

European News.

Arrival of the Steamer America.

Willmer & Smith's European Times,
July 28.

We begin to hope that Ireland has touched the extreme depth of her misery, and that henceforth it will be our more pleasing task to announce her gradually improving condition. As the potato becomes available as food for the distressed myriads who have so long lingered "dying daily" upon out-door relief, they, who have survived the terrible calamity of the last four years, are now blessed with sufficient food to maintain life, and the decrease of the numbers receiving the bread of charity is already perceptible. There may be some partial recurrence of the potato disease in certain localities, but the early sowing, and present advanced growth of the root, preclude any material danger in a national point of view. A good deal of rain has fallen, but up to this time we should judge that it would be rather beneficial than otherwise, provided a dry, warm August succeeds. The Queen's visit, which will take place next week, will shed a further gleam of prosperity over the country, and great preparations are being made to give her Majesty a suitable reception. Parliament, to the neglect of other business, is still occupied with Irish affairs; scarcely an evening passing without some measure or some long debate encroaching upon the time of the House. Mr. Horsman's complaints that Ministers had done so little were thus eloquently disposed of by Mr. Sheil. "The wounds of Ireland cannot be healed, excepting by the hand by which they were inflicted. By successive plenty, successive famine must be counteracted; the earth must bring forth her increase; the prayer with which our deliberations are preceded must be granted; Ireland must teem with fertility again; the mysterious and sightless influences, by which one of the finest Islands in the sea has been three times blasted, must be inhibited; and before any great good can be accomplished by human legislation, by the great lawgiver of the world a preliminary mercy must be shown." We scarcely need the eloquence of a Sheil to convince of this.

We only trust that the manifestations of returning plenty will be fully realised, and that an abundant harvest will once again place Ireland in a position to regain her shattered strength. Government have resolved, it appears, that political agitation shall not mar the prospect. A report is current that the Stamp authorities have refused to register the proposed new series of the *Nation* newspaper, or to supply the necessary stamps. An old ante-union act authorises this refusal, and protects the Postmaster-General if he declines to forward the obnoxious journal through the Post-office. A strict investigation into the affair at Dolly's Brae has been instituted by Government, and a semi-official opinion has been pronounced that the processions, which led to the fatal affray, are beyond a doubt illegal. Not a word is said by any parties respecting the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act, which expires on the 1st September next.

An Overland Mail from India has arrived, but the intelligence is wholly without interest. Arrangements are being carried out for the government of the Punjab, and the instructions given to the new commissioners appear judicious, and well adapted to conciliate the Sikhs, who have suffered so much by the late change. The Governor-General and Lord Gough were at Simla. The Saitara State was about being annexed to the British dominions, and all the steps taken to provide a proper Government. The celebrated merchant, Jeejeebhoy Dadaboy, of Bombay, the oldest, wealthiest, and most respected of its inhabitants had died since the departure of the last mail. The news from China, which is up to the 25th May from Hong Kong, reports that all is quiet, and the late excitement a good deal subsided. The brokers at Canton were subscribers to a new Consol Fund, applicable to purposes hostile to foreign intercourse. This fund existed in the time of the East India Company's charter. The Governor of Macao was still at issue with the Chinese authorities; a good deal of piracy still prevailed in the outer waters.

We regret to state that the alarming accounts of the continued ravages of the cholera in the United States, are but an echo of similar mortality on this side. In the two last weeks we reported the deaths from cholera, in the metropolitan

districts, as severally 152 and 339; in the last week they have risen to 678, the ordinary weekly average being but 8.—The total increase of mortality during that period, viz., from 1070 and 1369 to 1741, is ascribed to cholera alone. From the 13th to the 23rd of July, both inclusive, in London the deaths were 721; in England and Wales, 1036; in Scotland, 41; the total attacks being 4329. On the 25th July the official report for London and its vicinity gave 311 attacks, but only 64 deaths; in all England and Wales, 270 attacks, and 101 deaths; in Scotland, 19 attacks and 12 deaths, making a total of 600 attacks and 177 deaths; which, compared with the preceding day, presents a much less alarming result.—From these accounts, which we are quite satisfied do not report truly one-half the actual cases which occur, it would appear that the disease is now alarmingly prevalent, and a good deal of anxiety is shown in the public prints, which teem with reports of inquiries, and suggestions for the cure of this frightful epidemic. From the south coast we think the reports are more favorable. The disease, however, continues its fatal course at Portsmouth, Plymouth, and along the coast, but the effects are not so destructive; and at Bristol it seems checked by the energetic proceedings of the magistracy. In Wales it still prevails, especially at Merthyr Tydvil; the total cases from the commencement have been 1288—died 499. In the surrounding districts it is even more fatal. In Scotland it is evident the return of the disease has not been so destructive as the first visitation. In Manchester there have been several cases, but there and at Chorlton the cases do not exceed a dozen or so in each place. In our own town, we are sorry to say that the mortality is again on the increase, the deaths in the week being 640, against 463 the previous week; whilst in the corresponding week of last year there were 197 deaths. The rate of mortality is now higher by 100 than during the rage of the fever in 1847. Dr. Majendie, the celebrated Paris physician, has come to London to confer with the faculty there, and compare their experiences; but science seems quite at fault as to the origin and treatment of cholera, and the specific remedy for the disease is yet one of the great desiderata of medical research. Every day the most contradictory speculations on the subject appear. The weather has become comparatively cold and rainy, and the mean temperature has decreased by at least 6 degrees, compared with the preceding week. In the neighboring countries of Europe the malady seems greatly on the decline.

