

Miscellaneous.

icans did was to bring out a weekly paper called "El Nicaraguense"—"the Nicaraguan," half English, half Spanish. It is a very respectable sheet, with a good deal of its space devoted to the enlightenment of the public regarding the natural advantages of the country, its fertility, its delightful climate and great mineral wealth. The only thing in the shape of a newspaper hitherto known in Nicaragua, had been a mere Government Gazette published once a month or so.

The State of Costa Rica, adjoining Nicaragua on the south, is the most flourishing of all the Central American States. It has been for many years free from revolution, and the people are comparatively thrifty and industrious. The finances of the State are in a good condition, and in military matters it is far in advance of Nicaragua, having a well organized militia of 4000 or 5000 men. A certain proportion of the troops are armed with the Minie rifle, and they are well provided with artillery. There are great numbers of Germans in the country, many of them in the employment of Government, and it is to them that the people are indebted for the effective state of their army. The principal production of the country is large, the greater part being sent to England. The Government were in great consternation at the success of the Walker party in Nicaragua, thinking no doubt that their turn would soon come. They made active preparations to resist invasion, but it is not likely that they will attempt to act on the offensive.

Honduras, which adjoins Nicaragua on the north was favourable to the Democratic party, and has acknowledged the American-Nicaraguan Government. The president of that State lately visited Walker in Granada; and as Honduras is threatened with a renewal of hostilities by Guatemala, Walker is about to assist the former State with a portion of his American forces. The fact of Walker taking half of his forces from Nicaragua to the assistance of a neighbouring State, is a convincing proof of his confidence in the security of the position which he has attained. In Honduras, of course the same game will be played as in Nicaragua.—In fighting for the people, the Americans will gain the ascendancy over them and will keep it.

Guatemala, which lies to the north of Honduras is the largest, and most important of the Central American States, and is also the most hostile to American influence.

But whatever be the feelings of the other States towards Americans, it is not to be supposed that, having gained the foothold, they have in Central America, they can be restrained by the weak and indolent people by which they are surrounded from extending their dominion. In whatever way they may come in contact, whether in war, diplomacy, or peaceful competition in mercantile and industrial pursuits, the superior boldness, energy, and perseverance of the Anglo-Saxon character is sure to assert their supremacy.

The spirit of filibusterism is not confined to any particular class of the American community.—Among the small party with which Walker originally sailed from San Francisco were several lawyers and doctors, and others holding a respectable position. Gen Walker himself is of a respectable family in Alabama. He is about forty years of age, and is a man of superior education, the greatest part of which he received in Europe. He originally studied medicine, but afterwards became a member of the legal profession. For some time he conducted a newspaper in New-Orleans; but when the Californian excitement broke out, he went to that country, and for some time edited a journal in San Francisco, and has latterly been practising his profession in Marysville, a city of some importance in the northern part of California.

In personal appearance he is not at all what one would suppose such a daring and successful filibuster to be, being an exceedingly quiet man, with a mild expression of face, and very decidedly Saxon features. His followers hold him in the utmost esteem and admiration; and his conduct, since his accession to power in Nicaragua, has been such as to inspire with confidence in his judgement and abilities many influential theoretical filibusters in California, who are not likely to allow the present flattering prospect of the realisation of their ideas to be lost for want of support.

He has been receiving continual accessions to his force, and now the Americans in Nicaragua under his command amount to upwards of 9000 men.—Conclusion next week.

IMPORTANT MILITARY MOVEMENTS.—We learn from the most authentic sources that Prescott is to bearrisoned immediately, and that although several regiments of the line and companies of artillery are to arrive at the opening of navigation, and they are to be stationed wholly in the cities of the Province. This disposition of the forces is supposed to have reference rather to the movements of the disaffected emigrants, and to prevent the destruction of property on the frontier, than any fear of war between the two countries.—Ottawa Citizen.

EXTRACT FROM M. LAYARD'S SPEECH AT ABERDEEN.—There is every probability that by the end of the month we shall have a treaty of peace signed. Very few public men desire war, and peace in the abstract is certainly more to be wished for, but I have no confidence that the present peace will be upon the whole a satisfactory one, and there is scarcely a man to be found from the Land's-end to John-o-Groat's but would like another year of war—(great cheering)—and for those reasons—first the political aspect of the question does not warrant us to expect a lasting peace; and second, because there is a general impression that, now we are fully prepared for it, another year's war would show to the world that there is that in Englishmen which would conquer every difficulty (Cheers.) If we have peace now, matters will be left in pretty much the same state as that in which we found them. (Hear.) True, we have protected Turkey against Russian aggression in the Black Sea; but, so far as the great questions of civil and religious liberty are concerned, they remain pretty much the same as they were before the war began and therefore, I think the peace will be premature.

