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From late Papers.

LIFE AND CAMPAIGNS OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

POLITICAL CAREER.

In 1825, when a mania for a joint-stock companies, similar to the railway hallucination of 1847, seized the public minds, his Grace exerted himself greatly to restrain the infatuation of the English capitalists; and, as an acknowledgment of his public services in this respect alone, he was invited to a splendid banquet, and presented with a magnificent silver vase, worth £1000.

In 1826, the reaction attendant upon this commercial infatuation burst upon the country. The distress was of the severest description. On the 4th of March, the Gazette contained 93 bankrupts. At the Duke's suggestion, small notes were re-issued at the Bank of England, and this joined to the large amount of new coin minted, at last put an end to the embarrassment.

His Grace was also appointed, with Sir Robert Peel and other leading members of Parliament, one of the commissioners for Indian affairs. The Duke of York dying on the 5th of January, the Duke of Wellington was appointed on the 24th his successor as Commander-in-Chief and Colonel of the 1st Grenadier Guards. On the 10th of March his Grace was installed in the office of High Constable of the Tower, with a salary of £1000 per annum, to commence from the date of his appointment. At the same time, he was appointed Custos Rotulorum of the Tower Hamlets, with a much greater salary. The Prime Minister, Lord Liverpool, having died of apoplexy on the 17th of February, after holding office since the 9th of June, 1812, the King nominated Mr. Canning as his successor. Upon this, the Duke of Wellington and six other of the principal members of the old Cabinet retired, his Grace resigning the command of the army on the 30tq.

This secession, which has been severely criticised, caused the failure of Canning's Ministry, and was succeeded by Lord Goderich, whose government was short-lived. When he resigned, the Duke of Wellington was instructed to frame a Cabinet. This he accordingly did, resigning the command on the 15th of February in favour of Lord Hill. Mr. Huskisson showing some insubordination, was soon dismissed from the Cabinet; from which his friend Lord Dudley, as well as Mr. Charles Grant and Lord Palmerston, also seceded. His late Majesty (William IV) taking offence at a remonstrance made by the Duke of Wellington, upon the expensiveness of his habits, also resigned his office of Lord High Admiral. His Grace's mode of life as Prime Minister was such as might have been expected from his previous military career. He slept on an iron camp bedstead; rose regularly at seven; breakfasted at eight, and immediately commenced his official duties. He was the terror of the idlers at Downing-street. On one occasion, when the treasury clerks told him that some mode of making up the accounts was impracticable, they were met with the curt reply, 'Never mind; if you can't do it, I'll send you half-a-dozen pay-sergeants that will'—a hint they did not fail to take.

One of the reforms with which the Duke of Wellington's name is indissolubly connected, is the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts, which he triumphantly carried during the session of 1828, in spite of the fierce opposition of Lord Eldon, and other tories of the old school.

Another measure of a similar nature, was the Roman Catholic Relief Bill. His Grace had shown himself, when chief secretary for Ireland, leniently disposed towards this large branch of his Majesty's subjects. The question had been agitated for many years; and his Grace's Cabinet, after resisting the popular demands for some time, at length determined to yield, and to perform this act of justice. Mr. Peel (the late Sir Robert) then sat for the university of Oxford, and the first intimation of the ministry's determination was his resignation. This step caused a prodigious sensation in the political world, and the university marked its displeasure by electing Sir Robert Inglis in the room of the 'Apostate.' It would be a long task to describe the struggle which took place in both houses; but during the session of 1829, Mr. Peel carried it through the commons by a majority of 160 on the second reading, and 178 on the third; and the Duke himself passed it through the Lords by a majority of 105 on the second reading and 104 on the third. It received the royal assent on the 13th of April. On the 19th of March, the Earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham, a determined opposer of the bill, offered the Duke what his Grace considered an insult. A new scholastic institution, called King's College, having been opened in the Strand, to counteract the tendencies of that in Gower-street, his Grace had been selected as patron. Lord Winchelsea wrote to Mr. Colerage, the secretary, in the following terms :—

'I was one of those who at first thought the plan might be practicable, and prove an antidote to the principles of the London University. Late political events have convinced me, that the whole transaction was intended as a blind to the protestant and high church party; and that the noble Duke, who had for some time previous to that period determined upon breaking in upon the constitution of 1688, might the more effectually, under the cloak of some outward show of zeal for the protestant religion, carry on his insidious design of for the infringement of our liberties and the introduction of popery into every department of the state.''

