

DINNER TO LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

On Wednesday, the Directors of the East India Company gave a grand dinner, at the London Tavern, to Lord Ellenborough, the newly-appointed Governor General. The chair was occupied by Mr. Lyall, M. P.; supported, on the right, by Lord Ellenborough, the Duke of Wellington, the Earl of Lincoln, Earl Delawarr, the Earl of Rosslyn, Sir Robert Peel, Mr. Goulbourn; and, on the left, by the Deputy Chairman of the Hon. East India Company, Lord Wharnclyffe, the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Jersey, Lord Hill, Lord Fitzgerald, with other distinguished guests.

The Chairman having proposed "The Health of their noble guest,"

Lord Ellenborough, in acknowledging the compliment, assured them that he knew too well the difficulties of his situation, not to feel much apprehension that no endeavours of his, however well-intended and directed, could effect one-tenth of the good he desired; but, if there was any one thing which qualified him, rather than any other man, for the office he now held, it was that, placed at the head of the India Board, thirteen years ago, by his noble friend (the Duke of Wellington) near him, he had, from that time to the present, constantly and confidentially communicated with him upon every subject relative to the affairs of India—(cheers)—endeavoured to make himself master of his general views, and the principles on which he would conduct the government of that country and of the army; and happy would it be for India, if, in making himself acquainted with those general views and principles, he should have had the good fortune to imbibe any portion, however small, of the practical knowledge and the intuitive wisdom which his noble friend ever brought to the consideration of public affairs. He felt that in going to India he went strong in the noble Duke's confidence, (cheers,) and that, he might say, was one chief support of the Government he went to administer. (Cheers.) He felt also that he was about to succeed a man who, in the office of Governor-General, had, he rejoiced to have this opportunity of declaring, exhibited great practical ability in the administration of affairs. (Cheers.) Yet he felt he had much to do—to terminate the war in China by a peace honourable to the Crown and durable in its provisions; to restore tranquillity to both banks of the Indus; in a word, to give peace to Asia—a peace giving that sense of security to the people, without which peace itself is valueless; and, by means of that peace, to create surplus revenue, the only true security for great public improvements—for liberal, even for honest government; by means of that surplus revenue, to emulate the magnificent benevolence of Mahomedan Emperors in the great works of public improvement, and, more than all, by gradually, cautiously, having regard to the prejudices and feelings of the natives, imparting to them all we know of arts and civilization, so as at once to elevate the character and better the condition of that generous and mighty people. (Cheers.) He did know something of the country whose government he was about to administer. He went there with the most unbounded confidence in the army and the people. He trusted to the power of inflexible justice in administering the government, a power greater perhaps amongst uncivilized than among more advanced nations—he trusted to that power for obtaining the willing obedience of a grateful people. Deeply impressed with the high moral responsibility imposed on this country by Providence, when it placed under the government of this distant nation that great empire, he still trusted that, administering the government with the best intentions, the entire devotion he made of himself would produce some benefit to the public service. He went to India without having made one single promise. He should land in that country free, and determined to select for every office the person who to him seemed best qualified to fill it. The government of India should not be the government of a party, but the government of the people. Going with these feelings, he did trust that he might obtain some portion of the favour of Providence on his exertions, which should solely be directed to the public good, and the advancement of the united interests of England and India—of his native and his adopted country. (Loud cheers.)

Sir R. Peel said—It was not from any light consideration that he could have been induced to forego, at the present important and arduous crisis, the assistance and co-operation of his noble friend whom they had now met to honour. He could look back upon an official connection with him of fifteen years' duration, uncheckered by a single instance of misunderstanding or difference upon public affairs. (Cheers.) There was no one more capable than he was of estimating the value of his assistance, as a colleague, at this momentous crisis. He knew the value of his assistance, from a knowledge of his high integrity, his strict honour, his great ability, his indefatigable industry, and, added to all these, that power of expression, of which he had himself to night given so forcible an illustration. But when he considered whose services, within the range of public men, would be most available for India; when he thought of a man, whose powerful intellect had been especially applied to the affairs of India, having acquired a knowledge of its concerns not possessed by any other civil servant of the Crown, except that illustrious man to whom no parallel could be set up—(loud cheers)—when he recollected that that knowledge could not be acquired by any industry, however persevering, but only when stimulated and prompted by the deepest interest in the welfare of the country which was the object of its solicitude; when he knew what were his noble friend's enlarged views of political economy; when he knew the deep interest he took in the welfare of the natives of India, the great object of his ambition being to consolidate the empire of India, founded, not on the narrow edge of the sword, but on the wider foundation of the happiness of the great body of the people, he then could not reconcile it to himself to throw any difficulty in the way of his noble friend's appointment to India, although it compelled him to forgo the aid and co-operation of a most valued friend and colleague. (Loud cheers.)

