

## European News.

## Arrival of the Steamer America.

Willmer & Smith's European Times,  
June 9.

As the season for gathering in the potato crop in Ireland approaches, we are inundated with reports of the recurrence of the fatal disease which for the last four years has spread so much misery in that country by the destruction of the people's food. We can perfectly understand how it is that, with the experience of past years, all parties interested in the culture of the soil, especially those who pertinaciously adhere to their favorite root, should watch with the minutest attention the various phenomena constantly exhibited in the ever changing appearances of a field of cereal produce or of potatoes. But, notwithstanding the indications of the re-appearance of the disease, so studiously set forth in many Irish journals, we are satisfied that it is yet much too early to sound the alarm of danger. In preceding years we have always had to wait till August before competent persons ventured to pronounce that the mischief actually existed; we, therefore, writing in the early part of June, must decline to admit the existence of any positive danger, unless it comes to us in a more authenticated shape than we find it at present. In the immediate neighborhood of Dublin there might exist some partial blights, but generally, throughout the country, our reports up to this time represent the prospects to be satisfactory, and the prevailing beautiful weather must tend to promote a healthy vegetation in every district in the three kingdoms. The frightful story of cannibalism, to which we alluded last week as having taken place near Ballingrobe, turns out to be not only a misrepresentation, but a perversion of a fact which took place so late as last November. The whole tale, founded upon the not very creditable conduct of some poor but not destitute Irishman, is not worth alluding to, except to condemn the habit which prevails of getting up these spicy details just to feed the appetite of some part of the public for such horrible fables, and to worry the Government into paying more money to the Irish under pleas of distress, which turn out to be, when investigated, almost altogether untrue. We have a repetition of the alarm about cholera in Dublin, but we believe the existence of the disease is limited to the very worst localities. Whilst, however, the mortality is frightful in many districts, especially in the workhouses, we see that that sapient legislator, Lord Mountcashel, recommends that the workhouses should not be made too comfortable for the destitute, lest everybody should be seized with a desire to enter within those dreary and fatal walls; the whole of the western provinces seem to be in a most deplorable condition. Society is utterly disorganised. The landlord is paying "rack rates" instead of receiving "rack rents." The clergy is suffering silently but most deeply, and the difficulty to procure the services of disinterested persons who will administer the limited relief afforded by Government increases daily. It is, we believe, the utter impossibility which exists to find parties who will honestly distribute the funds entrusted to their care, that prevents Government from proposing further charitable grants, which only corrupt whole classes without rendering any permanent benefit to the recipients. Evictions continue to a great extent, with a corresponding amount of emigration. Political excitement is, however, extinct, and the repeal party seems plunged into the most profound apathy. The final decision of the Lord Lieutenant respecting the disposal of the state prisoners was communicated on Tuesday, to the memorialists who have interested themselves in their behalf. Whilst their motives of humanity are appreciated, the crime of the gallity, his Excellency says, cannot be lost sight of, but the Government, "in the performance of its duty, can have no other desire than that justice should be administered without any severity beyond that which the interest of society demands." Accordingly the Governor of Richmond Bridewell has received a notification that the sentence of death which has been passed has been commuted to transportation for life, and it is expected that Messrs. Smith O'Brien, Meagher, McManus, and O'Donoghue, will be immediately removed to a penal settlement.

The proceedings in Parliament during the week have been of a highly interesting and practical character. The Miscellaneous Estimates, the Scylla and Charibdis of the ministry, through which they had to steer, Mr Hentley and Colonel Sit-

thorpe threatening them with destruction on one side, and Mr Cobden and Mr Bright on the other, have been safely passed with greater majorities than heretofore. In fact the indiscreet opposition of well-intentioned, but not well-informed, parties out of doors has rallied round the Ministers a more united party than they had before to support them. The whole of the miscellaneous votes were passed without a single alteration. Lord John Russell has fixed the 15th inst. for the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement, 'ycleped the "Budget." The Encumbered Estates' Bill has been read a third time and passed in the Commons, the opponents of the bill being on the last division only 12. Mr Gladstone has given notice that on Thursday next he will bring forward a motion respecting the late events in Canada, Lord John Russell having given a pledge that in the meantime nothing should be done to prejudice the present position of the Rebellion Losses Bill. Sir Robert Inglis, the member for Oxford, a consistent ultra-Tory, but highly respected by all parties both in the House and in the country, has called the attention of the House to the exemplary conduct of the American Government in reference to the expedition which they have so nobly determined to send forth in search of our countryman, Sir John Franklin. Mr Hume, who has recovered from his late illness, brought forward on Tuesday his annual motion for a reform in Parliament, by extending the suffrage to all householders, by adopting the ballot, triennial Parliaments, and electoral divisions. The "four points" of the charter in fact. On the division the Reformers mustered 82, against 268; and thus this motion is put off for another year.

