

church rest upon its being an institution of great moderation, of free temper, decent worship, and conformable to the wishes, sentiments, and consciences of a majority of the people of this country.

Mr. Secretary Peel was sure the house would agree with him, that it would be extremely improper to enter into any detailed explanation of the views of government.

That it is the opinion of this Committee, that every sort of Corn, Grain, Meal, or Flour, which is now, by law admissible for home use at all times, upon the payment of the duties respectively, namely—

Wheat.—If imported from any foreign wheat made up into the average price required by law, whenever such price shall be 62s. and under 63s. the quarter, the duty shall be for every quarter 1s. 4s. 6d.

Barley.—Whenever the average price of Barley made up and published in manner required by law shall be 32s. and under 33s. the quarter, the duty shall be for every quarter 12s.

Oats.—Whenever the average price of Oats made up and published in manner required by law, shall be 24s. and under 25s. the quarter, the duty shall be, for every quarter 6s.

Rye, Peas and Beans.—Whenever the average price of Rye, or of Peas, or of Beans, made up and published in manner required by law, shall be 35s. and under 36s. the quarter, the duty shall be, for every quarter 16s.

every man—it was to revenge or to repair. It seemed a little extraordinary, that while every Power of importance in Europe had declared the policy it intended to pursue, the government of this country kept its intentions secret.

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ITEMS.

From English papers. Prince Metternich.—Among the speculations of both the Paris and London journals of the latest date, is one, that Prince Metternich, the Premier of Austria, was about to visit the French and English courts with a view to obtain their aid to restrain the anticipated aggression of Russia upon Turkey.

BRAZIL.—The interruption of the British commerce with Brazil seems to excite much discontent in England, and complaints are made of the capture and detention of British property.

In the house of Lords, on the 20th March, Lord Sturford stated the important fact, that upwards of a million and a half in value of British goods were ready to be exported to Brazil, but withheld from fear of capture by one or other of the hostile parties; and that the sum of £2,000,000 sterling in specie, was waiting to be shipped from Rio de Janeiro to Great Britain, but that the merchants were from the same cause afraid to risk the loss of it.

In speaking of the treachery of Don Miguel to the Constitution of Portugal, which he had so recently sworn to support, the Times gives this characteristic anecdote:—Before the blessed Miguel left this country, he wrote, most gratuitously and of his own free will, a letter to the most eminent person in the realm, saying, "that if he overthrew the Constitution, he should be a wretch, a breaker of his oath, and an usurper of his brother's throne; for that it was as easy to him to preserve as to overthrow it."

At a half yearly meeting of the Proprietors of the Bank of England, it was stated by the Governor, that the amount of bank notes in circulation was about twenty and a half million pounds—and that the Bank held besides, deposits from private bankers and others, of between five and six millions.

The consumption of coals in London for 1827, is stated at 1,558,000 chaldrons—in 1810, it was only 960,000 chaldrons.

A paper has been published by order of the house of Commons, exhibiting the startling fact, that for the year 1827, a year of profound peace and of no peculiar pressure, the sum levied and expended in England and Wales for the maintenance of paupers and of those who manage them, amounted to seven million eight hundred thousand pounds sterling!! (about thirty five million dollars); more than the whole revenue of England fifty years ago, and equal to half of the entire national debt of the United States.

A young woman named Jane Scott, was executed at Lancaster on the 22d March, for the murder of her parents. On the eve of her execution she made a full confession. She admitted that she had poisoned her father and mother, by mixing arsenic in some water, and then infusing it into the gruel which those unfortunate people partook of. She said that she had contemplated committing the dreadful act for three or four days before it was perpetrated, and that she had carried the poison in her pocket during that period. Her motive for perpetrating the crime was, that she might get possession of her father's property, and marry a man with whom she was acquainted. She declared that she had led a very irregular life ever since she was fifteen years of age, soon after which she had a child. She attributed her ruin to visiting a public house, which was frequented by characters, male and female, of the very worst description. She made a further confession of having occasioned the death of two infants, one being her sister's child, and the other her own. Her child was a boy of 4 or 5 years old, and called John Scott; her sister's was an infant in arms, little more than twelve months old. She assigned, as a motive for destroying her sister's child, that it originated through a quarrel. To be revenged on her sister, she took the child out, and purchased a quantity of laudanum which she administered to it. The motive for destroying her own child was, because the man to whom she wished to be married made the child an excuse for not complying with her desire. She then purchased some arsenic, which she mixed in tracle and gave to it.

