

ENGLAND IN 1844.*

To pass by Carthage and the Greek Republics, to whom, especially to Macedonia, the foregoing remarks apply, and revert to modern nations, we would ask what has France, the great military power of our day, gained by her foreign aggressions? What was the result of her senseless invasion of Russia?—the destruction of her "Grand Army," and the descent upon her own territory, of the Hulan and the Cossack. Where are the fruits of Marengo and Friedland?—Of Jena and Austerlitz? The exhalation of her glory has vanished, while her rivals reap the benefit of her imprudence. Where is now her Italian dominion?—Passed away with the phantom kings her ambition created!—The invasion of Spain led to the development of ENGLAND'S military resources, and to the "occupation of Paris" by a British Army.—Waterloo, and the second capitulation of the French capital, were the natural and inevitable results of her adherence to her former ambitious policy. Humiliating as these reverses were to France, they were advantageous to mankind; for the pacification of Europe was effected by them. The moral lesson furnished by the events of 1815, ought never to be lost sight of; for while France was stripped of her ill-gotten possessions, the moderation of her conquerors preserved to her, her rank among nations.—We forbear to enlarge upon the disastrous results of aggressive warfare, for they are written upon every page of European history. Russia feels the earthquake shocks of subjugated Poland.—Austria the moral volcano of her Italian possessions. Holland has lost Belgium.—Turkey no longer tyrannizes over Greece. England stands alone,—for her history for the last three centuries, is unsustained with aggressive warfare;—and yet, how proud is her military position! The "meteor Flag of England" yet waves over the "Victory," in which her own Nelson achieved the glorious triumph of Trafalgar. The laurel yet blooms upon the brow of the "hero of Waterloo." And why are these victories thus hallowed? Because they are unsustained by lust of conquest,—the wars which led to them were not undertaken to gratify individual or national ambition. In the earlier periods of England's history, instances may be found, though rarely, of aggressive warfare. It would not be a difficult task, (reasoning from the circumstances of the times, at which they were undertaken, and the universal tone of men's minds at that period.) to justify England in all, or the greater part of them; but we cannot enlarge upon this part of our subject, further than to remark, that those wars find at least an apology in some supposed holy motive, or in the previous acts of inroad and rapine, which led to them. Few indeed have been the reverses of Britain, compared with the splendour of her successes. From the days of Marlborough, and the victories of Queen Anne's time, down to our recent triumphs in China and India, what an unbroken chain of advancement is presented, as the result of the noble stand made by her, not only for the defence of her own rights and interests, but for those of her neighbors and allies. Look at her present

military position. To use the language of one of the greatest of American Orators and Statesmen, "she presents an unbroken chain of military posts throughout the world." Her fame does not rest upon isolated triumphs, it forms a material part of her solid greatness. It is true that the "lines of Torres Vedras," the battles of "Orthes," "Badajoz," "Vitoria," "Salamanca," and "Waterloo," attest the military skill of the "Great Captain of the Age," and the undaunted bravery of British Soldiers.—The "Nile," "Trafalgar," and "Navarino," increased, if it were possible, the lustre of our Flag, and established our undoubted Naval supremacy; but the splendour of these victories, is a secondary consideration to the important consequences resulting from them. The balance of power in Europe, (so necessary to European tranquillity)—the confirmation of our right to our West Indian colonies—the re-opening of trade with continental Europe,—all these, with the moral example evinced by the moderation of the conquerors, and the repose afforded by many years of peace, are the results of those victories. And how has the interval been employed by England. In strengthening, "not for the unobly purpose of aggression," but for the maintenance of her present position, her military and commercial resources.

[The conclusion of this interesting subject is deferred until Saturday next.]

ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

We hasten to extract from our English files the most prominent topics of interest. The January mail is brought out by the new steamer *Cambria*, commanded by Captain Judkins, an old and esteemed public servant. We have before given a brief description of this magnificent vessel, built to replace the *Columbia* in the Cunard line. The following appears to be the most interesting summary we can furnish.

ENGLAND.

THE QUEEN has presented the British and Foreign Temperance Society with a donation of 25*l.*, and the Queen Dowager has also presented the same Society with a donation of 20*l.*

THE QUEEN DOWAGER.—Eight hundred families in the neighbourhood of Hamton-court, Hamton, New Hamton, and Teddington, receive, by the kind charity of her Majesty the Queen Dowager, three pounds of beef and two quarters loaves each every Christmas. This welcome gift was distributed on Tuesday.

MESSRS. ROGERS AND Co., it is said, find the acceptors of the bills of exchange, which were stolen from them, come forward very handsomely, most of them having paid their acceptances upon the guarantee of the house to keep them harmless.

The new Royal Exchange was opened for business on the 13th inst.

The harvest in the United Kingdom has proved most abundant, and calls for the most grateful acknowledgement of the people.

The East India Company at a general meeting of the Court of Directors voted a pension of £1000 per annum to General Sir W. Nott, for his services in the East.

The *Vindictive 50*—Rear Admiral Sir F. W. Austin succeeds the *Illustrious*, as Flagship on the N. American station.

The general brevet is anxiously looked for by both branches of the service.

A very large amount of Bullion has been received in England from the United States and Mexico. Money transactions are firm and the rates of interest low.

