TWO DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE ASIA.

ANOTHER REFORM SPEECH BY MR. BRIGHT.

MARINE DISASTERS ON THE SPANISH COAST.

Napoleon's Commission in favor of Negro Importation.

AMERICAN FILLIBUSTERS IN IRELAND.

The Cunard steamship Asia, Capt. Lott, which sailed from Liverpool at noon on the 11th instant, arrived here at about 7:30 last evening. Her advices are two days later than those of the Pacific, and two days later than those brought by the Kangaroo.

The Cunard Company advertise the screw steamship Jura to sail for New-York on the 1st of January, as an extra vessel.

GREAT BRITAIN.

In a speech at the banquet given by the Fishmongers' Company in London, the Earl of Carnarvon (a member of the Cabinet) took the opportunity of declaring the total dissent of the Government from the recommendations of Sir J. Young's purloined dispatch relating to the future policy to be pursued in the protectorate of the Ionian Islands.

Several distinguished politicians, including Lord Palmerston, Mr. Lowe, and Messrs. Gibson and Bright has been addressing large public meetings on political topics in general, and the Reform question in particular. The long-expected demonstration, in the shape of a soiree, at Manchester, in honor of the two last-named gentlemen, came off on the evening of the 10th inst. The Free-Trade Hall was crowded with an audience of about 5,000 people, who were enthusiastic in their welcome to their two late representatives in Parliament. Congratulatory resolutions were adopted, and Messrs. Gibson and Bright spoke at considerable length. The latter reiterated the sentiments recently enunciated by him at Birmingham (alogistic of the representative system of the United States.

Some of the English newspapers having published a report that Lords Richard Grosvenor, Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Ashley had been murdered by a party of Sioux Indians, Lord Shaftesbury, the father of Mr. Ashley, writes to the papers, contradicting the report.

Baron Rothschild has given the sum of £2,000 for the purpose of founding a scholarship for the City of London School, in commemoration of the 27th of July, 1858, the day on which he was admitted, as a Jew, to take his seat in Parliament.

The Morning Post having stated that Mr. Horace Rumbold had been nominated British Minister to Pekin, *The Times* reiterates its statement that the Hon. Frederick Bruce, brother to Lord Elgin, is to have the mission, and that Mr. Rumbold will merely accompany him in an inferior capacity.

A fillibustering scheme against Ireland is said to have been brought to light. *The Cork Daily Reporter* of the 9th publishes the following in an extra edition:

"At 11½ o'clock this day, fifteen prisoners, charged with being members of an illegal society, arrived by the Bandon train, under the escort of a large body of police. They are all young men, and of respectable position in society. Twelve of them are from Skibbereen and three from Bantry. The captures were effected last night, while most of the prisoners were in bed. They are members of the Phoenix Society, and the informations have been sworn against them by one of their body, named Sullivan. The object of the Society is said to have been to obtain an invasion of our country by American fillibusters."

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council had confirmed the decision of the Admiralty Court in the matter of the collision between the American ship North American and a Spanish vessel in the Irish Channel. The decision held that both vessels were to blame.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

The London Times has the following remarks in its City Article upon the Atlantic Telegraph:

"The question as to the replacing of the Atlantic Telegraph Cable is likely to be decided in a few days. The Company have made application to the Government for a guaranty of 4½ ₩ cent on £357,000, subject to the same conditions as that of the Red Sea line, and this has been backed by memorials signed by the leading firms, not only of London, but of Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Leeds, Halifax, Bradford, Hull, Glasgow, Paisley and Norwich. Supposing it to be granted, contracts will immediately be concluded for a new cable, and any negotiations that may be thought desirable with the American Government will subsequently be entered into. No attempts can be made with any prospect of success to lift the old cable until the return of calm weather at the end of April or May, and, even under the best circumstances, the expectations with regard to the operation are not favorable. Meanwhile, it has been definitely ascertained that the existing damage was not at the shore end. The laying of the new end has been completed to a distance of twelve miles out from Valentia, and the portion taken up was found to be in a perfect condition for all electrical purposes. Experiments lately undertaken by a person previously unconnected with the enterprise, strongly support the original inference that the main fault is about 270 miles from the Irish coast, at a depth probable of 900 fathoms. There is also a fault on the other side, which is thought to be about 300 miles from Newfoundland; currents, however, still continue to be received, although of a kind so feeble and uncertain as to be useless for any practical purpose. At present the telegraph is in charge of Mr. Henley, who is manufacturing an apparatus such as his experience on the spot leads him to think may yet possibly lead to some results, but in no case could there be a hope of achieving permanently any satisfactory communication, otherwise than by an entirely new line. After the unanimous expression of opinion, not merely by the commercial towns, but the people at large, that the work is one the nation should not allow to fail, it may be presumed there is little doubt of the required help being accorded, subject to such stipulations as may protect the general interests of the public. Among other provisions, some modification in the construction of the Board might perhaps be advantageously demanded."

