

of remaining differences. The mediating Powers have possibly suggested the expediency of some concession on the part of Russia. It is added, that the Divan have recently complained that Austria has recently betrayed a certain degree of partiality for the interests of Russia, which is not perfectly consistent with her character as a joint mediator. In consequence of this proceeding, the Court of Vienna proposed that the mediation should be left entirely to Lord STRANGFORD, and the Divan acceded. If this be the fact, we cannot but entertain the strongest hopes of the continuance of peace.

PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE.

London, Tuesday Evening, April 23. THE KING'S BIRTH-DAY.

A Drawing-Room was held to-day at Buckingham House, in honour of his MAJESTY'S Birth-Day. At an early hour St. James's Park was crowded with spectators, and at twelve the company began to arrive. In consequence of the adjournment of both Houses of Parliament, the Members of each were enabled to attend upon his MAJESTY; and although the day was unfavourable, in consequence of the heavy falls of rain, yet the company seemed as numerous as on any former occasion. About one o'clock the Speaker of the House of Commons arrived in his state carriage, and was followed by the Marquis of LONDONBERRY, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, Mr. PEEL, and most of the Cabinet Ministers. The Earl of LIVERPOOL arrived soon after two in a plain carriage. The Spanish and French Ambassadors came in state, and were followed by the other foreign Ambassadors at this Court. At about half-past two, the line of carriages reached from the top of St. James's Street to Buckingham House, and from thence took a sweep all down the Bird Cage Walk to the Horse Guards. A great number of ladies of rank and distinction arrived in sedan chairs, and were set down at the side entrance of Buckingham House. The consequence was, that the greatest order and regularity was preserved. The Duke of York, the Duke of SUSSEX, and most of the Royal Princes attended. They arrived soon after two, and left an hour afterwards. Towards the latter part of the day the weather cleared up, and enlivened the scene. The bands of music stationed on the Green before Buckingham House, and outside the railing, added not a little to the gratification of the thousands of spectators who witnessed the gay scene. At four o'clock the company began to depart, and from that hour till half-past six the carriages were leaving Buckingham House. His MAJESTY arrived before the company attended, and dressed at Buckingham House. About seven he left it in his private carriage, accompanied by his suite in attendance upon him.

The Metropolis this evening will be illuminated in many parts, in honour of his MAJESTY'S Birth-Day.

Through France letters have been received from Vienna one post later than those by the previous mail, and are of precisely the same date as the despatches received by Government, being of the 11th inst. The present, like all the communications from the Austrian capital which have reached town of late, hold out a strong expectation of the continuance of peace in the east. Since the 1st of this month despatches were said to have been received from London and St. Petersburg, which left no doubt of the unanimity of the Allies. With respect to trade, it is also mentioned as having improved. We have received Halifax papers and letters to the 23d ult. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor had communicated to the House of Assembly, by message, an official document received by the packet, being a letter from the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, and a copy of a Report from the Board of Customs regarding the alleged abuses in the Custom-house at Halifax. The Colonial Legislature had appointed a Committee on the state of the fisheries, which had drawn up a report recommending a bounty on the importation of salt and on cured fish. It also proposed the imposition of a duty on fine flour from the United States, and a bounty on that from Canada. The whole of this report, with the exception of the recommendation with respect to flour from Canada, was agreed to.

Much disappointment had arisen in the province of New Brunswick, in consequence of the determination of Government being made known, of not acceding to the address of the House of Assembly for granting the reserved lands in the county of Charlotte for agricultural purposes. Lord Bathurst, in his communication to the Governor, observes, that his Majesty has caused inquiries to be made as to the state of the timbers on the several reserves in Charlotte county, and it appearing that in the major part of them, there is, notwithstanding the deprivations to which they have been subject, a considerable quantity of timber most valuable for naval purposes, his Majesty does not feel that he can accede to the wishes of the House of Assembly, by abandoning the reserves to be allotted to settlers, without much risk of public inconvenience.

