

European News.

From Willmer and Smith's European Times, June 4. DOMESTIC.

The Repeal Association in Dublin, on Monday, was more than usually lively, in consequence of the presence of Mr O'Connell. Rumours have prevailed for some time past, that differences existed between him and Mr Smith O'Brien, and it was asserted that an interview in the "cellar" of the House of Commons, before the "martyr" was liberated, disclosed that little love and less friendship existed on either side. It was even asserted that very uncomplimentary epithets passed between them. The trades of Dublin, it was stated, desired to give the member for Limerick the honour of an ovation, against which Mr O'Connell set his face. The truth of these assertions was confirmed by the language and tactics of the Young Ireland organs. The Dublin Nation eulogised the conduct of Mr O'Brien, and its implied censures on that of Mr O'Connell were unmistakable.

But at the meeting on Monday, Mr O'Connell gave the best practical refutation to these statements, by speaking in the warmest, in the most enthusiastic terms, of Mr Smith O'Brien's "stand" for his country, and he wound up a speech full of hyperbole, by proposing the honours of a public tree for the "martyr," to be followed by a public banquet, and the repayment of the fees out of the funds of the Association, which the officers of the House of Commons had exacted from the incarcerated member.

The proceedings at the meeting to which we allude, show that if any differences originally existed, they have been momentarily patched up; but there appears to be so much warmth and earnestness about Mr O'Connell's vindication of his friend's conduct, that we are unwilling to suspect the absence of sincerity. It is remarkable, too, that every compliment which Mr O'Connell pays to Mr O'Brien's bravery in defying the House of Commons, is a censure on himself and every other Irish member, for not following the example. If the member for the county Limerick was right, all the other Irish members were wrong, and vice versa.

The truth in all probability, is, that it has been found necessary to humour Mr O'Brien's whims. He is a member of an old and influential family; he is a man of fortune and a gentleman; he is a Protestant, and the representative, amongst the repealers, of a growing conviction, that the existence of feuds about religion weakens patriotism, and strengthens the enemies of popular rights. These are great advantages—too great, in the present state of the repeal exchequer, to be forfeited.

But the time will come when Mr O'Brien's energies will be taxed to their utmost tension. The post of a public leader demands the highest order of intellect, albeit, men of the humblest aspire to it. "Dan's" days are waning, although it is wonderful that a man of his advanced life can throw so much freshness into the proceedings of a public body as he displayed at the Association on Monday. When the hand of the master-spirit is too weak to guide the helm of public affairs, the perils of the aspiring and less-gifted spirit will commence; and then, unless we have totally misread the character of Young Ireland's champion, Mr O'Brien's inability to "ride the whirlwind and direct the storm" of Irish politics will become painfully apparent, and he may exclaim with the lord Hamlet, "They have fooled me to the top of my bent."

It would appear, from what O'Connell stated on Monday, that Sir Robert Peel is determined to press forward the Irish Coercion Bill when Parliament re-assembles after the Whitsuntide holidays. The second reading is to take place on Monday next. It was generally understood that the bill had been abandoned; and, judging of the opposition which it experienced in the earliest stage of its progress, by that which it is sure to encounter in the subsequent ones, it is marvellous that the First Minister should think of pressing it forward. In the present state of parties, it is one of those peculiar questions which may cause men of the most dissimilar views to combine, and the result may be critical to the Government.

Our old and excellent friend, General Armstrong, has been figuring conspicuously in the English press since he sailed on Saturday in the Great Western. We were aware at the time that the General was the bearer of an offer

from the British to the American Government relative to the Oregon question, and we so stated in our paper by that steamer. We omitted the General's name in deference to the feelings of that gentleman; but several of our contemporaries have been less fastidious. Indeed, some of them have paraded the General's intimacy with Mr. Polk, and the fact of his daughter being on a visit to the President, as additional proofs that the statement is correct, although it would be difficult to trace the connexion between events so dissimilar. An Irish journal, the Dublin Evening Post, in its desire to be exclusive, plundered into a statement that the General had been recalled for the purpose of thrashing the Mexicans—and that as the friend of the late General Jackson, and as having commanded second at the battle of New Orleans, he was peculiarly fitted for the task. This was so absurd as to call forth prompt contradiction. Those who have the honour of the General's friendship know, that although brave as steel, and chivalrous to a fault, his fighting days from physical causes, are over. Like Caroleanus, he has received wounds in his country's service to show; but a veteran's career, like all things sublunary, must have a beginning and an end. We should hope on account of the personal respect which we entertain for the gallant soldier, that his mission hereafter will be one of peace. But although "pride and pomp of glorious war" can have few charms for him, as they belong to the past, we feel persuaded that if he were obliged to take the field again, a more daring spirit or a braver soldier, never fleshed a sword in his country's service.

