

## European News.

## Arrival of the Steamer Hibernia.

Willmer & Smith's European Times, June 16.

A curious position of things has arisen in the case of Mr. W. S. O'Brien and his convicted accomplices. We stated last week that the Lord-Lieutenant had refused the application made to him for a pardon, and the general impression was that the whole of the convicts would be transported to a penal settlement, preparations in fact having been made to remove them. Mr. W. S. O'Brien, and, indeed, his fellow-convicts, now refuse to be transported; they claim a common law right, either to be hanged, or to be set at liberty. A notice to this effect has been served upon the sheriff, and they refuse, in fact, to accept the conditional pardon offered by the crown. Blackstone states distinctly that a pardon may be conditional; the Queen may extend her mercy upon what terms she pleases; and may annex to her bounty a condition, either precedent or subsequent, on the performance whereof the validity of the pardon will depend. And the learned author goes on to say, "this prerogative is daily exerted in the pardon of felons, on condition of being confined to hard labor for a stated time, or for transportation to the colonies or plantations." We cannot comprehend, therefore, the device of resisting the Queen's mercy; indeed, the language of the prisoners is, that they are not consenting parties to such transportation. Few persons are: they are sent against their will generally; but we think it is carrying a joke rather too far when the convicts claim the alternative of being hanged for the purpose of embarrassing the Government. We perceive, however, that to remove all doubt upon the subject, a declaratory bill has been introduced into the House of Lords by Lord Campbell to set the matter at rest. Mr. Mousell has presented a petition to the House of Commons on the subject; and until the authorities have formally decided the question, we presume the prisoners will remain in their present place of confinement.

The two Houses of Parliament have now given their sanction to the Navigation bill, the measure having passed the House of Lords on Tuesday, and before we go to press we fully anticipate that the royal sanction will be given to the final abrogation of the Navigation-laws. The Bishop of Oxford (Wetherforce) made an ineffectual attempt to exclude Brazil from the operation of the measure, in order to prevent Liverpool ships from proceeding to Rio, thence to Africa for slaves, and making a return voyage by way of Rio to Liverpool, but only nine peers shared in the alarm of the bishop at this course of trade, and his proposition was rejected by a large majority. The Parliamentary Oaths bill, to enable Jews to sit in Parliament, has passed the Commons by 272 to 206, which is a somewhat larger minority than the Tories mustered on the division last session. Of course the success of the bill in the House of Lords is very doubtful. Lord Palmerston, in very explicit terms, has denied that we are in any way compromised in the intervention of the French in the Roman territories: that he only recommended diplomatic intervention, having for its object the return of the Pope to Rome, but to promote a good understanding with his subjects, based upon a practical and real separation between the spiritual and temporal authorities. A select committee has been appointed to inquire into the practice of receivers appointed under the Courts of Chancery and Exchequer in Ireland. Mr. Disraeli has given notice that on next Tuesday week he shall move that the House do resolve itself into committee to take into consideration the state of the nation. We only anticipate from this notice a field day upon agricultural affairs. Several county meetings have taken place, and passed resolutions declaratory of the existence of agricultural distress, but the appropriate remedy for this generally admitted grievance appears to create a difference of opinion. Great efforts are being made to procure the passing of the Bankruptcy Amendment bill this session, so as to make a distinction between unfortunate and fraudulent debtors; and the encouragement given by Lord John Russell to the deputations which have addressed him on the subject, leads to the hope that no unnecessary delay will take place in passing the bill through the Commons. Mr. Cobden's arbitration clause in treaties, which, in fact, proposed but the most minute shade of difference in the present practice, we have adverted to in a separate

article; the motion was met by the previous article, which was carried by 176 to 79; so Mr. Cobden's motion was not put from the chair.

The intelligence brought by the Canada of the devastating effects of the cholera in various States of the Union, has caused the deepest regret; and our sympathy is redoubled when we look around us and find that this fatal scourge has again made its re-appearance in England. At Manchester and the neighbourhood, several fatal cases have occurred, and the malady has undoubtedly re-visited the metropolis. At present the fatal cases are limited in number, but all the official precautionary notices are renewed. Every post brings the news of some isolated instances of the ravages of the disease in various parts of the country. We should observe that, previous to our last week's publication, the weather was close and sultry throughout the country; but a violent storm, accompanied by the largest hail stones ever known, having cleared the atmosphere, a change took place; but the cold, which has now succeeded, seems almost as ungenial and as unfavorable to health as the late excessive heat. The same weather, with similar meteorological phenomena, has prevailed in Paris, but with far more fatal results. There the cholera has raged to a more destructive degree than it did in 1832. In the early part of the week the deaths from the beginning had reached to more than 11,000, which was nearly equal to the mortality during the whole period in 1832. The deaths on Saturday last were 464 in private houses, and 148 in the hospitals, whilst no fewer than 1542 cases were on hand in the morning, which increased to 1705 in the evening. We regret to say that the mortality has continued upon this frightful scale, but the accounts are not so precise as could be desired. It will be seen that Marshal Bugeaud, and other illustrious victims, have fallen beneath this fearful visitation, and very great alarm has prevailed. As a general rule, we are inclined to believe that the most numerous victims are still amongst the most indigent and ill-fed classes, but the malady is now by no means confined to them, but commits its ravages amongst the wealthy and well-conditioned orders of the community. This fatal disease has broken out in Silesia, at Vienna, and at Presburg. It is making frightful ravages in Egypt, in the cities of Alexandria and Cairo. Its simultaneous appearance at these distant spots favors the theory that it is mainly owing to some electric causes in the atmosphere.

