

FRANCE. Paris Stock Exchange, March 31.—Five per cent 96.75. a 97, Three, 96.75. a 70.25c. Fours, 96. CHOLERA MORBUS.

Paris, March 30, 8 o'clock in the morning.—In the last three days 58 patients have been carried to the Cholera Hospital, 15 of whom are since dead. Besides these, 8 deaths have occurred in different parts of the city, viz:—1 in St. Antoine-street, 1 in St. Jean arcade, 1 in Calvados-street, 2 in Bois-regard, 1 in Haut Martin, 1 in Minzaine, and 1 in des Jardins.

The number of cases in private houses is not yet ascertained. Nearly all who have been attacked belong to the lower ranks of society, and live in confined and crowded, and consequently unhealthy places. It appears that a want of cleanliness is one of the principal causes of the disease.

We think it is the duty of the government to provide the poor, so numerous in Paris, with wholesome food and clothing.—This means, which is already practised in London, would probably save the lives of many thousands.

It is a remarkable fact that this miasma has made its appearance under the influence of a North wind, which continued to blow for three days.

Moreover it is certain that the disease is not at all contagious as up to this time no physician or other person employed about the sick, has been attacked.

This circumstance will serve to calm the panic which has seized a great many families who are preparing to leave the capital, not reflecting that if the disease was contagious, it would soon follow them to their places of retreat.

P.S. half past 4 P. M.—Eighteen new cases have been announced to-day; 14 have been sent to the Hotel-Dieu; 1 to the Hospital Necker, and 1 to la Pitie.

The weather continues mild, and the wind still blows from the North East.

In general there is not much panic among the higher classes, though great changes have been observed in the diet of those who frequent the coffee houses and restaurants, and also in the regimen of private families.

It is said there will not be more than five days interval between the two sessions. In that case we suspect there will be few present to deliberate, as they all seem disposed to desert, either on account of the lassitude of affairs, or for fear of the Cholera.

Paris, March 30.—This morning the Diligences are filled with timid people who are leaving the capital to seek for safety in the Provinces which the Cholera has not visited. Such a panic was inevitable on the first breaking out of the disease, and the greater on account of the sudden manner in which it was announced in the capital; but in three or four days people will think no more about it,—in five days they will laugh at it,—and in eight days they will caricature it. A person is said to have died of the Cholera some days since at Calais.

March 21.—Some important discoveries have been made as to the late attempt to set fire to the arsenal. A convict had made overtures to a sailor to become one of an association of incendiaries, to whom ten francs a day were allowed until the plot was fully executed. The sailor having revealed this application, the convict was examined, and then confined with double irons. The frigate La Bellone, received orders this evening to make preparations for the conveyance of 400 men of the Legion of Foreigners to Algiers. Yesterday our cathedral was the scene of disgraceful tumults, occasioned by the preaching of a missionary.

Paris, March 30.—The Minister of War is said to be engaged in endeavouring to ameliorate the condition of the Polish refugees, and has decided that from the 1st inst. the following allowances for lodgings shall be granted to the officers, namely, to the superior officers and captains, 18fr. a month, and lieutenants and sub-lieutenants, 12fr. a month each. The pay of the non-commissioned officers has been fixed at 8 sous a day, with a ration of bread, and the privates, 5 sous a day, and a ration of bread.

The Novelliste formally denies that there is any foundation for the reports in circulation of the intended recall of the troops at Ancona.

A letter from London, dated the 21st, says: "Orders have arrived here to fit out 30 ships of war, of which 6 are to be of the line, 6 frigates, and 18 of lesser force. These preparations have given rise to a thousand conjectures. Some persons assert that these armaments are destined for the expedition in contemplation against Constantine and Bona."

The price regulating the importation of corn of the first sort and which will be published on the 1st of April, is 25c. 8r. consequently its importation will be admitted at Marseilles, and all the ports of France on the Mediterranean.

Private accounts from Coblenz, of the 19th inst. state that three vessels arrived there on the 19th with about 500 emigrants, partly from Baden and partly from the Grand Duchy of Hesse. They are on their way to North America.

From Galignani's (Paris) Messenger.

M. Louis Viardot has published the following letter in answer to that of M. Casimir Perier, Jr.; quoted in the Messenger of Monday:—

"The letter of M. Casimir Perier, Jr., which appears to represent that I had induced him to enter into an Association, the real object of which I concealed from him, requires an answer from me, stating the whole truth relating to the transaction.

"After the Revolution of July, the Spanish refugees believed that France, having become free, would proceed as well from a principle of justice, as from her own interest, to restore to Spain that liberty of which she had deprived her in 1808. Nevertheless, before they summoned the refugees residing in England and other countries; and

proceeded to organize their expedition, they wished to ascertain whether the new Government would lend them its support. I went in the name of the principal persons amongst them, to consult upon the subject, M. Guizot, who was just appointed Minister of the Interior. He answered me without hesitation in the following words:—'The principles and benefits of our Revolution ought to be extended to every people; but Spain, more than any other nation, has a right to make a claim upon us in reparation of a crime committed against her.' I took down his precise expressions, because I was bound to transmit them to those who had sent me to him. This was the language of all the members of the Council, and their words were answered by their actions. The Prefect of Police received orders to deliver, upon the demand of the Spanish Committee, and to all the individuals who wished to proceed to the Spanish frontier, not only passports, but route bills, giving them a claim to all the facilities of military men. Consequently, numerous troops, composed less of foreigners than the combatants of July, whose absence from Paris was seen with pleasure, proceeded to the Pyrenees, their officers at their head, and their flag unfurled. The subscriptions received by the Committee to make daily payments for numerous places in the Diligences, for sending off convays of the poor, and furnishing them with arms, did not come only from men who have since been designated the *caput maximum* of the nation—General Sebastiani, for instance, subscribed 200fr., and General Gerard 120fr. A great many Deputies belonging to the *Centres*, as well as to the *Cote d'Azur*, also renitted their offerings. In fine, gifts much more considerable, sent by special agents to Bayonne and Marseilles, formed the foundation of the military chest of the Spaniards. All these facts have been stated in a memorial addressed to Gen. Lafayette on the 21 November, 1830, when the internal policy of the country was changed, which memorial was, I believe, laid before the King, and read in the Council of Ministers.

"I come now to the principal object of the letter of M. Casimir Perier, Jr. The Spanish Committee was formed by the Society *Aide toi, le Ciel t'aidera*. As I was not then a member of that society, I could not be one of the Committee, and M. Casimir Perier became a member before I was. I have still in my hands thirty-three commissions delivered to the correspondents of the committee, dated the 26th, 27th, 28th, and 30th of August, and the 5th September, 1830, bearing the signatures of all the members of the Committee, including that of M. Casimir Perier, Jr. but not bearing mine, for I was not then admitted upon the Committee. I could not, therefore, have been the person who proposed to M. Casimir Perier, Jr. to join it. What I did (and which no doubt has given rise to the mistake he has committed) was at a later period, and in the presence of his father, whose consent he very properly required, to induce him to continue his co-operation in our labours, for I am bound to declare that it was not only at the beginning of August, nor for the first and only time that M. Casimir Perier, Jr. attended at the sittings of the Committee. He still seconded us with all the vivacity of a new and sincere opinion, which the Spaniards passed the frontier, arms in hand. I have now before me a letter written by him to his colleagues on the 14th September, excusing his absence for a month, which he was about to pass in the country, and which he concludes with the following words:—'I am assured that, though by circumstances independent of my own will, I may appear to neglect the nobles functions of my own will, I have delegated to me by you, I shall be the more anxious hereafter to fulfil them with zeal.' M. Casimir Perier, Jr. who could not then be any longer ignorant that the production of the collections was employed in arming and sending the Refugees against the Spanish government, was no enemy to the system of the propaganda. I cannot, therefore, believe that he will now voluntarily disavow sentiments which were congenial to his age, his education, and his character, and which he took honour to himself in prating with us. The nature of the accusation brought against me called for an answer. I have given it—confiding myself entirely to what affected me personally, and am ready to prove by documents and unimpeachable witnesses, the truth of all I have advanced."

Rose, March 19. (Private Correspondence.)—All foreign newspapers are prohibited, except those for the several Ambassadors and other diplomatic residents. His Holiness refuses to make any further concessions than those granted by the edict. Prince Frederick of Nassau has reached Ferrara with a reinforcement of 2000 Austrians. Reinforcements have been sent to Civita Vecchia, though not a single French ship of war has been seen off the port. It appears to be decided, that in case the French land on the coast of the Mediterranean, the Austrians are to occupy Rome and the Castle of St. Angelo.—The French are collecting considerable forces in Corsica."