The Daily News, both in its city article, and editorially, comments upon the appeal to the Government and expresses the hope that the application, supported as it is by the most influential names in commercial circles, will be granted.

MR. BRIGHT ON AMERICA AND PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

A *soirée* was given in honor of the Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, M. P. for Ashton-under Tyne, and John Bright, M. P. for Birmingham, on the 10th inst., in the Free-Trade Hall, in Manchester. Mr. Bright, on rising, was greeted with the most enthusiastic cheering. He began by speaking of the occasion as not the commemoration of a defeat but the celebration of a victory. He had never despaired, since he had been able to think maturely upon public questions, of the ultimate triumph of Parliamentary reform in England. Mr. Bright proceeded as follows:

We do not propose in the smallest degree to call in question or to limit the prerogatives of the Crown. I believe we are prepared to say that if the throne of England be filled with so much dignity and so much purity—[hear, hear]—as we have known it in our time, and as we know it now to be—[hear, hear," and applause]—we hope that the venerable monarchy may be perpetual. [Hear, hear.] We do not propose to discuss even, much less to limit, the legal and constitutional privileges or prerogatives of the House of Peers. We know, everybody knows, nobody knows it better than the Peers, that a house of hereditary legislation cannot be a permanent institution in a free country. [Hear, hear.] For we believe that such an institution must in the course of time require essential modification. Last year, or the year before, the Queen herself proposed to nominate persons to life Peerages. That was deemed an essential change by the present members of the House of Peers, and in a manner that was not gracious to the Queen—[hear, hear]—that was not respectful to the nation, they almost insolently rejected the attempt of the Crown, and the Ministers of the Crown, to introduce into the House of Lords a member whose peerage should exist only so long as his life. We do not want to discuss the question now. We wish to discuss the question which is immediately before the country—which the Government has brought before the country—for we do not bring it before the country on this occasion—and a question in which we are deeply and closely interested. The House of Commons is so called, I presume, because it is understood and intended to represent all those portions of the people—the vast majority of the people—who are not included in the privileged and titled classes. The Constitution, if I know anything about it, intends that that House should fairly, openly and widely represent all the vast interests of all the vast population who are called upon to obey the legislation which is mainly enacted by that House. Now, I wish to ask you this simple question: Do you believe, after examining the figures that have been placed before you for months and years past, that the House of Commons does at present fulfill honestly its intended place in the representation, or is the organ of the expression of the opinions of all classes of the population of Great Britain and Ireland? [Cries of "No, no."] You may have a shadow and form of representation, and of anything else. You know very well that you may have gorgeous temples, you may have in wonderful ostentation all the outward semblance of religion, yet there may be wholly wanting the life of Christianity itself. [Hear, Hear] And you may have elections, a million or more, and you may have contests, and nominations, and polls, and returns and houses of legislation, and speeches, and the contention of parties and divisions, and laws enacted, and yet there may be only the form of representation, and its life and spirit and reality may be altogether absent. [Hear, hear.] All this we had previous to 1832; yet nobody says now that we had representation before then. All this existed, or nearly all, in France, previous to the year 1848. A great deal of it exists there at this moment, and yet there is a general impression that representation is not free there. [Hear, hear.] There is a general belief that it was not free here previous to the passing of the Reform Act. Now, I should like to put, in as few words as I can, exactly what we think the House of Commons should be. It should be a house composed of men sent by the free election of as many people voting—of such an equality of power as shall give a real expression to the opinions of the people. Now, if anybody says that we are for leveling doctrines—that we intend to have a President instead of a Queen—which is a favorite theory with some few people—you at least will not believe them. I ask them again and again, if they choose to read once, to read again, that they may not misrepresent that which I am now proposing. Now what is the English Constitution? I never saw it. [Laughter.] I never heard of anybody who had handled it. It is not, in very few words, in any of the books. But there is, notwithstanding, something that we all understand by the British Constitution. It is not a thing meant entirely for the Crown. The Crown has its limits by act of Parliament and by custom. Nor is it intended entirely for the hereditary peerage. The House of Lords has its prerogatives and its privileges well defined. But the Constitution does not confine itself to care for the monarch on the throne or for the peer in his gilded chamber. The Constitution regards the House of Commons as well. It regards you and me, and all the people of the United Kingdom. And it professes to take within its pale all these populations and these interests, and to give to them as complete a shelter and as complete a voice as it gives to the Queen or to the peerage—["Hear, hear," and applause.] Well but now if you want the House of Commons elected by so many of the people as shall give a fair expression of the people's wishes, can any living man say that when five out of six of all the men he'll find if he traverses every county from John o'Groat's to the Land's End, and from Cape Clear to the Giant's Causeway, that five out of every six of these men have no more vote at the poll for a member of Parliament than if they lived in South America or South Africa; they have nothing whatever to do with it but to look on, and sometimes to hold up their hands, and sometimes to shout for one candidate or the other. But if you think it necessary that your members should be elected by some ten number of votes, that votes should begin with something like an equality of power, how far are you from this, when you hear that 330 members of the House of Commons—more than one half of the whole number—are returned by less than one-sixth even of that small number of persons to whom the franchise is intrusted? You give votes to a million out of six millions, and half the House of Commons is elected by less than 200,000 of those electors! And then if bribery be somewhat common, and if intimidation wherever it can be practiced is almost universal, how can you come to the conclusion that there is any real freedom of election whatsoever, when you survey the whole representation of the counties and boroughs of the kingdom? Now, I would ask your attention for a moment to those counties, to which your attention has been previously turned by my right-honorable friend. The counties, as you know, return their members by the votes, chiefly, of two classes—freeholders, and occupiers of lands or houses of the value of £50 and upward. Of these £50 occupiers and upward, there are about 200,000; but of occupiers between £10 and £50, I see by a return recently made to the House of Commons, not less than 400,000. But the 400,000, by the present law, are entirely ignored and excluded; and the 200,000, being to a very large extent occupiers of land, and occupiers for the most part without leases, they are to a large extent dependent upon the goodwill of their landlords, and their votes, speaking generally, are employed to swell the power of the great landed proprietors in all the county elections of the kingdom. [Hear, hear.] Now, Lord Derby, the present prime minister, is a man who has the power of expressing very accurately what he means; he is a great master of the English language; and he once gave us an illustration of what is understood in England by county representation. He said that if anybody would tell him what were the politics of three or four of the great landed proprietors of any county, he could tell at once what were the politics of the members for that county. [A laugh.] We might fancy, if we did not know something about it ourselves, that this was some conjuring trick, but it is in point of fact nothing but that which we all know. [Hear, hear.] The "three or four great proprietors" are the constituents of your county [Hear, hear], and the members are the representatives of those great proprietors. [Hear, hear.] They have, as you know, unfortunately for us, small sympathy with commerce, and they have never manifested, at least for the last sixty years, any sympathy whatever with reform of any kind. How should they? They are connected with the peerage, and with the great territorial power. The members of their families, generally speaking, do not come into the operations of trade. They find employment—at least they find salaries [great laughter and cheers] in the military or in the naval service, or some other service of the country; or they take shelter from the storms of life in some snug family living in the church. ["Hear, hear," and laughter.] I venture to say that, if it were possible to have an accurate account of the receipts and payments of those families, there are many hundreds of them—I believe there are some thousands—who receive more in the way of emolument and salaries of one kind or other, from the public revenues, from the 60 or 70 millions of taxes which you annually raise, or from that portion of the public estate which for the time is intrusted to the Established Church—I believe they receive more than the whole of the taxes which they annually pay to the expenditure of the State. [Cheers.] But we do not find all the fault with the counties; the boroughs are not at all in a satisfactory state. I was looking down a list, the other night, beginning with the Tower Hamlets, the largest population, and coming down to some one which is the smallest, I forget its name; but I found that there were 71 boroughs, not one of which has a population of 10,000 persons. I think 10,000 is about one-third the average size of the several wards in Manchester. The whole population of the 71 boroughs is only 467,000, which is not very much more than the present population of Manchester and Salford; and yet these 71 boroughs return 117 members to the House of Commons [Cries of "Shame"], while Manchester and Salford return only three members. But if you go a little lower to 8,000 as a standard, you will find not less than 54 boroughs and their whole population is exactly 346,000, which is exactly the population of the City of Manchester at the census of 1851; but these 54 boroughs return 80 members, while Manchester returns only two. [Cries of "Shame"] If Manchester and Salford, by some tradition of the past, or some accident or other, returned 117 members, or if Manchester returned 80 members—if the conditions which I have stated were just reversed—don't you think that we should have from other parts of the country—probably from the landed gentry [laughter]—a very violent assertion that we were favored in the representation; and that the condition of things was monstrous and intolerable and must be put an end to. But there is another point which you do not find out from the population tables. That is this: that whereas the boroughs of Manchester and Salford can do as they like, acting wisely at one time and foolishly at another [laughter]—at least they are free to follow their own information, their own light, their own convictions; but these little boroughs are not so free, being, I think I dare to say, very little better than what we used to describe by the unpleasant term of "rotten." [Laughter.] They are under influence of some kind or other. A very little clique, indeed, two or three persons, in a very small borough, can have a great influence. A neighboring land-owner—some subtle and not very scrupulous lawyer—by turning the "screw," can if he likes turn the scale. [Hear! hear! and laughter.] But these boroughs are not only so small in population, but for the most part they have no great pretense to the power of free election whatsoever. I come now to the result of all this—that a House of Commons so formed becomes for the most part, as we know it is, a sort of deputy to the House of Lords, and an organ of the great territorial interests of the country. It hates changes, with an animosity that nothing can assuage. It hates economy. Let any man propose in the House of Commons that there shall be a fair committee appointed, to which shall be submitted those enormous estimates of which we have so much reason to complain, and you will find that very few persons in the House will vote for such a committee, and it will be stoutly resisted by the Government, whether formed from the Conservative or the Whig section of the House. [Laughter.] The House hates equality of taxation. The succession duty is a glaring instance. [Hear, hear.] The income tax is another instance scarcely less glaring. [Loud applause.] They give to property vast influence in the Government of the country, and they perpetually exclude property from its fair burden of taxation. [Hear, hear, and cries of "Shame!"] It was the same before the Reform bill as it is now. Some people are of opinion that we have had much better legislation since the Reform bill than we had before. I do not deny it; but I believe it is owing much more to the general intelligence of the people—an intelligence which has penetrated even into the House of Commons, and into the House of Lords—than to any more exact representation of the influence of the constituencies, or to any change that took place by the Reform Act. You know that before the Reform Bill Catholic emancipation was granted, when a civil war was about to break out in Ireland. You know that the Reform Bill itself was granted when an insurrection, perhaps a revolution, was at the door. And you know that in 1846, the repeal of the corn laws was granted, not because the House of Commons or the House of Lords wished to grant it. [Hear, hear.] By no means. For I believe that not more than 100 members had ever voted for Mr. Villiers's motion for the repeal, until it was granted in 1846, because a portion of the kingdom was visited with a famine so appalling, that Lord John Russell, in order to describe its magnitude, its severity, compared it to the famines which are recorded to have desolated parts of Europe in the 13th century. It required a famine, not a scarcity. [Hear, hear.] There had been many scarcities, as you know. There had been a scarcity for years. On more than one occasion thousands and hundreds of thousands of families had been pressed into penury, and not a few into premature graves. And yet the Corn Law was not repealed. To quote two lines of the unhappy Chatterton,

