

Latest from Europe!

The steamship *Borussa*, off Cape Race on Friday morning, brings dates of the 23d ult.

The *Times* Leader says the blockade of the ports of the Confederate States of America is not effectual, and reminds the government at Washington that foreign nations are bound to recognize only real blockades. Reminds the Lancashire people of the running of the blockade as the *Bermuda* and many other vessels have done. The *Times* article also shows that the cutting off of the cotton supply is the work of the South as much as of the North; and that it also seems quite true that all the cotton exportations have been forbidden by the Confederate government, in order that the foreign nations especially England, may be forced to take sides in the American quarrel.

The Admiralty is determined to execute numerous defensive works in India, China, Red Sea and Malacca.

The Gazette de France denies that warm discussion took place between Persigny and Thouvenal, on the Italian question. No difference of opinion exists between them.

The Patrie says that the English Admiralty have decided upon plating ships of war already built. If the experiment succeeds, England would have 20 iron plated ships in one year.

The Times says that it is evident that even in the face of the English credit of two millions sterling, difficulty will be experienced in preventing remittances to England.

RUSSIA.—The Emperor has closed the Moscow and Kazan Universities, in consequence of disturbances among the students.

SPAIN.—Spain, France, and England will despatch a joint expedition to Mexico. Spain will make direct demands for satisfaction for special insults.

ITALY.—Fresh reactionary movements are reported. Naples is tranquil. Neapolitan reactionists have chartered Maltese vessels.

POLAND.—Agitation is increasing at Warsaw. The authorities are taking more vigorous measures for maintaining order.

[From the London Freeman.]

FRANCE.

THE VISIT OF THE KING OF HOLLAND TO THE EMPEROR.

The *Moniteur* announces the arrival of the King of Holland at Compiègne. His Majesty was received by the Emperor at the railway station, and by the Empress at the foot of the grand staircase of the Palace. The first official utterance on the subject of the late Royal meeting is also made by the *Moniteur*. The Government organ merely says that the visit "cannot but exercise a happy influence on the relations of the two Governments," and states that "everything leaves it to be presumed that it has left an impression equally favourable in the minds of both Sovereigns." Private advices from Compiègne state that his Prussian Majesty made quite a social conquest during his short stay. A degree of haughty coldness seems to have been expected, but this anticipation was happily disappointed, and the King is represented as having made himself in every way agreeable. "His manners have created quite a party in his favour at Court," says a Paris letter, and we can better understand the popularity of his Majesty when we are informed that the French people are unanimous in believing that the Emperor would be sure to get the better of him in any political business in which the two Sovereigns might engage. In the meantime there is hardly even a rumour regarding the substance of the Royal conversation. The action of Prussia towards Italy will be anxiously watched as the first indication of the result.

FINANCIAL PROSPECTS.

French finance has become an important topic in political circles. The great scarcity of specie, together with the high price of every kind of provisions, have produced a feeling of alarm which all the efforts of the French press, animated by a common inspiration, have proved unable to remove. The price of maintaining an enormous army and navy at a ruinous cost is being paid, and present appearances seem to justify the opinions expressed by financiers of all countries that the present exorbitant expenditure must sooner or later involve France in a financial crisis. Home affairs will very fully occupy the Imperial Government for some time to come. The French working classes, it is well known, are not distinguished for resignation under the afflictions of scarce employment and dear bread, and the history of the past tells us how much political danger accompanies a financial crisis in France.

The French Government seem determined to spare no effort for the purpose of consolidating and increasing the influence they have acquired over the new King of Madagascar. Not only are the French agents stationed at the neighbouring colonies of France instructed to use all means to cultivate the good graces of his Majesty, but the Emperor has determined upon sending an Ambassador Extraordinary to congratulate the King on his accession to the throne.

