

Mr. William Lloyd

The Examiner.

AND SEMI-WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER.

"THIS IS TRUE LIBERTY WHEN FREE-BORN MEN—HAVING TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC—MAY SPEAK FREE."—MILTON'S EURIPIDES.

NEW SERIES.

CHARLOTTETOWN, APRIL 13, 1850.

VOL. I.—NO. 21.

CLEANINGS FROM PAPERS, By the last British, Foreign, and Colonial Mails.

British.

THE BUDGET.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget was delivered on the 15th inst., and, considering the number of conflicting interests which have long anticipated relief from the exactions of the Customs and Excise, the financial expose cannot fail to provoke a smile of contempt. Indeed, the number of Her Majesty's lieges to whom the Budget will impart satisfaction are, we apprehend, few and far between. The papers upon Downing-street, since it was known that the Chancellor had a surplus,—a rare circumstance with a Whig official,—has been incessant, and must have proved not a little annoying; for, while the courtesies of official life compel a patient rehearsal of all imaginable sources, the reserve in which our Ministers of State enshroud themselves for the time, makes the pang of "hope deferred" sicken the unhappy expectants. A remission of the duty of tea is quietly shelved, on the plea that the state of the revenue cannot afford it. The tax on timber, which demanded the prompt sympathy of the Government, seeing the struggle to which we are now exposed from the comparatively untaxed foreigner, seems likely, by its continuance, to throw the making of our "wooden walls" into other hands. Even the duty on soap, which, in these days of sanitary reform, might be supposed to have shocked the nerves of all who think that cleanliness is next in the category of the virtues to godliness itself, is rudely pushed aside, without a word of condolence for the outrage. As to the "taxes on knowledge," the lips of the dainty representative of the Exchequer, like the false lover in the ballad, are "forbid to speak that once familiar word." Previous Chancellors have earned funny subriquets, according to the merits or otherwise of their budgets. One of the Harings, when he filled the post, provoked the ponderous pleasantry of Sir Robert Peel for the remission of the duty on foreign asses; but of Sir Charles Wood it will be said that he is emphatically a "Brick"—a compliment that will live when he is transmitted to day!

Briefly, then, the Chancellor states that he has only a surplus of a million and a half, and the process by which he arrives at this arithmetical problem will be seen by a reference to the report. He proposes to reduce the duty on mortgage and other stamps £30,000, and to abolish the duty on bricks, amounting to £450,000. By this process he absorbs half his surplus. The remaining half he applies to the reduction of the national debt, and to the advancement of agriculture improvement in the way of drainage, &c. This, in substance, is his scheme, and it realises the philosophy of the Welsh chieftain who desired his son to go forth into the world and see how easily it was governed. The notable project of reducing the national debt by such a paltry instalment—a thimbleful of water to an ocean of liquid—will remind the reader of the equally original idea of Mrs. Partington, who hoped to empty the Atlantic with that mighty utensil—a ladle!

THE GREAT EXHIBITION.—The Royal Commission for the exhibition of Industry of all Nations have issued a statement containing, among others, the subjoined important notices: The Commissioners have fixed upon the 1st day of May, 1851, for opening the exhibition. The Commissioners will be prepared to receive and take charge of, at the expense of the Commission, all articles which may be sent to them, and delivered at a place to be named by the Commissioners in London, on or after the 1st of January, 1851, and will continue so to receive goods until the 1st of March exclusive; after which day no further goods will be received. Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant a site for this purpose on the south side of Hyde Park, lying between the Kensington drive and the ride commonly called Rotten row. From the approximate estimate which the Commissioners have been able to make, they believe that the building ought to cover a space of from 16 to 20 acres, or about one million of square feet. The productions of all nations will be exhibited together, under one general classification.

Her Majesty's Commissioners are considering the principles upon which the prize fund of £20,000 shall be appropriated, and the best mode of adjudication.—*London Examiner.*

MORAL STATISTICS.—In London there are 12,000 children under regular training to crime, 30,000 thieves, 100,000 receivers of stolen goods, 23,000 persons picked

up in a state of drunkenness, 50,000 habitual gin drinkers, and 150,000 of both sexes leading an abandoned life.

NEW PEERAGES.—The Gazette of Friday last announces the elevation to the peerage of Lord Albert Denison by the title of Baron Londesborough, and of Mr. Sannal James Lloyd by the title of Baron Overstone.

As an instance of the extent to which the London market is supplied with butcher meat from Scotland, we may mention that, within a period of 76 or 80 days, lately, no fewer than 390 tons weight of meat were despatched from our rural station to the North British Railway.

A boy has been hanged by accident at Brighton, near Bolton. Having put his neck into the noose of a rope, he was taking from the branch of a tree, he fell, and dislocated his neck.

An inquest was held on Tuesday, in Carey-street, London, on the body of John Drury, a man who came to his death in a singular manner. Drury was a painter; he lived with his wife in a garret; they had a quarrel and a fight, to which another lodger put an end; the wife then went to the lower part of the house. Drury said he would not meet his wife again by descending the stairs, but he would go down by the water-spout on the outside of the building, as he had done many times before. On this occasion he struck against some obstruction midway in his descent, and was pitched upon the stones in the yard. His skull was fractured, and the brain lacerated.

A young officer of the Guards made a wager that he would walk from London to Windsor Barracks in seven hours, accoutred as a private soldier—knapsack, haversack, musket, &c., forming a burden of some sixty pounds. The young gentleman accomplished the feat in five hours and a half. The distance is twenty-one miles and a half, and the officer performed his task without any previous training in carrying his load.

