

NEWS BY THE NIAGARA.

From Willmer and Smith's European Times of August 19.
IRELAND.

Public attention still continues to be directed towards Ireland. It will be seen by our Irish news, that Messrs. Meagher, O'Donoghue, and Leyne have been arrested, and the police and soldiers are engaged in a hot pursuit after Mr O'Gorman and those of the confederates who are still at large. A number of arrests continue to be made in all parts of the country, and active proceedings are on foot to bring Mr O'Brien to trial—the celebrated counsel, Mr Whiteside, who distinguished himself so greatly in Mr O'Connell's case having been retained for his defence. In the mean time an enemy of even a more appalling character than civil war has again made its appearance, in the form of the potato disease, in Ireland, also in England and Scotland. All the indications of destruction which discovered themselves in the autumn of 1845 are now re-appearing—and a luxuriant field of this essential esculent becomes in 24 hours a withered and blackened mass. From a variety of well-authenticated quarters we learn that the destruction is already most extensive, and the pestilential effluvia which salutes the passenger on the road side, indicates but too fatally the extent of the mischief underground. In these circumstances it surely behoves every Irishman, and every friend of Ireland, to set aside all political animosities, and, as one really united people, to dedicate our combined energies to the rational, practical, and manly solution of this new and most unanticipated calamity. Political grievances, whether real or imaginary, sink into insignificance beneath the awful visitation of famine. We therefore hope that the most influential classes in Ireland, especially the enlightened Catholic clergy, who have recently stepped forward so nobly as the champions of peace and order, will lose no time in bringing their fold to a sense of the present alarming posture of the country. Let peace and good will, confidence on the one hand and generosity on the other bring together two countries which, for ages and ages to come, we believe are destined to be indissolubly united. In spite of all the errors which have been committed, we really believe that the English Government—and when we say the English Government we mean men of all parties, Tories, Whigs, and Radicals—would rejoice at any circumstance which would furnish the Executive with a fair and plausible pretext for exercising the mercy of the crown to the utmost extent in favour of all political offenders in Ireland. We earnestly trust that the alarm which has been excited within these few days may subside, and as the crops of potatoes are gathered in, that the results may turn out quite different to what is now anticipated. But to be forewarned is to be forearmed, and it is the peculiar characteristic of a wise policy to be prompt and vigorous. Under the existing painful circumstances, with the affections of a large portion of the Irish people estranged from England, it must be deeply wounding to their national pride to be again the recipients of the world's bounty. But as Englishmen, we believe we speak the feelings of our own countrymen when we say, that if it should please God to afflict Ireland with another year of desolating dearth, that the Treasury of England will not be closed to the voice of our distressed fellow-subjects; but in return, peace and goodwill, and a cordial union of interests will be exacted. At this present moment the prospects in every quarter are dark and dismal, but we do not even now altogether despair.

The declaration made last week by Lord John Russell respecting the legality of the Repeal Association, provided separation was not advocated, from which it was deduced that the Government was making terms with the Repeal party, has been considerably qualified by a more formal statement by the Marquis of Landsdowne on Monday. His lordship, upon being urged by Lord Glengal and other peers to put down the Repeal Association by a renewal of the clause of the bill of 1833, empowering the Lord-Lieutenant to suppress any association deemed dangerous to the public peace, refused to sanction the clause upon the grounds that the Repeal association was not now in existence, and it remained to be seen what means would be taken to revive it. His lordship significantly added, that the Government felt satisfied with the extraordinary powers already granted them, until after the opening of next session, to suppress any illegal or seditious assembly; that power would be vigorously applied, and he hoped it

would be effectual. We are assured that the Repeal Association will not be permitted to re-assemble under any form; and it is generally believed that Mr John O'Connell will retire from public life, and devote his attention exclusively to the National Bank, with which he is connected as a Director.

It will be seen that Mr. Hartnett, the leader of the insurgent band who attacked the mail at Abbeyfeale, has been arrested. Doherty and O'Gorman have still eluded the vigilance of the police; Dillon is supposed to be secreted somewhere, severely wounded in the affray at Boulagh.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Our continental news is still of deep importance. All the preliminaries for an active renewal of the war in the Duchies have taken place; but, with the exception of a slight skirmish with the Prussian outposts near Hadersleben, in which six Prussians were killed, no further hostilities have taken place. The blockade would recommence on the 15th, and we wait the next accounts with great anxiety. The combined troops on the frontier already amount to 32,000 men, and these will speedily be joined by 10,000 more in reserve. General Wrangel was expected to cross the frontier on the 14th inst. However, before that date, the loud expression of opinion by France and England will have reached Frankfurt; and we have now some hopes that the Germans who have embarked in this quarrel will seriously reflect before they have passed the Rubicon; as assuredly the combined forces of France, England, and Russia, with the secret support of Prussia, will undoubtedly be employed in putting an end to this most unprovoked war. Some trifling disturbances have taken place at Hamburg.

