

rate the declaration which I then made, that I never can, nor will, while life and reason remain, consent to a union with my cousin Edward."

This announcement wrought no apparent change in Sir Arthur, except that he became deadly, almost lividly pale. He seemed lost in dark thought for a minute, and then with a slight effort said, "You have answered me honestly and directly; and you say your resolution is unchangeable; well would it had been otherwise!—but be it as it is—I am satisfied."

He gave me his hand—it was cold and damp as death; under an assumed calmness, it was evident that he was fearfully agitated. He continued to hold my hand with an almost painful pressure, while, as if unconsciously, seeming to forget my presence, he muttered, "Strange, strange, indeed! fatuity, helplessness, fatuity!" There was here a long pause. "Madness indeed, to strain a cable that is rotten to the very heart—it must break—and then—all goes."

There was again a pause of some minutes, after which, suddenly changing his voice and manner to one of wakeful alacrity, he exclaimed, "Margaret, my son Edward shall plague you no more. He leaves this country on to-morrow for France—he shall speak no more upon this subject—never, he shall speak—whatever events depended upon your answer must now take their own course; but as for this fruitless proposal, it has been tried enough; it can be repeated no more." At these words he coldly suffered my hand to drop, as if to express his abandonment of all his projected schemes of alliance; and certainly the action, with the accompanying words, produced upon my mind a more solemn and depressing effect than I believed possible to have been caused by the course which I had determined to pursue; it struck upon my heart with an awe and heaviness which will accompany the accomplishment of an important and irrevocable act, even though no doubt or scruple remains to make it possible that the agent should wish it undone.

"Well," said my uncle, after a little time, "we now cease to speak upon this topic, never to resume it again—remember you shall have no farther uneasiness from Edward; he leaves Ireland for France to-morrow; this will be a relief to you; may I depend upon your honour that no word touching the subject of this interview shall ever escape you?" I gave him the desired assurance; he said, "It is well—I am satisfied—we have nothing more, I believe, to say upon either side, and my presence must be a restraint upon you, I shall therefore bid you farewell." I then left the apartment, scarcely knowing what to think of the strange interview which had just taken place.

On the next day, my uncle took occasion to tell me that Edward had actually sailed, if his intention had not been interfered with by adverse circumstances; and two days subsequently, he actually produced a letter, written, as it said, *on board*, and despatched while the ship was getting under weigh. This was a great satisfaction to me, and as being likely to prove so, it was communicated to me by Sir Arthur.—During all this trying period, I had found infinite consolation in the society and sympathy of my dear cousin Emily. I never in after-life formed a friendship so close, so fervent, and upon which, in all its progress, I could look back with feelings of such unalloyed pleasure, upon whose termination I must ever dwell with so deep, so yet unembittered regret. In cheerful conversation with her, I recovered my spirits considerably, and passed my time agreeably, although still in the utmost seclusion. Matters went on smoothly enough, although I could not help sometimes feeling a momentary, but horrible uncertainty respecting my uncle's character; which was not altogether unwarranted by the circumstances of the two trying interviews, whose particulars I have just detailed. The unpleasant impression which these conferences were calculated to leave upon my mind, was fast wearing away, when there occurred a circumstance, slight indeed in itself, but calculated irresistibly to awaken all my worst suspicions, and to overwhelm me again with anxiety and terror.

