

EUROPE.

PORTUGAL.—With respect to the state of Portugal, a letter of the 12th January ultimo, states that a force consisting of four divisions, composed of regulars and militia, amounting to sixty or seventy thousand men, is distributed on the coast from the mouth of the Douro to that of the Guadiana. The first division is commanded by Lieut. General Barron de Peroda Regoa, the 2nd division, by Major General Povoas; the 3rd division, by Major Augusta Pinto de Moraes Sarmiento; and the 4th division by Major General Viscount of Santa Martha, the whole commanded by the King in person. If he be not victorious, in the event of an assault by his brother Don Pedro, surely you will say it will not be for the want of terrible names in the General staff of his army.

The letter further states, that the levy on masse is well organized, and ready for service on the appearance of an enemy at any point; and that the King of Spain has lined the frontiers of Portugal with an armed force to support his ally in any emergency. Many military promotions have been made in the army of Don Miguel; and a reinforcement despatched on the 1st January, to Maderia, or destined against the insurgents at some other place. The ship of the line Maria 1st, has been converted into a floating battery, mounting 50 pieces of Artillery of the largest calibre. The castles are manned. The Ship Don Joan VI, is moored between Belem and the Terre Vilha. Every thing is animated, confident, and spirited, and nothing apprehended on account of the pretensions of Don Pedro or his troops, which are regarded unequal to any serious invasion. The preparations have an eye to more important objects.

Such in short are the statements of the letter of the 12th of January. Those of the 10th are filled with expressions of the most perfect confidence in the ability of Miguel to resist effectually all attempts on the part of his brother to disturb his possession of the throne. One of the latter letters is teeming with praises of the American Government, and the American people, meaning those of the United States; and contrasts them very advantageously with those of France and Great Britain. Now indeed is the moment to be seized by our government to secure the most beneficial commercial arrangements with Portugal; but it is feared its procrastination will let slip the golden epoch.

I have supposed this news would be very acceptable to you, as it is at least 25 days later than that by the Nimrod from Lisbon. It may be that you have already been apprised of the arrival at Philadelphia, and may have letters or papers anticipating this communication; but I have deemed it of sufficient importance to furnish it. It may serve at all events to contradict the absurd report, of the arrival of Don Pedro and his squadron in the Tagus, where his presence, I take it, would be about as welcome as his absence from the late imperial city of Brazil, from which he eloped, leaving his poor little children to the care of those whom he dare not trust with his own life. I cannot tolerate his name since the death of his first wife, much less since his late cowardly flight from Rio Janeiro.

Don Pedro takes command of the land forces against Don Miguel. Austria, it is said has addressed a remonstrance to the British Government on the subject of this expedition.

Don Pedro had taken formal leave of Louis Philippe, preparatory to his embarking on his projected invasion of Portugal. He was dressed in Portuguese Field Marshal's uniform.

(From the Sunday Times, Jan. 22.)

We do not yet see our way through the tangled maze of European politics, to that state of peaceful and secure repose which it has been the object of our Government to preserve, or more properly speaking, to restore.

Without pretending to be in the confidence of this or that Prime Minister, we can state a fact or two which our vaunting contemporaries have not been able to lean, or have been forbidden to disclose.

It was stated in this paper several weeks since, that despatches had been sent to certain Continental Courts in which the ratification of the Conference Treaty was urged, and a very strong representation made, on the

subject. The truth is, that it was thought expedient to hold out what we think may be considered no other than a formidable threat.

This threat was an intimidation that if the ratifications were not forthcoming, at the appointed time, England and France would act by and for themselves, and would judge it expedient to conclude with each other a Treaty of Alliance, offensive and defensive.

The ratifications, as all the world know, came not, and the time for exchanging them was enlarged from the 15th to the 31st of the present month.

We have no means of knowing whether it was the wish of Earl Grey, to form a Treaty of Alliance, offensive and defensive, with France. We know that he has avowed an earnest wish to be on terms of friendship with France, and at peace with all the world; but still we incline to the belief that the intimidation above mentioned was used but as a threat to enforce the ratification of the Conference arrangement. It will, however, suit the views of France, at this juncture, to appear in close alliance with England, and we can easily conceive that she would be well disposed to claim from our Minister, that he should make good what he had held out to other powers. She perhaps, would not make this demand herself, but King Leopold, through his Ambassador, M. Van de Weyer, might very plausibly press the matter on our Government. The King of Belgium must, naturally enough, feel entitled to complain if he were left unsupported by England and France or if they were not to unite to enforce their own measure, and something like this, it is believed in certain quarters, will occur when the 31st shall have arrived—and not the ratification from St. Petersburg.

The ratifications of Prussia and Austria, are stated to have been already received. It is true that some things so called have been forwarded to this country, but we understand that the ratifications are not positive but conditional.

Prussia, for instance, will give her ratification, on condition that all other Powers exchange theirs at the same time—that is to say, she will fall into the views of England, if—she cannot help it.