In our last number we gave *in extenso* the speech of the President of the French Republic to the Legislative Assembly, and public opinion, whilst conferring upon it the high merit due to its clear exposition of the state of affairs in France, still waits the issue of contest in the Legislative Assembly and the country upon its contents, every man being conscious that the fate of France depends upon the nerves and the strong arm of the Government, and not upon an array of facts with which we are all too well acquainted,—it is, however, important to observe that the speech is ascribed to the pens of M. Mole and M. Thiers. Of Count Mole's share in its production we cannot speak authoritatively; but an intimate knowledge of M. Thiers, and his writings enables us to pronounce unhesitatingly, from the internal evidence of the document, that the paragraphs on foreign affairs and other passages were written by him; from which we collect that altho' M. Mole and M. Thiers bear no official rank in the Ministry, that they are earnestly devoting their talents in the right way, towards maintaining the authority and credit of the Government of Louis Napoleon. At this critical moment, when the increasing violence of the Montagnards, headed by Ledru Rollin, threatens a political convulsion, Marshal Bugeaud has been snatched from the scene by the cholera, and his loss at this juncture is deeply to be deplored. The gallant marshal was attacked by the fatal distemper, had partially recovered, when, from some dietetic imprudence, a relapse took place and he died. France has thus lost a brave general, and society a resolute defender of the cause of order. The Legislative Assembly has been the theatre of continued excitement during the week, all tending to a serious crisis. Under one pretence or another a small knot of Montagnards has contrived to keep the Assembly in a continued ferment. But M. Ledru Rollin's interpellations on the affairs at Rome have wound up, as was anticipated, the whole capital, if not the country, to a pitch of political frenzy. M. Ledru Rollin having made a violent speech on Monday, denouncing the flagrant invasion of Rome by the French

troops, was answered by Odillon Barrot, but Ledru Rollin not deeming the Minister's reply satisfactory, declared "that the Constitution had been violated, and that he and his friends would defend it by every possible means, even by arms." This produced a scene of tumult, in which M. Thiers said that all discussion was impossible after an appeal to arms had been threatened; and upon a division upon the order of the day pure and simple, there appeared in favor 381, against 203, so Ministers showed a majority of 158. But the violence of Ledru Rollin gave the Bonapartists the advantage, and the numbers must not be relied upon as a proof of the strength of the Government. Ledru Rollin followed up his attacks by a direct impeachment of the President and his Ministers, but this motion was rejected by a Majority of 377 to 8; the Montagnards absented themselves from the Assembly, having evidently made up their minds to try to get up a counter-revolution. Out of doors the Red Republican journals openly declared war, and issued manifestoes inciting the Parisians and the people in the provinces to take up arms. All the premonitory symptoms of a general conflict in the streets are daily visible. The men in blouses hover about the Legislative Chamber, the troops are continually under arms, and the preparations of the Government are of the most extensive character to put down an insurrection, in the event of the Montagnards actually carrying out their hostile threats.

Our letters and journals from Paris, up to five o'clock on Thursday evening, have just reached us. The day had been a day of terror. About 10,000 men in blouses, and about 4000 or 5000 national guards, without arms, headed by Etienne Arago, assembled at the Chateau d'Eau, about noon, in the centre of Paris, and commenced marching towards the Elysee, with the alleged intention of seizing upon the person of the President. These were met by large bodies of infantry and cavalry, and were dispersed. Some 80,000 men were under arms, with their pieces loaded ready for action. The insurgents in dispersing attempted to form three barricades, one at Chaussee d'Antin, another at the Rue Taitbout, and a third at the Rue Lepelletier, but they failed; the streets were cleared, and the mob driven to the Fauxbourgs. It seems, however, that several shots were fired, and two or three lives have been lost, but up to 5 o'clock on Thursday no actual insurrection had taken place. General Charginier and his staff had ridden along the lines of troops in the Boulevards, and the President himself, late in the afternoon, passed before the lines in the direction of Saint Denis. He was received with acclamations. Etienne Arago had been arrested, together with many individuals who had uttered seditious cries. Whilst everything out of doors gave indication that Paris was on the brink of another frightful convulsion, the Legislative assembly, which was not to have met that day, held a sitting and declared itself *in permanence*. A bill was brought in declaring Paris in a state of siege, and that equally rigorous measures should be resorted to in the provincial cities wherever the fact of a revolt against the laws was established. The Montagnards were generally absent, being no doubt busy elsewhere, but Lagrange said that if the bill passed it would deluge the country with blood, and probably bring about the destruction of the Republic. Great tumult followed. Personal conflicts took place, when members threatened to kick each other, with the usual sequel of threats of private duels, and other cases of half muttered apologies. The Assembly in spite of the absence of the Montagnards, declared the matter urgent, and retired to the bureaux; and the probability is that the measure will be adopted by an immense majority. It remains therefore to be seen, not only how Thursday night will pass over in Paris, but how far the Montagnards will persevere in their career of blood. The overwhelming force of the military must crush the insurgents; but there is an uneasy feeling afloat, that, when it comes to the point the troops will not all prove steady; many little incidents show that a good understanding prevails between some of the soldiers of the line and the blouses. Some persons are yet sanguine that there will be no outbreak, as the military force must at once crush all resistance, and the people of Paris do not seem much inclined, at least in the fashionable quarters of the city, to re-enact a revolution of the barricades in favor of Socialism and terror. But the movement of troops in the suburbs in the south and east of the city furnish serious grounds for uneasiness, and no man can conjecture how far the daring violence of the Montagnards will carry them, and what scenes will be enacted at

