

European News.

From English papers by the California Steamer, to the 12th March.

FRANCE.

The revolution in France is now un fait accompli. The abdication of Louis Philippe, the appointment and rejection of a regency, the complete triumph of the Parisians over the army, the establishment of a provisional government, the erection of a Republic, the overthrow of the house of Peers and titles of distinction, the precipitate—abject flight of all the members of the Orleans family with their misguided Ministers to our own shores, or to other places of exile the immediate recognition of the new Republic of France by Great Britain, Belgium, Switzerland and the United States have all followed in such rapid succession, that the events of an hour ago doth hiss the speaker!—each minute teeming with some mighty occurrence affecting the destinies of whole nations and dynasties. The speculations respecting the causes, incidents, and probable results of this sudden and mighty social convulsion, are various and infinite. The facts stand out in historical, boldness of outline, depicted in such indelible characters, that they must endure till the last syllable of recorded time.

A Provisional government has been organized by our neighbors, the members of which are celebrated throughout the world for genius, eloquence and science; some of them are of almost romantic integrity. Carried away by the eloquence of Lamartine, the excited, ungovernable mob of Paris threw down the muskets, which, in the first fury of their newborn zeal for liberty, they had levelled against the popular leader, and by their unanimous shouts invested the Provisional government with the full authority of the state. As the revolution of 1830 was the work of the bourgeoisie, so is the revolution of 1848 the act and deed of the working classes, who have sealed the inauguration of their power with their own blood. The question which every one asks his neighbor, is, will it last? Every man in England, and we believe elsewhere hopes so. Lamartine himself, says, in his address to foreign powers, 'we desire for humanity that peace may be preserved, we even hope it.' Sincerely do we re-echo these words, applying them emphatically, even in a more enlarged sense than M. Lamartine, we hope that peace may be preserved both without the Republic, and within the sphere of its domestic dominion. Our sympathies—nay, our interests are all intimately interwoven with the maintenance of peace. But the great social problem which these "men of the situation" who are aiming to govern millions by a stroke of the pen, is of too intricate and complex a character, at once to be solved. The difficult question of human labour, the real and only source of wealth and its more equal distribution, is "the great argument" to the height of which they propose to direct all their efforts. They may cut this gordian knot; but to unravel it by the slower and surer process of developed industry, founded on peace and security, far exceeds, we fear, the ephemeral power of any Provisional Government, however absolute or well-disposed. "To make a Government," said Mr. Burke, more than half a century ago, upon a similar occasion, "requires no great prudence. Seize the seat of power; teach obedience; and the work is done. But to form a free government—that is, to temper together the opposite elements of liberty and restraint in one constant work—requires much thought, deep reflection, a sagacious, powerful, and combining mind." The French as yet are but in the first stage of transition; they must not only teach, but they must secure obedience from the masses, before the regular edifice which is to crown their hopes can be raised. If the foundations are laid in peace, the French people may erect a proud monument to consecrate throughout all ages the glories and liberties of a mighty and gallant people; but if the elements of war insinuate their fatal agency into the fabric, the whole will speedily crumble into dust and perish.

The Provisional Government became constituted by an usurpation, or by the free choice of the mob; but however that may be, eleven members established a supreme authority at the Hotel de Ville. Royalty and the peerage were swept away in a few brief lines. But hunger, gaunt hunger, with a hundred thousand mouths, yawned round the seat of the Government. Something was to be done immediately to appease the multitudes; accordingly, a gigantic system of but-door relief was conceived and executed.

Formidable legions of national guards were formed at a stipend per day. These were packed off to the frontiers. The compact between the employers and employed was broken, and a short time decree was passed, limiting the hours of labour. The journals were also to be propitiated; accordingly, the stamp duty is removed; but these and numerous decrees will not satisfy the hungry; nor does the taxation of one large class who earn their bread by industry, in order that another class may carry a musket on the frontier in the garb of a national guard, tend to carry out to its legitimate end the old revived Jacobin doctrine of liberty, equality, and fraternity. Again, already the decree has gone forth that a new National Assembly is to be convoked on the 20th of April, when the Provisional will resign its authority into the hands of the Definite Government. Universal suffrage and vote by ballot are to secure liberty, equality, and fraternity to France. It is quite clear that the good work-people of Paris will have the vast majority in the new assembly, and, leaving their more or less profitable occupations, will try their hands at statesmanship.

