

European News.

Arrival of the Steamer Canada.

Willmer & Smith's European Times, June 23.

The singular step taken by the state prisoners in Dublin in refusing to be transported, but preferring to make a show of being ready to be hanged, in the hopes that they may escape altogether, has given rise to a very long debate in the House of Commons upon the declaratory bill, which has been brought into Parliament to solve any doubts which may be entertained on the point. The quotation we gave last week from Blackstone has been referred to, as decisive upon the subject; but the Irish lawyers argue that the privilege of the Crown, although it can pardon treason and felony conditionally in England, does not extend to Ireland, the Irish statute which specially confirms the power only mentioning *felony*. They argue that treason not being specially recited is not included; but none of them presume to assert that treason is not felony. Instead of straining the statute *in favorem vite*, the friends of Mr O'Brien demand the literal 'pound of flesh nearest his heart.' They insist upon his being hanged, and thus deprive our Queen of the privilege of extending mercy to Irish traitors, leaving the vengeance of the law to be wreaked upon them in its most unmitigated form and sentence. If English lawyers had argued upon the *legality* of such a proceeding as against the prisoners' lives, and not for the purpose of exercising clemency in their favor, what an awful outcry there would have been. As not the slightest doubt could be entertained upon the subject, except in the minds of those who are resolved not to be satisfied with any thing, it will be readily anticipated that the declaratory bill, after having readily passed the House of Lords, was read a first time last week in the Commons, and on Monday the second reading was carried by a majority of 179 to 19; the minority consisting of Mr Reynolds, Mr Anstey, and the extreme Irish members, Mr Grattan, Mr Scully, Mr Fox, Mr Lawless, and their party. Mr Roebuck appears to have deeply offended this section of the House, and upon this and several previous occasions altercations of a personal nature have arisen which have called for the interposition of the Speaker. The interchange of offensive expressions between Mr Roebuck and Mr Fox has, we see, almost led to a personal encounter out of doors, which we fear it will end in at no distant day, unless Mr Roebuck softens in some degree the asperity of his language and manner when speaking of Ireland and the Irish people. The charge of 'falsehood' has been retracted by Mr Roebuck, Mr Fox having retracted his expression that Mr Roebuck had been the 'advocate of rebels.' Before we go to press, it is possible that the royal assent will have been given to the bill, and the prisoners will doubtless be removed without delay to their ultimate place of destination across the seas. Indeed, Mr John Martin and Kevin Izod O'Doherty have already reached Cork, and have been placed on board the *Elphinstone* convict ship, which, it is understood, will wait the arrival of the other prisoners before she sails.

The weather has set in gloriously throughout all Ireland, and within these few days the reports of injury done to the potato plant have been hushed, and the damaged specimens, which have been hitherto so industriously paraded in public, appear to have been produced by local and accidental causes. All the accounts of the prospects of the harvest represent the growing crop as in a most flourishing condition, and a general course of low prices for agricultural produce is anticipated. The feeling which has prevailed in many quarters that in some parts of Ireland charitable donations of money might be judiciously given, without interfering with the working of the Irish Poor-law, and by these means save the lives of many families, has reached the highest quarters, and a private subscription has been opened, and the funds collected are to be entrusted to Count Sirzelecki to distribute. This gentleman, so well known for his exertions in the cause of charity in Ireland, will visit the most distressed unions, and will apply the funds contributed to the best of his judgment. Her Majesty the Queen has given £500 to the fund, and we see that Lord John Russell, Sir Charles Wood, Mr Labouchere, Sir F. Baring, Sir G. Grey, Sir J. Hobhouse, Mr Thos. Baring, Mr Rothschild, Mr Jones Loyd, Mr Gurney, and many others, have put down their names for £100 each, and nearly £3000 has already been collected. We do not perceive the name of a single Irishman in

the list, so that the reproach that Englishmen are deaf to the voice of charity when Ireland is concerned, ought surely never to proceed again from Mr John O'Connell or any of his countrymen. We wish the subscription had been opened at a public meeting, as doubtless the attention of many munificent individuals would have been called to the subject, and they would, no doubt, have cheerfully contributed to promote the Christian object which her Majesty has thus graciously sanctioned by her auspices and authority.

The formal debate on Canadian affairs, in the House of Commons, was closed too late last week to enable us to give the result. It will have been seen that Mr Gladstone brought the matter before the House, but, as usual, the right hon. gentleman argued about it and about it, without, however, removing one iota of the difficulties which surround the subject; and, indeed, after making as great a parade of opposition as he could about condemning Ministers, it was generally expected that he would go into the lobby with them, but it seems by the division list that Mr S. Herbert prevailed upon him to vote, which he did very reluctantly, in favor of Mr Herries' amendment. Mr Gladstone only called attention to the subject; but Mr Herries openly moved an amendment, directly advising the Crown to refuse its sanction to the Canada Indemnity Bill in question, until the list of claimants was thoroughly weeded of the names of all those who had taken part in the rebellion. A long debate ensued, in which all the circumstances of the dispute in Canada were recapitulated, but the main argument prevailed that a line cannot now be drawn with reference to Lower Canada which was not prescribed in the case of Upper Canada when the previous Indemnity Bill was passed.

