THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from further attendance in Parliament, and at the same time to express to you her warm acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the discharge of your public duties during the session.

"When her Majesty met you in Parliament at the opening of the session her Majesty was engaged, in cooperation with her allies, the Emperor of the French, the King of Sardinia, and the Sultan, in an arduous war, having for its object matters of high European importance; and her Majesty appealed to your loyalty and patriotism for the necessary means to carry on that war with the energy and vigour essential to success.

"You answered nobly the appeal then made to you; and her Majesty was enabled to prepare, for the operations of the expected campaign, naval and military forces worthy of the power and reputation of this country.

"Happily, it became unnecessary to apply those forces to the purposes for which they had been destined. A treaty was concluded by which the objects for which the war had been undertaken were fully attained; and an honourable peace has been concluded by which the calamities of continued warfare.

"Her Majesty trusts that the benefits resulting from that peace will be extensive and permanent; and that, while the friendships and alliances which were cemented by common exertions during the contest will gain strength by mutual interests in peace, those asperities which inherently belong to conflict will give place to the confidence and goodwill with which a faithful execution of engagements will inspire those who have learnt to respect each other as antagonists.

"Her Majesty commands us to thank you for your support in the hour of trial, and to express to you her fervent hope that the prosperity of her faithful people, which was not materially checked by the pressure of war, may continue, and be increased by the genial influence of peace.

"Her Majesty is engaged in negociations on the subject of questions in connection with the affairs of Central America, and her Majesty hopes that the differences which have arisen on those matters between her Majesty's Government and that of the United States may be satisfactorily adjusted.

"We are commanded by her Majesty to inform you that her Majesty desires to avail herself of this occasion to express the pleasure which it afforded her to receive, during the war in which she has been engaged, numerous and honourable proofs of loyalty and public spirit from her Majesty's Indian territories, and from those colonial possessions which constitute so valuable and important a part of the dominions of her Majesty's Crown.

"Her Majesty has given her cordial assent to the act for rendering more effectual the police in counties and boroughs in England and Wales. This act will materially add to the security of person and property, and will thus afford increased encouragement to the exertions of honest industry.

"Her Majesty rejoices to think that the act for the improvement of the internal arrangements of the University of Cambridge will give fresh powers of usefulness to that ancient and renowned seat of learning.

"The act for regulating joint-stock companies will afford additional facilities for the advantageous employment of capital, and will thus tend to promote the development of the resources of the country; while the acts passed relative to the mercantile laws of England and of Scotland will diminish the inconvenience which the difference of those laws occasion to her Majesty's subjects engaged in trade.

"Her Majesty has seen with satisfaction that you have given your attention to the arrangements connected with County Courts. It is her Majesty's anxious wish that justice should be attainable by all classes of her subjects, with as much speed and with as little expense as may be consistent with the due investigation of the merits of causes to be tried.

"Her Majesty trusts that the act for placing the Coast-guard under the direction of the Board of Admiralty will afford the ground work for arrangements for providing, in time of peace, means applicable to national defence on the occurrence of any future emergency.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"We are commanded by her Majesty to thank you for the readiness with which you have granted the supplies for the present year.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"Her Majesty commands us to congratulate you on the favourable state of the revenue, and upon the thriving condition of all branches of the national industry; and she acknowledges with gratitude the loyalty of her faithful subjects, and that spirit of order and that respect for the law which prevail in every part of her dominions.

"Her Majesty commands us to express her confidence that on your return to your homes you will promote, by your influence and example in your several districts that continued and progressive improvement which is the vital principle of the wellbeing of nations; and her Majesty fervently prays that the blessing of Almighty God may attend your steps, and prosper your doings for the welfare and happiness of her people."

WHAT IS THE SPANISH QUESTION?

What are the occurrences which within the last few days have agitated Spain? A Constitutional Queen, who holds her title to the Crown by legal enactment against a relative claiming by divine right, has suddenly dismissed, or caused to resign, a Minister who during his whole career has been the champion of responsible government in her dominions. Another politician, known only as a resolute and unscrupulous soldier, has been raised to supreme power. This substitution of a notoriously Absolutist Minister for a man of strictly constitutional views would seem to a foreigner a dangerous act. We might, however, be in the wrong. But when we see the actual immediate results we can no longer hesitate as to the character of the change. We find that insurrection immediately followed in Madrid, and that for this insurrection the new government was thoroughly prepared beforehand. We find that O'Donnell, taking advantage of his position as Minister of War, had concentrated 20,000 men on the capital. His first step was to surround himself with colleagues on whom two years before, when for a few hours in office he turned the cannon of the army against the people. The first act of the new Ministry was the proclamation of Martial law. The Legislative Assembly was dispersed by force, fired upon when proceeding in deputation to the presence of the Sovereign, and driven from their legal place of meeting by grapeshot. We find the capital in arms to resist this treasonable violation of public law, and we hear of a desperate contest, in which the National Guard, after several hours' fighting, are crushed by the large forces concentrated on Madrid. The next intelligence is that the Cortes have fled to a provincial town. Arragon receives the national assembly, which declares that it has been dispersed by a monstrous act of military violence. Barcelona is soon in revolt, and the flame spreads. At the present moment Saragossa is held by an insurgent army, and we learn that in the south Malaga and Granada have not yet submitted. The Ministry is intent on crushing all resistance to its power, and everything is postponed until "after the pacification of the country." Such are the facts. The Sovereign and her confidant concentrate troops, disperse and fire on the Legislature, fight a pitched battle with the National Guard, and are now engaged in crushing the Liberalism of the provinces. The question is, what are we to think of such an act?