I had one day left the room with my cousin Emily in order to have a ramble of considerable length, for the purpose of sketching some favourite views, and we had walked about half a mile, when I perceived that we had forgotten our drawing materials, the absence of which would have defeated the object of our walk.—Laughing at our own thoughtlessness, we returned to the house, and, leaving Emily without, I ran up stairs to procure the drawing books and pencils which lay in my bed-room. As I ran up the stairs, I was met by the tall, ill-looking French woman, evidently a good deal flurried. "Que veut, Madame?" said she, with a more decided effort to be polite than I had ever known before. "No, no—no matter," said I, hastily running by her in the direction of my room.—"Madame," cried she, in a high key, "rester ici si vous plaidez, votre chambre n'est pas faite"—your room is not ready for your reception yet. I continued to move on without heeding her.—She was some way behind me, and feeling that she could not otherwise prevent my entrance, for I was now upon the very lobby, she made a desperate attempt to lay hold of my person; she succeeded in grasping the end of my shawl, which she drew from my shoulders, but slipping at the same time upon the polished oak floor, she fell at full length upon the floor. A little frightened as well as angry at the rudeness of this strange woman, I hastily pushed open the door of my room, at which I now stood, in order to escape from her, but great was my amazement on entering to find the apartment pre-occupied. The window was open, and beside it stood two male figures; they appeared to be examining the fastenings of the casement, and their backs were turned toward the door. One was my uncle; they both had turned on my entrance, as if startled; the stranger was booted and cloaked, and wore a heavy broad-leafed hat over his brows; he turned but

for a moment, and averted his face; but I had seen enough to convince me that he was no other than my cousin Edward. My uncle had an iron instrument in his hand, which he hastily concealed behind his back; and coming towards me, said something, as if in an explanatory tone; but I was too much shocked and confounded to understand what it might be. He said something about "repairs—window frames—cold, and safety." I did not wait, however, to ask or receive explanations, but hastily left the room. As I went down the stairs I thought I heard the voice of the Frenchwoman in all the shrill volubility of excuse, which was met, however, by suppressed but vehement imprecations, or what seemed to me to be such, in which the voice of my cousin Edward distinctly mingled.

(To be continued.)

(From the Morning Post.)

#### RECEPTION OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL—PUBLIC OPINION.

On Saturday, as the public had been led to understand for some days previously, a Privy Council was assembled at Buckingham Palace, for the purpose of receiving her Majesty's announcement of her intended marriage with Prince Albert of Saxe Cobourg.

Considering the shortness of the notice given to the Privy Councillors, and that almost all of them, not immediately in attendance on the court, are at this time of the year at a distance from London, the number present was considerable. According to the *Gazette Extraordinary*, no fewer than 82 obeyed the summons.

It was naturally to have been expected that, under the strong excitement existing at this moment, the assemblage of so many public men of various political opinions would be converted into an opportunity for the exhibition of some demonstrations of popular feeling. Such demonstrations did take place, and they were by no means of an equivocal character. As the members of the Privy Council left the Palace, the crowd, which was for the greater part composed of persons of respectable appearance, collected at the northern gate, and signified, certainly without any ceremony, the general opinion of the distinguished persons as their carriages passed out in rapid succession. Many of the less known or less prominent characters were allowed to pursue their way in silence; but that was far from the case with the leading men of political parties.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge was received with general and hearty cheering, and similar marks of respect were bestowed on the Archbishop of Canterbury; but, on the appearance of the Duke of Wellington, the enthusiasm was such as to remind us of the hurrahs that some five-and-twenty years ago hailed his Grace's return to England as the conqueror of France, and the pacificator of Europe. The Duke bore evident marks of his late illness; he looked pale and thin; but there was an animation in his countenance, as he acknowledged the cheers of the people, that gave satisfactory proof of the undiminished vigour of his mind and feelings.

Sir Robert Peel had only arrived in town from Tamworth at twelve o'clock, and was not in his own carriage; yet the people were too intent on recognizing him to be deceived by this unavoidable *travestie*. The Right Hon. Baronet was greeted with a warmth of feeling that must have been as gratifying to him as it was demonstrative of the sound state of public opinion. Lord Hill, too, as in some sort the official representative of the army, came in for a full share of the popular applause, in spite of the ruffian attacks lately made on his lordship by a man for whom the only excuse is, that he knows nothing of what belongs to the character of a man of honour, and cannot understand the claims of an honourable profession.