The Duke of Wellington demanded a retraction, which his lordship declined to give, and the preliminaries having been settled by Sir Henry Hardinge on the one hand, and the Earl of Falmouth on the other, the two peers had a hostile meeting, on Saturday, the 21st of March, in Battersea Fields. His Grace fired without effect, the Earl discharged his pistol in the air, and the parties then left the ground. Lord Winchelsea afterwards published the retraction demanded of him by his Grace.

On the 20th of January, 1829, his Grace was appointed governor of Dover Castle, and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports; and he soon afterwards added the whole of the Silchester property to his estate in Hampshire, so that his domains acquired a circuit of thirty miles, and his mansion could be approached by a direct avenue, eight miles long, across his own land.

In 1830, the Duke's government fell. The ranks of his supporters had been thinned by the malcontent Tories, who kept aloof in high dudgeon at his Relief Bill; nor did he receive any permanent support from the Whigs and Roman Catholics : and now a cry had been raised for reform. This the Duke refused, and the result was considerable popular excitement. His Grace himself did not escape personal insult, and considerable damage was done to his property. The new King, William IV., had intended to have been present at the city feast at Guildhall, but the ministers had received such information, as not only induced them to advise his Majesty not to attend it, but caused the Duke of Wellington to have the Tower moat filled, and to put that ancient fortress in a state of defence. For this the cabinet were subjected to severe animadsionsby the opposion, but the Duke's account of the matter at once affords a complete answer to their objections, and puts his Grace's character in a most amiable light. 'I would have gone,' said he to Sir William Knighton, 'if the law had been equal to protect me, but that was not the case. Fifty dragoons on horseback would have done it; but that was a military force. If firing had begun, who could tell when it was to end? one guilty person would fall, and ten innocent be destroyed. Would this have been wise or humane, for a little bravado, or that the country might not be alarmed for a day or two? It is all over now, and in another week will be forgotten.'

On the 15th November in this year (1830) ministers were defeated on Sir Henry Parnell's amendment, appointing a select committee to inquire into the civil list, by a majority of 27; and on the the following evening his Grace and Sir Robert Peel announced the resignation of the cabinet. Lord Grey was named as his successor, Lord Hill, however, continuing at the Horse Guards.

On the 24th of June, 1831, Lord John Russell recommenced the reform discussion, and the bill was carried on the 19th July, by a large majority. On the following day it was carried up to the lords by upwards of 100 members, headed by Lords Althorpe and Russell, and was delivered to the Lord Chancellor. It was read for the first time *pro forma*, and the 3d of October was fixed for the second reading. The popular excitement was immense. The corporation presented an address to the king, praying for reform; and the mob which accompanied them to the palace, proceeded to St. James's-square, and broke the windows of Lord Bristol's mansion, and then passed on to Apsley House, where they were guilty of a similar act of violence. His Grace has never had his windows repaired. Lord Grey re-introduced the bill in the following March, when the opposition being weakened by the desertion of the Bishop of London and other lords, the bill was read a second time by a majority of nine,—upon which, the Duke and 74 other peers entered their protest on the journals. When their lordships re-assembled, it was proposed to take the question of enfranchisement first; and Lord Grey, being defeated, waited on the king and gave him the alternative of either creating a sufficient number of new peers or of accepting his resignation. His Majesty accordingly sent for Lord Lyndhurst, and desired him to communicate with the Duke and Sir Robert Peel; but both being intractable on the reform question, the king recalled Lord Grey. So popular was this step that the opposition gave up the contest, and the bill received the royal assent by commission on the 7th June, 1832. Earl Grey was soon afterwards succeeded by Lord Melbourne, but the reform ministry did not last long, being broken up by the resignation of Lord Althorp.

