

of Tuscany or Savoy, it was at length finally decreed, amid the most enthusiastic applause that Ferdinand Bourbon and his dynasty had for ever fallen from the throne of Sicily, and that Sicily shall govern herself constitutionally, and call to the throne an Italian Prince, as soon as she shall have reformed her *statuto*. A great feeling was evinced in favor of a Republic, 'should Providence smile on Italy.' Palermo was illuminated during three nights. All the bronze statues of the house of Bourbon were thrown down, beginning with Philip V. That of Charles II. alone was spared because he was a just prince. The statues are to be converted into cannon. A French squadron under Admiral Baudin, had arrived at the Spezzia. At Naples the king was becoming so unpopular that a bouleversement seemed inevitable.

From Baden we have the most deplorable accounts. The insurgents had intimated that they wished to capitulate to the force sent against them, but would treat with none but the general in command. Lieutenant General Gagner advanced from Schlangen, which the insurgents had evacuated, to Gandern, which they occupied, and the General steps from the ranks to parley with the rebels. It must be remembered that General Gagner was the leader in the movement for reform in Germany, and the prime mover of the preparatory Assembly at Frankfurt. The chivalrous warrior exhorted the rebels to obey the voice of the law, and not to mar the development of liberty by subversive tendencies, and recommended peace and conciliation. They refused to listen to his counsels, and, as he retired he was treacherously shot at, and mortally wounded by three balls. The troops exasperated to see their chief thus basely slaughtered, fell upon the insurgents, completely routed them, leaving a great number of dead upon the field. The troops kept up the pursuit, and encountered another party headed by Struve, which they also attacked and routed, when night came on and put a stop to the engagement. The troops, which were of Baden and Hesse Cassel, had not one man killed but twenty were wounded. The rebels suffered greatly. The Provisional Government of France will now disperse these armed bands.

By our latest accounts it would appear that the Provisional Government has come to the wise determination to disperse the German bands of marauders who are hovering on the Rhenish frontiers.

The French army now comprises 537,000 men, and has greatly increased since the revolution. In the provinces great discontent prevails, and the schemes of the *ultras* to overthrow the government still caused apprehension in Paris. A plot to blow up the Hotel de Ville, and to make the Republic more democratic than it is meditated by the Provisional Government, has been detected, and a judicial inquiry is now in progress into the alleged conspiracy, which, it is said, will compromise some persons in high station. The national guards would doubtless preserve order should any such horrible schemes be anticipated.

The declaration of Lord John Russell, that "whilst he had breath and life, he would oppose the Repeal of the Legislative Union between Great Britain and Ireland," and the passing of the Crown and Government security Bill, which is now in force, as the law of both countries, have not yet succeeded in quelling the spirit of discontent on the other side of St. George's Channel. A few days, however, must further elapse before the full effect of the policy of the Government can be ascertained. The Lord Lieutenant continues to receive from all classes addresses breathing loyalty and attachment; and the answers continually express the reprobation with which the attempts to excite the masses are viewed by men of all creeds and parties throughout Ireland; and that this universal reprobation will deter the seditions from their evil courses, or at least reveal to their dupes the utter hopelessness of their wicked schemes.

Mr. John O'Connell appeared at the Conciliation-hall on Monday, and issued an address to the people of Ireland, directed chiefly against Lord John Russell's words, above quoted. It was headed with the exclamation of Brutus—His [Lord John Russell's] words pass by us as the idle wind which we regard not.

The parties who have been most active in drilling and rifle-shooting have had their amusements greatly interfered with during the week; and some of them having been arrested will, doubtless, be made examples of. Mr. J. W. S. O'Brien and his party have proceeded to the south for the purposes of agitation. That they will easily succeed in stirring up a vast amount of dissatisfaction there can be little doubt; everything throughout the provinces seems ripe for an outbreak; but what settled this movement have is beyond our comprehension to divine. We can only contemplate with a vast sacrifice of human life, should any rushing take place, without any hope of accomplishing the ends they have in view. God's vengeance is increasing the precautions already taken. Preparations continue to be carried out in such a scale as plainly to denote that the authorities deem the danger to be near and imminent. Houses in Merion and Rutting prepared for the reception of troops. All the regiments in garrison have addressed on paper to their commanding officers, and cautioned to abstain from taking any part in any political demonstration whatever.