We have hitherto spoken of her Majesty's opposition; we have a very different story to tell of her Majesty's ministers.

Disapprobation of the most marked kind was the rule, and some cheers to Lord Cottenham the exception, in the reception of the members of the government. The three cabinet ministers especially distinguished by public execration were the Marquis of Normanby, Lord Palmerston, and Lord Melbourne; and the hisses and groans lavished on all of these were never exceeded in intensity, as far as our experience goes. Lord Melbourne's carriage was the last to leave the palace, and after it had remained for a few minutes under the portico, it drew off amidst the yells of the crowd, under a mistaken impression that it contained the premier. The chariot was empty. It proceeded at a walk through Buckingham-gate, in the direction of the side entrance of the palace in Pimlico, and many persons were in consequence attracted to that quarter; but the carriage was almost instantly turned round and driven once more into the fore court of the palace. Still there was some uncertainty about the matter, as the gate from which the other privy councillors passed out had been closed, and the horses' heads were in the opposite direction. However, the prime minister finding delay useless, at length took his seat and screwed up his courage to face the storm; and we are bound to admit that he acquitted himself well. The groans with which the noble lord was assailed might have disturbed the equanimity of many a man; but the only visible effect produced on the premier was a certain ghastliness in the smile which he assumed for the occasion. The assembled multitude followed the carriage as far as they could keep pace with the horses, and the only cheers that afforded a miserable contrast to the general burst of disapprobation proceeded from three particularly shabby-looking men, the wear and tear of whose lungs can hardly have been adequately remunerated by the pittance that persons of their appearance would probably receive for their exertions.

About half an hour after the privy councillors had left the palace, her Majesty set off for Windsor, and was greeted by her assembled subjects in the most respectful and affectionate manner. If the Queen's proximity to the scene that had just taken place under her windows allowed her to witness the public opinion of her ministers, Her Majesty must have been able to appreciate the falsehood of the insinuation so pertinaciously made, that disapproval of the government was synonymous to the crown.