In the meantime commerce is at a stand, the funds have fallen enormously, considerable failures are announced, clubs are in the course of formation to advise or overawe the government, strikes of workmen are becoming more numerous daily, operatives demand an increase of wages, and have expelled large bodies of English workmen, their rivals in the construction of railways, the moderate politicians, the representative of the middle classes, have disappeared from the scene, and, amidst the chaos of passions, interests, crimes, with occasional instances of sublime virtue, which such a state of things has engendered, England waits, with her arms folded, in deep and anxious alarm for the next scene in this strange, eventful history.

RIOTS IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

LONDON.—On the 6th inst., Charing Cross and Trafalgar-square were the scene of very riotous disturbances, arising out of a meeting convened to oppose the income-tax, of which Mr. G. W. Reynolds, a well-known literary character, was chairman. The meeting had been called by a Mr. C. Cochrane, late candidate for Westminster, who, however, prudently absented himself. The meeting, which was attended by 8000 or 9000 people, and was addressed by several speakers, being concluded, and cheers having been given for the French revolution, several hundreds proceeded to Mr. Reynolds's house, where they were again harangued; the larger portion of the assembly however remained in the square, where detachments of the police soon took up their position. This called forth angry feelings from the mob, who began pelting stones, wrestling truncheons, and otherwise annoying them,—some of them, Inspector Baker among the number, were severely wounded about the head. The palings around Nelson's monument were soon torn up; and matters were assuming a threatening appearance, when the police were immediately removed, and order was restored. About 19 or 20 of the mob were wounded,—none, however, mortally. On the 7th and 8th inst crowds continued to assemble in several parts of the metropolis, but were prevented from perpetrating further mischief than breaking lamps and windows. A chartist meeting was held on the 8th, at Stepney Green, which passed off quietly.

EDINBURGH.—On Tuesday, the 7th inst., a riot took place in this city, which but for the energetic measures adopted by the authorities, might have been most serious in its results. It is not known how it originated; but, about half past eight, a large crowd proceeded down the Mound, where they demolished some buildings, and from thence went howling and roaring along Prince's and High-streets, breaking all the lamps in their way, the windows of the Royal Institution, and of several private houses. Not fewer than 1000 lamps were thus broken. The dragoons and local pensioners were at once called out, and dispersed the mob, not, however, until one man had his nose cut off by the dragoons and another had his leg broken. During the riot cries of 'Vive la Republique' were heard. About 50 individuals were taken into custody.

On Wednesday, the 8th, the trials of several of the participants in the riots of the previous day were proceeded with.—43 were sentenced to terms of imprisonment, varying from 10 to 60 days. In consequence of a rumour that colliers from Dalkeith and the neighbourhood

intended entering the city in the evening the shops were all closed by six o'clock. Some gas lamps were broken about 8 o'clock by a mob, which was soon dispersed. At 10 o'clock the city was quiet. Large bodies of police patrolled the streets, and it was supposed all would be peaceable throughout the night.