The most fearful accounts of destitution continue to reach us from the provinces. Whilst we are writing, the intelligence

reaches us that the Crown has entered a *nolle prosequi* to the bills found against Mitchell, by the grand jury, and has proceeded by *ex officio* information; charging him with the same publications as those charged by the grand jury. The same procedure has taken place with regard to Messrs. O'Brien and Meagher. It is also rumoured that the Privy Council has ordered the city of Dublin to be proclaimed, and an immediate search made for arms. It, however, wants confirmation.

The notice given by Lord John Russell, that Ministers intend to redeem their pledges made at the opening of Parliament, and forthwith to bring forward the question of a modification in the Navigation Laws, will be hailed by the friends of free trade with feelings of peculiar satisfaction.

The position of the Bank of France, which is now keenly watched as the thermometer of the political strength of the French Government, has not improved during the last week.

The specie in the vaults of the Bank of England has decreased, in a corresponding degree, more than a millicia and a half in a fortnight, and this drain has been increased by the demand for gold in Ireland. Indeed, comparing the exciting circumstances on the Continent with their parallel in the years just before 1797, we cannot blind ourselves to the difficulties which must result to the Bank of England should an universal paper currency to the exclusion of specie prevail throughout all Europe. It is difficult to conceive in what way we could maintain a metallic currency, whilst all the surrounding nations are deluged with an inconvertible paper.

In Spain matters seem fast progressing towards an outbreak. The utter absence of all constitutional government must soon provoke the people to rebellion, however attached they may be to the present forms of government. Lord Palmerston has addressed a letter through Mr. Bulwer, to the Spanish Ministry, which with the reply of the Duke of Sotomayor, we give elsewhere, it will be seen that his advice gave such umbrage to the Narvaez Cabinet, that the Duke of Sotomayor sent the letter back to Mr. Bulwer, with strong expressions of rudeness and contempt; and there can be no doubt that every intrigue has been set on foot to remove Mr. Bulwer from his post at Madrid. The advices from Madrid indicate that the month will not expire before a serious outbreak. All business is at a stand; and the opinion is openly expressed in well informed quarters that there will be a war to the knife, and that Spain will be shaken to its centre, unless the army settles the matter by a *pronunciamento*. In such an event, who has the Spanish Queen to turn to for sympathy and support but to ourselves?

Portugal, by the last accounts from Lisbon of the 19th, seems on the eve of some serious movement. Publications have been extensively circulated, in which are openly canvassed "the abdication of the Queen in favour of her son; a new dynasty, entirely new! and even a republic." The latter form of government, after discussing the question in very inflammatory language, is declared to be the best, and that the nation desires it. When such language as this is held in monarchial Portugal, it portends something ominous. The finances appear to be in a most wretched state.

After the extraordinary excitement in the Parisian capital, incidental to the prodigious display of troops and national guards which took place last week, our neighbours have subsided into a calm. Not fewer than 400,000 armed men assisted at the recent great spectacle of national fraternisation; and this demonstration, with the introduction of a considerable body of troops of the line into the capital, have concurred in maintaining public tranquillity.

On Sunday the great event of the elections immediately followed the spectacle of the Thursday previous; and, fortunately, all the apprehensions entertained of great disturbances during the progress of this formality have been falsified. The voters have performed their duties in Paris without any great interruption of the public peace; indeed, the quietness which prevails, and the paucity of actual voters, compared with the number of real electors, would argue an indifference of public spirit rather than any vehement degree of patriotism one way or the other.

PRUSSIA.—The accounts from Prussian Poland continue to be most melancholy. According to the *Deutsche Allemeine Zeitung*, the Polish insurgents are committing the grossest excesses. They have broken up, it appears, into small bands, and they are now wandering about the country levying black mail on the inhabitants.

ITALY.—Some disturbances took place at Rome on the 13th, but the affair was soon put down by the police, who seized several of the rioters, all of whom were supplied with money and arms. The *emeute* was attributed to foreign intrigue.

POSTSCRIPT. DENMARK & SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN. GREAT BATTLE, & TAKING OF SCHLESWIG BY THE PRUSSIANS.

Altona, Monday, April 24.

The train from Rendsburg has brought intelligence of the taking of the town of Schleswig by the troops of the Confederation, after an engagement which lasted from 3 o'clock in the afternoon of Easter Sunday until 11 at night. The fortification called the Dannevirke, on which the Danish artillery was placed, was taken by the Prussians at the point of the bayonet, after the battery had been silenced by the field pieces of the Hanoverian contin-

gent. Schleswig then fell into the hands of the Confederation.

