

European News.

From British Papers to the 20th May, received by the Cambria, Steamer.

From Charles Willmer's American News Letter, May 20.

DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

The American news, received by the steamship Great Western and Caledonia, has, of course, been the principal topic of conversation on this side the Atlantic since the arrival of these vessels. The articles which appeared in the Washington Globe, of the 28th ult., and the Washington Constitution, of the 29th ult., with reference to the Oregon question, have been much canvassed, as both these journals are believed to be the organs of the United States cabinet; and the general belief is, that even if the papers mentioned accurately echo the sentiments of Mr. President Polk's administration, there will still be no war, but the matter in dispute will be the sooner settled by negotiation. This would seem to be inevitable, as the necessity for a speedy and amicable adjustment must be manifest to the commonest intellect. Both the British and the American governments lay claim to the Oregon territory—each is determined not to suffer itself to be despoiled of its just rights by the other—the disputants are in a belligerent attitude, but neither will be rash enough to strike the first blow, and mutual explanation and concession will bring about a settlement without recourse to absolute hostilities. The result of collision would only be the increase of national hate and the destruction of property on both sides, whilst the bone of contention would still remain unwarded. The legislators of both countries, it is to be hoped, are wise enough to perceive this truism, and will save the people over whom they preside from the horrors of war, by promptly consenting to submit their conflicting claims to honourable arbitration. This is most anxiously desired by the mercantile and commercial interests on this side the Atlantic, and a pretty general conviction prevails that our peaceful relations with the United States will not be disturbed.

The British ministry have brought forward another measure for the pacification of Ireland, and it is one which has had the rare merit of gratifying all parties, with the exception of some politicians of extreme and impracticable views and character. Following so closely upon the Maynooth plan, it is taken as a convincing evidence that Sir Robert Peel, when he accepted office, and declared that his greatest difficulty would be in the government of Ireland, did really feel the weight of his responsibility, and determine to render to that disturbed portion of her Majesty's dominions all the justice which it was in his power to obtain or command. Sir James Graham, who is not in very high odour with the nation on account of his letter-peeping propensities and his devoted attachment to the new poor law, has had the good fortune to be the instrument of developing this scheme to the House of Commons, and he explained it very clearly and concisely. The outline of the plan is as follows:—The Protestant College and University of Dublin to remain in full possession of all their present authority and privileges—to remain, in one word, untouched. Three colleges to be founded for the cultivation of literature and arts, but without any theological faculty of public foundation; one in the north, another in the west, and the third in the south. The building of each college to cost about £20,000; its endowment to be about £3000 per annum; the president of each college to have £1000 per annum; each professor £300 per annum. The presidents and professors to be nominated by the Crown, and removable (for cause) by the Crown; the foundation of a theological professorship to be permitted upon private endowment; the theological professor, however, to be like those of public endowment, removable by the Crown for cause. The question of a university, connected with any other or all of the new colleges, is to remain for after consideration. Sir Robert Inglis, who is the leader in the House of Commons of a party who would force the observance of Protestant doctrines and discipline upon the Roman Catholics of Ireland, in the conscientious belief that they were doing their Maker service, and saving the souls of the multitude who profess to admit the supremacy of the Pope in secular as well as in religious matters, denoun-

ced this scheme as "a system of godless education," in which—for politics and religion, like misery makes us acquainted with strange bedfellows—he has been joined by Mr. Daniel O'Connell, who declares that the measure will never satisfy the people of Ireland.