Connected with the mission of General Armstrong, we may notice a rumour which has obtained currency in London. In the monetary circles of the city, it is whispered that the American has claimed the intervention of the British Government to settle the dispute with Mexico. The fact may be so; but we cannot credit it. It bears improbability on its front. Indeed, the city is the focus of a thousand sinister rumours daily; on the face of the earth a more imaginative race than the brokers and stock-jobbers of Change-alley could not be found. They beat the same class in Wall-street, New York, hollow. We should be sorry, for the credit of the American character, if the fact referred to prove correct. Peace, we grant is a blessing which ought not to be slightly sacrificed, but the United States are quite able to settle their differences with the Mexicans without intervention; if they are not, the race has sadly degenerated since the days of Washington and the battle of New Orleans.

FOREIGN.

The Paris paper, La Presse, of Monday, reached our office last night, which announces that orders have been sent by the Minister of Marine to Brest, and the other military harbours, to despatch a number of ships of war to the Gulf of Mexico, to reinforce the squadron stationed there, in consequence of the war between the United States and Mexico. On this subject the same paper states that much uneasiness exists in Paris. The opposition prints are all on the side of America, and predict an early conquest of Mexico by the United States. The apprehensions caused by the war of the United States with Mexico weighed on the Paris money-market.

Accounts have been brought by the Algiers papers of the 24th ult., stating that Abd-el-Kader had ordered to be massacred in cold blood the 300 prisoners who had fallen into his hands. The reason assigned for this horrible act is that the Morocco troops were advancing on all sides against the Deira, and that he for the purpose of committing to his cause the Algerine tribes who had emigrated with him into Morocco, had ordered his prisoners, with the exception of the officers, to be shot. There is some doubt of the truth of this report.

Portugal has been the scene of another attempt at revolution consequent upon a change of the ministry. It appears, for the Portuguese, to have been a more than ordinarily energetic affair, but, like their neighbours in Spain, the bark of these good people is worse than their bite.

From the Cape of Good Hope we learn that the Kafirs have been giving some uneasiness to the provincial government. The forbearance which has been shewn to these semi-savages has been cruel to themselves.

COMMERCIAL.

The beautiful weather, which set in with the close of May, still continues, and the warmth at the present time, is oppressive. Vegetation progresses, and the

country in every direction presents a smiling and lovely appearance. Hebe never looked more bewitching. At present there is evidence not only of an abundant, but what is better—of an early harvest.

The corn in most districts looks strong and healthy, and the potatoe, respecting which much misgiving as to the future existed, is found to be free from disease, and excellent in all respects. Even the famine in Ireland is denuded of its horrors. It has assumed less severity than was anticipated, and God's best gift to man—a full granary—seems very likely to reward the husbandman's labour.

The effect of this state of things on society must be beneficial; its effects on commerce will also be important, and the speculators in bread stuffs—from the turn which matters have taken—will realize less than their anticipated dollars. Even that shrewd old merchant-prince, Mehemet Ali, now regrets that he closed the grain market of Egypt to the rest of the world. He loses peculiarly by his well-intentioned philanthropy towards the offspring of his own soil.

With abundance, there is always another concomitant—cheapness. Not only is Heaven smiling o'er us, but legislators seem disposed to rescind their poll tax upon bread. When the corn bill passes—respecting which not the shadow of a doubt now exists—immense quantities of corn and flour will be released from bond at once, at the lowest duty of which the new sliding scale is susceptible—four shillings a quarter. The effect of this upon the domestic markets will be severely felt. The price of grain will recede and if the harvest in August realises the present prospects of June, wheat will have reached as downward a figure, as it has fallen to for years.

The policy of the Protectionists has been suicidal as regards themselves. If the corn bill had passed, as it might have passed, three months ago, it would have been much better for the foreign merchant as well as the native agriculturist. The collision would have been less severe, and the position of each, in a pecuniary sense, would have been strengthened.

The scarcity in Belgium has induced the government of that country to extend the time of the ports being open from the first of June to the first of October. But the harvest prospects on the continent are scarcely inferior to our own. Nevertheless, in a climate so proverbially fickle as our own, there is in the weather, as in love, many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip.

The cotton market has been reduced again to a state of comparative quietude.

The Oregon question has now ceased to give any uneasiness. The Times of yesterday affects to sneer at the statement put forth by a local paper, that General Armstrong would return with a satisfactory adjustment of the question; but no one entertains the least doubt that a pacific settlement of it is inevitable. Sir Robert Peel it will be seen, referred, on the night that the House of Commons adjourned for the holidays, to the notice having been given and received in the most friendly spirit.