Stocks closed to-day at the following prices:—Red. Ann. 77 1/2; Navy 5 per Cents. 102 1/2; Exchequer Bills, 4s. 4d. pr. Do. for Account, 78 1/2; India Bonds, 96s. pr. 4 per Cents. 94 1/2.

On Monday last a meeting of the Ship-owners of the port of Aberdeen was held in the New Inn there; the Lord Provost in the Chair:—when it was resolved to petition the Legislature against certain parts of the Bill lately introduced into Parliament by Mr. Wallace, on the subject of our maritime laws, which appeared to the meeting to be fraught with consequences highly injurious to the British Ship-owner, and calculated to shake the naval preponderance of the country, by doing away the essence of that great bulwark of our naval rights, the Act 12 Charles II. commonly called the Navigation Act. The Petition has been very numerously signed, and has been transmitted by the Lord Provost to be presented to Parliament.

CIRCUIT INTELLIGENCE.

GLASGOW, APRIL 20.

(Continued from last Advertiser.)

Helen Rennie was charged with having, on the 30th December, administered a quantity of arsenic to her natural child, a boy between nine and ten months old, by which he died in a few hours. She pleaded Not Guilty.

On reading the indictment against the prisoner, one of her Counsel, Mr. TAIT, rose and said, that it did not bear on the prisoner at all, as her name was not Rennie, but Raine. She had never been known by the name charged; but she was willing to waive this objection, as she was anxious to go to a trial to prove her innocence.

Lord PITMILLY observed, that were he the prisoner's Counsel, he certainly would not waive this objection.

Mrs. TAYLOR, wife of Henry Taylor, Tradeston, was the first witness.—Questioned by the Depute Advocate. Has any person on the part of the prisoner been speaking with you lately? Yes.—Were there any particular cautions or admonitions given, and what were they? No, nothing of that sort.

Mr. JARDINE, Counsel for Rennie, objected to this mode of examination.—Mr. HOPE then said, Well, I shall examine her.—What was said to you by the individuals who called on you? They said nothing at all to me.

Witness knows the prisoner, and has done so since she had a natural child, 4 years in keeping, named Jonathan Allwood. The boy was eight months old when he was brought to her, and she weaned him. She received four shillings a-week for his board, and he remained a month in her keeping. On the last Sunday in the old year, betwixt two and three o'clock in the afternoon, prisoner came and took him away, but she did not say any thing, or how long she expected to be out with him. The child was very healthy and lively, and did well with witness. She dressed him in a cap, a white pin-a-fore, and put a cloth about him. The witness was brought back again by his mother betwixt three and four in great distress, sobbing, eyes shut, and breathing with difficulty. He was sighing, as if after crying, struggling, and vomiting a yellow substance, and purging to a great extent. The prisoner remained at this time in witness's house more than ten minutes, but not so much as half an hour. While she stayed the child was getting worse. When she came back at first, she said she had been seeing a Mrs. McCulloch, in Hutcheson-town, whom she had not seen for some time, who had given her a dram, and that the child had snatched at the glass, and drank some of it, without her being able to prevent it. She likewise mentioned that Mrs. McCulloch had given the child some brimstone for the hives, but the child had no hives while in witness's keeping. There was only one spot, and she was not sure that it was not hives, but she is quite well acquainted with the disorder. Hives go over the body in considerable numbers. She had not given the child any medicine, because she did not consider that he required any. When the prisoner told her that he had given the child brimstone, she said that it needed but be considered it was part of her duty to give medicine if necessary. She does not recollect of any other conversation, and the prisoner went home, as the witness did not ask her to remain. Rennie at first seemed alarmed a little, and asked if she thought it would get better, to which witness replied that surely it would. After the prisoner went away she gave the child some magnesia and milk, which she swallowed with difficulty, and threw it up immediately. As he was getting worse she sent for Dr. McAlpine, and her daughter went to Mrs. Crawford's, where the prisoner served, to call her, but she did not come until brought by her husband. Dr. McAlpine was in the house when she came, and the child was just dying. She clasped her hands and cried, "My baby," but did not hear her say any thing more, and does not remember whether any thing was said to her, but thinks she was accused by some person of having harmed the child. She again said, that it had got brimstone; and something was said to her about having done for her son, but cannot recollect by whom, and cannot say that she returned any answer, but she was in great confusion and distress. It was about six o'clock when she came, and not long after the child died. She was taken into custody by two police-officers. The body of the child was opened next day, and it was then carried away. The child had no flannel bandage on when he came back, and had another cap on, and no pin-a-fore at all, and she gave an excuse that they had been vomited upon. Prisoner did not usually wash for her son, and the witness would have cleaned the articles if they had been brought her. She said the cap belonged to Mrs. McCulloch, where she had left the other articles. The cap alluded to is in witness's house, and has not been claimed. It was not mentioned where the brimstone had been got, but that Mrs. McCulloch gave it. On taking the child away no inquiry had been made respecting his health, nor about the spot on his face. On a previous occasion something had been said about this spot, but it had got better without medicine. The prisoner appeared fond of the child, but she was a quiet woman, and had not much to say. She never had taken away the child before this, and witness had never asked whether he was a natural son or not.