#### ODDS AND ENDS.

An Irish Smith wrote a few years ago to a friend in Montreal, stating that he had a great deal to communicate to him, but declined to do so in the present letter, as he waited until the penny post was established.—The accidents which have recently occurred on the premises of firework-makers show the absolute necessity of those engaged in such a perilous business having their manufactory in an insulated situation, and not in the midst of a populous neighbourhood. The subject seems to have been overlooked by the framers of the New Police Act.—Mrs. Harding, the wife of the unfortunate Mr. Harding, expired late on Sunday evening. A Coroner's inquest was holden on Monday night, and a verdict was returned of "accidental death."—Mr. Daunt, formerly M. P. for Mallow, lies dangerously ill at Derrynane-abbey, and has been incapacitated from travelling with Mr. O'Connell of late. He is, we understand, private secretary to that learned gentleman.—Snow fell last Wednesday in Belgium as it did in Paris. A letter from Antwerp states that during the two preceding nights there was a frost there, with wind blowing fresh from the north-east.—Lord Stanley is expected at his residence in St. James's-square, from Knowsley Park, for two or three days. The Earl of Derby's party have had abundant sport, shooting on the well-stocked game preserves. The noble Earl is still unable to walk without assistance.—The Earl of Yarborough and his son-in-law, Sir Joseph Copley, bart., have arrived at Cowes, after a tempestuous passage from Gibraltar in the *Kestrel*. His lordship's youngest son, the Hon. Capt. Pelham, and his bride, have been passing the honeymoon at Malta, where Captain Pelham's ship the *Wasp* is stationed.—The Marquis and Marchioness of Sligo and the Ladies Browne have arrived at Naples, where they will winter. The noble marquis, we hear, still suffers much from gout.—Viscount Borington will return to Saltram early in the ensuing month from his tour in Spain and Portugal, when a series of splendid theatrical fetes will be given by the Earl and Countess of Morley at the above seat.—The late Lord George Beresford has bequeathed the whole of his property to his three surviving daughters, the Hon. Misses Beresford, who are residing with their aunt, Lady Anne Beresford, sister of the lord primate, at Armagh. The Marquis of Waterford and Lord John Beresford attended the interment of the noble and gallant lord, in the mausoleum of the Beresford family.—Lord and Lady De Grey have been seeing a succession of visitors at their splendid chateau since the assembling of the Yorkshire hussars, of which the noble earl is colonel, for duty.—The new mansion at Wrest, in Bedfordshire, is now completed, and will be occupied by the earl next month.—Sir Robert Peel, Bart., M. P., accompanied by Lady and Miss Peel, left by the railroad on Tuesday morning for Drayton Manor, Staffordshire. Her Majesty the Queen Dowager will visit Sir Robert Peel early in the ensuing week.—Sir Charles Morgan, Bart., is at Tredegar, his seat in Wales, where the venerable baronet intends staying until after Christmas. Viscount and Viscountess Rodney are staying at Tredegar.—Sir Henry Hugh Hoare has presented the sum of £50 to the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education, and Mr. Walter Long, M. P., £25 to the same board.—Alderman Scholey has left £10,000 to be applied to charitable purposes in his native parish, Sandal, near Wakefield.—Bills have been affixed on several houses in Abingdon street, including the renowned *Chaqueurs* public house, by the House of Lords, announcing that they are to be sold preparatory to their being pulled down, to make way for the new Houses of Parliament.—Prince Henry the Twentieth (!), of the oldest branch of the reigning Princes of Reuss-Greiz, has recently espoused the Princess Caroline-Amelia-Elizabeth of Hesse, the eldest daughter of his Serene Highness Prince Gustavus of Hesse. (We believe in the existence of the principality of Reuss-Greiz, but have not been able to find it on the map of Germany.)—His Royal Highness Prince George of Cambridge, attended by Col. Cornwall, will make a short *sejour* in Paris *en route* from Berne. The prince has been fifteen months performing the grand tour.—The late Right Hon. John Sullivan who expired at his seat, Hichings Lodge, near Colnbrook, on Friday last, in his 91st year, was a commissioner of the board of control for 30 years, and retired from office on the formation of Viscount Melbourne's administration.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly; I shall, at the earliest period, cause the Public Accounts to be laid before you. The expenditure upon Roads and Bridges will be found to exceed the sum appropriated to that particular service; but as this expenditure became necessary, in consequence of the heavy gale with which the Island was visited on the 13th of September, I cannot doubt that it will receive your sanction.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

I have much pleasure in communicating to you the sanction of Her Majesty's Government, to the appropriation of the liberal sum of £1500, out of the accruing produce of the Sales of Crown Lands, to the erection of a Building in Charlottetown, as an Asylum for insane persons, and other objects of charity, upon the terms stated by you, in your address upon that important subject, presented to me during the last session.

It is with peculiar satisfaction that I am enabled to congratulate you upon the increased prosperity which has marked the progress of the past year in every department of our productive industry.

The influx of emigration—the wealth and sinews of a new country—has not been equalled in any former season; and, notwithstanding a partial failure of the wheat crop in some parts of the colony, we have reason to be thankful for a plentiful harvest.

The Revenue exhibits an increase considerably exceeding that of the preceding year; and it is not unworthy of remark, that the Customs' Department, the receipts of which have heretofore proved inadequate to support the expense of the establishment, has, in the last year, paid a large sum into the Provincial Treasury.

The Estimates for the current year shall be prepared with a due regard to the wants of the Colony; and I rely upon your accustomed liberality to vote such supplies as the exigencies of the Public service may require.

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council;

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

It will be my duty to lay before you communications which I have received from Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies; and I shall avail myself of the usual medium of conferring with you by message, upon all other subjects of like import. With a full reliance upon your zeal and diligence in the discharge of your legislative duties, I have every hope, that your united deliberations will be productive of those objects for which alone we are assembled—the happiness and prosperity of the inhabitants of this fine Island.