Our readers must have perceived, from what has fallen occasionally from more than one member of the Finance Committee in the House, that the Ministerial Members of the Committee are cordially co-operating with the others, in their endeavours to discover the means of reducing the expenditure with the least detriment to the public service. Mr. Baring said, on Wednesday night, "that every thing had been hitherto submitted to the Finance Committee, on the part of Government, with a degree of candour & fairness which warranted an expectation that they would do their duty to the House and the country."

On one subject, we understand, Ministers have met the wishes of the committee in the most praiseworthy manner—the management of our colonies. If we had for object to discover the means of causing the greatest possible injury to our colonies at the greatest possible expense to ourselves, we could not easily have hit on a more efficacious system for that purpose than that on which we have hitherto acted. We have expended large sums in them, not on their improvement, but in order to prevent their improvement. We have assumed, in the first place, either that they would throw off their allegiance, or that some other power would take them from us, and that, therefore, it was necessary to have establishments to control the natives in their operations, which control could not of course exist without regarding the progress of commerce and industry, and consequently creating discontent and perpetuating the pretext for the continuance of this vicious system. It seems to be now pretty generally allowed, that the best way of securing the allegiance of colonies is, to make it their interest to wish the continu-

ance of the connection; and that if it be unnecessary to keep up establishments to control the colonists themselves, it is still more unnecessary to keep them up to guard against the attempts of other States. In the late war with the United States, we were chiefly indebted for the defence of Canada to the Colonists themselves, and at all events, the naval resources of this country will always enable us, if an enemy should succeed in wresting any of our foreign possessions from us, to retake it at much less expense than that of securing it against every possible accident.

The burden of governing the colonies should in all cases be thrown on the Colonists themselves. This would at once be a cure for almost all abuses in them. To induce the Colonists to bear the expenses of their own Governments, they must have the control of these expenses; and this they can only effect through a Legislature really representing them. At present we send them Viceroy, mighty men with lofty virtues, who love to be surrounded by flatterers, flatterers, &c., whom they can only please by installing them in offices yielding handsome incomes. These mighty men are quite above consulting the Colonists, and in those possessions in which there are Legislatures, they are so poor that all their plans should be blindly approved of. In order to effect this, the money of this country is lavished in jobs of various kinds. The Governor and his favourites know right well that they have nothing to fear from the Government at home, or Parliament, it being utterly impossible for either to investigate the circumstances of disputes which take place at such a distance.—The determination to make every colony defray the expenses of its own administration, will at once put an end to favoritism and misgovernment. A Colony can hardly ever be so poor that it cannot support the expenditure really necessary for its administration. Its establishments will naturally adopt themselves to its actual exigencies, instead of corresponding to the exaggerated notions of men accustomed to the profusion of this luxurious country. We may safely trust Colonial Legislatures when they have no money at their disposal but what is raised in the Colonies themselves. We believe notions, not differently essential from the above are prevalent in the Committee, and appear to have the sanction of the Ministerial members. We rejoice that such is the case; for the interference with the Local Administration of Colonies has been the source of numberless evils, both to us and our distant possessions.

Copy of a letter from the Bishop of Norwich to the Rev. Mr. Selby, Unitarian Minister of Lynn, upon receiving a petition from the Unitarians in Lynn in favour of a repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts.—Bath, February 24.

Dear Sir,—For more than half a century I have been uniformly of opinion that civil disabilities, on account of religious tenets, are inconsistent with all true ideas of justice, of policy and of christian charity; I shall therefore have great pleasure in presenting your petition to the House of Lords; and this pleasure will be much increased by the conviction which I feel that the day is at hand when the claims both of Catholic and of Protestant Dissenters will receive from the Legislature that attention to which they are so fully entitled.