On the 15th of November, his Grace was directed by the king to form a new administration, and he at once recommended the appointment of Sir Robert Peel to the premiership. As Sir Robert was then in Italy, his Grace was at first entrusted with the whole charge of government, and the seals of the three secretaries of state; but when the cabinet was filled up, he took the direction of the foreign affairs. The lower house, however, commenced hostilities, and having carried the election of the speaker, they defeated the ministers by passing a clause for appropriating part of the Irish church property to purposes of education. In consequence of this, the ministers resigned in the April of 1834.

The contest on the Reform Act, reconciled the Duke and the tory party, who were highly delighted by his firm stand against the bill. On the 29th of January, 1834, his Grace was unanimously elected chancellor of Oxford, in the room of Lord Grenville deceased.

The passing of the Reform Bill may be said to have formed the termination of his Grace's political life, for though he continued to be a warm and consistent supporter of the conservative party, he never again aspired to the premiership.

After this his old popularity returned, and at the coronation of the Queen in 1837 his reception by the crowd was most enthusiastic. Marshal Soult who was present as ambassador extraordinary from France, was also received with loud applause. On the 13th of July, the corporation of London gave a grand dinner to the foreign princes and ambassadors, at the Guildhall. The healths of the two heroes were drunk together, with tremendous cheering; and in returning thanks, they complimented each other in the warmest manner. The marshal's speech afforded a curious contrast to his general orders.

At the resignation of Lord Melbourne in 1840, the Queen sent for the Duke, and at his suggestion commissioned Rir Robert Peel to form a ministry; but the whigs returned to office, her Majesty refusing to dismiss the ladies of her household.

In 1841, Sir Robert Peel succeeded in actually constituting a cabinet, which remained in power until the repeal of the corn laws, in 1846. On the 15th of August, Lord Hill resigned the command of the army, in consequence of the state of his health, and the Duke, who once more succeeded to that important office, has held it ever since.

For the last few years of his life, the Duke was consulted by ministers, and indeed by her Majesty herself, who is understood to have liked to take his opinion on all matters of importance. He had always very regularly conformed to social observances, and mingled largely with the society to which he belonged. His last appearance in state was on the occasion of the dissolution of parliament, when it became his duty to be the bearer of the Sword of State. The venerable Duke, feeble with age, was accordingly seen in his place, carrying the heavy and venerable weapon; nay, even playfully pointing it at Lord Derby, who was jesting with him about his difficulty in carrying it. His latest remarkable speech was in the House of Lords, when he emphatically came forward to signify his approbation of Sir Harry Smith's conduct of the Kaffir war. This speech was remarkable for its clearness, and a certain air of demonstration—as if his Grace wished, as was natural enough, to give all the weight of his authority, to aid a brave soldier who had been treated by government in a way equally unjust and ungenerous. Generally, he continued to perform the customary routine of his life with his notable punctuality.

He had gone to Walmer Castle—and that his general health was still good, we may learn from the fact, that on last Saturday afternoon he rode over on horseback to Dover, and in his capacity of Lord Warden, inspected the works in progress in the Harbour of Refuge, and other departments. He then seemed in excellent health and spirits.

His death may be said to have been sudden. He died after a 'succession of fits.' It is known that for some years he had been subject to brain attacks, and had undergone the inconvenience of using 'counter-irritants' to repel them. The cause of his death was natural decay, but the immediate agency described in the word 'fits' was doubtless an effusion of water upon his brain. Gradual stupefaction would be the result, and also convulsions, but it is probable that his death was without pain. He expired at half-past three in the afternoon.

The Duke is succeeded by his son Arthur, the Marquis of Douro, who was born in 1807. He is a colonel in the army, and married in 1839, a daughter of the Marquis of Tweeddale.

THE DUKE'S PERSONAL HABITS.

The Duke's personal habits were extremely temperate, if no abstemious. He slept little, and whether from old military associations or for health's sake, used a hard mattress and a camp bed. He appeared to avoid display in his dress, equipage, and attendants, preferring horse exercise to the state and luxury of a carriage; and even when increasing weakness rendered it a task of some difficulty to sit erect upon horseback, day after day he was still to be seen ambling slowly down to the House of Lords, touching his hat to the crowds assembled round the entrance to catch a glance of the veteran warrior. His household was said to be a model of good order and good management. He incurred no debts; punctual and precise in all his dealings, he was always just, and frequently, though privately, generous. His Waterloo banquets, which for many years drew around him his surviving companions in arms in this his last glorious field, were the only exceptions to his usual indifference to display. On these occasions only, the massive services of plate and priceless china, pictures, statues, and all the other favours, honours, and presents which had been conferred upon him by the sovereigns of Europe, were not inappropriately displayed.

