

From Charles Willmer's American News Letter, September 4.

*The Queen of England's Visit to Germany.*—Her Majesty's progress in Germany continues to supply the European journals with their most interesting details; and the importance attached by our Continental neighbours to this royal visit cannot be better proved than by the fact, that for the first time in the history of French journalism the Paris press has employed reporters to follow her Majesty in her tour, and to chronicle with minute precision the picturesque occurrences of her progress. We mentioned in our last the enthusiastic greeting which the Queen received on first setting foot within the Prussian frontier. Nothing that had then occurred, gratifying as that reception must have been to all classes in this country, had at all approached the magnificent welcome prepared for Her Majesty on the banks of the Rhine. In reading the details of the illumination of that noble river, it seems as if we had opened the pages of some Eastern romance; and the journals of every nation in Europe which had representatives on the spot concur in describing the scene as the most splendid compliment ever paid to a foreign Sovereign.

Her Majesty, on Saturday the 16th, left Stolzenfels in the morning in her steam yacht, the Fairy, at half past 11 o'clock, and reached Mayence at six.

At most of the principal towns and villages, which so prettily stud the shore on either side of the river, there were some efforts made by the inhabitants to welcome the Queen.

On the arrival of the royal party at Mayence, the shore was lined with people, flags were waving from the mast heads of the shipping, and troops were drawn up the landing place, as the Fairy steamed up, salutes were fired on all sides. Her Majesty was received by Prince William of Prussia, who is the Governor of Mayence, and a brilliant staff, and nearly 3000 troops lined the way and kept the ground to and about the government house, to which her Majesty was conducted.

In the evening, after dinner, all the bands of the different Austrian and Prussian regiments in the garrison turned out, formed in procession, and proceeded, accompanied by soldiers bearing torches, to the Hotel de l'Europe, occupied by her Majesty and suite, where they formed a circle, and played the English national anthem and several airs. The effect was grand and imposing in the extreme.

The Queen, Prince Albert, and most of the members of her suite attended Divine service at the English Church at Mayence on Sunday afternoon.

On Monday the 18th, the Royal party left Mayence at 8 o'clock, and arrived at Frankfurt at half past ten; but as her Majesty required no refreshment, she did not alight, nor make any stay in the town.

Whilst post-horses were being put to the carriage, her Majesty received the congratulations of the Austrian and other Ambassadors and Consuls who were in attendance; but there was no reception of the municipal or military functionaries, as were expected. The people assembled in great numbers. Her Majesty did not stay more than 5 or at the most 10 minutes, and drove on towards Wurzburg, arriving there at half past six in the evening. As she refused a formal reception, a guard of honour was merely appointed to attend her. Prince Luitpold received her Majesty at the foot of the grand staircase at the chateau, and the officers of the court were placed on the steps at each side up to the landing place.

A grand dinner took place soon after the arrival of the royal travellers, salutes were fired, and music performed. Her Majesty was so fatigued with the journey that she retired early to rest. On Tuesday morning at 6 o'clock, the royal travellers set off for Coburg.

On Wednesday morning, after breakfast, the Queen drove over to Callenberg, a very interesting castle of the Duke of Saxe Coburg, which is his more usual residence than the town palace, when he is not at Rosenau. In the evening the Queen went to the theatre, and was received with vehement applause. On Thursday morning the royal party all breakfasted in the open air, on a terrace before one of the fronts of Rosenau. After dinner the royal party drove to the town palace, where her Majesty and the Prince held a sort of levee or reception, called here a "circle."

On Friday, her Majesty rose at an early hour, and again walked in the grounds of Rosenau, breakfasting on the lawn, after which her Majesty walked again in the grounds with Lady Canning, who sketched some of the most picturesque spots in the surrounding scenery, at her Majesty's desire. The Queen afterwards drove a pony pillion through the park. At two o'clock

the royal and distinguished visitors left the chateau for the ducal residence in the town, to be present at a fete of the Duke's schools, which occurs annually on this day. The scene was highly interesting, and her Majesty was greatly delighted. The royal party dined in public in the open air, whilst the children were enjoying themselves in the park. After the little excitement of this festival, the royal visitors settled down in quiet again. They returned to the town palace in the evening, where there was a ball. It was over at an early hour. Supper was served at half past eleven, and the Royal party returned to Rosenau at two o'clock. Her Majesty, the Prince, and the Duchess of Saxe Coburg (the wife of the reigning Duke) drove out on the 23d for a short time. They came into Coburg to see the museum and picture gallery. The rest of the party dispersed on pedestrian excursions to view the beauties of the surrounding scenery. The court would leave on Wednesday for Gotha, where they were to remain four or five days, returning by way of Fulda and Frankfurt to the Rhine, on their journey home. It is expected that there will be at Gotha a grand stag hunt, or rather a battue on a very large scale.

There is a strong report that her Majesty Queen Victoria will make a present of the little tender Fairy to the King of Prussia, should they find, after the river has gone down from its swelling, caused by the late rains, that there is sufficient water for her to navigate the Rhine.

