

from the patriarch Abraham to Godfrey of Bouillon, reflecting on the total change accomplished in the world by the mission of the son of Man, and in vain seeking that Temple, not one stone of which is left upon another. Were I to live a thousand years, never should I forget that desert, which yet seems to be pervaded by the greatness of Jehovah and the terrors of death."

No city assuredly presents a more striking example of the vicissitude of human affairs than the capital of the Jews. When we behold its walls levelled, its ditches filled up, and all its buildings embarrassed with ruins, we scarcely can believe we view that celebrated metropolis, which formerly withstood the efforts of the most powerful empires, and for a time resisted the arms of Rome itself; though, by a whimsical change of fortune, its mouldering edifices now receive her homage and reverence. 'In a word,' says Volney, 'we with difficulty recognise Jerusalem. Still more are we astonished at its ancient greatness, when we consider its situation amid a rugged soil, destitute of water, and surrounded by the dry channels of torrents and steep hills. Remote from every great road, it seems not to have been calculated for either a considerable mart of commerce, or for the centre of a great consumption. It overcame, however every obstacle, and may be adduced as a proof of what patriotism and religion may effect in the hands of a good government, or when favoured by happy circumstances from without. The same principles, in some degree modified, still preserve to this city its feeble existence. The renown of its miracles, perpetuated in the East, invites and retains a considerable number of inhabitants within its walls.'

As a contrast to the description of Dr. Clarke, the reader may not be displeased to peruse the notes of Sir Frederick Henniker on the same subject;—"Jerusalem is called, even by the Mohammedans, the Blessed City,—the streets of it are narrow and deserted—the houses dirty and ragged—the shops few and forsaken—and throughout the whole there is not one symptom of either commerce, comfort, or happiness. Is this the city that men call the Perfection of Beauty, the Joy of the whole Earth?—The town, which appears to me not worth possession, even without the trouble of conquest, is walled entirely round, is about a mile in length, and half a mile in width, so that its circumference may be estimated at three miles. In three quarters of an hour I performed the circuit. It would be difficult to conceive how it could ever have been larger than it now is; for, independent of the ravines, the four outsides of the city are marked by the brook of Siloam, by a burial-place at either end, and by the hill of Calvary; and the Hill of Calvary is now within the town, so that it was formerly smaller than it is at present. The best view of it is from the mount of Olives; it commands the exact shape, and nearly every particular, namely, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Armenian Convent, the Mosque of Omar, St. Stephen's Gate, the round topped-houses, and the barren vacancies of the city. The Mosque of Omar is the St. Peter's of Turkey. The building itself has a light pagoda appearance; the garden in which it stands occupies a considerable part of the city, and contrasted with the surrounding desert, is beautiful; but it is forbidden ground, and Jew or Christian entering within its precincts must, if discovered, forfeit his religion or his life."

The celebrated lake which occupies the site of Sodom and Gomorrah, is called in Scripture the Dead Sea. Among the Greeks and Latins it is known by the name of Asphaltites; the Arabs denominate it Barah Ioth, or Sea of Lot. M. de Chateaubriand does not agree with those who conclude it to be the crater of a volcano; for, having seen Vesuvius, Solfatara, the Peak of the Azores, and the extinguished volcanoes of Auvergne, he remarked in all of them the same characters, that is to say, mountains excavated in the form of a tunnel, lava, and ashes, which exhibited incontestible proof of the agency of fire. The Salt Sea, on the contrary, is a lake of great length, curved like a bow, placed between two ranges of mountains, which have no mutual coherence of form, no similarity of composition. They do not meet at the two extremities of the lake; but while the one continues to bound the Valley of Jordan, and to run northward as far as Tiberias, the other stretches away to the south till it loses itself in the sands of Yemen. There are, it is true, hot springs, quantities of bitumen, sulphur, and asphaltos, but these of themselves are not sufficient to attest the previous existence of a volcano. With respect indeed to the engulfed cities, if we adopt the idea of Michaelis and of Besehing, physics may be admitted to explain the catastrophe without offence to religion. According to their views, Sodom was built upon a mine of bitumen,—a fact which is ascertained by the testimony of Moses and Josephus, who speak of wells of naphtha in the Valley of Siddim. Lightning kindled the combustible mass, and the guilty cities sank in the subterraneous conflagration. Malte Brun ingeniously suggests that Sodom and Gomorrah themselves may have been built of bituminous stones, and thus have been set in flames by the fire from heaven.