No fresh outbreaks have occurred at Berlin. The people are occupied with the discussions in their Parliament, and with the quarrel about their constables, who are as unpopular as ever. Hanover seems to be on better terms with the Central Executive at Frankfurt than heretofore. The Parliament in that city is still engaged in the discussion of what States shall or shall not be included in or detached from the Germanic Confederation; but the chief questions are always referred to the Central Power, so that the Archduke will have it greatly within his influence to pave the way for a general pacification; which, however, if it should take place, must inevitably occasion a great re-action amongst the Liberal party, who, unluckily for their cause appear almost in every case to be on the side of warlike measures. Cologne is the scene of the great commemoration of their cathedral. The people of Vienna seem fully sensible that the victories of Radetsky must either lead to a general pacification, or an immediate general war. The Russians having retired within their own territories leaves the Danubian principalities without fear; and the Hungarian Croatian question is expected to be amicably adjusted. The return of the Emperor from Innsbruck to Vienna is announced as likely to take place immediately. The news from Italy of last week will have prepared our readers for the final evacuation of Charles Albert of the whole of Lombardy. Having retired within the city of Milan, he found his position wholly untenable, in consequence of the absence of artillery, and the means of making any sort of resistance. Accordingly he was compelled to capitulate but was permitted to withdraw his troops across the Ticino without further molestation. The populace, considering themselves betrayed, opposed his withdrawal from the city, and he only contrived to make his exit amidst the extractions of the mob, after having fired blank cartridges over their heads in order to intimidate them. Thus terminates for the present this sad attempt to achieve the independence of Lombardy.

In the mean time we deeply regret to learn, from authentic sources, that whilst Radetsky commands northern Italy from Milan, General Welden has crossed the Po, and has penetrated into Romagna. He issued proclamations, declaring that he would destroy any town which offered the least resistance to his troops, as he had destroyed Serrida; and he advanced without opposition as far as Bologna. There having levied contributions, the people rose and the tocsin was sounded. Considerable slaughter ensued and the Austrians were beaten out of the town as far as Montagnola. From this spot the Austrians bombarded the town, which was set fire to; but the people again attacked the Austrians, and took Montagnola by assault. A good deal of bloodshed has been thus caused, and a severe check has been given to the further advance of the Austrians in the papal States. The violation of the territo-

ries of the Pope by General Welden is under the plea of releasing the Pope from political thralldom; and we deeply regret this rash step, as it might cause considerable difficulty in bringing about a pacification, Ravenna is already occupied by the Austrians, and we cannot suppose that the brave Bolognese will be able long to resist the superior forces brought against them. Charles Albert having retired to Novara, was by the last accounts, at Alessandria, but the head quarters of his army were at Vigevano, within his own dominions. Milan was held by Radetsky, who has appointed Prince Felix Schwarzenberg governor. In this state of things, it is evident that the only hope of a favorable issue out of all these troubles for the Italians is by means of a mediation by France and England, to which we have alluded elsewhere. We regret that on Wednesday Lamartine delivered an energetic speech in the Committee of Foreign Affairs, in favour of an armed intervention in Italian affairs by France, as the only means, forsooth by which she can observe the solemn engagement which Lamartine made in the name of the country, and with its evident approbation. This is a sad marplot step. If it should succeed, an European war becomes inevitable, as most assuredly Austria, flushed with victory, and backed by the German Confederation, will never yield to French violence alone. The wise pacific counsels of England and France united may bring about a far different result, and our only hope is in the firmness of General Cavaignac. The moment is in the highest degree critical.

At Naples the meditated expedition against Sicily is still suspended until the return of the Neapolitan Envoy from London and Paris. England is doing everything in her power to prevent Sicily from falling again into the hands of the King of Naples; but whether the English Admiral will prevent the Neapolitan fleet from sailing by force of arms is still doubtful. The friends of peace throughout the world will earnestly wish success to the joint efforts of France and England to restore peace. We may add that the entry of General Welden into the Papal States appears to be deeply resented by the Pope; and the people at Rome have been thrown into the greatest excitement. Some doubt is thrown upon the sincerity of the Pope: but at any rate, the most active measures are taken to repel the Austrians, and the intervention of France has been solicited. The Sarde-Venetian squadron has again appeared off Trieste and was lying in the Bay Muggia, without however offering any obstruction to the navigation. Great insubordination prevailed amongst the crews of the seventeen ships of which the squadron consisted.

Whilst writing we received the official account of an armistice of six weeks having been concluded between Radetsky and General Salasco on behalf of the King of Sardinia. Their former frontiers are to be the line of demarcation. Peschiera, Ronco d'Aego, and Osoppo are to be given up to Austria. Modena, Parma, and Placentia are to be evacuated by the Sardinians in three days, and the convention is to extend to Venice, which city and forts are to be evacuated also. Orders have been sent to General Welden to evacuate Bologna. We trust this is preliminary to a definitive treaty of peace.