The following anecdote illustrates the value of an independent judiciary in securing the just rights of the citizen, and in protecting them from the exercise of despotic power. The shield which the Constitution throws around the subject of any government, is a miserable protection, if the executive is the executive. In fact, the strongest point of distinction between a government of limited powers and equal rights, and a strong arm of the law, and the latter being restrained by a strong arm of the law, and dependent upon the arbitrary will of a despotic person, possessing the invaluable privilege of civil and religious liberty, and a constitution based upon popular principles, should watch with a jealous eye, every encroachment upon the rights, or disregard of the decisions. Of the judiciary, if they once permit this backward of a free republic to be broken down, their liberties will fall with it. The first assaults upon it may not appear to be attended with any serious danger; but when the practice once becomes sanctioned, the law ceases to maintain its supremacy, and the government degenerates into a mere despotism. Or dissolving itself into its

original element, the people are thrown into a state of anarchy, the worst condition of civilized society.—Near the Daily Argus is called the King of Prussia had determined to build a new palace, the new Palace of Sans Souci, his plan was to connect the new building with the old, by a pleasure promenade, a mill occupied part of the ground which he wished to include in his new garden. He offered to buy it, and pay a considerable more than its value. The miller refused to part with it, and declared he would never leave the mill, which had descended to him from his forefathers.—The King, however, one of his walks, conversed with the miller on the subject, becoming at length irritated with the miller's obstinacy, he said to him, "you seem not to be aware that I am a monarch, and that I can take by force what you refuse to give me, and we have judges at Berlin." Frederick was so pleased with the answer, that he abandoned his plan and forced his miller, so as not to interfere with the patrimony of his people. The miller is the condition of a people, when a poor miller, under the oppression of a tyrant, can console himself with the reflection, "that there are judges in the land."—Lord Deter's Life of Frederick the Great.

From the (Canton) Chinese Register, Dec. 23. The system of falsehood carried on by the Chinese in communications with foreigners, is scarcely credible to those who have not had practical proof of the fact, that in all negotiations, whether upon the subject of commerce or diplomatic arrangements, and very frequently upon matters of the utmost importance, and without any exception, they are almost tempted to imagine an inherent love of falsehood in this people in every rank of life. In this respect, they are no less than the most dishonest of nations. They are almost tempted to imagine an inherent love of falsehood in this people in every rank of life. In this respect, they are no less than the most dishonest of nations. They are almost tempted to imagine an inherent love of falsehood in this people in every rank of life. In this respect, they are no less than the most dishonest of nations.

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GEORGE BIGGS, Editor.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1833.

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POETRY.

BEAUTY'S GRAVE.

Tread softly, stranger! this is ground Which no rude footstep should impress; With tender pity gaze around, Let sadness all thy soul possess. Tread softly! lest thou crush the flowers, That o'er this turf are taught to weave. Translated from their native bowers To staid their sweets o'er Beauty's grave! And stranger! let thy nothing heart Mark well this fresh and verdant spot! And ere you from the scene depart, O! let your soul commune with God. Thus fare the fragile buds of earth: Fair as the lovely and the brave! Come here ye thoughtless sons of mirth, And pause awhile o'er Beauty's Grave. Sweet withered rose! myrthly pale loam! Call tears into the virgin's eye! Oh may the prospect of this tomb Remind her, 'all that live must die!' And war her in the days of youth, To think of Him who being gaurd, And hid her seek the ways of truth, Like her who sleeps in Beauty's Grave!"

WEST-INDIA TRADE.

MEETING.

THURSDAY, April 5th.

In pursuance of an invitation, signed by a great number of individuals connected with the West India Colonies, including several of the nobility, and nearly all the principal merchants, ship-owners, &c. interested in the preservation of the trade to the West Indies, a public meeting was held this day at the City of London Tavern.

The meeting was exceedingly well attended, and the result of the day's proceedings. Indeed, we never witnessed a more respectable assemblage. Many gentlemen went away for want of accommodation than the room contained. The stairs presented two streams of persons continually going up and going down.

The Earl of Harewood was unanimously called to the chair, and after the confusion created by the crowded state of the room had in some degree subsided, the noble Earl addressed the meeting as follows:—Gentlemen, before I proceed to the business of the day, I must beg in the first place, to mention that a noble Lord (the Marquis of Chaudes), who has been in the habit of representing here the interests of the West India body, is unavailingly prevented from attending to-day, which alone is the cause of my having the honour of being appointed to the chair. The noble Lord has been unremotely attentive to the interests of the West India Planters, and I would much rather have seen him in the chair upon this occasion than myself. I, therefore, beg leave to offer on his behalf his apology for not attending, being pressed by other matters. I feel that standing before so numerous and respectable a body as that now present, that a most arduous and melancholy duty is imposed upon me in endeavouring to draw your attention, which I do not by any thing from myself, to the situation in which all the West India proprietors are involved. I do not desire to attribute that distress to any particular circumstances connected with party or political persons, but I desire that that distress may be considered, as it operates not only on individuals, but on the national interest of this country. I am the more anxious now than upon ordinary occasions to present myself before you, the West India proprietors, and in the heart of this metropolis, because I feel that there are expressions gone forth concerning West India property which deserve to be met fairly and honestly, which can do before our country.—(Cheers.) I, among others, am a sufferer; but I am not a sufferer equal to those who may have nothing but their West India property. (Hear, hear.) It is on their behalf that I am anxious to plead their cause, if I can, in behalf of my own, as to the fate of my own. (Hear, hear.) There have been strong feelings created in this country of prejudice against all proprietors of West India property, as possessors of a slave population. Not only has that been made a topic of charge against us, as if we were wretchedly and improperly deriving profits from the labour of those individuals. I will speak not only for myself, but for all other proprietors of West India property, that we would anxiously, if we could, do without that description of labour.—(Hear, hear.) But we may say, that being proprietors, we are not justly dealt with; and I am appealing to a part of my countrymen who are endeavouring to sink that interest by misrepresentations, which, when connected, were known by those who connected them to be false, or

to possess a colour which they could not bear. Will it be said that in a slave population, where some acts may be done, which always will be done, arising out of the wickedness of human nature, where a solitary instance, or even more than a solitary instance, might occur, that it was to be magnified so as to sink the proprietors of that property in public estimation, and to hold them up to odium? How does the matter stand? We are unfortunately circumstanced. If our returns are bad,—if they amount to nothing, or if they amount to little more than nothing, what course are we to adopt? Why to hold on and support those persons from whom labour we derive nothing.—(Hear, hear, hear.) Is that the case with any other description of property? If persons are engaged in manufacture; if public works are erected, the moment those works cease to be profitable, that moment the hands employed on them are dismissed. Can we do that? I mention that to show that it is not the wish of the proprietors to hold a population in that state of society if they could do otherwise. But let all those who are finding fault with us show us the way out of it. It will not do to say that to cause an individual to hold property in the West Indies that he is a slave, and that he is not to have a due consideration for his own interests, as well as for the peace, the happiness, (notwithstanding the slavery), the safety and security of those islands.—(Cheers.) In that state of society are we now living in. I mention these things to remove that unwarrantable blame which has been cast on us as persons who were wilfully and willingly resisting an emancipation. The charge is not true; and when I consider more closely some of the circumstances of distress, under which we are now suffering, I beg to declare that I am not disposed to say that every description of distress suffered by the proprietors, was occasioned solely by a mismanagement of the slaves, or by our interference with the property of the old colonies. The ceded colonies produced a great quantity of sugar to this kingdom. That certainly has its effect, but because it has its effect, it is the policy of this country to leave our own colonies, carried on by British enterprise and British capital, to ruin. Since that policy has crept in, the distressed state of circumstances has existed.—(Hear, hear.) I would wish to mention a subject which I know to be of rather a delicate nature; and as I am disposed in this meeting, both with respect to the parties assembled, and from my own feelings, to exclude any thing bearing a complexion of political or party views, I disclaim it. I would not appear here to-day, if I were to entertain the subject in that point of view. But I cannot help adverting to that act of government relating to the Orders in Council of November last.—(Hear, hear.) In advertising to these Orders in Council, I am led to a resolution of Parliament in 1823, and I must say that those who were parties to that resolution, and to the dissolution of the House of Commons, in 1823, respecting the slave management, ought not to be parties in the Orders in Council, of 1831. We were living in times of great colonial distress—we were living in times when great colonial agitation was on foot—when it would have been policy and wisdom to have conciliated rather than to have inflamed. But what has been the effect of the Order in Council of 1831? It has on the face of it irritated towards the colonies and injustice to the proprietors, interfering by saying so long as you permit the colonies to have colonial legislatures, and to decide questions regarding those islands, it is unjust and illegal to interfere by those orders in council. (Hear, hear.) To dictate to those assemblies, not from parliament, but from the council, and to state what appears to me very extraordinary, to say the least of it, that they shall say to those legislatures, "we have certain benefits to confer on those islands, and if you do not agree to what we dictate, you shall not receive the benefits even in the distressed and sinking condition of your interests." But to say on one side, this is the reward of your non-objection, and we will sink the colonies if you do not do so; but can you sink the colonies without sinking also the interests of the mother country? It was saying, if you don't follow this advice, we will punish the mother country through the medium of the colonies. Is there reason or justice in this, and look at the state of the case, that duties alone, with the amount of seven millions are produced from the imports, and upwards of five millions from the exports. Is that to be sacrificed because the orders in council are not obeyed? How is it that the duties on colonial produce amounted to that sum? It would at first appear to every person that any property on which seven millions duty could be charged, must leave an enormous profit to the proprietors. Is it so? So far from it, the duties levied on West India property is in some cases so much property confiscated (Hear, hear). Can a country go on in that state of things? Is that, or is it not, leaving towards the popular feeling in this country? It is important to me that I should state what was the impression in my mind on finding very recently that certain resolutions had been passed in the council. They left an impression on the public mind that nothing had been done, and that all was yet to do regard the amelioration of the condition of the slaves. That was not fair towards the West India body, to keep out of sight any amelioration that had been made in the condition of the slaves. I ask, what has occurred since the year 1823? Has there been a stoppage of improvement in the slave population? Has there been any turning back from the course of amelioration? No; a progressive state of improvement has been carried on. Then where is the wisdom of the propriety of issuing orders in council which

