

picket-guard had to be called out. The guard were obliged to carry fixed bayonets for self-defence. Order was with difficulty restored.

## TUESDAY.

In the House of Representative yesterday, the Hon. W. J. M. Larnach moved that the amendments agreed to by the conference in the Mines Act Amendment Bill be agreed to. Mr. Seddon asked whether the Minister accepted the refusal of Council to reduce the fee for miners' rights. The Hon. W. J. M. Larnach said he preferred to accept it rather than lose the bill. Mr. Seddon moved that the amendments be disagreed with, and a fresh conference appointed. The Hon. R. Stout opposed the amendment, contending that there were other important provisions in the bill which it was desirable should become law. Messrs. Fergus, Pyke, and Guinness supported Mr. Seddon's amendment. Sir Julius Vogel hoped the amendment would not be pressed, as it would jeopardise a useful bill. The amendment was lost by 28 to 25. Mr. Scobie Mackenzie moved the adjournment of the debate. After some discussion the motion for the adjournment was lost, and the original motion carried by 31 to 21.—The Hon. R. Stout moved that the House meet at 4 p.m. tomorrow (Tuesday) for prorogation.

As a ballast train was on Saturday afternoon approaching the Silverstream station from the Upper Hutt, the driver and fireman noticed a child of Mr. R. Hogan's, aged 18 months, in the centre of the line. The brakes were put on hard, but as there is an incline at this spot, and there was a heavy load on at the time, the train could not be stopped. To make matters worse the mother, alarmed by the shrill whistle, rushed out and got on the track, but somehow fortunately got off when the train was just upon her. When the engine was within a yard or two of the child, and when those who were looking on turned away to avoid witnessing the sickening sight, Trueman, the fireman, at imminent danger of his own life, jumped with a bound, whipped the child off the line, but before he could get clear was struck heavily on the leg by the cowcatcher.

The Arrow correspondent of the *Daily Times* says:—cake weighing 700oz. came down to Queenstown last Saturday from the Phoenix claim at Skippers. The mine looks well and promises equally good yields for some time to come.

Synnot Bros., woolbrokers, of Melbourne, have issued a circular in which a proposal is made to convene a meeting for the purpose of taking steps to promote the exportation of wool from Australia to China and Japan.

Mr. Donne Ploves Van Amstel, Consul-general in Australia for the Netherlands, has received a telegram from General Van Bees, Governor-general of the Dutch East Indies, reporting that Asiatic cholera had broken out at Kolpang, in the island of Timonin, and that it had become epidemic in the island.

Spain is now landing troops throughout the Caroline Group for their protection.

Advices from Admiral Miot, commanding the French forces in Malagasy waters, state that the troops under his command recently made a reconnaissance of the Hova position at Taragal, but were attacked by the enemy and repulsed with considerable loss.

Telegrams to hand from Roumelia state that Prince Alexander, of Bulgaria, has issued a manifesto to the inhabitants of Bulgaria and Roumelia in which he accepts the Crown of the two Bulgarias, and calls upon the people to help defend the union. Prince Alexander is on his way to Philippopolis, the principal town in Eastern Roumelia. The feeling of the St. Petersburg Press over the revolution is one of triumph. The Berlin and Vienna papers are perplexed and irritated, while the *Standard* considers that it does not concern England unless the Powers interfere in the matter.

The Czar of Russia and the Czarina arrived at Kroriser on the morning of August 25. The party avoided the town, and were driven through a vast bush surrounding the schloss. The Emperor Francis Joseph and Prince Rudolph met the Russian Imperial party at the railway-station. There was a magnificent reception in the evening. The object of the interview, it is generally conceded, is to enable Russia to secure perfect freedom of action in Central Asia. Lines will be drawn and agreed to as to how far Austria is to advance southward in Europe while Russia is engaged in her long-prepared war with England. An eye-witness says that the Czar was uneasy during the whole time of his visit, and many secret precautions were taken for his safety. He was pale and careworn. The Empress' trained mastiff was his bodyguard, and watched beside his couch every night.

## WEDNESDAY.

Parliament was formally prorogued yesterday.

A consignment of apples by the Zealandia to Auckland was discovered to have been infested with the codlin moth, and, on being noticed by the customs officers, the moth was found to have travelled to other goods which are being delivered. The goods cannot be detained under the provisions of the Act, but the officials have requested consignees to examine the goods and destroy the moth.

The Bank of New Zealand shipped yesterday 3213oz. of gold, valued at £12,852, being their month's purchases in the Hokitika district.

It is the intention of the Victorian Government to introduce a bill for the protection of women. It will be based on similar lines to the act now in force in England.

Prince Alexandra of Bulgaria, arrived at Philippopolis and met with a splendid and enthusiastic reception. It is generally believed that the action of Roumelia in revolting was done unknown to European Powers, and that they (the Powers) are anxious to limit the movement to the utmost.

Mr. Gladstone, in his manifesto to the electors of Midlothian, referring to the reform of the House of Lords, expresses the opinion that the time is yet distant when it can be expected, and urges that it is necessary to recognise the influence of birth and wealth. He advocates an easy system of land transfer, and that power to will land should be limited to the next life only. The question of disestablishing the Church of England is not, he holds, yet ripe for action to be taken. The Marquis of Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain differ considerably from the views expressed by Mr. Gladstone.

