

News of the Week.

EUROPE.

ENGLAND.—Sir Bulwer Lytton and Mr Dallas on the American Question.—The annual meeting of the Herts Agricultural Association was held on Wednesday in the Corn Exchange, Hitchin.—Sir E. B. Lytton, Bart., in the chair. There were also present his Excellency Mr Dallas, the American Minister, the Marquis of Salisbury, Mr A. Smith, M. P., Sir William Jolliffe, M. P., and several other gentlemen. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been disposed of, the Chairman said:

Gentlemen—We have present among us on this occasion the distinguished representative of an illustrious people, akin to ourselves in language and in blood, as well as in just laws and intellectual sympathies. The people of America, even although their institutions may differ from our own, are yet free and contented under a Republic. Of late, you are aware, there have been some political, or, rather let me say, some diplomatic misunderstandings between the Governments of the two countries. Of these misunderstandings it would not become us, on this occasion, to say a single word. Let us, however, hope that they are in a fair way of being settled on terms consistent with the dignity and honour of the two nations.—That wonderful discovery, the electric telegraph, beneath the waves of the wide Atlantic Ocean, is about to add another link to those which already unite the mother country to her giant child; but there is another telegraph equally effective in the annihilation of time and space, and which we look to the mild and conciliatory genius of our guest to correct and re-establish. The telegraph to which I allude is the telegraph which communicates between heart and heart, and carries from nation to nation the language of common interest and kindred affection. This is not the first time that Mr Dallas has been in this country, for he came here before, towards the close of the unhappy war of 1812. He came then with the objects of peace and conciliation. Such are, I am sure, his objects now, and I trust his success will be such as to establish his imperishable fame, not only among the statesmen of his own country, but among the benefactors of the human race. I told him if he would honour me with a visit he should receive a good hearty old English welcome in an old-fashioned country house.—But his heart is so large that the welcome of an individual does not content him, and I am so proud of my guest that the welcome of an individual does not satisfy me for him, and therefore it is that he is here today to receive the welcome of all classes and parties of Englishmen in this great national meeting. (Great cheering.) May those cheers be borne across the Atlantic, and assure the United States of our affection for their people, and of our respect for their representative. Gentlemen, I give you with great pleasure 'The health of Mr Dallas, Minister and Plenipotentiary from the United States of America,' and I join with the toast this sentiment—'May there be a lasting concord between those two nations.'

Mr Dallas, in rising to respond to the toast, was most enthusiastically received. He said: Gentlemen, it is impossible for me to allow the very flattering manner in which you have received the toast of my health, so kindly introduced to you by the distinguished gentleman who occupies the chair, to pass by without the expression of my warmest thanks. I, a stranger to you all—I feel deeply the hospitality of your welcome—although, in truth, my short experience of England has made me—given me more than reason enough to expect. For the generous allusions made to the institutions, the progress, and the prosperity of my country, let me also return you, in my public as well as in my private character, my most cordial acknowledgments. Youthful among the nations of the world, and perhaps, in the estimation of many who now hear me, far from being faultless, she has nevertheless indisputably achieved in mechanics—in human elevation and improvement, what may well justify encomiums from such intelligent and discriminating and candid men. In no sphere of social action are the United States better entitled to your esteem than in the very one with which this banquet is connected. They recognise their agricultural interests, their planters, their farmers, as the predominate interests of their country. They recognise it, I say, as the interest which wields the power, originates the wealth, cherishes the manly freedom, and promotes the entire general welfare of the country. Mr Dallas continued his observations in the same strain, and was repeatedly interrupted by the loudest expressions of applause.

Allied Expedition against Naples.—It is confidently announced that all allied demonstration against Naples has been prepared in the event of his Sicilian majesty refusing to accept an ultimatum to be submitted to him by England and France. This note is to be final, and will state a limited period for reply. If the King does not make the concessions therein demanded. An allied squadron, already under orders, will meet at Ajaccio, and there wait orders from London and Paris, before appearing in the Bay of Naples, and taking on board the English and French embassies. Four line-of-battle ships, two frigates and two corvettes, is all the force which will be employed. The Neapolitan fleet is quite strong enough to meet this squadron, if the king is in a fighting humour, as he has one 80-gun frigate, several smaller frigates and corvettes, and a steam fleet of not less than twenty vessels.