MR. ROEBUCK AND THE COLONIES.—Mr. Roebuck, in one of his recent speeches in the House of Commons, gave the following description of Colonial communities:—

"He had, for his sins he supposed, lived in a Colonial community. He knew what kind of people composed those small, narrow communities, where every body knew every body, and almost every body hated every body. (Laughter.) He could not conceive anything more horrid to a man who did not wish to be always in hot water, than to be compelled to live in a small Colonial dependency."

SIR R. PEEL ON FRENCH POLITICS.—The *Patrie* says:—"One of our friends received a few days ago a letter from Sir R. Peel. It contains the following passage:—'I have no hesitation in giving my opinion on the present state of things in France. France is a diligence full of honest people, stopped on the road by brigands, and which is waiting for the Gendarmes.'"

SUPPRESSION OF THE LONDON GAMBLING HOUSES.—Last night the numerous gaming houses in the vicinity of Jernyn-street, St. James's, Regent-street, and Leicester-square, were, by order of the Commissioners of Police, placed under a close surveillance. Two constables were stationed at the entrance of each house, to note down and describe the persons entering therein.—They will be relieved at stated intervals, the surveillance to continue, without intermission, night and day. It is anticipated that this will effectually put a stop to these places, numbers having again sprung up into existence.—*Morning Post.*

Foreign.

UNITED STATES.—THE PARKMAN MURDER.

In our last paper we gave a notice of the trial and conviction of Professor Webster for the above murder. At the close of the trial the unfortunate criminal delivered the following speech:—

Professor Webster rose, and in a very distinct voice, spoke nearly as follows:

I have desired to enter into an explanation of the complicated network of circumstances which, by my peculiar position, the government has thrown around me, and which, in nine cases out of ten, are completely distorted, and probably nine tenths of which could be satisfactorily explained. All the points of the testimony have been placed in the hands of my counsel, by whom my innocence could have been firmly established. Acting entirely under their direction, I have sealed my

lips during the period of my confinement, trusting myself entirely to them. They have not deemed it necessary, in their superior wisdom, to bring forward the evidence which was to exonerate me from a variety of these acts. The government have brought whatever consummate ingenuity could suggest against me, and I hope it will not have an undue influence upon my jury. I will not allude to many of the charges, but there is one which touches me, and that is the letter which has been produced. It is not the first I have read in the daily prints which have been distributed in my apartments, and various publications which have been made respecting them. One statement was that I had, after the disappearance of Doctor Parkman, purchased a quantity of oxalic acid to remove the stains of blood, and it instantly occurred to me that this parcel might be saved and produced when necessary. For several days Mrs. W. had requested me to purchase some acid for domestic use, and as my wife had repeatedly laughed at me because I had not purchased it, I had borne it in my mind that afternoon, and had gone into Thayer's store, under the Revere House, and made the purchase, and waited till the Cambridge hourly came along and then jumped into the omnibus with the bundle. I went home and gave the bundle to my wife; and when afterward I heard so much said about the bundle, it flashed on my mind in a moment that this must be the bundle. It was to this bundle, and not to any document, that I referred in the direction to my wife. The letter had no reference to the notes which were found and placed in the trunk of Mr. Cunningham. In regard to the Rev. Dr. Parkman, I think he did not do me justice. In my conversation with him he certainly spoke to me of his brother's aberration of mind, and other circumstances which he did not mention. As regards the nitrate of copper in the usual lecture preceding my arrest, I had occasion to use the influence of chemical agents in producing changes of various subjects. Among others on gases, I prepared a large quantity of oxalic acid gas. A gallon jar was filled with gas in order to produce the changes from dark color to orange, and also in air. On great heat being applied to the jar the gas was drawn through water. As to the nitrate of copper spilled on the floor of the laboratory, it was spilled accidentally from a quantity and by me, in my lectures between the day of Dr. Parkman's disappearance and my own arrest. So I might go on explaining a variety of circumstances which have been distorted. My counsel have pressed me to keep calm. My very calmness has been made to bear against me; but my trust has been in my God and in my own innocence. In regard to money, I must say a word. The money which I paid to Dr. Parkman on the afternoon of Friday, Nov. 23, I had saved up from time to time and kept it in a trunk in my house in Cambridge; but, unfortunately, no one ever saw me take it out—therefore, I can only give my word that such is the fact. Several years ago I had students who were in the habit of being in my laboratory and who injured my apparatus; therefore, I prepared every thing for my own use in my lectures with my own hands, and that is the reason why I excluded persons from my laboratory. As regards my whereabouts from the hour of Dr. Parkman's disappearance, I have put into my counsel's hands satisfactory information, which will account for every day I had spent during that week—for every day and every hour I never was absent from home. As to being seen by Mr. Sanderson, I was at home every evening. One thing that has been omitted by my counsel was, that on the Friday on which the alleged murder was said to have been committed, I had purchased Humboldt's new work "Cosmos," and while waiting for an omnibus, stepped into Brigham's to take a mutton chop, and in coming out to take the omnibus had forgotten my book, but after my arrest remembered the place where I had left it, and mentioned it to my counsel. They had sent to Brigham's, and the book had been found.

The Professor here sat down, but almost instantly arose and said—

I will say one word more. I have felt very much distressed by the production of those anonymous letters, more so than by any thing that has occurred during the trial. I call my God to witness, that if it was the last hour of my life, I never wrote those letters. Since the trial commenced a letter has been received from this very "Civis" by one of my counsel. If this person has a spark of humanity, I call upon him to come forward and clear me of this imputation.

Professor Webster again took his seat, having evidently made a deep impression upon all present by the seriousness of his remarks, and the earnestness of his manner.

The Judge then charged the Jury at considerable length.