

News of the Week.

EUROPE.

PRUSSIA.—*Berlin, Aug. 23.*—The day before yesterday the King held a very brilliant parade of the troops of the garrison, Unter den Linden, the field day that had been ordered for the previous day at the Kreuzburg, having been necessarily countermanded on account of the bad weather; and yesterday all the troops of the Garde-corps marched out from here at an early hour for the purpose of a field manoeuvre, which will last to the 29th or 30th. On these occasions the men get a taste of the agreements of a bivouac, having to pass the night in the open air without tents or any other accommodation that an army on the march can be supposed to carry with it. In addition to the Prince of Prussia, who arrived here in time for the parade on Thursday, the Hereditary Grand Duke of Tuscany and Prince Charles of Bavaria were in the brilliant retinue that followed the King as he rode down the lines, and surrounded him at the saluting point, which, as usual, was chosen in front of the statues of Blucher, Gneisenau, and York.

The affair of the Prussian corvette Danzig with the Riff pirates has given rise to several instances of conjectural politics prematurely developed; it is affirmed in many organs of the press that this government has already made application to ours for a plan of co-operation against these piratical wreckers, and various regiments of Jagers are already indicated as those selected for the expedition. From Paris also the news has been received here of a Prussian Note having been delivered there requesting the co-operation of France also. It is believed that all these and similar statements are unfounded, and that no steps of any sort will be taken in the matter here until after the return hither of Prince Adalbert. The accounts which have been received of the sympathy and respectful consideration shown in Gibraltar for those who feel on this occasion have been a great source of satisfaction to all, and it is to be hoped for the credit of Prussia, that those in power will gladly avail themselves of this admirable opportunity of reasserting an active part in the community of European interests, of obtaining from the Chambers an increased vote towards the erection of an adequate marine force, and wiping out on this unimpeachable field of maritime usefulness the stigma which, deservedly or undeservedly, Prussia's compulsory inaction in the late grand conflict has thrown upon her. But if the course to be taken be put to the vote of the Berliners, whose calibre has no opening for generous feelings for the common weal, or for the patriotic emotions attributed to Prussians generally, all further attempts against such rough customers as the Riffs would be kept strictly in obedience and (pour encourager les autres) Prince Adalbert would be brought to a court-martial for risking the good ship Danzig. It must also be admitted, in mitigation of the paltriness of the current feeling here on the subject, that, assuming prudence to be the better part of valour (which is very characteristic of this place), Prince Adalbert only exhibited the inferior portion of that virtue.

Some particulars have been received at the attempts made by a Prussian subject, backed by the Prussian Consul in Egypt, to resist the Viceroy's plan of making the navigation of the Nile a monopoly for the advantage of a favoured few. It appears that, shortly after his attaining his Viceroyalty, Said Pacha conferred on certain favourites the exclusive privilege of forming a company for the steam navigation of the Nile; these parties sold their privilege to divers merchants in Alexandria for 2,250*l.*, and these latter at once brought out a company the shares of which were all greedily bought up in a fortnight. Attention being hereby drawn to the circumstances under which this company claimed the exclusive right of navigating the Nile in future, numerous protests were published against the power claimed by the Viceroy to confer on others a privilege which was not even vested in himself; and among the protestants the most numerous and energetic were English merchants, but whose efforts were paralysed by the untoward circumstance, that our Consul-General at Alexandria differed from them in opinion, and upheld the Viceroy's claim. Inquiries made by various parties received for answer, that the government would not allow any private person to ply a steamer along the Nile, and that every precaution would be taken both at Damietta and at Rosetta to prevent any attempt of the kind. On this a Prussian, of the name of Loffler, purchased a steamer for the purpose of bringing the question of right to an issue, and steamed and towed from Cairo to Alexandria under the Prussian flag; but on his arrival there the angry remonstrances of the directors of the embryo privileged company prevailed on Said Pacha to forbid him expressly to continue his excursions, and to give strict orders to all authorities concerned to prevent his passage by force. Under these circumstances there was no alternative left but to yield as regarded the trips of the steamer but Baron von Penz, the Prussian Consul-General there, has delivered in a formal protest to the Viceroy, and forwarded a statement of the case to Herr von Wildenbruck, at Constantinople, with the request that he will move the Sultan to command, Said Pacha in future to permit every European to navigate the Nile and the canals of the country without let or hindrance. And thus the matter rests at present.

ITALY.—Another puerile and foolish demonstration, like that of Massa Carrara, was made

one day last week, in the Maremma of Tuscany, by about thirty young men from Genoa, disciples of Mazzini, who landed near Orbitello, but they were speedily dispersed, and some of them arrested by a picket of Tuscan gendarmes.