The Duke of Wellington must say, that upon no former occasion had he known of an appointment to the great office which his noble friend now filled, which was so calculated to secure all the great interests involved, as they were now met to celebrate. (Cheers.) Not only had his noble friend been celebrated among the great statesmen of this country by his talents, by his known sense of justice, by his zeal and integrity; but, as he himself had stated, he had been selected upon three different occasions to fill the office of Chief Commissioner for the Affairs of India, and he had devoted all his talents in order to make himself master of all the details of those affairs, and to acquire a knowledge of all the interior arrangements of that country. He

felt convinced that the Court of Directors could not have made choice of any other person so qualified as his noble friend for the great and important office he was called upon to fill; and he fully concurred in the advice tendered to her Majesty, to give her consent to the appointment, although he felt with his right hon. friend (Sir R. Peel) all the disadvantages of losing the assistance of so great an ornament to the Government of the country. His noble friend had stated to them the principles on which he proposed to administer the government entrusted to his care; and all must be satisfied, if he carried those principles into execution, he must succeed in attaining the object of their wishes—the prosperity of the country, and the satisfaction, contentment, and happiness of the people. His noble friend had stated his anxious desire to co-operate in restoring peace and commerce to China, which he sincerely hoped and trusted he would do, in conjunction with her Majesty's servants in this country. (Cheers.) He likewise trusted that his noble friend would have it in his power, by putting a final termination to the great questions which have been contested in the north-west of India, to restore peace on that frontier and in the centre of India, and thus give permanent peace to the possessions under the superintendence and administration of the East India Company, thus enabling them to apply their great resources still further to promote the happiness and prosperity of the country over which they were placed.

THE FIRE AT THE TOWER OF LONDON.

The fire in the western angle of the Great Armoury was, throughout the whole of Thursday, raging furiously, although in the eastern part of the ruins it was entirely extinguished. Applications for admission became so frequent, that it was agreed that the chief clerk of the Ordnance Department should issue a certain number of tickets of admission, without which no one was permitted to pass.

On entering the grand doorway, in the centre of the building, a view is at once gained of the whole area of the Armoury, from east to west. Its bare walls, and the broken stone-work round the windows, present a melancholy picture. The weapons of ancient and modern warfare are lying in large mounds between the shattered basements of the pillars which supported the oak flooring of the Small Armoury, and on either side are fused gun-barrels, swords, &c. From the basement of the Armoury, immediately behind the great anchor, is a passage, the brickwork of which is much broken, communicating with an immense warehouse, filled with stores. The flooring of this place was entirely covered with gun-flints, percussion-caps, ramrods, bayonets, &c.; the former, from the extreme heat, had become vitrified, and, having united with some of the molten copper, presented a singular appearance. Numbers of ladies were to be seen raking for some ancient and curious relic.

In consequence of innumerable applications from privates in the Fusilier Guards, to be permitted to take some relic in commemoration of the fire, Captain Davis, the adjutant in command, directed that a basket of flints should be brought out, and they were distributed amongst them.

The Lord Chamberlain arrived shortly before one, for the purpose of inspecting the Crown jewels. The Countess Delawarr and the Ladies West accompanied the noble earl. The jewels were found to correspond exactly with the inventory. Their immediate removal to Messrs. Rundle and Bridge's, of Ludgate-hill, was ordered, for reburnishing, prior to their being deposited in the new Jewel-house.

At ten o'clock on Friday morning, the whole of the battalion of the Scotch Fusilier Guards were assembled on the Grand Parade, to hear the Regimental Orders from Lord Hill read by desire of his Grace the Duke of Wellington. Adjutant Davis then read the Regimental Order, which was in effect as follows:—

"That Lord Hill has been desired by his Grace the Duke of Wellington, Constable of the Tower, to express his unqualified approbation of the bravery and good conduct of the first battalion of the Scotch Fusilier Guards during the late conflagration, in arresting the further progress of the destructive fire, and also their general good behaviour on the occasion." &c.