I am, dear Sir, yours, &c. The Rev. Mr. Selby. H. NORWICH. P. S. Should my very anxious age render me unable to take a long journey, your petition will not be neglected; as I can, without difficulty, find a far more efficient, though not a more cordial, friend than myself to the cause of civil and religious liberty.

The two bills introduced by Lord John Russell, for the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts, and for the transference of the Elective Franchise from Penryn to Manchester, have since our last passed the house of Commons, and been carried up to the Lords. Selwyn has any statesman had the distinguished honor of carrying two such measures simultaneously through either house of Parliament. Should they pass into laws, they will make a splendid addition to the claims which the house of Russell has so long had on the gratitude of the people of England. We can scarcely praise too highly the talent, the firmness, the sound wisdom and patriotic feeling, which have characterized this scion of a noble roof, in all his parliamentary exertions for the accomplishment of the great measures thus happily sanctioned by the house of Commons.

The regiment of foot was quartered at Vellore, when the tragical occurrence took place which deprived poor Captain Bull of his existence. He was yet in early manhood beloved by all who knew him, and much respected in the hussar regiment, which he quitted in exchange for a company in the regiment in India, which he had joined only a few months. At Vellore, he found a set of officers, chiefly Irish, and by no means favorable specimens of that country, either in its virtues or its failings. He felt therefore, as was natural, little or no inclination to associate with them, farther than military duty required. The mess of the regiment was convivial and expensive; and Captain Bull having been affianced to a young lady who was coming to India, had the strongest and most laudable motives for living economically. He therefore intimated, but in terms of politeness, his disinclination to join the mess, stating his expectations of being shortly married, and the consequent increase of expense which he was so soon to incur. But the particular of the mess, the Irish part of it in particular, with the confusion of head incident to those who are resolved to quarrel, interpreted his refusal into a personal affront.

It was then unanimously agreed amongst nine officers present, that they should draw lots which of them was to call Captain Bull out. The lot fell upon a Lieutenant Sandys, who, in the name of himself and his brother officers sent the challenge, which Bull had too much spirit to decline, though determined, as he told his second, not to fire, having no personal injury to redress. They went out, Sandys fired, and Captain Bull fell. The systematic cowardice of the plot, and the untimely fate of so excellent a young man, strongly agitated the feelings of all. Sandys, and Yeaman, a Lieutenant in the same regiment, his second, were brought down to the Presidency; and tried at the ensuing sessions for wilful murder. The grass-cut-

ters and horse-keepers, who had observed them going out together and returning, and a water bearer, who had actually seen the duel, were somewhat at a loss to identify Sandys and Yeaman; and the prisoners had moreover, the advantage of a jury of Madras shopkeepers, who, serving the different regiments with stores, had, on former occasions, acquitted officers under similar charges, and aggravated as the present case was, probably felt a like indisposition to convict. They were acquitted therefore, but against the strong and pointed directions of the Judge, Sir Henry Gwillim, who told the Jury that it would be trifling with his own oath not to tell them that it was a case of foul and deliberate murder. They deliberated, or pretended to deliberate, for half an hour; and during this time, the Judge, who could not imagine that any other verdict could be brought in but that of "Guilty," had already laid his black cap upon his notebook, prepared to pass the sentence of the law upon them, and which, as he told the prisoners, it was his intention to have carried into effect. "You have had," said he, addressing them with great solemnity, "a narrow escape, and too merciful a Jury. If they can, let them reconcile their verdict to God and their consciences. For my part, I assure you, had the verdict been what the facts of the case so fully warranted, that, in twenty-four hours, you should both of you have been cold and unconscious corpses—as cold and unconscious as that of the poor young man whom, by a wicked conspiracy and a wicked deed, you drove out of existence. Be gone, repent of your sins. You are men of blood, and that blood cries up to Heaven against you." Sandys and Yeaman were afterwards tried by a Court Martial, found guilty of the conspiracy against the life of Captain Bull, and broke. The sentence was confirmed by the King, with an additional clause, declaring them "incapable forever of again serving his Majesty."—New Monthly.

