BALTIMORE.

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 1858.

If Africa were an island, instead of being bound to the continent of Asia by a narrow ligament of rock and sand, European navigators could very easily accomplish a voyage to the Indies in thirty days. But the Isthmus of Suez, by separating the Mediterranean Sea from the Arabian Gulf, forces all who traffic with the East Indies to take the long and dangerous route, by way of the Cape of Good Hope. If then, we bear in mind the fact, that, by simply cutting a ship canal across the Isthmus of Suez, an outlet to the Indian Ocean would be formed, by which the necessity of coasting almost the entire continent of Africa would be avoided, and the length of the voyage shortened by several months, we may readily understand the importance which the French journalists attach to the construction of the proposed canal, and may surmise the reason why England condemns the project as visionary and impracticable, while, at the same time, she guards herself against the consequences which might arise from its possible completion, by seizing and fortifying the Island of Perim. Assuming that engineering skill succeeds finally in surmounting the natural obstructions that are alleged to exist, vessels bound for India, instead of making that voyage by way of the North and South Atlantic Oceans, would sail up the Mediterranean, pass through the Ship Canal, run down the narrow elongated ellipse of the Arabian Gulf—or Red Sea, as it is more commonly called—and enter the Indian Ocean by the strait of *Bab el Mandeb*. The distance from the mouth of the Red Sea to Bombay, roughly estimated, being but fifteen hundred miles is, even now, easily accomplished by steam in the course of a few days. Now, every mariner who has been to the port of Mocha, for a freight of coffee and the dates of Yemen, knows that nearly midway between Aden and Mocha, at the mouth of the Red Sea, and where the shores of Asia and Africa most closely approach each other, an island has been formed, which commands the entrance to the strait of *Bab el Mandeb* and which if properly fortified, and in the hands of a power capable of holding it, would effectually exclude an hostile fleet from sailing into the Indian Ocean. This island, so advantageously situated, is the *Perim* which England is now proceeding to fortify, and against whose occupancy the French journalists so vehemently protest.

England justifies the act as a measure of precaution, adopted for the protection of her overland travel to India and the security of her commercial interests. Her statesmen well know that it has been for ages the ambition of France to found an Empire in the East, and that, for the last two hundred years, this idea of territorial expansion has been especially fostered and encouraged. The elder NAPOLEON, in his invasion of Egypt, did but attempt to carry out a project that was frequently discussed a century and a half earlier by LOUIS XIV; but the execution of which was procrastinated until the war with WILLIAM of ORANGE, and the subsequent victories of MARLBOROUGH, diverted his thoughts from foreign conquest by constraining him to protect his possessions at home.

Egypt was justly regarded by NAPOLEON as the key to the East; and if, during their discussions at Tilsit, he could have induced the CZAR to co-operate with him in subjecting that territory to the rule of France, without conceding to Russia the possession of Constantinople, it would have taxed all the energies of England to defend her Indian Empire from the consequences of so powerful and so menacing an alliance. But England, even then, was perfectly aware of the value of the little rock of Perim. As the ally of Turkey in 1799, she seized and fortified it, but abandoned it again in 1801 upon the expulsion of the French armies from Egypt. She now resumes the occupancy, and claims that while Turkey, to whom it properly belongs, does not object to the transfer, no other nation has a right to interpose. Whether France, acting in the interest of European commerce, and in furtherance of her own views of territorial aggrandizement in the East, can force England to unloose her grasp of this important but long neglected position, yet remains to be seen. If a ship canal across the Isthmus of Suez is practicable—a point upon which French and English engineers are at variance—and if French diplomacy succeeds in overcoming the reluctance of the Moslem authorities to its construction, it will doubtless enlist many of the powers of Europe in its favor; and if England still persists in building up a second Gibraltar in the straits of *Bab el Mandeb*, the controversy may finally end in forming new and unexpected combinations. In the meantime she has constituted herself the Warder of the *Gate of Misery*—for such by interpretation is *Bab el Mandeb*—and from what we know of her antecedents, we may safely assert that she will not retire from her post except upon compulsion.

