

GREAT-BRITAIN, &C.

LIVERPOOL, OCT. 2.

POLAR AND NORTH WESTERN EXPEDITION

It is a remarkable fact that our two northern discoverers, Captain FRANKLIN and Captain PARRY, arrived at the Admiralty, on their return from their respective expeditions, on the same day, namely, Saturday last. The success of Captain Franklin is already well known, and it may be considered as having put the fact of a passage from Baffin's Bay to Behring's Straits beyond all doubt; the only portion of that distance which remains unexplored is 150 miles, which the brave adventurer was prevented from traversing by very dense fogs and the alarmingly near approach of winter. Captain Parry may be said to have totally failed in the object of his voyage, but yet he has made a discovery of considerable value, by proving the impracticability of that object, and adding a new fact to our knowledge of the currents of the ocean. It appears that in the high latitude of 82 degrees, there is a perpetual current from the north, which carries the whole body of ice in a southerly direction, and prevents the traveller from making any progress towards the Pole, whether he moves on the ice or water. This defeats all the calculations made on the possibility of reaching the Pole, and seems peremptorily to forbid the approach of man to the axis of the world, to the metropolis of winter. We have no doubt that Captain Parry did all which courage, sagacity, and hardy strength could perform; and the narrative of his sixty one days toil on the ice-bergs will no doubt be highly interesting both to the scientific world and to those who read from general curiosity. We subjoin the accounts of the arrival of our intrepid discoverers:—

Captain Parry, and his companions in the Arctic Expedition, reached London September 29. The history of this last expedition is brief. Captain P. after leaving the discovery ship at the appointed place, off the Spitzbergen coast, betook himself to the sledge boats prepared for his conveyance over the ice, and was out for the space of sixty one days: one of the boats being under his own charge and the other under that of Lieut. Ross. These two boats were hauled over the ice by the crew of the ship, twelve men; and after undergoing incredible fatigue, they felt for a great part of the time that they were on floating ice-bergs which carried them to the southward, while they were straining every nerve to proceed to the northward, and thus of necessity, they were compelled to abandon the enterprize. During the last three days, Captain P. found by actual observation, that his boat had gained two miles only. The expedition arrived at lat. 82, 45, and had it proceeded but fifteen miles farther, Captain P. and his men would have obtained the pecuniary remuneration to which they were entitled on reaching 83; but even this short distance was found to be altogether unattainable by any physical effort. Nearly in the same line they had proceeded, the boats returned to the Hecla, which sailed immediately for home. No lives were lost.

Arrival of Captain Franklin—This intrepid discoverer arrived here with his fellow traveller Dr. Richardson, by the James Cropper, on Wednesday last from New York, and on the following day set off for London. The rest of the party under Captain Beck and Lieutenant Kendall, were to return by the Hudson Bay Company's ships, and may be daily expected in

the Orkney Islands. The expedition, as is already known, has been eminently successful. Captain Franklin and Captain Beck, after falling down the Mackenzie river, coasted westward to about the 150 degrees W. long. They met with no considerable indentation on the coast; but it gradually tended northward almost as far as they penetrated, to about lat. 72. deg. 30 min. when it seemed to run nearly west. At the furthest advance of this part of the expedition, they were about 150 miles separated from the ship Blossom, under Captain Beachey, and had each been aware of this circumstance, Captain Franklin might have returned to England by the Pacific Ocean; but had they failed to meet, the season was so far advanced that it would have been an unjustifiable hazard to human life to have persevered in advancing westward. Captain Franklin, therefore, very properly retraced his way back to Great

Bear-lake, where they spent the last winter in the society of their friends, who, in the meantime had, under Dr. Richardson and Lieut. Kendall, explored the whole coast between the Mackenzie and the Coppermine rivers. This last portion of the American coast is more indented with bays than the former; and both have been surveyed and laid down by the adventurous travellers. Westward of the Mackenzie, the vast chain of the Rocky Mountains terminate at about ten to thirty miles from the coast. The Esquimaux natives, at first suspicious or hostile, soon became friendly. Provisions were abundantly and liberally supplied by the agents of the Hudson Bay Company; and it is most gratifying to think that this expedition has terminated, without any loss of life, and that our gallant and indefatigable countrymen seem in excellent health, notwithstanding the numerous fatigues and privations which they have undergone. Their collection of natural history are large, especially in the department of botany, and the science will be enriched by several new species. Their experiments on magnetism, and on the effects of the Aurora Borealis on the needle, are important, and will prove confirmatory to the observations of Lieutenant Foster.

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

A rumour having travelled about the city yesterday, of certain absurd stipulations being agreed to by England with the French Government, respecting the terms on which Spain is to be evacuated by France, and Portugal by this country, we shall only express our hope and belief that the rumour is as untrue as the policy it imputes to the British Government would be disgraceful.

When it is said that if Spain should commit a military aggression upon Portugal, the troops of France are to withdraw; and, on the other hand, that if Portugal should seek *vi et armis* to disseminate Constitutional principles in Spain, then England is to leave Portugal to her own resources; one can but remark the same apparent desire to confound together, for the sake of being unjust with impunity, the facts and law of a simple question, which we have already so often had occasion to notice in the *Moniteur* and other Apostolic prints.

The French army entered Spain in open violation of the national independence of the Spaniards. France kept her troops in that country, while the Spanish Government was with equal atrocity, perpetrating a violation of the sovereign rights of Portugal; although, had the French Ambassador taken a part as zealous and indefatigable against the treacherous invasion of Portugal, as he notoriously did in favour of it, no invasion under the disguise of rebellion would have been attempted.