The timber trade has felt the effects of the misunderstanding to which we have more than once alluded, between the masters and the men. Except as regards the masons, the affair has been patched up for a time; but how long it will last is another question.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—Paris, May 29.—In the Chamber of Deputies, yesterday, M. Thiers, in the name of the opposition, made a violent attack on the policy of the Cabinet. Among a multitude of other things he complained that in the Oregon dispute France had declared for England, her temporary ally, instead of for the United States, her permanent ally—her "fundamental ally." M. Thiers's speech was long and brilliant, yet it contained no novelty. M. Guizot is to reply to it to-day. M. Thiers and the opposition proposed an amendment, the effect of which, if carried, would be to overthrow the Cabinet, but it is certain to be rejected by a large majority.

The proceedings of both Chambers during the last fortnight have been without interest. There was a discussion on the proceedings at La Plata, originated by M. Thiers, in which he complained strongly of the government for not employing more energetic means against Rosas than it had done. M. Guizot, in his reply, contended that France had acted wisely and well, and that her only object, in conjunction with England, was to establish peace and order, without interfering with either party.

Unimportant news has been received from Algiers. The generals appear to have lost, for the moment, all trace of Abd-el-Kader. Some Arabs summoned

to aid Abd-el-Kader, had, it was said, refused; but though the French journals attach great importance to this event, it is really insignificant. Marshal Bugeaud has resigned the Governor-Generalship of the colony, and is expected shortly in France—unless, indeed, Louis Philippe should succeed in persuading him to remain.

PORTUGAL.—Lisbon, May 27.—The Costa Cabral ministry has at length fallen amid the universal execration of the Portuguese people, and the whole country is in a state of insurrection. The dissolution of the Cabinet had been looked for for some days. The Count Villa Real was immediately sent for by the Queen, who confided to him the formation of a new ministry; but his efforts having proved wholly unsuccessful, her Majesty commanded the attendance of the Duke of Palmella, to whom she gave a similar authority. He is said to have offered the portfolio of Foreign affairs to Count Lavradio; that of Finance to Count Tojal; that of Justice to Sousa Azevedo (a Miguelite); and that of War to Viscount Sa Ja-Bandeira (a Septembrist). The flame of insurrection has rapidly extended from the Minho all over Tras-os-Montes, in which latter province 5000 well-appointed men were said to have assembled under the direction of a junta, composed of its most influential proprietors. It appears that young Villa Real, the son of the Count of that name, had put himself at the head of a large body of peasantry, and had taken possession of the town from which his father's title is derived; that another body of rebels had disarmed a strong detachment of the Queen's troops at Amarante, and having made themselves masters of the bridge over the Douro, had opened a direct communication with the Minho insurgents.

GERMANY.—Berlin, May 20.—Austria, Prussia, and Russia, are apprehensive of another outbreak in Cracow, to be set on foot by the Polish emigrants in France, England, and Belgium. The three powers have taken measures of precaution. At Warsaw several arrests have been made. Austria has made use of the assistance of the peasantry, by liberally remunerating them for their recent exertions.

The Chambers of Hanover have rejected a new law of great severity towards the press. They have also declared that there is no objection to admitting Jews to civil rights and to certain privileges.

The Grand Ecclesiastical Synod of the kingdom of Prussia, got up by the King, is the topic of general conversation.

The King of Prussia has ordered to be printed an edition of the complete works of Frederick the Great. It will be splendid as a typographical production. Only two hundred copies will be struck off, and a copy will be presented to every foreign government.

RUSSIA.—St. Petersburg, May 22.—I regret to say that the cholera appears to be advancing with rapid strides towards this city, from whence, no doubt, it will in time make its way to Western Europe.

The commercial treaty between this country and Turkey, which has been so long in preparation, was signed on the 30th of April.

From Caucasus the news is not important. The Polish soldiers in the Russian army had manifested some excitement at the receipt of the Cracovian insurrection.

IRELAND.

Prosecution against the Nation Newspaper.—The crown has served notice on Mr Duffy, proprietor of the Nation, that the prosecution for sedition, founded upon an article that appeared in that journal several months ago, on the use of railways as military roads in Ireland, is to be brought to trial on Saturday, the 13th inst., before the Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench.

The Dublin correspondent of the Morning Chronicle of Thursday last, says:—

"The use of Indian meal has now become quite general throughout the country, and the people prefer it to the potato, the enormous price of which, for some months past, has placed it beyond the reach of the labouring classes. One good effect of this change in the food of the humbler classes is a reduction in the price of potatoes, both for seed and for immediate consumption.

THE OVERLAND MAIL FROM INDIA.

The Bombay mails of the 1st of May arrived yesterday.

The Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief had reached Simla, where they intended to remain during the hot and rainy seasons. The troops had tar-