Upon a division on the second evening a majority of 291 over 150 rejected the amendment of Mr Herries. The question was again mooted in the Upper House of Parliament on Tuesday evening. Lord Brougham, in a very elaborate speech, went over all the arguments which had previously been adduced unsuccessfully in the Commons, whereby it was aimed to reverse the system of representative government, and to prove that the minority in the legislature of Canada ought to be supported, and their views carried into effect in spite of a 'tyrant majority.' The efforts of Lord Brougham might have been disregarded, but that, to the general surprise of the House, Lord Lyndhurst re-appeared on this occasion on the scene of politics. His Lordship, in support of Lord Brougham's views, with undiminished vigor, delivered an able, argumentative, and effective speech, which, we fear, will create as much sensation in Canada as it did in the House of Peers, and which will not tend to pour oil on the troubled waters of the colony. The effect of this speech was to marshal a formidable opposition to the Ministers, who, upon a division, only carried their point by a majority of three, the numbers, including the proxies, being 99 to 96. It is, however, decisive of the question; and without seeking to dwell upon a subject, which necessarily must give pain to many parties whose feelings we respect, we think they must perceive, from the tone of the debate in both Houses, that all parties on this side cherish the connection which now so happily subsists between the mother country and the colony; and that no one entertains the idle belief that the sanction of the Crown to the Rebellion Losses Act, or, to speak more properly, its refusal to disallow it, can bring about any permanent differences between those whose interests are as identical with our own, as we are identical 'in race, in language, and in blood.'

France has again undergone a great political convulsion, and has once more subsided into apparent tranquillity. We were enabled in our last number to announce the general overthrow of the attempts of the Red Republicans to bring about a revolution in Paris, and the same success has attended the Government in Lyons, Bordeaux, Nantes, Toulouse, Rheims, and other towns; but at Lyons the suppression of the insurrection has been attended with a vast effusion of blood on both sides. The Government, however, has been overwhelmingly triumphant in all the places where rebellion has raised its head, and another chance is now afforded to the country of consolidating the Republic and of bringing forth the fruits of good Government. The effective steps taken by General Changarnier in the capital disconcerted and crushed the machinations of the chief plotters on the 13th instant. Ledru Rollin and his confederates were scripsed at the *Conservatoire des Arts*, where they met

to carry out their conspiracy, and the great leader has fled, and up to this moment has escaped capture. It is undoubtedly proved by the documents discovered, that the conspirators meditated a complete revolution, and the establishment of the Democratic and Social Republic. The President, his Ministers, and the majority of the Legislative Assembly, were to be placed *hors la loi*, and a list of proscriptions was prepared.—War was to be declared against Russia and Austria; the Bank of France was to be suppressed; and general plunder and confiscations were to be the order of the day. The ignorant sergeant Boichot was to be Minister of War, and Sergeant Rattier Commander-in-Chief, &c.; in short all the very dregs of the revolutionary party was to be raised to the surface. The whole of these schemes are demolished, and the principal conspirators, with the exception of Ledru-Rollin and Boichot, are in custody, and will be immediately brought to trial, under the authorisation of the Assembly. A state of siege has been declared; all the revolutionary journals have been rigorously suppressed; the clubs and all meetings are indicted by a law of the Assembly for the space of one year; and the Government seems resolved to exercise sufficient energy to suppress any future attempt to disturb the public peace. The Red Republican party in the Chamber, deprived of Ledru Rollin, seem struck with consternation, as no one of them is safe, but what some *pièce de conviction* may implicate him; accordingly the tone of daring and defiance of the Mountain is very much abated in the Chamber. At Lyons, in consequence of the forged news being circulated that Ledru Rollin was made Dictator in Paris that a Convention had been formed, and that Louis Bonaparte and his Government overthrown, the Lionnese collected at the *Croix Rousse*, and attacked the military in Lyons. The mob expected the troops to join them, in which they were woefully mistaken; but the rebels, having assembled at 5 o'clock on the morning of the 15th, took some of the military points at 8 o'clock, and the general battle commenced at 10. From that hour until sunset the musketry and cannon never ceased their terrible noise and execution, and the loss of life on both sides must have been very serious, since by the detailed accounts it will be seen that the people fought with desperate valor. The Lyonnese insurgents numbered, it is said, at least 20,000, but the mass of the inhabitants were opposed to the movement. The troops gained a complete victory, and Lyons is again quiet. When the news reached this city and the other towns where the rebels took up arms, that the insurrection at Paris had been completely quelled, and that the chief conspirators were arrested or had fled, the provincial accomplices perceived the uselessness of resistance to the authorities, and abandoned their desperate designs. If the insurrection had succeeded in Paris for 24 hours only, the organization of the plot seems to have been so extensive in all parts of France, that a frightful convulsion throughout the whole Republic must have taken place. Marshal Bugeaud has been buried with great pomp and solemnity, and it was remarked that all the great public men were present at the funeral, with the exception of General Cavaignac and M. Thiers. The death of the mother of the general, the wife of the great Conventionalist, from cholera, may have occasioned General Cavaignac's absence, but that of M. Thiers, the especial friend of the deceased marshal, is unaccountable. Paris, by the last accounts, is relapsing into its ordinary state; and the effectual repression of the late movement cannot fail to have a very sedative effect upon all the insurrectionary movements on the Rhenish frontiers, which we have repeatedly said were mainly promoted by the French propagandist party in Paris. An Austrian vessel, with 185 prisoners on board, from Trieste has reached Marseilles. It appears that these prisoners, chiefly Poles, were transported to New York; but, when out at sea forced the captain to proceed to Marseilles. The whole have been sent to Toulon for the present. It will be seen that notwithstanding all the various reports which are instilled so industriously into our minds by the French, that they had not succeeded in occupying Rome up to the morning of the 13th, when the bombardment would commence. This untoward war embarrasses the French Government; and no military success can ever wipe off the deep stain which the destruction of the precious monuments of Rome—the crushing of the brother Republicans—must ever fix upon the French nation. It is evident that the late insurrection has rallied round the Government the friends of