THE DUKE'S CHARACTER.

(From the London Times.)

If aught can lessen this day the grief of England upon the death of her greatest son, it is the recollection that the life which has just closed, leaves no duty incomplete, and no honour unbestowed. The Duke of Wellington had exhausted nature and exhausted glory. His career was one unclouded longest day, filled from dawn to nightfall with renowned actions, animated by unfailing energy in the public service, guided by unswerving principles of conduct and of statesmanship. He rose, by a rapid series of achievements which none had surpassed, to a position which no other man in this nation ever enjoyed. The place occupied by the Duke of Wellington in the councils of the country and in the life of England can no more be filled. There is none left in the army or the senate to act and speak with like authority. There is none with whom the valour and the worth of this nation were so incorporate. Yet, when we consider the fulness of his years, and the abundance of his incessant services, we may learn to say with the Roman orator, '*Satis diu vixisse dicitor*,' since, being mortal, nothing could be added either to our veneration or to his fame. Nature herself had seemed for a time to expand he inexorable limits, and the infirmaties of age to lay a lighter burthen on that honoured head. Generations of men had passed away between the first exploits of his arms and the last counsels of his age, until, by lot unexampled in history the man who had played the most conspicuous parts in the annals of more than half a century became the last survivor of his contemporaries, and carries with him to the grave, all living memory of his own achievements. To what a century, to what a country, to what achievements was that life successfully dedicated! For its prodigious duration—for the multiplicity of contemporary changes and events far outnumbering the course of its days and years—for the invariable and unbroken stream of success which attended it from its commencement to its close, from the first flash of triumphant valour in Indian war, to that senatorial wisdom on which the sovereign and the nation hung for counsel to the latest hour—the unbending firmness of character which bore alike all labour and all prosperity—and for unalterable attachment to the same objects, the same principles, the same duties, undisturbed by the passions of youth and unrelaxed by the honours and enjoyments of peace and of age—the life of the Duke of Wellington stands alone in history. In him, at least, prosperity will trace a character superior to the highest and most abundant gifts of fortune. If the word 'heroism' can be not unfairly applied to him, it is because he remained greater than his own prosperity, and rose above the temptations by which other men of equal genius, but less self-government, have fallen below their destinies. His life has nothing to gain from the language of panegyric, which would compare his military exploits or his civil statesmanship with the prowess of an Alexander or a Cæsar, or with the astonishing career of him who saw his empire overthrown by the British general at Waterloo. These were the offspring of passion and of genius, flung from the volcanic depth of revolutions and of civil war to sweep with meteoric splendour across the earth, and to collapse in darkness before half the work of life was done. Their violence, their ambition, their romantic existence, their reverses, and their crimes, will for ever fascinate the interest of mankind, and constitute the secret of their fame, if not of their greatness. To such attractions the life and character of the Duke of Wellington present no analogy. If he rose to scarcely inferior renown, it was by none of the passions or the arts which they indulged or employed. Unvanquished in the field his sword was never drawn for territorial conquest, but for the independence of Europe and the salvation of his country. Raised by the universal gratitude of Europe and of this nation to the highest point of rank and power which a subject of the British monarchy could attain, he wore those dignities, and he used that influence, within the strictest limits of a subject's duty. No law was ever twisted to his will, no right was ever sacrificed by one hair's breadth for his aggrandisement. There lived not a man, even among his antagonists, who could say, that this great duke had wronged him; for his entire existence was devoted to the cause of legal authority and regulated power. You seek in it in vain for those strokes of audacious enterprise, which in other great captains, his rivals in fame, have sometimes won the prize of crowns or turned the fate of nations. But his whole career shines with the steady light of day : it has nothing to conceal; it has nothing to interpret by the flexible organs of history. Every thing in it is manly, compact, and clear; shaped to one rule of public duty, animated by one passion, the love of England and the service of the crown.

