

EUROPEAN NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE CANADA.

A telegraph despatch from Boston to the News Room, received Wednesday evening, announces the arrival of the steamship *Canada* at New York with dates from Liverpool to the 31st ult.

Breadstuffs were steady at former prices, but not buoyant. Flour remained the same. Corn three pence to six pence lower. Cotton had advanced about one-eighth of a penny.

Trade at Manchester was brisk and prices better.

FRANCE continued to be very much agitated by the decrees put forth by the President against the Orleans family. These decrees are reprobated by the public as loud as the existing reign of terror will permit. The leading Jurists pronounce the decrees illegal, and an abatement is promised.

Jerome Bonaparte has been nominated president of the Senate.

The Continent was quiet, and there is no other European news of interest.

John Flennet Crampton, secretary to her Majesty's Legation at Washington, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States.

Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer, minister plenipotentiary at Washington, is appointed minister plenipotentiary at Florence.

The London Morning Herald says it is reported that Lord Palmerston will be invited to stand at the next election for Liverpool, and that although he is opposed to a duty on corn for the purpose of protection, he is in favor of a revenue duty of 5s per quarter, and 2s 6d per cwt. on flour, in lieu of the income tax.

Several private letters from Sweden bear testimony to the progress of Christianity in that country. "The teacher of philosophy and theology at the Gymnasium in Stockholm, who has been for several years a zealous and serious preacher, and to whom the description given by Apollon (Acts xviii., 24, 25) might be literally applied—an eloquent man, and mighty in the Scriptures—has taken the bold step of opening the English Chapel, which has been closed nearly ten years, and now conducts public worship there every Sabbath evening. Clothed with the garments and the office of a clergyman of the Established Church, this devoted servant of God has for several Sabbaths, unobscured, preached the same Gospel, for doing which its enemies once so irreverently closed the doors of this sanctuary. This is the finger of God. Well may it call forth tears of joy to observe how the grace of God has prepared here so many opportunities for sinners to hear the word of mercy."—*Liverpool Standard*.

Sir George Simpson, in his journey round the world, states that near Calvert's Island he saw sea-weed growing to the surface of the ocean from the depth of 30 or 40 fathoms.

A Singapore paper of Dec. 5, gives a particular narrative of the murder of Mr. Burns, a grandson of Robert Burns, supercargo of the schooner *Dolphin*, together with Capt. Robertson, the master of the vessel, by pirates, in Maludu Bay, on the North West Coast of Borneo, together with two Lascars and two native servants who were on board. The vessel was afterwards recovered with most of the effects on board, by the East India Company's steamer *Plato*.

Of the 200,000,000 francs taken from the family of Louis Philippe, 10,000,000 will go to the Society of *Sociale Mutuelles*; 10,000,000 to the improvement of lodgings for the working classes; 10,000,000 to a *credit foncier*; 5,000,000 to the poor clergy; and the rest to the retired soldiers of the Legion of Honor.

Letters from Naples of the 12th inst., state that the Duchess of Anmale was safely delivered, the night before, of a prince, who received the title of Duc de Guise. The Prince was christened on the 12th, and held at the baptismal fonts by the King of Naples and the Dowager Princess of Salerno.

THE FRENCH CONSTITUTION.

Bernadotte told Louis XVIII. that France must be governed with an iron hand and a velvet glove. The Louis who is now at the head of this remarkable people, has evidently acted on the hint. Over the "iron hand" of despotism with which he grasps the throat of liberty, he has drawn the flimsy "velvet glove" of universal suffrage. The "Constitution" which he has given to France, could hardly have been more despotic, had it been made to order by a Russian or Austrian cabinet. It virtually constitutes Louis Napoleon the government of France, and even gives him the power of choosing his successor. He is required to take no oath, which, indeed, would be an unnecessary ceremony, to one who is fresh from his violated vows. "The ministers depend solely on him, the Chief of the State." "He has the power to call and dismiss the Legislature and the Senate." He has also the power "to accord the Senators, by reason of the services rendered, and of their position as respects fortune, a personal donation which

shall not exceed 30,000f. yearly." "He commands the land and sea forces, declares war, concludes treaties of peace, political and commercial alliances, and makes the rules and decrees for the execution of laws." "Justice is rendered in his name." "All officers swear fidelity to the Constitution and to him." "He alone has the initiative of the laws." All public functionaries "swear obedience to the Constitution, and fidelity to the President." No provision is made for the election of a successor, except in the case of his death; so that the ten year term is a mere pretence.

The Senate is to consist, 1st of the Cardinals, Marshals, Admirals; 2d, of the citizens whom the President deems fit to elevate to the dignity. They are to be irremovable, and named for life. Their functions are nominally gratuitous, though the President may confer on them an income of 30,000f. at his pleasure. The Senate is to consist of 150 members, only 80 of whom are to be appointed the first year. The sessions of the Senate are private.