seem to denote an utter disregard of the population? It is unfair, and it is strengthening the prejudice against the proprietor of the slaves, and it is not just towards the efforts already cheerfully exercised. (Cheers.) I beg to say again that in my observations I make upon the orders in council, I am actuated by no political feelings. I remark on these orders as in my conscience I believe they will work, that is, injuriously to the peace of the colonies. But as to the distresses, there is an accumulation of hardships, particularly as regards the colonies, one of which, Barbadoes, had suffered from the visitation of God, which we can only lament, and not complain of. The other was from another cause, which has not only thrown back the interests of the proprietors, many of whose property was destroyed, but thrown back the course of civilization. Those most anxious to promote the welfare of that population, were doing thus unwisely towards those people and the proprietors, to allow any irritation of false conceptions going forth to those colonies, as they can only be injurious to the master, and throw back the civilization of the slave. We are in such a situation, that we are complainants on the one hand, and beggars on the other. (Hear, hear.) I therefore wish to deal as leniently as I can, and come in *fama pauperis* before the Government, to give us relief. I can say no more as to the mismanagement of colonial affairs, but I could not resist stating what I have stated, respecting the Orders in Council. I will therefore conclude by saying, we are all thankful for any assistance we may obtain in support of ourselves and property, under the misfortunes both at Barbadoes and Jamaica; I say we are not only thankful for what has been done, but state that we shall be thankful for what we have a right to expect to be done—a right which, as British subjects, we state strongly, and we claim at the hands of Government that protection which is due to every British subject, who lives under its dominion.

Lord Selkirk rose to move the first resolution: he said the country had prospered with the colonies, and if the prosperity of these colonies was to be overturned and diminished, it would bring ruin upon the commerce and condition of England. He would not further occupy the valuable time of the meeting, for it was not necessary for him to say more, after the able explanation which the noble chairman had given of the objects for which this meeting had been convened. He should merely move the first resolution, which was declaratory of the objects which they had in view.

Mr. Watson Taylor rose and said, that he had great pleasure in seconding the first resolution proposed by the noble Lord. He must confess that he had not frequently presented himself at public meetings upon this subject, when he felt that the interests of the colonies would be best taken care of by those who presided over them, but at the present alarming crisis, when the interests of the colonies, and those of many other countries were at stake, when one of the deepest and most deadly blows which could ever overtake a great and flourishing nation was about to be inflicted, he had no hesitation in confessing that he felt it his duty to come forward. It was too much the fashion to depreciate in one way the interests of the colonies, and this might be traced to the fanciful, fanciful, hypocritical speeches of a party to which the country had been unfortunately too prone to listen. He hoped to see the day when not only those who were immediately interested in the colonies—not only those who lived in another country, and lived upon their colonial incomes, but when every person who understood a national question would be convinced, that England in every branch of its interest, was as deeply interested in this question as the colonists themselves. (Applause.) He was happy to second this resolution, conscious as he was of the importance that the connexion between the colonies and the mother country should be as intimate and uninterrupted as possible. If the colonies were injured, every interest in the mother country, the glory of the nation, and every resource and branch of commerce would sympathize in that injury. If the West India connections were despised, the arts, manufactures, and industry of England would be injured, for they were civilized and navigated by the capital which flowed into the mother country from the colonies. Sorry was he to see that such invaluable interests were likely to be sacrificed to the fanciful hypotheses which had forced their notions on government, and when they had ruined the country, those whom they had imposed on, would turn round and say, how could we have been so blind to a calamity, the importance of which we ought to have foreseen. They would sacrifice that which contributed to their resources in war, and which tended to support every department which gave stability to the country, which supported the arts, and which rendered society the greatest blessing. It might be invidious, or at least indelicate, if he were to speak of himself; still he thought he could not do better than to advert to a conversation which he had recently held with a great Anti-Slave politician in his own country. This politician had expressed his regret at this approaching meeting might injure his interests. He (Mr. Watson Taylor) last answered that he would attend the meeting and explain his views, and that his interests could not be so much injured, for Mr. Simon Taylor, whose property he inherited, had put his family beyond the reach of any such destruction. Nevertheless, he felt it his duty to act as if his only hope depended on the colonies. As far as his interest was concerned, the question was only one of degree, but whether he had kept twenty horses or two; whether he employed a hundred

(Concluded on the last Page.)

IMPROMPTU
ON BEING THE STATUE OF COLUMBUS.
Hail, Columbus! western ruler!

THE ARGUS.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 1832.

Our sheet of to-day is almost exclusively filled with matter relating to the affairs of the British West India colonies; and on the first and last pages, will be found a full account of the speeches and resolutions entered into and adopted, at the meeting of noblemen, merchants and others, held at the city of London Tavern, on Thursday, the 5th of April, mentioned in our last.

Several of the London presses have already begun to advocate the cause of the colonists, in a very able manner; and now, the subject having been commenced, we think it very probable that the British public, generally, will be disposed to enter fully into it, in order to come to a correct knowledge of the true state of the colonies—possessions so essentially necessary to the prosperity of England; and of whose worth, by far the greatest number of the people in England, are excessively ignorant.

The saintly crew at Aldermanbury, who have disposed of their own West India property, upon advantageous terms, in order to embark their capital in what they considered more lucrative concerns, of a worse character, have too long been gulling John Bull. Through their interest, men not identified with any honourable distinctions—men who possess none of the sterling virtues of our nature—men who have other interests than those over whom they are lord—have been sent out to the different West India Islands, (some of whom have arrived here, and are falling high situations in the Government), for the specific purpose of robbing those who furnish them with the means of support. This is quite evident, and requires no further proof than what we have already experienced.

This morning, the sloop Hero arrived here from New York, whence she sailed on the 16th instant. The Captain favoured us with a file of papers from the 10th to the 16th inclusive; one of which contains London dates to the 7th and Liverpool to the 8th of April. The news, however, is comparatively of little importance to that received from Jamaica by the Mail Boat on Wednesday. The following is a short summary of the most important items:—

The Reform Bill has lost much of its former high bearing; and there is little chance of its being carried in the House of Lords upon its second reading—unless the threat of creating new Peers, should be immediately carried into effect.

The Cholera progresses slowly. Total number of cases in the United Kingdom, 9,496; deaths, 3,582. The affairs of Holland and Belgium are not yet settled. King Leopold has it in contemplation to call out the second levy of the militia for 1832, amounting to about 12,000 men; has victualled the fortresses; and is making other active preparations for the defence of his newly acquired throne. These preparations are being made, in consequence of a supposition, that an appeal to arms will be necessary.

COLONIAL AFFAIRS.

We understand that the very embarrassing and difficult situation in which the affairs of the West India Colonies are placed, is attracting general attention and interest amongst all the trading community of the city of London; and we hear that one of the most extensive and influential meetings of that community will be convened in the City on Thursday, the 5th of next month, for the purpose of giving a public expression of their opinion on this subject.

We are afraid that the Government have been rather rash in the determinations they have of late come to in the management of this very difficult question. Their measures have spread angry feelings both in the Colonies and at home, to a very unnecessary extent, which by prudence and fair consideration might have been entirely avoided—much to their own credit and advantage.

It appears by the Papers laid before Parliament, that the Governors of the Crown Colonies consider the Order in Council of the 2d of November, 1831, to be unfit for adoption in many particulars, and submissive of the rights of property. These points are so clearly explained that the Government do not now hesitate to say that this order must undergo modification! Under such circumstances it certainly does appear to be very unfortunate that Lord Goderich should have written the Circular Dispatch of the 10th of December, 1831, to the Governors of the different Legislative Colonies, to say that their Legislatures must pass Laws, embodying in the strictest manner,

and without modification, every provision of this order, under the penalty of fiscal regulations, which would impose additional burthens on such Colonies as do not obey the ill-natured mandates of the Government. This is a most harassing way of acting. It apparently seeks to impose odium on the Colonists; and may, in the opinions of some, serve the purpose of acquiring a momentary popularity; but it disregards the real duty of a Government—namely, to be well-informed before it ventures to issue edicts that are to regulate the whole state of society in our distant possessions.

