









TO SUBSCRIBERS AND OTHERS AT BEAUFORT.

MR. C. PRITCHARD having accepted the Agency for this Paper, at Beaufort, from and after the 1st of October 1845, Subscribers and others at that place are requested henceforth to enter their names with, and pay their Subscriptions to that Gentleman.

THE ZUID-AFRIKAN

CAPE TOWN, OCTOBER 7, 1845.

If there be anything which favorably distinguishes the present administration from the former, it is certainly the adoption of a system of personal inspection and individual inquiry, when and wherever practicable, instead of depending for information on the frequently imperfect reports of subordinate officers.

The utility of this laudable way of proceeding begins to develop itself in the most striking examples, among which the contemplated opening of Du Toit's Kloof, stands certainly most prominent. Years ago, the inhabitants of that fertile part of the colony, separated from the neighbouring districts, and particularly from the principal market, by an almost unsurmountable mountain ridge, applied to Government to remove that obstacle by the opening of said Pass; and some of the enterprising individuals, who with the greatest energy of mind and sacrifice of valuable time, applied themselves to the contemplation of measures to effect that grand object, have descended into the grave, without beholding the joyful day on which it would be finally resolved to commence this most desirable undertaking.

That narrow, short-sighted policy, which looked upon every undertaking having the least appearance of difficulty as impracticable, also extended its mischievous effect to this desirable work; and, if no wholesome change had been effected in this line of conduct since the commencement of the present administration, the inhabitants of Worcester would perhaps have been doomed to flatter themselves with the pleasing idea of having devised a scheme which neither they nor their children would ever have the gratification of seeing accomplished.

This change, has now however been happily effected, and the words difficulty and impracticability seem to be entirely foreign to the vocabulary, adorning the desk of our present Secretary to Government; whilst that short-sightedness, false economy and inactivity which so unfortunately distinguished former administrations, and which not unfrequently gave rise to the affairs of the Colony being conducted more as a matter of mere chance or fortune than according to principles both sound and energetic—appear to be terms completely obsolete.

Not that we consider the present administration infallible. It also erred, perhaps most seriously; and it has often been our painful task to enter our humble protest against its proceedings or intended measures. To this mode of acting, we mean strictly to adhere in future; and, whenever we may consider it our duty to raise our voice, fearlessly to announce that we beg to differ from them on no subject or other, the present eulogium will surely not bar us, most zealously to fulfil this, our solemn obligation.

But, to proceed.—The inhabitants of Worcester, availing themselves of the visit lately paid them by the Colonial Secretary, did not fail again to bring under his notice, that all engrossing subject; and that gentleman, having had the advantage of a personal inspection, unhesitatingly declared, that the road could be made, but, with considerable expense.—The first was a good-tiding to them—the latter nothing strange. The manner of carrying out the project, was the only remaining difficulty; and in this also he endeavoured to provide by submitting to their consideration the subjoined conditions.

The hope, of seeing their favored plan realized, being thus once more revived, they immediately called a public meeting of the inhabitants; and, as might have been expected, the terms proposed, were generally approved of. Six of the most opulent among them, entered into the requisite engagements under guarantee of the others; and we have been informed that these gentlemen are now actually arranging the details of an undertaking, which posterity will, no doubt, gratefully extol; thus accomplishing, within the short space of but fourteen days, that, for which perhaps an equal number of humble petitions and a series of years, were vainly sacrificed!

Inhabitants of Worcester!—We avail ourselves of this opportunity, most fully to approve of the energy, so nobly displayed by you in the present instance; and we hope sincerely that, by the united efforts of your brethren at the Paarl,—who have an almost equal interest in the matter,—you may succeed in forwarding a work, so indispensably connected with the welfare of both your Districts.

Government is now willing to co-operate with you. The old drowsy system has, thank Heavens, been abolished, we hope for ever, to make room for the salutary disposition to promote every useful undertaking!

