

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

(From the European Times.)

Lord Stanley, who distinguished himself at Bristol last week on the subject of Reformatories for the juvenile criminal population, has this week added to his laurels by an excellent lecture on the subject of composite sowing—agriculture. Whatever he touches, he turns to gold. On this occasion his lordship presided at the dinner of the North Lancashire Agricultural Society, and gave the banquet which he presided over so excellent advice on the subject of drainage, manures, and the application of machinery to the soil. Lord Stanley never appears in public without carefully preparing himself, and he has done so in the result. There is something always infusing in what falls from him. He is great in statistics, but even his deulatory reading is practical and instructive. His lordship thinks that all the drainage he is seen carried off late years to a considerable extent, much yet remains to be done, and relying on the estimate of others, he believes that a hundred millions of money might be profitably invested in this important department of improvement—an enormous sum, it is true, but small, as he showed, in comparison with the money sunk in railways during the last twenty years, a species of investment which has been productive of great public results. Of the 77,000,000 of acres in the United Kingdom, it is ascertained that three-fifths are already in cultivation, good, bad, or indifferent, as the case may be, and the one fifth which is not cultivated, and that the remaining fifth is not worth cultivation. Instead of bringing expensive manures from the far Pacific and the ends of the earth, he thinks that manure should come from the advanced countries employed on the principle that nothing in nature is destroyed, and that whatever comes from the earth must inevitably return to it. The sewage of the Thames and the contents of the great cesspits, year after year, and a noble river from pollution. The application of machinery to the soil during the last fifteen years has been most encouraging in tilling, sowing, and reaping, and the use of steam engines, and various other agricultural implements. One firm during the last four years has sold no less than 1330 steam engines for agricultural purposes, and there is now a demand in the United Kingdom for 400 agricultural societies, besides 150 farmers' clubs. It may be inferred, that the introduction of these topics, skillfully treated, by the materials which he has used, could not fail to startle and improve the agriculturists. There was one passage at the close of his address relative to the laboring sons of the soil which was so excellent in content, that we cannot resist the temptation to quote it.—Lord Stanley said: "I say the laboring classes, because I confess that it is a consideration which gives the whole subject of agricultural progress interest, and which we should not altogether possess. The higher the farmer becomes, the more machinery you employ, the less need there be of brute force, and the more you will require of the cultivated intelligence, and you will have a less demand upon your labourers' muscles, and a greater demand upon their brains."

The weather, although broken occasionally, is upon the whole fine. If there be showers or rain one hour or one day, the rain is the slight, and the sun is the warmth and sunshine, which immediately repair any trifling damage which may have been done. The harvest in all parts of the country is progressing most favorably, and the prospects are most encouraging. Indeed, we do not remember a year when the husbandman's prospects were so good. In addition to the home supplies being thus ample, the quantity of wheat and corn coming in from the foreign world is large, and the price obtained a handsome margin of profit. This year of the harvest in the United States and in Canada has been a plentiful beyond precedent. Of course, the crops which are now coming in of last year's growth; but impelled by the shortness of the crops in Spain and Portugal, and by the painful condition of things in the Island of Madeira,—above all, acted

upon by the present comparatively high quotations which still prevail, vast additional quantities of wheat and flour will be forwarded from America at the earliest opportunity. The present state of the gratifying state of things, momentary uncertainties were an unpleasant aspect. Consols are low,—lower in fact than they were a month ago, money is dear and scarce, and the market for the purchase of the stock, the disappearance of a few millions of gold poisons our joy. This question of the currency must be thoroughly sifted in the next session of Parliament, when the report of the Royal Commission will be for discussion. Our Liverpool merchants, represented by their Chamber of Commerce, seem unwilling to touch ground so tender. A passing reference is made to it in the *Halifax* report of the chamber, but in a manner from which it is impossible to extract any meaning. That business men should be ignorant at this time of day of the operation of laws which so materially affect the interests of the country, and even of their own commercial existence, is a marvel which justifies the aphorism that "truth is stranger than fiction."