Amongst the repealers—high and low—quite a feud has sprung up on this subject. At the recent discussion of the project at the Conciliation Hall, in Dublin, the O'Connell party declared through their leader and his son John, that nothing short of the total transfer of the projected colleges to the Romish Church would satisfy them; while the Young Ireland party, represented on the occasion by Mr. Davis, boldly declared in favour of the very principle which the others condemned as fatal to its adoption. The Young Ireland party form a very considerable portion of the better order of Repealers, and although they have not the number at command which Mr. O'Connell boasts, they have more than a moiety of literary talent. This party are resolved to advocate the main principle in the bill of Sir James Graham—Mr. O'Connell to denounce it. The former will be sustained by a considerable force of liberals—Protestants and Catholics; while the latter, with Doctors M'Hale and Higgins, will attempt to move the masses in fierce opposition. This state of things calls to mind a row which took place in the committee of the Repeal Association some weeks ago on this very subject, when Mr. Smith O'Brien, Mr. Barry, and some other liberal Repealers, threatened to resign if Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Dillon Browne dared to suggest to the association to petition for, or demand, exclusively Catholic colleges. The Repealers have the multitude under command, but with a division in their own camp it is not likely they will be a whit more successful in opposition to the projected measure than they were to the Charitable Bequests Act. Meanwhile the Lord Mayor of Dublin, deputed by the Corporation, has arrived in London, for the purpose of presenting the address which they had agreed to, soliciting her Majesty to pay her rumoured visit to that portion of her dominions. The Queen had not yet received his lordship, but he had an interview with the Home Secretary, who promised to take the earliest opportunity of learning her Majesty's pleasure upon the subject, Sir James continued to say that he was not aware of her Majesty ever having expressed an intention, as yet, of visiting Ireland; she had never expressed such intention to him, nor had there been any communication made on the subject to the Irish government. He was, he said, aware that when rumours on the subject first went abroad, the intelligence had been received in Ireland with universal joy—in the way, in fact, it might be expected such an event would be hailed by the Irish people; but why the tone should have been totally altered by any speech in parliament, of any member of the legislature, he could not see or understand. How could it be expected that he would advise her Majesty to proceed to Ireland, after it had been announced that the horses in the Royal carriage were to be affrighted in the streets of Dublin with the shouts of repeal—that the sound was to force like a shot into the Royal councils—that certain gentlemen were to appear in their repeal uniform of the Eighty-two Club at her Majesty's levee? Alderman O'Brien said that it was hard—he might say unjust—to decide against the people of the entire country, because an article of a certain nature had appeared in a newspaper. Sir James Graham replied—True, but that was not all. The newspaper publication had not followed up by speeches at the Conciliation Hall and resolutions—and there were the monster meetings commencing again. If her Majesty went to Ireland, and were to be met in this way, did they imagine she could give any assurance on the question but the one her Majesty had already communicated through her minister to parliament? The Town Clerk here observed, that he remembered the visit of George the Fourth—that he believed the right to address the Sovereign on the throne in Ireland was confined to the Church, the University, and the Corporation, and he was certain that neither of those bodies, nor, indeed, any of the Irish people, would do any act whatever that could, in the least degree, offend a Sovereign so much beloved in Ireland. He expressed his thorough conviction that the Irish character, for loyalty and courtesy, would not be lessened by the reception they would give their Queen. Sir James Graham said that the Corporation of Dublin certainly had done everything that could be desired in the matter. He then spoke in very eulogistic terms of the address of the Corporation, as a document

that was most gratifying to her Majesty. That address did not omit a word that should have been introduced, and he was certain the sentiments it contained expressed the sincere feelings of the Irish people. Thus far all would seem to be very well, and from the conversation above reported, we think we are justified in deducing the fact that the Queen will visit Ireland this summer, instead of going, as was reported, to see her husband's relations on the Continent. During the holidays the Queen and Prince Albert, with a select circle, have been sojourning at Osborne House, her Majesty's new marine residence in the Isle of Wight. The Royal party have daily taken walking and riding exercise in the grounds and on the beach, without any reserve, and visible to the meanest of her Majesty's subjects.

The debates in the British Parliament on the Maynooth question, and the new plan of acedemical education in Ireland, appear to have excited considerable interest in Paris. The National commends Sir Robert Peel for "his perseverance in the work of toleration and civilisation."

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

France.—There has been a debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the subject of Jesuits in France. It was commenced by M. Thiers, who insisted on the necessity of at once putting in force the laws against that body. The government replied, that they were prepared to do so as soon as the proper moment appeared to have arrived. M. Dupin spoke very strongly against the Jesuits, and M. Berreyer and M. Lamartine on their behalf. Ultimately M. Thiers moved, that in the confidence that the government would execute the laws, the chamber would proceed to the order of the day. This was agreed to, and the discussion terminated.

The Paris papers state that M. Guizot is much better. His friends say that he will be able to resume office in a fortnight.

The Gazette Municipale gives a list of 32 nunneries in Paris, containing 2,830 nuns.

The great debate on the fortifications of Paris has terminated in favour of Ministers, the bill for providing the materiel for arming the fortifications having passed the Chamber of Deputies by a majority of 96. A condition attached to the bill by the committee to which it had been referred, stipulating that the ammunition shall remain at Bourges until the occurrence of war, was also carried by a large majority.

A letter dated "Florence, May 7," says:—"The greatest tranquillity reigns throughout Tuscany; unfortunately it is not the same in the Papal states; there the agitators continue to conspire, and it will require all the vigilance and energy of the government to prevent another insurrection. The disaffected—and they are in great numbers—are far from being intimidated by the recent military condemnations; they hold frequent secret meetings, and during the night post on the church doors the most seditious proclamations. The police is most active, and in many parts of the Pope's dominions a military commission holds permanent sittings. Within the last fortnight the following condemnations have been pronounced, and the unfortunate beings executed; two at Ravenna, one at Faenza, two at Macerata."

