

News of the Week.

NICARAGUA.

Defence of General Walker.—General Walker and the State of Nicaragua are making a very remarkable chapter in the history of America, but to truly understand the state of affairs it is necessary to go somewhat into the past.

After this magnificent country threw off the yoke of Spain it became the prey of a few Generals and revolution makers by profession, who drove the poor, docile, ignorant masses of Indians into the most horrible atrocities of civil war. This was kept up for more than thirty years, until the industry and resources of the country were entirely exhausted, and then it occurred to one of the parties to invite the Americans to come and help to settle the dispute.

Upon this invitation Col. Walker landed from California with fifty-six men, and after some desperate fighting he unexpectedly marched upon Granada, and carried the city by assault, Oct. 13, 1855.

Granada commands the lakes, and, indirectly, the Isthmus transit, and this bold and decisive blow brought both sides to terms of compromise. President Rivas and his cabinet were taken with even handed impartiality from both parties, and by common consent Gen. Walker was named commander-in-chief of the army.

The daring and ability he displayed in the capture of this important city, and in the prompt organization of a Government, inspired a universal sentiment that he was born to rule, and from that time he has been confessedly the head of the State.

The superstitious old tradition; that a man, with "eyes the color of the heavens," would come across the sea to restore to the Indians the peace and abundance of their ancient days, was suddenly revived in the popular mind; that this, with the sudden appearance and surprising victories of Walker, has marked him with the masses as the "Man of Destiny." They are the more convinced of this, as he never presses them into his ranks, or robs them of their corn, or of the simple products of their industry, as their native rulers have been in the habit of doing; and so long as these quiet, docile Indians are left to work their fields and labor in peace, they never know, or ask, or care who rules them, or whether he is called prince or president.

With the exception of two or three hundred men who, as I said before, are revolution makers by profession, and who live by the confusion and plunder of these civil wars, the whole country has but one prayer—"Give us peace and a stable Government."

When the election of a new President came on, half a dozen of these turbulent oppressors took the field as candidates, and strange as it may appear at a distance, all that is best, soundest, most conservative, most intelligent, and most patriotic in the country, rallied on Gen. Walker as the man of the crisis and the only one capable of permanently maintaining the new order of things. The masses voted for him in a superstitious faith that it was so ordained by fate.

When Rivas saw the country would not accept him for her next President, he was led off by the other defeated candidates, Mariano Salazar and Maximo Jero, in getting up another revolution. They manufactured an imitation government at Leon, the former capital of the State, and came out with a set of grandiloquent proclamations, such as only Spanish American revolutions can produce for the annihilation of Walker.

The people of Nicaragua, that is to say, the masses, have no disposition to trouble themselves about the matter; and the few hundred natives under the command of Rivas and Jerez are mostly pressed men, and will be certain to run away at the first charge.

The neighbouring States, under European aid and encouragement, have marched troops into Leon, and quartered them upon the inhabitants. Gen. Walker's policy of masterly inactivity has kept them couped up in Leon for several months, eating each other up, and giving the whole country a thorough and final surfeit of the folly of inviting these hordes of devouring wolves into the country.

Meantime the great body of the country is in a state of profound peace under Walker's steady rule. Not a native is pressed into his army, and they are perfectly satisfied to leave all the soldier work to the American rifles. He is master of the lakes, of the transit, of all the chief routes to the Pacific, and there are no two opinions among competent men, whether friends or enemies, about his ability to crush the revolutionists at Leon, and clear the country of their allies whenever it is his policy to strike the final blow.

General Salazar, one of the prime investigators of this invasion, went down to San Salvador to implore more help, but General Walker's cruiser caught him in the Bay of Fonseca, charged with letters from the British Consul and others, saying that more troops must be sent or the Americans could not be exterminated. Salazar, who had vowed to drown the people of Granada in their own blood, and bury them under the ashes of the last house, died the death of a traitor on the Plaza of the city, without one to lament his fate. With the same stern promptitude the British Consul had his exequatur taken from him, for his incendiary correspondence with the enemies of the country.

As the insurgents at Leon dared not march upon Walker, they vented their hatred to the Americans by imprisoning and threatening to shoot Dr Livingston, former United States consul. His fate is yet uncertain, but whether he is shot or spared, it is not probable that our government will depart so far from its custom as to take any particular notice.