The brother of Lord Palmerston, Sir William Temple, died in London on the evening of Sunday last, in his 68th year, and he was a man who had done more for the greater part of his life with the diplomatic profession. His death is of no importance in a political point of view, but it will regulate, to some extent, the movement of the market for consols, and the disappointment cannot fail to be great. If this calamity had not occurred, Lord Palmerston would have inaugurated the opening of the new Mechanics' Institution in that town on the morning of the 21st inst.; and as a proof of the interest which his presence was exciting, tickets in the dress circle of the Theatre Royal were selling at a guinea each, thus rivaling another London society, which had been sold on the same boards on the evening of the 8th. The disappointment will be mutual, for his lordship was anxious to visit Manchester, and to make the acquaintance of the new building, which he had just seen at times, and which he had checked and controlled the adjudications in Lord Palmerston's own peculiar senary—St. Stephen's. But it may be, that his lordship's death will be a benefit to the country, which condemns him to privacy on account of his fraternal loss, for Sir William Temple's state of health long preceding his dissolution was such as to afford no hope of his recovery. There was nothing like arrested in the mournful event.

The dinner to the Guards in London this week was an *event*,—one of those heart-felt and patriotic demonstrations, the result of voluntary exertions, prompted by a generous feeling, which might be said to be a national country. The thing was well and noble done, and we can well understand the feeling displayed by the 2000 fine soldiers who sat down to the entertainment. The chair was occupied by the Duke of Edinburgh, senior sergeant of the Guards, who claims to be the oldest soldier in the British army, although the accounts represent him to be far from aged-looking. Unlike many thousand of his countrymen, he had accompanied him to the Crimea, and left his bones there; he escaped the fatality of that perilous campaign, and although offered a commission declined it. The interest which the soldiers of the Guards have in the men who have returned from the Black Sea has in some instances, been substantial, for the dinner to the guards brings out the pleasing fact, that he sent for this Edwards, who had accompanied the Duke of the Guard, besides making him the Prince of Wales' tutor in calisthenic exercises,—a trait to his Majesty's character which it is pleasant to record.

From the trade and navigation returns, which have been published, it does not follow, we learn that the value of exported goods in the month of July exceeds that of last year by nearly two millions, and shows an advance of more than half a million over the same month of the year immediately preceding. In 1856, the increase is more than five millions as compared with the corresponding seven months of 1855, and more than twice as compared with 1854. This exhibits an

enormous amount of manufacturing activity, owing to the cessation of the war, and as many markets now open were previously closed, the probability, may be, certainly, is that the value of the markets for the exchanging products with other countries, our commercial buoyancy must continue. There is an increase in the foreign tonnage of July this year as compared with July of last year, and the same result shows the same result. But in the coasting trade the figures for the two periods are very similar.

The Queen has sought her Highland home this year a little sooner than usual. She left London on Thursday morning, and arrived in Perth on the evening of Friday, passing a night and a day at the Scottish capital, she will proceed this morning—Saturday, from Edinburgh, and arrive at Banchoy a few minutes before three in the noon, and will be met by rail ends at that point. Balmoral will be reached by posting. It will be seen from this, that a gossip which the London papers circulated during the summer, of a visit to Berlin, to Louisa, to Ireland, and other places, was the mere coinage of the writers' brains. The plea cannot be advanced, even that she may possibly have changed her mind, for all the engagements to her royal highness were entered into and prepared for, long previous to their execution. Royalty has some discomforts from which ordinary is free—it cannot seize its carpet bag and woo the breeze on the heather side of a mountain, like the great family of Jones, Brown, and Robinson.

Talking of this last-named illustrious trio and the subject of dress, the leading London journal of yesterday has a leading article on our countrymen making "Guys" of themselves at this season of the year in the purchase of the most expensive and costly of our great contemporary suits describes this pictorial Englishman:—"Englishmen at present abound here, recognizable, as usual, by their eccentricities. Let us, to Ireland, and other places, where it seems to think not only justifiable but proper to adopt, as soon as they step off English ground, even though the capital they repair to be quite as civilized as the one they have just quitted. Customary phenomenal shooting shooting coats, distorted waist-coats, and low crowned straws with oilskin covers." So much for the correspondent; now for the editor. The editor says, "I am sorry to say that great personage, 'have no respect for themselves, at least let them not bring ridicule on the nation to which they belong by so total a disregard of the necessities of their wardrobe. The great personage, Mr. Bull, but it is tempered with the admission which he is at home, he is the 'most decently-attired man in Europe.'" But listen to the concluding words of the august editor:—"The Editor of the *Times* is the Englishman of the middle class leaves, no doubt, much to be desired as far as dress is concerned, in comparison with his French sisters. Her gowns are ill-fitting, and her shoes are of the most imperfect theories upon the important matter of wearing her shawl. She will persist in adopting some tawdry dab of velvet in summer, and winter beholds her Baunting about in satins, and in the cold months she will combine and the more of these she can bring into imperfect combination, the better satisfied with herself she appears to be."