If, then, France be consistent in her politics, either she would have recalled her troops when she saw the criminal purposes to which their support and protection of Ferdinand against his own subjects were, in the instance of the late attack on Portugal, perverted, or she must meditate a breach of faith if she now promises to evacuate Spain in case of another outrage upon Portugal. This, we say, must be the fact, supposing that any foundation exists for the city report alluded to, and supposing that France be consistent.

But in the name of all that is audacious or puzzle-brained, what means the attempt at connecting in any manner the presence of the British troops at Lisbon, or their departure from it, either by way of reciprocity or analogy with the political manoeuvres of France, or the military movements of her forces? The motives of the English expedition had no affinity with those of the French invasion. The French Bourbon Government strove by a crime against the rights of nations and the honour of kings to guarantee the establishment of a superstitious despotism over the Spaniards. The Government of George IV. discharged, when called upon, the imperious duties of honour and good faith, by protecting an Allied Sovereign and an outraged people, in the enjoyment, the one of his crown, the other of its liberties. The House of Bourbon committed an aggression,—the House of Brunswick repelled one. The House of Bourbon destroyed a free Government by force,—George IV. saved it from a foreign war, which had no other object but its overthrow. If Spain be now a province of Charles X. it was the invasion, commanded by his son in person, which reduced a fine country to that shameful condition. If Portugal be not yet a province of Ferdinand, she owes her safety to the British troops. What juggling, then, is it with common sense and honesty, to make the departure of the French troops, as was done by the *Moniteur* within these few days, contingent on, or in any way related to, that of the English forces! It was not (at least avowedly) to break up the ancient and pacific alliance between the Crowns of Great Britain and Portugal, or to facilitate the conquest of the latter kingdom by Spain, that the Duke of Angouleme crossed the Pyrenees. When therefore, a pretext so foreign to the subject is invented, to palliate the continuance of the troops of France, what is it but saying that "our real motive was from the first to assist King Ferdinand in the conquest of Portugal, and our troops shall not stir a yard from the Peninsula until, by the departure of the British force, the ally of England shall be left at the mercy of our Consign?" See, then, how dishonestly involves and perplexes its creatures. Portugal neither menaced Spain, nor did Pedro ever dream of attacking her. This silly gossip about disseminating a Constitution *vi et armis* in Spain is a tolerable illustration of the mystifying temper of these bigots in the cause of despotism. A Government at the head of 3,000,000 of men is to make an assault "vi et armis" upon the intellects of a nation of 12,000,000! The army we take for granted to be composed of Benthamite philosophers—the battering train, of 1,000 printing-presses of the very heaviest calibre! That the Peninsular questions will yet be settled,—happily settled, if not speedily,—we have little doubt; that they can be so through any means as yet unfolded in the speculations of the *Moniteur*, and its brethren, we have no faith whatever.—*Eng. Paper.*

LONDON, SEPT. 17.

By the accounts from Madrid, it appears that the King of Spain and his ministers are at length awakened to the dangers of the insurrection of Catalonia. Meetings of the Ministers had taken place. General Momet, on the 30th Aug. set off for Catalonia to take the command of 10,000 men, with the title of Commandant-General. The *Quotidienne* adds, that the General, on the 7th September, placed himself at the head of the fifteen battalions of infantry, and marched against the rebels, who took flight in all directions. Several had been made prisoners, and some of them had been hanged. It was reported that the rebels were in possession of Berga, of the fortified town of Cardona...important for a revenue derived from salt Mines...of Manresa, where they made 700 prisoners, of Vichi, the place in attacking which Mina was repulsed in 1823, and most of the villages of the province.

SEPT. 19.

So wretched has been the condition of Spain during the last two years, that in many parts of the Estremadura, and Catalonia, able bodied peasants have not been able to earn more than about 4d to 6d sterling per day, whilst the women have laboured the whole week for less than a shilling; and were it not for the Convents and Monasteries, thousands of these poor creatures must have perished for want of food.

TURKEY.

From the British Traveller of Sept. 8.

We are on the eve of a great crisis. Scenes of intense and magnificent interest are about to be enacted in the East. It appears from the latest advices, that Turkey is awaking from her sleep of ages, and making the most formidable exertions to repel the hostile aggressions of Russia, and to retain her hold of her Greek Bondsmen. The number of soldiers disciplined in the European fashion is stated at 150,000, and the Grand Signior shortly expects that force to be raised to 600,000. This is a new triumph of illiberality and prejudice: the triumph of European discipline in Turkey will enable the Sultan Mahomed to prop the collapsing towers of the Seraglio, and again lift up "the abomination that maketh desolate," over the now beleaguered circuit of the Athenian Acropolis. But though human efforts may delay, they will not, cannot ultimately defeat the progress of knowledge. The revolutions we daily witness, attest this in a voice of thunder. The great circle of improvement must finally be complete. The sun which shines at Lisbon, will shine, in turn, at Cairo and Istantamboul. We may disarm the march of mighty events. If Europe do not quickly interpose, the scimitar of the ruthless Ottoman will again be bathed in the choicest blood of Greece. Russia has been completely foiled in her attack on Persia. The proud hopes of the Northern Autocrat of scattering the green-turbaned squadrons of Teflis, at the first charge of her Georgian cavalry, and opening the road for her Calmucks and Cossacks to the heart of Persia, have been baffled for the present, and thus ends the march to India of the Northern Colossus. But her long indulged day dream, of planting the Cross of the Czars on the Crescent-crowned domes of Constantinople, appear on the eve of accomplishment. According to a letter from Poland, great activity is employed in fitting out the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, a measure regarded as an indispensable preliminary to a war with the Porte. These preparations, we are told, were hitherto disregarded by the