There is also a report prevailing in well informed quarters, that Queen Victoria and Prince Albert and suite will return to England by way of Holland, and that the royal yacht will proceed thither.

The Hampshire Independent says:—It has been arranged that Mr Stuart and Mr Emmerson, the pilots, shall hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Antwerp, to pilot the royal yacht from that port direct to the Isle of Wight, it being her Majesty's intention to land at the island and sojourn at Osborne house for some time on returning from Germany. It is also intended that the excellent arrangement of only sailing by daylight should be adopted on the return of Her Majesty in the royal yacht, and the Queen will leave Antwerp in the afternoon, and anchor off Flushing for the night, and then proceed next morning to the Isle of Wight.

On Tuesday, the 26th of August, the birth day of Prince Albert was celebrated in a style of simplicity and friendly mutuality of enjoyment between court and people, that is delightfully characteristic of German manners. There was a rustic festival in the early part of the day at the palace of Rosenau, somewhat similar to the feast of Gregorius, and which was alike participated in by the princes and peasants, who mingled together with the greatest freedom. Dancing and music were the order of the day, and the Queen, it is said, was highly delighted at the novel spectacle presented to her sight. Other festivities took place in the course of the day, and in the evening the royal party attended the theatre.

*Revolt of the Convicts at Aden, attended with Great Loss of Life.*—The following particulars of this occurrence, with which we have been furnished by our correspondent at Aden, may be relied upon as perfectly correct:—

On June 21st, whilst the convicts were at work about two miles outside the main or northern pass, they surprised and disarmed their military guard, consisting of a Havildar and 12 Sepoys of the 47th Regiment, M. N. I. It appears that at 12 o'clock, noon, the prisoners had, as was usual, left off work until one o'clock, at which time it seems the guard and the convicts were completely mixed together in a very unmilitary manner: at a preconcerted signal three or four prisoners seized each Sepoy, and wrenched the musket from his hand, with which they ran seawards, and took possession of an Arab boat, which they tried to launch, evidently supposing that once afloat they could easily manage to gain the Arabian side of the bay, distant about a mile and a half. As many of the convicts had been fishermen in the Concan, this plan was perfectly feasible, and only failed from the tide being too low to float the boat. Being bold, resolute, desperate villains, they instantly dashed into the sea, fettered as they were, with the intention of swimming to the opposite side of the bay. By this time the Sepoys had recovered from their confusion, and having also recovered their arms, opened a fire on them, by which two were shot dead, and five badly wounded. Many of the prisoners not being able to swim, and finding the water deeper than they had evidently calculated on, came back and surrendered. A great many persevered,

and thirteen effected their escape—twelve were drowned, and one was subsequently found dead on the Arabian side; thus making the total loss of life on this melancholy occasion fifteen. Of those who escaped four were recaptured, and one was brought back by the Arabs. Seven are still at large, and have found shelter in the Fouthli country, the chief of which has written to the political agent to say that he will send them in prisoners. This he will not do. As the prisoners are Hindoos, they will doubtless prefer the Mahomedan religion to irons and hard work on the roads for life. After they have embraced the tenets of the Koran, no true Mussulman can, according to the creed, give up the proselyte. One of the prisoners, whose arm was much shattered by a ball, has undergone amputation by the civil surgeon. It appeared on evidence that not one of the guard, thirteen in number, in charge of 64 desperate convicts, all of whom are condemned to hard labor on the roads, either for murder or gang-robbery with violence, had loaded muskets. That they (the guard) allowed themselves to be surprised and completely disarmed without having been able to inflict the slightest injury on a single convict, will appear somewhat singular to our non-military readers. There is not a shadow of doubt but that the guard mixed in a very unfamiliar manner with the prisoners, contrary to all military principles. It has been fully ascertained that the "rising" was previously planned and arranged, and that the unusual remissness of the guards encouraged them in their well-organized plan to revolt. The prisoners were also well aware that they had no danger to apprehend from unloaded muskets. They say that they had no intention to endeavour to escape previous to their being worked outside in a manner which they were physically incapable of performing in a climate so unusual to their former places of imprisonment; that the work was greater than their debilitated frames could endure; and that they rushed on certain death rather than bear their present life of endless toil and unsupportable misery. A military court of enquiry has been assembled to inquire into the circumstances of the escape of the prisoners, and strange to say—it acquits the guard of all blame. Government should not rest satisfied with this very singular decision—which the circumstances of the case do not at all support. The opinion of the court is eminently calculated to act in a very injurious manner, and to interfere in a very dangerous way with military court martial. There still remain two points not disposed of in a satisfactory manner—why were the guard with unloaded arms? and why did they permit themselves to be surprised and disarmed?—*Bombay Times*, July 13.

