

## EUROPE.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, Sept. 15.

The Emperor of Russia has declared that he will not acknowledge any other Sovereign of Portugal but Don Miguel, and doubtless his Imperial Majesty has as much right to interfere in this question as the Courts of France or England. It remains to be seen in what manner he means to enforce his resolution. We suppose he will formally propose it to the Congress of Kings in the North, which so much occupies the attention of the French politicians.—*Standard*.

From the *Paris Messenger des Chambers*.

We have received, via Antwerp, the following:—

"HAGUE, September 7.  
"Every thing breathes of war with the different ministries at this residence; orders are every where given to strengthen the fortifications, and an appearance of joy is observed at the Court, which is very extraordinary."

"M. Omphal, and not the Prince of Orange, has taken his departure for Schwedt, where he will meet the Emperor of Russia."

"The object of the Emperor's voyage is to urge the King of Prussia, who has hitherto obstinately refused, to join in a war against England, France and Belgium."

"What I write may be relied on; do not take it as a mere 'on dit'."

GLASGOW, Sept. 18.

### THE ARMY.

We consider ourselves highly favoured in being able to make public the following order, which is alike interesting to the public and the service. It has been issued only a day or two ago:—

(CIRCULAR.)

"Horse Guards, 24th August, 1833.

"His Majesty's Government having signified to the General Commanding in Chief the King's command, that until further orders corporal punishment may be applied to the following offences only, I have the honor to express Lord Hill's desire that you guide yourselves accordingly, taking care that except in the instances herein specified, the said punishment shall on no account be inflicted:—

"1. For mutiny, insubordination, and violence, or using or offering violence to superior officers.

"2. Drunkenness on duty.

"3. Sale of, or making away with arms, ammunition, accoutrements, or necessaries, stealing from comrades, or other disgraceful conduct.

"It will doubtless occur to you that the object of these instructions is not to render the inflictions of corporal punishment for the future more frequent or more certain than it is at present, even in the cases to which it is now to be restricted; but, on the contrary, that the intention is to restrain it as much as possible to do so with safety to the discipline of the army."

"By Command.

"J. MACDONALD, Adjutant-General."

IMPORTANT TO THE ARMY.

(From the *Naval and Military Gazette*.)

The Parliamentary committee on the subject of army and navy appointments, &c., propose to abolish, prospectively, all sinecure garrison appointments, and to substitute a scale of rewards for distinguished services, the amount of which is fixed at £8000 a year. The names of the veterans receiving these rewards are to be annually laid before parliament and consequently open to public criticism. Civilians will be required to vacate garrison appointments; and the incomes derived by the Governor of Gibraltar from local revenues, and Lord Rosslyn's sinecure, are prospectively abolished. A saving is proposed in the mode of paying colonels of regiments, and providing for the clothing.

The cases of many general officers, who attained, in 1814, the unattached pay, without having performed services to entitle them to it, are to be reconsidered, and the staff at headquarters is recommended to be reduced. The honorary naval situations of Lieutenant and Major-General, and of the Colonels of Marines, are to be abolished, and an annual sum equal to the present pay proposed; the rank of Vice and Rear Admiral of England being alone retained. The creation of brevets or flag officers is strongly condemned, unless urgently called for by public necessity.

The present saving on these retrenchments will, it is said, amount to £16,800, and the prospective to £47,800, independent of the reduction of the staff at headquarters, and the appropriation of the revenues of the Crown in Guernsey and Jersey. While on this subject we may mention that other measures of retrenchment are in contemplation at the Horse Guards respecting a saving that may be made by commuting the half-pay of persons who are either incapable or unwilling to serve if called on. It is well known that there are many individuals who purchased unattached commissions for £450, who have never had, and never intended to have a red coat on their backs, and yet have been drawing £54 per annum for the last fifteen or twenty years—a pretty fair interest for their money, but a grievous burden on the country, and calculated by such means to bring the military service into disrepute. We trust however, that deserving officers will receive that consideration to which they are so fully entitled, for no government or nation can thrive if injustice be done to faithful servants of the state.