The Paris correspondent of the Times says:—The departure of the ultimatum is still delayed, but this is not to be attributed to doubt or hesitation, but to a desire carefully to mature it, and not to act with precipitation.—There can be no doubt that it will go, and that within a day or two, unless in the interval intelligence should come that the King of Naples has given way. It is not, however, in expectation of this, or in any sanguine reliance on the success of Baron Hubner's good offices, that the slight delay occurs, which may rather be explained by a regard to the deliberation and dignity proper to be observed in such grave circumstances. Reports have been current of an interview between Count Walewski and the Marquis Antonini, in which strong representations were said to have been made by the latter; but no importance is to be attached to this, and indeed the affair as it now stands may be considered as removed altogether beyond the scope of the Neapolitan minister at Paris.

The correspondent of the Morning Post further says.—It is probable that the present week will pass over before the French and English governments take any decided steps regarding the departure of the squadron for the bay of Naples. I am ignorant of the reason why a delay has occurred unless it be dictated by an impression that conciliatory news may be expected from Naples. General Martini, the Austrian ambassador at the court of the two Sicilies, left Vienna on the 22nd for Naples.—We may therefore conclude that the cabinet of Vienna has definitely agreed as to what position the King of Naples shall assume, and how far he is to resist or comply with the demands of England and France. The assurance of some answer coming from the cabinet of King Ferdinand by telegraph is the cause, I am told why the allied squadron is not already approaching the Bay of Naples.

The Moniteur will, in a day or two, publish a note addressed to the European governments by the two western powers justifying their intervention in the affairs of Italy. It will probably be urged that no Italian question can be one merely of internal policy, and peculiarly belonging to the country where the events have occurred by which it is brought into prominence, that it is requisite, for the sake of general European interests, to provide against the complications which might arise but of so faulty and perilous a state of things as that which now exists in the Two Sicilies; that representations have been made to the king in proper diplomatic form, to which the king, so far from paying any attention to them has replied in a most unbecoming manner; that it is therefore necessary for the power which have gone so far in this matter now effectually to intervene and, lastly, the note will terminate by a formal disavowal by anticipation, of a revolutionary movement, and with a warning that any such attempt would be severely repressed, if it were made under the pretext of co-operations with the measures taken by the English and French Governments, who had allied themselves, from eminently conservative motives, to act together on this occasion.

IRELAND.—Extraordinary Revelations of Sadleirism.—The Tablet of this day puts prominently forward the following information of a singular fact which has come to light within the last few days, the accuracy of which, in the main, is guaranteed by the informant.—The story, however seemingly romantic, comes nevertheless, within the range of probabilities. Amiable and accomplished as the late Earl of Shrewsbury was admitted to be, his lordship, it is said by those who knew him intimately, had not the ordinary share of vulgar common sense which is often allotted the less gifted and exalted:—A will has been discovered among the papers of the late Earl of Shrewsbury bequeathing his estates to the late John Sadleir absolutely and unconditionally. The existence of this will was unknown to Mr Sergeant Belasis and Mr Hops Scott until within the last few days; it is of a date anterior in favour of the infant son of the Duke of Norfolk, and is understood to have been made previous to the short stay of the Earl in London, when he took his seat in the House of Lords. The subsequent will was not, however, made in consequence of this public exposure which followed the suicide of John Sadleir; but before returning abroad the Earl was advised by a dignified ecclesiastic to place his affairs in the hands and seek the counsel of Catholics of known probity and honour, and we believe that the executors of the existing will were recommended to him. The Earl, however, never made these gentlemen acquainted with the disposition he had previously made of his property, and is understood he overruled the advice they tendered to him in many respects, and especially in not leaving anything to his nearest relatives. The intention of the Earl was that his property should be applied by John Sadleir to charitable and ecclesiastical uses, and no plausible reason can be alleged for his choice of the person to whom he confided the distribution of his property, except that his own solicitor and the solicitor of John Sadleir were one and the same person. It is, of course, not to be supposed that this gentleman was acquainted with Sadleir's frauds, or even with the fact of the speculations in which John Sadleir was involved. And it is probable that so astute a man as Sadleir would, so far as possible keep from the knowledge of his Catholic solicitor everything which would tend to lower his opinion of him, and seek other and less scrupulous advisers to carry out the details of his frauds and speculations.