We undertook yesterday to demonstrate that the possession of Ruatan and the Bay Islands by Great Britain is not in contravention of the CLAYTON-BULWER treaty, and therefore no ground for its abrogation in the summary manner proposed by Mr. CLINGMAN. This proposition we think that we proved conclusively. We did so, by showing that these islands neither politically nor geographically belong to the Mosquito Coast, but to Honduras, and that the English title to them, such as it is, is derived, not from the sham protectorate exercised by England over the Mosquito Indians, but was originally acquired by right of conquest from the Spaniard. In describing Ruatan and the Bay Islands as properly and geographically part of Honduras, within thirty miles of whose coast they lie, though claimed by England as political dependencies of Belize, we inadvertently classed Belize with them as also belonging to the State of Honduras, whereas, as everybody knows, Belize, though called Belize-Honduras, is part of Yucatan, and within the political limits of the ancient vice-royalty of Guatemala. Our proposition is simply this, that the title to the whole of Central America and the adjacent islands was originally in the Spanish Crown, by virtue of the right of discovery; and that except where it has since been divested by actual conquest by another Power, or formal cession on the part of Spain, it has descended unbroken and unimpaired to the Central American Republics. Whether in the particular case of the Bay Islands, the Spanish title has been so divested, we did not pretend to determine. Certainly there has been no act of cession on the part either of Spain or Honduras. The English title, if any there be, must rest exclusively upon the fact of the conquest of the island, and its subsequent appropriation and colonization by Admiral VERNON. Even this presumption, though strengthened on the one hand by many years of long-continued and adverse possession, is greatly weakened on the other by the fact that in March, 1781, a Spanish force landed upon the island, where at the time, the English had built a flourishing town of five hundred houses, and three forts mounting fifty cannon, and destroyed the town and dismantled the forts. Down to this day, the English aggression has always been maintained under protest on the part of the Spanish and Central American governments, and we may safely assume, that nothing but the utter inability of a feeble State like Honduras to cope with a great nation like the English, has prevented a second forcible expulsion of the latter, from the island of Ruatan. The question, however, as in the case of the English claim to Belize-Honduras, is not between England and ourselves, but between England and the Central American Republics, whose sovereignty she has violated, whose territories she has appropriated, and of whose weakness she has taken advantage. Our dispute with England arises from the doubtful construction of the CLAYTON-BULWER treaty, and the charge of bad faith preferred against her on account of her continued possession of the Bay Islands. This charge we think that we have successfully disposed of, by showing its utter groundlessness, and demonstrating that whatever defects there may be in the CLAYTON-BULWER treaty, there exists no justification whatever for its abrogation on the score that its covenants have been broken.

We are indebted to Hon. A. Kennedy for Congressional documents.

The Chicago *Democrat* says that laborers in that city are not likely to get more than six shillings a day during the coming season, and that hundreds are there now out of employment.

Another company of Philadelphia left on Wednesday morning in the steamship Virginia for Richmond, *en route* for Mr. Gorden's lands, near the Bath Alum Springs, in Bath county, Va.

ARRIVAL OF THE VANDERBILT.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE INDIA GOVERNMENT QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.

RESULT OF THE ELECTIONS IN PARIS.

STATE OF THE MARKETS,

&c. &c. &c.

The steamship Vanderbilt, Captain Lefevre, from Havre and Southampton, 28th ult., arrived off the Lighthouse early last evening, and reached her dock about two o'clock this morning. She brings news to the afternoon of the 28th ult., four days later than previous advices.

Special mails were made up at the general post offices of Paris and London, consequent on the United States mails being taken by the British screw steamer City of Baltimore, sailing on the morning of the same day from Liverpool.

The steamship Harmonia arrived at Cowes on Tuesday morning.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

The House of Lords sat for a short time on the 26th ult., but no business of any importance was brought under consideration.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Macartney asked the Secretary of War whether the entire charge for pay, allowances, clothing, appointments, stores and horses of the increased force of British troops now serving in India by reason of the mutiny, would be defrayed and provided for out of the Indian revenues alone, and if not, what proportion would be charged on Imperial revenue; also whether any portion of the cost of transport had been borne by the Naval or War Departments.