General Walker is introducing a new plan of colonization, which I venture to predict will occasion some stir in the thickly populated North. His surveyors are selecting the finest and healthiest locations, to be settled in colonies of fifty families, and his agents will be authorized to offer snug homesteads to as many honest, industrious men as choose to accept a good farm for nothing in the most inviting region of Central America, with transportation to it at the expense of the State of Nicaragua.

UNITED STATES.

Excitement respecting Kansas affairs seems on the increase in the north, in consequence of the measures taken by the Government, after the passage of the army bill, for sending troops and militia into the territory. A petition of Boston Merchants, was in course of signature, calling on the Governor of Massachusetts, to convene an extra Session of the General Court to take measures to protect the lives and property of natives of the State, emigrants to Kansas.

Kansas.—The St. Louis Democrat of the 6th, publishes the statement of freesoilers who arrived in that city on the 5th from Kansas. They confirm the burning of Ossawatimie, and say that but 50 freesoilers were in town at the time, and the attacking party numbered 400. Several freesoilers were killed, and 7 taken prisoners, of whom two were afterwards shot.

They also confirm the killing of Wm. Phillips at Leavenworth, by a party of Southerners under Capt. Emery, and the driving out of the territory of all persons unwilling to take arms against the freesoilers.

New York Markets, Sept. 6.—6 P. M.—Breadstuffs—Flour steady; common to straight State \$6 25 to 6 40; common to good Ohio \$6 40 to 6 70; Southern better; mixed to good brands \$7 35 to 7 60; Canadian better; superfine none; extra \$6 50 to 7 75. Grain—Wheat better; Kentucky red \$1 52; Illinois white \$1 67; Corn lower and closes heavy; mixed 66 to 67c; white 68 to 73c; yellow 68 to 70c; round yellow 68 to 79c. Provisions—Pork market lower; mess \$19 50; prime \$17 52 to 17 75; Beef firm; country mess \$8 to 9 25; country prime \$6 to 7; repacked Chicago \$10 50 to 11; prime mess \$14 to 17.

Maine Elections.—Hamlin was elected Governor for the State of Maine on Monday the 8th inst. by a majority of 15,000. Mr Hamlin is elected on the Fremont ticket.

Gen. Walker's Soldiers.—Seven of Gen. Walker's soldiers, who were captured by the Costa Ricans, have addressed a long circular to the citizens of the United States, denouncing Walker for villany and incapacity, and endeavouring to persuade the young men of the United States from joining him. They accuse Walker of allowing no liberty of press or of correspondence and state that the governments with which he is contending, are far superior to his in humanity and intelligence.

[It should be remarked that four of the seven are not Americans.]

CALIFORNIA.

The Vigilance Committee.—Relative to the future action of the Committee, the Alta California, one of its organs, in a summary prepared for transmission by the steamer, remarks:—This work being finished, the committee will in all probability soon disband. The only business now on hand seems to be the case of Terry, rendered the more embarrassing, now that Hopkins has recovered from his wounds. Had they proved fatal, Terry would have been hung; as it is we presume they are a little perplexed as to the disposition best to be made of him.—He will, it is generally thought, be sent from the state.

From the tone of most of the papers it is probable that the committee will disband shortly, if it has not been already disbanded. Others have been reaped at the several departments under the control of the general government, in relation to the matter, and preparations were in progress for the interference, if necessary, of the United States in the restoration of the supremacy of the laws.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The Pictou Chronicle states that the dredging machine now in use for deepening the channel of East River, is succeeding most admirably. The west ford on the river, where formerly there was not more than four feet of water, has now a depth of seven and a half feet at low water. The work is going on between the Loading Ground and New Glasgow.

Fire!—The unusual sound of the fire-bell was heard in our city on Friday, at 10 o'clock A. M., for the first time during several months. The alarm was occasioned by the boiling over of a tar pot on commercial wharf, which having been incautiously placed close to a wooden store speedily ignited the shingles and boards. The Fire Department rushed with all haste to the scene of danger, but the Ordnance engine being close at hand was first on the spot, and being put in operation without a moment's detention soon got the fire under. The brave fellows of the Ordnance Department, attached to the fire Engine, are entitled to a prize from the several Insurance offices, which we are glad to say was cheerfully awarded by all, one alone excepted.

—Halifax Nova Scotian.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Drowned.—A laboring man named Wm. Doran while helping to load a ship with deals at York Point Slip, on Saturday afternoon, fell into the water and was drowned before assistance could be rendered. He lived in St. James street, Lower Cove, and leaves a wife and children.—Morning News.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor Lady and family, arrived at the Waverly House in this City on Monday evening, from Fredericton. A guard of honor from the 76th Regiment, received His Excellency at the hotel, and he was greeted with cheers by some of the people assembled on the occasion.