A great popular feeling is evidently collecting strength throughout England in favor of the Hungarians. The subject has been formally brought before Parliament in an admirable speech by Mr. B. Osborne, and a most enthusiastic meeting has been held at the London Tavern, in the metropolis, having for its object a deep expression of sympathy with the efforts made by the Hungarians, for the achievement of their independence, and an invitation to the English Ministers of the Crown to recognise the *de facto* government of Hungary. It is certainly a curious anomaly to see such peace loving men as Mr. Alexander and Mr. Cobden inveighing against Russian despotism and Austrian cruelty, and egging on Lord Palmerston to interfere in some effectual manner, so as to accomplish the object of their wishes. Mr. Alexander, one of the most influential of the Society of Friends, goes as far as he dares in urging an appeal to arms, ending his speech however, by declaring his abhorrence of standing armies; and Mr. Cobden, the ardent champion of free trade, threatens a crusade against the banker who dares to lend money to the Russian despot to enable him to carry on the war. Well might Mr. David Salomons, who occupied the chair, smile at these pardonable aberrations; since he well knows that a chief member of the House of Rothschild is now at Vienna, the avowed object of his journey being some such arrangement as is here denounced. However the war may end, as brought about by foreign aid, it must inflict a deep wound on the fabric and frame of the Austrian empire; and, therefore, we think every sensible and sincere lover of liberty will agree with Lord Palmerston, in devoutly wishing that this great contest may be brought to a termination by some amicable arrangement between the contending parties, which shall, on the one hand, satisfy the national feelings of the Hungarians, and, on the other, not leave to Austria another and a larger Poland within their dominions. Animated by these sentiments, which we believe will be shared by many reflecting liberal men, Lord Palmerston may be safely entrusted with the

guidance of the reins of power. Whilst he his steadily promoting British interests, he will not at the same time shut his eyes to the stealthy policy of Russia, but will seize every opportunity to advance the cause of constitutional liberty in Europe, and extend the sphere of our commercial relations. We intended to allude to the part which France is playing in this great theatre of war, but cannot afford further space; merely throwing out the hint that Louis Napoleon, who has sent General Lamoriciere as ambassador to St. Petersburg, is suspected of being more desirous of strengthening his own position as an imperial sovereign, than of giving aid and sympathy to the brave Hungarians. If this proves correct, he is building his house upon sand, and it will fall. Our own impression is, that Lord Palmerston is not sincerely supported by the Ministers of Louis Napoleon on this question. A numerous body of Poles have been summarily expelled from Paris, and the general aspect of French policy is not satisfactory. We have got through the difficulty and dangers of Red Republicanism, and peace is generally preserved; our dread of Imperialism fills us with far greater apprehensions.

When the French revolution burst out suddenly last year, and a Republic was as suddenly established, our intimate knowledge of the French people led us to predict that such a form of government was wholly unsuitable to the genius of the people, who during many centuries have left the executive and legislative authority in the hands of their monarch, rarely exercising any control over the great state machine. The French passed through successive dangers; but, even with universal suffrage and despotic Constituent Assemblies, they made no progress in the art of governing themselves; the executive really performed all the functions of government; and after two miserable failures in attempting to establish a working system, the people by a vast majority elected Louis Napoleon to the Presidency, a man of limited capacity, but notoriously wedded to imperial tastes and prejudices. The natural consequences of these inclinations on the part of the prince and the people are fast developing themselves. The Roman Republicans have been crushed by an army of 50,000 men; and the Red Republicans in Paris having been crippled, if not crushed, on the 13th of June, it only remains to follow up the victory and declare the Republic at an end by the elevation of Louis Napoleon to the imperial diadem. We cannot take up a French journal but we find these speculations continually recurring. We find Louis Napoleon buying golden opinions from all the moderate classes, who are disgusted and wearied with the sad incidents of the last 18 months. He distributes eagles; decorates vain men with the legion of honor; harangues corporations in terms redolent with imperial condescension; he visits all the great cities in order to increase his popularity; and whilst he is thus paving the way to the throne at home, he is, we are afraid, throwing the whole weight of the influence of France abroad into the scale of that which was formerly well known as the Holy Alliance of the despotic powers of Europe. If there be any foundation for these serious suspicions, we need not point out how pregnant with alarm for the future fate of France and of Europe all the passing events become. The Legitimists on the one hand, and the Red Republicans on the other, will scarcely allow Louis Napoleon to seize the imperial dignity without some struggle. But in the present temper of the French, who view with perfect indifference the struggle in Hungary, and the extraordinary events which have occurred and are occurring in Italy, no man can be so rash as to predict whether they will quietly and submissively bow the head to the imperial yoke, or whether, by another sudden fit of political frenzy, they will hurl the pretender from the position he has reached, and extinguish him and all his hopes by another counter-revolution. Whilst these events are unfolding themselves the Legislature is occupied with party struggles, and with the laws on the press. M. Thiers has made a telling speech upon this question, of a very conservative character. It is, however, gratifying to perceive that he expresses unequivocally a desire to cultivate the friendship and alliance of England, and the Montagnards betray no unfriendly feeling towards us. These are encouraging features; and our bitterest enemies cannot but admit that England has acted in the most disinterested manner throughout the whole of the events which have convulsed all Europe. We perceive that the national guards in various departments are being

