

the Porte and its allies, and we were not in any apprehension of an European war.

From the London Morning Post.

THE WHIGS FAIL—TRY THE TORIES.

When the Whigs came into office they professed to have three grand objects in view, namely Reform, Retrenchment, and Peace. Well: what has been the result of very nearly ten years' possession of the government by the leading Whigs? We have had a great constitutional change or revolution, which was once seriously, and is still, in derision, called a grand measure of 'Reform.' It is perfectly notorious that after eight years' practical experience of this 'Reform,' it is found to give satisfaction to no large body of the people—no powerfully influential class of British subjects. Many of those who expected the most of it have repeatedly declared that they find it to be a change for the worse. There is, perhaps, not a public man, or a public journal, which would now venture to repeat the cry which was so wildly popular when the Whig 'Reform' measure was in agitation nine years ago, namely, 'the Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill.' The Whigs, then, have not given public satisfaction in respect to the first of their grand objects. The second was retrenchment. Upon this point it is not necessary to say more than this, that in each of the last three years of Whig government the public expenditure has very considerably exceeded the revenue, so as to accumulate a deficit of between three and four millions of pounds sterling. This is the practical 'retrenchment' with which the Whigs have favoured us. They have, therefore, not achieved their second grand object. The third was peace. In this they have been as unsuccessful as in the other two. For seven long years have Portugal and Spain, especially the latter, been devastated in the most cruel, desolation, and demoralizing of all wars—a war of butchery of one part of the people of these kingdoms by another part, which war was kept alive and sustained by the assistance of the British government—by that kind of 'intervention' which the Whigs, when they entered office, so eagerly disclaimed. This intervention was just enough to keep the war alive, without being enough to decide it in favour of that side which it supported, and consequently the work of slaughter went continually on, and is not yet terminated. All this was slurred over because the cruel intestine wars of Portugal and Spain were not held to be a disturbance of 'the peace of Europe.' The leading European states did not make war upon one another. For some years the English Whigs continually boasted that the merit of this was owing solely to their policy in having formed an 'intimate alliance' with France, based upon 'liberal principles,' an alliance which so strong and so well founded that the other great powers of Europe were afraid to make it the object of attack, though they hated and feared the political principles by which the confederacy of England and France was animated. Now, however, it is notorious to all the world that the 'intimate alliance' with France is at an end, and the Whig government has been fain to make alliance with the very powers which Whigs were wont to stigmatize as the tyrannical enemies of freedom and civilization. France at this moment stands like a bloodhound in the leash, eager to be let loose upon the work of slaughter, and burning with undisguised hatred of England and everything English. There are many who still say there will not be war, but every one allows that there has been, and is, very great and imminent risk of war, and that in common prudence, and for the sake of self-defence, this country must go to the very great costs and charges for warlike preparation. These are not exaggerated statements. They are not statements which any reasonable person for a moment question. Need we say more to show than in the third of their professed grand objects the Whigs have failed? Why, then, should the Whigs pretend to an exclusive claim to the government of the country.

London Times.

PEACE OR WAR?—WHO ARE THE DREAMERS.

The pinch of the exigency in which we find ourselves—imminent, practical, and immediate—is the vast scale of armament resorted to by France, and chiefly naval armament. Other things may be disputable—this is not. Motives may be assumed, or slandered; words may be misconstrued; as possibly they have been; arguments may be controverted; M. Guizot may be, we are sure unjustly, accused of Jesuitism; Lord Palmerston may—may we fear not unjustly—be charged with supercilious and unbecoming insolence of manner; but here is a fact—a stubborn fact—which can neither be inverted, misconstrued, calumniated, nor slighted (save by the Queen's cabinet alone.) France has prepared a powerful fleet in the midst of verbal and written declarations that she means it, like the new walls of Paris, for an 'instrument of peace,' not war, and this at a

moment when no human being has thought of meditating the shadow of an injury towards her. Under cover of aggressions upon Africa she had before got up a fleet in the Mediterranean, and, for the first time in modern history, superior to that of Great Britain. It is notorious, that whilst her ministerial press teems with calumnies against this kingdom—and whilst long catalogues of 'motives to war' with England are carefully enumerated in the Paris prints—all resolving themselves into the settled determination of 'Young France' to inflict vengeance upon 'Old England,' for her victories over the last generation of Frenchmen—it is, we say, palpable to every Englishman who can open his eyes and read, that simultaneously with the menaces of war in the journals are the means of war provided by the arsenals and dockyards—by the royal ordinances—by the assembling of conscripts. Now, on such proceedings, as we observed a few lines ago, there can be no mistake—none. And is it unfair to ask, what can be the meaning of these things? We do not assert, we do not believe, there must be war. We exclaim, as all our neighbours do, 'God forbid!' But still, according to the deductions of human experience and reason, we should like to have a rational conjecture furnished to us as to the 'wherefore' of the vast preparations made by France—preparations of a defensive character, nor with mere defensive objects, for no one Frenchman has yet exposed himself to ridicule by so much as affecting to believe that any power in Europe (and England least of all) contemplated unprovoked warfare in the shape of any maritime or territorial aggression against the French people or their government: at all events, the armaments of France in the Mediterranean can have no pacific purpose. But, perhaps, people are dreaming all this while; perhaps the papers lie; perhaps the French ordinances and official reports, and statements from all their maritime depots, are fabricated. Of that our readers must judge for themselves. But if the ordinances, reports, and intelligence be authentic—if conscripts be raised by thousands—if seamen be entered wherever they can be found—if ships of the line be fitted for sea by scores—and if Sir Robert Stopford, with just nine sail, some of them 72's, at his disposal, and no more, be actually at this moment outnumbered both as to ships, and still more strikingly as to men, by the French squadrons—why, then it can be no treason to say that it is the anticipators of a sudden outbreak of war who see clearly, and they who still flatter themselves with hopes of continued peace that are the dreamers.