Yesterday, His Excellency received the congratulations of the office-bearers and a number of the members of the St. George's and St. Patrick's Societies, who had assembled for the purpose of presenting addresses to His Excellency Sir William Eyre, K. C. B.

We understand that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor's family have taken up their residence at the cottage of Chas. Ketchum Esq., in Carleton, where they will remain for some days to enjoy the sea air in that healthful locality.—St. John Morning Courier.

INDIA.

The Rajah of Rumpore.—The Queen of Oude. The Euxine arrived at Southampton on Tuesday with the heavy portion of the Indian mails. She has on board sixty-four passengers, amongst whom are the Rajah of Rumpore, Majors Fulton and Graham, Captains Bacon, Hughes, &c. Her cargo consists of 2,009 packages of silk, 607 sacks of wheat, and 50 packages of General cargo.

The Rajah of Rumpore is a handsome young man, dressed in most gorgeous fabrics. The sword he wears is worth upwards of 1,000l.—He visits England on account of some dispute with the East India Company.

The Queen Dowager and heir-apparent of the kingdom of Oude, with their numerous retinue, were to have come home in the Euxine but room could not be found for them on board that steamer, and they are remaining at Cairo until the next packet. The Queen is forty-five years of age. Her son, the dethroned king, is aged about twenty-eight years, and her grandson, who is with her, and who is heir-apparent, is about sixteen years old. This youth is married and has one child. The brother of the dethroned king, who is also with the Queen Mother, is a general in the native Oude army, and he, it appears, claims the throne in opposition to the heir-apparent; so that not only is the Oude family coming to England to dispute with the East India Company for the possession of the throne of which the ex-king has been deprived, but also to settle a dispute amongst themselves as to who is the rightful heir.

The Queen Mother, with her family and suite, paid nearly 8,000l. to the Peninsular and Oriental Company for their passage from India to England. They occupied the whole of the fore part of the mail steamer that conveyed them to Suez. They had a cooking galley fitted up for their accommodation, and they lived chiefly upon rice, kids, and goats, which they provided themselves, so that they have been at small expense to the company. The Queen Dowager secluded herself on board and no one scarcely besides her own followers saw her face.

On arriving at Cairo she was indisposed from the fatigue of travelling over the desert, and she was carried perfectly concealed from the gaze of any one to her hotel. The Pacha of Egypt was about to proceed from Alexandria to Cairo by special train to offer civilities, and to place one of his palaces at her Highness's service. The necklace, valued at 10,000l, which was lost in the Red Sea, was intended for a present for Queen Victoria. Neither the Queen Dowager nor any of her suite, had seen a ship or sea before they left their country, and she at least must be a woman of some spirit and determination to undertake what she has done.

EUROPE.

SCOTLAND.—Freedom of the Press in Scotland.—A meeting, chiefly of gentlemen of the liberal party, has been held in the Waterloo-rooms, Edinburgh, for the purpose of expressing practical sympathy with the Scotsman newspaper, in regard to the verdict of £400 damages obtained against it for defamation at the instance of Mr Duncan McLaren, late lord provost of that city, under circumstances stated in LLOYD'S of Sunday last. Sir William Gibson Craig, formerly M. P. for Edinburgh, who presided, said that the meeting had been called to protest against the verdict in this case as one highly injurious to the freedom of political discussion in Scotland. The remarks of the Scotsman, he said, had only been free, bold, and comments on the public conduct of Mr McLaren, in taking part with the extraordinary coalition with which he then associated himself, there being an express reservation against any imputation being supposed to apply to his private character. The words founded on had been used in the heat of an excited contest and amid great provocation, and if it was in future to be held that such conduct of such public men was not open to such comments there was an end to all freedom of political discussion in Scotland. It would be impossible to express contempt at political apostasy, disgust at abandonment of principles, or indignation at any coalition, however disreputable, without the danger of being brought before such a jury. He trusted that by the exhibition of practical sympathy they should now make they would convert the defeat of the Scotsman into a triumph, not only for that paper, but for the liberty of the press throughout the country. Resolutions were moved protesting against the verdict, and ori-

ginating subscriptions to pay the damages and expenses of the action. The subscription list was headed by Sir William and Mr Adam Black, M. P., each contributing £20; Mr Chas. M'Laren, ex-editor, giving £100. The damages and costs will, it is understood, amount to about £10,000—nearly £400 has been already collected.

