

[From the London Times, October 26.]

There is not, probably, to be found in any capital city in Europe so beautiful a spectacle as that which is seen from the centre of the Place de la Concorde at Paris. The simple architecture of the Chamber of Deputies rises on the one side, and the Colonnade of the Madeleine upon the other. Behind is the Palace of the Tuileries, a pile of building which not only rivets the eye but interests the imagination, as the point of origin of all the movements which have shaken European society to its foundation for the last sixty years. In front stretches the avenue of the Champs Elysées, with the Barrière de l'Etoile in the distance, a limit which fixes without embarrassing the attention. From the central point we have indicated, should a stranger to the French capital pursue his walk down the Rue Royale to the gay Boulevard de la Madeleine, and thence along the line of the Boulevards, with their theatres, their cafés, and their promenaders, collected from every country in Europe—he would behold a sight to which no town in Europe, and most certainly not London—could furnish a parallel. We, a people of indoor life, may make this admission without shame, and acquiesce cheerfully in our shortcomings when we find Madrid, Vienna, Berlin, Dresden, Rome, and Naples placed in the same category as ourselves. The chief city of the three kingdoms is not a ten hours' wonder. It requires to be inhabited and studied before its capacities are appreciated and understood. We cannot hope to attract the eye of the passing stranger so much as to interest the understanding and awaken the reflection of thinking men.

We have seen with great satisfaction the visit of the National Guards of Paris to London. Their presence in our capital city has probably appeared stranger to us than the strange town and the strange people to themselves. They came upon us unawares. Had longer warning and ample opportunity been given to the civic authorities, we believed they would have welcomed the coming as satisfactorily as the South-Eastern Railway Company have sped the parting guests. Such points as these, however, desirable as they may be, as evidence of courtesy and goodwill, are but of slight importance in comparison with the peace and tranquillity which these strangers must have seen pervading the public places and streets of a metropolis which, on the lowest calculation, contains double the number of the population of Paris. They cannot, one would think, however much they may have regretted the absence of a certain dramatic effect which distinguishes the Parisian boulevards, but have been struck with the fact, that whilst in every capital city throughout Europe the hand of each man is against his fellow, in London alone commerce, trade, and credit maintain their usual and uninterrupted course. Take Saint Paul's, and describe a circle of five miles' distance from this centre, and in this space would be contained the most numerous myriads of human beings, with all their complicated interests and passions, to be found in the same area in any civilized country. How is it then, that whilst Berlin and Vienna, the two principal towns, of a population of forty millions, who have attained no mean eminence in war, in science, and in literature, are trembling on the verge of another conflict, in which father and son, brother and brother, will stand arrayed against each other in hostile ranks; and Paris, too, is threatened with renewal of scenes we would fain expunge from the records of history—that London continues unshaken by the universal tumult? This is no time for self-gratulation, but the most susceptible patriotism cannot take offence at the recital of bare facts, when it is of such awful importance that from them the correct inference should be derived.

We will not here repeat those delarations which are the common places of the hustings and the public dinner. We will make no boasts of institutions which have been very faulty—or we should not have amended them; nor of laws that we ourselves have pronounced unworthy of the refinement and humanity of modern ideas. There is, however, one point in the spirit of the English people to which we should wish the attention of every intelligent foreigner to be directed—our aversion to change by open violence and armed force. That which out of the limits of these islands cannot be understood is, that twelve men should be placed in a jury-box, and should sentence a thirteenth to the scaffold or to deportation, not for holding opposite opinions to themselves, but for endeavouring to establish those opinions by violence in the public streets. Great social changes are of slow growth, and undue precipitation in effecting them, leads rather to their indefinite postponement. It is, of course, impossible to suppose that in the course of a few hours visit to London, the National Guards of Paris should have succeeded in comprehending the spirit and springs of action of a numerous people—we have formed no visionary expectations of this sort. We simply hope that the knowledge of effects may lead them to study causes. Let them endeavour to explain it how they will, there is a great practical contrast between the outward aspect of Paris and London. We have no rival flags, no cannon in the public places, no camps, no bivouacs, no rolling drums, no glittering bayonets. Paris is controlled by armed legions, London by the truncheon of a policeman. We hope that our late visitors may endeavour to explain this fact to themselves. That is the practical benefit to be derived from their journey to the metropolis of England.