The weekly returns of the Bank of England and Bank of France furnish but slender materials for comment, the relative positions of the two institutions being of the ordinary character. Money continues about the same value; if there is any difference, the rate of discount is the least shade higher. The close of the war in the Punjab has emboldened the East India Directors to give the stipulated notice of one year for the reduction of the interest of their bonds from 4½ to 3½ per cent., viz., from the 3rd June, 1850. As the Russians never make any military movements without requiring a loan, a negotiation for borrowing 50 millions of silver roubles is said to be in progress. The Baden insurgents have stopped the passage of the Rhine for merchandise, and a large quantity is detained at Mannheim. We should hope that the Danish war would be at once concluded now that the Frankfurt Assembly is dispersed, but that the court of Prussia seems so irresolute in its policy. Every one declaims against the continuance of the blockade, but day after day passes without any perceptible progress in the peaceful negotiations which have been so long going on. The news from New Orleans has strengthened our Cotton market, and the commercial news from India, with a prospect of extended markets in that quarter, have revived the hopes of desponding manufacturers.

An Overland Mail has brought intelligence from Bombay to the 1st of May. All the excitement of war has relaxed once more into a state of profound peace, and the great army of the Punjab has been distributed in strong detachments over the whole country, taking up their quarters in the strongest positions, and preparing for the hot season. Sir Charles Napier has reached Calcutta, where he proceeded to be sworn in. Sir Wilfrid Cotton, commander-in-chief at Bombay has resigned his command, rather than serve under Sir Charles Napier, his junior as a lieutenant-general. Sir H. Lawrence is appointed president of the Board of administration for the affairs of the Punjab, with two other junior members and a secretary. Five other commissioners, together with nineteen deputy-commissioners, and twenty-six assistant-commissioners, are also appointed to watch over the affairs of the newly-acquired territory. We see Major H. B. Edwards' name amongst the deputy-commissioners. Major General Gilbert has taken leave of the troops under his command in an admirable address. Shere Singh and Chuttur Singh have been sent to Attaree, where they are directed to reside, and to keep themselves within certain limits under the pain of severe punishment. But the surveillance thus imposed upon them does not seem of a very rigorous nature, and we fully expect that they will escape as soon as the whole affair has blown over, and that they get a little tired of their captivity. It will be seen that our reports from the Indian commercial markets continue to be satisfactory.

Our continental news this week continues to be of the greatest interest, but there is a pause in the predominant events at Rome, in Germany and Hungary, obviously caused by the suspended policy of France which awaits further impulse, according as the elements of executive power shall resume their active influence. It is mere waste of words to describe the position of the war in the Danish Duchies. Not a day passes but we have some reports that hostilities have been suspended, but the next only brings corroborative proof of the unhappy protraction of a deadly warfare, in which it is quite clear that the strength of the Germans is not put forth; neither do the Danes exercise, to the full extent, their belligerent rights. Whilst some of our contemporaries congratulate their readers that partial indulgencies are afforded to some classes of vessels, we think the uncertainty which prevails far more prejudicial to the fair trader; and merchants at a distance are especially the sufferers. If the King of Prussia has not the power to do what is right, let him appeal to those who will aid him. We have no hopes, as we have always said, of a definitive conclusion of this disgraceful war until the Germans are told authoritatively that they are wholly in the wrong. The Frankfurt Assembly, since our last, has voted that it should transfer its proceedings to Stuttgart in Wurttemberg. By this transference of its revolutionary influence, it is hoped that Baden, Wurttemberg, Rhenish Bavaria, and all that circle of country, may erect a little republic, *a la Francaise*. The thing is too transparent for the merest tyro in politics to be deceived as to its character. It is the work of the Paris propagandists. — but until it is seen how far M. Ledru Rollin's influence extends in the Legislative Assembly, it is premature to anticipate results. But as M. Ledru Rollin pulls the strings in Paris, his puppet in Germany will set the elements of mischief in motion, unless the King of Prussia shows a little more spirit, and crushes the whole movement. We have a new constitution, promulgated by the Prussian, Saxon, and Hanoverian Governments, in which the principle of universal suffrage is curtailed. When once a great nation sets to work at constitution making, it is difficult to say when it will stop. The present attempt inspires but little confidence; and there is an irresolution on the part of Prussia, which can only be accounted for by some secret superior influence being at work, of which we know little or nothing. The war in Hungary has assumed no new shape. General Weldon has been removed from old age, and General Haynau has been appointed as his successor. The castle at Holitz on the Hungarian frontier, is being prepared to receive the Emperors of Austria and Russia; and Prince Paskiewitch will command the united Austrian forces in the north east of Hungary, whilst Haynau will carry on operations in the west. Since Buda fell into the hands of the Hungarians, no important event has occurred likely to have a permanent influence on the result of the campaign, but we expect every day to hear of some tremendous battle between the belligerents. In the meantime the Austrians have pushed forward to the siege of Venice. Maighera has fallen after a frightful carnage; and by the last accounts Venice was closely invested on all sides, and the bombardment of that once mighty city was going on, the operations being directed by Marshal Radetsky himself. It was said that the inhabitants of Venice were merely passive, but that strangers within the city kept up the resistance. — We have a report that the King of Sardinia, son of Charles Albert, has placed his squadron at the disposal of the Hungarians; but we can hardly believe that such a step would be taken so hostile to the Austrians who have so lately spared Piedmont. A Spanish squadron has left Barcelona for Gweta, to be placed at the orders of the Pope; whilst on the other hand, the Neapolitan well beaten by Garibaldi, have retired within their own dominions. In the neighborhood of Rome matters continue in the same position. — General Oudinot, indeed, has moved his troops close to the city, so as to avoid the low grounds where malaria prevails; but although we are told that he would bombard Rome on the 30th May, we shall not credit anything of the kind, until we hear of such a monstrous act having been perpetrated; Ancona has been bombarded by the Austrians, and the hostages held have been given up. From all accounts it seems clear that the Romans, by means of barricades, and their natural defences, will resist to the death the assault of the French. Tuscany and Parma seem to be settling down into tranquillity, the people having to pay the penalty of an unsuccessful revolt.