The Duke of Wellington lived, commanded, and governed in unconscious indifference or disdainful aversion of those common incentives of human action which are derived from the powers of imagination and of sentiment. He held them cheap, both in their weakness and in their strength. The force and weight of his character stooped to no such adventitious influences. He might have kindled more enthusiasm, especially in the early and doubtful days of his Peninsular career; but in his success and triumphant pursuits of glory, her name never passed his lips, even in his addresses to his soldiers. His entire nature and character were moulded on reality. He lived to see things as they were, His acute glance and cool judgment pierced at once through the surface which entangles the imagination or kindles the sympathy of the feelings. Truth, as he loved her, is to be reached by a rougher path and sterner minds. In war, in politics, and in the common transactions of life, the Duke of Wellington adhered inflexibly to the most precise correctness in words and deed. His temperament abhorred disguises and despised exaggerations. The fearlessness of his actions was never the result of speculative confidence or fool-hardy presumption, but lay mainly in a just perception of the true relation in which he stood to his antagonists in the field or in the senate. The greatest exploits of his life, such as the passage of the Douro, followed by the march on Madrid, the battle of Waterloo, and the passing of the Catholic Relief Bill, were performed under no circumstances that could inspire enthusiasm. Nothing but the coolness of the player could have won the mighty stakes upon a cast apparently so adverse to his success. Other commanders have attained the highest pitch of glory when they disposed of the colossal resources of empires, and headed armies already flushed with the conquest of the world The Duke of Wellington found no such encouragement in any part of his career. At no time were the means at his disposal adequate to the ready and certain execution of his designs. His steady progress in the Peninsular campaigns went on against the current of fortune, till that current was itself turned by perseverance and resolution. He had a clear and complete perception of the dangers he encountered, but he saw and grasped the latent power which baffled those dangers and surmounted resistances apparently invincible. This is precisely the highest degree of courage, for it is courage conscious, enlightened, and determined.

Clearness of discernment, correctness of judgment, and rectitude in action, were without doubt, the principal elements of the Duke's brilliant achievements in war, and his vast authority in the councils of his country; as well as in the vast conferences of Europe. They gave to his determinations an originality and vigour akin to that of genius, and sometimes, imparted to his language in debate a pith and significance at which more brilliant orators failed to arrive. His mind, equally careless of obstacles and of effect, travelled by the shortest road to its end; and he retained, even in his latest years, all the precision with which he was wont to handle the subject that came before him, or had at any time engrossed his attention. This was the secret of that untaught manliness and simplicity of style, that pervades the vast collection of his despatches, written, as they were, amidst the varied cares and emotions of war; and of that lucid and appropriate mode of expression which never failed to leave a clear impression on the minds of those whom he addressed. Other men have enjoyed, even in this age, more vivid faculties of invention and contrivance, a more extended range of foresight, and a more subtle comprehension of the changing laws of society, and the world. But the value of these finer perceptions and of the policy founded upon them, has never been more assured, than when it was tried and admitted by the wisdom and patriotism of that venerable mind. His superiority over other men consisted rather in the perfection of those qualities which he pre-eminently possessed, than in the variety or extent of his other faculties

These powers, which were unerring when applied to definite and certain facts, sometimes failed in the appreciation of causes which had not hitherto come under their observation. It is, perhaps, less to be wondered at, that the soldier and the statesman of 1815, born and bred in the highest school of Tory politics, should have miscarried in his opinion of those eventful time which followed the accession of William IV., than that the defeated opponent of reform in 1831 should have risen into the patriot senator of 1846 and 1851. Yet the administration of 1828, in which the Duke of Wellington occupied the first and most responsible place, passed the Catholic Emancipation Act, and thereby gave the signal of a rupture in the Tory party never afterwards entirely healed, and struck the heaviest blow on a system, which the growing energies of the nation resented and condemned. Resolute to oppose what he conceived to be popular clamour, no man ever recognised with more fidelity, the claims of a free nation to the gradual developement of its interests and its rights; nor were his services to the cause of liberty and improvements the less great because they usually consisted in bending the will or disarming the prejudices of their fiercest opponents. Attached by birth, by character, and by opinion, to the order and the cause of the British aristocracy, the Duke of Wellington knew that the true power of that race of nobles lies, in this age of the world, in their inviolable attachment to constitutional principles, and their honest recognition of popular rights. Although his personal resolution and his military experience qualified him better than other men to be the champion of resistance to popular turbulence and sedition, as he showed by his preparations in May, 1832, and in April 1848, yet wisdom and forbearance were ever the handmaidens of his courage, and while most firmly determined to defend, if necessary, the authority of the state, he was the first to set an example of conciliatory sacrifice to the reasonable claims of the nation. He was the Catullus of our senate, after having been our Cæsar in the field; and, if the commonwealth of England had ever saluted one of her citizens with the Roman title of *Parens Patriæ*, that touching honour would have been added to the peerage, and the Baton of Arthur Wellesley, by the respectful gratitude and faith of the people.