It appears to be highly desirable that a complete code of laws for the protection of the negroes in our Colonies (calculated to embrace the Resolutions of Parliament, of May, 1823) should be made law in all these Colonies; but it is only by prudent and conciliatory conduct that the Government can accomplish this desirable object. Rash and harassing measures such as those alluded to, only defeat the accomplishment of this desirable end. If a code of laws, such as we have indicated, were generally established, amelioration would proceed under fair protection; and that constant system of detraction and irritation which is practised by too many persons both in and out of Parliament, would be avoided; a resting point from constant meddling would be established, and the fair object of humanity would be attained in the most secure manner. We trust that the government may well and seriously consider the path they have lately pursued, and not hesitate to recede from such positions as ought not to be maintained. It is much better to confess an error when committed, than to persist in doing wrong for the purpose of maintaining an ill-justified consistency.

A Court of Common Council was held this morning at Guildhall, the Lord Mayor in the Chair. A discussion took place with respect to the propriety of petitioning Parliament to carry into effect the Order in Council relative to West India Slavery; and the Court was occupied with the subject when our reporter left.—Courier, March 28.

We confess that we have been painfully disappointed at the apparently final resolutions of Government with regard to the West India Colonies. It seems that no material modification of the obnoxious Order is to be expected—that no portions of the menace is to be withdrawn—and that not even a change of tone is within the contemplation of Ministers. The whole of this Order in substance is peremptory to be inflicted on the Crown Colonies, and its reception to be recommended in the chartered Colonies by the alternative of a bribe or a penalty, as a consequence of the acquiescence or refusal of the legislatures. The distress of the West Indians is admitted; but the only notice taken of it is to extort obedience as the price of any relief—may, as the only means of avoiding the infliction of a sanction. The obedience required will, in the deliberate judgment of every West Indian proprietor, at large up and abroad, introduce a confusion which must tend to destroy the single chance existing of preserving the Colonies to England, and of civilizing the coloured population; and the penalty threatened will, even as a threat, alienate every heart from the Parent State, and, if inflicted, produce at once and for ever a total and irremediable ruin.

When the Government of this country assumes, and loudly proclaims, its fixed determination to maintain such an attitude of quasi hostility towards the most ancient, once the most favoured, at all times a most important, interest, in the sum total of interests which constitute this great Empire, we anxiously ask what it is that the representatives of this persecuted interest have done to provoke such unusual—such unnatural—conduct on the part of the Parent State? Have they, without the leave or licence of the Parent State, introduced a system of society which must be put down at any hazard?—No! the Parent State itself, by every known organ of its will and its wishes, originated and cherished the system in question. Have the administrators of that system introduced any deteriorating novelties in it at variance with its primary scope?—No! they have gone on regularly for the last 20 years standing and softening the operation of that system with a sincerity of purpose, and a wisdom of design, which the Government of England has acknowledged and commended in the most unequivocal terms. Do they now wish to perpetuate the existence of this system, or to continue it for an hour longer for its own sake alone? No! They have opened a path, which, carefully followed, will lead safely through the forest—they have laboured to create that condition of things, in the precedent existence of which alone can the termination of the system be truly found; and they now reconstitute against the eternal goadings, the bewildering agitation of an unappeasable Anti-Colonial party, full as much that the objects of that party's pretended commiseration may not be received, as that it is the same thing—they themselves may not be made the victims of the cheap generalities of others.

In setting about the conversion of more than 800,000 black slaves—introduced into the Colonies in the ships, with the encouragement—nay, by the compulsion of England—into free citizens, you must act sensibly and discreetly—especially you must begin with the beginning, for it is no matter of degree, edict, or act of Parliament—there is no lucas pocus in the thing—there are no presto movements, except such as end in blood. You must work in the order and by the rules which reason and experience have proved to be alone effectual. If you attempt to reverse the order, or to alter the mode, you will not only fail yourselves but you will make it impossible that any should succeed.

In 1823-4, the British Government began this great work sensibly and discreetly. Mr. Canning said—"We must take the matter out of the hands of the Anti-Colonial party, who are armed with a magazine of half truths—the most dangerous of errors: they will excite the passions and instead the humanities of the nation: we must step

in and act with that deliberation which the extraordinary delicacy of the case requires, and with that impartiality which a sense of our own full participation in the guilt, and such there be, justly demands of the nation." Now the British Government has renounced the matter again to the same party who had been denounced and disabed by Mr. Canning. Every suggestion of theirs is listened to with respect—every measure framed according to their prescription—insults are offered to the most respectable merchants in England to gratify their rancour. This might only Mr. A. ruined, and Mrs. B. reduced to be a governess, and so forth; but this is not enough—something more is exacted—the Colonies—the hated Colonies, must be endured; get rich in Canada, get rich in the East Indies—well and good—but you must not, and you shall not, get rich, no, nor broad either, from the West India. Beggar the planters, says one, and then the slaves will be more comfortably off; lay on a duty, says another, and then the Colonists will come to—at least irritate them by circular dispatches, and then, very likely, they will commit themselves by some passionate act or word!

And will the present Government be so managed? We still hope they will not.—Courier, March 31.

From a Correspondent of the Standard. A very important discussion incidentally arose in the House of Commons last night, on a motion for the production of certain papers relative to the West India Colonies by Mr. Borge. The absolute necessity for an immediate explanation of the measures intended to be pursued in regard to these colonies, and the extreme danger and inconvenience of delay, was strongly and earnestly urged upon the attention of His Majesty's Ministers. It was stated that if the measure of relief to be proposed by the Government were to be made of effect, the adoption of the conditions imposed upon the Crown Colonies, contained in the peremptory Order in Council of the 2d of November, they would be perfectly inadmissible, as the Colonial Legislatures could not submit to them without surrendering their constitutional rights and privileges; and any attempt to force that Order upon the Chartered Colonies would, in effect, destroy the utility of their connexion with the Mother Country.

It was attempted to be denied that any threat had been held out to induce the Colonists to comply with the provisions of that order; but, on the other hand, it was forcibly argued that even in the Crown Colonies this Order was universally repudiated, and that to enforce it by fiscal regulations, or otherwise, upon the old Colonies, according to the expressed intention of Ministers, was neither more nor less than a direct coercive threat. The question of the immediate and unconditional emancipation of the slaves was aptly illustrated, as being of a similar nature to proposing that the peasantry of Ireland should be put in possession of the property of the country, and that the proprietors should lose it entirely! Compensation is one of the questions; the country has got the means of compensating the Planters.

With regard to ameliorating the condition of the negro, the continual agitation of this question has already in Jamaica had the most beneficial effects. Independent of the destruction of property, thousands of the poor creatures, who are now wandering in the woods, must perish of hunger, even before the wet season commences; and surely this is not the way to benefit the negro!

It is a curious circumstance that Ministers have not yet sent their inflexible Order in Council to Mauritius. As they afraid that the people of that island may claim the protection of France? Or have they, at the eleventh hour, begun to see the dangerous consequences of their favourite measure?

POOR LAWS.

The applicability of Poor Laws to the condition of Ireland is a point very generally discussed; and as usual, no ten persons are found to agree in full in their opinion upon it. The advocates of a poor law for Ireland are many—but it does so happen that they all split upon the details.—The only point d'appui is the principle. On this they seem to unite hands; but forthwith, each flies off in a tangent from every degree of the circle, to some new notion of detail. Dr. Doyle, Mr. Smith O'Brien, Mr. James Granton, Mr. Sadler, Mr. Stanley—almost every one who has written or spoken in favour of a Poor Law for Ireland, has favoured the public with his own view of the question,—and the only union in detail that we have discovered, is to be found in the Editorial article of the Morning Chronicle and the book just published by Mr. Butler Bryan. This gentleman and the Chronicle concur in insisting upon a rate for the employment of the able-bodied poor. The usefulness of a labour rate we fully appreciate. But then how is that rate to be levied? Let there be a general law for the poor, says the Chronicle.—Mr. Bryan recommends a property tax and parochial assessment. If we remember rightly, the Chronicle is also an advocate for a property tax. In favour of such a tax, a variety of good arguments might be urged. At present every burthen falls upon the soil. Land is taxed for the maintenance of all the institutions of the state—the church—of gnauls—bridewells—roads—the poor (in England)—the army—and the navy. It is subject to the landlord's heavy rent—the abominable tithe—the split rent—the burden jury uncontrolled assessment. Is there a war? The ground falls upon the land. Is there a weighty civil list, or a profligate pension list? The land must bear the pressure. And all this time, the fund-holder is free from tax. Even the disgusting heavy duty afflicts not the speculator or the aristocrat of the Stock Exchange. So that by the existing laws—an inducement to the withdrawal of capital from agricultural uses and the investing it in the funds, is held out to the monied interest. This bonus has been its effect. The funds are filled with money—while the soil is uncultivated and the people unemployed. The animosity—so pernicious in its results, presses alike upon all parts of the Empire: and it ought at once to be checked. One of the first acts of a reformed Parliament ought to be, a universal property tax for the exigencies of state—relieving land of its present enor-

mous incumbrances—and taking capital that now lies useless, out of the funds, and applying it to the useful, and right purpose of cultivating the soil, giving employment to the able bodied, restoring agricultural prosperity, and removing pauperism.