IMPERTINENCE REBUKED.—Colonel Rivers, a tried and gallant officer, never went into action without manifest emotion: and on one occasion, when lending his regiment under fire, a raw subaltern who noticed the quiver which shook his frame, had the impertinence to remark: "Why, colonel, you're afraid!" "Yes, sir; and if you were half as much afraid as I am, you would run away."

THE NORTH SIDE OF SEBASTOPOL.—We give the following interesting extract of a letter from an officer, who lately visited the northern forts of Sebastopol:—"I crossed over to the north side the other day, and saw the works which held us in check so long, and so effectually, after the 8th September. We landed at Fort Michael, and were allowed to go over it. Everything was in good serviceable condition, but a match in the magazine would have made it a shapeless ruin at the last moment, so that it afforded no indication of the state of trepidation and alarm the Russians might have been in. From this, we walked up through some earthwork and approached one of the cemeteries, which was in sight from the ship during the time we were blockading, and where we had often seen funeral parties interring the dead. As we left the fort, an officer passed us and brushed up the hill side to the working party, who, we thought were constructing a barricade to keep the cattle away from the graves. The men, on our approach, quitted their work, whatever it was, and moved off towards the Star Fort, and we soon stood on the spot where they had been working. What do you suppose they were doing? Exhuming, in order to preserve, tion, a number of brass guns! There were the graves in which they had been deposited—decent mounds of earth had been piled over them, and as there were a great many other similar heaps, the probability is, that they covered other interesting brazen remains of the same imperishable nature. The soil and the guns we saw were still damp, and we counted nearly fifty pieces of ordnance with Turkish characters engraved on them. We conjectured that they had been captured in former wars. Some were fourteen feet in length, and many remarkably handsome pieces elaborately ornamented. If proof had been wanting as to the intention of the Russians to quit the north side, I think this one incident would suffice for most people. They considered their position untenable, and as they would have been unable to transport these heavy guns, which they were unwilling to lose as trophies, they resorted to the ruse of interring them after the manner of corpses, relying, no doubt, upon our civilisation, not to disturb the dead. This is upon a par with their hoisting hospital flags over powder magazines. We walked round the Sievernai or Star Fort, and at the gate were permitted to enter. It is of considerable extent, but its ditch and defences generally are far inferior to what we supposed. Here again it seemed, that preparations had been made for a blot. All the buildings were unroofed and in ruins, and the premeditated destruction of everything that could have been of use to us was apparent on all sides. We knew pretty nearly what works had been thrown up after our appearance off the place in 1854, and of those that existed previously a near estimate would be formed, and we can understand the surprise the Russians felt when our army passed round from the north to the south, and when they laughed at our terror with respect to the northern defences. We leisurely inspected the various works, including the famous Wasp Fort. It is a square Martello tower, sunk about 12 feet, and surrounded by a deep ditch. At the top are mounted eight 42-pounders, but so closely are they placed that a 13-inch shell falling into the centre would most probably disable the whole. After the 17th of October the Russians threw up a bank of earth in front, so as to conceal the masonry from sea view. It was the only formidable work on the north side."—*United Service Gazette.*

Faction fight amongst the peasantry in some parts of the South of Ireland are partially reviving, and intemperance is on the increase in these districts where the people are in a much more prosperous condition. At a place called Hospital, in the county of Limerick, one man has just died from the effects of a beating received in one of these fights, and another lies dangeriously ill.

The number of journals published in Switzerland this year is 263, being 12 more than in 1855.

CHARLOTTETOWN REGATTA

Under the Patronage of His Excellency the Lieut. Governor.

TO TAKE PLACE ON

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY,

the 19th and 20th days of August.

PROGRAMME OF THE FIRST DAY:

FIRST RACE AT 11 O'CLOCK A. M,

Between the first class country Sailing Boats, from 20 to 30 feet keel. First prize, £7, second do., £3 10s. Entrance money, 3s. each

SECOND RACE AT 12 O'CLOCK,

To be contended for by country four oared Boats, of 20 feet keel and under. First prize, £5; second do, £2 10s. Entrance money, 2s. each.