According to Strabo there were thirteen towns swallowed up in the Lake Asphaltites; Stephen of Byzantium reckons eight; the book of Genesis, while it mentions five as situated in the Vale of Siddim, relates the destruction of two only: four are mentioned in Deuteronomy, and five are noticed by the author of Ecclesiastical. Several travellers, and among others Trollo and D'Arviens, assure us, that they observed fragments of walls and palaces in the Dead Sea. Maundrell himself was not so fortunate; owing, he supposes, to the height of the water; but he relates that the Father Guardian and Procurator of Jerusalem, both men of sense and probity, declared that they had once actually seen one of these ruins; that it was so near the shore, and the lake so shallow, that they, together with some Frenchmen, went to it, and found there several pillars and other fragments of buildings. The ancients speak more positively on this subject. Josephus, who employs a poetical expression, says, that he perceived on the shores of the Dead Sea, 'the shades of the overwhelmed cities.' Strabo gives a circum-

ference of sixty stadia to the ruins of Sodom, which are also mentioned by Tacitus.

The marvellous properties usually assigned to the Dead Sea by the earlier travellers, have vanished upon a more rigid investigation. It is now known that bodies sink, or float upon it in proportion to their specific gravity; and that, although the water is so dense as to be favorable to swimmers, no security is found against the common accident of drowning. Josephus indeed asserts that Vaspasian, in order to ascertain the fact now mentioned, commanded a number of his slaves to be bound hand and foot and thrown into the deepest part of the lake; and that, so far from any of them sinking, they all maintained their place on the surface until it pleased the emperor to have them taken out. But this anecdote, although perfectly consistent with truth, does not justify all the inferences which have been drawn from it. 'Being willing to make an experiment,' says Maundrell, 'I went into it, and found that it bore up my body in swimming with an uncommon force; but as for that relation of some authors, that men wading into it were buoyed up to the top as soon as they got as deep as the middle, I found it, upon trial, not true.'

The historian Josephus, who measured the Dead Sea, found that in length it extended about five hundred and eighty stadia, and in breadth one hundred and fifty—according to our standard somewhat more than seventy miles by nineteen.

EUROPE.

From the New-York Daily Advertiser of December 21

CIVIL WAR IN SPAIN—DON CARLOS PROCLAIMED KING IN THE PROVINCES.

Our pilot boat, with Capt. Hurley, reached the city this forenoon, having boarded the packet ship Europe, Capt. Maxwell, at sea 65 miles south of Sandy Hook on Friday at 2 P. M. By her the editors of the New York Daily Advertiser are in possession of their Liverpool papers to the day of sailing, the 16th, and London to the 15th November, with Shipping Lists and Prices Currents. When our boat reached the city the ship was not in sight from the Hook, nor had any boat boarded her.

The packet ship Europe will lay off the Hook until after the 1st January. Capt. M. did not send up his letter bag, as it might be construed into an entry.

The news is of the highest importance. From Spain a civil war is inevitable; Don Carlos has been proclaimed in some of the Provinces; the Queen Regent had thrown herself in the hands of the Liberals.

The news from Portugal is not as late as we have received direct, and which is disastrous to the cause of Don Pedro.

The Liverpool Chronicle says, the news from Spain and Portugal is far from satisfactory. The cause of Don Carlos seems to be supported by a larger number of partisans than was at first supposed, and it is feared that the zeal of his adherents is badly encountered by the indifference of the Queen Regent. The pretender has been proclaimed King, by the title of Charles V. at Mervao, and in the adjoining provinces his followers are numerous and fanatical. The Priests and Monks lend him all the advantage of their influence, and not content with preaching against liberalism, they are in some places more actively engaged in forwarding the cause of Spanish Toryism.

It is possible, however, that the fear of the one party, and the blind fanaticism of the other, may coincide in magnifying the numbers of the rebels, and there is reason to hope that an undisciplined force will make but a short stand against the arms of the regular army, who, though represented as lukewarm, are still faithful. The Young Queen's Generals menace the insurgents, and a general engagement will most assuredly decide the fate of the Carlists, if not of Queen Regent. According to the latest accounts such an event may be hourly expected.

While the Carlists multiply in the north, the south continues tranquil. Madrid remains undisturbed, and the Queen Regent has sought to stimulate the zeal of all who love liberty, by large promises and acts that guarantee the sincerity of her promises. She has promulgated sundry regulations, all of a popular character, and she has created, what may be called, a Commission to devise a law for giving freedom to the Press. Hitherto the Press has been silent in Spain; but this act demonstrates that the thinking Spaniards have not yet been reconciled to the despotism that proscribes political discussion in the only way that discussion can be useful.