Chinese System of Astronomy.—The Chinese are the only people whose annals offer very ancient observations in astronomy. The first eclipses which they mention are of use only in chronology, owing to the vague manner in which they are reported; but they prove that in the time of Yau, more than 2,000 years before our era, astronomy was cultivated in China as the basis of their public ceremonies. The almanack and the announcement of eclipses were important objects, for which a mathematical tribunal was expressly formed. They then observed the meridional shadows of the gnomon at the solstices, and the passage of the stars on the meridian; they measured time by eclipses, and determined the position of the moon with respect to the stars in eclipses, which gave them considerable positions of the sun and solstices. They even invented instruments for measuring the angular distances of the stars. By the union of these means, the Chinese had found that the duration of the solar year exceeded 365 days by about the fourth part of a day. They began with the winter solstice. Their civil year was lunar, and in order to bring it up with the solar year, they made use of the period of nineteen solar years, corresponding with 235 lunar months, a period exactly the same as Calippus, 13 years later, introduced into the Greek almanack.—As their months were alternately of twenty-nine and thirty days, their lunar year consisted of 354 days, and was consequently shorter by eleven days and a quarter than the solar year; but when the amount of these differences would have exceeded one moon in the year, they introduced an additional month. They had divided the equator into twelve innominate signs, and twenty-eight constellations, in which they carefully determined the position of the solstices. Instead of a century, the Chinese have a cycle of sixty years; and a cycle of sixty days instead of a week; but the small cycle of seven days, in use throughout the East, was known to them in the remotest times. The division of circumference was always regulated in China by the length of the year, so that the sun described exactly one degree every day; but the division of the degree, of the day, of weights and all linear measures, was decimal; and this example given for 4,000 years at least, by the most numerous nation on earth, proves that these divisions, which besides offer many advantages, may become by practice exceedingly popular.

NOTICE.

The Members of the Saint Andrew's Society are requested to attend an adjourned quarterly meeting, on Monday evening next, at 7 o'clock, at the residence of ROBERT TAYLOR, Sec'y.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

Every person who to leave these Islands, after having resided therein for the space of thirty days, must give security at the Secretary's Office, or put up his name in said Office for FIFTEEN DAYS previous to his departure—after which, at any time during FORTY-FIVE DAYS, a Ticket may be obtained.

NAMES OF PERSONS ABOUT TO OBTAIN TICKETS FOR DEPARTURE. 23d February Elizabeth Sullivan 31st April W. L. Alexander 11th " Geo. S. Ray 17th " Samuel Johnson 24th " John Alday 1st June Francis Montell 2d " Maria Johnson

FOR SALE. A TRACT of Land on Long Island, containing 500 Acres, within the vicinity of the Salt Pond at Great Harbour, well adapted for the culture of Corn and Cotton; bounded Exactly by Peter Dean's land, Northernly and Southernly by the sea, and Westernly by Peter Dean's land. Particulars will be made known, on application to Wm. J. Wevill, Esq., Nassau; or to the subscriber, at Exuma. A credit of six months will be allowed the purchaser. DAVID SEARS.

Little Exuma, } 19th May, 1832. THE BLACKSMITH'S SHOP. In Parliament-street, opposite the corner of the Work-house Wall, is now in operation; where every kind of Blacksmith's work will be executed in a workmanlike manner, and with all possible dispatch. The subscriber intending to superintend this business himself, will be thankful for all work in this line, which shall be done on reasonable terms. THOMAS NUTTAL.

FINAL NOTICE. THE SUBSCRIBERS, having closed the mercantile concerns of the late Elias J. Solomon, Esq., hereby notify to those who still remain indebted to his Estate, that unless their respective demands are liquidated previous to the 1st June, they will be placed in the hands of an Attorney-at-Law, for immediate recovery. E. M. SOLOMON, Executor. C. S. ADDERLEY, Executor. March 31st.

Marine List.

PORT OF NASSAU, N. P.

ARRIVED. May 31st—Am. schr. Selim, Dorry, Baltimore Shingles, &c. to JOHNSON & SAUNDERS. " " Am. schr. Robert & James, Rowe, Norfolk Flour, &c. to JOHNSON & SAUNDERS.

June 1st—Am. schr. Wabash, Smith, New Haven Rice, Flour, &c. to JOHNSON & SAUNDERS. " " H. M. schr. Firefly, Lt. McDonnell, Cruise 2d Am. sloop Hero, Hindsell, New Haven Flour, &c. to JOHNSON & SAUNDERS.

Am. schr. Sarah & Harriet, Spencer, Newport, (R. I.) Lumber, Lard, Beef, Cheese, &c. to JOHNSON & SAUNDERS.

CLEARED. May 31st—Am. sloop Azelia, Sawyer, Key West June 2d Am. schr. Eclipse, Mattison, Baltimore " " Am. schr. Gen. Lafayette, Savoy, New York " " Am. schr. Franklin, Grinnell, Boston

SAILED. May 31st—Schr. Pomona, Miller, Philadelphia. June 2d—Am. schr. Azelia, Sawyer, Key West

PASSENGERS SAILED. In the schooner Pomona, for Philadelphia:—Mrs. Robinson and children, Mrs. Chipchase, Miss Bell Findlay, Mrs. Baldwin, two Misses Harris, Miss Craig, and Master Henry Wood.

EXUMA SALT, for sale at 15 cents per bushel. Apply to THOMAS THOMPSON, At Exuma. February 4th.

NOTICE. ALL PERSONS having demands against the Estate of Joseph Saunders, late of the Island of New Providence, gentleman, deceased, are requested to render the same duly attested; and those indebted to the said Estate, are likewise requested to make immediate payment, at the office of G. P. Wood, Esquire, THOMPSON SAUNDERS, Executor. April 2d.

BRUCE'S NEW YORK TYPE FOUNDRY, Established in 1813.—The subscriber has completed a new edition of his book of Specimens with which his customers, and other Printers disposed to buy from him, may be supplied on application at his Foundry, Nos. 18 and 20 Augustus street, behind the City Hall. He would remark, for the information of those who have not been in the habit of dealing with him, and because a different practice has been extensively introduced, that his book contains nothing but the actual productions of his own Foundry, and presents a true specimen of what will be furnished to orders. The assortment is very complete, has been deliberately and carefully in twenty years brought to its present high state of perfection, and embraces a variety of styles, adapted to different tastes and to the various departments of printing Newspaper, Book and Job, highly finished, and cast of the most serviceable metal. Not to notice the varieties which are distinguished by their numbers in the Book, it contains of ROMAN and ITALIC 27 sizes, from twelve-line Pica to Pearl. TWO-LINE and TITLE, 15 sizes, Two-line Columbian to Azote. SHADED, 13 sizes, Ten-line Pica to Long Primer. ITALIAN, 7 sizes, Seven-line Pica to Long Primer. ANTIQUE, 17 sizes, Ten-line Pica to Nonpareil. BLACK, 12 sizes, Four-line Pica to Minion. OPEN BLACK, 5 sizes, Four-line Pica to Great Primer. SCRIPT, 2 sizes, Double Small Pica and Great Primer.

Besides Music, Back Slope, Ornamented Letters and Lottery Figures, Piece Fractions, Superiors, Astronomical and other Signs, Space Rules, Brass Rules, Ornamented Dashes, Long Braces, more than 200 kinds of Flowers, and 1000 Cuts and Ornaments for School Books, Newspapers, and Scientific works. Orders for any of these, and also for Presses, Chases, Composing Sticks, Cases, Furniture, Printing Ink, or any thing required in the Printing business, will be executed on the most favourable terms, and with the utmost promptitude, a large stock of the Foundry articles being always on hand.

Printers of newspapers who publish this advertisement three times, and forward a paper containing it to the Foundry, will receive payment for the same, if they purchase from the Foundry, to four times the amount. GEO. BRUCE. New York, January, 1832.

BLANK FORMS, of every description, may be procured at this Office. N. B.—Job Printing executed with neatness and dispatch, upon good paper, and on moderate terms. January 3, 1832.

AUCTION SALES.

BY HENRY GREENSLADE & CO.

On Monday next, the 4th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 10 O'clock, A. M. Will be sold

Flour, Corn, Corn Meal, Potatoes, Butter, Lard, Bacon, Cheese, With Sundry other articles, Jamaica Rum, in puncheons, Do. Coffee, in bags.

Terms—CASH, before delivery. At two Months' Credit, 50 half boxes Bloom Raisins. June 2d.

BY JOHNSON & SAUNDERS.

On Monday next, the 4th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 10 O'clock, A. M. Will be sold

FOR CASH, The Cargoes of schooners Robert & James, Selim, and Wabash, viz. Superfine fresh Flour, Bread, Rice, Pease, Corn, Hams, Bacon, Smoked Beef, Sausages, Neats' Tongues, Lard, Butter, Cheese, Soap, Candles, Tobacco, Snuff, White Pine Boards. AND— 14,000 Cedar Shingles (inspected.) June 2d.

