

there is every reason to believe are fertile and populous, remains entirely unexplored. There is a large blank in the course of the Niger between Timbuctoo and Youri. We say nothing of the regions south of the equator, which, unless from the recent observations of M. Donville, are almost entirely untouched by discovery.

From English Papers to the 20th October.

BOSTON, NOVEMBER 28.

The New York papers of Monday give us extracts from Paris papers to Oct. 19, received by the packet ship Rhone, which sailed from Havre on the 20th Sept. The latest accounts make it extremely probable that hostilities were on the point of breaking between Belgium and Holland. Letters from Brussels state that orders had been given for the march of the troops towards Antwerp and Maestricht, and it is stated on the authority of Captain Hathaway, that news had reached Havre of the moving of the French troops.

The London Courier of the 17th quoted by the Havre Journal of the 20th, received by the N. York American, says that the English fleet destined for the Scheldt is ordered to assemble by the 5th Nov. at Spithead, and names the following ships as composing the fleet.

The Talavera 74, Wellesley 74, Revenge 76, Spartia 76, Donegal 74, Vernon 50, Southampton 50, Stag 46, Castor 36, Conway 28, Volage 28, Nimrod 18, Childers 18, Rover 18, Scout 18, Satellite 18, Larne 18, and Snake of 16 guns.—The Steamboats Radamanthus and Dee, armed with the largest size cannon, are to accompany the expedition.

Unless the Dutch Government changes its whole system of conduct, or unless the whole powers of Europe abandon the treaty which they have ratified with Belgium after eighteen months of patient deliberation, there seems to be means left for avoiding a hostile collision between Holland and the two most active members of the European league.—Times.

There is no news of importance from Portugal. Don Miguel's squadron was at Vigo.

PARIS, Oct. 15.—By a Proclamation of the King of Sweden, dated the 2nd inst. His Majesty announced that on his return from Norway he should occupy himself with a new organization of the country.

The Cathedral of Ziericksee in Holland, which was considered a master-piece, was burnt to the ground on the night of the 6th inst.

A letter of the 12th inst. from Orbe, in Switzerland, mentions the mysterious appearance of Duke Charles of Brunswick.—On Sunday the 7th he went out to take a walk, and had not returned at the date of the letter. His friends and servants were in the greatest anxiety, as they were totally unable to guess what had become of him.

SPAIN.—Letters from St. Ildefonso, dated Oct. 6, state that the health of the King of Spain has improved so rapidly, that he would return to Madrid on the 13th, unless any unforeseen change could prevent him.

BRUSSELS, Oct. 14. (Private Letter.)—At a very late hour last night a superior officer of the French army of the North arrived with despatches from Marshal Gerard for Gen. Evain, our Minister at War, Gen. Desprez, and M. de Latour Maubourg, the Ambassador of France. This morning General Desprez ordered all the officers under his command to be ready to set out for Louvain on Tuesday. The King's military household, his aides-de-camp, and suite, have received a similar order for the same day. The royal head quarters will be fixed at Louvain, whither the King will proceed in person on Wednesday, on which day he will review the troops stationed at Diest, forming part of the First Division, under Gen. Hurel. Immediately after the review of the camp will be broken up, and the troops marched towards Maestricht. The other divisions will follow and support this movement. All officers absent on leave are to join their corps without delay. It is said that the French army will not enter Belgium unless we should receive a check; but our government has resolved to make attacks upon every point.

Many well informed persons state that the hostilities are on the point of commencing; that the French army will immediately enter Belgium, and that the citadel of

Antwerp will be at once invested. It is added that the principal part of the labor and danger will fall upon the Belgian troops, and that our allies will not alone gather the glory of the contest. The head quarters of the army set out to-day for Louvain. Gen. Desprez, however, will not take his departure until to-morrow. An inspector of the post office was sent off yesterday to make arrangements for the correspondence of the army.—A very large supply of artillery, stores and provisions had been sent to Boom.

ITALY.—We learn from the Naples Gazette that on the 10th Sept. a terrific hurricane ravaged the province of Otranto.—The effects of the storm were confined within a space of 300 paces in width, but extending between 15 and 16 miles in length, in a north easterly direction, through the town of Otranto to the Adriatic where its fury exhausted itself. Every vegetable production in its course was entirely destroyed, and in Otranto a number of houses were overthrown. Thirty-five individuals were killed and 63 severely wounded by the falling of the buildings and trees. The loss of property is estimated at 300,000 ducats. All the local authorities vied with each other in assisting the sufferers, and two English travellers, named Alfred Morgan and John Pennethome, are particularly mentioned for the intrepidity with which they exposed their lives in attempting to rescue the victims from the falling ruins.—The King of Naples has sent 6000 ducats for the immediate relief of the sufferers.