Under date of Turin, Aug. 24, the Italian commissioner of the Daily News writes:—The subscription for the guns of Alexandria goes on merrily in Piedmont. The merchants and those engaged in commerce look forward with sorrow, but determined resolution, to what is about to occur, and we may therefore witness the beginning of a bloody and long war before the 1st of January, 1857. Surely there must be some method of preventing this sad war, of which no one alive can calculate the end. Some attempts ought to be made. Parliament is not sitting, so no questions can be asked, but still public opinion can do much. Let Lord Normanby be recalled, and thus the Austrians will have positive proof that his lordship does not speak the opinion of Britain, and if general subscriptions of a few shillings and pence for the defence of Piedmont were set a-going all over England, Austria would not dare to move. We see the youth of France is now stirring in favour of Italy. While speaking of this common subscription, I must warn the public of an Austrian or Mazzinian subscription which has been organised to interfere with the patriotic subscription. They are trying to raise cash to buy 10,000 firelocks, to be given to that part of Italy which first breaks out into insurrection, and thus prevent Italian independence, as the only hope for all Italy is that Piedmont will remain quiet until obliged to fight in defence of that constitution which has made Britain comparatively one of the most happy nations in Europe.

SPAIN.—Private letters from Madrid state as a positive fact that after the decree of the dissolution of the militia, the government intended to publish two more—1st, Dissolving the Constituent Cortes; 2nd, Establishing the Conservative Constitution of 1845. But their courage failed them before these decrees were promulgated.

The Debats contains a letter of considerable length from Madrid in which we read:—It has been decided to return to the constitution of 1845, modified in some respects, and completed by an additional act intended to fortify the authority of the throne, and to guarantee to the Spanish people the possession and enjoyment of their rights. It is probable that a new Cortes will be shortly convoked in order solely to deliberate upon a project of this kind presented in the name of the Queen. It is said that the Cortes will be composed of a single assembly; the members of this assembly; will be elected by colleges framed according to a combination of the regulations adopted in 1837, 1845, and 1856, that the elections will be by district and not by province, and that each college will elect its deputy. The correspondent goes on to state that this scheme is due more especially to M. Rios Rosas, but that the rest of the ministers agreed to it without difficulty. The same writer asserts that the indignation of M. Rios has been excited by the efforts which are being made by person in the confidence of the Queen to induce her to break altogether with the constitutional regime.

POLAND.—The Constitutionnel says:—It is positively stated that the King of Prussia, in order to satisfy the desire of the Poles of his kingdom, has resolved to create a special government for the Grand Duchy of Posen, and to select a member of the royal family as governor. It is said that Prince Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, who now exercises a command of Dusseldorf, will accede to his high dignity. When the Duchy of Posen was originally occupied by the Prussians, a special government was promised to them, and Prince Anthony Radziwell, brother-in-law to King Frederick William IV., was designated, but the appointment was revoked during the revolution of 1831.

FRANCE.—*Alleged Serious illness of Louis Napoleon.*—A Singular Story.—The Paris correspondent of the Newcastle Chronicle says:—An undercurrent of strange rumors has repeatedly reached me for the last month or so, but they were so unauthenticated that I let them pass like many other fancies of the popular mind. The news however, such as it is, has obtained so much credit in very well informed circles, and so many numerous circumstances come to corroborate it, that, considering its very high importance, I do not hesitate to transmit it to you. You will recollect, perhaps, that it has been for a long time reported that the present ruler of the French is suffering under morbid affection of the spinal cord. I am not versed sufficiently in medical science to describe the many different bad effects that the human frame is subject to from that disease; your medical contributors may perhaps enlighten your subscribers on the subject; but it is now affirmed beyond contradiction that the nephew of the great Bonaparte is occasionally a prey to strange and extraordinary hallucinations! The first attack that was brought under the notice of the Court, took place in presence of M. Fould, Minister of State, who having communicated to him important documents, was astounded and much frightened to see his master remain speechless, gazing or rather staring on vacancy! M. Fould ran out telling every one that his master was insane! At that time the attack lasted about five or six minutes; they extend now to half an hour or more. All this I hear from one of the chief ministers of Louis Philippe, who of course has a good many friends at Court. Add to this, another fatal affection, with an ugly Greek name, which is the result of a disease

of the spinal cord, and you have an idea of the mental and physical state of our present ruler.