disarmed and disbanded; and vigorous measures are taken against the Socialists wherever they attempt to disturb the public peace. Eighty Poles have been ordered to quit Paris in 24 hours, and all France in three days. Commissaire has been arrested, and will be brought to trial with his co-conspirators. The soldiers who were condemned to death for resisting Bichot's arrest, have had their sentence confirmed by the Superior Council. The President continues to amuse himself with grand receptions at his palace, whilst a good deal of distress seems still to prevail in the community, bankruptcies amongst the middle classes being more numerous than ever. We can scarcely bring ourselves to believe that all danger of change has passed by, when five of the great capitals of Europe, Paris, Vienna, Berlin, Rome, and Naples are still in a state of siege, subject to military law.

A crisis seems again to be approaching in continental politics, which we hope will pass over without mischief. In spite of the objections of a large section of the Danish cabinet, the armistice, signed at Berlin, has been ratified; and, although the Schleswigers make a show of great resistance, and stoutly refuse to be bound by the terms stipulated, it is probable that they will see the necessity of yielding to circumstances. Holstein seems equally averse to the terms prescribed, but Prussia is now tired of the war, and is desirous to patch up a definitive treaty, and will, perhaps, do so, unless the scene changes in Germany, in which case all the dispute will be revived in its pristine vigor. The armistice being agreed upon for some months, leaves ample time for the passions to cool down; let us hope that circumstances in Europe will eventually favor a final pacification. The fortress of Rastadt surrendered on the 23rd July, and the prince of Prussia entered the place with two regiments. So far the elements of mischief seem quieted, but the Hungarian war is being waged with undiminished ferocity and vigor.—We find it hopeless to describe the military operations; but, from all accounts which we have seen, we believe that a great battle has been fought with the Hungarian division, under Georkey, on the 17th, at Waitzen, with the Russians; and if the Hungarian has not gained a battle, certainly he has punished the Russians very severely, and has probably cut through their lines, and marched towards Tokay. Whilst these operations were going on, which, however fatal they may have been to both sides, appear quite indecisive of the campaign, it appears certain that the treacherous Jellachich, the Ban of Croatia, has been defeated and driven over the Danube into Syrmia. Baron Haynau is gone with the 3rd division to his support, whilst Generals Grabbe and Schlick remain at the siege of Comorn. As the accounts come from Vienna, and are of a Russian origin, we are led to hope that the Hungarians so far have gained the advantage; and if they can hold their position at Waitzen, where Dembinski has replaced Georkey, it is not sanguine to believe that they may beat the Imperialists and Russians after all. The accounts from Transylvania, coming through Constantinople, we do not rely upon, but the Russian General Luders must be very successful, if he gains any permanent advantage in that quarter. A letter from Bern asserts positively that he has beaten the Russians. Austria is exerting all her energies to compass her objects. Venice holds out gloriously; and if the Hungarians should gain a decisive battle over the allies, a new leaf in the history of Europe will be opened. Whilst writing, we learn that the French Government has received telegraphic intelligence of the treaty of peace between Piedmont and Austria being definitively signed. This removes a great cause for uneasiness. The affairs of Italy remain in *stagnation*. The Pope still continues at Gaeta, but, beyond the fact that he will remain there till after the *acouchement* of the Queen of Naples, nothing seems known. It is said that he will afterwards proceed to Rome, in the full and unrestricted possession of both temporal and spiritual authority. With the present feeling throughout Europe, we can scarcely believe that such an insane attempt will be made; but when we reflect upon the general unanimity which prevails upon the subject in the breasts of all the Catholic princes of Europe, Russia included, and that, perhaps, England alone will venture to point out the indiscretion of once more irritating the Roman people to resistance, by persisting in re-establishing the power of the cardinals, we begin to despair of seeing a rational, popular Government erected at Rome.