> The civil power then snored at ease,
> While still it fired to keep the peace.

And it was not till the famine became so serious in the land that all Europe and the civilized world were startled with the horrors that floated across every ocean and in every gale that the Parliament of England at last consented to take their hand from the throat of the people. [Applause.] And you know that a large party—a party who now are in possession of the Government—assailed and denounced Sir Robert Peel as a traitor and a coward, because he didn't make a still greater fight on behalf of the most odious monopoly that ever existed in any country. [Loud applause.] And now they do not give you too bad a bill; not because they do not understand it as well as you do, but precisely because they do understand it. ["Hear, hear," and laughter.] Do you suppose there would be such a whip in the House, such a steady and powerful phalanx of members brought up, county members especially—[laughter]—to vote against the ballot, if they did not believe all we say in favor of the ballot? [Hear, hear.] You have had it discussed since the Reform bill. The argument has been already exhausted for twenty years, yet for all that they do not give you the ballot. Take the question of church rates. A bill to repeal the church rates has just passed the House of Commons. But how many years has it been discussed? The arguments were the same before I went into the House of Commons that they were last session. Take the question of the game laws. [Hear, hear.] Would it be tolerated—would it be tolerated by the people of this country—[no, no]—if they were fairly polled, that there should exist laws whose object is to promote, to the greatest possible extent, the preservation of wild animals for the sport of the territorial and wealthy classes? [Hear, hear.] The law has never yet said that game was property. It treats it as something else. It dare not say that game is property, and it cannot say so. [Hear, hear.] But we have several sets of Parliament—clauses of the utmost complication, traps of every kind, as many to catch the poacher as the poacher has to catch the game. [Loud laughter.] And you have in this civilized and Christian country—we are not at all discussing the United States—[laughter]—in this civilized and Christian country, with an ancient monarchy, hereditary peerage, Established Church, and all that can be necessary to preserve law and order, according to the opinion of some of those who criticise what I say; yet you have in the months of November and December particularly, in every year, men going out armed, not to protect cows, and sheep, and poultry [hear], which are recognized and understood property—for nobody attempts to meddle with them—but to preserve that which the law dare not designate as property, and the preservation of which it dare not commit to the ordinary guardians of the public peace. [Hear, hear.] And you have further from your towns, and from your villages, and from your country parishes bands of men armed to the teeth, instigated, it may be, occasionally by want—more often probably by the love of adventure—you have bands of men of this kind prowling about in almost every county endeavoring to destroy the game; and you have outrages such as we have had described to us within the last month, in which several of our fellow-creatures have fallen victims, and have been murdered. [Hear, hear.] No; dukes and lords, and county members, and great men of any name, do not tell me that a Parliament and a House of Commons that perpetuates this enormity represents the intelligence and the morality of the Christian population of this country. And to show you how little a Prime Minister ever is master of his own actions in the face of that great territorial interest, let me tell you that when I, some years ago, and before I had any political connection even with Manchester, when I gave notice of motion in the House of Commons for a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of the Game Laws—to inquire merely—such was the anxiety, such was the trembling terror of these gentlemen, that Sir Robert Peel was obliged to think it over, and to call all his followers together into Downing street, and there to reason with them, and to obtain their cooperation in the course which he felt himself bound to pursue, which was to consent to the Committee for which I was about to move. I need not tell you that the Committee produced very little result. Committees of the House of Commons very seldom do. For what the House is, Committees generally are; and if a Committee does happen to stumble upon something valuable, it is generally distasteful to the House, and is immediately rejected by it. I believe that no great measure passes the House of Commons merely because it is just. It passes sometimes because the people are restive, sometimes because the exigencies of party require that something should be done. But it does not pass—I state it fearlessly after fifteen years' sitting in that House—a great measure of justice does not pass because it is just. [Hear, hear.] Then I come to the conclusion that reform is necessary. But I can show you further that it is inevitable. [Hear, hear.] The Government is at a dead lock [hear, hear], without Parliamentary reform. The only great result of the Reform Bill in the House has been this, that it has introduced about 100 men who do at times show some amount of independence, and they not free from the shackles of the Tory or Whig sections of the aristocracy. And it is we, it is by our work, it is by our speeches, by our votes that we transfer the Government from one party to the other. But we make it impossible for either of them to conduct the Government upon those antiquated principles which we and the people of England are ready to abolish. [Hear, hear.] Now I will ask you another question. What is the obvious, the simple, in fact the only mode by which you can reform the House of Commons? If a man is hungry he eats; if he is thirsty he drinks; and if he is cold he puts on an extra coat, or goes to the fire. If the number of the electors is too small, extend the suffrage. [Hear, hear.] If it is intolerable that more than half the House of Commons shall be returned by one-sixth of the electors, or that the population of Manchester should return eighty-nine members to other parts of the country, and here it only returns two, the obvious remedy is to take from one scale and put into the other. And if there be bribery and this intimidation, the remedy which every man who has considered the question and who wishes for freedom of election, the remedy which he points to, is the remedy of the ballot. [Hear, hear.]