- The following are the terms above alluded to:— 1.—The Road from the Paarl to Worcester through Du Toit's Kloof, to be a Main Road. 2.—The Road to be laid down and made by the Central Board exclusively. 3.—The Board will apply to the Inhabitants of the Paarl to provide the funds for making the Road from that Village to the foot of the Du Toit's Mountain, and build the bridge over the Berg River. 4.—The Central Board to supply the funds for making the Road from the foot of Du Toit's Mountain to the place of Labat, on the Worcester side of the Kloof. 5.—The Inhabitants of Worcester to provide the Funds for making the Road from Labat into Worcester, and for erecting whatever bridges may be required between those places. 6.—The Divisional Board of Worcester and the Inhabitants, to provide the funds and execute the work,—under the direction of the Engineer the Central Board may appoint, of a Road from Worcester through the Hex River Kloof, the Hex River Drifts, and the Hex River Hill, to the Dray, Such line of Road to be made upon the exact line the Engineer through this line to be constructed by the Divisional Board, at such places and in such manner as the Engineer appointed by the Central Board may direct. 7.—The Road from Worcester to be made a Branch Road, and the Toll to be derived from it to be applied in the first instance to repay to the Inhabitants who have subscribed for

the road from Labat to Worcester, and from Worcester to the Dray; the money they may have subscribed for that purpose.

8.—The funds to be supplied to the Central Board for making the Road from Labat to Worcester to be paid monthly as required to the Central Board, but not to exceed upon an average £300 a month.

9.—The Subscribers to the Fund referred to in No. 8 to appoint an Agent in Cape Town who must give security to the satisfaction of that Board for the payment of these funds as required, and all correspondence respecting these funds and that portion of the Road to which they are to be applied, to be between the Central Board and the Agent so appointed.

10.—Sufficient security must be given to the Central Board that the Road will be made and completed by the Divisional Board, &c., from Worcester to the Dray, by the time the Central Board has completed the Road through Du Toit's Kloof.

We are gratified to find from the report of the proceedings of the Legislative Council, inserted elsewhere, that the inhabitants of Piketberg have entrusted Mr. Advocate Cloete with a petition, to be by him presented to the Legislative Council, praying to be favored with the benefit of a local Magistrate.

We fully agree that the residence of a Magistrate among them will be of much utility, in consequence of the great distance their village is situated from the Magistracies of Worcester and Malmesbury; and we sincerely trust, now that the Judicial Establishment of the Colony engages the attention of Government, that the prayer of the Petitioners may meet the unanimous approbation of the Council, and Piketberg may long be placed in a similar position with other favored villages; the more so, as we find ourselves borne out in this opinion by the evidence of the Civil Commissioner for the Cape Division, lately taken before the Committee of the Council.

We take the liberty to direct the attention of the Police to the large number of gamblers, who gather every Sunday afternoon between the Garden "Roode Heek" and the property of General Horp, and there carry on their pernicious games amidst the most obnoxious noise, to the great disturbance of the neighbourhood not only, but also to the vexation of those who are obliged to pass that way on proceeding to, or coming from Church.

The bark Madonna, Capt. MILLER, from Portsmouth, to Ceylon put into Table Bay on Friday evening, the 3d instant, about 7 p.m. The Captain reports that on the 26th Sept., about 10 p.m. a strong smell of fire gave reason to fear that the cargo, consisting of coals, had ignited, but no smoke was discovered until the 20th, when about 60 tons of coals were thrown overboard, in order to endeavour to reach the fire, which was supposed to be somewhat about the main hatchway; water was also copiously applied, but the smoke and vapour increasing, they made for Table Bay, which was reached at the time above stated, when the ship was beached. After discharging her cargo, the Madonna was got off again on Sunday evening last.