London Times.

SAM SLICK ON THE STATE OF EUROPE.

(A Correspondent.)—The fact is, those Wiseacres on the other side have enjoyed peace so long, that they're grown tired of it. It's a blessing that's become cheap; and, like a glut of herrings, nobody will thank you for a dish of them for a gift. Its always the way; their legislators and politicians have laid it down for gospel, that peace can't be wholesome if it's kept beyond a certain number of years; they think its like hung game, which at last breeds maggots. So each country, after a long feed, jumps up quite vicious, snarls and looks round to see where it can give its neighbour a snap. The driest bone is enough for them to quarrel for. First they're ready to go to loggerheads because a hot-blooded skipper rinces out the immortal tricolour flag with sea-water; then they squabble over a lot of sulphur, till they're ready to take fire instanter; and then comes this burning of their mouths with another man's prodridge. Five nations play at puss in the corner, and the one that's left out grows crusty and shows fight. In the meanwhile each carries on a contraband business in a small way abroad. The English take a contract to shoot down Don Charlo's men, and batter a dilapidated town in India. The French virtue is shocked at the wickedness of the Algerines, and bundles them out to make room for a colony of its own, where, for want of water privileges, the hot soil must be irrigated with soldiers' blood and labourers' sweat. Then the Muscovites must take a turn in India just to warm their hands, till there's something doing elsewhere. Now, what does all this bluster and bullying come to? Does it take off a single tax? Not one, I'm darned. Does it make the people contented and happy? Not so much as you would put in your eye. Depend upon it that peace is one of the greatest of national blessings. Depend upon it that those who cry up war are those who find their account in fishing in troubled water. Depend upon it that when you come to strike the balance of profit and loss in the nation's account-current with war, you'll find nation on the debit side. Depend upon it, the fruits you'll reap from a bloody seed-time is the impeding of the arts and manufactures—the hindering of knowledge from going a-head—the leading of the people into ideas of extravagance and perilous speculation—the draining of the Treasury—and the bequeathing to your children enormous debt, which their government being

saddled with, it will, like an overloaded coach that comes to a bit of a ruck, jerk, waggle, and capsize.'

## European News.

From British Papers to the 4th October, by the Steamer Acadia.

Private advices from Alexandria state that, on the 27th ult., Mehemet Ali called together a council of the ministers, beys, and sheiks of several Arab tribes together, it was believed, with a letter from Ibrahim Pasha, who offered to renounce in his own right the hereditary possession of Syria. The assembly approved of these terms, and the following day the Viceroy, having summoned the four consuls to his palace, declared that he would content himself with Egypt and Acre, and restore the fleet to the Sultan, provided he was permitted to hold the government of Syria during his life. The consuls replied, that they had no power to interfere with or modify the conditions of the ultimatum, and that they could not accordingly comply with his last request. The French consul took no ostensible part in the affair, but on the 30th he sent off M. Walewski in the Papin for Constantinople, with the proposition of the Pasha. The result of this interview had caused great disappointment among all classes of the population, who had indulged the hope of a pacific solution of the pending difficulties, and fresh apprehensions were entertained when the preparations for defence were found to be carried on by the Pasha with redoubled activity.

Admiral Stopford landed at Alexandria on the 31st, and was accompanied to the Palace by Colonel Hodge, who presented him to Mehemet Ali. The latter received him with great courtesy, and invited him to dine on the following day, but, being indisposed, he was obliged to countermand the invitation. The British merchants having waited upon the Admiral to ascertain what course he intended to pursue should the Viceroy decline accepting the ultimatum, he candidly answered that he had no orders on the subject; but, apprehending that some misconception might be placed on this verbal communication, he addressed, on the 1st, to the merchants, a letter, in which he has repeated his first statement, but said that he trusted that it would not be misconstrued so as to lull them into a dangerous security, he being ignorant of the consequence which might ensue, and consequently unable to advise them.