From Spain and Portugal we have no news deserving of special mention. The Cabrera movement seems to be put down.

FRANCE.

The events of the week in France, although not of a striking character at first view, are calculated to produce a more auspicious result upon the people of France, as well as upon the whole continent of Europe than any which have occurred since the revolution. M. Beaumont has been despatched to the Court of Saint James's, as minister plenipotentiary of the French Republic. The fact of M. Beaumont being sent to England instead of M. Marrast, as contemplated, is of happy augury for the two countries. Apparently, a thorough good understanding seems to prevail between France and England; and an official article published in the Moniteur, defining the policy of the French Government in Italy, and generally in Europe, inspires us with well grounded hopes that the reign of French propagaadism is put an end to, and that General Cavaignac, fully sensible of the gravity of his position, will not rush blindly into a war under the idle, senseless pretext, that the nationalities of some countries are 'sounded in the decrees of Providence.' This folly is past, and General Cavaignac declares the French policy 'has now to consider the development and safety of Commerci-

al Relations, which are become the condition of the prosperity and influence of nations,' and, therefore, 'it is important not to lose sight of Manufacturing interests.' After a very temperate declaration of the aim and duties of the French Cabinet, which were to accept war if honour demanded it, but to avoid it without weakening French duties, and without descending in the scale of nations, the General says that the French Cabinet must find itself sufficiently rewarded for its efforts, since it may now make the whole of France partake in the hopes which it feels in the prompt re-establishment of peace in Italy, through the mediation of France and England. The relations of France, even with countries which the name of Republic might tend to render unfavourable, are most amicable. Cavaignac, after expressing firm hopes that the anticipated arrangements in Italy will lead to a general pacification, states unequivocally that the struggle carried on in the Duchies 'must be put a stop to.' He significantly hints to the German parliament, which can only desire peace, 'that the efficacy of its action depends on its wisdom,' and he concludes that 'the Republic will thus resume in Germany, in Italy, and in the whole of Europe, the place which the timid, irresolute, and complaisant policy of royalty had lost, and France will give to the grateful world the spectacle of a democracy which, having regenerated Europe by its principles, knows how to keep within proper bounds all the elements of strength which it contains, and is ambitious of no glory but that of pacifying the world.'

The domestic events of France are at present quite secondary in interest to the paramount question of Italy and Germany. The state of sieges still continues in Paris. About 1700 more persons have been found guilty of having taken part in the insurrection, and 2000 have been set at liberty. Two new frigates, the Belle Poule and the Uranie, have been ordered to be fitted up at Brest for the reception of the insurgent prisoners. Lamartine has intimated to the electors of Macon that he hopes soon to ask of them, as his only ambition, 'a little of that retirement which constitutes the agreeable repose of the mind and heart.' The Committee on the Constitution has completed its labours. The preamble, declaring every one has a right to demand employment from the state, is retained without any material alteration. The greatest anxiety continues to prevail respecting the disclosures which the printed evidence of the late insurrections is expected to unfold. It will probably lead to great excitement but the arrangements of General Cavaignac will prevent violence and bloodshed.

Numerous arrests continue to take place. At Lyons there has been a serious riot, but it does not seem to have been of a political character.

CHARTIST MOVEMENTS.

We regret to state that in various parts of England the proceedings of the Chartists have broken out into violence. At Aston-under-Lyne, and other districts round Manchester, considerable excitement has existed for some time past, and the clubs have been more than usually active. Mobs have paraded the streets armed with pikes and guns; and there can be no doubt that some scheme has been concerted with the disaffected in other parts of the kingdom to get up some insurrectionary movement. On Monday evening at Ashton a policeman on duty was brutally assassinated, being stabbed with a pike, and then shot through the body. The military on being called out instantly dispersed the rioters who were parading the streets. On Monday the Manchester magistrates struck a blow against Club organization by arresting fourteen of the chief leaders of the various clubs in different parts of the town, all their papers were seized. The prisoners apprehended have been remanded for a week. At Hyde, Dukinfield, and Oldham, the Chartists have appeared in considerable numbers parading through the districts armed with pikes and guns, but in all cases, upon the appearance of the police or the military, they have taken to their heels and have dispersed. At Birmingham the activity of the magistrates has repressed any overt acts of violence. In our town we have been tolerably quiet. The two prisoners who have been for some time in custody on a charge of supplying arms to the Irish rebels have been committed for trial, when the principal designs of the conspirators on this side of the channel will probably be disclosed.

In the metropolis the Government, having received secret information of the intentions of the Chartists to make an attack upon some of the public buildings, took measures to defeat their designs.