The laying of the foundation stone of the buildings for the intended Gas works, took place yesterday. The procession, consisting of the Free Masons of the respective Lodges in this Town, preceded by the Band of the 27th Regt., and followed by the Directors of the Company and several distinguished individuals, moved from the Commercial Exchange at about 1 o'clock p.m., surrounded by a crowd of the most anxious spectators.

We regret that we are unable to give further particulars, our application for an admission ticket, to what we considered the proper quarter, having proved fruitless. In Europe things of this nature are surely managed in a different way.

Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council met on Thursday the 21 instant, when Mr. Edden, in presenting the Petition lately adopted at the meeting of border farmers in the vicinity of the Kaga, made the following observations:—

"Before proceeding to the order of the day, believing that I am in order, I rise to present a petition which has been forwarded to me from certain inhabitants of the frontier, complaining of the insecurity of their position arising from the depredations committed by the Kaffirs. In doing so, it would, perhaps, be sufficient for me to state, that I can vouch for the petition itself being correct; in respectful terms; but disposed as I am to view the labors of missionaries and the sacred cause in which they are engaged, as deserving every encouragement and support, I may add, that I should be sorry if any intemperate and vituperative remarks reported to have been made by one or other of the speakers at the meeting from which this petition emanated, should have the effect of prejudicing the cause I am anxious to promote,—the security of the Frontier. I may take leave to observe, however, that the opinions of Mr. Bowker, the individual referred to, and on whom a good deal of odium has been cast, are by no means singular among the inhabitants of this colony, and are, on occasion, probably, by the extravagant statements occasionally put forth by some of the missionaries with regard to the success of their labors, which are, I fear, not always so correct as they ought to be. We have the example of a different course in the representations of Mr. Moffatt, who, in speaking of the results of his labors has dwelt rather upon how little had been done, and how much had been left undone; and it is greatly to be regretted that such a course has not been more generally adopted, instead of highly colored representations being put forth, as so aptly alluded to on a recent occasion by a clerical friend, whose observations on the subject are borne out by the circumstances of the case. I would add that although in utter ignorance of your Excellency's sentiments on this subject, I am not without hope, that the visit, which your Excellency has lately made to the interior, with much labor, and personal discomfort to yourself, will eventually tend, in some degree, to the removal of those illusions, under which it would seem, the good people of England labor."

The Secretary to Government hoped Mr. Edden would not press the reception of it by the Council at present; because it was unusual to receive a petition, containing as this did, allegations against the Government; and praying for alterations of the nature therein mentioned, without giving previous notice, in order that an opportunity might be afforded for making inquiry and making such comments as might be requisite. He would therefore suggest, that the hon. gentleman should move that the petition be received by the Council at its next meeting.

Mr. Edden had no objection to this course, nor was he prepared to make any specific motion or observation, beyond joining in the prayer that His Excellency and the Council would give it their serious consideration. Several suggestions put forth in it did not accord with his views, and he therefore merely gave notice that at the next meeting he would move that this petition be received. Mr. Cloete had also received a petition on the same subject from the farmers residing in the neighbourhood of Baviana's River, and gave notice that at the next meeting he would move that it be read, he had no doubt that his prayer would meet with the serious consideration of His Excellency and the Council. The hon. gentleman also gave notice that he would have to present a petition, numerous signatures, from the inhabitants of Piketberg, soliciting that they might have the benefit of a Magistrate in that locality. The matter had been brought fully before the committee appointed to inquire into the Judicial Establishment, and he would venture to say, that the prayer of the petition would receive the unanimous assent of the Council. He now moved that the petition be received. On the motion of the Secretary to Government the Council then proceeded with the order of the day for the reading of the Estimates.

Mr. Edden said, with reference to the department of the Lieut.-Governor of the Eastern Districts, he had been prepared with a motion, of which he had given notice, that the whole of the expenditure for the department be expunged from the Estimates; but as he understood that the Secretary to Government was willing to lay on the table a despatch from Lord Glenelg containing the instructions to Lieut.-Governor Stockenström, which might weigh with the Council in deciding upon the motion, he would wish this item to stand over until they had that despatch before them.

