at the Quaker Regatta, and several persons drowned. The name of Mr. Theodore Martin, a clerk in the firm of Messrs. Patterson, Young & Co., is mentioned as being among those who perished.

Montreal Herald.

BRITISH WHIG.

"Optat per Orbem Decor."

SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTR 30.

THE REFORM ORGAN OF THE MIDLAND DISTRICT.

The discordant tone of this aged and feeble winded instrument, is becoming more and more remarkable, as each succeeding number follows in the wake of its melancholy predecessor. Notwithstanding the energetic exertions of the high-minded veteran who has been employed, during the past nine months, in pumping wind into the decayed frame, whence issued those delectable sounds which have charmed and electrified the lovers of comical bombast and laughable Burton-ics, the dying organ is fast hastening to the tomb of the capulets, "with all its imperfections on its head." This is a very distressing fact; but facts are frequently as stubborn things to deal with as are "the animals with the long ears," and will make their way to an admiring public, in spite of fate. A cracked violin, in other hands than Burke's, is a most sickening instrument; but the dissonant screams of a used up Radical Organ, which has been badly spoiled and mutilated by a succession of twelfth rate performers, all of them professed masters of the Political Gamut, is something too dreadfully insipid to be permitted to enter the human ear. It was our serious intention to have recommended the erection of a monumental fiddle-stick, in one of the spare niches of the City Buildings, to the memory of the present Organist, when he should have shook off Death's counterfeit, and went down to more delightful realms to assist Minos and Radamanthus in their administration of justice in the infernal regions; but as a leather medal has lately been designed for him, when he shall see fit to retire from his arduous duties, our excellent scheme must be laid aside for the present. We are not much grieved at this, as we cannot see any great difference in the propriety of the erection of a fiddle-stick, and the presentation of a leather medal to the indefatigable Hercules (in mind) who presides over the destinies of the *Herald*; both, or either of them, being strangely typical of the place which the Organ and its ornamental, if not useful head, hold in the estimation of the merrily-disposed portion of the community. We would, however, suggest the propriety of an immediate trip to the Caledonia Springs or Niagara Falls, being made by our musical contemporary and his budget of fun, for the benefit of their respective healths, and with the distinct understanding that they are to give Concerts in every town and village through which they pass, for the good of the cause for which they labor, and the enlightenment of the musical world. To look at the matter in a more serious mood, we would ask—is the *Kingston Herald*, the acknowledged organ of the Reformers of this District? A mere tythe of them may be satisfied to support the plant too, but we assert, without fear of contradiction, save by the paper itself, that the more intelligent number of them cannot be persuaded to countenance this apology for a journal, with all its polite essays in morality and grammatical syntax. If the Reformers of the Midland District are anxious to have an organ through which their wants could be made known to the public, it is high time they set about establishing one that will stand some chance of being looked up to by a portion of the Press, and the people; instead of the atom of insolence and ignorance which at present claims the honor, and asserts the right of representing that party. There is now, as there has long been, an excellent opportunity for some manly politician to turn his attention to the subject. The Reformers of the District would benefit materially by the undertaking; and the Conservatives would be too happy not to grumble at the proceeding, were the present incumbent compelled to "doff his Lion's hide, and hang a calf skin on his recreant limbs," preparatory to his being replaced by a journal of sense, respectability and independence.

☞ THE LATE ASSAULT.—We have been informed by Mr. Hawkins of the "Old Countryman's Inn," that the men of the Royal Artillery, as stated in our last, were not beaten in his house, but at a short distance from it, in the open street. From inquiries since made, we are disposed to give Mr. Hawkins the benefit of his explanation. We hasten to correct the mistake, more particularly as we were not present either at the "row," or during the examination of the parties the next morning, but relied chiefly on a statement received the day after the assault was committed.

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW CATHEDRAL.—The ceremony of consecrating the new Catholic Cathedral at the top of Brock Street, in this City, will take place at Eight o'clock on Wednesday morning next. Tickets of admission can be procured at the Catholic Bookstores, any time previous to, and also on, the day of Consecration. None will be admitted but those who supply themselves with tickets, as the funds thus provided are to be applied to defraying the expences attendant on the completion of the Building. In fact, the purchasing of tickets can only be looked upon in the light of so many voluntary contributions towards the end for which the money is intended. Besides the resident Catholic Clergy of the City, there will be present several Bishops and Clergymen from a distance, who have arrived for the distinct purpose of assisting at the ceremony.

☞ KINGSTON AND SYDENHAM ROAD.—A Meeting of the Commissioners appointed by the District Council to macadamize the above road, will take place to-day at the Village of Waterloo; when the work will be let out in sections, of a quarter of a mile each. This is a very important undertaking, and one which will prove of great advantage not only to the portion of the country more particularly interested in the construction of the road, but to other places which will benefit little by the transaction at present. Payment is to be made to the Contractors in District Debentures, bearing interest at six per cent.; and we are assured that the competitors will be very numerous.

TARRING AND FEATHERING.—It will, perhaps, be some consolation to those persons who may receive this savory coat, to know that the practice is one of great antiquity.—It was one of the regulations formed by Richard Cœur de Lion for the government of his troops, when about to enter upon the second crusade—that if any one should be discovered committing a robbery, he should be tarred and feathered. This, says James, is the origin of the singular punishment also in injury.

☞ IMPROVEMENT OF THE STREETS.—Never since Kingston was incorporated as a City, has so much interest been displayed in the cleansing and improvement of the streets as at present. It is due to Mr. Ford to say, that his praiseworthy attention to this very necessary and important point, is highly and deservedly appreciated by all classes of the citizens. This is setting a most laudable example, on the side of chambliness and order, to all future Mayors, which would be well to be borne in mind; as the streets could be kept in their improved condition at a very trifling expense to the city; and at the same time, be conducive to the general health of the inhabitants.

By Magnetic Telegraph.

Reported Expressly for the British Whig.

NEW-YORK, Sept. 27, 3 P. M.

By the arrival of the Mary Emotine at Baltimore on Saturday, news has been received from Jamaica to 6th inst., and Chagres to the 29th ult., and from Callyon to the 3rd.

War is still going on at Peru between the Government and the Indians.

On the 17th July the steamer Rinac and Capt. Deal, with 250 men captured a place called Arisca, with a loss of 152 killed and wounded, on the part of the insurgents, and 10 on the side of Deal.

The officer commanding the fort, with all his men, were taken prisoners and delivered at Callyon.

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