In consequence of this Regimental Order, the Acting-Commanding Officer, Colonel Colville, was pleased to grant a free pardon to all the men in the garrison undergoing punishment. The battalion then dispersed.

On the same day, a letter was read from the Duke of Wellington, addressed to Major Elrington, in which he says:

"I beg to communicate to the Officers of the Tower, and the Warders, the expression of the sense which I entertain of the zeal, alacrity, diligence, and intelligence which they displayed in the performance of the laborious duty imposed upon them, in consequence of the occurrence of the late calamitous event in the Tower. I selected them for the appointments which they held in the Tower, for these very qualities in their several regiments, and I am happy to find that the public have had the advantage of being served by men of this description."

During the whole of Saturday a crowd of persons thronged about the entrance of the Tower, anxious to obtain permission to inspect the ruins. None, however, were admitted without a Governor's order. In the course of the day a letter was received by Major Elrington, and read before the Yeomen of the Guard, from the Lord Chamberlain's office, conveying Her Majesty's full approbation of the prompt, judicious, and effectual steps taken for the removal of the regalia of the Crown to a place of security within the Major's own residence, and requesting him to make known to the warders and others who assisted in the removal of the regalia, Her Majesty's commendation of their steady and praiseworthy conduct.

It having been announced that the Rev. Henry Melville, the recently-appointed Chaplain to the garrison, would preach in St. Peter's Chapel, on Sunday morning, the greatest interest was manifested to obtain admission. The whole of the officers on duty in the garrison attended, and the Adjutant-General, Sir J. McDonald, the family of Lord Hill, and the Lady Emily Seymour, were among those present. Prayers were read by the Curate, the Rev. Henry Thomas, who returned thanks on behalf of the garrison for their deliverance from the dangers of the late conflagration. Mr. Melville took his text from the Second Epistle of St. Peter, chap. iii. ver. 11—"Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness," and expressed his conviction that it was the duty of ministers, on extraordinary occasions like the present, assembled as they were amid the ruins of that which was once so stately, to extract from it some profitable theme for observation and reflection.

In the very voluminous accounts which have appeared from day to day, of the breaking out and progress of the fire, the fact of the very narrow escape which the whole of the buildings in the Tower had from total destruction, has not been presented in anything like its alarming and striking truthfulness. The relation of a few incidents, in proof of this observation, incidents which, in the excitement that has characterized the melancholy occurrence, have been either very slightly adverted to, or altogether overlooked, will, it is presumed, not be uninteresting.

It may be premised that the wind on the night of the fire blew very gently from the north-east. Had it been from the north-west, no human efforts could have saved from entire destruction the Jewel-house, as well, as it is thought, the greater portion of the Jewels. The flames in the direction of the Jewel-house were, however, notwithstanding the wind was in the quarter mentioned, of the most fearful violence, and it was only by judicious and great exertions that the houses of the parade, running south from the above precious depository, were saved from destruction. The roof of the house at the north-end of the parade slightly projects beyond the side wall, and underneath this the flames from the Grand Armoury played. They made their way into the roof, and, as the accounts have already stated, it was in contemplation to blow up the house as well as the east wing of the Grand Armoury with powder; but upon cutting away the roof of the house in question, the firemen were enabled to direct the jet of the floating engine upon and arrest the flames. By this time the wind had shifted to the south, and the exertions of the fire-brigade were of course carried on with greater effect than when it was in the former quarter. The buildings of the Parade on the west were in equal danger of destruction, as will be perceived from the following details of what was going on in that quarter. When the fire had reached the western extremity of the Grand Armoury, much anxiety was manifested about the safety of St. Peter's Church, where the ashes of so many of our illustrious dead repose. A party of the fire-brigade, under the direction of Mr. Braidwood, made their way upon the roof, the lead upon which was in a liquid state, and they found it necessary to lay it under water before they could venture upon it, and then to hold the branches of the hose in an upright position, and let the water play upon themselves, so intense was the heat from the Grand Armoury. While upon the roof of the Church, the brigade men perceived that great danger was to be apprehended from the vicinity to the Armoury of a pattern room, a two story brick building running along and adjoining the north side of the church. Great difficulties arose at this point; the tiled roof was becoming red hot, and the tiles, split by the heat, were flying about in all directions; added to which, almost super-human efforts were necessary to procure a supply of water sufficient to beat back the flames of the Armoury, the windows of which are within a few feet of those of the pattern-room alluded to. The intensity of the heat from the Armoury prevented the tanks in front of it from being made use of, and the water was conveyed to the top of the Tower from the School-house lane engine, which worked out of the moat, and played into the West of England engine, and from the latter the water was pumped into the engine of the well close square station. Having rendered the roof of the pattern room a tenable position, by playing upon it, and also again upon themselves, the brigade men cut a hole in the roof, through which Mr. Braidwood and others descended. They found the flames coming through the windows, and but for their timely arrival the whole of the building would, in a few minutes, have been in flames. Had this building fallen a prey to the conflagration, there is much probability that a great portion of the houses on the west of the parade would have also been burned down; indeed, the front windows of Mr. Cooper's house, which is situated at the north-west-angle, were all broken by the heat of the fire, and the whole of the furniture was moved as a precautionary measure, and a portion of the roof of the pattern-room cut away by the military, for the purpose of interrupting the communication.