LOWER CANADA.

DISTRESSED STATE OF THE SHIP PERD WHEN LAST SEEN.

We have obtained from Capt. Cain the following particulars relative to the *Superb* from Bristol, for this port, and for whose safety doubts are felt.

The *Superb* of 501 tons, Capt. Cain, built at Prince Edward's Island, sailed from Bristol for Quebec, consigned to the firm of W. & G. Pemberton, on the 27th March, with a cargo of salt, iron, tin, sugar, &c. &c. On the 11th April, while lying to, a heavy sea broke on board her, which did considerable damage, and from that time to the 21st the salt had sunk five feet, and the ship made a great deal of water. On the 22d in lat. 40, 20 N. long. 52 W. fell in with ice, but observing a clear passage ahead steered for it—when within her own length a large neck of sunken ice was seen on which the ship immediately struck, and carried away her fore gripe and cut-water. She then rose forward and falling on a large piece that was floating under her larboard bow, got clear but had sprung a leak. On the 24th found the leak gained fast; at six P. M. the schooner hove in sight, manned the jolly boat and sent the boatswain with hands to her, the Mate having given up his duty that day, and the 2nd Mate not to be found at the time. The boatswain returned without a satisfactory answer. Capt. Cain then put off for the schooner, but in attempting to board her the boat was stove in, and filling immediately it was with great difficulty the hands got on board. Capt. C. then ordered the schooner to wear, and in going round the *Superb's* stern desired the Mate to hoist sail and keep with the schooner, telling him the boat was stove, and urging the necessity of keeping the pumps going. The crew answered that she was gaining water fast, and appeared to be going down. To the view of those on board the schooner she then appeared three feet deeper than when they first saw her. The schooner wore frequently—the last time the pumps were heard. At midnight the lights on board the ship disappeared, it was then blowing a heavy gale from N. N. E. At day light next morning nothing farther of her could be seen.

Capt. Cain and four seamen were afterwards taken on board of the *Walsend*, and arrived here yesterday afternoon. 18 men, including officers, remained on board the vessel. There were no passengers.—*Quebec Star*.

We are happy to understand, that divine service is henceforth to be performed in the Scottish Church, St. Gabriel street at 9 o'clock, every Sunday morning, for the accommodation of such of the soldiers in this garrison as may belong to that communion. The Clergymen have been induced to undertake this additional labour in consequence of the almost unanimous request of the soldiers of the first division of the 79th Highlanders, now in this city, who are almost to a man Presbyterians. Last Sunday morning was the first opportunity thus afforded—and the whole of the men off duty, with their officers, band and bagpipes, marched to the Church of their native land, where an excellent sermon was preached, by the Rev. Mr. Esou, from the words of the Shunamite woman, "I dwell among mine own people."—*Montreal Herald*.

The last *Minerve* contains a splendid and most interesting account of the expressions of respect and regard paid by the inhabitants of St. Benoit to the Militia officers who had been dismissed for exercising civil rights and those who had voluntarily resigned their Commissions. There is an old custom according to which the Militia Men plant May Poles on the first of May before the houses of their officers—Two hundred of the inhabitants voluntarily assembled—and proceeding in great order—planted the Pole on the *Maie* as it is called before the residence of each of these old officers—these Poles were adorned with flags bearing inscriptions expressing their feelings.

Messrs. Brazeau, Masson, Girouard, Reizenne, Mallet, Dorion, Joannet, Lemaitre, Masson Junior, were amongst those thus honored—they refused to plant the *Maie* before the residence of those who were appointed officers in their places. The idea is suggested for a general application to the new Governor for the restoration of the officers dismissed. This subject and a new Commission of the Peace will doubtless engage the attention of the Land holders in their several Counties in due time.—*Can. Spectator*.