The Governor observed, it might be as well to mention that the subject was already under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. He would, however, be glad to hear the opinions of the members of the Council upon it. Mr. Edden would thus simply move that His Excellency be requested to lay the despatch referred to on the table, and that the expenditure under this head be passed over till their next meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Cloete, and agreed to. With the above exception, the whole of the Estimates, as printed were then proposed certain by the Secretary to Government, and passed, the only alterations being a reduction of £150 from Mr. Moodie, appointed to a situation at Natal; and an increase under the same head of £370, by retiring allowances to Mr. Hervey's Assistant Surveyor General, £150; Dr. O'Flinn, District Surgeon of Stellenbosch, £50; Mr. Gill, District Surgeon of Somerset, £50; Mr. Paula, District Surgeon George, £50; and Mr. Fairbridge, District Surgeon of Uitenhage, £50.

Some observations were made upon the increase of salary to the Post Master General—the allowance for the post office at Port Elizabeth, Graham's Town, and Simon's Town,—the reduction of the pension in the stamp office,—the College grant, the petition of the Roman Catholics,—Rondebosch and Wynberg Churches,—the leper and lunatic hospital on Robben Island,—the judicial and law establishments,—the cost of convicts on the roads,—and immigration.

Council adjourned till this Day, the 7th instant.

OPENING OF THE MISSIONARY CHAPEL AT WELLINGTON.

Wellington, Sept. 29, 1845.

"How amiable are thy Tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts!" (Ps. 84. 1.) was the text chosen and most eloquently expounded and impressively applied to the occasion, and to the minister the Rev. Mr. De Tuit, by our worthy and pious new Missionary Chapel in this Village on Thursday morning the 25th inst.

The service of the day was commenced something past nine o'clock by the Rev. Mr. Bissoux, the resident Missionary, and more immediate Pastor of the Chapel, reading 1 Kings, ch. 8, after which the 3rd verse of the 100 Psalm was sung, and the Rev. Mr. De Tuit ascended the pulpit, and having read the opening of the service of the day, a most beautiful and comprehending prayer, followed by the excellent sermon above described. Whilst the Psalm 96, v. 1 and 2 were being sung, Mr. Alheit, of Tisbury, entered the pulpit, and addressed the congregation from Genesis 7, v. 7, showing that every new place of worship may be considered as a new ark to which we are invited, there to find refuge from the deluge of sin which is surrounding and will refuse to seek and find salvation in Jesus Christ; and that, although many may look on like such a building should be raised, without offering any assistance. It is nevertheless the duty of every one to help with those means or abilities which they have been blessed—either to build or to pay for the building, &c. &c., ending with prayer. The 96th hymn (eng. ver.) was then sung. The Rev. Mr. Bissoux then stated, the building had cost £378 11 s. 6 d., which sum £100 had been paid by the Missionary Society of Paris, £139 18 s. had been raised by voluntary subscriptions and collections made in Wellington, the Paarl, Little and Great Drakenstein, French Hoek, Stellenbosch Division, Cape Town and Wynberg, leaving a debt of £282 13 s.

In the afternoon Mr. Melville, of the Paarl, opened the service with singing and prayer. The Rev. Mr. Barker gave an excellent sermon from 1 Kings 9, v. 3. The Rev. Mr. Arbous followed with an address and closed with prayer. The five Bibles made each a short address, in their own language which was repeated in Dutch by Mr. Arbous relating what the Lord had done for their souls and for their nation through his Missionaries. It was truly delightful to see how animated they were in the cause of Jesus Christ and his Church, for although their articulations could not be understood their countenances and gesticulations spoke volumes.

