

of produce in the neighbourhood of the lumbering establishments has induced a number of people, at every risk to occupy and clear lands at various places above the present surveys, which extend no higher than the Chats Lakes. In no view are the advantages of a navigation between Lake Huron and the Ottawa more evident than with regard to the lumber trade. By such a communication the winter supplies of the timber cutters would be obtained from the fertile countries south and west of that great lake at one third of the cost now incurred in procuring them from Montreal, and the certain result would be an ample and steady supply of timber below the present prices. If, therefore there was no other object in view but that of insuring a regular supply of necessaries at the cheapest rate for working the great pine fields of the Ottawa, it is highly interesting to ascertain what natural facilities may exist for a communication between Lake Huron and the upper waters of that river.*

This testimony from an eye-witness ought to have some weight. But indeed the case for the Colonies is so strong that it requires very little proof or argument.

It cannot be possible that the ministry will look upon us with any degree of that apathy which some of the Honourable Members of the House of Commons seem to possess,* or that they can forget for a moment that these Colonies form no small part of that Commonwealth whose general welfare is committed to their care.

The ship-owners are also deeply interested in this matter. Their two thousand sail which have enjoyed our trade without a rival, must, if any unfavorable alteration be made for the Colonies, go to meet competitors in the Baltic, and formidable ones too, as it is well known that foreign vessels, from lower wages, and many other causes are able to carry at cheaper rates than British merchantmen.

So far as I understand the doctrine of free trade, it is an attempt to reduce to one simple principle, that variety of system which has hitherto been found necessary for the various cases and situations of mercantile nations. If Dr. Sangrado had succeeded, he would have reduced the science of medicine to the most beautiful simplicity, but it was found upon trial, that one mode of treatment, simple as it was, would not exactly suit every case—no doubt the Doctor, like many other projectors, would not admit, that the disastrous consequences which followed, were attributable to any fault in his system, but to deficiency in its application. Universal equality is also a very simple principle, but if put in practice might act very differently on different individuals—some it would raise—others it would depress. Is there no danger of universal free trade operating in a similar manner?

Great Britain and the Northern Powers move in very different spheres. She has an intercourse and interest with her colonies and other distant possessions in which foreign nations cannot participate. She does not stand on equal terms with those powers who have no possessions beyond their own territories. They may profit by a free trade, as they would certainly do in the present instance, while Great Britain and her Colonies would suffer severely. The Colonial relation may be compared to that which subsists between parent and child, which has sanctioned in all ages of mutual protection, a partial or an exclusive reciprocity, containing a principle, and producing a practice by no means in conformity with this new system of universal community.

CHARLES SHIRREFF.

* On the 7th December last, Mr. Warburton considering our fate as sealed, contemplates our ruin with most philosophical coolness, and without the least regret for our unfortunate situation, in which our canals are to become totally useless, brings forth the following speech.—He protested against any further expenditure on the Rideau Canal, as the regulations with respect to trade would render the canal totally useless for the purposes which were originally contemplated, no commodities such as the Canal was intended to convey would now be required from Canada.

EUROPE.

Foreign News.

INSURRECTION IN POLAND.

On Monday, the 29th of November, about seven in the evening, an insurrection broke out at Warsaw. It began, it appears, in the military school of ensigns. The young men, to the number of from 500 to 600, took up arms, and spreading themselves through the town, called the citizens to arms. A multitude of

students and inhabitants soon joined them. They proceeded to the barracks of the infantry and arsenal, which was taken by ten o'clock. The immense quantity of muskets and sabres it contained was distributed to the people. The insurrection had previously gained the barracks of the infantry. The engineer regiment was the first that rose, and several other regiments soon followed it. The Grand Duke Constantine, on the point of being attacked or surrounded in his palace, effected his retreat upon Praga with his guard, two Russian regiments, and a regiment of Polish cavalry, who only followed him from a sense of military honour, but who will remain neutral, if the soldiers do not disband themselves, or join their fellow citizens in a body. The exasperation, for a long time smothered, was so very considerable at the moment of the insurrection, that some Polish detachments, who at the commencement refused to give up their posts or arms to the people, were massacred as traitors. Forty one Colonels or Majors were killed in endeavouring to keep the troops in obedience. It is added, that two Aides-de-Camps of the Grand Duke were also slain. The opinion at Warsaw was, that the defection of the Polish army would become general. The chief of the municipal police and two Russian Generals were killed. The German General Hauch and Count Stanislaus Potosky were also killed in seeking to rally the troops. The military chest and the house of the Paymaster General was plundered. General Klopiecki has taken the command of the Polish troops, and is endeavouring to restore order. It is said that he has already 16,000 troops of the line under his command. The French tri-coloured cockade was adopted at the beginning of the insurrection, but it was soon replaced by the Polish cockade. A corps of National Guards is organising. The Council of Administration established by the Emperor of Russia, in conjunction with Prince Lubiecki, Minister of Finances, Prince Adaw Czartoriski, and Prince Michael Radzivil, from the Provincial Government, and have issued a proclamation, in which they acknowledge the rights of sovereignty of the Emperor Nicholas, but on condition that the separation of the two states shall be complete, and that no Russian military corps shall keep garrison in the kingdom of Poland.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 10.