Tractarianism still occupies a prominent place in English religious controversy. It is time the differences which agitate the Church, were brought to a conclusion. We hope their influence will not extend to the Colonies.

The English papers are discussing the feasibility of Colonial Representation in the Imperial Parliament. As this subject seems to engross much of the public attention, we shall at an early period devote a column to the subject.

A pension has been conferred upon Hood, the unrivalled wit and punster, late Editor of the *Comic Annual*.

IRELAND.

The collections as a testimonial to the Rev. Mr. Mathew are steadily progressing; the Dublin committee have collected £2,118—may success attend their benevolent exertions.

Mr. O'Connell left Dublin very unexpectedly to spend his Christmas at Derrynane Abbey. The Charitable Bequests Bill seems to occupy much public attention in Ireland.—The Catholic hierarchy are giving their opinions on the measure to the Clergy in their different dioceses.

☞ We would call the attention of our readers to our number of to-day, which contains a summary of the English news received by the last mail, together with much original matter. We purpose giving Foreign Intelligence in our next, together with further English extracts—the conclusion of "England in 1844" and such other matter as shall appear of general interest.

COLONIAL.

MONTREAL, DEC. 31.—We have received several accounts of the affair at Point aux Trembles, this day week, all of which concur in representing the accounts in the *Minerve* as most exaggerated and the attempt to fix it upon the L.P.S., or any other Society or party, totally unjustified by the facts.

Whatever the real extent of the outrage on the feelings of the congregation, it appears to have been quite unpremeditated, and the consequence of drunkenness, and several of the offenders were severely reprimanded on the spot. Two, we are informed were Canadians, and a portion at least, of the other, of politics opposed to those of the parties to whom, in so unprincipled a manner, the offence is attributed.

We learn from the Montreal papers that the last English mail brought intelligence that Her Majesty has signified her intention of conferring upon Sir Charles Metcalfe the dignity of the Peerage. The choice of a title is left to Sir Charles himself, and the patent will be issued as soon as he shall have signified his wishes on the matter.

A private soldier of the 89th Regiment, named Gumm, committed suicide, whilst on sentry behind the Commissariat Stores, near the Quebec Gate Barracks, at about two o'clock on Saturday morning last.—The unhappy man tied his hankerchief to the trigger of his musket, and the wheel of a cart, near his post, and placing the muzzle to his breast, discharged the contents into his body.

IMPROVEMENTS.—The corporation of Quebec have adopted measures for Lighting that City with Gas, and to erect Water Works for the conveyance of pure water throughout the City.

Two men named James Dunlap, and Patrick Dowling, were drowned in New Brunswick, on the 9th inst. by the upsetting of a scow, which was carried by the current into the upper Falls River St. John.

It is rumoured that, in consequence of the appointment of Mr. Read to the office of Provincial Secretary in New Brunswick, the Executive Council have tendered their resignation to Sir William Colebrooke.—*Reg.*

FROM AMERICAN PAPERS.

IMMIGRATION.—An important project is maturing for colonizing a large Portion of the immigrants from Great Britain and the Continent this year, upon the fertile lands of Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin.

The Hon. Caleb Cushing was attacked and robbed by a set of banditti, at El Pival, near Puebla, Mexico. He lost many private papers of great value, saving none but which were about his person, among these were fortunately the most important of his diplomatic documents.

The people of Florida have memorialized Congress to admit the territory in the Union as a State. The population of the territory of Florida, according to a census taken in 1838, amounted to 48,233. The country was however, in a disturbed state when this enumeration was made; the Indian war then raging, and there were no returns from the counties of Nassau, Musquito, and Hamilton.

☞ Intelligence from Vera Cruz, to the 12th ult., confirms the previous accounts of the revolution in Mexico,—the complete overthrow of Santa Anna, and the formation of a new government.

DEATH OF THE OLDEST EDITOR.—The Boston Transcript says:—"With the opening of a New Year, one of our oldest citizens has been gathered to his fathers," after a long life of 83 years, the greater part of which was devoted to the public. Major Benjamin Russell is no more! He died this morning, venerable by age, yet 'strong and lusty' in his looks and feelings, universally known, and every where respected."

STEAM VS. TIME.—A gentleman recently accomplished the distance from London to Glasgow, 400 miles, by rail-road and steamer, in twenty-four hours. This is set down as 'the quickest transit ever yet known.'

DISGRACEFUL AFFAIR, AT PHILADELPHIA.—This morning, a most disgraceful affair occurred between a party of young men in front of the Washington Hotel, Chesnut street. A medical student named Theodore Klein, drew a dirk knife, and attempted to stab another person, when a young man, John McCoy, who was passing at the time, caught hold of Klein, and prevented what might probably have been a murder. Another Reed, a midshipman in the U. S. Navy, the friend of one of the parties, instantly drew a pistol and discharged its contents at McCoy, the ball passing through the breast of his coat, causing a flesh wound only. The student and midshipman were both arrested and held to bail in \$1500 only to answer at Court.

General Tom Thumb, it is said, is about making a visit to the British Provinces.

Complaints are being made at Portland, Maine, that rum cannot be obtained, even for medicinal purposes.