Before concluding these few remarks on so interesting a subject, we should add, in justice to our visitors, that travelling Englishmen would do well to borrow a hint from the method in which the National Guards occupied themselves during their short stay

in London. It is not too much to say that during their short sojourn amongst us they have seen more of the outward features of a strange town in a few days than most Englishmen do abroad in as many weeks. Cabs laden with National Guards, inside and out, have been seen in the remotest quarters of the town. The polite Belgravia and the forlorn region of Bethnal-green, have equally been penetrated by the enterprising invaders. The courts of justice, the police offices, the Exchange, the coffee houses, the clubs, and the theatres, have been in turn explored. We will not criticise too closely the advantages of a personal impression, but it has its value. Certainly no body of men ever more concientiously endeavoured to see as much of London as could be seen in a few hours as the National Guard of Paris within the last few days. We can but express, in conclusion, a hope that the result of this visit to our capital of many hundreds of the armed citizens of the French metropolis, who are engaged in the arduous task of restoring the supremacy of law and order, may not be altogether unproductive of solid advantage, as well as of momentary interest and amusement.

AUSTRIA.—The situation of Austria, including all her dependencies, and particularly her capital, is unexampled and no less perilous. While the Emperor was continuing his flight, the Ban Jellachich, with his Croats, advanced to the gates of Vienna, closely followed by the Hungarian army under Kossuth, a journalist of great spirit, who has obtained the unlimited confidence of his countrymen, and been nominated dictator by them. Jellachich united with the imperial general Auersperg, who commanded a large force on the heights of Belvedere in the suburbs; and it was to have been expected that both would have attacked the city, which was prepared to make a most desperate defence. However, both armies retired by diverging lines to some distance; and how Kossuth was employed in the interval does not clearly appear. Shocking as was the barbarity displayed by the Viennese insurgents, it seems to have had its counterpart in Auersperg's camp. It may be presumed that his and Jellachich's army are awaiting re-inforcements; and it appears that a large army in the Emperor's interest is actually advancing towards them from Prague. On the other hand, the landstrum in the Austrian provinces is furnishing great levies for the support of the Viennese. While the Hungarians, or rather the Magyars, are strictly leagued with the Austrian Liberals, most, if not all, of the Slavonian tribes or nations take the side of the Emperor; and the Bohemian Czecks, as if in revenge of their having been lately crushed at Prague by the German Liberal interest, have thrown their weight into the same scale. There is a talk of a Slavonian Congress being to be held at Brunn in Moravia, to support the Emperor's cause against the democracy; and the Hungarians threaten to convoke at Pesth a congress of deputies from all the different States, in order to secure their acquired liberties. We have thus given an outline of what will be found more fully detailed under our foreign head. In the meantime, Dalmatia has revolted, and Trieste has declared itself a republic! and all Illyria, we presume, will be infected by its example—"rendering confusion worse confounded."—The events in Vienna have not been without their effect in Italy. In Radetski's army at Milan a strong disposition has been manifested by both Hungarians and Croats to return to their homes, and many of them have deserted. 150 Hungarian officers appointed a deputation to demand from Radetski leave to conduct a portion of their countrymen home; but the deputies were thrown into prison. Quarrels and conflicts between the Hungarian and Croat soldiers are frequent in the streets of Milan.

[From the Saint John Courier, Nov. 11.]

PROVINCIAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.—In the June of last year we had the satisfaction of noticing the laying of the corner stone of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, with Masonic solemnities, by the Provincial Grand Master of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, the Honorable Alexander Keith, of Halifax, in the presence of the then Lieutenant Governor, Sir William M. G. Colebrooke. It gives us very great pleasure now to announce, that the building, the commencement of which, so many of our readers, assembled to witness, has been completed; and that on Wednesday last it was delivered over by the Contractor, Mr. Otis Small, to the Commissioners appointed to superintend the erection of it, and was by them received on behalf of the Province, in the presence of several members of Council and Assembly, and other public functionaries. A public transaction of this sort ought not to pass unnoticed, we shall, therefore, now carry into effect what we have for sometime had in contemplation. We shall give some account of the establishment in question, being fully satisfied that the more there is known of it, the more it will redound to the honor and credit of the country.

It is somewhat more than ten years ago, that a temporary Asylum for the Insane for formed in the City, in the buildings erected in 1832 for a Cholera Hospital. These buildings, constructed for a widely different purpose, were, of course, in no respect suited to this particular object. Still, notwithstanding the want of sufficient space, and the still more serious evil, want of adaptation to this particular purpose, no one conversant with such institutions, has ever visited this temporary Provincial Lunatic Asylum, without being impressed by the conviction, that the establishment was well managed, carefully conducted, and ably and diligently superin-