At the close of the Speech, the House of Assembly withdrew, and His Excellency soon afterwards left the Court House. Among the ladies in the Council Chamber we observed the Countess of Westmorland, Lady Mary Fitz Roy, Miss Fitz Roy, &c. &c. A salute was fired by the Militia Artillery, from two field pieces placed in front of the Court House, on His Excellency's leaving Government House, and again, on his quitting the Court House. The day being remarkable fine, the concourse of persons assembled to witness the ceremony was unusually large.

The Attorney General presided at the Council Board. Mr. Haviland's duties as Colonial Secretary will prevent his attending in his place in the Legislature.

In the House of Assembly, after the Governor's Speech had been reported and read, the following Committees were appointed.—

To prepare the draught of an Address, in answer to the Speech—Messrs. Rae, D. Macdonald, Fraser, Clark, Hon. J. S. Macdonald.

Engrossed Bills—Messrs. D. Macdonald, Gorman, Forbes, Rae.

Public Accounts—Messrs. Longworth, Thomson, Rae, Fraser, Palmer, Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Clark.

Journals—Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Hon. Mr. Pope, and Mr. Palmer.

Expiring Laws—Messrs. Le Lacheur and D. Macdonald.

Good Correspondence—Hon. J. S. Macdonald, Messrs. Rae, Clark, Longworth, Thomson.

Private Bills—Messrs. Palmer, Le Lacheur, Dalziel, Clark, Hudson.

#### WEDNESDAY, January 29.

Mr. Le Lacheur reported on the Expiring Laws—Resolutions thereupon were afterwards reported, for continuing the following Acts, without amendment, viz:—the Act for the trial of Common Assaults and Batteries—the Act relating to Hawkers and Pedlars—Act to prevent the running at large of Sheep in Charlottetown—Act for imposing a Tax on Dogs—Act to regulate the mode of proceeding on contested Elections.

A Committee was appointed to bring in a Bill for the purpose of continuing the above Laws for a limited period.

The Act for granting a bounty on Vessels engaged in the Fisheries of this Island, which will expire on the 1st of March next, was left over for future consideration.

Messrs. James B. Cooper & Co. were appointed Printers to the House.

A Message was received from the Legislative Council, intimating that they had appointed the Honorable Mr. Brecken, Mr. Goodman and Mr. MacNutt a Committee to join the Committee of the Assembly, for the purpose of keeping up a good correspondence between the two Houses.

Mr. Rae, from the Committee appointed to prepare the draught of an Address in answer to His Excellency's Speech, presented the following draught, as prepared by the Committee:

To His Excellency Sir Charles Augustus Fitz Roy, K. H., Lieut. Governor, &c. &c. &c.

May it please your Excellency;

We the Representatives of the people of Prince Edward Island, in General Assembly convened, respectfully offer your Excellency our thanks for your Speech, delivered at the commencement of the present Session, and for calling us together, in our public capacity, at that season when the relinquishment of our private avocations will be productive of less inconvenience than at any other period.

We share with your Excellency in the feeling of gratitude to the Giver of all good, for having rewarded the labours of the husbandmen with such a harvest as is amply sufficient for the maintenance of the inhabitants; and being well aware that the industry of those who clear away the forest and cultivate the ground has produced almost the whole of whatever property is to be found in the country, and that the due encouragement of these is necessary for developing its

#### Opening of the Colonial Legislature.

On Tuesday last, His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor repaired to the Council Chamber, in front of which he was received by a guard of honor of the 37th Regt., and having taken his seat, a message was sent, commanding the attendance of the House of Assembly. The Speaker and the House having accordingly attended, His Excellency was pleased to open the Session with the following Speech to both Houses:—

Mr. President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council;

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly;

I have called you together at the usual season of the year, as being the best suited to the ordinary course of the public business.