Though singularly free from every trace of cant, his mind was no stranger to the sublime influence of religious truth, and he was assiduous in the observance of the public ritual of the Church of England. At times, even in the extreme period of his age, some accident would betray the deep current of feeling which he never ceased to entertain towards all that was chivalrous and benevolent. His charities were unostentatious but extensive, and he bestowed his interest throughout life upon an incredible number of persons and things which claimed his notice and solicited his aid. Every ceremony, every merry-making, found him ready to take his part in it. He had a smile for the youngest child, a compliment for the prettiest face, an answer to the readiest tongue, and a lively interst in every incident of life which it seemed beyond the power of age to chill. When time had somewhat relaxed the sterner mould of his manhood, its effects were chiefly indicated by an unabated taste for the amusements of fashionable society, incongruous at times with the dignity of extreme old age and the recollections of so virile a career. But it seemed a part of the Duke's character, that every thing that presented itself, was equally welcome, for he had become a part of every thing, and it was foreign to his nature to stand aloof from any occurrence to which his presence could contribute. He seems never to have felt the flagging spirit or the reluctant step of indolence or *ennui*, or to have recoiled from any thing that remained to be done; and this complete performance of every duty, however small, as long as life remained, was the same quality which had carried him in triumph through his campaigns, and raised him to be one of the chief ministers of England and arbiter of the fate of Europe. It has been said that in the most active and illustrious lives there comes at last some inevitable hour of melancholy and of satiety. Upon the Duke of Wellington that hour left no impression, and, probably, it never shed its influence over him; for he never rested on his former achievements or his length of days, but marched onwards to the end, still heading the the youthful generations which had sprung into life around him, and scarcely less intent on their pursuits than they are themselves. It was a finely balanced mind to have worn so bravely and so well. When men in after-times shall look back to the annals of England for example of energy and public virtue among those who have raised this country to her station on the earth, no name will remain more conspicuous or unsullied, than that of Arthur Wellesley, the great Duke of Wellington. The actions of his life were extraordinary, but his character was equal to his actions. He was the very type and model of an Englishman; and, though men are prone to invest the worthies of former ages, with a dignity and merit they commonly withhold from their contemporaries, we can select none from the long array of our captains and our nobles who, taken for all in all, can claim a rivalry with him who is gone from among us, an inheritor of imperishable fame.

PLACES HELD BY THE LATE DUKE.

(From the London Daily News.)