BY HENRY ADDERLEY.

On Monday, the 18th instant, AT THE VENDUE HOUSE, At 11 O'clock, A. M. Will be sold

That valuable and well known plantation, called Cocoa Nut Grove, about two miles to the Westward of the town, containing 360 acres—a great part of which has never been under cultivation. About one hundred acres are enclosed by stone walls, in ten acre pastures. There is, on the above tract, an immense quantity of Firewood, which would render it a valuable consideration to any person disposed to enter into contract for the supply of the Garrison. Its inestimable properties, on the score of pasturage, are so well known, it requires no recommendation.—The Fruit trees are innumerable, and of every description afforded on this Island. In front, there are from 10 to 14 acres of Guinea Grass, well established and from 500 to 700 Cocoa Nut trees—many in bearing.

ALSO—

The following valuable Slaves, viz. SOPHY, 34 years, an excellent Cook, Washer and Ironer. SUSAN, 10 years, House Servant. JANE, 22 years, a good Cook and Washer. TONY, 6 years. WILLIAM, 3 years. PEGGY, 36 years, Cook and House Servant. JACOB, 10 years, very handy about a House. POLIDORE, 50 years, a Driver and Field hand. BINAH, 46 years, ditto. JEFFERY, 17 years, accustomed to work with Mason and Plasterer for the last two years. PRINCE, 47 years, a Carpenter. PRINCE, jr. 15 years, accustomed to drive a Cart. AARON, 13 1/2 years, a very smart waiting Boy, particularly handy with a Horse. GORDON, 11 years, in constant employ with a Dray. JERRY, 10 years, handy about a House. Terms—three months' Credit, on giving approved security. June 2d.

NOTICE.

THE SUBSCRIBERS offer for sale, by private bargain. 6 bds. choice Madeira Wine, 40 dozen do. do. do. 60 dozen do. Tenerife do. 1 trunk Gentlemen's Shoes, 2 blue Dinner Sets. HENRY GREENSLADE & CO. December 24th.

FOR SALE.

The choice of 2 Lots of Land, with the buildings and improvements thereon, situate in Prince's street, generally known by the name of Lightfoot, or Cupid's Row. For Terms and other particulars, apply to the Subscribers. HENRY GREENSLADE & Co. March 3d.

(Continued from the first page.)

labourers or less, did not concern the question of the activity and support which he could give to the industry of his neighbourhood. Not upon him, but on the town in which he resided would the injury fall, of separating the colonies from the mother country. From a small individual scale, they might argue to the great scale of the nation. The wealth from the colonies was dispersed in this country, and the arts and industry which dignified society, would suffer, if the colonial interests were depressed. He saw before him a venerable personage by whose taste for letters and patronage of the fine arts, much had been contributed to his native country. He attempted to produce the same results, though at a humble distance; but when he reflected that even by the next packet he might learn that his West India property had vanished, he felt it his duty to contract his expenditure, but he lamented that the loss would fall on artisans, and persons employed in various branches of industry, in the aggregate of which consisted the happiness of nations. He could not trust himself to do more than advert to recent political mismanagement, except to lament the weakness of ministers in giving way in such a great national question to that party whose proceedings he had witnessed in the House of Commons, and which he could not but confess he had witnessed with indignation and disgust.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously. The Earl St. Vincent then rose to move the second resolution. He felt it would not be necessary to preface the resolution which he had the honour of submitting to the meeting, by any observations of his own, particularly after the ample address of the noble chairman on the general state of the West India colonies, and on the merits of the question they had now to decide. He should be brief, for he felt he might impair the force of what the Noble Chairman had said, and he was conscious he could not add weight to it. He would treat those who had any interest in the West India colonies, to consider one moment, the general calamity that would ensue, if any property of any description whatever which had been consecrated by the laws, should be invaded and broken down.—(Hear, hear.) If colonial property were thus to be sacrificed, what property would be left?—(Applause.) If one species of property were to be invaded, on account of some peculiar shade or distinction, who could say where such invasion would stop.—(Hear.) He remembered a case in which a man had been extremely troublesome, and was desired to move off. The fellow replied, he had as much right to be there as any body, for the land was made for mankind, whether an individual was designated the proprietor or not. If, upon the doctrine of original rights, of abstract principles, West India property consecrated by law was to be invaded, every man might approach them with the same argument. He had had the advantage of the Noble Chairman, by a residence in the West Indies, and he mixed in every thing relative to the general business carried on in that country. He did not wish to make any observations on what had fallen under his own notice, as so many of those whom he addressed resided there; but he would state, that when he lived in Jamaica, no prudent man would venture to become the proprietor of slaves without consulting their feelings. If a gang of negroes were to be purchased by a person with whom they were unacquainted, they would send a deputation to see the ground and houses which were to be allotted them, and if they declared a repugnance to be purchased, no prudent man would become their proprietor. Facts like these ought to be known, for they could not be stated except in pamphlets, in which the reader could not understand them from want of a local knowledge. The people of this country ought to know what the real system was. And unless a proprietor of an estate was determined to risk every thing on an abstract principle, the country might be brought to understand the impolicy and inhumanity of their intended proceedings. He would now beg leave to move the second resolution.

Mr. George Palmer felt extremely incompetent to follow the Noble Lord who had just sat down. Little remained for him to say but to second the resolution which had been put into his hand. There was, however, one subject on which he might ask for the indulgence of a few moments of the meeting, which was, with respect to the large amount of the shipping engaged in the West India trade. As a ship-owner, and one conversant with shipping business from his earliest years, he was probably able to say as much upon the importance of that subject as any other man. He meant to draw the attention of the meeting particularly to the comparative importance of the West India shipping with that of the shipping of the country to every other part. Upon this he would refer to the returns which had been made lately to the House of Lords—returns in themselves requiring a great deal of explanation to render them at all intelligible to the community at large. He had great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The resolution was then put from the chair and carried unanimously. Mr. Robinson, in rising to propose the next resolution, could not forbear uttering an expression of gratification at what he heard respecting the comparative value and importance of the shipping trade with the West Indies, and that of all other parts of the globe. And as to the danger and absolute ruin that might result to the colonists themselves, as well as to the mother country, by any dismemberment of these colonies, or by any depreciation in the value of colonial trade, it struck him with astonishment. But he said again that he was highly gratified at seeing such a meeting collected together at so short a notice, and he hoped and believed that the impression that would be made throughout the country by the result of that meeting, and upon His Majesty's Government, of whom he would speak with the highest respect, would have the effect of dissipating much of that delusion as to the colonies, which had so long prevailed in this country, and produce a conviction that their interests, and those of the mo-

ther country, were so identified that it was impossible to separate them, or to affect the one without materially injuring the other.

Mr. N. Gould, Chairman of the North American Colonial Association, seconded the resolution.

The following are the resolutions: 1. That, considering the awful crisis to which the British West India colonies have been brought by the pressure of pecuniary distress, as well as by alarming excitement amongst the Negro population, this meeting is desirous of expressing its opinion on the value of those colonies to the mother country, on the policy which she has lately pursued with regard to them, and on the measures best calculated to avert the impending calamity of their total loss as useful possessions of the British Crown.

2. That the value of the West India colonies to the revenue, manufacturing industry, and mercantile marine of Great Britain, may be more accurately ascertained by reference to parliamentary documents, whereby it will appear that the duties annually collected from West India produce amount to seven millions sterling; that the annual official value of British manufactures exported to the colonies is about £5,500,000; and the amount of shipping employed in the direct trade about 250,000 tons; altogether exhibiting a branch of commerce almost unequalled in point of extent, and peculiarly important on account of its national character; the whole emanating from British subjects, in British vessels, and finally returning the whole value of cultivation in the colonies into the general resources of the mother country, while the cultivator is suffering the extremity of distress.

3. That, in addition to the direct intercourse of Great Britain with her West India colonies, an extensive commerce is maintained between those colonies and the British possessions in North America, which affords employment to upwards of 100,000 tons of British shipping; and, by furnishing a market for the fish, corn, salted provisions, and lumber of British America, contributes essentially to the prosperity of that other vast branch of colonial dominion, on which, jointly with the West India trade, Great Britain depends for the employment of at least one third of her whole mercantile, marine, and consequently, for her station amongst the nations of the world.

4. That the loss of the colonies, or the abandonment of interests, thus powerfully contributing to the resources of the mother country, would inflict upon numerous branches of manufacturing industry, as well as upon the revenue, an injury of incalculable magnitude, which would never be compensated by foreign trade. So great a destruction of commerce, essentially domestic in all its relations, must not only entail ruin upon numberless private families, but would withdraw from the manufacturers of copper, iron, mill-work, hardware, woollen and cotton goods, the fisheries, the collieries, the salt provision trade of Ireland, and all the various trades connected with shipping, a source of employment on which these industrious classes have been accustomed to rely in war as well as in peace. A great commercial convulsion must follow this loss of employment while, at the same time, the revenue would be seriously affected by a great diminution of consumption, arising out of the diminished ability of the people to purchase taxable commodities, and the enormous advance of prices of all colonial articles, which must attend the abstraction of the produce of the British West Indies from the general market of Europe.