LIVERPOOL, Sept. 24.

Mr. Littleton, the New Irish Secretary,

is son-in-law to the Marquis Wellesley, and as their politics will perfectly harmonize, their reason to anticipate that the administration of affairs in Ireland will give satisfaction, and be productive of much good. The Marquis is in his 73d year, having been born June the 20th, 1760.

(From the *Acadian*.)

It is impossible to foresee the exact course of future political events, or predict with unerring certainty the changes that may soon take place. But from present appearances, we are led to believe, that a general war in Europe is at no great distance, if the existing disputes between the different kingdoms on the continent, are not speedily and satisfactorily terminated. Some of the Northern Powers of Europe, are dissatisfied at the interference of France and England, with the internal affairs of Holland and Portugal. They consider this interference subversive of the solemn treaties into which they have entered, destructive to the established order and stability of good government, and dangerous to the peace of Europe. Whether their fears and apprehensions are well or ill-founded, it is not our business to determine. But we have always thought, and always maintained, that nations should be permitted to govern themselves as they think proper, for if one nation undertake to frame a constitution, to make laws, and even appoint a sovereign for another, without her consent and approbation, then the internal tranquility of states must be instantly disturbed, and the security and independence of nations completely destroyed. The Emperor of China might consider himself entitled to regulate the concerns of our Indian possessions, Spain might send over a new sovereign and a new constitution to Ireland, and Great Britain, in the warmth of her philanthropy, might think fit to appoint a King and frame a monarchical constitution for our republican neighbours at Washington. Now the Emperor of Russia, the Emperor of Austria, and the King of Prussia wish to prevent, as far as possible, such irregularities on the continent of Europe, and at a meeting which has lately been held in Bohemia, at the earnest request of the King of the Netherlands, they have (it was may credit a demi-official account of their proceedings) determined to support that Monarch against all foreign aggression.—This resolution, if persisted in, must soon bring matters to a crisis. For the Dutch Sovereign still considers himself as the King of Belgium, and his allies, we have reason to believe, view him, according to the treaty of Vienna, as the legitimate ruler of that kingdom. Unless, therefore, matters are arranged by diplomatic correspondence, a collision between the chief powers of Europe—Russia, Austria, Prussia, and Holland, on the one hand—and England, France, and Belgium on the other, appears to be inevitable. We frankly confess that we are not among the number of those who delight in war, the great scourge of the human race. And humble though we be, and insignificant our opinion, we can assure the governments of France and England, that they are widely mistaken, if they expect to propagate liberal principles, and advance the prosperity of Europe by engaging in a sanguinary and protracted war. They may find employment for a season for some of their restless, discontented, mischievous subjects, increase the load of the national debts, and harass and annoy their quiet and industrious neighbours. But it is vain to seek to plant the tree of liberty in the field of battle, or attempt to teach politics by the point of the bayonet. We have enjoyed for a very long period the blessings of peace, and we still wish to enjoy them, if they can be preserved to us. If we understand the nature of the contest, all that the Northern Powers require, is the restoration of that social system, which has prevailed in Europe since the battle of Waterloo, and which has been found generally acceptable and advantageous to their respective dominions. We should think this a very moderate and reasonable demand, and one to which all concerned will readily give their assent.

WEST INDIES.