Cross-examined by the prisoner's Counsel.—The spot on the face might be hives; she received clothes and caps from the mother for her son about a week before his death. She has said before that the child had no flannel bandage when he came back, and she did not expect to find one, as he had no complaint.

By Lord SUCCOTH.—She usually gives her own children medicine for hives, but did not give the prisoner's son any, as she did not consider that he required any.

By Mr. HOPE.—At the time Rennie took away the child he did not seem to need any.

Henry Taylor, the husband of the preceding witness, went for the prisoner, and when he saw her she said, "Oh, is he worse?" On the road he told her she should not have allowed any person to have given him any thing, but she did not give a different account of the accident from what she did at first. When they arrived, the child was either dead, or very near it, and the house was full of women; some one observed that

there certainly must have been something wrong, when he died so suddenly, but cannot remember whether Rennie took any notice of this. She was very distressed, and appeared to be more grieved than guilty, but seemed to be more confused and alarmed when charged with the crime than before.

Dr. Andrew McAlpine remembers being called on a Sunday in the end of last year, to see a child of the prisoner's. He found him very restless, breathing hard, and no pulsation at the wrist. He ordered a warm bath, but the child soon after fell into convulsions and died. When he saw the mother she was much agitated, so much so, indeed, that she could not tell where Mrs. McCulloch lived, as he wished to know this, for it was material to get the pin-a-fore which the child had on. On examining the stomach of the child after death, it was found to be much inflamed, and a quantity of a yellow substance, of the same kind as that on the clothes, taken out of it, which, when analysed, proved to be King's yellow, and he has no doubt was the occasion of the death of the child. Witness believes that sulphur is commonly enough given for hives, but not by surgeons, although it is safe enough if taken in a proper quantity, and he does not think that two table-spoonfuls of it would cause death; but although it was taken in such a quantity as to occasion death, it would not leave the same morbid effects as King's yellow. There is no doubt on his mind that the poison which had been administered was King's yellow, or sulphuret of arsenic.

Dr. Corkindale deponed to the same effect.

By Mr. JARDINE.—There is a great latitude in the kind of disease which is called hives, and common people generally administer sulphur pretty liberally.

Mrs. Sarah Crawford.—The panel was in her service as a nursery-maid. The day before or after Christmas, between five and seven o'clock, she sent her to the Apothecaries' Hall for some powders and calomel to the children. Prisoner did not mention that she had got any medicines for herself when she was at the Apothecaries' Hall.

Isobel Tarras, servant to Mrs. Crawford, said the prisoner was her fellow servant; she knows she had a child, and remembers the Sunday she was taken into custody. She came into the house that day betwixt two and three o'clock, along with her child, for the purpose, as she said, of putting a flannel bandage round it. She went to the nursery alone, and told the witness not to tell any of the children of the house that she was in. She remained betwixt a quarter and half an hour in the nursery, and during that period she heard the child crying, but not as if she was hurting it; the cry might be like that of a child getting medicine. Witness saw a few yellow spots on the nursery carpet, and some on a towel belonging to her mistress, and on an apron belonging to the prisoner.

