

committee was then appointed, Mr. Mitchell having been voted a member by acclamation. After drawing up the requisition to the Lord Mayor the meeting dissolved.

A special meeting of the Confederation was held in Dublin, on the 9th instant. Mr. Crean, an operative, presiding. Mr. W. S. O'Brien, M. P. Messrs. Duffy, Dillon, M'Gee, Barry and other ruling spirits were present. An address to the people of Ireland was resolved on, the sentiments of which may be inferred from the following closing paragraph:—

"We are ready to forget our party, our injuries, and our pride, for the sake of our country. In her service, humiliation and danger, and sacrifice, and death, are welcome to us. Wherever we are required we shall be present, indifferent as to whether our post be humble or exalted. Whoever leads us we shall follow, missing only that we shall go forward,—forward though graves were to yawn, and gibbets to frown across our path."

A rumour was prevalent in Dublin, on the 9th that the Privy Council had decided on suppressing or preventing the demonstration throughout Ireland on the 17th but no proclamation had been issued up to that day. It was, however, daily looked for.

BRITAIN.

It will be seen by our parliamentary report that Ministers yielded without a struggle their project for increasing the Income Tax three to five per cent.; and although the House of Commons has virtually consented to the continuance of an Income Tax "for a limited period," on Monday evening the debate on the subject re-opened the great questions of free trade with direct and indirect taxation, during which Sir Robert Peel came to the rescue of the Ministry, and declared his intention to vote for the Income Tax during three years longer. The temper of the House is, however, evidently in favor of keeping the staff in its own hands, and Sir Charles Wood carries his motion for three years, over Mr. Hume's amendment "for one year only," it will be but by a small majority. The extreme free traders perceive, however, that unless the Income Tax be perpetuated, a recurrence must be had to Customs' duties, and according Mr. Wilson avows this plainly, and justifies his vote upon this especial ground. There is, however, a difference of opinion amongst the free traders how to meet the difficulty; but all parties condemn the proceeding of Sir Charles Wood falling back upon the balances were plainly shown to be not balances of account at his disposal, but simply balances in the Exchequer already appropriated by votes of Parliament.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BELGIUM.—At Antwerp some disturbances arose; but the authorities easily dispersed the malcontents. Towards evening everything was quiet. The *emule* was no occasioned by any sympathy with the French, but the opportunity was considered favourable by the Orange faction for reuniting the city to the Netherlands. Only the lowest of the population appear to have been engaged in the attempt.

The fortifications of Antwerp and other frontier towns are being placed in a state of efficiency, and in a few days the Government will have, they say, 50,000 men at its disposal.

There has been a run upon the Belgian Bank, which still continues.

SPAIN.—The news of the revolution in France has produced the deepest alarm at Madrid. The Government seems determined to make preparations against all contingencies, for the Madrid journals of the 28th announce that Narvaez has just laid upon the table of Congress a project of law authorising the Government,

- 1. To suspend the constitutional guarantees;
- 2. To raise a loan of two millions sterling;
- 3. To go on collecting the revenue till the meeting of the next Legislature.

The garrison of Madrid was kept under arms, the guards and sentries were doubled, and it was said that an army of observation of 50,000 men was ordered to the Pyrenees. The Government journals are forbidden to speak of the events in Paris, and the whole of the papers and correspondence which reached Madrid on the 29th were stopped. Still so much was allowed to ooze out as showed that something extraordinary had happened. The whole of the Court balls were stopped, and Queen Christina had taken to her bed.

There appears to be no doubt but that the details of the act for suspending the constitution and creating a virtual dictatorship, proposed by Narvaez, will be confirmed. The project was proposed to the Congress on the 28th Feb., and there is little doubt that if the actual Cabinet contrive to keep itself in existence some time longer, we shall witness a repetition of the arbitrary acts of 1841; and before many days are over Narvaez will become the Dictator of Spain—always supposing he succeeds in keeping himself at the head of the Government. The pretext of this sweeping

measure is prevention of any disturbance or violation of public order. In addition, it is asserted that a large increase will be made to the army; that the reserve will be called out; and that an army of 30,000 men will be marched to the French frontier. The demand for the grant of such a large sum, particularly in the actual financial state of Spain, would render such extremely probable.

