# European & Foreign News.

HOUSE OF LORDS. THURSDAY, April 14. THE STATE OF EUROPE.

Lord MALMESBURY, in calling the attention of the house to the state of affairs on the Continent, said it would be fresh in the memory of the house that in the beginning of this year a conversation had occurred which showed that the relations between France and Austria were not on so satisfactory a footing as could have been desired, while the relations of this country with all parts of the world were so encouraging that we were well fitted to take the part of mediators. He then briefly reviewed the position of the three principal Powers in regard to this country, and observed that, although connected with Austria by similarity of race and an ancient alliance, the people of this country were atienated from her by the policy which Austria had pursued in Italy. No statesman in this country would for a minute deny the rights of Austria-rights which had been acquired by conquest, inheritance, and treaty, precisely in the same way as this country held many of its own possessions. These rights were secured by treaties which he had signed, and which every Government was bound to uphold. But a true cause of complaint against Austria arose from her interference with the other Italian States besides Lombardy. In passing to Sardinia, he said that a strong feeling in her favour existed in this country by the assimilation of her institutions to our own, and he regretted that after her noble conduct in the late war she should have so far forgotten that military glory ought not to be the sole object of a Government, for it was from this cause that the present occupied by W. L. Murison, where, in connection difficulties had arisen. It was difficult, he observed, to understand why France should involve itself in this question, but France had thought fit to unite her cause with Sardinia and to assert her rights to look into the affairs of Italy in opposition to Austria.

It was the opinion of her Majesty's Government that a disarmament was necessary previous to the assembling of the Congress. The Congress was to consist of the five great Powers; MR. and MRS. DAVISON respectfully inti-but, as the questions to be considered affected MRS. mate that they will remove in May from the social and political importance of Italy, he George Street to the House in Hollis Street, thought that the different Italian nations should present occupied by Mr. Edward Lawson. be represented, and it had therefore been pro-posed that these nations should be invited to vanced private Class for Young Ladies in the morning. attend, and admitted when the Congress wished begs to state that he is agreeable to do so. to hear them. In such a decision there was nothing derogatory to the dignity of the Italian States. Sardinia would therefore not be represented in the Congress, but invited with the other Italian States to send a delegate to put its wishes before the Congress. Austria and France had agreed to the principle of a disarmament, but differed as to the time and mode of carrying it out. Sardinia had also been invited to disarm on the same footing as Austria, but refused on the ground of her non-admission to the Congress. He regretted that he could not give a more satisfactory account of these negotiations, but it might be presumed that for their own credit the Government had | remedy will bring almost magical relief."-CHRISTIAN used every effort to avert a war which would be no common one, but would be a theatre for the dreams of the wildest theorists and the most unprincipled adventurers.

Lord CLARENDON wished that Lord Malmesbury could have made a more satisfactory statement previous to the dissolution of Parliament, in order to allay public anxiety. Assuming, he said, that the various Governments were sincere, and not pursuing a policy they were ashamed to avow, it was hard to conceive how matters had arrived at their present state. They had all declared their intention of not attacking each other, England and Prussia had done their best to mediate, but still armaments were going on among them. In France everything denoted a campaign; Sardinia was draining her resources to support her army, and the war spirit of Germany could be hardly repressed; and yet, although they were all clamorous for a Congress, they could not agree on the conditions on which that Congress was to meet. If, there existed a real desire for peace, the whole business might be concluded by a Congress in a fortnight. At present it was hard to know what a Congress was wanted for. If it were to alter the territories of Austria in Italy, Austria would not recognise the power of the Congress of 1859 to abrogate the settlements of the Congress of 1815. If it were that Austria was to abandon the Papal territory, Austria was ready to do so if France would abandon Rome. He considered France was responsible for the defects of the Papal Government, and he could not imagine a great nation in a more unworthy position. He did not fear the withdrawal of the French and Austrian troops from the Papal States, for he believed that the party of order and constitutional government was increasing in influence in those States. The bubble of Italian unity had at length burst, and the detestable party of Mazzini and his accomplices was almost extinct. He could not conceive what was the necessity for war. War could not settle the Italian question ; for, supposing that ance once a month. Austria was driven out, and Lombardy annexed to Piedmont, the people of Milan and Venice would never agree with those of or four copies of the same number for 10s. Sardinia, but would be more discontented than they even were now. There was one principle he hoped the Congress would establish—that of imported. non-intervention for the Italians were quite capable of conducting their own affairs.

Lord DERBY thanked Lord Clarendon and Parliament for not embarrassing Government in the present condition of affairs, as the best chance of maintaining peace was that it should be well understood by Europe that no differences Price 44. existed on that point in the English Parliament.

The course taken by the Ministry had been one calculated to prevent war in Europe. He quite agreed that it did seem hard to reconcile the expressed desire for a Congress with the military preparations on both sides. Much of No Musical Instrument is so well adapted for these difficulties was due to the King of Sardinia's words, that "a cry of anguish came from Italy, and he could not endure it." When such words were used it was not unnatural that Austria should make preparations on a large scale, although Piedmont had nothing to fear from Austria as long as she kept within her own bounds. He agreed with Lord Clarendon as to the injurious results of the treaties which Austria had entered into with the Italian States, and thought it would be wise for her to reconsider them. In regard to the Papal States, he thought that it would be best to leave that matter to France and Austria during the Congress, allowing the Pope a voice in the question. The time was now nearly come, he said, when it was a question whether a Congress should be held at all, and when the terms on which such a Congress should be held ought to be known. The time, in fact, was nearly at hand when England would have to say that the time for trifling had gone by, and she would therefore withdraw from interfering in affairs where she could not do so effectually. If there were a war, which God forbid! it would not be localised in Italy; it would be impossible to confine it to that country; it would extend itself, and involve the world in universal conflagration.

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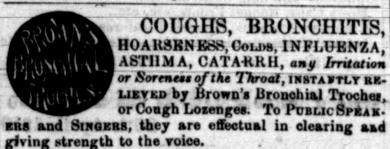
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