The late Collision with the Police in the County of Wexford.—The rencontre with the

police at Kilmuckridge turns out, unhappily, more serious in its results than we anticipated as one of the countrymen, named Francis Edwards, who was lodged in jail for the assault, has since died of bayonet wounds he received in the affray. On Tuesday an inquest was held on the body, when William Edwards, brother of deceased, and Dr. Boxwell were examined. The former proved that he saw deceased in contact with the police, and heard him say, "Don't draw your bayonet;" and the other, that deceased came by his death from the effects of a wound in the belly, which appeared to have been inflicted by a bayonet. The inquest was adjourned to the 18th, in order to have further evidence. It was on Sunday night, between 8 and 9 o'clock, and not on Monday, as erroneously stated, that it happened. It appears that Constable Byrne with Sub-constables John Walsh and Christopher Walsh, were on patrol, in Kilmuckridge, when they arrested deceased for riotous and disorderly conduct.—Immediately a party in a public-house rushed out, and were joined by several others, who rescued Edwards, when the latter forcibly wrenched the carbine from Sub-constable John Walsh and struck him on the skull with it so violently, that a fracture is apprehended. In the scuffle the unfortunate man received the fatal wound which terminated his existence.

RUSSIA.—A Russian Voice on the Neapolitan Question.—We read in the Nord of Thursday:—The Government of Naples is prepared for any emergency, as is proved by the defensive works executed upon the coast, and by the condition and strength of the army assembled round Naples, and reviewed by King Ferdinand on the 10th. For our own part we will remind our readers that the King of Naples has not been unaware of the utility of certain reforms, and we remain convinced that he will be capable of realising them. We do not place confidence in an armed display, and we regret that France has considered it her duty to follow England in a demonstration which has, in substance, the mischievous effect of constituting an interference with the policy of an independent state.

Letters from Moscow state that the Czar has signalized his Coronation by making public a most important ukase, which lays the foundation for great reforms. The following points are contained in it:

A civic and military medal for all who took part, directly or indirectly, in the war. Freedom from military service for four years throughout the empire. A most equitable assessment of the poll tax. The emperor accords an amnesty to the political offenders of 1826 and 1831. All the Jews of the Empire are freed from the special burdens of the recruitment that still oppressed them. The children of soldiers that were brought up by the State, and as such formed part hitherto of the army in which they were bound to serve as soldiers, are all restored to their relatives.

Earthquake in the Caucasus.—The St. Petersburg journals are filled with accounts of the destruction of Schemakla, a small town in the gorges of the Caucasus, by earthquake, on the 11th of July. The morning had been very hot, and gusts of stifling wind from time to time agitated, without refreshing, the atmosphere. The sun shorn of his rays, looked like a ball of red-hot iron in the midst of an incandescent sky. A general oppression weighed on man and beast; nevertheless no one seemed to expect the impending blow, when about five in the afternoon a sudden low dull sound was heard, and a shock was felt, lasting half a minute, the shock, brief as was its duration, was sufficiently violent to throw to the ground 300 houses and more than 100 shops. Happily only one person was killed, and five wounded.

AUSTRIA.—An Austrian Sebastopol in the Adriatic.—About a year or two ago the works at Pola, on the Istrian coast of the Adriatic, where the Austrian Government is forming an arsenal and dockyard, began to attract public attention, and latterly a good deal has again been said on the same subject. It seems certain that the Austrian Government intends transferring the arsenal establishment &c., from Venice to Pola before long, and that the whole peninsular district South of Trieste, of which a straight line from Trieste to Fiume would form the base, is to be organised into a naval command and given to the Archduke Ferdinand, who will have his head-quarters at Lord High Admiral at Pola. As yet the works at Pola are in their infancy. A dockyard has been commenced, and a barrack built capable, as it is said, of lodging 10,000 men, and the town and harbour are at present defended only by a chain of circular forts or towers on the principal of those erected round Linz by the Archduke Maximilian d'Este; but the Austrian Government has engaged the services of an American engineer, at a very large salary, to superintend the works for the next five years, and proposes laying out 100,000,000 of francs on them during that time, 5,000,000 of which will be spent on the fortifications. The great political importance which Pola may assume in the future can hardly be overrated. If the present intention of the Government are followed up, Austria may, by the aid of screw ships requiring few sailors and carrying many soldiers, command the ports on either side of the Adriatic, and she may possibly be able to prevent the port of Trieste from being blockaded by a Sardinian squadron.

Austrian treatment of the British Italian Legion.—Information has just been received in this country that twenty-seven privates and four non-commissioned officers recently discharged at Malta, were forthwith, on their arrival home in the Austrian States, Tuscany and Parma, incarcerated sans ceremonie in

the prisons of the two latter States. The Lombards, thirteen in number, were forwarded on their arrival on the frontiers under military escort to Mantua, to be tried by court-martial, for accepting service in a foreign State without the permission of the ruling Power.