To keep a check upon the Caffres in future, it has been determined to establish a military colony in Africa,—and the Queen receives the warm approval of the London *Times*. That paper devotes a leading article in its impression of yesterday to the subject.

The Queen of Oude has been holding a levee at an hotel in Southampton, in true Oriental fashion, and a large party of our countrymen in Regent's Park, London, where several houses are engaged to receive herself and her suite. The King, her son, may be looked for in a week or two. These unfortunate people who have been so long in London, and who leave it, judging by the notorious extravagance in which they are indulging. The probability, almost the certainty is, that they will have to be sent home at the expense of

that Eastern Poor Law Board—the Indianapolis.

If Louis Blanc is to be believed, the French political prisoners who have been sent to Cayenne are treated with a cruelty and brutality perfectly revolting. The French press, it is true, is glib; but it is very unwise on the part of Louis Napoleon to continue a policy so atrocious as this, assuming it to be true, and if not true, it is a policy which will only contradict statements authenticated elsewhere which Louis Blanc has published in the London papers. Murder speaks, we are told, without tongue, and the knowledge of the French people will not be long in to France whatever care may be taken to suppress them. In the French metropolis some of the leading journals are under the ban of the police for giving utterance to unpardonable attacks, and a Parisian correspondent Combes has been fined for an article which under a more healthy state of things would only have provoked a smile. This system of sternness suits little for the state of the present throne.

A laboured vindication of the Spanish Ministry, in the form of a letter addressed to the Queen and signed by each of the ministers, appears in the *Journal des Debats* of Wednesday, assigning reasons for the course which the Government has pursued, and justifying the whole policy of the O'Donnell Government. This document can hardly be said to be an excusation, for if any doubt favorable to the leading miscreant and pretensionist existed in the mind of an impartial reader, it would disappear before the statements and reasoning in this manifesto. As long as the National Guard existed, the independence of the country was safe. The National Guard numbered 80,400, the National Guard consisted of 300,000 men; and as it is said that any attack is good enough to beat a dog with, so any pretext, however flimsy, is sufficient for disarming the body of citizen soldiers. Another notable circumstance is, that General Narvaez has received permission to return to Spain. The *Madrid Gazette*, by way of inducing a more liberal policy, has been obliged to exempting from a number of local charges all vessels bringing wheat, barley, and other specified articles.

The difference which existed between Russia and the Western Powers, respecting the alleged excessive infraction of the treaty of Paris, by the latter, in those places which were specified, are on the point of satisfactory adjustment. The Czar professes to be hurt at the bare supposition of unfairness in the proceedings of the Emperor, and will take place on the 7th of September. The Imperial court was to leave St Petersburg for Moscow on the 26th and make its solemn entry into that city on the 29th.

SPAIN.

Advices from Madrid of the 23rd state and would be followed by other important measures, namely,—the dissolution of the Constituent Cortes; the publication of the fundamental law, that is, the constitution of 1845, with its modifications; the extension of liberal sense; the municipality and provincial deputations laws, restrictive of the powers of those bodies, and depriving them of all right to interfere in political questions; the repeal of the laws which impose penalties in the penalties and the organization of the jury; and the establishment of the Council of State.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times*, alluding to the affairs of Spain, says—"The paper which reacts the most in the revolution, is now openly entered upon, and even if the present Government be resolved to follow it, but up to a certain point, will find others waiting to relieve them of their burden and draw it to the end. Spain is apparently on the eve of again becoming the prey of unscrupulous adventurers. There are already symptoms of financial embarrassments."

ITALY.

A congress of the principal partisans of Prince Lucien Murat, who aspires to the throne of Naples, is about to be held in Sa-