The visit of the King of Prussia to Compiègne, which has been the subject of so much discussion and speculation, is over. We are able to furnish the preliminaries connected with it, of which the courtly circle of France was witness. The King of Prussia arrived at Compiègne at six o'clock on Sunday night, and the Emperor received him at the railway station. The Empress, with the Prince Imperial, awaited in the vestibule of the Palace the arrival of King William and the latter, with the courtesy of a gallant of the old school, kissed the hand of the

Empress. He then caressed the Prince Imperial, and by these acts his Majesty showed himself to be more of a courtier than people have given him credit for. The usual ceremonies and festivities followed, but the agents of the telegraphic company do not find an entrance into the innermost circles of the court, and what passed at Compiègne between the Emperor and the King is not known publicly. The "best informed" people of Paris say that the visit is one merely of ceremony, indicative, at the same time, of the growing friendliness of Prussia and France, and without any of the conspiring spirit that has been attributed to it.

ITALY.

As an instance of the fertility of invention ascribed to Louis Napoleon, it is actually rumored that the Emperor has suggested the transportation of Francis II. to Mexico. Two birds will thus at once be hit. Italy will be well rid of the deposed king, and Mexico will get what she requires, a mixture of royal blood, to settle the revolutionary spirit of the people.

The long string of falsehoods, curses, and snivelling complaints, which the Pope recently poured forth as an "Allocation" is now published in full, and it will probably do more to damage the Papacy as a political institution than anything that its bitterest adversary could say against it. According to his view of matters, lying, murder, robbery, blasphemy, and everything that is horrible ride rampant over the world—and we have all this petty display of temper simply because the newly-awakened spirit of liberty in Italy refuses longer to be tyrannised over by a bigoted priest.

RUSSIA AND POLAND.

Rumours have lately been prevalent in Paris of an insurrectionary movement in Russia. The *Cas* of Cracow is reported to have stated that a revolution had broken out in St. Petersburg, and "that the people along with the army" were besieging the Winter Palace. The news is, however, too much of a "sensational" character to be credited.

The rumour seems, however, to apply to Poland if not Russia. A telegram from Warsaw states that Poland has been placed in a state of siege, and the soldiers have now pitched their tents in the public squares of Warsaw.

CHINA.

The death of the Emperor of China is announced. A telegraphic despatch from China, received via St. Petersburg, states that the death of the Emperor has not in any way changed the state of affairs at Peking. The city was perfectly tranquil, and Prince Kong continued to govern the Empire. The despatch mentions that he had assumed the title of Regent, which he would retain for the present.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* says:—"We cannot regard the withdrawal of the troops, with feelings other than those of uneasiness. Our private accounts from China are of a very unsatisfactory character. Mr. Bruce is in fear of his life at the capital, and, despite all assertion to the contrary, the treaty of Peking is as much a nullity as that of Tien-tsin. We now hear of the death of the Emperor, and whispers that the Chinese are disposed to disavow the whole of the arrangements made with Lord Elgin in 1860.—It seems a very difficult condition of affairs to deal with, and sending away our troops, the only kind of ambassadors apparently respected by this insupportable people, does not wear the aspect of wisdom."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The city of Benares was lately visited by an earthquake and hail-storm. Hundreds of houses and cattle were destroyed, and 200 or 300 men buried under the ruins of houses.

Mr. Philip James Bailey, the author of "Festus," "The Angel World," &c., is coming out as a political writer. A book by him, entitled, "The International Policy of the Great Powers," is announced.

A dreadful catastrophe has occurred in France. A great storm raged in the department of Gard, and the Lisle line was inundated, in consequence of which the siles fell in, burying 117 workmen, who were either drowned in the water or suffocated by the fall of earth.

THE FOREIGN SECRETARY'S HOLIDAYS.—The *North British Daily Mail* reports that during Earl Russell's recent sojourn at Minto, "a Queen's messenger from London arrived every day, and the rural population were quite astonished at the enormous bulk of the despatches brought, weighing several stones, and these, too, seven days a week."