By prisoner's Counsel.—Rennie seemed affectionate about her child, and had made some caps for him about eight days before the accident.

Mrs. McCulloch is acquainted with the prisoner, and was sent for to the Police Office on the last Sunday in December, the day that she was taken into custody. Helen Rennie had not been in her house that day, and the first time she saw her was in the Police Office, and the child had never been there at all. She has known the prisoner for six years. Witness had been out betwixt three and four, taking a walk, but this was the only time during the day that she was absent from home.

By the prisoner's Counsel.—Rennie always bore an excellent character and disposition, and was exceedingly fond of her child, and never appeared to wish to conceal the manner of his birth. When she got the nursing in Mrs. Stirling's, at parting with her son she wept much, and threw herself on a bed, crying she could not part with him, and that she could not love any other person's child. She was in her house the Sunday before the accident, and said she would call again in a fortnight, as it was her day out. Before the prisoner had her child, witness told her that sulphur and whisky was a good thing for the hives, which she administered to her own child in the presence of the prisoner.

By the Depute Advocate.—Rennie said she had heard that sulphur and whisky was a good remedy for hives. Witness gave her own child only the third part of a tea-spoonful, and Rennie said this. She had never given sulphur before, and prisoner made no observations about the quantity. The witness here said (in contradiction to her previous answer) that she had given sulphur before, and prisoner told her that she should not give a great deal. [The witness was here cautioned by Lord Succoth as to the critical situation in which she stood, and he advised her to be more guarded in her answers.] She said she meant that she had administered medicine to other children, although not to her own.

On the Depute Advocate continuing his cross-examination on this inconsistency, one of the Jurymen rose and said, that he and his brethren around him felt that there was no necessity for sifting this witness so keenly, as the small discrepancy in her evidence did not, in their opinion, affect her general credibility. If the Public Prosecutor had private reasons for this, they did not wish to interfere; but if this was not the case, they thought there was no occasion for pressing her farther, more particularly when they considered her present situation [far advanced in pregnancy.] (At the conclusion of these observations there was partial applause.)

Lord SUCCOTH, with much warmth, said, "I will never sit in a Court of Justice and tolerate such behaviour as this. I would hold myself to be totally unworthy of the situation which I filled, if I did; and I insist that the Police Officers or the military be called in to clear the Court."

Three or four soldiers were accordingly brought in, who cleared all the gallery part of the Court, from which it was suspected the interruption principally proceeded.

Examination continued.—When the witness administered sulphur in whisky, she gave a very little in the bottom of a dram glass. When prisoner went to Mr. Stirling's, she had only had her child a month or six weeks; and it might be ten months old in December last.

Lord SUCCOTH advised this witness to be more consistent if ever she came there again.

Agnes Baird, upper-nursery maid in the family of Wm. Stirling, Esq.—The prisoner was with Mrs. Stirling seven months, and left her in November last; she knows she had a child.

Cross-examined.—The conduct of Rennie was in every respect exemplary, and she spoke of her child most affectionately, and on parting with it the first time she appeared to be perfectly overcome. She employed herself when at leisure in making clothes for it, and always paid him the utmost attention.

James Adams, is 17 years old, and belongs to the Apothecaries' Hall; thinks he has seen the prisoner once in the Hall, but he has no recollection of having ever seen her except that time. The sulphur is kept in a drawer under the scales, and the king's yellow in a bottle on the other side of the shop, to get at which he requires steps. This article is very seldom asked for, but when it is, it is not in half-penny worthes, and he knows it is poison. He remembers hearing of the death of the child, but he also recollects perfectly that he had not sold any king's yellow for two months previous to the accident. A penny-worth is the smallest quantity sold, which is one drachm, and would cover a shilling. The bottle in which the king's yellow is kept has a label on it. After the accident the witness went to Mrs. Crawford's and saw two papers, one of them had a mark like the writing of one of their clerks—which was "for a child of four years old."

The declarations of the prisoner were read, in which she stated that she had purchased a half-penny worth of sulphur, of which she took a despot spoonful herself, and gave her child three tea-spoonful.