General Peel said that every farthing of the expense would be defrayed by the East India Company.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then moved that the House will, upon Friday next, resolve itself into a committee to consider the act of the 16th and 17th Victoria, c. 95, to provide for the government of India. After referring to the overwhelming majorities against Mr. Baring's motion, "That it is not expedient at present to legislate upon the government of India," he said that that majority had only given to the noble lord then at the head of the government permission to bring in his bill, but by no means pledged the House to any of its details. When the present government came into power it thought it advisable to lay before the House a scheme for the government of India, which was in some respects like that of the preceding government, yet different from it in many material particulars.

Lord Palmerston said the speech of the right honorable gentlemen might have been very appropriate if he were moving the second reading of his own bill; instead of which, however, he was giving it as a funeral oration over the very measure—India bill No. 2—which he had himself murdered. The fact was, the Indian Minister was responsible to Parliament, and it was in Parliament the elective principle was requisite to secure a proper administration of the government in India. The council would not be the government of India, it would only be the adviser of the Minister; for were it to have control there would be an end to ministerial responsibility. Under these circumstances it would be absurd to have it appointed by the elective principle.

Mr. Gladstone said he was of opinion that it was rare to legislate at all while war still raged in India; but as Parliament had decided differently, he had bowed to that decision, but protested against the resolution which had been placed in the Speaker's hand. He did not approve of either of the bills which had been presented to the House, for neither of them provided a council with such varied information with respect to India as was to be found in the present Court of Directors. The first thing requisite was to provide for the protection of the people of India, from the ignorance, the indiscretion, and the errors of the government at home, and in the next place that no wars, such as that in Persia, should be entered upon in that country without the knowledge of Parliament.

Lord Goderich said he would reserve to himself the right of moving, on Friday, as an amendment, that the mode of procedure should be by bill, and not by resolution.

Mr. Horsman suggested that on Friday they should only come to the resolution that the government of India should be transferred to the Crown, and then that a committee should be appointed to ascertain the best mode of carrying out the resolution.

After some discussion Mr. Gregory withdrew the amendment, and the original resolution was agreed to.

The Committee of Supply was postponed until Wednesday.

On the second reading of the Excise Duties bill, Mr. P. O'Brien opposed the increase of the spirit duty in Ireland, and moved as an amendment that the bill be read the second time that day six months.

Mr. Esmonde seconded the amendment. After a short discussion, confined to the Irish members, the House divided, and the amendment was negatived by a majority of 227 to 35. The bill was then read a second time.

The remaining business was then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following paragraph in the non-official column:

There are certain persons who, in order to maintain uneasiness in the public mind, daily invent false news. Thus the Parisian correspondence of the *Independence Belge* pretends that great maritime armaments are being made in France. This is completely untrue. There has been no change made in the budget prepared for the year 1858 and 1859.

The *Times* correspondent says:

We find in the *Moniteur* of yesterday the report of the commission appointed to examine the budget for the year 1859, in which it is stated that the navy budget for that year amounts to 140,548,538f., and that for the year 1853 to 112,155,249f., being an increase in the navy budget of the year 1858 of 28,392,289f. It may not be irrelevant to remark that the increased navy budget of 1839 was prepared during a period of profound peace, and that in the year 1853 we were on the eve of a war, which was not concluded until the year 1856. We have not learned that France has acquired any new colonies since 1853 which require an increased naval force for their protection. The report is said to have been prepared by M. Devinck, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and one of the Deputies for the city of Paris.

Baron de Talleyrand, French Commissioner in the Danubian Principalities, returned from Bucharest to Paris on Thursday night. The Baron had an interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The *Echo Rochelais* announces that M. de Chasiron, Jr., is about to proceed to Canton, entrusted by the government with a private mission.

The London *Times'* correspondent says eight thousand voting tickets have been already demanded in the Eighth Electoral district of the third arrondissement, in which M. Jules Favre for the opposition and General Perrot for the government, stand as candidates. People generally express little doubt of Jules Favre's success.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Chronicle* says: The French government have resolved to transfer the distribution of 100,000,000 francs authorized for the draining of agricultural lands; it is much too little for the large amount of surface which requires draixing. Application has been made to the French government by the native ironmasters for an increased duty on foreign iron. This would be to reverse the liberal policy of the government of his Majesty, who personally entertains very enlightened views on the expediency of freeing trade from restrictions of every kind.