It has been barely noticed that the White Tower was in danger, but those who had opportunities of forming a correct judgment are of opinion that it had a very narrow escape indeed from destruction. It was observed to smoke, and small portions of the stone flew from it with a loud cracking noise. So great, in fact, was the danger, that six engines were directed to play upon it, which the brigade continued to do until driven away by the intolerable heat of the Grand Armoury. Immediately after this, the wind providentially shifted round to the south, and to this, perhaps, is to be greatly ascribed the escape of the White Tower from entire destruction.

RESTORATION OF THE JEWS.—How inexpressibly important to the world is, then, the restoration of the Jewish people! How incomprehensible the ways of God! Stiff-necked and rebellious as Moses called his people—idolatrous and wicked as the prophets describe them to be—obstinate and unbelieving as we behold them—they have been chosen of God as the instruments of his mercy, and the heralds of his salvation; and with their destinies is indissolubly bound up the happiness of the human race. With what respect and pity, then, should we now behold them; and with what earnestness should we pray and labour for their restoration to the divine favour. The Church's duty is to go and teach all nations; and, far from circumscribing efforts for the conversion of the heathen, I would desire to see them multiplied an hundredfold. But still, with the scripture before me, I cannot but believe that the Jews have the first claim upon the Church's efforts; not only because of past benefits conferred, or because God, by placing them in the very bosom of the Christian church, has especially commended them to her care, but because the great object of all the church's prayers and labours—the conversion of the world, and the happiness of mankind—cannot be attained until the Lord arise in Zion—cannot be seen upon her. Until then, darkness must cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. The faithful labourer amongst the heathen will always have souls for his hire; but nothing else than the receiving of the Jews can be as life from the dead to the world.—Dr. M'Caul's Sermons.

COMING NEAR THE MARK.—It is amusing to observe how frequently complaisant persons will say "Yes," or "I believe you are right," in reference to subjects of which they know nothing. There is evidently a desire to come up to the standard of information assumed by the questioning party, especially if that party be one whose good graces are to be conciliated. This habit should be avoided.

A good temper, a good library, a good wife, and a good friend, are the four choicest blessings of human life.

GREAT MINDS IN SMALL BODIES.—It would little exertion to memory to swell the list of great men in diminutive frames, who, "*ingentes animos anguste corpore versant.*" The names of David, Alexander, Pepin, Tamerlane, Napoleon, are best known among rulers of the earth; and in private eminence the names of Horace, Pomponatius, Fracastor, Vida, Galilee, Pope, Rousseau, Wilberforce, Grattan, Curran, Erskine, Sir Humphrey Davy, Vandeau Chief Justice, and so many more, among whom are some living men—Guizot, Thiers, and Lord John Russell, who are the *homunculi exilis stature*, of Demosthenes.—*Temple's Magazine* for November.

PRECAUTION TO SAVE CHILDREN FROM BEING BURNED.—The use of a simple fire-guard, made of wire, will save many lives. Linen pinafores are much less liable to take fire than cotton. It ought also to be known in case of the clothes of a child taking fire, the means of extinguishing the fire is by throwing the child on the ground and wrapping it in a blanket, or a woollen cloth of any kind. As long as the child is in an upright position, the flames from the clothes rise fiercely, and mount up to the head, owing to the tendency of flame to rise upwards; if the child is laid down, the flames would instantly become feeble, and it would be much more easily extinguished. Another the fire by wrapping the child in a woollen cloth, is a far quicker and safer mode than tearing the burning clothes piecemeal. After a burn no application is better than a plentiful sprinkling of flour.