GLASGOW.—On the 6th instant, the inhabitants of Glasgow were thrown into the utmost consternation, by a large body of Rioters, comprising 8 or 9000 persons, parading through the streets, and breaking open bakers' shops, gunsmiths' shops, jewellers', and all the prominent warehouses where they could find either food, watches, guns, pistols, or other articles, to satisfy their plundering disposition. The thieves and blackguards of the town were the principal depredators. For a time all business was suspended, the shops in general being shut. The total injury to property was estimated at £40,000. Special constables were at once sworn in, and 600 of the 71st infantry sent for to Edinburgh, from which place 150 dragoons arrived during the day. 150 rioters were taken up, and a considerable quantity of arms recovered. During the riot, cries of 'Bread, or Revolution,' was raised by the mob, but there was little to invest the movement with a political aspect, and nothing serious transpired, save the wounding of a Mr. Dobbie, a watchmaker, whilst engaged in defending his property. At night all was tranquil. Up till one o'clock next day, it was supposed that the riots had been completely suppressed, and business was proceeding in its usual manner; but, at that hour, a large body of persons who had previously assembled on the Green, and were harangued by leaders, were observed proceeding to Mr. Campbell's mill, in Bridgetown, where they hoped to stop the mill, and receive reinforcements. In this, however, they were disappointed, as the workmen successfully resisted them. Foiled in their attempt, they pursued their way to the Gas Works on the Dalmarnock road, to cut off the supply of gas to the city, when they were encountered by a small force of pensioners, under Capt. Smart, who, falling, after the Riot Act had been read, to disperse the mob, and being severely attacked with stones, fired in self defence, killing one man, and wounding six or seven others—two severely. One of the persons mortally wounded was a special constable, named Alexander, who had been aiding the pensioners, but had imprudently mingled amongst the crowd. The news of the collision spread like wild-fire over the city. Every shop was simultaneously closed, and the military and special constables posted themselves in the most advantageous position for action. The mob, in the meanwhile, with the dead body of their companion elevated on the shoulders of the foremost, proceeded to the Trongate, where a force of military was stationed, and on the remonstrances of the officer, who refused to allow them to pass, left the corpse at the Central Police-office. Sheriffs Allison and Bell then addressed the multitude, and succeeded in dispersing them. The authorities immediately removed all the globes and burners from the public lamps, and, assisted by the special constables, succeeded in preserving order all night. The body of a female, respectably dressed, and bearing the marks of wounds, was brought during the night to the Central Police Office, but could not be identified. It was feared the disturbances would be renewed next day. On the 8th, however, all was quiet; and, with the exception of a little more crowding, the town had the same appearance as on any market day. Great numbers of rioters had been apprehended. An assemblage took place on the Green at one o'clock, which was speedily dispersed by the dragoons. In the neighbourhood of the city there is considerable excitement; and at Coatbridge a large number of special constables had been sworn in, in apprehension of a breach of the peace. Some rioting, arising out of a demand, on the part of the colliers, for higher wages, was dreaded at Airdrie. Mr. Alexander, who was shot in Glasgow on the 6th, died next day; and a boy, named Campbell, has also died since. The Lord Provost arrived from London on the 9th.

Several of the prisoners sentenced death at the late Special Commission at Limerick, Clare, and Tipperary, have been executed. On the 1st instant, Henry and Philip Cody, and Michael Loughgan, suffered at Clonmel.

There is no diminution, we regret to say, in the amount of destitution. The accounts which daily reach us from the south and west are really heart rending—in some cases, horrifying and unexampled.

Evictions are not latterly so numerous, but one case being published during the fortnight—that of six families, of the persons in the parish of Shrule, county of Mayo.

At a meeting of the committee of the Repeal Association, held on the 28th ult., presided over by Mr. Nugent, poor-guardian. The rent for the week was £39. In absence of Mr. John O'Connell the time of the meeting was occupied by a long and fiery speech from a priest named Mauleen, from the county of Wick.

At a meeting of the committee held on the 3rd inst. an address of congratulation to the French people was agreed to.

The new repeal journal, the United Irishman, is more than fulfilling the anticipations which had been formed as to the probable reasonable and sedulous tendency of its articles. The French revolution has called forth its energies, and, with a recklessness which cannot be characterized by any term short of insanity.

The excitement produced throughout the entire country by the news of the French revolution has been most intense, and particularly so in the south-east and west. The corporations of Dublin and Kilkenny have already drawn up addresses to the French people, congratulating them on their success. In Cork, Drogheda, Limerick, Clonmel, Roscrea, Berrisokane and other places, illuminations, bonfires and rejoicings have taken place, and a general meeting has been convened, to be held in every parish in Ireland, on 17th of March. The citizens of Dublin will have a 'monster' meeting on subject. The military in that city wear their side-arms in the streets, a practice which had been dropped since the contemplated Clontarf monster meeting in 1844. Unusual activity prevails at Dublin castle, and the general officers are reported to have been consulted on divers serious matters by his excellency. All military officers who had been on leave have received orders to join the corps forthwith. On the 7th a meeting of the citizens of Dublin was held for the purpose of appointing a committee from day to day to make the arrangements for the forthcoming monster demonstration in favor of France.