The Rev. Mr. Bissoux then closed the services of this memorable day by pouring out his heart in thanksgivings to the Most High for the assistance he had experienced in this undertaking and in praying that his labours may be blessed in this new house of prayer. The Chapel, fitted to give seats to 360 persons, was crowded to excess at every service, and hundreds were not able to enter. It is just 25 years since the Chapel at the upper end of Wellington's Valley was opened, which is still in excellent order and regularly attended. The Church in this village was completed some 54 years ago.

Truly, when we see such efforts making in every direction meet we not consider it as "a sign of the times" that the judgment of the Lord is approaching? Woe, then, to those who pay no attention to such blessings and do not seek to escape the coming condemnation.

The collections made this day, with some gifts since, have reduced the debt to £262 12 s.

CORRESPONDENT.

CONTRAST BETWEEN FRENCH ARMY AND ENGLISH LENIENCY.

Our conduct at the present day towards native tribes does certainly offer a striking contrast with the French. They burn and bake the Arabs by hundreds. We entice and allow the Moors of New Zealand to murder the British. Our Governor-General shoots hands with the murderer of Captain Wakefield. And when Russell was attacked by Heki the other day, a friendly tribe of New Zealanders having offered him assistance—they were numerous enough to save the settlement, and in fact, had protected it before—the British authorities there refused to help because they would not foster civil war amongst natives. When the accounts reached Auckland of the expulsion of the British from the Bay of Islands by the natives, the Governor increased the salary of the protector of the aborigines, and declared that he and his office were the Governor's principal dependence; whilst an unfortunate printer, who had called on his fellow-citizens to arm, was menaced with prosecution. Cannot the two greatest nations in the world hit upon a medium between humanity and barbarism?

Whilst England is acting the part of a humane society in New Zealand, the French troops have penetrated into new and untrouled regions of Africa, regions untrouled before, and of course peopled with the most wild and indomitable of the Arabs. These Ouled-Riah, as they are called, retreated to caverns, which form their fortress and abode. The French demanded their horses and their arms. It is needless to say, that to leave an Arab tribe in the latitude of the Sahara without horses or arms is simply to hand over the tribe to be destroyed by its neighbors. The Arabs refused to surrender what was as indispensable to them as life or bread. Monsieur Pellissier, the French officer commanding, proceeds accordingly to bake them in their caverns. This he did by lighting their own brushwood. The fire smelt the sufferers could no longer make known a wish to surrender. The fire was kept burning 24 hours. When it was quenched, the valiant Frenchman penetrated into the caverns of the Ouled-Riah. He discovered 800 of them, with their women and children, stretched in death. Mohamed Ali, who hunts these latitudes for slaves, never perpetrated such a work of extermination.

We talk of engaging the French to abolish the slave trade. It were better not; for if Colonel Pellissier could have sold the Ouled-Riah for slaves he would not have mercifully burned them. It is singular how character attaches to soil, as pestilence does, a gift. The Algerines were long the most ruthless savages on the Mediterranean shore. They disappear. The mild and Christian French take their place, but strange to say, they adopt African virtue too—may they, but—Herod the Algerian is cruelly; and we are sorry to see, instead of being corrected by the milder sentiments of their mother country, the Algerine French inoculate the Parisians with ferocity. The massacre of the Ouled-Riah has created small sensation in Paris. But one or two journals and one or two members of the Legislature took the matter up at all warmly. Government is not more harsh in its reproof than an assistant of a lady's boarding-school; and any further reprimand will probably be, like that addressed to M. d'Albigny for insulting and detroning Pomare, accompanied by a promise of promotion and a gift of the red ribbon. As to the Parisians, the massacre of 800 Arabs does not

seem to make more impression upon them than the flight of Mlle. Pleyssier who has lately been seduced to the Theatre Francaise, and fled to Russian protection at St. Petersburg. The Journal des Debats has for more speculations and more paths for the loss of Pleyssier than for that of the Ouled-Riah. As to the liberals, their own anxiety seems to be that the Emperor of Morocco and his subjects should be treated as if they were British. For they remain in eternal indignation at his being treated, as well as his father, as if he were a Frenchman, and at the lenience with which he has been treated. Indeed, every commander who does not draw the sword, as well as his father, is set down by the French as pusillanimous and weak, and of course meets in subservience to England. No wonder that, with such a school of public sentiment and diplomacy, the French army should produce more Pelissiers than Bayards.—Examiner.