MR. MACAULAY AND HIS CRITICS.—We are about to enter another controversy. Mr. Hepworth Dixon announces an "Answer to Mr. Macaulay's charges against Penn." Mr. Macaulay,—so rumour has it,—is employed upon a rejoinder to his various critics,—particularly to the Times and Athenæum. Penn, Dryden and Malborough, are the chief men whose reputations have been assailed by the historian; and his judgements on these personages stand in highest need of explanation and defence. Mr. Dixon, we understand, replies upon the entire case against Penn.—Mr. Macaulay's accusations standing in the latest editions as they stood in the first. We shall be glad to see what Mr. Macaulay can urge in defence of the Taunton charge,—of his assertion that Malborough's letter caused the failure of at Brest,—that Dryden changed his religion for money,—that Jeffreys is buried in the Tower, and Schomberg in Westminster,—the two latter blunders which the Times presses against. Literary controversy is always pleasant; and when conducted with courtesy, and with an earnest desire for the truth, as this controversy most assuredly will be, it is serviceable to history as well as pleasant to readers.—Athenæum.

ENGLAND'S FLEET.—A fleet of gun-boats nearly 100 in number, is now in commission at Motherbank, of which each is of sixty-horse power, and average nine knots an hour. These "hernetts" are armed with 68 and 32 pounder pivot-guns, and 21 pounder brass howitzers. The three principal divisions belonging to the divisional ships, (Algers, 91, Captain Codrington; Colossus, 81, Captain Keppel; and Brunswick, 81, Captain Yelverton) have their mastsheads respectively painted red, white and blue. The possession of this terrific force cannot be too highly estimated. No line-of-battle-ships could be safe at 100 yards range, and owing to their light draught of water (four and six feet), they could force their passage through the most shallow of the enemy's creeks; besides which their 68-pound shells would tell at 4000 yards upon a ship or arsenal. There are, at the least, another hundred all but completed, and about to be commissioned, the whole of which will be reviewed in connection with liners and frigates, at Spithead, by her Majesty on or about the 10th April. There will be also at that period a new description of screw-gun dispatch vessels, equally elegant and powerful. These beautiful specimens of British naval architecture have been built in the government and private yards; they will average a speed of sixteen knots an hour, and will mount five of the heaviest pivot-guns. In addition to these there will be one hundred iron and wood mortar vessels of the most powerful build, each armed with 13 inch mortar, weighing five tons, besides half a dozen mortar frigates (old 42s converted).

To sum up, then England is prepared with,

Line-of-battle-ships	42
Heavy frigates	56
Corvettes	123
Gun-boats	220
Mortar-vessels	100
Troop-frigates	10
Transports	310
Total	891

And nearly the whole of this gigantic force is composed of screw or paddle-box ships, besides an immense reserve. Well may Russia be desirous of coming to terms.

At the close of this year Canada will have 2,000 miles of fully equipped railways, costing £18,000,000 sterling.

As there is at present a good deal of talk about the Governor exercising his prerogative and dissolving the House of Assembly, perhaps it may not be out of place to enquire how far such a case would be constitutional, and in accordance with his duty. We subjoin an extract from Lord John Russell's despatch to the Governor General of Canada, dated October 14th, 1839. The italics are ours.—Westmorland Times.

"Every political constitution in which different bodies share the supreme power, is only enabled to exist by the forbearance of those among whom this power is distributed. In this respect the example of England may well be imitated. The Sovereign using the prerogative of the Crown to the utmost extent and the House of Commons exerting its power of the purse, to carry all its resolutions into immediate effect, would produce confusion in the country in less than a twelvemonth. So in a colony; the Government thwarting every legitimate proposition of the Assembly; and the Assembly continually recurring to its power of refusing supplies, can but disturb all political relations, embarrass and retard the prosperity of the people.—Each must exercise a wise moderation. The Governor must only oppose the wishes of the Assembly where the honor of the Crown, or interests of the empire are deeply concerned; and the Assembly must be ready to modify some of its measures for the sake of harmony, and from a reverent attachment to the authority of Great Britain.

THE LOSS OF THE EUDOCIA.—We regret being called on to chronicle the loss of this noble packership, which took place, as reported by telegraph from New York, in lat. 42 N., lon. 26 W. We are happy to learn that the passengers and crew are safe, having been taken into New York by the Empire State. The loss of the Eudocia is the first disaster of any moment which has happened to the "Black Ball" Line of Liverpool and St. John Packets, during the space of three and a half years, in which over one hundred passages have been accomplished between those ports.

This uniform success is due to the care with which the enterprising and liberal owners, Messrs. J. & R. Reed, take in selecting men of experience and nautical skill to command the vessels composing the line, and the misadventure which has just occurred, was one which no human precaution could have averted. The Eudocia was commanded by Wm. Spurr, and left Liverpool on the 6th of March last, with a full cargo of goods, for this port. Her loss will occasion a serious drawback to shipbuilders and to the spring business of many of the importing houses in this city. We understand that the vessel, freight, and greater part of the cargo were insured in England. The cargo is said to have been valued at £60,000.—Courier.

LOUIS NAPOLEON VINDICATED.—The Rev. Chas. Stuart, of the U. S. Navy, having been referred to as an acquaintance of the French Emperor, while sojourning in New York, has written a letter which fully relieves the character of Louis Napoleon from imputations that were generally believed. Mr. Stuart, it seems, was the intimate acquaintance of Napoleon for the three months he staid in New York. He says that instead of being of loose habits and a frequenter of Oyster Saloons, Porter Houses, or other resorts of idle and profligate men, Napoleon was occupied with plans and correspondence for the restoration of his family; that he neither squandered nor borrowed money; that he was not much in society, but that his associations were with people of character and position; that he was abstemious rather than excessive in eating and drinking; and finally, though he came to travel through America, he hurried back to Europe on on hearing of the sudden illness of his mother.