A dark and thick cloud hangs over this rich portion of the British dominions at the present moment, threatening to carry destruction and desolation over all the Islands. Property, from the latest accounts, is daily decreasing in value, agricultural and commercial industry and enterprise, are discouraged, and universal confusion, disorder, and ruin seriously apprehended.—The planters are placed in a truly painful and perilous situation, they find it is useless and impolitic to oppose the measures of the British Legislature, and they are at the same time, unable to adopt the laws which have been framed for their guidance. They must now liberate their slaves, and they know that they are unfit and unprepared to receive their freedom; the estates must now be cultivated by free labour, and they know that the negroes will not work except from compulsion.—This is the serious difficulty with which they have to contend, and whilst this new and hazardous experiment is undergoing a trial, they are doomed to see their plantations neglected, their trade injured, their profits diminished, and personal security endangered. Nothing would give us greater satisfaction, than to see all the slaves in the world emancipated, but when we look at the present state of St. Domingo, and when we attend to the speedy and vigorous efforts which were lately made in the city of New York, in that boasted land of freedom, to check the efforts which were making for the liberation of the slaves in the Southern States, we must confess that we view the plan of emancipation which has been recommended by the British

Parliament for the West Indies, as of very dangerous, although we wish that it may prove, now that it is attempted, a practicable and successful experiment.

### SLIDE OF ALPNACH.

(From the *Economy of Machinery and Manufactures*, by Charles Babbage.)

Amongst the forests which flank many of the lofty mountains of Switzerland, some of the finest timber is found in positions almost inaccessible. The expense of roads, even if it were possible to make them in such situations, would prevent the inhabitants from deriving any advantages from these almost inexhaustible supplies. Placed by nature at a considerable elevation above the spot on which they are required, they are precisely in fit circumstances for the application of machinery; and the inhabitants constantly avail themselves of it, to enable the force of gravity to relieve them from some portion of their labour. The inclined planes which they have established in various forests, by which the timber is sent down to the water courses, must have excited the admiration of every traveller; and these slides, in addition to the merit of simplicity, have that of economy, as their construction requires scarcely any thing beyond the material which grows upon the spot. Of all these specimens of carpentry, the slide of Alpach was by far the most considerable, both from its great length, and from the almost inaccessible position from which it descended. The following is the description of that work given in Gilbert's *Annales*, 1819, and translated in the second volume of Brewster's *Journal*:—

"For many centuries, the rugged flanks and the deep gorges of Mount Pilatus were covered with impenetrable forests. Lofly precipices encircled them on all sides. Even the daring hunters were scarcely able to reach them; and the inhabitants of the valley had never conceived the idea of disturbing them with the axe. These immense forests were therefore permitted to grow and to perish, without being of the least utility to man, till a foreigner, conducted into their wild recesses in the pursuit of the chamois, was struck with wonder at the sight, and directed the attention of several Swiss gentlemen to the extent and superiority of the timber. The most intelligent and skillful individuals, however, considered it quite impracticable to avail themselves of such inaccessible stores. It was not till November 1816, that M. Rupp, and three Swiss gentlemen, entertaining more sanguine hopes, drew up a plan of a slide, founded on trigonometrical measurements. Having purchased a certain extent of the forests from the commune of Alpach for 6000 crowns, they began the construction of the slide, and completed it in the spring of 1818.

The Slide of Alpach is formed entirely of about 25,000, large pine trees, deprived of their bark, and united together in a very ingenious manner, without the aid of iron. It occupied about 160 workmen during eighteen months, and cost nearly 100,000 francs, or \$4250. It is about three leagues, or 44,000 English feet long, and terminates in the Lake of Lucerne. It has the form of a trough, about six feet broad, and from three to six feet deep. Its bottom is formed of three trees, the middle one of which has a groove cut out in the direction of its length, for receiving small rills of water, which are conducted into it from various places, for the purpose of diminishing the friction. The whole of the slide is sustained by about 2000 supports; and in many places it is attached, in a very ingenious manner, to the rugged precipices of granite.

The direction of the slide is sometimes straight and sometimes zig-zag, with an inclination of from 10° to 18°. It is often carried along the sides of hills and the flanks of precipitous rocks, and sometimes passes over their summits. Occasionally it is conducted under the deep gorges by scaffolding 120 feet in height.