THE SWAN RIVER NATIVES. By Mr. F. Armstrong, Interpreter to the Natives of Western Australia.

ABORIGINAL FABLE.

The natives have an absurd tradition respecting the kangaroo, the male of which is known among the different tribes by the name of yung-gung, yung-art, and ho-bett; and the female, war, war-ron, and kang-rong-oo, the latter of which names, it seems extremely probable, was the one which gave rise to that which it is now so generally known by. Whether the kangaroo was first obtained by the natives to some of your readers. The word is used by the tribes to the southward, but how far I am not certain. The fable states that the animal was originally perfectly blind, and could only walk or crawl, and consequently became an easy prey to that frog which he afterwards met as he was too weak to run or jump, and accordingly the kangaroo or slight grey-balls of the kangaroo, with some of the glaucous substance from off his own body, and then, sitting the action to the word, told it to hop as he did, and the kangaroo immediately followed his example, and thus became so difficult for the natives to catch.

NATIVE DEXTERITY.

A singular instance of the experience and boldness in climbing of the natives, was observed some time ago near the south bank of the Murray River. A opossum had made its way up a tree which was not accessible to the native who had discovered its retreat. He commenced by ascending the tree adjoining, some yards distant, when a long pole of apparently common furze wood was handed to him, and which he by some means took up the tree, until he arrived at a part where he was within twelve or fourteen feet of the other; he then managed to place the pole securely in a fork on the boughs of each tree, and then upon the fragile part walked or crept across, killed the opossum which he had devoured at a meal, and returned, leaving what he had done. The manner in which the natives find the identical track of the opossum is by examining the tree for the marks made by the animal's claws, but which alone does not generally warrant an ascent being made, for they may have been done by the wind, and if a little further up, then they are certain that they are made, for otherwise the sun would have dried the grass, which from the dew or rain of the night, had clung to the feet of the animal, and then on to the tree, and they would have fallen off. These signs being attended to, the native ascends the tree in the well-known manner, by cutting in through the bark small steps about two feet apart and four inches wide, by one or two deep. Some large, straight, thin-barked trees, which stand quite perpendicular, without any branches, and these are especially inaccessible to the natives, through these are extremely few in comparison with the other trees of the forest. Where it is the case, game seems plentiful, beaten track being numerous. Trees which lean a little are the most easy to ascend, and one which appeared to be a favoured retreat for game, was observed to be completely covered with paths or marks made by the natives year after year, upwards of one hundred and fifty cuts being visible on the trunk alone. They appear seldom, if ever, to cut in the same spot again.

NATIVE TRADITION.

The natives state that they have been told, from age to age, that when man first began to exist, there were two beings, male and female, named "Wal-yun-yup" (the father) and "Do-ronnon" (the mother); that they had a son named Bin-dir-woor, who received a deadly wound, which they carefully endeavoured to heal, but totally without success; whereupon it was declared by Wal-yun-yup that all who came after him should also die in like manner as his son died. "Could the wound but have been healed in this case, being the first, the natives think that death would have had no power over them. The place where the scene occurred, and where Bin-dir-woor was buried, the natives imagine to have been on the Southern Plains, between the Clarence and the Mitree; and the instrument used is said to have been a spear thrown by some unknown being, and directed by some supernatural power. The tradition goes on to state, that "Bin-dir-woor, the son, although deprived of life, and buried in his grave, did not remain there; but rose and went to the west, to the unknown land of spirits, across the sea. The parents followed after their son, but as the natives suppose were unable to prevail upon him to return, and they consequently have remained with him ever since." Mr. Armstrong says of this tradition, that "it is the nearest approach to truth, and the most reasonable he has yet heard among the natives;" and it is certainly highly curious as showing their belief that man originally was not made subject to death, and as giving the first intimation we have heard of their ideas of the manner in which death was introduced into the world.—Lincolnton Advertiser.