Now, what is it that I propose? That every householder, of course, because every householder is rated to the poor, shall have a vote; and if a man be not a householder strictly, but if he have an office, or a warehouse or a stable, or land—if he shall have any property in his occupation, which the poor-law taxes, out of which he must contribute to the support of the poor, then I say, I would give that man a vote. [Cheers.] Now, sixty years is a long time. We have members of the aristocracy of this country, exhibiting themselves frequently upon platforms on various occasions. They tell the people how wonderfully education has advanced—how much Parliament grants every year, and how much voluntary effort does; what a great step the people have taken forward. I wish they would come to the legitimate conclusion after all this praise of the people. Your statisticians tell you that two millions of the people are subscribers to benefit societies, and that they have now for funds more than 9,000,000 sterling. Is that no proof of providence? Is that no proof of improvement and advancement? Of course, with regard to your small boroughs, you must take some point of population, and you must cut off all those below it. You must allow their present electors to merge, as they would necessarily merge, in the £10 franchise, which, in all probability, you will establish for your counties. But still I know exactly how we shall be met—"You are going to Americanize us." [Loud laughter.] Nothing is so dreadful to an Englishman who is thinking of emigrating across the Atlantic, as that we should be Americanized in England. [Laughter.] This is a phrase by some cunning knave [laughter] intended to catch a good many very simple dupes, and no doubt it will catch some of them. But I should like to ask these gentlemen, whether representation is not an English custom and an English principle? They were Englishmen who first took it to the United States. [Applause.] It is said that wherever an Englishman goes, just as he takes with him his white skin, he takes with him the foundation of representative institutions. He has taken them already to the Cape; he is already as busy as possible in building up four or five monarchical republics in Australia; he has carried the representative system to Canada; he carries it wherever he goes. Why, the Bill of 1832 was a corporate measure in the direction of Americanizing us. It took some boroughs, where twelve members of a corporation returned the members to Parliament, and it gave the suffrage to 5,000 of the people. That was Americanizing such boroughs with a vengeance. [Laughter.] The more you extend your representation, the more, of course, you become like that systematic and theoretically perfect representation which exists in the United States of America. [Hear, hear]. It is curious how free countries, and countries that we deem not free, often exhibit just the same kind of thing at the same time. You know that lately a most distinguished Frenchman wrote a pamphlet about England—about a debate in the English Parliament. He was enamored with the freedom of debate; he was charmed with the absence of all kind of difficulty in expressing our opinions, and he went away full of this impression; and he wrote a pamphlet in burning words, describing what he had seen in England, and by inference of course saying something that was not palatable to those who are the present directors of the government in France. Well, what was done? It was found out that it was an indictable offence, and the advocate for the prosecution said in so many words—"You praised England, and in doing so you denounced France." [Hear, hear.] An humble individual like myself comes before his constituents, and he finds a nation of twenty or thirty millions, chiefly of Englishmen, on the other side of the Atlantic. He finds that, with some small exceptions, in two or three of the transatlantic cities, which are more German and Irish than American, he finds there in all the free States law and order and security of property, equal to that which is found in the course of years in any other country in the world. [Hear, hear.] And he says that to his constituents. He is not indicted for it; they do not give him so many pounds fine, and so many months' imprisonment; but some scores of writers for the press, men who some of them pretend to be in favor of liberty in England, but men who, if they were dressed in the garb that most becomes them, would be dressed in plush—[loud laughter and applause]—these men area [illegible] and, probably, if I were in France, and they were in France, they would do their best to indict me and prosecute me. [Hear.] One word more upon this. I have said over and again that perhaps I am the very last man in England who would propose any institution here because I found it elsewhere. I am not insensible to some things that appear to me to be errors in principle, some that are errors in practice, in the Constitution and the customs of the United States. But I protest against our being shut up to take nothing from America but cotton, and rice, and tobacco. [Laughter and applause.] And, in fact, we do take a good many other things. I am told that my friend, Mr. Platt a member of a very eminent firm, has a wonderful machine from America with which to make bricks. We know that the agriculture of this country has been greatly advantaged by the importation of reaping machines from America. [Hear, hear.] We know that those persons who are going about so apprehensive of a revolution have particular reason to be delighted with America, because they have received from that country the invention of the revolver. ["Hear" and laughter.] At this moment in the Government small arms establishment at Enfield, they have patent machinery from America for making gun-stocks. They can turn out a gun stock, I am told, in twenty-two minutes fit for the barrel. What a dreadful thing to think of! [Laughter.] And I am sure that Mr. Miles, if his protectionist principles have not long ago deserted him, will be horrified to hear that they have actually brought Americans over to show the English how to work them. [Continued laughter.] But there is much more behind. *The Times*, *The Morning Star*, *The Daily Telegraph*, and the leading newspaper in this district, *The Manchester Daily Examiner*, with, I believe, two or three of the widely-circulated London weekly papers, are all printed on machines which were either made in America, or, being made in this country, were made on the American patent. ["Hear, hear," and applause.] And further than this, don't you remember that the West-Enders, including even ladies, have been subscribing ten guineas apiece to invite a clever farmer from Ohio to show them how to tame a horse? [Great laughter.] Anything but politics. [Renewed laughter.] You may delight yourself with their charming poets—with Bryant, and Whittier, and Longfellow; you may interest and instruct yourself by their great historians—Bancroft, and Prescott, and Motley. But if you ask how free popular institutions are working among your own countrymen on the American Continent, you are denounced as unpatriotic, and, at any rate, treasonable to the House of Lords. ["Hear, hear," and laughter.] I will read a passage which was particularly galling to those gentlemen, from the report of my speech in Birmingham. It is but three lines. I said:

"Generally, in all the sovereign and independent States of America, there is a franchise as wide as that which I have proposed to-night. There is no exact and equal limit of members to the electors; and there is, throughout many of the States, the protection of the ballot, yet in America we find law, order, and property secure, and a population in the enjoyment of physical comforts and abundance such as are not known to the great body of the people in this country, and which have never been known in any country in any age of the world before."

Now, Lord John Russell a short time ago was at Liverpool, at a meeting of the Social Science Association, and he made a speech, many parts of which I think were most admirable and instructive. He referred to America in two particulars, and showed now, in the States of New York and Louisiana, the laws had been codified and simplified. He said that with a few days' study a man might make himself perfectly acquainted with the laws with regard to land and landed property. He did not see (and Lord John Russell is not afraid to look abroad on a matter of this kind), why an old country—I do not quote his own words—should be compelled to continue a system which was not necessary, and which it was found so advantageous to get up without in a new country. But he said this:

"It is education which enables the United States of America to proceed in their wonderful career, upheld by the most popular institutions, without serious disturbance of law and order."

[Great applause]. I quote another nobleman—a most estimable man too—a man who has done in his time great justice to the people and the institutions of the United States—the Earl of Carlisle. Eight years ago, when the state of America was fresh in his mind, he delivered a lecture from which I have taken two extracts. Speaking of their elections he says:

"Elections may seem the universal business, the topic and passion of life; but these are, at least with but few exceptions, carried on without any approach to tumult, rudeness, or disorder; those which I happened to see were the most sedate, unimpassioned processes I can imagine. In the Free States, at least, the people at large bear an active, and I believe, on the whole, a useful part in all the concerns of internal government and practical daily life."

And then speaking of the condition of the people he said—and you will know how far it corroborates, how far it exceeds even, what I said—he says:

"The feature which is the most obvious and probably the most inevitable is the nearly entire absence, certainly of the appearance, in a great degree of the reality, of poverty. In no part of the world I imagine is there so much general comfort among the great bulk of the people, and a gushing abundance struck me as the permanent character of the land."

And then, with his own generous sympathy, he went on to say:

"It is not easy to describe how far this consideration goes to brighten the face of nature, and give room for its undisturbed enjoyment."