Lyons and in the disaffected towns. The journals *Le Peuple*, *La Revolution Democratique et Sociale*, *Le Journal de la vraie Republique* and the *Reforme*, have all been seized for publishing the most violent appeals to the populace to take up arms, and it is plain to our minds that some terrible conflict must take place, either now or later, before anything like a settled government can be secured.

In continental affairs the invasion of Rome by the French, under the most flimsy and most perfidious pretences, attracts the attention of all Europe. After the rupture between M. Lesseps and the triumvirs, and the personal quarrel between the former and General Oudinot, the diplomatist having quitted the scene, the military commander was left uncontrolled to vindicate the honor of France against what M. Odillon Barrot calls "the insane resistance" of the Roman patriots. The Red Republican cause in Rome, which all men abhorred, has now become popular throughout Europe, and the gallant defence of the Romans, if carried out by common prudence, will be certain in the end to secure its well merited reward. M. Ledru Rollin is quite detested when he strives to make France a scene of civil war; but he is applauded by all men when he exposes the shameless policy which set on foot and carries on this sanguinary crusade against the liberties of the Roman people, struggling against spiritual despotism. General Oudinot, having got rid of M. Lesseps, broke the convention which the latter had signed, and advanced to the western suburbs of Rome, for the purpose of affecting an entrance by the gate St. Pancrazia. After a pretty sharp conflict, the Romans appear to have been overpowered and lost some prisoners, who were sent off to Corsica, but the French also suffered considerably, and only contrived to gain a precarious position in the suburbs of Corsini and Panfilii. Garibaldi was harassing the French the whole time, and very nearly turned the flanks of the assailants. The Romans made successive sorties, and notwithstanding all the stories we have heard that the Romans would yield at discretion, everything appears to indicate a determined resolution to resist the besiegers. It is plain from the despatches of the General dated the 5th and 6th of June, at Villa Santucci, that he has opened his trenches and regularly besieged the city. It is credibly stated that Oudinot occupies Monte Pincio, at the north of Rome, and thus commands the city; but this report is at variance with the statements made in the French tribune by the Ministers, which are to the effect that the French have not been again beaten, as Ledru Rollin gives out, but that they wait for a siege train to carry on their operations. It seems to us probable that the Romans will make a resolute resistance, and having gained some partial advantages, which have encouraged them, that they will shelter themselves behind their barricades and give the French a great deal of trouble. We have before us the most contrary reports: some announcing that the French had been disastrously beaten since the 5th, whilst the French profess to be conquerors. L. Rollin is evidently getting up a revolutionary diversion in favor of the Roman Republicans at Paris; and now this most disgraceful warfare has commenced, no man can conjecture when it will terminate. At any rate the whole affair will be an indelible reproach to the French nation, whilst the records of history exist. We have little authentic as to what progress the Austrians are making; we only know that Ancona is invested by sea and land; but it is scarcely to be believed that the Austrians and the French will be able to agree upon any defined course of policy which shall be equally satisfactory to the Pope, to the Neapolitians, the Tuscans, and the Italians. But the French must first take the city; we believe that many a Frenchman will find his grave in the suburbs of the Eternal City before that is accomplished; and when the French vandals occupy Rome with their troops, their trouble will be augmented tenfold, and General Oudinot, instead of gathering laurels, runs a frightful risk of being betrayed by those who have set him on. In Baden the revolutionary struggle is now in full play. The Prince of Prussia has left Berlin to take the command of the army of the Rhine, and the Baden, and Wurtemberg and Bavarian Democrats are preparing for a conflict. The military advanced guard, destined for the Palatinate, will evoke in Paris a serious excitement when approaching so close to the French frontier; and as we have no doubt that the insurrectionary movements in that circle of country have been concocted at Paris we may be prepared either for the whole being crushed by one en-