The aspect of things in Spain has occasioned much unprofitable speculation in the French and English papers. The French Government, it is said, in its double hatred of Carlism and republicanism, meditates an expedition into Spain, in the event of the Queen Regent needing assistance against either the Apostolicals or the Constitutionalists, and it is hinted that arrangements are being made for the dispatch of an adequate army. England is tacitly to approve, but the other nations of Europe, alarmed at the danger of the precedent, are, we are told, ready to express their dis-

approbation in a very tangible manner. From such small beginnings a general war might arise, but the bold Allies, we suspect, if angry at all, will confine their anger to their own subjects, and leave France and England to do what they will with Spain.

The Royal brothers have not yet made up matters in Portugal. Don Miguel is not quite so forlorn as we stated, and though his chances of success have diminished, they have not entirely disappeared. Don Pedro, too, is playing his game by conduct, which renders himself personally very unpopular, and his daughter's cause any thing but service. Those who could best advise him are insulted, or kept at a distance, while his advisers are the parasites and gilded things of his little court.

LIVERPOOL, Nov. 16.—It was reported in the city late this morning that an extraordinary express had arrived from Paris bringing the important intelligence that an order had been sent by Marshal Soult, the Minister of War, for the immediate entrance of the French army of observation into Spain, amounting to 30,000 men.

The great news on the Bourse, at Paris, on Wednesday, was that the French government was inclined to intervene in the affairs of Spain.

It was said that a Courier had arrived who was the bearer of urgent requests from the Queen, who declares that she must throw herself into the arms of the liberals if she is not speedily relieved. It is said that in consequence of this information, the French government has begun to think seriously of intervening. By way of beginning, an approximation has been made to Marshal Soult; every point has been conceded to him so that it is expected we shall hear at the same time of an intervention and a loan.

According to accounts received from Portugal, Don Carlos was, on the 7th, at Castello, Blanco, a village in that kingdom two leagues from the frontier. All his movements are watched by General Rodil, commandant of Estremadura. Don Carlos's suite is composed of 100 Portuguese and Spaniards at most.

In the speech of the King of the Belgians, the birth of the Prince Royal occupies the first and most prominent place; then follow mention of the eternal dispute yet unadjusted, with Holland—the reduction of the army—the development of trade and commerce—and the reduction effected in the national expenditure.

The money market is very heavy. Consols opened at 87 3/4, advanced to 88 and closed at 87 1/8 for account.

From the Moniteur of Nov. 10.

FALL OF TOLOSA, AND ENTRY OF THE CARLISTS IN THAT CITY.

"We are informed from Bayonne, that El Pardo was defeated at Aspeytia, and that he retired on St. Sebastian, as well as General Castagnos. Tolosa was evacuated and the insurgents entered the city on the 7th inst. at noon."

From the National of Nov. 10.

"We learn by letters from Madrid that the hands of Merino every day augment. The insurgents of Aranda, of Sepulveda, and of Segovia, have joined him. He occupies militarily all Old Castile, from Sommoser via to the Ebro, and the rest of the troops of Saars field, shut up as in a prison at Burgus, can do nothing. We learn also by letters from Bayonne of the 5th, that all the royal communes of Guipuzcoa have imitated the other two Basque provinces, and have risen in favor of Don Carlos. The Carlists also occupy all the environs of St. Sebastian (to which Pastor and Castagnos are now driven). They have also a strong column of troops at Astigarriaga, a village only removed half a league from St. Sebastian. A Curate, and several inhabitants of St. Sebastian, had already gone out to join them. A vessel of the Queen, commanded by Don Francisco de Aldamar, having tried to gain the land near the fort of Guetoria, on the coast of Biscay, was received with a warm firing from the inhabitants, and the crew, after having lost seven men, scampered back to the vessel."

INSURRECTIONS AT SARAGOSSA AND JACCA.

LUSUS, BASSES PYRENEES, Nov. 4.—Private Letter.—Every day the journals ought to inform you of the immense and rapid progress of the cause of legitimacy in Spain. I surely, then, need not dwell on the enthusiasm which animates the population of the northern provinces for Don Carlos. But I can, I believe, announce to you a fact of which I was myself eyewitness. On the 28th of last month I was at Jacca, when all of a sudden we learnt that an insurrection had been made at Saragossa, and that they had proclaimed Don Carlos King. This news was no sooner known at Jacca than the commandant of the citadel also proclaimed Carlos V.

You know that Jacca is a city of Spain, in Arragon, seated on a river of the same name, among the mountains of Jacca, and that it is only about 50 miles from Saragossa.—You can also judge of the importance of this defection in the army of the Queen for the legit-