Every body is confounded here at the revolution in Warsaw, the first news of which we received on the 8th; every body fears that he will have to lament the loss of some dear relation and the national spirit of the Russians manifest itself on this occasion in a very honourable manner. At the review which took place the day before yesterday, the Emperor, accompanied by his son, rode through the ranks of all the regiments, and related the terrible events in Warsaw to the soldiers, who cried aloud for vengeance, and were confirmed by the spectators in their just indignation. 'Your wish shall be fulfilled,' answered the Emperor; 'I will lead you myself against the rebels.' A universal hurrah arose from the ranks of the warriors, and 'Down with the Poles! Down with the traitors!' was the universal cry. Since this remarkable scene, which immortalizes the Emperor in the eyes of the Russians, all ranks vie with each other in the manifestation of their patriotic sentiments. Young men of the first families enlist in the army as common soldiers; voluntary contributions to lessen the expenses of the war are continually offered, but by the express command of the Emperor not accepted. War is declared against the Poles, and if they do not hasten to submit, they will probably be exposed to worse chastisement, and bitterly repent having contemned the magnanimous treatment which they have experienced from Russia, and having rashly pledged their country into ruin.

Till the Emperor goes to the army Count Diebitsch will have the chief command.—A part of our army cannot be far from the Polish Frontiers, and as soon as a force of 160,000 men is assembled the operations will begin. The conduct of the Grand Duke Constantine, at Warsaw, is blamed by some persons here, perhaps for want of accurate knowledge of the state of affairs. With resolution, they say, the Grand Duke might have awed the revolutionists, and stifled the rebellion in its birth; and they refer to the conduct of the Emperor on his accession to the throne. It is said that the Poles will send Deputies to this city, to justify themselves and to negotiate; they, however, will not be heard, but will be sent back to Warsaw to announce to their countrymen the displeasure of the Emperor, and to summon them to unconditional submission.

FRANCE.—On Monday, Lafayette, in the Chamber of Deputies, entered into an explanation on the

subject of his retirement from the post which he filled as Commander in Chief of the National Guard after the Paris. The General asserts that he was not induced to resign by dissatisfaction, but by a conviction that the post itself was not in unison with the character of the new institutions. M. Lafayette admits, however, that he is not satisfied with the result of the late Revolution, and that Republican principles have prevailed to the extent that he expected. Count Lubau, who has succeeded him, is said to be a Republican.—The retirement of Lafayette has been followed by that of M. Dupont de L'Eure, the Minister of Justice, the most popular of the ministers, and of Odillon Barrot, who held the important office of Prefect of the Department which includes Paris.—Several other members of the same party have also retired.

SENTENCE OF THE EX-FRENCH MINISTERS.

The trial of the four Ministers of Charles X. was terminated on Monday. On Tuesday the Chamber of Peers deliberated on their sentence. The deliberations were secret; but it has been ascertained, that the only one voice was raised with the word *not guilty* generally: there were 141 voices for the sentence which were subsequently passed: 20 were for mitigating the sentence against Chantelauze and De Rastille with so much imprisonment in France, with forfeiture of rank, and fortune. The sentence on Prince Polignac is severer than that passed on his colleagues: and he is declared *himself civilly dead*. This is the substance of the decree, which was delivered in the presence of four counsel of the accused, of forty National Guards and of some journalists.

Sentence having been pronounced on the four Ministers, some difficulty was experienced in deciding the best mode of removing them from the Luxembourg to the Castle of Vincennes. The vicinity of Luxembourg was crowded with multitudes of people all crying out for vengeance on the prisoners. The National Guard and troops of the line around the place amounted to 24,000 men; but they found it difficult in keeping the crowds at a distance. General Lafayette, who commanded the troops, had been hissed during the day, and had been even assailed by the cry of "Down with Lafayette!" He, therefore, refused to take upon himself the responsibility of removing the prisoners. Count Montalivet then once decided on their removal, declaring that, as Minister of the Interior, he was ready to take the whole responsibility upon himself, and he instantly by express to General Danneberg to be ready with for the reception of his old guests, and to light all the lamps in the passage of the castle lighted Count Montalivet instantly ordered his own carriage which was in attendance, to be led round to the new door, so well fortified with iron bars and grates as I have already had occasion to mention to you; Colonel Fabvier was at the same time dispatched with a small escort of cavalry, to be ready to receive the calèche at the beginning of the next street leading to the Boulevards. Colonel Festhalm went at once to the prisoners, who had just partaken of some refreshments in their dining room; he simply mentioned Prince Polignac and Count Peyronnet, that they and their colleagues were to accompany him at once; hats were handed to them; but they had no time to take away their papers, or change of dress; they walked slowly, and with evident surprise, through small apartments, and narrow winding passages, till they reached the "small outer door" where the calèche, with a pair of horses, was ready; it was a small vehicle, and only with inconvenience calculated to accommodate four persons. The leather cover was quickly drawn, and in such a hurry, that nearly all the glasses which were fixed in it were broken; while the staff officers, with Count Montalivet, mounted the cavalry horses ready saddled for service on the spot, and set out at an easy pace through the lines of National Guards within the prison, and who saw the prisoners, as they passed, but did not know what any insurrectionary movement. Several infantry and cavalry soldiers asked the staff officers, who rode on the side of the vehicle, what this procession meant, and Colonel Fabvier's escort, which joined at its per station, was equally interrogated. The movement