The conflict was a bloody one, the Danes having a strong position, and doing great execution with their artillery and riflemen before it was carried. The Danes had from 10,000 to 12,000 men; the force of the Confederation was the greatest, but it was not all engaged; four Prussian regiments of the guard and line formed the bulk of the attacking army. The loss of the Prussians, so far as can be gathered from the unauthenticated accounts, is about 300 killed and wounded, principally of the 2nd and 20th regiments. Up to Monday morning 116 wounded had been brought into the Rendsburg hospital. That of the Danes is not yet known, but probably, from having fought comparatively under cover, it is not so great.

That the Danes fought well is freely acknowledged, they retired fighting from point to point, and held out till the last. One of those accidents that confound the best calculations rendered the mines, which had been relied on as one of the means of defence, useless. The waters of the Schlei, an inlet of the sea rather than a river, at the head of which Schleswig is built, rose to an unusual height in consequence of a continued east wind, and entered the excavations. The fortified work or dam called the Dannevirke was the main defence of the Danes, and when this was carried, the fight seems to have been for some time a battle of artillery, in which the houses of the suburbs were much injured, and several set on fire.

TAKING OF FLEMSBURG.

Humburg, Monday, April 24.

A telegraphic despatch just received at Altona announces the entry of the German troops into Flemsburg, on which town they advanced, after taking possession of Schleswig, without opposition.

FRANCE.

Latest advices from Paris state that the election returns, from the sections as well as from the departments, continue to be most satisfactory to those who desire to see the moderate party, represented in the Provisional Government by M. Lamartine, prevail. In almost every arrondissement in Paris M. Lamartine and the moderate party in the Government head the lists, and throughout the departments the *commissaires* of M. Ledru-Rollin at a great discount. The intelligence had produced a very sensible improvement in the money market. It was reported that M. Albert had gone over from Rollin's to Lamartine's party in the Cabinet, and that M. Ledru Rollin was only waiting for the meeting of the National Assembly to resign his post as Minister, without waiting for a dismissal.

AUSTRIA.

The Bank of Vienna decided, on the 21st, to send off one million of florins (£100,000) to Linz; another to Brunn, a third to Open, and a fourth to Prague, for the assistance of commerce, and especially the manufacturing districts, the stoppage of the manufactories having deprived thousands of workmen of means of subsistence.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.

REPORTED BATTLE BETWEEN THE ITALIAN & AUSTRIAN FORCES.

The news of the intention of the King of Sardinia to abandon the war of independence rather than consent to the establishment of a republic in Lombardy, is confirmed.

A dispatch arrived at Milan on the 20th, from the head-quarters of the Piedmontese army, bringing the news of an attack, directed by the King of Sardinia in person, against the Austrians stationed in the neighbourhood of Mantua. The Duke of Savoy (the heir-apparent to the Sardinian throne) was also present at this affair. After a very warm engagement, and in which the Piedmont troops displayed the greatest courage and bravery, the Austrians were obliged to retire, and shut themselves up in the fortress.

Another attack was to be made on the fortress of Peschiera. The Piedmont army, in order the better to secure the whole line of the *mincio*, are busily engaged in fortifying the bridges of Goito, Valeggio, Moyambano, &c.

An engagement has likewise taken place between the Italian corps of General Zucchi and the Austrians at Visco, a village situated on the frontiers of Illyria. The contest lasted four hours, but ultimately, though not without great difficulty, the Italians succeeded in gaining possession of the village.

IRELAND.

Mr. John O'Connell has addressed a long letter to the Lord Lieutenant, through the Pilot, informing him that he withdrew his signature from the Downshire declaration, in consequence of the presentation of that document to his Excellency, and not to her Majesty in person. The hon. gentleman also says, that if his Excellency will arm the protestants, he, Mr. O'Connell, will recommend the Catholics to arm.

COMMERCIAL.—The following paragraph contains more cheering intelligence than we have received for months past:

"Notwithstanding the feverish state of affairs in France, and almost on every other part of the continent, as well as the political negotiations going forward in every part of the United Kingdom, there is, we are happy to say, a gradual improvement taking place in the general aspect of commercial affairs. The Easter Holidays has, in some degree, prevented an increased activity in the markets for Foreign and Colonial Produce. Still the demand

for most of the leading articles has improved, and a slight advance on the rates last quoted has been paid. The Corn Markets are firm, and higher prices have been paid during the week. The accounts from Manchester state that there is rather an improved feeling in that city and the surrounding Cotton districts. From Yorkshire we have also more favourable accounts as regards the state of trade in the Wollen branch business.