GERMANY.—The Germans, in general, appear to be favourably disposed to the idea of a Republic in France.

The Germanic Diet published on the 1st instant a proclamation, in which all Germans are exhorted to be united; and measures, it is said, will be taken to preserve peace at home, and Confederation from invasion.

In some of the German states of the Rhine public opinion has been yielded without even an attempt at resistance. M. Beck, the Minister of the Interior of the Grand Duchy of Baden has published the following proclamation:—

- 1. The censorship of the press is abolished.
- 2. The national guard will be immediately organised.
- 3. The Government will submit to the Chamber a law establishing trial by jury. By this proclamation the Ministry has granted all that the people demanded. Independently of these concessions, the Grand Duke has called to his council M. Welker, the leader of the constitutional opposition, who has demanded the creation of a German Parliament instead of the Diet.

A telegraphic despatch from Metz has been received, which says that the Duke of Hesse-Cassel has been banished and his palace burned; that the Duke of Nassau had fled from his states. A movement took place at Mayence; protestations were sent to the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt. The population had assumed a hostile attitude towards the Austro-Prussian garrison of the place; at Sarrebruck a lively sympathy with the French revolution had been manifested; at Sarvalouis the garrison was blockaded in the fort; rigorous watch had been kept during the night, and the trees on the glaces had been cut down.

In a cabinet council held at Berlin on the 29th ult., it was decided that the 4th, 7th, and 8th divisions of the Prussian army should immediately march to the frontiers, and orders to that effect were issued. On second thought, however, these orders were recalled, and commands issued instead to the different commanders to be ready to march at two days' notice.

The *Stubian Mercury* of the 3rd instant, contains the following royal ordinance, published by the King of Wirtemberg at Stuttgart on the 2nd inst.

William, by the Grace of God King of Wirtemberg, &c., have resolved as follows:—

- Article 1. The censorship established the 6th of October, 1829, is abolished.
- 2. All the dispositions of the law of the 30th of January, 1817, relating to the liberty of the press are restored.
- 3. A law relative to the provisional introduction of public trial in matters connected with the press shall be presented to the States. Our Ministers of Justice, of Foreign Affairs, and of the Interior, are instructed to carry into execution the present ordinance.

WILLIAM.

Mayence is in the same feverish state, or worse, for there the guns are pointed against the town. Prince Frederick of Prussia declares that the instant any attempt is made to effect a revolution, he will bombard and destroy the place.

Accounts from Frankfort, dated March 3, inform us that the Burgher Guard had turned out, and that a great number of people had assembled in different parts of the town and paraded the streets, uttering cries of "Vive la Republique!" The people demanded the same terms as those just granted by the Duke of Nassau, but, having received an assurance from "one of the authorities," that a free press should be granted, they retired without committing any excess whatever.

The whole of the papers throughout Germany teem with sympathy for the sufferers in the French revolution, and express approval of the Republic; and considerable fermentation has manifested itself in the minds of many Germans since the announcement.

Many erroneous reports are, no doubt, in circulation as to the sympathy excited in Germany, and especially in Baden and Hesse Darmstadt, for the French Republic. For ourselves, we consider the following to be really the truth. There is no desire in any part of Germany and certainly not in the states above mentioned, for a republic on the French model. What the people—all classes, high as well as low—wish to have is, first, constitutional freedom in the several states; and, secondly, a real united representation of the whole German race.

AUSTRIA.—From Vienna, under date of the 23rd, we learn that owing to the monetary and political crisis now pending in Austria, the imperial family have, from their private property, placed the sum of 100,000,000 florins at the disposal of the Minister of Finance. The house of Este alone advanced 30,000,000 of this sum. A heavy decline is visible in the German funds.

Disturbances have taken place in Styria, and additional troops have been ordered there.

The Secretary General of the Austrian Legation at Pesaro has been assassinated.

It was reported on Friday evening in Paris that the Bank of Vienna had stopped payment. It is certain that its notes were refused by the discounters and money changers.

We understand that Prince Metternich has resigned the presidency of the Austrian councils.

RUSSIA.—A Berlin correspondent, under date February 20, in the 'Magdeburg Gazette,' states that disturbances had broken out in the Russian capital, and that an attempt had been made on the Emperor's life.