The London *Globe* contains the result of the elections. In the 3d district, Gen. Perrot, the government candidate, has obtained the majority; that in the 5th district, M. Esk, government candidate, has also been returned by a majority; and that in the 6th district, M. Jules Favre, the opposition candidate, has been successful.

The *Constitutionnel* has the following, signed A. M. Renee—

The English government was right not to continue the prosecution against the accused Bernard. After the acquittal on the charge which entailed capital punishment, what would a few months' imprisonment signify? To convict a man of a misdemeanor who had been acquitted of a felony, would have been mockery.

The *Times* correspondent says the violent articles published in the *Univers* and *Constitutionnel* on the acquittal of Bernard by a London jury, a good deal checked the trade of Paris last week, which was beginning to recover from its long depression.

At Paris to-day (Tuesday,) according to M. Reuter's telegram, the three per cent. rentes opened at 66f. 40c.

SPAIN.

The London *Chronicle* correspondent says:—In the Chamber of Deputies, at the commencement of the sitting of the 20th inst., M. Gulierez de la Vega inquired in what state were the relations between Spain and the United States, inasmuch as telegraphic dispatches stated that the last accounts from America spoke of rumors of war between the two countries.

AUSTRIA.

The *Chronicle* says:—The retirement of Count Esterhazy as Austrian Ambassador to St. Petersburg will be followed, it is believed, by great changes in the Austrian diplomatic staff.

A letter from Cattaro says:—General Baron Mamula, on arriving here, inspected the military stations on the Austro-Albanian coast. The Austrian flotilla, which is cruising about here is not strong, but is well equipped.

The Montenegrins remain on the defensive and do not advance on the Austrian territory.

The *Ost Deutsche* does not exactly say that this government is well satisfied with what has occurred, but it is almost certain that such is really the case. The Austrians are desperately jealous of any attempt to make mischief in Italy, and can neither forgive nor forget the recent behaviour of the French government. Some question of unusual importance is at this moment being discussed between Austria and France, but the nature of it is not yet known. The French government is extremely desirous that the Paris conference should meet as soon as possible, but this government hangs back and is likely to continue to do so until it has been definitely settled what questions shall be discussed.—Men in office have repeatedly declared in my presence that the Riverain Powers will not permit the Paris Conference to revise their act of navigation. Count Buol was greatly blamed for having remained in the conference chamber when Count Cavour began to discuss Italian politics in April, 1856, and care will be taken not to fall into a similar error a second time. Austria and Prussia have agreed as to their policy in the Holstein affair.

SARDINIA.

The Sardinian Chamber adopted the principle of the Conspiracy bill by 120 votes to 29.

PERSIA.

According to letters from Teheran, disputes have arisen between the Shah and the English legation. We (London *Herald*) are assured that the Persians have taken possession of territories in Affganistan, and that they detain illegally a great number of Affghans.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON MONEY MARKET.—The London *Times'* City Article of Monday, April 26, says:—"The adoption of the clause of the budget imposing a penny stamp on checks, without even a word of discussion, has taken the city by surprise, since a large section of the banking interest were said to have organized an opposition that would infallibly compel Mr. D'Israeli to submit to the fate of Mr. Gladstone and Sir G. Lewis, who allowed themselves to be frightened out of a similar proposal. The result to the country at large will be gratifying, and even the bankers may console themselves that if the terrible picture they have drawn of the consequences that are to flow from it should be realized, it can be repealed at any time. As this apparently was the only point of the financial scheme just submitted which was in danger of being contested, the public may now assume they are in possession of all the materials for estimating their position for the next twelve months, supposing we are allowed to remain at peace. A complete statement and analysis of all its points can therefore be given.

On Saturday, the 1st of May, being the day fixed for striking the half-yearly balance at the bank, the Stock Exchange will probably be closed according to custom.—The stagnation in all departments of business seems to increase, and for the choicest bills the rate in the open market is only a fraction above 2 per cent. In the Stock Exchange advances on government securities can be obtained at 1½ per cent. At the Bank there was very little business doing.

In American securities Illinois Central declined slightly, while New York Central showed increased firmness.

APRIL 27—2 P. M.—Increased firmness is exhibited; consols being 97¼ for money; 97⅜ to 97½ for June.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET—April 26.—There has been only a moderate trade inquiry for Cotton to-day, and the sales do not exceed 8,000 bales. Speculators and exporters together have bought 3,000 bales. Last Friday's quotations firmly maintained.