[Hear, hear.] I cannot, of course, help the fact that Lord Carlisle for a moment has fallen into rather a foolish panic since I undertook to address my constituents at Birmingham. I can assure him I do not wish to introduce American institutions here. But I want to argue this point—that the people of England are now in a condition wherein it would be just to them, and safe for all classes in the country that they should be widely intrusted with the possession of the elective franchise. [Hear, hear, and applause.] Now, I want to ask you, before I sit down, whether we can realize, or whether we can do anything toward realizing, such a project of reform as that of which I have given you the very faintest sketch to-night? There is a danger awaits us. It is quite possible, I think it is not wholly improbable, that, if the present Government should introduce a bill very ineffectual, wholly falling short of what we have a right to expect, there should be some combination of the most unworthy portion of the Whig party with the present Government, for the sake of carrying that bill. It would be a great misfortune to us if any such thing should happen. [Hear, hear.] But that misfortune would be but temporary. It would be a fatal act on the part of the Whig party to take any such course as that. They would bring about this great result, that the Aristocracy, who were wholly opposed to free Parliaments in this country, would sit on one side of the House, and that we, who may be considered of a more Democratic party, would take our seats on the other side of the House. But, I will undertake to say, that if that division should once take place in Parliament, every election would increase the power of the Democratic section [hear, hear, and applause]; and that the remembrance of the treason to the people which would be effected by conduct such as this, would create an animosity against the ruling class against which I believe they would be woefully unable to contend. I have come to the conclusion of the observations I intended to offer you upon these questions. Of myself, I must add one or two words. My position in reference to this question is just now, as you know, one of heavy responsibility. [Hear, hear.] I feel it to be so. I know it to be so. I have been requested by those who believed they represented a large amount of public opinion to undertake the preparation of a bill to be submitted to the House of Commons during the coming session. ["Hear, hear" and applause.] I have not sought the office. I did everything I could to decline it, without being guilty of an absolute desertion of what appeared to be my duty. [Applause.] I am told—some that are not friends of mine and some that are my friends tell me—that I hazard whatever little reputation I have with the public in taking this course. [Cries of "No, no."] If it be so, I can only say that the creation or the sustaining of a reputation has never been the great motive in my political life. [Cheers.] I have said before, and every day I am more sensible of it, how ill qualified I am, in many respects, for the work which I have undertaken—["No, no," and cheers]—and I am more and more sensible of the almost insurmountable obstacles which lie in the path before me. But I know that the cause is a just cause. [Loud cheers.] I know that its success is necessary to the great future of this country, and I am perfectly certain that, sooner or later, it must prevail. [Cheers.] From this platform I do not speak to you only—I speak to all my countrymen. [Hear hear.] If they wish for Reform—if they think it honest, informed, capable on this question—if they have any confidence in those with whom I am associated—then let them meet in their cities, their towns, their villages—in country parishes even, where free speech is not forbidden—let them meet, and speak, let them resolve, and let them petition. If they do this, I think I can promise them that before long they will be in full possession and in free exercise of those political rights which are not more necessary to their national interests than they are consistent with the principles of their boasted Constitution. [The honorable gentleman sat down amid hearty and long-continued cheering.]

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* publishes an official notification from Admiral Rigault de Genouilly, Commander-in-Chief of the French and Spanish forces in Cochin-China, to the effect that on and after the first of September, 1858, the Bay and River of Touron and the port of Chusseu-Caileo are declared in strict blockade. All vessels attempting to force the blockade will be treated according to the usages of international law.

The *Moniteur* also publishes a report from Marshal Vaillant, approved by the Emperor, appointing a committee to examine into the best means for improving the manufacture of fire-arms in France.

It was said that the opening of the Chambers, which was to have taken place on the 10th of January, is postponed until the month of February, owing to the preparation of the budgets not being sufficiently advanced.

The *Patrie* says that the proceedings in the appeal of M. Montalembert had been fixed for 24th December.

The Minister of Commerce, in answer to a memorial from the Chamber of Commerce of Havre, complaining of the injury suffered by French commerce in consequence of the state of affairs in Mexico, has informed the Chamber that their complaint has been communicated to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who has consulted with his colleague, the Minister of Marine, as to the measures which it may be necessary to take.

The monthly returns of the Bank of France show an increase in the cash in hand in Paris of 12,700,000 francs, and in the Branch Bank of 15,200,000 francs.

The Paris correspondent of *The London Times* is informed that the Commission appointed to report on the subject of the engagement of free negroes in the French Colonies, have declared in favor of the present system. The commander of the French squadron on the African coast reports to the Minister of Marine that a fresh difficulty had arisen—a French vessel, laden with free negroes, having been overhauled by the English cruisers, and forced to reland the emigrants, although the operation was perfectly regular.

The Paris Bourse had been firm, but there was a reaction on the 16th inst. The Three per cents closed at 73.35 for account, and 73.05 for money. The shares in the Crédit Mobilier, which had considerably advanced during the week, again declined.

A Paris letter in the *Independance* of Brussels says:

"The court charged with the regulation of the titles of the nobility is overwhelmed with business. A vast number of petitions have been sent to it by persons wishing to be authorized to assume the names of families—in some cases completely extinct. The Administration will show itself still more severe in such cases, on the ground that there have existed within late years several establishments which created titles on false pretensions."