O'CONNEL AND HIS PARLIAMENT.

We find the following announcement in the Drogheda Journal:—"We have just learned that Mr. O'Connell will hold a levee on the 30th of May, for the purpose of receiving addresses, congratulating him on the result of the late prosecutions, and renewing the pledge of the Irish people to continue, under his guidance, their struggle for the repeal of the legislative union. The corporations of Ireland will attend in their robes; members of the '32 Club in their uniforms; all others in evening dress. The trades of Dublin will have a public procession on that day." If Mr. O'Connell were bent upon proving to the world that his countrymen are not fitted for self-government, and that to trust Irish affairs to the unaided guidance of an Irish Parliament would be the grossest and most criminal absurdity the Imperial Government could commit, we doubt whether it would be necessary in any degree to modify his present course in order to ensure the attainment of his object. Nay, if, as we believe, he no more expects to see the union repealed than we do, and talks of it only as the fittest object for exciting the hopes and fixing the attention of his too easily deluded countrymen, we cannot but doubt the policy, in reference only to Irish interests, of his playing so much upon, and exposing so constantly, the peculiar weakness of the national character. Putting England out of the question, what must the statesmen of Europe think of the fitness for legislative independence of a people who can be told, year after year, that the union between Great Britain and Ireland will positively be repealed in six or twelve months; and that nothing more is required to elevate at once a population of 6,000,000 or 7,000,000 from the lowest depths of ignorance and pauperism, than to leave them to govern themselves, freeing them from all connexion with a comparatively rich and intelligent, and (whatever Mr. O'Connell and his satellites may say to the contrary) a sincerely friendly neighbour? On the other hand, what must be thought of the common sense of the leaders of such a people who, with such ample scope for the wisest and most earnest exertions, can find no better mode of spending their time, and the revenue they derive from their followers, than in organizing and sustaining a system of agitation which simply barbers

the benefits of peaceful industry and gradual advancement for the inquietude and insecurity of a rebellious province? It is impossible to doubt that we owe a large debt of "justice to Ireland," and that the sooner it is paid the better. But it is equally certain that it cannot in the nature of things be paid all at once; and that the holding of a mock Parliament in Dublin—the refusal of Irish representatives to take any part in the proceedings of the Imperial Parliament—the dining together of Irish gentlemen in green coats—and a perpetual vapouring about flags and swords and fighting ridiculous in every point of view but that in which it serves to irritate and tantalise an imaginative and oppressed people—far from facilitating, can only serve to obstruct and delay the payment of the debt.—Globe.

M. THIERS.

M. Thiers is at this moment the object of much sarcastic remark in the Paris journals. "M. Thiers," says the Gazette de France, "has undertaken, without any personal interest, to promote the success of all the affairs of M. Guizot; he gave him the fortification law, the regency law, the law on the armament of the ramparts of Paris, and assisted him in obtaining the abolition of the right of search; he has in all probability been necessary to the success of M. Rossi's mission. So great is the fear of M. Thiers in the chamber, at the Chateau, in Europe, and at Rome, that concessions are unhesitatingly made to prevent his re-entrance into office."—Times, July 10.

The Paris papers of Monday, received by our ordinary express, are occupied in a great measure with the "expulsion" (as it was termed) of the Jesuits from France. Our private letters state, however, that "it was by a decision of the General of that Order, and not by command of the Pope, that the establishments of the Jesuits in France were to be broken up, discontinued, and their property sold." The effect is, however, the same.—Times.

