

The Era (London, England),
Sunday, July 21, 1850

T H E E R A .
TOWN EDITION.

SUNDAY, JULY 21, 1850.

THE PARLIAMENTARY ERA.

CONSERVATORY OF INSTITUTIONS, AND REFORMATORY
OF ABUSES.

In the Commons, Messrs. COBDEN, BRIGHT, and HUME spun their yarns anent the Borneo pirates, vouchsafing that no such marine marauders ever existed in the Indian Archipelago. We rather fancy East "Injy" shipowners and skippers, trading in those distant seas, could enlighten them "a few," as Jonathan says. We should like COBDEN to have a week's watch, with his weather eye kept on the cock, looking out for those polite, and by no means piratical, personages, in their *prahoes*, who pay their unsolicited respects to British vessels in the Malay waters. If old JOE HUME, too, had a night of it, peeping over the side, and looking after matters, it would make the tough old gentleman's hair stand a trifle stiffer than it does. And as for Quaker BRIGHT, we think when he found a swarm of black scoundrels carrying a deck and ransacking a cargo, his notions of peace would be "tarnation unquakerish." The fact is, the seas, over which it is the proud boast of Britannia to rule, must be cleared of pirates, and all nations (and all men with common sense and common honesty in their train) must support her in this just and honourable duty. Away, therefore, with all twaddle, worthy alone of being uttered over the hemming of petticoats!