5. That the loss or abandonment of the British West India colonies would be no less injurious to the real interests of humanity than to the commerce of this country. The negroes, if unsupported by the presence, the intelligence, and capital of Europeans, would speedily sink into a state of anarchy and moral debasement; and, while a deplorable cessation of industry, in raising articles for European consumption, would thus ensue in the British colonies, an irresistible inducement would be given to Foreign colonies to increase their cultivation, and for that purpose to extend the African Slave Trade, which this country, by great exertions and expenditure of money, has long and ineffectually endeavoured to suppress.

6. That the conduct of Great Britain towards her West India colonies has neither been consistent with the principle laid down in the Parliamentary Resolutions of 1823, nor with that spirit of justice and conciliation which is so necessary to the attainment of any national object. It should never be forgotten that the system of cultivation by slave labour was established by Great Britain for her own benefit; that the Colonists are Englishmen, lawfully possessing property under the direct sanction and encouragement of the mother country, and are entitled to the security and integrity of that property; they are naturally jealous of their character and rights; on them must depend the execution of all colonial laws wherever originating, and not only are they most competent to frame regulations for the real comfort of the slave, but they have a direct interest in his welfare; so that to discredit and endanger their property by perpetual interference, and to stigmatize them as a class of persons destitute of the common feelings of humanity, can neither tend to forward the purposes of justice, of sound policy, or of real improvement in the condition of the slave.

7. That popular clamour, arising from mistaken impressions as to the real condition of the negroes, and extended to the colonies, has already produced the most disastrous effects, by alienating the affection of the slave from his master, of the master from the mother country, destroying the credit of colonial property, causing constant agitation, and thus seriously retarding those measures of gradual improvement in the condition of the negro population, which it was the object of the British legislature to accomplish.

8. That this Meeting has observed with great regret, that at a moment when relief is avowedly necessary, even to the preservation of the West India Colonies, His Majesty's Ministers have declared their intention to make

that relief contingent on the unqualified adoption of an order of the King in Council, dated November 2, 1831; a line of policy, which being virtually designed to coerce the legislative colonies, by means of fiscal or penal regulations on their produce, is most objectionable, and calculated to widen the misunderstanding between the mother country and the colonists, to increase the excitement among the negro population, and thus to precipitate the ruin of the colonies.

9. That this meeting is anxious for the adoption of such further measures of amelioration as may, on due enquiry, be found necessary to the real welfare of the negro, and consistent with the Parliamentary resolutions of 1823; a feeling in which it is convinced that all the resident planters fully participate; but this meeting most earnestly proffers relief to the acknowledged distress of the colonist only on condition of abandoning his constitutional rights.

10. That, in order to avert, if possible, the dreadful calamity of the destruction of the British West India colonies, this meeting is of opinion that immediate relief should be given to the colonies, divested of the conditions imposed by His Majesty's Ministers, and sufficient at least to maintain the colonies in cultivation.

11. That, as an act of justice to the colonists, and with a view of preventing the fatal effects of that continued excitement which has already brought the colonies to the brink of destruction, and of removing from the public mind erroneous impressions in regard to the state of slavery in the British colonies, this meeting is of opinion that a full and impartial Parliamentary inquiry, on oath, should be immediately instituted for the purpose of ascertaining the laws and usages of the colonies, the actual condition and treatment of the slaves, their habits and disposition, and the degree of their progressive improvement and civilization. The information obtained from such authority would not only remove erroneous impressions, but lead to the consideration of such further measures of amelioration as, in the words of the Parliamentary resolution of 1823 "shall be compatible with the well-being of the slaves themselves, with the safety of the colonies, and with a fair and equitable consideration of the interests of private property."

12. That petitions, founded upon these resolutions, be presented to His Majesty, and to both Houses of Parliament.

The Minister and His Wife.—Lord— and his lady occupied two sleeping apartments, connected by a sort of ante-chamber, but approached from different sides by separate staircases. His Lordship one night had brought a confidential friend into the ante-chamber, where they were, as usual discussing politics and laying down plans of debate. It was late, and every person in the house had retired to rest. In the course of conversation a reference was made to a document, and his Lordship went to procure it. The shortest way lay through his lady's bed-chamber. He opened the door of the dressing room, and in so doing made a noise. He then proceeded to the bedroom, which also he opened, hastily traversed it, uttering his lady's name in a voice of agony, and returned to his friend.

That gentleman said that he had never witnessed such a change of countenance in so short a time. Scarcely a minute had passed, and the gay smile had given place to the most ghastly and cadaverous expression that could be conceived. He hastily drank off a large glass of wine, and uttered some incoherent exclamation as to what he had seen.

As he became somewhat calmer, he told his friend, that on entering the room, he plainly saw the figure of a person, reflected by a looking glass, as lazily reclining in the opposite staircase. His wife was asleep or pretended to be so. The gentleman was dressed, and the bed was undisturbed. He went forward to the door from which the escape had been made, but it was completely closed. "Could there have been no mistake?" "Scarcely." He had seen the figure in the looking glass as plainly as ever he had seen his own face there.

"Did he know the man?" "Might it not have been a mere illusion?"

His Lordship paused; he said that business had late disturbed him and that he was not always certain at such late hours that he was perfectly clear in all his perceptions. But still there was no disputing his senses—unless, said he, with a sigh, I have lost them altogether.

He returned to the bed-room, and on coming back, said that his lady continued to be asleep, and the room was perfectly undisturbed. His wanted coolness had returned; he wanted rest; he begged his friend to dismiss the matter from his mind altogether and bade him good night.

He was never the same man again. Her ladyship lived always high in the estimation of society, but her husband never forgot the figure in the glass.

We do not vouch for the truth of a single word in this tale—we only tell the story as it was told to us, and shall not improve it by adding a single word of coloration derived from any other circumstances. This is the foundation of the *noyelle* trumped up in Blackwood.

Irish Tithes.—The following is said to be an outline of the plan Ministers intend to submit to Parliament. The Committee recommends that His Majesty be enabled to advance to incumbents of Parishes, not having received their tithes, sums of money proportioned to the incomes of each for 1831.

Chance.—"I am old enough," says Smollet, in a letter to his friend Garrick, "to have seen and observed that we are all playthings of fortune, and that it depends upon something so insignificant and precarious as the tossing up of a ball point, whether a man rises to affluence and honors, or continues in his dying day struggling with the difficulties and disgraces of life."

GEORGE BIGGS, Editor.

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POETRY.

From the Annet for 1832.

MOONLIGHT.

There are no stars: thou lonely moon, Thou art alone amid the sky; Methinks thou must be sad to hold Such solitary watch on high! 'Tis but a tale of old times— When all of feeling or of thought, And all the mysteries of the heart, Around them some fine fiction wrought— Which said that thou didst turn to earth Thy radiant eyes, to watch and weep Over the rest thou couldst not break— Endymion's passion-haunted sleep.

Beneath this moonlight false guide, They picture the immortal mind, Which seeks upon this weary earth, The love that it may never find. For though upon an eagle's wing The spirit for a while may roam, The plains need some gentler tie, And deem the wanderer asks a home; Deems that affection is that home, And gives its likeness to its hope— 'Tis pure, the beautiful, the high, Fair queen, this fable of thy love Is but the doom Fate sees apart For earth's imaginative child, Who makes a temple of the heart.

A FRAGMENT.

Life's but a vision—a moment's dream, A varied scene of sadness; Life's a dark camera—a tainted stream, Not a lot of gladness; Why then struggle with ruthless Death, To stay the last—eternal breath!

DOMINICA.

THE ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

ROSEAU, April 7. Our columns of this day are chiefly engrossed by the report of a joint committee, consisting of eight members of the Honourable Board of Council, and of the House of Assembly, on His Majesty's Order in Council of the 21 of November last, in regard to the future government of slaves in the Colonies, recommended to the adoption of the Legislature of those Islands, not immediately under the control of the Crown. It will be soon that the points referred to the consideration of the committee, and on which they were directed to report, were twofold.—By a resolution, originating with the Honourable Board of Council, the committee were called upon to report, whether, confined as was the Legislature, by the terms of the despatch of His Majesty's Secretary of State, to an unconditional adoption or rejection of the Order in Council, it would be compatible with the interests of the Colony, to submit to, or resist the demand. The House of Assembly passing over what has been perhaps elsewhere received with somewhat too much jealousy, as savouring of dictation, and desirous of giving a respectful, calm, and patient consideration to the propositions of the King's Government, directed the committee to report how far the provisions of the Order in Council coincided with the enactments already made by the legislature of the Colony, on the subject of the government and protection of the slaves, and whether any, and what parts of the Order in Council might be added thereto.