The Radical leader is of opinion that there is no firmness in the foreign policy advocated, except in the matter of the Afghan difficulty. The manifesto is generally considered to be a moderate one, and is not at all calculated to raise any enthusiasm amongst the Radical party.

## THURSDAY.

Telegraphic advices from Palermo report the existence of considerable disorder in Sicily consequent upon the towns, from fear of choiera, resisting contact with the exterior. In order to allow country inhabitants to enter towns without molestation, bodies of troops have been posted at all railway stations to maintain order.

Senor Canovas Del Castillo, Spanish Premier, expresses the opinion that the admissions of Spain regarding the unclaimed islands of the Caroline Group would be fatal to their demands concerning them.

There is a semi-panic on the Exchange consequent on political uneasiness caused by the recent revolution in Eastern Roumelia. The *Times* states that Russia and Austria are in favour of appointing a conference to settle the Roumelian question. It also announces that the Russian Government will require the deposition of Prince Alexander from the throne of Bulgaria. Prince Alexander has despatched a telegraphic circular to the European Powers and Sublime Porte, in which he admits the suzerainty of the Sultan. He further disclaims any idea of hostility towards Turkey, and requests the Sultan to fulfil the wishes of Bulgaria and Servia with regard to the settlement of the Roumelian question. The *North German Gazette* has an article to-day upon the action of Roumelia in revolting and declaring in favour of union with Bulgaria. The writer of the article dwells at considerable length upon the illegality of the recent revolution, and its recognition of the ruling Prince of Bulgaria. Roumelia, Greece, and Servia are mobilising. The latter country will probably occupy Macedonia.

## SIR CHARLES GAVAN DUFFY AND LORD CARNARVON.

WRITING from the Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, on the 21st July, Sir Charles Gavan Duffy addresses an eloquent and characteristically vigorous letter to Lord Carnarvon, the new Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, through the columns of the *Freeman's Journal*. At the outset Sir Charles refers to the few Lord Lieutenants who have left a good reputation behind them in Ireland, and he appeals to Lord Carnarvon to take his place amongst these by simply giving fair play to the Irish people. He recalls to the mind of the Lord Lieutenant, who has been Colonial Secretary, the immense advantages that have arisen from the granting of self-government to Canada, to Cape Colony, and to Australia. Passing to a consideration of what the Conservatives should now do, Sir Charles says:—

"I do not propose—I would scorn to propose—that the Conservative party should do something in itself objectionable because it would result in a party convenience and a party gain. But in suggesting that they should undertake a work which is essentially just and necessary, and I believe inevitable, I may ask your Excellency to remember that taking the initiative will enable them to accompany the concession with reasonable securities, which may otherwise be omitted. Why should I not add that it will also bring them as an immediate return what to all Governments is the primary condition of existence—political power? If the Cabinet of Lord Salisbury will undertake to restore to Ireland the control of her own interests as completely as it is enjoyed in the great colonies, it may be doubted if a single member would be sent from Ireland at the coming elections who would not support that programme and sustain the Administration who propounded it.

"Experts affirm that a Conservative majority is unattainable in England *cum* Wales, or in Scotland; if it comes it must come from Ireland. A Conservative leader who is now a Cabinet Minister made this admission in specific terms in a memorable article in the *Fortnightly Review*. Assuming him to be well informed on so cardinal a point, the question is simplified to its very elements. If the Conservative party will have the courage to be just to Ireland, they know the gain; if they refuse to be just, they know the penalty; or, rather, let me say, they may estimate the penalty approximately, for none of us *know* what strange birth the new Parliament will bring forth, any more than Frenchmen a century ago knew the tremendous progeny destined to be born of the first assembly of the *Tiers Etat*."

Sir Charles then proceeds to point out how in Germany Prince Bismarck, after persecuting the Catholics of the country, turned round and sought their assistance, and how in England Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston entered into an alliance with Sir Robert Peel. A coalition, he argues, between an English Conservative and an Irish Nationalist should not be an impossibility. He continues:—

"I feel almost ashamed to say that what I meditate is a settlement of the Irish question—accepted as well as offered in good faith; a plan capable of being worked for the common good of Irishmen, not for any special creed or class, but for all alike, and which would be defended against all enemies from within or from without, in the same spirit in which it was accepted. This, and nothing short of this, has been the design of my whole public life; and I am as faithful to it now as when I shared the counsels of O'Connell or O'Brien. I am not in the least afraid that the religious freedom of the minority would be endangered, but I would rejoice to see a risk which is improbable frankly rendered impossible. No one, as far as I know, desires to disturb the Act of Settlement, but the Act of Settlement ought to be put entirely beyond question. Your Excellency knows that in colonial and American constitutions dangers of the same general character had to be guarded against, and have been guarded against successfully. The French-Canadian Catholics, who are now a handful in the midst of a nation, would not enter into the Dominion without guarantees for their religious liberty and their hereditary possessions; and you know these have been effectually