THE PRINCE OF WALES' MATRIMONIAL PROSPECTS.—It is said that a negotiation is on foot for the marriage of the Prince of Wales with the Princess Alexandra, of Glucksburg, eldest daughter of Prince Christian, heir-presumptive of the throne of Denmark. The Prince during his journey on the continent met the Princess at Ostend, from whence she went to visit her grandfather, the Prince of Hesse, at Rumpenheim. Before going to Berlin the Prince went to the same castle. The Princess has scarcely attained her seventeenth year.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—The *Great Eastern* has been examined, and the damage done to her in the late gale is proved to be very serious. It is estimated that 10,000l. must be spent before the "big ship" is again in a condition to sail. The repair of the rudder post will be a work of great labour and time, hence the large amount of the estimated expense. It is stated by *The Army and Navy Gazette* that the Emperor of the French has made overtures for the purchase of the ship as a transport vessel. Meantime,

she has been removed from Cork to Milford Haven, where she arrived on Sunday morning. It is said she will now lie up for the winter on the same gridiron she did last year.

SOCIAL PROGRESS IN ITALY.—Lady Bowring writes to *The Inquirer*:—"During a protracted stay in Italy, I had unusual opportunities of visiting educational establishments, being introduced by residents. At Leghorn, Florence, and Genoa, I inspected several schools, in the two latter cities they were principally those set on foot and supported by the respective municipal bodies, and I was surprised to find how much had been effected in the short space of two years. The educational course is not so enlarged as in this country, but comprises reading, writing, and arithmetic (well taught), with the rudiments of history and geography, and the elements of drawing. Singing seems to come naturally to the Italian child."

A PERILOUS ASCENT.—On Thursday last George Matthews, a carpenter, in the employ of Mr. F. R. Fisher, builder, of the High-street, Salisbury, performed the adventurous and perilous feat of ascending to the summit of Salisbury spire, for the purpose of ascertaining what repairs and painting were necessary to be done. After he had reached the top he climbed up and got outside the vane, which he turned round. The courageous fellow subsequently mounted the iron cross above the vane, and waving his cap to the spectators stood upon the bar at that giddy height perfectly upright. The ascent to the top of the spire, it may be mentioned, is accomplished on the outside by means of small iron handles securely fixed to the spire. The height of Salisbury spire has been stated in some accounts to be as much as 410ft. Mr. Fisher, clerk of the works of the Cathedral, says the height of the spire is nearly 390ft. 10in., being about 34ft. 10in. higher than St. Paul's.

THE SCHOOLMASTER ABROAD.—The following characteristic notice, which was once posted on the door of a village school in Utah, will give some idea of the way in which schoolmasters are supported in those new countries:—"Notice.—I, schoolmaster, to all the brethren, greeting. Monday, the 19th of November, the anniversary of the massacre of one hundred and eighty-five Assyrians by the Angel of the Lord, has been fixed upon for the re-opening of my course of the divine sciences and reading and on writing, with the art of orthograph; and whereas ye are in a state of famine, in consequence of the seventh year after our establishment in the country the charges will be fixed for each scholar, girl or boy, in the following way:—For one month, a bushel of wheat or maize, or two bushels of potatoes. And whereas it is winter, each must bring a cedar log every fortnight. And whereas those who cannot pay in grain or Irish potatoes, may be able to do it in some other way, bears' flesh, squirrels, and dried pumpkins will be received, as well as salt pork and cheese. And whereas I have nothing whatever to eat, I must be paid a month in advance, inasmuch as I am in want."

