

crossed the Tiber at Casole, and sent a flag of truce to General Kanzler, commander of the Papal Zouaves, on the 13th September. He, however, refused to surrender. But all was in vain. The Zouaves were overwhelmed by numbers, and several killed. On the 20th, the troops under Cadorna made a breach in the walls of Rome and entered it. The Pope had ordered his soldiers to cease their resistance, seeing that all was of no avail, and wishing to prevent the shedding of blood.

Since that time the Pope has been virtually a prisoner in his own palace, deprived of all power with regard to the government of the States which have belonged to the Church for so many ages, and which have been wrested from her by base and unscrupulous intrigues. He has, however, steadily refused, by any act or word of his, to sanction the acts of the usurper, although various attempts have been made to induce him to do so. As the Popes always were, so is he, firmly resolved to maintain the rights of his See and of his Church. These are now assailed, in one way or another, in almost every part of the world. The active persecution that was commenced in Italy has extended to Germany, to Switzerland, to Austria, and to South America, and the established Governments of other countries, our own included, are oppressing the Catholic conscience by legislation infringing on its rights. An old battle, often before fought out, is now again raging. The principles of good and evil are at war throughout society, but who can doubt the result? Will not the victory be with God and His Church?

THE PREMIER AND SIR ROBERT MONTAGU.

In the leading columns of a former issue we drew attention to the expressions enunciated by Mr Disraeli in a speech at Buckingham with regard to the coercive measures in operation in Ireland. The annexed extract from the Parliamentary debate on the question, will pretty clearly show the *bona fides* of the opinions then volunteered by the Premier. It now lies in the power of Mr Disraeli to prove the sincerity of his words, and to sweep away the "most stringent measures ever in force in Ireland." The tone of the debate, and the shuffling used to shirk the question, leaves but few in doubt as to what justice Ireland is likely to obtain at the hands of the new Minister:—

Lord R. Montagu.—I beg to ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether he was correctly reported by the 'Times' newspaper to have said at Buckingham this year that Ireland is "being ruled by coercive legislation of the most severe and most stringent kind. I call it severe and stringent legislation because I can find in no coercion acts ever passed for Ireland provisions of so severe a character as I find in the existing legislation, and which will go on until the year 1875." Also, whether he was correctly reported to have said at Newport Pagnell, "Ireland is really governed by the most stringent coercive acts that ever yet have existed. Ireland at this moment, I believe, I may say, is governed by these laws, which in severity—I am not saying that the severity is not necessary—I refrain from entering on any question of that kind—but is governed by laws of coercion and stringent severity that do not exist in any other quarter of globe." And, further, I ask whether he now judges that "laws of coercion and stringent severity that do not exist in any other quarter of the globe" are "necessary" for the government of Ireland by the British Parliament? (Hear hear.)

Mr Disraeli.—It was some time ago that the observations referred to by the noble lord were made, and a good deal had happened in the interim. (Laughter.) I have not had an opportunity of seeing the report which appeared in the 'Times' newspaper since the noble lord gave notice of his question, but I am perfectly ready to assume, from the general reputation of that journal for its reports, that it is substantially accurate. With regard to the second question, or rather the ultimate question, of the noble lord—whether I now judge that laws of coercion and stringent severity that do not exist in any other quarter of the globe are necessary for the government of Ireland by the British Parliament—the noble lord will remark that in saying "I believe they are probably as necessary in the month of April as in the month of February," I gave no opinion whatever about their necessity, and I am not disposed to give any opinion now. (Laughter.) It appears to me an extremely inconvenient mode for a Government to express its opinions on a subject of such great importance as that introduced by the notice of the noble lord, merely in answer to a question, before moving the orders of the day. (Hear, hear.)

Lord R. Montagu.—I wish to ask one further question: Whether the Prime Minister did not think it a part of his duty—(Cries of "Oh!" and cheers)—to remove from the legislation of a country any severity which is unnecessary, and if it is not also his duty to form his opinion on that subject? (Hear, hear.)

Mr Disraeli made no response.

Mr Newdegate.—I wish to ask whether it is within the under standing upon which questions are permitted to be put in this House that subjects involving the gravest questions of legislation should be thus submitted to her Majesty's Ministers when the House had no ultimate opportunity of expressing its opinion upon them?

The Speaker.—There is nothing out of order in the question, submitted by the noble lord. At the same time, the Prime Minister would have been quite entitled, and, indeed, right, if he had declined to answer a question of that character, as it involved parliamentary debate. The noble lord is not out of order in putting the question, but the Prime Minister would have been quite entitled to decline to answer it.

Lord R. Montagu.—Allow me to ask the Prime Minister whether he declines to answer the question?

Mr Disraeli made no reply, and the subject dropped.