ITALY.

The *Opinione* of Turin states from Lombardy that the greatest activity reigns in the arsenal of Venice; that the number of workmen there has been doubled, and that warlike stores of all sorts are being brought in. It adds that several arrests have taken place at Milan, and that seventeen students have been arrested at Pavia, where several houses have been searched for arms, many of which have been seized. The garrison has been increased by a field battery.

It has already been stated that the Archduke Charles Louis, brother to the Emperor of Austria, lately visited the Pope. The *Opinione* states that he is formally intrusted with a political mission, the object of which is to obtain permission from the Pope to occupy some new points of the Legation with Austrian troops, in order to be prepared against an outbreak.

It is affirmed that the Sardinian Government has sent to its diplomatic agents abroad a circular relative to the rumors of a war with Austria, declaring that nothing whatever hitherto has arisen to confirm such assertions.

A gentleman who was engaged to write up the political prisons of Naples has made a report of his visit to Procida. He found there 335 political prisoners shut up in miserably dirty and inefficient rooms, and their food was so bad that they could not eat it. They were, however, permitted to buy from without something more suitable to their tastes. The part of the establishment appropriated to political prisoners was better than that set apart for criminals, and yet when the gentleman and his companions left it they were covered with lice. The hospital of the criminals is reported as "indescribably dirty." The hospital of the political prisoners was clean, but every bed was furnished with a chain fastened to the wall, passing under the clothes, and one prisoner was bound with the chain although he was in the last stage of consumption. The visitor was astonished at this "inhumanity," but he was told that it was necessary, as it was impossible to set the usual guard on the prisoners when ill.

A journal of Venice has been warned by the police on account of its having either openly or covertly manifested its hostility to Austria.

SPAIN.

A Madrid telegram says that Marshal O'Donnell had declared that the Government had resolved to preserve the Constitutional system.

The first vote which took place in the new Spanish Congress gave the Government a majority of 152 out of 163 votes.

Letters from Spain state that the expedition to Mexico will be on a larger scale than was supposed.

Considerable damage had been done at Seville by inundations.

There had been many shipping disasters on the Spanish coast, upward of one hundred dead bodies and great quantities of wreck having been washed on the Andalusian coast.

GERMANY.

The Hanoverian Ministry had sustained a new check, the Second Chamber having rejected by a vote of 44 to 36 a bill proposing an increase of the income tax.

The King of Prussia, in his reply thanking the Chamber for their address, says they cannot give him a better proof of their fidelity and attachment than by supporting his brother, the Regent, in his difficult mission.

AUSTRALIA.

The Australian mail of Sept. 15, from Melbourne, reached Suez in the Calcutta mail steamer, the steamer Victoria, which was conveying it, having sprung a leak near Ceylon, and the Oneida, to which it was at first transferred, having likewise broken down.

The amount of gold accompanying the mail was £130,000. The steamer Niagara left Alexandria on the 7th for England, with the mails and treasure.

Trade was quiet at Melbourne.

The Legislature of Victoria assembled on the 7th.

The diggers were returning, disappointed, from Port Curtis.

The departures of gold ships for England were, the Orwell, with 79,230 ounces, and the Kent, with 97,686 ounces.

RUSSIA.

Correspondence of the *Independance Belge*.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 22, 1858.

While the great measure of liberation is going on, the Emperor has, as you know, in spite of all opposition, emancipated all the peasants on the appanages, or lands, of the Imperial family, comprising several hundred thousand souls. I have already analyzed the remarkable ukase relative to this emancipation. I have now, on the same subject, a fact which is very characteristic of the difficulties which the Prince meets in the execution of his generous desires.

For the management of the administration of the appanages, an administration as complicated as it is extensive, there is a special Department called the Department of the Appanages. The direction of this Department is in the hands of Gen. Muravieff, not to be confounded with the Governor of Nijni, that energetic man who first comprehended the plan of the Emperor in regard to emancipation, entered resolutely upon its execution, and carried with him the nobility of his province.

The Muravieff of the appanages has nothing in common with him. It is notorious here that when the Emperor had resolved to free the peasants of the Imperial family, and when, in spite of a strong opposition, he signed the ukase which gave them the liberty to remain in their villages as free men, or to leave them for some other condition, such as that of merchants or bourgeois, for example, Gen. Muravieff attempted to persuade Alexander that this ukase might be postponed without injury, the lot of these peasants being so happy under his administration that not one of them would take the liberty granted by the ukase. The answer of the Emperor is worthy of preservation. "So much the better," said he, "if they remain, but we shall nevertheless have done our duty if we treat these men with humanity."

But scarcely had the ukase appeared when there was a general movement among the peasants of the appanages; the wealthiest as well as the poorest all ran to inscribe themselves as willing to change their condition.

Muravieff became anxious at this and