The Ministry are the mere agents of the President of the Republic, and are impeachable only by the Senate. The Councillors of State are named by the President, liable to removal by him at any time. He also indicates a Vice President. The principal business of the Council is to draw projects of law. They are to receive a salary of 25,000 francs yearly. Provision is made for a High Court of Justice, to be converted by a presidential decree, which has power to judge without appeal all persons charged with "crimes, attempts or plots against the President."

The Legislative Assembly is to be elected by universal suffrage, in the proportion of one deputy to 35,000 inhabitants. The members do not receive any salary, and are to hold office for six years. This body has the privilege of discussing laws it cannot alter by way of amendment, and of voting measures it cannot originate. The President of the Republic may convoke, adjourn, prorogue, and dissolve the Legislative corps at his own pleasure. The sittings of the Assembly are public, but five of the members may close the doors. The published proceedings of this body must consist only of the minutes drawn out at the close of each sitting under the care of the President of the Legislative corps.

Simultaneous with the new Constitution, appears a decree of the President, banishing from France many of her most able and distinguished sons, both civil and military. This excitement produced by these events is represented to be great, and we see no reason to suppose that the present order of things will be of long continuance. The "Prince President" has played his last card, but the game is not yet ended. The people's *coup d'etat* is yet to come.

War between Great Britain and France.

One of the most striking and significant signs of the times is the alarm which has suddenly arisen in England on the subject of an apprehended war with France. This does not appear to be a momentary panic started by a newspaper, prevailing only among the ignorant and credulous, but it is manifestly a deep and serious belief of most men of foresight and intelligence, statesmen and military men.

The loves of states, like those of individuals are of a perishable quality; and, by a strange fatality in the history of nations, a period of the greatest mutual confidence is often closely followed by one of jealousy and distrust. In 1789, the beginning of the French Revolution was hailed by poets and enthusiasts as the approach of a millennium of universal brotherhood. Yet, in no more than three years afterwards, England and France were engaged in a contest which shook each country to its centre. In 1851 was opened the Great Exhibition, which was to proclaim to the nations the folly, and to Princes the impossibility, of war. Scarcely three months, however, have elapsed since its close, and we hear nothing talked of but a threatened invasion and a Continental rupture.

These remarks from the Morning Chronicle are confirmed by everything said on the same subject by the Times. It is natural to ask, what have France and England to quarrel about? Ostensibly nothing; but the same question might have been asked, and the same answer given before the war of '93 and the rupture of Amiens. The avowed pretext of a war is seldom the real cause; and the groundswell which precedes a storm is often felt before we can see a cloud. Certain it is, that the atmosphere between France and England

grows sulphureous, and betokens an electrical discharge quite different from that of the telegraphic cable which has just crossed the channel. Louis Napoleon must do something to dazzle the French. A reign of peace would be fatal to his authority by leaving the people leisure to canvass his title and reflect upon the infamous means by which he has become their master. He is daring, unscrupulous and foolhardy. In everything he is the ape of his uncle, and imagines that like him he can feed the French with glory. Besides, he is under obligations to the army—and the army will never forget Waterloo. Let war break out with England and they would rush to the field of battle as to a pastime.

The English feel all this, and are seriously alarmed. They have fallen to inquiring with great anxiety what are the chances of the coming war. France has an army of nearly half a million of men, equipped and disciplined in the most perfect manner. Great Britain has but a small army, in the worst possible state to meet an invasion. The following statements are from the Morning Chronicle:—

We have a coast line of upwards of 9000 miles to defend, and we have 1500 cannon mounted to defend it. How many gunners do our readers suppose that we allot to each gun, to perform all the operations of loading, sponging, pointing, and firing?—About three! Yet we have provided more liberally for our own defence than for that of the colonies. At Gibraltar we have "not quite" one man to a gun. In the Ionian Islands there is the same liberal allowance. Malta has two men for every three guns—perhaps by way of extra discipline. In our other dependencies there are on an average two men to a gun.

The Prussians deem an army properly supplied with artillery when it has one gun to every 200 men. In the French service, the proportion is 1 gun to 250 men. At Leipzig, each of the contending armies had a gun to 203 men. At Borodino, the French had a gun to 225 men, and the Russians had one to 206. Now, if we adopt the lowest of these estimates,—viz. a gun to 250 men,—our home army of (say) 35,000 men ought to have 140 guns. If we merely act up to the recommendation of the Artillery Committee of 1820—60 guns for 27,000 men—we ought to have 77 pieces of cannon. But what is the fact? We have only 52 guns horsed for service in Great Britain. This is not a solitary instance of negligence, and if we suffer for it, it will not be for the first time. At Waterloo we had but one gun to 408 men—in Spain, only one to 785. It is true that we beat the enemy on those occasions; but how much blood and treasure might have been saved if we had beaten him a little more quickly. Our improvidence, however, is not confined to cannon destined for service in the field.