The boldness which characterises this work, the sagacity displayed in all its arrangements, and the skill of the engineer, have excited the wonder of every person who has seen it. Before any step could be taken in its erection, it was necessary to cut several thousand trees, to obtain a passage through the impenetrable thickets; and, as the workmen advanced, men were posted at certain distances, in order to point out the road for their turn, and to discover in the gorges, the places where the piles of wood had been established. M. Rupp was himself obliged more than once, to be suspended by cords, in order to descend precipices many hundred feet high, and in the first months of the undertaking, he was attacked with a violent fever, which deprived him of the power of superintending his workmen. Nothing, however, could diminish his invincible perseverance. He was carried every day to the mountain in a barrow, to direct the labours of the workmen, which was absolutely necessary, as he had scarcely two good carpenters among them all; the rest having been hired by accident, without any of the knowledge such an undertaking required. M. Rupp had also to contend against the prejudices of the peasantry. He was supposed to have communication with the devil. He was charged with heresy, and every obstacle was thrown in the way of an enterprise, which they regarded as absurd and impracticable. All these difficulties, however, were surmounted, and he had at last the satisfaction of observing the trees descend from the mountain with the rapidity of lightning. The larger pines, which were about one hundred feet long, and ten inches thick at their smallest extremity, ran through the space of three leagues, or nearly nine miles, in two minutes and a half, and during their descent, they appeared to be only a few feet in length. The arrangements for this part of the operation were extremely simple. From the lower end of the slide to the upper end, where the trees are introduced, workmen were posted at regular distances, and as soon as every thing was ready, the workman at the lower end of the slide cried out to the one above him, 'Lachez' (let go.) The cry was repeated from one to another, and reached the top of the slide in three minutes. The workmen at the top of the slide then cried out to the one below him, 'Il vient' (it comes), and the tree was instantly launched down the slide, preceded by the cry which was repeated from post to post. As soon as the tree had reached the bottom, and plunged into the lake, the cry of 'Lachez' was repeated as before and a new tree was launched in a similar manner. By these means a tree descended every five or six minutes, provided no accident happened to the slide, which sometimes took place, but which was instantly repaired when it did.

In order to show the enormous force which the tree acquired from the great velocity of their descent, M. Rupp made arrangements for causing some of the trees to spring from the slide. They penetrated by their thickest extremities no less than from eighteen to twenty-four feet into the earth; and one of the trees having by accident struck against the other, it instantly cleft it through its whole length, as if it had been struck by lightning.

After the trees had descended the slide, they were collected into rafts on the lake, and conducted to Lucerne. From thence they descended the Reuss, then the Aar to near Brugg, afterwards to Walden by the Rhine, then to Basle, and even to the sea when it was necessary.

In order that none of the small wood might be lost, M. Rupp established in the forest large manufactories of charcoal. He erected magazines for preserving it when manufactured, and had made arrangements for the construction of barrels, for the purpose of carrying it to the market. In Winter, when the slide was covered with snow, the barrels were made to descend in a kind of sledge. The wood which was not fit for being carbonized, was heaped up and burnt, and the ashes packed up and carried away during the winter.

A few days before the author of the preceding account visited the slide, an inspector of the navy had come for the purpose of examining the quality of the timber. He declared that he had never seen any timber that was so strong, so fine, and of such a size; and he concluded an advantageous bargain for 1000 trees. Such is a brief account of a work undertaken and executed by a single individual, and which has excited a very high degree of interest in every part of Europe. We regret to add that this magnificent structure no longer exists, and that scarcely a trace of it is to be seen upon the flanks of Mount Pilatus. Political circumstances having taken away the principal sources of the demand for timber, and no other market having been found, the operation of cutting and transporting the trees necessarily ceased."

Professor Playfair, who visited this singular slide, states, that six minutes was the usual time occupied in the descent of a tree, but that in wet weather it reached the lake in three minutes.

### UNITED STATES.

From the *Baltimore American* of Tuesday.