Austria will ratify the Conference Treaty when the Emperor of Russia shall have done the same; but with some reserve as to the Luxemburg Article, which she is not clearly of opinion can, with propriety be enforced. The Grand Duke of Luxemburg, if recognised as a Sovereign Prince, cannot, she may argue, be compelled to meet the wishes of the Great Powers, if he is disposed to do otherwise, any more than the Emperor of Russia, or the King of England could be controlled by their neighbors.

Here are all the materials of war and discord—all that the Demon of Strife could desire to throw into the cauldron. A few days, it is within the range of things possible, may give us better tidings and brighter hopes; but, at present all is doubt and darkness, and it is but too probable, that the end of the month will not bring the end of these embarrassing discussions; and it is strongly whispered, that, even if all the ratifications should be duly exchanged, Holland will still refuse compliance with the high behests of the Conference.

From the Second Edition of the Sunday Times, January 22.

There were a variety of rumours afloat yesterday, with respect to the creation of new Peers. The most prevalent was, that the King had expressed a decided objection to make the number required by Ministers. This, however, we are well assured, is wholly void of foundation; for up to a late hour on Friday evening, it was generally reported that the list of new Peers, to the number of 36, would appear in the Gazette of that evening; but it is now said that no official announcement will be made till the Reform Bill shall have passed through the Commons' Committee.

The public mind in the City yesterday afternoon was in a very excited state, owing to the continuance of reports of difficulties having arisen as regards the success of the Reform Bill. The subject was the general topic of conversation on the Royal Exchange, and change, in the Cabinet were generally talked of. The effect upon the Public Funds was to render them very heavy up to the termination of business.

The State of Italy was very unsettled.

ENGLAND.

THE CHOLERA.—This scourge continues to extend its ravages in a north-western direction, having reached the city of Edinburgh, and Leith, and Kirkintilloch. The latter place is within seven miles of Glasgow, and is situated on the Forth and Clyde Canal. In the former place it has commenced very mildly, there having been only five cases and two deaths; but in Kirkintilloch it has exhibited great virulence, there having been 36 cases and 10 deaths. Every where in Scotland the utmost precautions are taken to render the visitation as little afflictive as possible. At Musselburgh (from whence it was conveyed to Edinburgh by a dealer in bones and rags) however; the extent of the mortality, and the necessity of early interment, have made it imperative to dispense with the ceremonies usual on such occasions.—Total number of cases in England and Scotland from the commencement of the disease, 3,247; deaths, 1,026; remaining, 250.

The reform bill is still dragging on slowly in the House of Commons. Sir Henry Paine, the Secretary of War, has resigned. He absented himself from the House on a question embracing the foreign policy adopted by the British Government.

Four of the Bristol rioters have been hung, the rest pardoned. The Court Martial on Capt. Warrington was still sitting. An immense mob collected at Manchester, in obedience to the call of the political union Society, had been dispersed by the civil and military authority.

All exportations of bullion from England to the Continent had ceased, but the Exchanges had not yet sufficiently risen to bring it back again.

England and France appear to have taken a decided step on the affairs of Holland and Belgium; they had ratified the treaty, and held decisive language to each of the other three powers. The vexed question relating to the Belgian Fortresses had been arranged.

Lord Holland is confined to his bed with an attack of the gout.

Sir Walter Scott was fairly established at Naples on the 27th ult.

The Cholera has disappeared at Sunderland; Newcastle, 12th Jan. New cases, 3; Gateshead, 2; Northshields 1; Haughton-le-Spring 20; Haddington, 1; Trenent, 7 miles west of Haddington, 1 new case.

The likelihood of a Continental War appears to gather strength. The negotiations have taken an unfavourable turn; Austria has refused to ratify the Treaty between Holland and Belgium, except in accord with Russia.—The Emperor of Russia has left, or was about to leave, his capital for Berlin, and it is conjectured that something of consequence must have occurred to induce the Emperor to quit St. Petersburg at this season of the year.

The prominent topic by this arrival is the discovery and the suppression of an extensive conspiracy in Paris, to overturn the government. The plot was fully developed on the night of the 1st of February. Some days previous the Police had information in respect to it, and were prepared for the emergency. Some people had applied to a *Traiteur*, keeper of a Restaurant, or genteel eating house, in a street called des Prouvaires, and attempted to engage a supper for 200 individuals. The keeper refused for want of room. Again on the evening of the first they called, and by advancing a large sum of money induced him to comply. By 10 o'clock 100 persons were in the supper hall, and at 12 o'clock a quantity of arms were introduced from without, and it was observed that the guests were armed with dirks, pistols and guns. As the Police had had notice of the movements of these persons, a principal officer and a strong guard repaired to the place, and entering, one of the leaders of the plot named Poncelet, fired a pistol, which mortally wounded a Serjeant of the guard. They then dashed into the room where the murderer was taken with all the band. They seized the list of conspirators, arms of all sorts, money, the Keys of the Louvre, &c.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Feb. 3.—The conspiracy discovered on the night before last is said to have had four interests to forward:—viz. principally of the friends of the restoration, in the person of Henry V.; or confusion and plunder, under the name of a republic; of military