FRANCE.—Pelissier, the lion of the moment, has been announced by the Moniteur as the Duke of Malakoff, and a law is to be presented to the legislative body for a grant of 100,000l. a year to accompany this title. On a visit of their majesties to the opera on Monday evening, Pelissier sat in the imperial box, and attracted more attention even than the emperor himself. The annual distribution of prizes at the Sorbonne took place on Monday last. Marshal Vaillant, the minister of war, presided in the character of provisional minister of public instruction. The event of the day was the presence of Marshal Pelissier, who was presented to the students by Vaillant as a model of what might be achieved by industry and perseverance. The students gave the Sebastopol general a very hearty reception. Marshal Vaillant, in the course of his address, thus alluded to the literary studies of the present Emperor of the French when in confinement:—"Is this enough my young friends, or will you have another example? Follow me into that fortress—draw those bolts—pass through that dark vault! Look at that young man with a pensive look, who, leaning over a table, meditates in the calm of solitude. For many years he has been a captive, and his education, commenced on the steps of the first throne in the world, and continued amidst the misfortunes of exile, is being completed in the interior of a prison. Military art, political economy, the science of governing men, are the subjects of his studies; his genius increases and rises in the midst of incessant labours. One day, when the hour marked by the designs of providence shall have arrived, the gates of the fortress will fall down before him, and he will go forth into the world ripened by the meditations of captivity, with the head sufficiently high, the heart sufficiently firm, to save a great people from an abyss, and with the arm sufficiently robust to hold the sword of France and to secure victory to his flag." The preparations for the annual fete Napoleon of August 15 were in almost every respect the same as last year. The framework for the illuminations in the Champs Elysees and Tuilleries gardens had been left as it was since the illuminations for the return of the army from the Crimea.—A story has been circulated by one of our contemporaries respecting myriads of forged Bank of France notes in circulation. The tale is utterly untrue. During the last three months only four forged notes have been discovered. The discovery of vast bundles of such paper is an absurd fiction. It appears from the report of the medical men appointed to examine the body of the murderer Poirier, which was found in the Bois de Vincennes, that instead of having hanged himself, as had been supposed; he died of apoplexy brought on by drinking.

ITALY.—The Neapolitans and their King.—The Neapolitan Liberals have issued the following proclamation:—

Neapolitans! We had counselled you to be peaceful and dignified in the grave crisis in which our country is situated. You received the counsel well. We expected nothing different from you. Eight years have passed, during which you have imposed silence by your firmness and constancy on the wicked herd who calumniated you by saying that you desired only disorder, and that you placed the Government under the necessity of chaining and lashing you. The prisons hold the bravest and most virtuous citizens who form our dear pride; and the Government to avenge itself, has been obliged to organise false conspiracies, and urge its satellites to the remotest extremity of corruption. Thus, by restraining the holy anger of virtue herself, you have almost completed that moral revolution which, only initiated in 1848, has obtained a solemn European judgment between the country and the Government. Let not, however, prudence and faith be mistaken for pusillanimity and torpidity. An illustrious man (Manin), so far back as the 23rd of May last, said to the Italians, "Agitate and agitate. Agitation is not exactly a revolution, but precedes it and prepares it. Agitation in its manifestations must be manifold, and of many forms, circumstances of time, of place, of opportunity, give it an inspiration, an impulse, a physiognomy. It is a salutary gymnastic, which reveals, educates, invigorates the moral and intellectual forces of future combatants, and especially their courage. It does the duty of the muster-roll, and displays on our part the soldiers of the country, and brings forward the most worthy, the most capable, the boldest. It molests the enemy with the punctures of thousands of pins, before he is pierced with the deep wounds of swords. It reminds Europe that she never can have peace so long as the unsubduable aspirations of Italian nationality are not satisfied. All this exists, and it produces agitation. Agitation, according as it is skilfully and energetically directed, is always more or less valuable, and is never injurious."

Our opinion is, that the facts of agitation according to the time are in an especial manner facts of resistance to the insurrections which the authorities commit against their own laws; pressing forward continually on the way of violence and of terror, they must succumb at length. That which the law does not forbid, the will of a functionary can never efficaciously forbid. We are not bound to respect the private attitudes and desires of those who govern.