There has been a pause to day in the excitement on the Dutch question, and in some quarters we have found the notion to prevail, that coercive measures against Holland are by no means to be pressed with rapidity; but that, as soon as the first demonstrations are made by the march of a French army into Belgium, and by the joint blockade of the Scheldt, new negotiations are to be opened. We mention this as the information current to day in respectable quarters; but are well assured from authority on which we should place greater reliance, that this is an erroneous view of the case, and that force must be resorted to unless compliance takes place on the part of Holland. At the same time, it is so clearly the policy both of England and France not to resort to any unnecessary violence, that the apprehensions which some of our merchants are beginning to express on that head, are unworthy of the good sense they usually express on all great occasions. They should throw the blame, if any, on the Dutch, rather than on the English government, which is thus placed under the painful necessity of enforcing the joint decision of the allies. A notion which has been diligently circulated of a meeting of the mercantile and banking interests, to petition against the measure about to be adopted, has, so far as our experience has gone, been treated with ridicule, and has not, we firmly believe, any respectable supporters. The parties would act more wisely to address themselves in this conjuncture to the King of Holland; or they should, in the first instance, have petitioned against any attempt to settle the differences between Holland and Belgium, of which, having once begun, the present state of things is an unavoidable consequence, not to be shrunk from without loss of dignity, and in its end perhaps infinitely greater danger.

We find nothing later in the papers before us from Oporto. The Plymouth Journal of the latest date, says—'Enthusiasm in the cause of constitutional freedom in Portugal seems to be prevalent throughout the country. Several recruits for the service of Don Pedro have voluntarily proffered their services in these towns, and, having been accepted, they have sailed for Oporto.'

The Brighton Gazette states that the Duchess de Berri lately passed through the town of Dieppe, on her way to Boulogne where she subsequently embarked and is now in Holland.

The King of the Netherlands addressed the States General on the opening of their session at the Hague on the 15th. He thus alludes to the state of the negotiations, and the preparations of war.

'The communications that will be made to you by my orders, respecting the state of the negotiation, will convince you that the coalescence of which we have given proofs has reached its utmost bounds—those which are fixed by the honor, the independence and the safety of the country. In the meanwhile I am happy in being able to announce to you that I have recei-

ved from the foreign powers fresh marks of interest. I am equally happy to be able, in this state of things, to assure your High Mightinesses, that the means of defence organized along our frontiers are on the most satisfactory footing, and that our land and sea forces merit the greatest praise for their discipline, their warlike ardour and their fidelity, and fully answer to the care that has been bestowed upon them.

'If contrary to all expectation, the interest of the country should require a greater display of forces, I am even now prepared for that purpose, with all the necessary means, fully relying on the assent of the nation.'

He proceeds to state that the young conscripts manifest the greatest eagerness in joining their crops—that tranquility prevails in all the possessions of the kingdom and beyond the seas—that the colonies are supplied with the troops and ships necessary for their defence; and that the commerce and navigation of the kingdom had increased rather than diminished. He speaks of the flourishing state of the agriculture of the kingdom, the excellent state of the canals and dykes, and improvements in the state of literature and the sciences. He proposes to submit several propositions for modifying the civil code, and expresses a hope that during the session the states will be able to revise the whole code. The treasury he represents as in a state to answer every demand, and concludes his speech with the following reflections.

'Nevertheless the burthens which the nation has to support continually are heavy, and the prospect of the future is still gloomy; but the Netherlanders, animated with a sense of honor and a spirit of patriotism, bear them with resignation, and gladly bring their gifts for the defence of their fellow-citizens.

'These sentiments are tranquillising for us. A nation who call to mind the glory of their ancestors, and who, in the present day, distinguish themselves by their love of order and submission to the laws, has a right to the respect of other nations.

'It is in the approbation of the nation and in the sentiment of our just right that we find the most powerful support for the consolidation of the interests of the kingdom, as well as the well grounded hope that strengthened by measured confidence in the decrees of the Almighty, we shall enable our compatriots, when the time shall come, to gather the fruits of the most noble perseverance.'

SPAIN.—A letter from St. Sebastian, dated the 14th October, says—'The reestablishment of His Majesty's health had prevented the explosion of a civil war between the Queen and Don Carlos for the right of succession to the crown as the Salic Law had not been sanctioned with the requisite formalities, an omission which it may be believed will now be supplied. You can form no idea of the intrigues set on foot during the time in which the King's life was in danger, by the party of Carlos, who went so far as to succeed making him sign a repeal of the decree which included females in the line of succession to the crown. On his recovery, he did not know that they had made him sign such an instrument; and accordingly his first act was to dismiss the entire Ministry, and appoint a new one.' The appointments of the King had been numerous; and in every instance he had chosen men of intelligence and liberal views to fill the offices. The 'reform' was still in progress at the last dates from Madrid.

UNITED STATES

BOSTON, December 7.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE which accompanies this day's Gazette, is a document that will be generally read, and as generally admired. It is a straight forward business paper, methodical in its arrangement and simple in its details. After congratulating the members of Congress upon their return to the seat of Government the President alludes to the speed of the Chocera in this country. Notwithstanding this visitation, our country presents on every side he says, marks of prosperity and happiness, unequalled in any other portion of the world.

He then glances at our foreign relations.—The same friendly profession, the same desire to participate in our flourishing commerce the same disposition to refrain from resenting injuries unintentionally offered, are, with a few exceptions, evinced by all nations with whom we have any intercourse.