Our advices from the manufacturing districts throughout England and Scotland are in some respects more favourable than those previously noticed. Our letters from Manchester dated last night, state there has been considerable business done, especially in goods suitable for India, China and the Levant, but at prices lower than the previous week.

TIMBER TRADE.—The following is a report of the Timber Trade at Liverpool.

The Timber trade has suffered from the disorganised and turbulent state of the various countries throughout Europe; but prices are nominally the same as last quoted, which are from 2d to 3d per foot lower for square timber than they were twelve months ago; and so in proportion for other wood. Quebec red pine is worth 19d to 20d, and yellow 12d to 14d per foot. The price of St. John's, N. B., pine is 16d to 19d; Quebec pine deals bring £10 to £13 10s. At this time last year the value was £11 to £14 10s per standard. Spruce now sells at £7 10s to £8 15s. At the latter end of April, 1847, the price was £9 10s to £10. From everything that we can see, we should say that at present there is very little encouragement to import Timber this season to the usual extent, unless a change in the trade takes place, and which there are no prospects at present.

Emigration of Military Pensioners.—The Government, it is said, intend to encourage the emigration of out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital to British North America, in order to colonise the debatable land next the United States' frontier. For this purpose a detachment of 45 men, 56 women, and 29 children leave the river for Quebec during the ensuing week.

A letter from St. Petersburg, of the 26th ult. states the strength of the Russian army at 831,200 men, 196,720 horses, and 2152 guns.

It is said that, of eleven members, of the French Provisional Government, seven are married to English ladies.

The Provisional Government of Milan has expelled the Jesuits. Fifteen convents of that society in Lombardy have been closed, and their entire property sequestrated.

COLONIAL.

The New Apollonians.—On this subject the Saint John Courier has the following paragraphs.

"The Executive Council which was in session at Fredericton last week, adjourned on Saturday. No official notice has yet been published of the filling up of several high offices to which it was expected appointments would be made. It is rumoured, however, and pretty generally believed, that L. A. Wilmot is to be the new Attorney-General, and that John R. Partelow will be the Provincial Secretary. Some credit is also put in the rumour that the Hon. W. B. Kinnear, is to receive the appointment of Clerk of the Executive Council; the Hon. Mr. Saunders, to be Clerk of the Crown on the Circuits; George Botsford, to be Clerk of the Legislative Council, and the Hon. Mr. Hazen or Chandler, to be Solicitor General.

"It is also understood that Hon. Messrs. Shore, Baillie, and Johnston have tendered their resignations as Executive Councillors; and in the meantime arrangements will be made for the reorganization of the cabinet, which is to meet in a fortnight."

The New Brunswick has the following: "We have reason to believe that the new Executive will be composed of the following persons:—Messrs Chandler, Hazen, Wilmot, Fisher, Partelow, Hill, and Rankin."

We are indebted to the Saint John papers for the following items of news:

"We understand that a Despatch has been received, informing His Excellency that the Home Government had agreed to repay this Province the sum of £13,511, the amount expended in relieving Emigrants during the last year."—Chronicle.

Changes in the Customs' Department.—We understand that instructions have been received from England, directing the following changes consequent upon the proposed reduction in the Customs establishments in the Colonies:—Alexander Grant, Esq. Collector at Saint Andrews, to take the place of the present Collector at Saint John, under the title of Controller of Customs and Navigation Laws, at a salary of £500 per annum; Wm. Whiteside, Esq. at present first Clerk at St. John, to take charge of the Department at Saint Andrews, as Controller of Customs and Navigation Laws, with a salary of £250 per annum; and James D. Lewin, Esq. Landing Surveyor at Saint Andrews, to be Superintending Officer of Imports at Saint John's, Newfoundland.

A terrible fire was stated to be raging at Detroit on Tuesday last—forty buildings had been consumed—the Steam boat and American Hotels were in flames. One third of the city was threatened with destruction.

MEXICO.—The Mexican Star thinks there will be no quorum at Queretaro; and the Free American is of opinion that there is little prospect of peace.—Courier

The steamer Unicorn has arrived at Halifax from Greenock and Newfoundland.