By the Duke of Wellington's death a rich batch of places falls into the lap of Ministers—places of the richest, and honors of the most showy and most coveted class. With the disposal of some of these windfalls the pubiic have but little right to meddle—in reference to others, it is their serious and urgent duty to interfere. Who shall have the newly vacant Garter—whether my Lord This or his Grace of That shall wear it, is not the affair of the people. The blue riband is one of those distinctions much prized for its rarity; intended for the aristocracy, and in the disposal of which the Crown and the Minister are exclusively entitled to decide. The same may, perhaps, be said of the two Lord-Lieutenancies of Hampshire and of the Tower Hamlets. These are offices in the peculiar gift of the Sovereign, and of her advisers for the time being—offices which can and may be allotted as seems best to those in whose gift the law places them. The colonelcy in the Grenadier Guards, with its £1200 a-year, will be a military perquisite—the Mastership of Trinity House concerns Tower-hill, and the Chancellorship of Oxford, will give a topic and a duty to the Dons of that ancient seat of unreforming learning. But after this concession, we must draw a distinct line, and declare that all other appointments now vacant have a peculiar character which renders the re-disposal of them an affair of vital importance to the well-being of the country. Whilst the Duke of Wellington lived, nobody ever seriously thought of disturbing any of the offices in his peculiar possession. The country seemed never tired of rewarding him, as the round sums one after another voted to him by Parliament sufficiently testify. After Badajoz and Salamanca, they gave him £100,000 to buy an estate; after Toulouse, £400,000 more; and after Waterloo another round sum of £200,000—besides voting him a pension for his own life and for the lives of his two next male heirs of £2000 a-year, subsequently raised to £4000, and paid from the Consolidated Fund. This pension will now be paid to the present Duke of Wellington, and since he has no children, afterwards to Lord Charles Wellesley, should he survive his brother, and if not, to his heir male. Inheriting their father's titles, pension, and a great private wealth, the children of the late Duke require no favors from the ministry, and hence the disposal of the vacant appointments is quite unfettered on behalf of the Wellington family. Would that no other private influences were in the way; but since such things do exist, they must be met boldly and openly. The public service must not in this case be sacrificed to aid the wheedle of the courtier, or to enhance the bribe of the partizan.

The important post of Commander-in-chief must be given to a thorough veteran soldier. We are told every now and then that our coasts are in danger,—if they really were so, what should we do if a carpet knight, an aristocratic routineist, or a mere martinet of the drill held the chief post of military power? We have seen in the career of the great soldier who has just passed away the vast importance of sterling practical ability for the active operations of war. Sir Arthur Wellesley became Commander-in-Chief because he was a victorious General; the history of the late Duke of York shews what become of appointments based on claims of another sort—claims of pedigree and family position. The Duke of York became Commander-in-Chief because he was son of a King. The one is known by Waterloo—the other by his melancholy failure in the Netherlands and his disgraceful proceedings with Mrs. Clarke. Nothing is more truly practical than war; in nothing is incompetence more fatal. Not only the safety of a great empire, but even the progress of civilisation itself, may be perilled by entrusting to wrong hands the military machinery organised for national purposes. To command armies, veteran soldiers, not amiable princes, are wanted. We want, too, not only military experience and efficiency at the Horse Guards, but active military energy. We want army reform. We need real changes in present plans, not showy or experimental alterations of buttons and facings, but *bona fide* improvements in the dress and arming of our forces. The last thirty-seven years have made great military reforms abroad, some portion of which it would be well to have adopted here. These a new Commander should, from old experience, be able to appreciate, and with campaigning promptitude be ready to adopt. Our loss of the Duke of Wellington must be, as far as possible, made up by the wisdom exercised in the appointment of his successor at the Horse Guards. Prince Albert and the Duke of Cambridge have both been named by rumour as possible candidates for the vacan[illegible] command. But Prince Albert already enjoys the military tit[illegible] Field Marshal, and is too well provided for to need th[illegible] 8 9 a-day, which falls to a Commander-in-Chief of his [illegible] the solid good sense he has hitherto shown must surel[illegible] he Duke him *why* he should not aspire to wield the baton many advan- victor of Waterloo. Indeed the rumour is too [illegible] ed to him. He of Cambridge, too, must surely be content tages which his elevated birth has alre[illegible] may come of improper would never no. [illegible] of the Cinque Ports should

Other vacancies suggest other [illegible] ancient office has been re- appointments. The Lord Wa[illegible] the Tower must now, in accordance remain open, till the jurisdi[illegible] on proper footing. Needful and pro- formed; the post of Cons[illegible] the first of these appointments may pro- with former plans, b[illegible] Prince Consort, and Walmer Castle be- per changes being [illegible] orne House. bably fall to the [illegible] matter for the future—at present the chief need is, come a seco[illegible]

But th[illegible] Derby should be remined of the onus now weighing that him. The shower of patronage brings its duties equally up[illegible] its gratification; and whilst we concede to him the [illegible]llest freedom in the bestowal of the mere honorary distinc tions, he must remember the national responsibility undertaken by the Minister who has to provide for national honour, security and welfare, and to guard against political opposition and personal disgrace.