LIVERPOOL CORN MARKET—April 27.—Market fairly attended, and a moderate business done in wheat and flour at full rates. Indian corn was more firmly held, and was difficult to sell unless a slight reduction was acceded to by sellers. Beans were steady, and other articles unaltered.

PRODUCE AND PROVISION MARKETS—LONDON, April 27, 1858.—Tea heavy. Sugar steady, at full prices. Coffee steady. Rice unchanged. Molasses inactive. Rum unchanged. Saltpetre steady, at full prices. Tallow firm.—Iron heavy. Tin slow; other metals are a dull inquiry.

The accounts from China by the mail state the exports of tea to date to have been 5½ millions below the exports to the corresponding period of last year. The price of tea was higher, with moderate transactions. No business was taking place at Canton. At Shanghai there had been no settlements of silks.

MARRIED,

On the 6th instant, by Rev. Dr. Backus, J. PENNINGTON, Jr., to ELIZABETH A., daughter of Archibald Stirling.

On the 6th instant, by Rev. Dr. Balch, JOHN L. ARMAGER to ROSA B., only daughter of the late John W. Peregoy, Esq., all of this city.

DIED,

Yesterday morning, May 10th, after a protracted and painful illness, FREDERICK THOMAS, son of Wm. H. and Ann M. L. Stran, in the 10th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are requested to attend his funeral from his father's residence, 148 East Lombard street, this afternoon, at 3½ o'clock, without further notice.

On the 8th instant, ELEANOR, aged 9 months and 12 days, daughter of George J. and Mary E. Kennard.

On the 9th instant, RICHARD JAMES ROVANE, aged 1 year and 8 months, only son of Timothy and Margaret Rovane.

On the 9th instant, MARY E. NICHOLSON, in the 18th year of her age.

On the 8th instant, SAMUEL W. FOSTER, aged 28 years.

HEALTH OFFICE, Baltimore, May 10, 1858.

Report of Deaths in the city of Baltimore, for the week ending Monday Morning.

Burn	1	Inflammation of brain	3
Casualty	1	" " lungs	4
Child-bed	2	Mania-a-Potu	1
Cholera infantum	1	Oil	1
Congestion of the bowels	1	Organic disease of heart	4
Consumption	22	Palsy	2
Convulsions	3	Rheumatism, inflammat'y	2
Crup	5	Small pox	5
Dropsy	2	Spinal affection	1
Drowned	1	Teething	1
Fever, bilious	1	Thrush	1
Fever, catarrhal	2	Unknown Adult	2
" scarlet	12	Unknown Infantile	11
" typhoid	1	Whooping cough	1
Inflammation of bowels	1		

Still-births	10	Between 30 and 40 years	4
Under 1 year	21	" 40 and 50 years	13
Between 1 and 2 years	9	" 50 and 60 years	2
" 2 and 5 years	14	" 60 and 70 years	3
" 5 and 10 years	11	" 70 and 80 years	3
" 10 and 15 years	1	" 80 and 90 years	1
" 15 and 20 years	5	" 90 and 100 years	0
" 20 and 30 years	10		

Males 45, Females 52.—97. Of this number 11 were colored persons, 10 free, 1 slave.

By order J. W. HOUCK, Commissioner of Health.

NEW COAL ARRANGEMENTS.

By an advertisement in another column we see that the Baltimore Coal Company, whose coal is so well known, and deservedly stands so high in this market, having determined to protect their reputation, and to guarantee that those who buy the Baltimore Company's Coal get what they buy, have arranged to do their own business, supplying the consumers direct, and to sell no coal to dealers. To accomplish this object, they have placed the exclusive management of their business in the hands of Messrs. DOBBIN & WARFIELD, who, we understand, act on behalf of the Company as their agents. Messrs. D. & W. have heretofore been only known as largely engaged in the wholesale Cumberland Coal Trade, and in the management of several of the mines of George's Creek Valley, all of which they continue. By this arrangement the consumers of Coal have a certainty of getting undoubtedly the best Coal in the market, and in full weight. This is certainly a change to be rejoiced at. my8-tf

GIFTS! GIFTS!! GIFTS!!

GIFTS. GIFTS. GIFTS.