It has caused a great sensation amongst the discharged legionaries in Piedmont, who were preparing to return to their homes throughout Italy after their British service. They are now deterred, and will be compelled to remain stationary, watching the course of events. The English Ministers at these Courts have protested against the course pursued with regard to the treatment those men have received, and have demanded their release.

TURKEY.—The question of the Isle of Serpents and Bolgrad is by no means settled. According to late despatches from St. Petersburg, Russia intends to prosecute her claims to the rock, and is using every effort to induce other powers to make it a subject for mutual decision. There ought to be no question whatever that the Island of Serpents has traditionally belonged to the power which holds the nearest continental land. The new Russian frontier, though extending beyond the Dneister, will make Russian ground at least fifty miles from the Island of Serpents, whilst it is within about twenty of the mouth of the Danube. The squadron of Admiral Lyons has received orders by telegraph to remain, in consequence of this dispute, and the French ships are also to arrive speedily. The Austrian troops, for the same reasons will remain in the principalities.

THE EAST.—The French papers published a despatch from Marseilles reporting the arrival of the Sinai at that part with important news. The squadron under Admiral Lyons, it is announced, has received telegraphic orders from London to remain, in consequence of the difficulties raised by Russia respecting the cession of Belgrade and her claim to the Isle of Serpents. It is added that the French Government which has hitherto taken no part in the recent naval demonstration in the Black Sea, is sending ships. For the same reasons the Austrians will remain in the Principalities.

ALGERIA.—The affair in Kabylia took place on the 2nd inst. The crops had been gathered and were heaped up around the village of Bradel-Mizam, when 6,000 Kabyles came down to burn them. The whole force the French had was the native *quom*, one battalion of the 46th Regiment, and a squadron of Chasseurs d'Afrique. They placed the natives in advance and arranged a sort of ambuscade. The Kabyles came on furiously, the *goum* retired before them, and the pursuers suddenly found themselves charged with the bayonet by the infantry. Notwithstanding the superiority of discipline and arms of the French, the great disparity of numbers rendered the result of the contest doubtful. The Chasseurs d'Afrique charged with great effect, and the enemy was finally repulsed. On the 5th the mountaineers came down again, but they had not reckoned on the reinforcements the French had received in the interval, and they were speedily driven back with loss. It is said that an expedition against the Kabyles will at once take place.

SPAIN.—The Madrid journals of the 20th have arrived. The Epoca says that apartments were being prepared in the Calle de Alcalá for Marshal Narvaez, and the Novedadas states that orders had been sent to the French Embassy in France to give passports to M. Gonzalez Bravo, in case he shall apply for them. The band of Carlist insurgents, seventeen in number, who had appeared in the mountains of Toledo, was being hotly pursued.

FRANCE.—It is quite possible that the emperor will return to Paris earlier than was expected, for the purpose of giving his attention to public business, which demands the imperial presence. There is but little news afloat, the Neapolitan question occupying public attention, almost to the exclusion of all others. All known particulars will be found elsewhere. The Parisian journalists are much occupied with the strength and stability of the alliance between England and France. The Constitutional appears to have been appointed to lecture the Times and Morning Post for sowing the seed of dissension. That journal says, "We have to remark that if the English has a sincere desire to maintain the alliance, the first point is to know how to respect its allies."—The Constitutional maintain that the Anglo-French alliance depends much more upon the Emperor of the French than upon the French people and hints that as the emperor made that alliance it is the emperor alone who can continue it.—An article in the Moniteur has created a sensation in Paris, declaring as it does that the government is full of anxiety on account of the situation of the operative classes. In itself the article contains nothing remarkable. It expresses a hope that the future will bring a remedy for the sufferings of the people of Paris, which have, it observes, awakened a deep solicitude. Nevertheless the article is of great importance. It verifies the misery of the people of the capital, and confirms the rumours which have been in circulation for some time, that great anxiety is felt in high places respecting the approaching term (October 8), when a great number of operatives will be obliged to quit their dwellings, in consequence of having received notice from the proprietors that the rent will then be raised. The police are busy in arresting malcontents, who are always to be found in France at every time under every dynasty. The walls of the faubourgs are nightly placarded with bills, containing reflections upon the emperor and his family, and denunciations of the rapacity of landlords. The police anxiously watch for the mysterious