On the 9th, however, a large meeting took place at 10 o'clock in the morning,

at a plot of ground near the Oldham road, where they were addressed by a young Irishman. It was then resolved that they should form in procession, to imitate the movements of the Scotch Patriots in Glasgow. For this purpose they proceeded down Bradford road to Kelly's mill, where they succeeded in stopping the engines, and getting all the hands to turn out. From thence they proceeded to Birley's mills, but were so successful. The work-people resisted them, and obliged them to decamp. A skirmish took place between the mill and the police, in which the rioters were completely routed. At a later period in the evening they attacked the police stations in Oldham road, and put out all the lamps in that densely populated district. Having broken up the stalls in Smithfield market they armed themselves with the fragments, and prepared themselves for further mischief. At the last advice they were assembled in great numbers, the military were under arms, and the magistrates were sitting in the Town hall. The Oldham operatives were to be on the move.

DUNFERMLINE, PAISLEY, &c.—Disturbances of a serious nature threatened to manifest themselves in Dunfermline on the 7th inst., and an express was sent off to Edinburgh for 600 soldiers. Paisley some slight rioting had occurred. The last advices from both places are of a favourable nature.

LIVERPOOL.—The warehouse porters have struck work in opposition to a master reports recently licensed by the dock committee of that town. They desire to procure work direct, and not through second hands. They have since Monday thronged the area of the exchange buildings, imitating the merchants in gathering into groups, and chatting on peace, commerce, politics, &c. war. Five hundred special constables were sworn in here yesterday, as we are entirely without military force.

IRELAND.

Several of the prisoners sentenced death at the late Special Commission at Limerick, Clare, and Tipperary, have been executed. On the 1st instant, Henry and Philip Cody, and Michael Loughgan, suffered at Clonmel.

There is no diminution, we regret to say, in the amount of destitution. The accounts which daily reach us from the south and west are really heart rending—in some cases, horrifying and unexampled.

Evictions are not latterly so numerous, but one case being published during the fortnight—that of six families, of the persons in the parish of Shrule, county of Mayo.

At a meeting of the committee of the Repeal Association, held on the 28th ult., presided over by Mr. Nugent, poor-guardian. The rent for the week was £39. In absence of Mr. John O'Connell the time of the meeting was occupied by a long and fiery speech from a priest named Mauleen, from the county of Wick.

At a meeting of the committee held on the 3rd inst. an address of congratulation to the French people was agreed to.

The new repeal journal, the United Irishman, is more than fulfilling the anticipations which had been formed as to the probable reasonable and sedulous tendency of its articles. The French revolution has called forth its energies, and, with a recklessness which cannot be characterized by any term short of insanity.

The excitement produced throughout the entire country by the news of the French revolution has been most intense, and particularly so in the south-east and west. The corporations of Dublin and Kilkenny have already drawn up addresses to the French people, congratulating them on their success. In Cork, Drogheda, Limerick, Clonmel, Roscrea, Berrisokane and other places, illuminations, bonfires and rejoicings have taken place, and a general meeting has been convened, to be held in every parish in Ireland, on 17th of March. The citizens of Dublin will have a 'monster' meeting on subject. The military in that city wear their side-arms in the streets, a practice which had been dropped since the contemplated Clontarf monster meeting in 1844. Unusual activity prevails at Dublin castle, and the general officers are reported to have been consulted on divers serious matters by his excellency. All military officers who had been on leave have received orders to join the corps forthwith. On the 7th a meeting of the citizens of Dublin was held for the purpose of appointing a committee from day to day to make the arrangements for the forthcoming monster demonstration in favor of France.