Switzerland.—A letter from Lucerne, of the 1st, informs us that the elections of the Grand Council had commenced, and were proceeding in favour of the liberals. In the town of Lucerne, out of seven members returned, six were of the liberal party. The same letter gives an account of a curious sentence at Nidwald, upon a Lieutenant Nermaun, who had joined the free corps in the attack upon Lucerne. He is condemned to stand in the public market-place for four hours with a rod in his hand, then to be flogged with it, and afterwards to be imprisoned six months, during which he is to receive "religious instruction."

The Paris journals express much interest in the position of Dr. Stringer, condemned to death by the government of Lucerne. The Debats publishes his address to the tribunal by which he was condemned. In this address the doctor describes himself as a man led altogether by his feelings and sympathies. He reminds his judges that he adopted the medical profession from the sole desire of relieving human suffering, while it was the daily arriving accounts of the hardships of his exiled countrymen that prompted him to join them, and, notwithstanding his position, he calls upon the government to revoke their invitation to the Jesuits, or else there can be no peace. The Paris Globe says it is estab-

led to state that the life of Dr. Stringer will be spared. The cantons of Uri and Unterwalden are at present quarrelling with Lucerne about the money paid by way of ransom for the prisoners, of which the latter is keeping the lion's share.

Letters from Zurich of the 7th inst. state that the Supreme Tribunal of Lucerne had confirmed the sentence on Dr. Stringer, and that it now remains with the Grand Council alone to pardon him. The governments of Zurich and Bern had each sent one of their members to intercede on his behalf.

Greece.—Accounts from Athens describe the state of this country as anything but satisfactory. A great agitation prevailed in all parts of the kingdom, and the people were becoming more and more dissatisfied and irritated with the arbitrary and violent system pursued by the government.

COMMERCIAL SUMMARY.

The arrival of the Great Western steamer from the United States very much improved the tone of the market for Public securities. The calm digest of articles contained in the respectable portion of the New York papers, has tended only the further to remove all apprehension of any rupture with the United States, or even any protracted misunderstanding.

There was obviously an improved tone in the market, in consequence of the arrival of the Caledonia from the United States. The advance in prices was not material, but under existing circumstances it is sufficiently significant of opinion to leave no doubt as to the cause which has for the present stultified the croakers and speculators for a decline.

The drain for money is now beginning to be felt for the enormous amounts required for the innumerable railway speculation lines. The shrewd politicians of the city see, too, that although Sir R. Peel will doubtless carry through the Maynooth grant, still it has shaken his ministry most materially, and this at a period when it most required to be powerful and united, from the precarious state of our position with America. Another cause, which we hear is operating on the Money Market, is the determination of the Bank of England to curtail their issues, in order to stop the rage for speculation in railway paper. This tardy though judicious measure will have a most powerful effect, and the next week will test the possibility of many.

The state of trade in the wholesale markets appears just now to be tolerably satisfactory, as there is a good business doing for actual consumption in most of the leading staples. The arrivals from all parts of the world continue large, and this keeps prices down, and checks speculation; whether, in all cases, the importers are obtaining a satisfactory return on their capital, may admit of some doubt.

The statements which have been made of a reduction of £1 a ton on iron are correct, although one or two of the largest firms have not yet issued circulars announcing the reduction. It is reported that some parties have sold at a still further reduction, and the report is perhaps correct—but they that expect low prices again for some time yet, at least, will be disappointed, until some of the heavy orders for rails are cleared off. The speculation in pig iron in Liverpool which has existed has received a very serious check.

During the past fortnight the difficulty to effect sales has rather increased than diminished; and though the supplies from the farmers have not been large, prices have tended downwards at most of the leading markets. At the commencement of the month, some uneasiness was entertained that vegetation might suffer from drought; all apprehension on this head has subsided throughout the week; the temperature has, however, remained low, and increased warmth will be necessary before the different grain crops, grass lands &c., can derive the full benefit of the ample supply of moisture. That the season has hitherto been a backward one is unquestionable; but beyond retarding the growth of the crops, no injury has, we believe, been done by the cold weather. A few really warm, sunny days would, therefore, make a wonderful alteration in the appearance of the country, and we have now arrived at a period of the year when increased heat may be calculated on. That no fear is entertained in regard to the future may be fairly inferred from the extreme caution which all parties engaged in the grain trade still deem it necessary to observe in conduc-