SWITZERLAND.—Switzerland is in ecstacy at the late events in France.

It is known to our readers that the king of Prussia is exercised sovereign authority over Neuchatel, notwithstanding it is one of the cantons of the Swiss Confederation; but late advices from Switzerland inform us that the retrograde or Prussian party in the canton of Neuchatel had fallen before a popular manifestation. The Government resigned on the morning of the 1st inst. Surprised by the catastrophe of Paris, it desired to negotiate with the Montagnards, but it soon found it necessary to surrender the reins of the Government to the hands of the opposition. The Chancellor Favarger had passed the Saleuro, as was supposed *en route* to Berlin. The seat of the new Government was transferred from Neuchatel to Chaud-de-fonds.

A Provisional Government was named. The Prussian Sovereignty was overturned.

The announcement of a French Republic was greeted at Lausanne with a salute of 101 guns.

The Council of State of Vaud met on the 27th ult., and adopted a resolution in favour of the Republic, which was officially communicated to the French Provisional Government.

NAPLES.—Letters from Naples say that, though the tempest had ceased, much agitation continued, and there was a current opinion that some sinister influence was at work. On the night of the 14th, a mob attempted to take down the arms over the Austrian embassy, but were repulsed by the police.

On the 25th ult. the ceremony of swearing to the constitution took place in the Church of San Francesco di Paolo, at Naples. The King and Queen, with the Counts of Aquila and Trapani, and the Prince of Salerno, left the palace at 11 o'clock, attended by the ministers and officers of State, and escorted by the horse National Guards. The Church was already thronged with the nobility and foreigners of distinction. Admiral Parker and the officers of the squadron, with Lord Minto and Napier, &c., were in the tribune of the corps diplomatique. When the oath was read to the King, he cried *Lo giuro*, the flag with the tricolour—red, white, and green—was hoisted on the palace and at all the forts, and a general salute was fired by the batteries.

After the ceremony within the church, the Queen and princesses, with the young princes, dressed in the uniform of the National Guards, appeared in the balcony of the palace. The king mounted his charger, and followed by a numerous staff, rode through the ranks. A circle was then formed, and all the general officers took the oath of fidelity, to the constitution. The troops then marched by the king, who had taken up a position facing the balcony of the palace. Nothing could exceed the enthusiasm of the people. The weather was beautiful, and the whole ceremony most imposing.

SICILY.—We learn from Messina that the fighting recommenced on the 22nd. Nothing could exceed the courage of the people. They were well provided with all the necessary material of war. Their guns were heavy, well directed, and well manned; and although the Neapolitans fired well, the overwhelming force of the people rendered their exertions useless. Many of the former were killed; of the latter the loss was not so great. At 8 o'clock, Fort Reale fell by assault. At 10, the arsenal was taken, and an hour after, Terra Nova. All the outworks of the other forts, except that of San Salvatore, were taken. Notice was given by the people to the commanders of the different ships of war, that at half past three, p. m. on that day, the people would make their attack on the citadel; but the result is unknown, as half an hour before the attack the Neapolitan steamer left the harbour. To judge, however, from former successes, the opinion was, that the people would remain victors against the troops. News from Catania has arrived at Malta, to the effect that the Catanese have hoisted the tricoloured flag. The fort there is considered very strong, and, in order to prevent the enemy holding it, the Catanese had resolved to blow it up. By still later advices from Catania we learn that Fort Ferdinand, which was held by 500 Neapolitan troops, had surrendered.

ITALY.—The *Augsburgh Gazette*, under date of Vienna, Feb. 25, says,

Letters from Italy give accounts of revolutionary scenes on all sides. Blood has flowed at Bergamo, and disturbance have taken place at Cremona. At the theatre the Austrian officers were thrown from the boxes into the pit. At Piacenza several arrests took place at the theatre, all those arrested having loaded pistols in their pockets. It is feared that the slightest motive will cause terrible disturbances to break out at Milan. A slight wound given to an officer will be sufficient to break all the bonds of discipline among the troops, which have been with difficulty maintained; and it is evident that the *morale* of the soldier will not long hold out against such continual excitement.

