

the hope of that Heavenly Immortality in which separation and sorrow are unknown.

While, however, we desire, under this dispensation to bow with submission before the throne of the Almighty, we rejoice that we are privileged to mingle gratitude with our grief in being enabled to reflect that Her Royal Highness was not gathered unto her people until, as the abundant fulfilment of her heart's desire and prayer, she had the satisfaction of witnessing the growing graces and domestic felicity of a beloved daughter sustaining the high functions of Government with such dignity and wisdom as to advance the national honour, and conciliate the allegiance of a devoted people.

That the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ may ever remember your Majesty with the favour He beareth to His own, that He may multiply to you the comforts of this present life, and enrich you with all spiritual blessings in Christ, and that after a prolonged and a prosperous reign, He may exalt you to the inheritance of His kingdom, are the sincere and earnest prayers of,

May it please your Majesty, your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient and most loyal subjects the Ministers and Elders met in this General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our name, in our presence, and at our appointment by

Colin Smith, Moderator.

Edinburgh, 25th May, 1861.

And the following on the same subject : from
The Ministers and Elders of the United Presbyterian Church.
The Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of the borough of Guildford, in the county of Surrey.

St. James's Palace, May 1, 1861.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Miss Victoria Alexandrina Stuart-Wortley, to be one of the Maids of Honor in Ordinary to Her Majesty, in the room of the Honorable Mary Bulteel, resigned.

Crown-Office, May 31, 1861.

MEMBER returned to serve in the present
PARLIAMENT.

County of Flint.

The Hon. Richard De Aquila Grosvenor, commonly called Lord Richard Grosvenor, in the room of the Hon. Thomas Edward Mostyn Lloyd Mostyn, deceased.

(665.)

*Board of Trade, Whitehall,
May 31, 1861.*

THE Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a

copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris, enclosing a copy of the *Moniteur*, containing a Report, by Monsieur Coste, upon the subject of the improvement of the French Fisheries, of which the following is a translation.

REPORT addressed to the EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH, by M. COSTE, Member of the Institute, relative to the organisation of Sea Fisheries considered as the means of extending the Naval Power of France.

SIRE,

The idea of submitting the sea to the laws of cultivation is no longer a mere disputable hope held out by science, which depreciation, the inseparable companion of truth, can consign at once to the class of chimeras, as it has endeavoured to do, time after time, with regard to all the splendid discoveries, which are now the boast of mankind, for entering into the feelings of our maritime population; this idea converts the ocean into an actual manufactory of food, which may be collected in such spots as industry may determine upon. Thus, by an organisation based on a strict application of the laws of life, industry can transform our coasts into a productive field, capable of supplying every European market.

It is true that, hitherto, exertions in this direction have been confined to the breeding of shell-fish, but in this trade such surprising effects have followed within two years, that in some places on the sea-coast, the wealth already created has altered the social condition of the inhabitants.

In the Island of Rhé, for example, more than three thousand men, who, but the other day, were penniless, left the interior of the island and proceeded to the coast to take possession of the *reclaimed land*, which the administration had divided into allotments for them, with a view to give each a direct interest in the common work. The unflinching perseverance of this army of labourers has not been daunted either by the necessity of draining the vast and unproductive area of mud, extending for many leagues, or by the labour of procuring materials for forming the enclosures destined to be turned to account.

They broke in pieces, by blasting and using the pickaxe, the enormous ridges of rock surrounding the island, and with the fragments constructed enclosures along the whole extent of the coast which they wished to free from mud. There, in the centre of these enclosed spots, they have placed stones in a vertical position, sufficiently near to each other to allow the waves, after breaking on these obstacles, to recede in rapid currents, washing the mud with them towards the sloping part, from which a channel carries it off in a single stream to the open sea.

Each enclosure thus arranged cleanses itself, and is rendered productive, by the play of the water.

Fifteen hundred of these enclosures are in full activity, placed in regular lines like houses in a town, with carriage-roads and foot-paths covering, from Rivedoux to Loix, a surface of 630,000 square metres, a gigantic work, which the inhabitants of the island are following up, with unexampled enthusiasm, in the remaining portion of the coast, where two thousand new enclosures are in the course of erection.

Scarcely had the land, so wonderfully reclaimed from the sea, undergone the preparation necessary to render it productive, when the seed, brought by the current from the open sea, spread there, and remained in quantities hardly to be believed. The fragments of rock, forming the walls of the