The report is now before our readers, and they will there see, that of 121 clauses, of which the Order in Council consists, the committee have recommended 50 to be adopted, some with very slight modifications; 27 are found to be anticipated by the Slave Act, passed in June last, while only 31 have been rejected, the remaining 13 clauses being such as could not be applicable to the structure of our Courts.

We congratulate the Colony, that the Legislature have so acted—we rejoice that the question has been met with a desire to deliberate, and, if possible, to legislate therein in a spirit of candour, and a willingness to discover wherein the Slave Code could be improved. When we contrast the respectful consideration which the Order in Council has received from the Legislature of this Colony, with the impression that an inopportune rejection of it would infallibly have produced, we cannot but expect, from His Majesty's Government an acknowledgment, that where it has been declared, that the provisions of the Order in Council are incompatible with the well-being of this community, such conclusion has not originated in a capacious spirit, or a desire to adhere to rooted prejudices,

but from a thorough conviction that the sudden and immense change proposed to be made in the condition of the slaves, by the enactment of the Order in Council, must be ruinous to the owner, without any adequate benefit to the slave.—Dominica Colonist.

DOMINICA.

Report of the joint Committee appointed to investigate and report their opinion, as to the alternative to be taken, whether, "unconditionally adopting or absolutely rejecting," the Order in Council of 21 November last, and how far the provisions of the Order in Council are met by the Slave Act passed in June last, and also how far the said Order in Council may be adapted with safety to the Colony, and without infringing unnecessarily on private property.

Your Committee in prosecuting the enquiry which your honourable board and house have directed them to make on the subject of His Majesty's Order in Council of the 21 November, 1831, have given to that Order, and to the various explanatory documents which accompanied it their most serious and deliberate attention. They have also been assisted, during the course of their investigation, with the statements of many of the most intelligent and opulent Proprietors in the Colony. The result has impressed on the minds of your committee the solemn conviction that to give to the Order in question the force of law, would operate, in so far as regards the interests of the owners, as a virtual emancipation of the Slaves.

In laying before your honourable board and house the reasons which have induced your committee to come to the above decision, they wish to avoid entering into any abstract argument on the subject of slavery; they are desirous of bringing this question to a plain and simple issue. They premise merely that the slave owner is justly entitled to the property he has acquired, and that he cannot lawfully be dispossessed of it without compensation; a principle which was recognized by Mr. Canning when he moved the resolutions of 1823. But the value of a slave is the produce of his labour; whenever the whole produce arising from it is required for the maintenance of the slave, it is evident that his value has become null and totally unavailable to the possessor. Such, in the opinion of your committee, would be the inevitable consequence of the operation of the Order in Council. The increased expense to which the landed proprietor would be subjected by the regulations of food, clothing, and other articles, mixed with the limitation of slave labour, would altogether absorb the small revenue at present derived from the cultivation of his estate. When to this certain and fixed annual expense, are added the probable increase of Colonial Taxation to provide salaries to the different officers, the loss of time resulting from the encouragement to litigation given by the new Code, and the very great uncertainty of the produce of labour when deprived of the power of exacting it, your committee can arrive at no other conclusion than that the combined effect of the whole enactment would reduce the cultivated planter to a worse condition than if the actual emancipation of the slaves were demanded of him. Possessing the nominal title, but without any of the authority of a master, subjected in consequence to many severe pains and penalties, he would be compelled to the almsgiving and invidious duty of providing for a population for whose labour he could have no prospect of deriving the smallest benefit; he could not even free himself from the chain thus oppressively wound round him by the voluntary manumission of his slaves, as in that case ample security would be exacted from him for the maintenance of the infirm, superannuated, and infatigable slaves, which constitute at least a third of the whole number.

In more fertile countries, the restrictions of the Order in Council may be less onerously felt, but in this Colony, where the amount of produce annually exported is but small, the enforcement of the Order would complete the ruin of every individual, who, in reliance on the good faith of the British Government and on the inviolability of the Charter which granted him an independent Legislature, had vested his all in the security of colonial property, and whose sole and dearest interests are dependent on its prosperity.

Your committee will now advert to that part of Lord Goderich's Despatch of tenth December last, wherein his Lordship declares that His Majesty's Government entertains the strongest feelings of sympathy and compassion for the increasing distress under which all persons connected with West India Property are indiscriminately suffering, and the anxiety of His Majesty's Government to relieve the Planters from some portion of their commercial difficulties. Although these Colonies, both from the immense stake of British capital invested in them, and the large amount of yearly revenue they contribute to the Mother Country, are undoubtedly entitled to its fullest protection, yet your committee would fail in doing justice to their own feelings, were they, on this occasion, to omit declaring the high satisfaction they experience in seeing recorded the expression of such sentiments on the part of His Majesty's Government. They hail it as a happy assurance that it could never have been the intention of that Government to increase upon the Planter the pressure of those evils under which he is now suffering. They feel from it a conviction that His Majesty's Government will not refuse to listen to a candid exposition of the overwhelming burden which would be imposed on the Planter by the adoption of the whole of the Order in Council. The measures which His Majesty's Government have

pointed out for the relief of the West India interest are twofold; the first is the conclusion of a Treaty with France for the suppression of the Foreign Slave Trade, by which some check would be given to the growth of foreign Sugar. The feelings of the British colonists, equally with their interests, would be highly gratified by the complete success of this measure; yet although your committee cannot call into doubt the honest intention of the French Government in acceding to the Treaty, it may appear remarkable that the *concessions of the French West India Islands*, where notoriously the Slave-Trade has been carried on to a great extent, are not included in those of the other Foreign Colonies as subject to the right of mutual search. Allowing however that this measure will prove effectual for the suppression of a great part of the trade, a lapse of many years must naturally take place before any beneficial effect could be made on the colonial market.

The other measure which His Majesty's Government have announced as their intention to adopt, in order to meet in some degree the exigencies of the West India commercial interest, is one of Fiscal regulation so devised, as to be productive of real and substantial relief; what is the extent of relief to be afforded by it, your Committee have not the power of ascertaining. It must be evident, however, that, in order to alleviate in any degree the actual distress of the Planter, the measure of relief must not only influence his present condition, but must likewise include the effect of the alteration of the existing system of slavery resulting from the operation of the proposed Order in Council.—Your Committee will now allude only to a few of the leading points of such alteration and refer to the corroborating details set forth in another part of their report. The regulations for feeding and clothing will triple the present expense of the Slaves' maintenance, while the restriction of labour will take away a fourth part of the cultivation of the Estate. The amount of these losses can be easily and correctly ascertained, but the decrease of cultivation which would in all probability arise from the changes introduced in the discipline of the Slaves, cannot be so readily appreciated and must be exposed to the test of actual experiment. Your Committee however humbly submit that they have already clearly shown that the relief to be effectual must embrace the whole value of the produce of Slave labour, and that its operation must have as permanent a duration as the law which they are called upon to enact. Under these circumstances your Committee cannot refrain from entreating a reasonable apprehension that His Majesty's Government have miscalculated the amount of the burden which the proposed code would impose on the planter; it is moreover to be feared that no Minister, in the present situation of Great Britain, would consent to relinquish so large a portion of the Imperial revenues as would be required to afford an adequate compensation to the West India Proprietor. If His Majesty's Government, without affording any explanation of the nature of the intended measure of relief, should persist in enforcing a compliance with their demands, and even inflict upon this unfortunate Colony measures of unmitigated severity, your Committee are unable to foresee any evil of greater magnitude than the total annihilation of Colonial property—an evil which would be equally effected by the enactment of the Order in Council. These considerations therefore impel your Committee to the painful but necessary duty of declaring, as the first part of the report required from them, that in the only alternative allowed by His Majesty's Government, the welfare and even existence of this Colony require that the Order in Council of the second November 1831, should be rejected.

Your Committee now proceed to the consideration of the more pleasing part of the task required from them of reporting how far the provisions of the Order in Council are met by the Slave Act passed in June, and how far the said Order in Council may be adapted with safety to the Colony and without infringing unnecessarily on private property. Before entering into a detailed examination of the provisions of the Order in Council, your Committee cannot avoid expressing their regret that His Majesty's Government should have wholly abstained from the slightest acknowledgment of the Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Slaves, passed by this Legislature the 28th of June 1831. A notice of that Act, on the part of His Majesty's Government, would have had the effect at least of shielding this Colony from many of the reproaches which Lord Goderich, in his circular despatch of tenth December, has addressed to the Colonial Legislatures generally; and had it met with His Majesty's approbation, the slave population of this island would have been deriving the benefit of the many important advantages which the Act had liberally extended to them.

The first 26 Clauses of the Order in Council provide for the appointment of a Protector and a sufficient number of Assistant Protectors, and fix the duties they are to perform. The great objection which your Committee submit with respect to the appointment of these Officers, is the utter impossibility of providing for their Salaries by any increase of the Colonial expenditure. When it is considered that the Governor receives only eight hundred pounds sterling per annum, it will scarcely be denied that this very inadequate Salary to an Officer of such high rank sufficiently exposes the poverty of the Country. Yet however His Majesty's Government would consent to appropriate a very small portion of the large amount of dis-

(Continued on the last page.)