Paris contains at present 1,851,792 inhabitants. In 1869 the number was only 1,825,274. In 1866 the males exceeded the females by 84,648, whilst in 1872 that difference was reduced to 12,656.

PRESENTATION TO 'THE REV. JULIAN WOODS.

FROM Tasmanian papers we learn that the Rev. Julian Woods, so well known in South Australia for his scientific labours and literary abilities, has been presented by the inhabitants of Launceston with an address and testimonial in consideration of his services in connection with the recent mission held in that city. The 'Cornwall Chronicle' thus reports the presentation:—

"His Worship the Mayor, in a few complimentary remarks, alluded to the earnest labors of the rev. gentleman during the mission, and the deep debt of gratitude the congregation were under for his services. He then read the address, which set forth in flattering terms the feelings of the congregation, and expressed a hope that Mr Woods might be long spared to minister to the spiritual wants of the people, and conduct many more missions like that which had been so successfully concluded here. On presenting the address, His Worship likewise handed the rev. gentleman a purse enclosing a cheque for the sum of £72, being the amount collected by the congregation towards defraying his expenses.

"On receiving the testimonial, Father Woods stated that he could hardly find words enough to express sufficiently his sense of the way in which his labors had been received in Launceston. The deputation had been kind enough to refer to them as having been very successful; and he might state that he did not see how they could have been otherwise than successful when he thought of the prayerful anxiety which had been evinced by the members of the congregation themselves. The interest with which the mission had been regarded was a source of great encouragement to a missionary, and in that respect he would always look back with feelings of pleasure to the mission which had been held in Launceston. In its progress it had been quite in keeping with all he had seen of the place, which in his mind offered every scope for the energies of a missionary, and likewise afforded him every encouragement in his work. He gratefully accepted the testimonial in the kind spirit in which it had been offered, and as it showed that the congregation was generous in its liberality, in endeavoring to promote the cause of religion. He could assure them that the money would be well employed, and would be devoted to further the interests of religion and education in Australia. Having said so much, he also wished to thank them personally for their flattering address, and he could assure them that he would long retain it as one of the treasures of his missionary life. It was a renewal, so to speak, of his acquaintance with them in the mission field, and he trusted the time might not be far distant when he would again be enabled to renew his labors amongst them."

ENGLISH AND AUSTRALIAN NEWS.

THE *Tararua* arrived at Greymouth on Tuesday. She was not tendered at Hokitika owing to there not being a steamer available. She brings English dates to the 20th and Australian to the 24th ult.

LONDON, June 20.—The election for North Durham is declared void on petition. A fresh election was held; resulting in the return of C. M. Palmer, a Liberal, and Mr. Elliott, a Conservative, in the room of Lotlian Bell and C. M. Palmer, Liberals.

The deaths are announced of J. C. M. Bell, and Jules Gabrie Janin, French critic and author.

The last New Zealand Loan is officially quoted.

The Canadian 4 per cent. loan of four millions at 90 has been subscribed.

The Sublime Porte has refused to ratify the contract for the Turkish loan of nineteen millions on the terms announced.

Failures are reported of Snellgrove, merchant, of Mark-lane, for £300,000; and a Belfast linen manufacturing firm for nearly a million.

Wool continues firm. Arrivals for the next sales are 130,000 Wheat is drooping. Hemp, common to medium, sold at from £17 to £24.

The Turkish ship *Kars* sank in the Sea of Marmora. 320 were drowned.

June 22.—The Agricultural Union have resolved on a vigorous course of action to defeat the lock-out, and have invited Arch to take the laborers to Canada.

In the House of Lords the judgment in the Mordaunt case authorises the continuance of the divorce proceedings.

The sub-marine cable, successfully laid from Lisbon to Pernambuco, is open for business.

PARIS, June 20.—The Assembly rejected further important clauses in the Municipal Bill, but the Government proceeded with the measure, and claimed the right to nominate Mayors. The Assembly eventually adopted the amendment by 358 to 329, prolonging for two years the prerogative of nominating Mayors.

ROME, June 20.—The Pope, on receiving the congratulation of the Sacred College on the anniversary of his accession, said he had refused a proposal from high personages for a reconciliation with the King of Italy, because any concession he believed would be equally injurious to the Church and to society.

Garibaldi is seriously ill at Caprera.

MADRID, June 20.—The Carlists have concentrated their forces within the entrenchments at Monte Jurro, near Estella, in Navarre; but the weather has hindered the operations of General Concha, the Republican commander.

MELBOURNE, June 24.—The Torres Straits mail steamer *Flintshire* has been totally wrecked at Cleveland Bay, in North Australia. All on board were saved.

Madame Goddard and Blondin, who were passengers, were in an open boat all night. They reached the shore in safety, but lost all their effects.

Three more bodies have been found on King's Island, and have been buried. One was identified as the second officer. A quantity of cargo has been washed ashore.

Green was found not guilty, and discharged.