order of all influential men; party feeling is, therefore, suspended in the Legislative Assembly, the various sections waiting the upshot of events at Rome, before they make any political movement adverse to the ministry. The Mountain no longer bellows forth threats of annihilation to the Bonapartists. The leaders like Ledru Rollin and Boichot, may fall into the hands of justice, and until a new cast of characters is decided upon, the play is suspended.

The whole attention of Europe is fixed upon the extraordinary events now going on at Rome; and every hour we expect the report of the final bombardment of the Eternal City. Gladly would we cling to the hope that once more Rome may be delivered. May Heaven deliver the Romans from their friends—the French. The news we receive, filtered as it is through the French journals, is brought down to the 13th inst., up to which the Romans had maintained their position in the most heroic manner. The French had used cajolery, threats, and all the usual resources of a bad cause, but the Romans sternly resisted all these advances, and in the most dignified manner refused to yield to the insidious summonses to surrender issued by General Oudinot. There can be no doubt that very serious conflicts have taken place between the besiegers and the besieged, the details of which have not reached us in such an authentic shape as to enable us to judge of the probable result. But on the 11th a breach was effected by the French in the walls, and a portion of their troops entered the city. This report which was given out by the French, led to the belief that the struggle was over; but the fact appears to be that, on the 12th General Oudinot issued a letter to the Triumvirs, making a last appeal to them, and endeavoring to throw upon them the responsibility of the effusion of blood, consequent upon an assault, in the event of their refusal. Proclamations to the Roman people, with the aim of detaching them from the authority of the Triumvirs, have also been circulated, but all these efforts seem to be of no avail. To the appeal of General Oudinot, the guardians of the city—the Triumvirs of 1849—only reply in language which will furnish a brilliant page for a future Gibbon:—'In execution of the orders of the Assembly and of the Roman People, we have undertaken the engagements of defending the standard of the Republic, the honor of the country, and sanctity of the capital of the Christian world. *We will do so!*' This noble reply was to be answered by a bombardment on the 16th, and every moment we look for the intelligence of the issue of the affair; which, however it may end, in a military point of view, cannot fail to be productive of very serious political consequences. The Abbe Paleotti has been sent by the Pope to Louis Napoleon, with a letter remonstrating against the monstrous attack upon Rome by the French. If his Holiness refuses to sanction the shameful intervention of the French in his affairs, what pretext can Louis Napoleon's Ministers put forth, except that of undisguised ambition, for this unprecedented assertion of 'the legitimate influence' of France in Italy. In the German states bordering the Rhine, where a general insurrection is going on, the Prussians have now advanced, and a furious struggle has taken place at Manheim, the results of which we scarcely know. Each party claims the victory, but it shows that the insurgents must be in very great strength to be able to cope in any way with the Prussian and German troops. On the 16th Manheim was in the hands of the insurgents, and Mieroslawsky had proclaimed a state of siege; and on anniversary of the battle of Waterloo a great and perhaps decisive battle was expected to take place. We anticipate that the failure of the insurrection in Paris will bring about a speedy issue of this widely spread insurrection in Bavaria, Baden, and all the Rhenish provinces. It is, however, now at its height. The German Parliament is said at this moment to be reduced to the extremity of holding its sittings at a riding school at Stuttgart; having been driven from the alehouse where they were wont to assemble. From Austria, and Hungary the news is again more stirring. The Austrian and Russian armies seem now to be on the advance, with a view to crush the whole of the Hungarian insurrection. This chief movement is, on the other hand, cast in doubt by the reported defeat of the Austrians near the Neusidel lake but we still fear that the combined operations of the allies will be irresistible whatever gallant resistance the Hungarians may offer. A battle is said to have taken place at Reppagne on the 13th inst., on the banks of the Waag.