*More Disturbances in Spain.*—The leading topics of our foreign news is an outbreak at Madrid, occasioned by the oppressive operation of a new system of taxation, introduced by the Minister of Finance. The new taxes appear to have pressed with undue severity on the trading classes, who had petitioned the minister to postpone the execution of his measure, declaring at the same time, that many warehouses and shops must be closed if he persevered in it. M. Mon rejected this petition, and the tradesmen at once organised a demonstration against the new scheme of taxation, by means of a general closing of their shops. In accordance with this resolution, no less than 4000 shops were shut in the capital on the morning of the 19th. The operative classes, of course, soon felt the effects of such a measure, and the streets were speedily filled with crowds of people clamorous against the Government. The authorities took advantage of this circumstance to call out the troops; several charges of cavalry and a discharge of musketry were made, and the mob was dispersed, but not without loss of life on both sides. The entire garrison of Madrid was immediately placed under arms, and all the military posts were doubled. Considerable reinforcements were drawn from Guadalaxara and Cuenca, and the Captain-General was vested with extraordinary powers by the ministers present in Madrid, being even authorised to declare that capital in a state of siege, should circumstances require it. The political chief also published a most energetic proclamation, ordering the shops to be re-opened under the severest penalties. Several shopkeepers who disobeyed the order had been arrested, and many executions were expected to follow. On the 21st order was completely restored and all the shops re-opened. The disturbances had, however, terminated with the execution of a tailor, who is said to have met his death like a hero. The charge against him was that he had fired

at an officer, but as he was slaughtered without trial, there was, of course, no satisfactory proof that he had done so.

The *Clamor Publico* and *Expectador* newspapers, of the 20th, were seized at the Post-office.

The Queen of Spain and her mother arrived at Santa Azuaga, on the 19th, and on the next day her majesty was to commence taking the mineral waters.

A prosecution has been commenced at Madrid against two persons calling themselves the Barons Boulow and Pelichy, and who appear not to be Spaniards, but foreign adventurers, who many years since visited Spain, as being the best theatre open to them. They are charged with having, as the agents of General Chacon, the ex-political chief of Madrid, been guilty of the most horrible frauds and inventions, for the purpose of giving to the general a pretext for arresting many persons of the highest respectability on charges of rebellion.

*Cultivation of Cotton in the East Indies.*—We copy the following from the *Manchester Guardian*. We have lately received some information respecting the cultivation of improved varieties of cotton in the East Indies, which will not be without interest to the great bulk of our readers.

We have stated, on former occasions, that the experiments made in the cultivation of the American cotton plant had failed; and up to a certain point that was generally the case.

Upon the rich and strong lands of Bengal, and some other parts of the peninsula, the experiments had been unsuccessful, owing partly to the plant running too much to leaf, and partly to the attacks of insects; whilst on some drier soils, the plants had been nearly destroyed by the excessive droughts of the two first years, which at the same time very injuriously affected the grain and other crops. It appears, however, that in the neighbourhood of Coimbatore, in Southern India, better success has attended the experiment; very good cotton having been grown, though hitherto at a cost which would render the cultivation unremunerative. It is thought, however, that when grown by the natives who can carry on the cultivation of their land on much more moderate terms than Europeans, it may be afforded at rates which will bring it into consumption in this country.

The part of India, however, which appears best calculated for the growth of the American varieties of the cotton plant, and where their cultivation has been most extensively and successfully prosecuted, is the cotton district lying in central India, to the eastward of Bombay, where the climate is favourable to the plant, being neither too dry nor too moist, and where experiments on a large scale are still proceeding, at the expense of the East India Company. These experiments are under the direction of Mr Mercer, one of the American planters sent out a few years ago; who, last year had three thousand acres under cultivation, and expected to have this year, about twenty thousand acres, all planted with New Orleans cotton. But the cultivation is not confined to the experimental efforts of Mr Mercer, for the ryots in the districts have taken it up, and find the New Orleans cotton plant quite as profitable as any unirrigated crop which they produce. There are also saw-gins in active operation, under Mr. Mercer's management; and it is expected that some of the cotton, grown and cleaned in the district, will speedily make its appearance in the Liverpool market. Hitherto, however, the produce has been sold to the native manufactures, who have discovered its superiority over the produce of the indigenous plant, and give very good prices for it, for making their own fabrics.

*A Thing that ought to be Known.*—The beech tree is said to be a non-conductor of lightning. So notorious is the fact, that the Indians, whenever the sky wears the appearance of a thunder storm, leave their pursuits and take refuge under the nearest beech tree. In Tennessee the people consider it a complete protection. Dr. Beeton, in a letter to Dr. Mitchell, states that the beech tree is never known to be struck by atmospheric electricity, while other trees are often shattered into splinters. May not a knowledge of this afford protection to many when exposed?

*Ravages of the Cholera.*—The cholera, in its most malignant type, has been raging in Lahore and its neighbourhood, and it was calculated that the deaths averaged from 500 to 700 per day. At the date of the last accounts of this dreadful disease was on the decline, after having carried off between 20,000 and 30,000 victims. It had then crossed the Sutlej, and appeared at Ferozepore; but it would