MR. AND MRS. HENDERSON, Mr. McIntyre, and Mr. Stirling, with whom the prisoner had lived servant, gave her a most excellent character.

Mrs. Gilchrist said, the prisoner lay-in in her house, she has known her for six years; no woman could have been better; she was most affectionate to her child; for two days before she went to Mr. Stirling's her checks were never dry crying to part with her child. She paid all expenses most cheerfully.

Mrs. Broadfoot, the child's wet nurse, likewise gave the prisoner an excellent character. She told Rennie she had given her child brimstone more than once, and the prisoner appeared as if she had seen sulphur administered before.

Margaret McNab, servant to Mr. Stirling, said the prisoner was a modest retired woman, and expressed great love to her child. The day of his death she was expressing her anxiety about his safety, as the measles were very prevalent in the neighbourhood of the place where the nurse lived.

Miss Allwood knew the prisoner had a child to her brother, and she was in the habit of going to visit it. When she first expressed a wish to see him, the prisoner appeared much pleased. Witness told her that she would do all that was in her power for the infant, and that it would never want as long as she could help it. Her brother had sent her money, and he did not decline to do so that she knew of.

Dr. Ure said, an unskilful eye sulphur might pass for King's yellow. He could not conceive it possible to swallow it dry, but it might be washed down the throat with a liquid. He went to the Apothecaries' Hall two days ago to purchase some King's yellow, and a boy took it from a shelf nearly opposite the door, without the assistance of any ladder, but he did not inquire where the sulphur was kept.

Dr. Andrew Reid said, there is a likeness between King's yellow and sulphur, and a person might be mistaken were they to judge from the colour alone.

The Jury were most ably addressed by Mr. HOPE for the Crown, and by Mr. JARDINE for the prisoner, whose speeches our limits preclude us from reporting.

Lord SUCCOTH said, that of all the trials he had ever heard, this was the most distressing, and it never had fallen to his lot to address a Jury under more grievous circumstances. The young woman at the bar was accused of murdering her own child, and it was their sacred duty not to be led away by their feelings, but to decide on the case according to the evidence adduced. This was not like the common trials for child murder, where the mother was anxious for concealment, or in want. But the strong circumstances of the case were not to be disregarded because they could not find out the motive; this could not at all be conclusive, for very many crimes were perpetrated where there appeared to be no earthly inducement to their commission. Circumstantial evidence, where the chain was not broken, was of all others the most convincing, and was without a doubt the very best sort of evidence, for there was no sort of possibility of the witnesses laying their heads together. The evidence given by the exculpatory witnesses was no doubt important, and happy should he be if their testimony should weigh with the Jury. His Lordship had never heard a more interesting trial, and he trusted they would weigh it attentively in all its various bearings, and that the verdict which they should return might prove satisfactory to themselves and their country.

The Court then adjourned at a quarter past one on Sunday morning, the trial having occupied upwards of 14 hours.

The prisoner is a very modest girl, rather good looking. She was dressed in deep mourning, and wept much during the course of the day.

MONDAY, APRIL 22.

The Court met at ten o'clock, when the Jury, in the case of Helen Rennie, returned a verdict, by a plurality of voices, finding the prisoner Not Guilty.

Lord SUCCOTH said that nothing could be more agreeable to his feelings than the verdict which had now been returned. It had not however been unanimous, and of course he was entitled to say that a part of the Jury thought her guilty; whether she was so or not was only known to herself and her Maker, but he thought it would take her whole life to atone for her past conduct. It was no doubt a case of great nicety, and however much it might have hurt his feelings, he must declare that if he had been on the Jury he should have gone along with the minority. I have only farther to add, and I hope the Gentlemen of the Jury will forgive me when I do it, that it is their duty to hear the evidence patiently, and if any of them have any observations to make they should wait till the witness has retired. After the disclosure of the whole conduct of the prisoner, he thought she could not be too circumspect during the remaining period of her existence. Although her own heart might tell her that she was innocent of the horrid crime of murder, still she had