COLONIAL CORN.

We have an instance just now of the paternal care exhibited for the welfare of our colonies, in the refusal to entertain Mr. Holt's motion for the introduction of wheat from the Australian colonies and India at the same rate as that from Canada. It is truly monstrous to think that one colony of the British Empire should have protection, and the other not, on an article of food necessary to man's existence and daily support; but the contemptible arguments put forth by the particular persons whose interests it was to be affected by it, and the small disparity in the numbers when the motion was lost, leave a hope that no offensive plea will be soon dissipated, and that Mr. Holt will only to possess a little while longer to accomplish the object of a deserving class of colonists, who can ill afford to contribute additional burdens to those necessarily incurred in conveying grain from so remote a quarter of the world.—Simons's Colonial Magazine.

THE PRINCETON'S NEW GUN.

An immense cannon, intended for the American navy, is just being finished at the foundry of Messrs. Fawcett and Co., in this town. It is of malleable iron, of a superior quality, manufactured for the purpose at the Mersey Ironworks. The weight of metal previously to being bored was upwards of 11 tons, and the gun will be about 8 tons when finished. The length is 13 feet, and bore 12 inches; outside diameter of the widest part, 27 inches, the iron varying in thickness from 3 1/2 inches at the mouth to 7 1/2 inches at the opposite extremity. The exterior is beautifully finished, bearing a polish similar to engine work, which has cost considerable time and labour. This ponderous piece of ordnance will, on its completion, be placed on board the American frigate Princeton, which is expected here shortly to receive it, and mounted on the same carriage which supported the huge cannon that burst some time back when several persons lost their lives. It is the largest ever made in this country, and will rank as one amongst many other efforts of mechanical skill and ingenuity in iron work which have emanated from Messrs. Fawcett and Co.'s establishment. Before its delivery, the gun will be tested with a double charge of gunpowder (45lb.) and two balls made for the purpose.—Liverpool Mercury.

TERRIFIC STORM IN BIRMINGHAM.

On Sunday night this town and neighbourhood were visited by one of the most terrific tempests which has occurred in the recollection of the oldest man living. Nothing like it has happened since the memorable night preceding the death of George IV. About half-past 8 o'clock distant thunder was heard in the west, and in the course of half an hour the tempest set in in right good earnest. The lightning, followed by crashes of thunder, was of the most awful description; while the rain, which fell in torrents, threatened to deluge the whole town and neighbourhood. In Smallbrook-street, Dudley-street, Barford-street, Ren-street, Digbeth, the lower parts of Daritend, and other parts of the borough, the effects of the storm were most serious to the occupiers and owners of property. Some of the streets, in consequence of the height of the flood, were rendered altogether impassable. In many of them the water was middle deep, and in more than one instance life was endangered in attempts to preserve property. It is calculated that some of the tradesmen, in the lower parts of the town (in particular grocers) must have lost to the amount of hundreds of pounds by the sudden and destructive inundation. The devastation occasioned by this awful tempest was not confined to Birmingham. It extended miles around the town. At Moseley, Harborne, King's-heath, Salford, Handsworth, and other hamlets in the vicinity, the like consequences were felt. It is stated, moreover, that at Studley and Redditch, in the immediate neighbourhood of the seat of Sir Francis Goodricke still more disastrous consequences have resulted. The truth of this statement I cannot at present ascertain; but it is satisfactory to know that at Birmingham, although much property is destroyed, no life has been lost. This fortunate result is so far a matter of congratulation.—Times, July 9.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The Erebus, Captain Sir John Franklin, and the Terror, Captain Crozier, discovery vessels, left Greenwich on Monday for their destination. Each ship has been supplied with 200 tin cylinders for the purpose of holding papers, which are to be thrown overboard with the statement of the longitude and other particulars worthy of record, written in six different languages, and the parties finding them are requested to forward the information to the Admiralty.—Col. Gazette, May 24.