INDIA AND CHINA.—Fifty inches of rain had fallen at Bombay. At Darjeeling 36 inches of rain had fallen in 96 hours. Mr Horsley, assistant-collector in the Madras Presidency, has been murdered. The heir to the throne of Burmah has been assassinated. Lord Canning has been indisposed.

Anarchy reigns throughout China.

IRELAND.—The Hon. the Irish Society have granted £2000 towards the erection of a new Town-hall at Coleraine.

The Marquis of Waterford is about erecting a magnificent mansion at Curraghmore, in the county from which he takes his title.

Communication with Scotland.—The Lords of the Admiralty have reported that the ports of Donaghadee and Portpatrick are the best that could be selected for establishing a short sea passage between the north of Ireland and Scotland; and that, upon certain conditions being complied with by the promoters of this line of communication, the government will be prepared to make the necessary improvements on the two ports named, and use the packets plying between them for the mail service, at a fair rate.

Irish Revenue.—We learn from a Parliamentary paper just printed that the net produce of the Irish revenue for 1855 was £6,066,273, which was paid into the exchequer. It was made up of £1,918,198 collected under the head of customs, £2,308,125 of excise, £441,300 stamps, £1,049,808 property and income tax; £25,000 post-office, £300 small branches of the hereditary revenue, and £311,629 miscellaneous, including the repayment of advances. The same parliamentary return also contains an account of the expenditure (£5,784,689) for the same period; but it adds, that it does not show the whole expenditure for the United Kingdom on account of Ireland.

Prosperity of Belfast.—The Belfast Mercantile Advertiser says:—that never at any period of our recollection were the industrial ranks so well clothed or so well fed as they are at this moment, even in the face of wheat at 75s. per quarter. The loaf is not large, but the means of purchase are more ample. In the good old days of protection, it was not unusual for the labouring ranks to eke out existence on potatoes three times a-day. Those times have gone by, and at present the consumption of wheat bread by the work-people is in a four-fold ratio to what it was ever known previous to the advent of free trade. In former days John Bull groaned loudly about Ireland's population, and the invasion made on his territories by the incorrigible Celt. Now, the same rotund personage grumbles because the Irish are locating themselves by the shores of the American lakes or the Southern Pacific. Under the dynasty of protection the poor people of this country rarely found the means of migration to other lands. Free trade, like St. Patrick of old, has banished the serpent idlers and taught our people the dignity of labour. Desolation has almost forgotten its ancient haunts in Ireland, and the ratio of pauperism now falls under that to be found on either side of the Tweed.

ENGLAND.—*Shocking Boiler Explosion.*—*Great Loss of Life.*—Soon after six o'clock on Wednesday morning, a 69-horse power steam boiler burst at Hampton Mill, near Bury, the property of Messrs. Warburton and Holker, bleachers and dyers, completely destroying the engine house, dyehouse, and a warehouse, and carrying a large iron flue, eighteen feet long, to a distance of eighty yards. The most lamentable part of the story, however, is that nine lives have been sacrificed, in the addition to many more placed in jeopardy. The number of those more or less severely scalded or injured exceeds that of the killed, and one of the number was scarcely expected to survive the night. Another report states the loss of life at six, with four bodies missing, and says:—The works of Messrs. Warburton and Holker require a considerable amount of steam, as it is used for various purposes in the different processes through which the calico has to pass, and therefore the power required for the steam engine is small in proportion to what is used for other purposes. Two-boilers, one high pressure and the other low pressure, each being 60-horse power, have been used for a considerable length of time and often both night and day.

About a quarter past six o'clock a tremendous noise was heard, which awakened the attention of persons more than a mile off. A large portion of the premises is scattered in confused heaps. The exploded boiler, a double tribular one, 36 feet long and 9 feet diameter, was rent both longitudinally and transversely the parts being torn assunder like brown paper.—one part was found sixty yards away. The counter flues, three feet nine inches diameter, have not yielded, and, so far as our reporter could perceive, they bore no indication of being uncovered with water. The internal rendering force of steam, in a boiler of such large capacity, seems, from the thickness of the shell plates, to have not left sufficient margin for security. The boiler had a 5-inch safety valve upon it, set, it is said, to blow off at 35lb., and a 6-inch one upon the junction pipe of another boiler. No one, however, appears to have heard the steam blow off. Of course a full investigation will take place.

