THE WEEKLY BRITISH WHIG.

VOL. XXVIII. KINGSTON, CANADA, FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 22, 1859. NO 16.

Extracts from English Papers.

LONDON, March 25.

The battle of Reform has fairly begun, and on Monday evening the opposing parties met in hostile array. Lord John's opening speech is generally looked upon as rather weak, and it convinces no one that it would not have been more straightforward to have met the Ministry face to face by moving a direct negative to their bill. Lord Stanley's reply was argumentative, but rather dull; and the honors of the evening were borne off by Mr. Horsman, who scolded his party right and left, and declared that he would not join in supporting sections a move. The Right Hon. gentleman is considered rather cynical, but his honesty is beyond question. The appeal he made to the Opposition to allow the bill to go into committee met with fervid cheering from the Ministerial ranks, and he was highly complimented—perhaps compliments from such men, though, are dangerous—by Lord R. Cecil and Mr. Newdegate. The vivid picture he drew of Reform deferred until a time of exciting agitation and of crisis arrives, when the Legislature will be called on to concede demands the most Democratic, may frighten some of the less advanced Liberals who sit above the gangway; but at present the calculation is that Lord John Russell's resolution will be carried by at least sixty votes.

As far as the debate has gone at the time we write, nothing has occurred to call for especial notice beyond the speeches of Lord John Russell, Lord Stanley, Mr. Horsman, Mr. Sydney Herbert, Sir Hugh Cairns, and Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton. Lord John Russell opened the ball by a speech in which he repudiated all personal motives, and claimed to be considered one of the most virtuous of Whigs. Lord Stanley's reply was a good one, and that is all that can be said; but the noble lord made a grave mistake when he adduced the opinions of Mr. Holyoake as those of the working men of this kingdom. It is difficult to imagine where Lord Stanley could have picked up such an error. Mr. Holyoake was no exponent of the thoughts and feelings of the working men of this country when he lay in Gloucester Gaol convicted of blasphemy; he has never been identified with the aspirations of the people since, and never will be. Mr. Horsman, the member for Stroud, made a very remarkable speech, condemning Lord John Russell's amendment as a party move, and recommending that the Government measure should be taken into committee and amended; 'when,' said the hon. member, 'it might be made all that the most Liberal member of the House could wish.' Mr. Sydney Herbert made a Whig speech; Sir Hugh Cairns labored hard to be effective; but Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton came down to the House and delivered such a speech as it was never our lot to listen to before—the most splendid oratorical display we ever heard. How long the debate will last nobody seems to know, and few seem to care.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The salaries attached to certain civil officers created by the Queen's command in British Columbia amount to £3,300. The Governor, Mr. J. Douglas, C. B., receives £1,800 a year; Judge Begbie £800; Mr. A. Young, the Colonial Secretary, £500; Captain W. Driscoll Gossett, R. E., the Treasurer, £500; Mr. W. H. Carey, the Attorney General, £400; Mr. Charles Brew, Police Inspector £500; the Collector of Customs, a Mr. Wymond Mamly, £400, and the Harbor Master, Mr. James Cooper, £400. There are a Bishop, the Rev. Dr. Hills, and two clergymen, the Rev. J. Gammage, and a Mr. Crickmer. The stipend of the bishop is paid by Miss Angela Burdett Coutts, and those of the clergymen by Church Societies. There is a Commissioner of Land and Works, Colonel Moody, R. E., who receives £1,200 a year; £10,000 has been paid out of the colonial revenue for the construction of roads. The military expenditure is £1,886. The transport of the engineers and stores to British Columbia cost £9,336. The revenue of the Colony for the coming year was estimated by Governor Douglas on the 27th December last, at £100,000.

BAD JOBBS EVERYWHERE.—At the Merionethshire assizes the following scene took place the other day at the close of a trial:—The clerk of the court asked—'Do you find the prisoner, David Williams, guilty or not guilty?' Foreman—'Not guilty.' (Great cheering, which was at once suppressed.) The Judge requested the officers of the court to bring any one before him whom they saw joining in the applause and he would send him to prison.—His Lordship then addressed the jury as follows:—'Gentlemen, you have said that you find the prisoner not guilty. Do you understand the case? Do you understand that it is your duty to say whether or not this man received his employer's moneys and applied them to his own purposes? Do you say that he is not guilty of so doing?' Foreman—'Yes, Sir.' The Judge (emphatically)—'Then I am thankful it is your verdict and not mine.' (Sensation.) Addressing Mr. Mathews his Lordship said—'Are you an Englishman, Sir?' Mr. Mathews—'I am, my Lord.' Judge—'And your firm is English, I suppose?' Mr. Mathews—'Yes, my Lord.' Judge—'This should be a warning to Englishmen not to invest their capital in Wales.'

PUSEYISM ONCE MORE CONDEMNED.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has once more delivered judgment on the case of the Rev. A. Poole, who sought to revive the practice of auricular confession at the church of which he was the curate. It was pronounced on Wednesday at Lambeth Palace. The Archbishop said:—With the able assistance of my learned Assessor, I have given the merits and circumstances of this appeal my most serious and careful consideration. I am of opinion that the proved and admitted allegations afforded in the language of the statute, 'good and reasonable cause' for the revocation of this license, and that the Lord Bishop of London has exercised a sound discretion in revoking the same, and I am further of opinion that the course pursued by the appellant is not in accordance with the rubric or doctrines of the Church of England; but most dangerous and likely to produce most serious mischief to the cause of morality and religion.' The Registrar then read the decree confirming the revocation.

SMITH O'BRIEN.—Mr. Smith O'Brien is enjoying a most delightful tour, and is everywhere received with the respect and admiration where his character and history inspire. He has visited Master Hammond's plantation, and attended divine service with the negroes, the service being conducted by a coloured lad. In company with Senator Toombs, he then visited Mr. Mathews at Crawfordville; thence proceeded to Montgomery, where his arrival was eagerly awaited by many friends, and especially by Judge Phelan and R. A. Cartwright, formerly of Wexford county;—these he met at Mobile last Saturday, and he proposed to arrive in New Orleans about the first or second of April.—Southern Citizen.

The Sentence on Dr. King.

(From the Port Hope Guide.)

On Saturday afternoon, the County Court Assize terminated. It being understood that Dr. King was to receive his sentence, and a rumor having arisen that executive clemency was to be prayed upon him, the Court Room was crowded in every part. About three o'clock he was brought up from the cell in which he has been so long confined, and placed in the dock. He was of an ashy pallor. To hearing rather than frigid the shocks during the trial was bad; and it seemed that the weight of death had sent his earthliness prematurely to the grave in fear. The coldness, almost impassiveness of manner, even characteristic, which belonging to the witnesses for the prosecution and defence, had given way, and he seemed to fully realize the awful position in which he stood. He walked into the Court-room like one in a dream. He seemed to be almost entirely ignorant of the presence of his friends. Mr. Cameron, Mr. Gilmour, Mr. Ross, and others, had come down from Toronto to be present during the trial, and to render him all the assistance in their power. Mr. Mathews, Mr. Ross, Mr. Gilmour, Mr. Cameron, and others, had spared no pains in the matter of procuring evidence. Mr. Cameron, Q.C., and Mr. Ross, had been retained for the defence, and had spared no pains in the matter of fees