THIRD RACE AT HALF-PAST 12,

Between the two oared club Boats, of any length. 1st prize £2 10; 2nd do., £1. Entrance money, 1s. 6d.

FOURTH RACE AT 1 O'CLOCK, PRECISELY,

Between the first class club Yachts, from 20 to 3 0feet keel. 1st prize, £6, 2d do., £2 10s. Entrance money, 6s. each

FIFTH RACE AT HALF-PAST 1,

Between the second-class club Sailing Boats, under 20 feet keel. 1st prize £4; 2d do., £2. Entrance money, 3s. each.

SIXTH RACE AT 2 O'CLOCK,

To be contended for by Indians paddling their Canoes. 1st prize, 30s.; 2d do., 20s.; 3d do., 15s; 4th do., 5s. . . . Unless four boats start, no 3d prize will be given in this Race.

SEVENTH RACE AT HALF-PAST 2,

Between two oared country Boats, of any length. 1st prize, £2 5s.; 2d do., £1. Entrance 1s. 6d. each.

EIGHTH RACE AT 3 O'CLOC,K

Between the second-class country Sailing Boats, under 20 feet keel. 1st prize, £5; 2d do., £2 10s.; 3d do., £1. . . . Unless four boats start, no 3d prize will be given in this Race.

NINTH RACE AT HALF-PAST 3,

Between four oared Gigs, open to all the Island and the neighbouring Provinces. One Prize only, amount £10 (ten pounds). Entrance 10s. 6d, each Two boats or more to start.

The first day's Regatta to finish with the

TENTH RACE AT 4 O'CLOCK,

Between Canoes paddled by Squaws, to whom the same number and amount of Prizes will be be awarded as to the Indians in the Sixth Race.

Programme of the Second day's Regatta.

FIRST RACE TO START AT 11 O'CLOCK,

Between the first-class club Yachts. For a Ladies' Purse. Entrance money, 10s. each.

SECOND RACE AT HALF-PAST 1,

To be contended for between Indians and Squaws, paddling Canoes, propelled by either sex. 1st prize, 30s; 2d do., 20s.; 3d do., 15s.; 4th do.; 5s. Entrance free

THIRD RACE AT 2 O'CLOCK,

Between Sailing Boats, under 16 feet keel 1st prize, £3; 2d do., £1 10s.; Entrance money 1s. 6d. each.

FOURTH RACE AT HALF-PAST 2,

To be contended for by white men, paddling Indian Canoes. 1st prize, 30s.; 2d do., 15s. Entrance money 1s. 6d. each.

FIFTH RACE AT 3 O'CLOCK,

Consolation Stakes for all beaten Sailing Boats, to be entered before 2 o'clock. 1st prize, £3; 2d do.; £2; 3d do., £1. Entrance free.

The Entertainment to wind up with the SIXTH RACE, viz: "The Duck Hunt," which will take place at half-past four, between a four oared Gig, without steering apparatus, to catch a pair within half an hour, rowed by one man, the punt to have 100 yards start. Prize 30s. Entrance 1s. 6d. each.

REGULATIONS.

1. Subscribers of Ten Shillings, and upwards will be entitled to all the privileges of Members of the Regetta Club.——2. Boats, not owned on the Island, will be allowed to compete for the Club Plates, by the owners subscribing twenty shillings to the fund of the Club, and also the entrance money.——3. The Boats places at starting will be decided by lot; all sails to be lowered previously to starting ——4. No 2d prize will be given unless Three Boats start.——5. Boats on the Larboard Tack must invariably give way to those on the Starboard; and in all cases where a doubt of the possibility of the Boat of the Larboard Tack weathering the Mark on the Starboard Tack must give way; or if the other Boat keep her course, and run into her the owner of the Boat on the Larboard Tack shall pay all damages, and forfeit its claim to the prize.——6. Any Boat throwing out Ballast after starting, will forfeit the race.——7. Extra Sail to be used before the wind in any contest.——8. To prevent collisions during the Races, any *entered* Boat found sailing in the Harbour during the progress of the other sailing matches, will forfeit her chance in the race she is entered for.——9. Any Sail-boat using an Oar, Pole, or Boat-hook, during the race, unless for the purpose of booming out her sails, will forfeit her chance of the prize.——10. All Boats intending to compete must be at Fenke's Wharf by nine o'clock.——11. Printed directions for the course of the different races may be obtained from the Secretary on the morning of the Regatta.——12. All disputes to be decided by the Umpires. The first class club Yachts to carry a flag at their mast head, red ground, with any device thereon ——Country boats to be distinguished by their private flags—any ground but Red.——13. All entrances to be made on or before the 18th of August.——16. All boats considered country boats, where owners are not members of the Club.

By order of the Committee of Management,

BENJAMIN DAVIES, Secy..

Subscriptions in aid of the Regatta Fund will be thankfully received by the Committee, the Secretary, and Mr. MORRIS.

Charlottetown, July 16, 1856.—All papers.