Six Persons burned to death at Liverpool.—On Thursday week, an alarming fire was discovered in Shaw's-alley, and, we regret to state, that six persons were burned to death on the occasion. The fire brigade were in prompt attendance on the spot, but on their ar-

rival it was seen at once that the place was doomed, as the flames extended half across the roadway, and the interior was one mass of fire. On the firemen entering the upper story a shocking spectacle presented itself—there lay the scorched and shrivelled bodies of a man named John Fagan, his wife, and family, consisting of one boy and two girls; and in the front room, also in the upper story, lay the remains of a man named Daniel Wade, a school-master. An old man, who was in the bakehouse below, had a very narrow escape. The fire brigade at once removed the bodies, although the odour was so overpowering as to cause vomiting and nausea. The whole were carried to an adjoining public-house, and from thence to the dead house, to await the coroner's inquest.

From inquiry made, it appears that the fire originated either in the bakehouse or in a room directly over it, and used for manufacturing oilskin garments—such as overcoats overalls, and such things as are usually worn by sailors. Fagan was a respectable though a poor man, and has kept a stall for the sale of books and charts on the south side of the Custom-house for some years past.

An inquest has since been held upon the bodies of the unfortunate sufferers; when, after hearing the evidence, the jury decided on the following verdict:—That the deceased persons met their deaths by being burned, but how the fire originated there is no evidence to show.

Earthquake in Algeria.—Accounts from Africa state that shocks of an earthquake were felt in Algeria on the 21st. The shocks were slight at Algiers, but stronger at Constantina and at Bona, and very violent at Philippeville, where as many as 22 were felt. The steeple of the church had been partly thrown down, and several houses injured, but no lives have been lost. The hospitals and the barracks have been evacuated, and the inhabitants of the town gone into tents in the fields. It is said that several French villages in the neighbourhood of Philippeville have been destroyed.

RUSSIA.—We learn from Simpheropol, by a letter written towards the close of last month, that the Russian troops hitherto in the Crimea had completely evacuated the peninsula.—Only a very weak garrison has been left behind at Sebastopol, whilst on the spot formerly occupied by the Allies a few gendarmes and a handful of Cossacks are amply sufficient to maintain order.

Latest Commercial Intelligence by the Asia at New York.—Liverpool, Saturday.—Weather still fine, and grain market dull. No transactions reported.

Provisions generally unchanged. For lard, 79 shillings is asked by holders.

Cotton steady, with moderate business but somewhat irregular prices. Estimated sales to-day 7000 to 8000 bales.

London, Sept. 6.—Money.—Owing to large exports to the Continent the money market has become more stringent. Consols closed on Friday, 5th, 94 7-8 a 95 for money. American stocks are unchanged in value and demand.—Bullion in the Bank of England has decreased during the week to the extent of about £48,000 sterling.

Sept. 5.—Breadstuffs.—Under the influence of continued fine weather, the prices for all kinds of breadstuffs have considerably declined as compared with the rates current at the sailing of the Cambria on the 30th ult. There is considerable variation in the quotation of leading American houses, but most agree in calling the decline on the lower grades of wheat at about six-pence per 70lbs., and on the finer qualities about three-pence below last week.

On flour the decline is variously estimated at from one to two shillings per bbl., with a fair business doing. The demand for Indian Corn has subsided, and there have been but slight sales to speculators at a decline on the week of about one shilling per quarter.

Richardson, Spence & Co. report the following prices:—Philadelphia and Baltimore flour 32s; good Ohio 32 a 34; mixed and yellow corn 32s 6; white 32s; old red wheat 6s a 8s 9; white 8s 9d a 10s; new red 9s a 9s 6d; white 10s. These prices are, however, mostly nominal.

WEST INDIES.

The Bridgetown (Barbadoes) correspondent of the New York Herald, under date of 27th ult. says:—The Legislature is now in session. The finances of the island are in a flourishing state. Last year's crop was above an average one, a next year's promise a no less favourable one. The best understanding prevails between the planters and labourers, and the island was never under a better system of cultivation. The flour market is still firm at last quotations—say \$12 60 per barrel—and more so to-day, as the bark May-flower has arrived from New York without a barrel on board. She has 1,250 bushels meal, which is dull at \$4 50. The steamer from Trinidad brought accounts yesterday that flour sold there at \$12,50, and corn meal at \$4 60, which is the cargo of barque A. A. Drebert, from Philadelphia; but a vessel from Baltimore had arrived a few days before her, and obtained for her flour \$13 64. From Demerara, 1,550 barrels arrived here a few days ago, and is held at \$13 by the agents. There was never known so many ships of war hovering among the islands. The English fleet is immense, and the French are as numerous; but they do not land, on account of receiving their supplies from the supply ships of their respective nations. Weather fine. No fever, no cholera.