THE stipulations of the Treaty of Peace.—In the Debats, M. S. Sacy undertakes to unveil the transactions of the Conference with reference to the fifth point of the well known Esterhazy conditions—that by which the allies reserved the right to produce ulterior conditions in a European interest.

The Russian Plenipotentiaries, it is said, did not defend either the military arsenal of Nicolaieff or their naval establishments in the Black Sea, the Sea of Azoff, or on the Shores of the Azoff. The Russian ports and cities will be accessible to all governments, who will be free to exercise an active surveillance by means of consular agents. All the Russian forts constructed upon the eastern coast of the Black Sea will be destroyed, and cannot be replaced.

M. de Sacy intimates that the demolition of the line of forts extending to the South of the Caucasus, between the Black and Caspian Seas, was demanded of Russia, and the demand was refused.—The Allies, it is said, gave way—but it was agreed that the Russo-Turkish frontier on that side should be defined so as to avoid future conflicts, the Russians meanwhile retiring from the Turkish Territory.

LARGE ARRIVAL OF PRODUCE.—The Steamer Anna Augusta, which arrived at Indian Town last evening, from Fredericton, had on freight the largest amount of produce from the river Counties ever before brought by a single steamer. Besides other things, she had on board the large quantity of about eleven hundred bushels of oats, and as many more of potatoes. Our farmer friends could not have brought their potatoes and oats to market at a better time, as we believe, remunerating prices rule for both these articles.—Courier.

"How is your husband, dear?" asked one lady of another.  
"O he's in a very bad state," was the reply.  
"And pray what kind of a state is he in," still persisted the other.  
"In State Prison."

Old King Lear in the play, when he was out in the storm, said in his apostrophe to the rain, wind thunder, and lightnings:—  
"You owe me no subscriptions."

Prentice says he wishes he could say the same to all of his readers, and we say the same to ours.—Those not in arrears need not read this.

THE AVARICIOUS MAN.—Four more truthful lines than the following are rarely written:—  
"The man may breathe, but never lives,  
Who much receives but little gives;  
Whom none can love, whom none can thank,  
Creation's blot, creation's blank."

CHEAP NEWS.—An Irish waiter at one of our city restaurants was overheard the other day telling his companion some terrible news from the seat of war.

"And where did you get hold of this intelligence?" said Pat No. 2.  
"In the penny paper."  
"Oh, then devil a word of it I'll believe."  
"And why shouldn't you believe that as well as any other?—it's a gentleman as prints it."  
"Because," said Pat, "bedad, I don't think they could speak the truth for the money!"

An idler, meeting with one of the strolling organ player was inclined to engage in conversation with him, and asked him, "What part in the grand drama of life do you perform?" "I mind my own business," was the brief and pointed reply.

"CHILDREN," says Mrs. Grant, "are first vegetable, and then they are animals, and sometimes come to be people." But it is sad enough to see how few, now-a-days, get beyond the second stage.

The last mot attributed to the Earl of Clarendon by the gossips at Paris is as follows:—"I sign Peace at Paris and go to open a war in London."

The River Amoor is now being surveyed, and is intended by Russia to be made the channel of vast commerce with England and America.

Letters from Jerusalem state that the new Pasha of that Province is animated with the most liberal sentiments, and is thoroughly carrying out the principles lately adopted at Constantinople, of liberality towards all creeds and denominations of people, with a desire to ameliorate the condition of the inhabitants. The Pasha of Jerusalem and his suite attended Divine service in the English Church on Epiphany Sunday, and visited the English hospital and the English school, leaving handsome donations for each. Almost all travellers now succeed in visiting the Great Mosque of Omar, the site of the Temple, though they have to make large presents for the privilege. The excavations are of very great extent, and are formed into vast arched chambers, which seem to have been used as a quarry to supply the materials for the walls of the Temple.

We extract the following from the Gibraltar Chronicle, of March 29:—The iron screw steamship Mino (of Barcelona), Captain German Marquillas, which was on her way from Barcelona, Valencia and Malaga to Cadix and Liverpool, came into collision, about 2 A. M., off Tarifa, with the British sailing transport Minden, which left our port yesterday, at 12 o'clock noon, in town of the Bustler steaming, and, melancholy to relate, the steamer, which was going at the rate of ten knots an hour, sank five minutes after she struck, and eighteen persons, it is feared, met with a watery grave.—Capt. Marquillas is supposed to have gone down with the vessel. There were, we understand, on board the steamer 115 persons, including the crew, twenty-one only have been saved, of whom seventeen belonged to the crew. The four passengers who were picked up were brought here by the Minden.

It is estimated that if a steam packet communication could be established between this country and Australia, by which such communication could be effected in 42 or 45 days, that £100,000 a year would be saved in interest of money on Australian gold sent to England.