The 5th inst, being the last of the second period of ten days involving the fate of Egypt, Rifaat Bay, M. Alison and the four consuls, called at the palace to receive Mehemet Ali's final reply to the ultimatum. The Pasha, being still unwell, was not visible, and the answer was communicated to them by Boghos Bey and Sami Bey. Mehemet Ali declared that he accepted the hereditary pashalik of Egypt, and had forwarded a petition to Constantinople by Count Walewski, praying the Sultan to permit him to retain the government of Syria during his life, in order to avert the disgrace of being dispossessed of his honorary employment in his old age. He then added, that, until he received the Sultan's reply, he could not think of giving his master's fleet into the hands of the representatives of the powers, or surrendering an inch of the territory of Syria. The Pasha concluded by an assurance to European residents, that his government would protect them in their lives and properties. It was expected, after this declaration, that the consuls would strike their flags, and remove on board the squadrons, but down to the 6th they had not yet taken that step.

Admiral Stopford sailed on the morning of the 6th for Beyrout, with the Princess Charlotte and Bellerophon, leaving the Asia and Implacable before Alexandria.—London Times.

St. Petersburg, Sept. 11.—Dreadful Earthquake.—The *Abeille du Nord* of yesterday published the following letter from Tiflis, August 13:—'You have, doubtless heard of the terrible earthquake of Mount Arrarat, which has totally destroyed the town of Makitcheman, damaged all the buildings at Eriven, and devastated the two districts of Shorour and Sourmate, in Armenia. All the villages in those districts have been destroyed. The earth is rent in such a manner that all the cotton and rice plantations have perished for want of water. But the most awful event has taken place in the neighbourhood of Mount Arrarat. A considerable mass was loosened from the mountain, and destroyed everything in its way for the distance of seven wersts, (nearly five English Miles.)

Among others, the great village of Akhouli has the fate of Herculaneum and Pompeii, above 1000 inhabitants were buried under heaps of rocks.—A thick fluid, which afterwards became a river, run from the interior of the mountain, which was opened, and following the same direction, swept over the ruins, and carried with it the corpses of the unfortunate inhabitants of Akhouli, the dead animals, &c. The shock continued to be felt every day in the above mentioned districts, and entirely laid them waste; then the shocks became less frequent. Arrarat is not yet quiet; the day before yesterday I was awakened by two violent subterranean commotions.

Sir Frederick Smith, one of the commissioners appointed by Government to report on the best line of railway for connecting England with Scotland, has arrived at Edinburgh. On Thursday and Friday, Sir Frederick was engaged with Mr. Grainger, the engineer, and Mr. Davidson, the secretary of the proposed railway from Edinburgh to Newcastle, in examining that portion of this railway in and adjacent to this city, and the connexions proposed between it and the railways now in progress, and for which acts of Parliament have been obtained.—Caledonian Mercury.

We learn from a correspondent, that the inventor of the extraordinary projectile called public attention, has been offered £400,000 for his secret by a Foreign power. At one time, our own Government might have had it for £100,000.—Brighton Gazette.

London Atlas, Oct 3.

The Commerce refers to a rumour which prevailed in Paris on the preceding day, without viewing its authenticity, that Admiral Lalande was about to return to Toulon, and proceed with the squadron of Reserve to the Straits of Gibraltar, and calculates that the naval force at Toulon, on the 15th of October will consist of two three deckers, the Ocean and the Souverain; four vessels of the line—the Marengo and the Ville de Marseilles, the Genereux and the Trident (the two latter being at the present moment employed in transporting troops to Africa); three frigates the Iphigenie, the Uranie, and the Independante, and the corvette Circe.

We understand that official intelligence has been received, via Berlin, from Constantinople, announcing the rejection by the Porte of the propositions of Mehemet Ali. It is also known that the conference at London had previously determined to advise the Porte to reject them.

Austria is not idle.—Comon, in Hungary has been put into a respectable state of defence, and works have been thrown up in Langle, between Wang and the Danube. The passage of the Crapack Mountains has also been secured. Olmutz is now a fortified place of the first class, three new forts having been built. The fortress of Francis (Franzens Veite), which protects the valley of the Tyrol leading to Italy, is impregnable: other fortresses connected with it on the Ens and Mincio; they are so situated that the enemy would be exposed to a cross fire. The valley is secured by the Maximilian Towers, and the line between Bavaria and Bohemia, on the left bank of the Danube, will be protected by the fortifications of Glentisch.

Pig lead is now £20 per ton owing to a demand for bullets, and the stoppage of supplies from Spain.

Letters from Milan give accounts of a dreadful storm which occurred there on the 10th instant. The hail stones are represented to have been so large, that they not only broke the window panes, but the tiles on the roofs of the houses.

A contract has been granted to a gentleman of London, for the exclusive navigation of steamers up the river of Amazonas, and all its tributaries for a term of forty five years; the same gentleman being in active negotiations for the establishment of a fine steam navigation between England and Brazil.

Trial of Prince Louis Napoleon.—M. Berryer's speech in defence of Louis Napoleon was one of the most magnificent displays of eloquence in his style, which has ever been heard within the walls of the Chamber of Peers. He denied that the prince was to blame. His judges had sanctioned his proceedings. They had aided in the destruction of legitimacy, had promoted the republic, shared the glories of the empire, given a cold support to the restoration, and were the champions of the monarchy of the barricades. The legitimate claim of the Bourbons to the throne of France having been set aside, how was the representative of Napoleon to blame for becoming a candidate. He offered himself to