THE GORILLA, AND THE LAND HE INHABITS.—A short time since the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon delivered, in his own chapel, a lecture on "The Gorilla, and the land he inhabits." The admission was by ticket, at charges ranging from 2s. 6d. to 6d. and the chapel was crowded.—Some hundreds of persons could not get tickets. Mr. Layard, M. P., presided, and M. Du Chaillu occupied a chair immediately on his right hand. The proceeds of the lecture were devoted to the Band of Hope Union. Mr. Spurgeon's lecture was received with great applause, and at the close, a number of dissolving views illustrative of the principal scenes in M. Du Chaillu's travels were exhibited, Mr. Spurgeon acting as explanatory lecturer. The chairman expressed the great pleasure he had derived from the lecture; and having eulogised M. Du Chaillu, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Spurgeon. M. Du Chaillu, who was very cordially received, seconded the motion. He appreciated highly Mr. Spurgeon's friendship, and the more so as he had so many enemies. He had written of Africa as he saw it. He thanked Mr. Spurgeon for his criticism on the pictures of the book, and if he travelled again he would give it practical effect. He had learned a good deal of wisdom within the last five or six months. The motion was carried unanimously.

STRANGE FREAK OF A GLASGOW GIRL OF SIXTEEN.—The *Glasgow Herald* gives the following:—"One of our provision-dealers was in want of a shop assistant, and placed an intimation announcing this in the window. Among the applicants was one who, apparently, from manner and address, was suitable, and who was accordingly engaged. All went on for a few days in the usual course, the lad giving rather extra satisfaction. Some little things however, came out, which the honest, unsuspecting provision-dealer thought a little strange when an intimation from the landlady of the house in which the young man had gone to lodge, was given that she wished to see him. A meeting of the landlady and the provision-dealer was at once got, which he was told that his young active shopman was of the feminine gender. After a firm denial once or twice, the clerk admitted she was a girl of sixteen. She belongs to Glasgow, and her parents are in respectable circumstances. The best part of the story is, that she has in addition been personifying the part of a young stranger in some 'revival meetings,' hold forth most eloquently, and gaining the confidence of some of our ministers, as well as of our patronising merchant-princes, at whose table she had occasionally dined. What makes the matter the more wonderful, is the fact that, after being dismissed from the one shop, passed herself off again as a young man, and actually got a situation in another shop, where she probably might have been yet but for an intimation, which also found its way there, announcing her real sex."

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Oct. 30.

PROSPECTUS

A NEW SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

WITH the beginning of the year 1862, the undersigned purposes commencing the publication of a new Semi-weekly newspaper, to be devoted to Politics, Literature, Agriculture, Commercial, and General Intelligence.

As to its political tone, the undersigned will only say to those who have been in the habit of reading the *Acadian Recorder*, that the new journal will conform in its general tone to that which characterized the *Recorder* during the eight years—nearly—in which the latter was under his editorial management. In the management of the new journal he will, however, be more free to act in accordance with his own ideas of editorial judiciousness. On this head, he will only say further, and for the information of the general public, that the substantial interests of the British American Colonies, rather than the petty squabbles of local factions, in which the public welfare is not materially involved, will receive the most constant consideration and careful discussion; and that whilst, in what relates to disputes between rival political parties, it is not promised that neutrality will ever be the policy pursued, every effort will be made to maintain always an attitude of strict independence and impartiality; and that, whilst no party will receive a blind support, towards none will there be exhibited a factious opposition.

In the other departments of the projected journal, every possible pains will be taken to make it combine instruction with amusement for both the town and country reader; to furnish the latest news, both foreign and domestic, down to the hour of publication; to make the paper a reliable medium for commercial intelligence; and to render it worthy the commendation and support of the general reader.

It is proposed to issue the paper every Wednesday and Saturday evening. It will be printed on a sheet somewhat larger than that of any of the tri-weekly papers published in Halifax; and will contain more reading matter per week than is now furnished by any journal published in Nova Scotia. The subscription money will be fifteen shillings a year, if paid in advance, or within three months from the commencement of the year; twenty shillings, if not paid until after the expiration of three months.

Subscribers' names may be forwarded to the undersigned, at his office, Granville street, third door south of Prince street.

Oct. 30.

P. S. HAMILTON.