The Sardinian Government was preparing to demand of Austria the removal of her troops from Parma, while Austria on the other hand, was remonstrating against the liberal measures of Sardinia. At Pavia the students of the University attempted a movement, in

which it was said that the Hungarian troops in the service of Austria joined.

Letters from Piacenza say that that town is occupied with Croat troops, who act in the most brutal manner, compelling hotel keepers to supply them, and refuse payment, saying that the Emperor will pay for all.

At Genoa the populace have entered the house of the Jesuits, which they sacked. Everything was broken and thrown out of windows with the exception of the things connected with the chapel, which were respected. It was said that the Jesuits, not being able to find any place of safety on shore, had gone aboard a vessel in the roads.

The same spirit (says one of the journals) animates the Venetian and Delmatian sailors, and amongst the Hungarian regiments are many officers and soldiers holding the same sentiments.

Martial law has been proclaimed in the Duchy of Modena; it is similar to that which has been proclaimed in Lombardy by the Austrian Government.

POSTSCRIPT.

Paris, Thursday, March 8.

Our last advices from Paris represent the city as tranquil; but the financial crisis still continues unabated, and some eminent houses are spoken of as being in difficulties, but no further failures have been announced. The funds have fallen considerably.

The Archbishop of Paris, accompanied by two Vicars-General, presented himself to the Provisional Government on Tuesday, and gave in his adhesion to the new order of things in the name of the entire clergy of his diocese.

Paris, Friday, March 10.

The forthcoming elections in France excite great attention. The Government were aware of the fearful importance of the matter, and were, with the temper and the sagacity that had hitherto characterised their measures, preparing for the crisis.

800 mercantile firms connected with the Paris Bourse waited on the Provisional Government to ask the further delay of a month on the 20th ult., which, by a decree of the Government, had already been extended to the 10th inst. Their demand not being acceded to, they were said to have threatened to dismiss their clerks and workmen, and announced their determination not to satisfy their engagements.

Towards the close of business on Thursday, the market considerably improved in consequence of a report that the Government would publish on Friday an *expose* of the financial situation of the country, in which important reductions in the public expenses would be announced. It was understood that all salaries above 3000 francs would be reduced, and that the ministers respectively should not be allowed more than 25,000 francs per annum.

AUSTRIA.

The resignation of Prince Metternich was announced for a certainty at Paris on the 8th inst.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung* states that letters from Vienna confirm the intelligence that a loan of 30,000,000 florins had been concluded between Russia and Austria.

BAVARIA.

The *Augsburgh Gazette* of the 6th inst. contains the following, under date Munich 4th:—Last evening, Prince Wallerstein repaired to the great hall of the Hotel de Ville, an announced to be armed citizens that the king had resolved to dismiss the Chamber of Deputies, and convoke a new assembly for 21st May.

ITALY.

The Jesuites alarmed by the hostile demonstrations made against them by the people, by whom they are deservedly detested, have already quitted the city of Turin.

By a circular of the 15th ult., the communes of Lombardy are informed that they will be charged with a supplementary tax, to meet the expenses incurred in consequence of the extraordinary increase of troops in that part of the empire. The communes have met this demand with a flat refusal, in which step they are cordially supported by the peasantry, who openly declare that they will not even pay the poll tax.

All correspondence between Lombardy and France is prohibited.

SICILY.

Advices from Palermo, of the 19th ult. state that Lord Minto had addressed an *ultimatum* to the Neapolitan Government, declaring—1st. That island must become a separate kingdom, independent of Naples. 2nd. That it must have a Government and Parliament of its own. 3rd. That the King of Naples may also be King of Sicily. 4th. That as to the common expenses of the two kingdoms, such as a civil list, diplomatic body, &c., they should be settled by a mixed commission of Sicilians and Neapolitans. The minister has answered evasively, giving Lord Minto to understand that the King would at least refuse the latter proposition. But, in a private audience, Lord Minto received from the king himself a favourable answer.

Latest advices from Naples state that the King, once more violating his solemn word and promise, has carried fire and the sword into the city of Messina, which has been bombarded during 42 hours by the royal troops. The Porto Franco is almost entirely burnt down. It is said that the Messinese have attacked the citadel, and taken it by assault. It was rumoured at Marsailles that the king of Naples had complied with the demands of the people of Sicily. The Ministry has resigned.