An amnesty has been granted for all political offences committed in the island of Sardinia. Tranquillity is restored in Sicily.

France has not greatly advanced during the week towards a more settled state of things. It is true that we have at last the formation of a new Ministry, which will be seen is the same as before, with the exception of three important names. M. Dufaure supplants Leon Faucher as Minister of the Interior, M. Tocqueville replaces Drouyn de l'Huys as Foreign Minister, and M. Lanjuinais takes M. Buffet's portfolio as Minister of Commerce. Marshal Bugeaud takes no part in the change. It is plain that the new list is intended to conciliate all parties, but the irreconcilable opinions of several members of the new administration render it impossible that it can be of long duration. Indeed, from the moment it was announced last Saturday, it has been in daily jeopardy, and it is difficult to conceive that it can hold together with a resolute body of 240 Red Republicans in the Chamber breathing nothing but defiance. We have not had more than one repetition of the tumultuous scene of last week in which M. Ledru-Rollin figured so conspicuously; but upon M. Dopin taking his seat as President, to which dangerous honor he has been elected, the Red Republicans interrupted his brief inauguration speech with murmurs and exclamations; and if they presume to act thus to their President, it is evident how they will behave when their passions are wrought up. If, however, the Red Republicans are prepared for personal violence, many of the Legitimists are no less so; and some of the bravest men of the old dynasty in the chamber, soldiers and known duellists, have bodily taken their seats in the midst of the Mountain, bearing them in their strongest places. The preliminary business has been pretty well got through, but from day to day excessive disappointment has been felt at the non-appearance of the President's speech. The necessity of reconsidering it after the arrangements of the new Ministry, has doubtless been the cause of the delay, but it has weakened their power and influence, and has given rise to the most prejudicial reports. Pending its appearance the French public were for twenty-four hours shocked by the report that the mind of M. Desseps, the French Envoy at Rome, had given way, and that he had become deranged, but his appearance the following day in Paris dispelled the alarm of his friends. The impossible task which he had been deputed to perform, at peril of his life perhaps, gave rise to the monstrous report; and we most sincerely rejoice that so amiable a man has not fallen another victim to French diplomacy, when seeking to obtain by unfair means a "legitimate influence" in Italy. In fact all the endeavors made to hoodwink the Republicans of Rome have failed; and in spite of the threats held out that General Oudinot will bombard the Eternal City, as the only mode whereby the disgraceful discomfiture of the French can be retrieved, we cannot believe it possible that Oudinot will dare to attempt such an outrage, especially as the Romans may defeat him a second time from behind their barricades, and moreover, the Legislative Assembly may bring him to account for daring to disobey the orders of the national Assembly. In fact, until the policy of the newly constituted Chamber is declared, we doubt whether any material progress will be made by any of the belligerents in either the north, the east, or the south of Europe. The long expected President's message to the Assembly was published in the *Moniteur* and other Paris papers on Thursday morning. We give elsewhere a translation of this document in full. It is easy to see that it will not please the Opposition. — The affair of the intervention in Italy is vaguely glossed over, and has evidently been an embarrassing subject to the President. Our space, at the late hour we received it, however, prevent us making any further comment this week. The Paris papers furnish details of the intrigues which have been going on during the ministerial crisis. The jealousy of the great public men is on a par with that exhibited in the worst periods of history. The present Ministry cannot endure. Mr Proudhon, proprietor of *Le Peuple*, recently convicted of libel had been arrested. The cholera was carrying off many illustrious persons, and the heat of the weather was alarming.

Within the past week there has been a further improvement in business generally. The Produce markets, which are well supplied, have been well attended, and a good amount of business transacted at steady rates. Although holders have in some instances accepted rather lower