The British home army amounts to 110,000 men, of whom only 73,000 are in Great Britain, the remainder being stationed in Ireland. It is admitted that a French army, after landing, would march to London and Liverpool without meeting with any material obstruction. Very nice calculations have been made as to the ability of the French to get across the Channel, and the results are such as to confirm the fears of an invasion. The government have been purchasing all the American rifles in the market.

Is war, then, likely to ensue? The Paris papers affect to laugh at the fears of the English, whom they represent as all engaged in packing up their effects, to be ready to escape to the United States, at the first announcement of the landing of the French. They assure the English that Louis Napoleon has no thought of making war. But the English look upon this talk as a device to lull them into a fatal security, and they call loudly for warlike preparations. They certainly feel that they are in danger, and we cannot help adding that their apprehensions are far from being groundless.—*Boston Courier*.

THE TREATY OF PARIS.—On the 20th of November, 1815, at Paris, a treaty was concluded between Prussia, Austria, Great Britain, and Russia, of which the second article runs thus:

"As the High Contracting Powers have undertaken the war now concluded, in order to maintain the conditions agreed on the year before at Paris, for the safety and prosperity of Europe, they have found it good to renew, by the present act, these conditions... as well as more particularly to renew and recognize as binding, that agreement by which Napoleon Bonaparte and his family (according to the treaty of the 11th April, 1814) are exclu-

ded for ever, from the supreme power in France. Which exclusion the High Contracting Powers bind themselves again especially, by the present act, to maintain in full force, if necessary by the employment of all their power."

"FRANCE IS TRANQUIL!"—Over the above title, Punch contains a caricature, representing a French soldier pressing down with a musket the Goddess of Liberty, who is bound, gagged, and ironed. Beneath the figure is "La Presse," torn and trampled upon, and above, inscribed upon a wall, are the words, "Liberte, Egalite, Frat—" (the rest of the latter is obliterated.) In the back ground are soldiers firing into defenceless houses.

The manufactories of 'Tea' recently discovered in London, together with the following Fare, for British Sailors, show that all the reguery of this kind does not originate in Connecticut:—

A BASE FRAUD.—A most outrageous fraud upon the British Government has recently been detected by the officers of the Admiralty. It has been perpetrated by persons who entered into contract to supply the navy with patent preserved meat, packed in sealed tin canisters, and warranted to keep fresh and sweet for five years. Suspicion was excited as to the quality of these supplies, and an examination was instituted, which resulted in the most heart-sickening disclosures. Out of 7000 canisters, it was found that only 180 contained anything fit to be eaten. The contents exposed were chiefly foetid putrid matter, now and then varied with a few stones, entrails with the excrement in them, kidneys green with decomposition, lumps of heart, and in many cases, whole hearts festering with putridity, coagulated blood in great abundance, tallow, lumps of tendons, grease and offal. The British government has already paid the sum of £200,000 to the contractors who perpetrated this base fraud. Sir John Franklin's ships were provisioned with this preserved meat, and from the fact that at Beechy Island, where the last traces of him were discovered, the ground was covered with heaps of empty canisters, there is reason to fear that his stores were of this character.

Religious Liberty in Austria.—A letter from Vienna says:—Religious liberty under the new regime does not mean free trade in religion, nor the right of free and open discussion on religious matters, but merely that non-conformists will continue as heretofore to be tolerated in the country, and no impediment put in the way of exercising their devotional rites. The Jews and the peasants now turn out to have been the only real gainers by the revolution, the former being no longer subject to civil disabilities, and the latter emancipated from feudal service.

MISSIONS TO THE JEWS.—The Scottish mission at Constantinople describe the state of the Jews as giving grounds for hope in presenting to them the true Messiah. The New Testament is obtained and read by an increasing number, with tracts and other books. At Ballat, where is a population of 10,000 Jews, and the residence of their political Rabbi, a large number of testaments found a ready sale, and if a suitable teacher could be obtained there would be no difficulty in gathering a school for children of Jewish families. The mission to Jews at Amsterdam also is making satisfactory progress, and four conversions are recently announced.

The Egyptian railway works are now in active operation, and 10,000 men will soon be employed on the north end of the line. Mr. Stephenson intends that, in order to do away as speedily as possible with the inconvenience of the Mahmoudie Canal navigation, the line from Alexandria to the Nile, near Nigeelah, shall be completed at once, and he expects passengers and merchandize will be thus far conveyed within twelve months. It is finally decided that the railway is to pass through the populous and well-cultivated delta, crossing the Nile by a floating bridge at Kafr-Zayat, a route that will be much more advantageous to the country than that first thought of, through the desert on the western side of the river.

A SOUL-DESTROYING BUSINESS.—The manufacture and demand for opium is increasing every year. The British government in India derives an annual revenue from the opium-trade, of over \$15,000,000: the net profit to the government in the sale of the drug, is more than 300 per cent. There seems to be no