#### GRAND BALLOON ASCENSION.

Mr. Durant's second ascension in his Balloon, from Federal Hill, took place yesterday in the most imposing and beautiful style. Fears had been entertained in the morning, that the wind was too high for the aeronaut, adventurous as he is, to undertake the feat, but in the afternoon it moderated, and about the hour appointed was no more than a gentle breeze. The amphitheatre was filled at an early hour, not densely, but with a very large number of the most respectable citizens of both sexes. The ladies appeared determined to patronize Mr. Durant in earnest, this time. It is difficult to estimate with accuracy, the number present, but upon the supposition that the enclosure would contain six thousand, there must have been more than four thousand within. The hill without was covered with a countless multitude, and the wharves and piers on both sides of the basin, as well as all the eminences in the neighbourhood, were crowded. Precisely at half past four,—or if there was any variation, a minute or two before,—Mr. Durant having taken his place in the car with that coolness and firmness which always astonish the spectators of his daring excursions, rose slowly in the most splendid style, amid the shouts of the admiring multitudes. He scattered in the garden copies of appropriate verses, and ascending gradually, let down at a short distance a live rabbit attached to a parachute, which descended safely a few hundred yards east of the starting place, and was brought back to the garden in a few minutes. The direction he took was due east, and he continued in sight of the hill for about thirty minutes. He then appeared to descend, and was hid by the line of trees bounding the eastern horizon, but we learn that he re-ascended soon after, and was seen for about twenty minutes longer, sailing away towards the Eastern Shore. He informed us a short time before he ascended, that from the direction of the wind he would go to the shore of the Bay, and we imagine from his rising again and continuing up while he gradually vanished in the distance, that he was then carrying his purpose into execution. When last seen, by our calculation, he must have been over the bay, which he would have avoided, had he not designed to attempt crossing.

He was aided on this occasion, as before, in his preparations, by a number of scientific gentlemen of our city, who entered into his arrangements with the liveliest interest. The weather was all that could be desired—mild and clear—and not the slightest accident occurred to mar the universal pleasure.

A correspondent has furnished the Philadelphia Daily Chronicle with the following particulars:—

Mr. DURANT rose from Federal Hill at twenty-eight minutes past four, yesterday afternoon, came down and made fast ten minutes after five, between North Point and Back river; not having been out of sight. Mr. Benjamin Porter, Dr. Nellis, and other gentlemen, came to offer him their assistance. He drank their healths, and set off again, attempting to cross the Bay in order to reach Centerville, his place of destination. Adverse winds encountered him, and after having reached a great height, he came down within hailing distance of the steamboat *Independence*, waving the American flag in acknowledgement of the hearty and repeated cheers with which the passengers and crew saluted him. He then threw out some of his ballast, and rose again until a strong current of wind struck the balloon and drove it towards the Eastern Shore of Maryland; the elevation being probably three quarters of a mile. A counter current brought him again near the Steamboat; and Capt. Pearce, seeing him descending, went out in a boat, secured his grappling irons, which he threw out at twenty minutes past six, and towed him to the *Independence*, on board of which he was received with enthusiastic cheers. The passengers and crew assisted him to secure his balloon and his instruments; and then

all sat down to an excellent lunch provided by the Captain. The boat soon after met the *CARROLL* coming up the bay, and she brought up our correspondent, with the other passengers for Philadelphia. The Aeronaut returned in the *Independence*, highly gratified by his own success, and by the satisfaction expressed by all who had witnessed his voyage through the air.

STEAM.—It is not improbable, that in nothing will greater changes be effected before the close of a year or two, than in the purposes to which this tremendous agent will be applied. Every day brings to light some new form in which its irresistible energies may be employed. Ten years ago the idea of substituting a steam engine for a horse as a propelling power upon a turnpike, would have been thought chimerical; and the projector who should have talked of travelling from New-York to Philadelphia and back again between sunrise and sunset, would have found his schemes listened to with most ominous shakes of the head and shrugs of the shoulders. Yet these things are done daily before our eyes, and nobody seems astonished.