AGE OF ANIMALS.—The age of a bear rarely exceeds 20 years; a dog lives 20 years, a wolf 20, a fox 14 or 15 years; Lions are long-lived; Pompey lived to the age of 150. The average of cats is 15 years; a squirrel lives seven or eight years; rabbits seven. Elephants have been known to live to the great age of 400 years. Alexander the Great had conquered one Phorus, King of India, he took a great elephant which had fought valiantly for the King, and named him Ajax, and dedicated him to the sun, and let him go with this inscription:—"Alexander, the son of Jupiter, hath dedicated Ajax to the sun." This elephant was found to live to the age of thirty years; rhinoceroses to the age of 25 to 30. Camels sometimes live to the age of 100. Stags are long lived. Sheep seldom exceed the age of 10. Cows live about 15 years. Curriers consider it probable that whales sometimes live 1,000 years. The dolphin and porpoise attain the age of 30. An eagle died at Vienna at the age of 104 years. Ravens frequently reach the age of 100. Swans have been known to live 300 years. Mr. Mallerton has the skeleton of a swan that attained the age of 200 years. Cans are long-lived. A tortoise has been known to live to the age of 107.

BURIAL OF SIR JOHN MORE.—The proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, just published, contain many other communications of much interest, one from Mr. Luby, of an autograph letter from the Rev. Mr. Wolfe (post mark Sept. 6, 1816) to his friend Mr. Taylor, at Clonoulty, Cashel; and containing a complete copy of his "Ode on the Burial of Sir John More." This proof, if any had been wanting, to refute the absurd surmises and foolish claims about this noble composition, would set them at rest for ever; and it is precious, as giving correctly the author's own version, which has been strangely deformed in copies and translations.

ECCENTRIC OLD MAID.—Mrs. Sarah Bedwell, spinster, at Woodbridge, died on the 15th ult., aged ninety. She was formerly housekeeper to Mrs. Doughty, and, her penurious habits, had accumulated considerable property. In a tin canister were found more than seventy sovereigns, cash in the bank, and mortgages amounting to about £15,000. She had in her possession chemises, 30 bonnets, 25 silk gowns, four dozen damask table cloths, and a chest of bedclothes; and yet, she died pined covered with merely a piece of old carpet, and out a nightcap.—*Ipswich Express*.

QUICK BUT GRAVE RETORT.—"If I were so unlucky as to have a military officer, as to have a stupid son, I would certainly make him a parson." A clergyman, who was in company, calmly replied, "You think differently, but from your father."

MEND YOUR FIRST FAULT.—The Queen of George III. once said to Whiston, "I hear you are good at telling persons their faults; now, as every body has some fault or other, I should like to know what you have observed wrong in me." Whiston would have evaded the question, but the Queen was not to be denied. "Why then, madam," said Whiston, "the people complain that you talk to the King when at chapel, instead of minding the service." "I believe," answered her Majesty, "there is some truth in what you say. But now tell me of another fault." "No, madam," said the old monitor, "let me see you mend the first, before I mention another."—*Memoirs of George IV.*

"Enjoy the blessing of this day," says Jeremy Taylor, "if God sends them, and the evils bear patiently and sweetly; for this day is only ours; we are dead to yesterday, and we are not born to to-morrow."

The most trifling actions that affect a man's credit are to be regarded. The sound of your hammer at five in the morning, or at nine at night, heard by a creditor, makes him easy six months longer; but if he sees you at a billiard table, or hears your voice at a tavern, when you should be at work, he sends for his money the next day.

A chemist in Albany, a few weeks ago, expatiating on the late discoveries in chemical science, observed that snow had been found to possess a considerable degree of heat. An Irishman present, at this remark, observed—"that sure chemistry was a valuable science, and (anxious that the discovery might be made profitable) inquired of the chemist, "what number of snowballs would be sufficient to boil a tea-kettle?"

The annual income of George IV., as Prince of Wales, was discharged by his father George III. out of his own private income; £50,000 was settled on the Prince, to be paid out of the civil list; and all that was demanded was £60,000 as a temporary aid to equip him at his outset in life.

"What will London become?" is a question which may well be asked when the rapid extension of its numerous streets, squares, &c. is contemplated. One contract, recently entered into by Messrs. Cubitt, the eminent builders, is for six thousand houses near Belgrave-square. The sewerage of the ground, now in progress, will alone cost no less a sum than £25,000.

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