Most of the London presses are worked by steam; logs and marble are sawed, and chickens are hatched by steam; potatoes are boiled, money is coined, whiskey distilled, water pumped, bullets are driven, gun barrels bored, watch cases turned, foul clothes are washed, tortoise shell combs mended, anchors hammered, ship's cables twisted, linen is bleached, sugar refined, jellies and soups are made, and houses are warmed by steam; in short there is scarcely an object of human necessity, comfort or luxury, in the production or preparation of which some use is not made of this universal and most accommodating of all agents. No man can set bounds to its utility and the modes of its application. We shall not be surprised to find it, ere long, employed to extinguish fires, to blast rocks or in excavating the earth for canals; some of us may live to see, man enabled by its assistance, to traverse the air, or explore the depths of the ocean; and who knows even, but that its energies may in some future age, when man's knowledge and ingenuity shall have reached their highest state of perfection, be successfully directed to the discovery of the philosopher's stone, the North west passage, and the long-sought for perpetual motion?—*N. Y. Spirit of the Times*.

THE PROBABILITY OF MACHINERY SUPERSEDING HUMAN LABOUR.—The time appears rapidly approaching, when the people, emphatically so called, and which have hitherto been considered the sinews of a nation's strength, will be even worse than useless. When the manufactories will be filled with machinery impelled by steam, so admirably constructed as to perform nearly all the processes required in them, and when land will be tilled by the same means. Neither are these visionary anticipations; and these include but a fraction of the mighty alterations to which the next century will give birth. Well, then, may the question be asked—what is to be done? Great calamities must be suffered. No transition so universal, so extensive, can be operated without immense sacrifice; but upon what class, or what division of property or industry these must be more especially inflicted, it is impossible clearly to indicate. Much should be done—and done vigorously and resolutely. Like other great revolutions in the social arrangement of kingdoms, it is to be feared that the explosion will be permitted to take place undirected by the guiding hand of any patriotic and sagacious spirit, and its fragments be again huddled together in hurry and confusion; and finally to undergo a series of painful gradations, from which the imagination turns with sickening terror.—*Gaskell on the Manufacturing Population*.

EXPEDITIOUS TRAVELLING.—Mr. Saxton has just obtained His Majesty's letters patent for a peculiar application of two pulleys to the propelling carriages and vessels for inland navigation, whereby very considerable velocities may be obtained by the aid of horses or fixed engines; and such is the opinion entertained by the scientific world of the invention, that several engineers and others have entered into a subscription, with a view to lay down a short length of road, in order to put the invention fully to the test of practical application. The prospectus of J. L. Hawkins, Esquire, Civil Engineer, who is to superintend the undertaking, states, that by the application of Mr. Saxton's locomotive pulley to the purpose of establishing a cheap and safe mode of travelling at the rate of thirty miles an hour, by means of a horse walking two and a half miles an hour, or by fixed steam engines, from the outlay of moderate capital, compared with that required for similar conveyance by use of locomotive steam engines.

A WATER SPOUT.—A letter dated Naples, July 10, gives the following account of a spout:—"On the 8th, about eight o'clock in the morning, a water spout was formed off the Point of Pansillippo, which kept along the coast in an irregular line, but approaching with gradual increasing rapidity towards the land, on which it finally burst. During its course upon the sea it assumed various forms; at first it assumed the shape of an inverted cone, it next divided into two unequal portions, and afterwards took a cylindrical form.—All around it the sea was as if it were boiling, the foam rising several palms. It damaged several boats, and carried away the roof of a new building at the Point of the Mole; it carried away all the furniture which was in the rooms, and the Persian shutters of the surrounding houses, which were carried to an immense distance. A mason was killed, and two of his men were