

Dr. Potter proposed a resolution, asking the House of Bishops to join with this House in establishing a society for the support of widows and orphans of deceased clergymen; which motion he supported in some very feeling remarks on the condition of the clergy and their families in this country.

The resolution was almost unanimously adopted.

The Rev. Dr. Hugbo, of N. Y., offered a resolution to the effect that the inadequate pecuniary support of clergymen is operating throughout the Church as an almost fatal discouragement to the work of the ministry, and is the cause of the present diminution of the candidates for holy orders, and that, therefore, the Bishops be requested to make this great evil and injustice the subject of their consideration.

Mr. Newton, of Mass., supported this resolution.—The laity, he said, were delinquent in this matter. For his part, he was willing to do all he could to repair the evil. He remarked that the average salary of clergymen in Virginia and Connecticut was \$400 a year, and sometimes less.

After some further discussion the resolution of Dr. Hugbo was adopted.

The Joint Committee, to whom was referred a Canon from the House of Bishops, and the resolution of the Convention of New York, with an accompanying report upon the subject of an accused minister appealing to the civil tribunals, reported to the House, through Murray Hoffman, that they have duly considered the same, and deem it inexpedient to legislate on the subject, on the following grounds:

They find the action of the civil tribunals throughout our country, with scarcely any exception, in harmony with the lawful exercise of every power necessary to enforce the discipline of the Church.

They understand the established rule to be substantially this—that such courts will in no case interfere with the proceedings or sentence of Ecclesiastical tribunals, except where a right to property or to some civil privileges is brought in question; and then only to determine the existence of the jurisdiction over the party and subject; to ascertain that the proceedings have been had upon reasonable notice to appear and defend, and are unsustained by fraud.

To such restrictions, the duty of every citizen binds him to submit, and the enlightened conscience of every Christian must yield them approbation. In language of the Court of Appeals of South Carolina, "the structure of the government has, for the preservation of civil liberty, rescued the temporal institutions from religious interference. On the other hand, it has secured religious liberty from the invasion of the civil authority. The judgments, therefore, of religious associations, bearing upon their own members, are not examinable here."

Thus happily, (proceeds the report,) has the power of the State, in our land, moved in its appropriate sphere, and the discipline of a Church in its spiritual and peculiar office, been recognized and sustained. To adopt any measure, which would appear to deny, or even doubt the fidelity of the civil courts to these safe principles, would be unwise and unjudicious.

It would be deemed an approach to the doctrine of Papal supremacy, which demands the obedience of all authority to its sway, and seeks to control all civil rights as well as spiritual relations. That doctrine called forth the formidable strength of monarchy and States to promote the reformation of the faith; and the efforts which broke the chain upon the religious mind, and severed the bond of universal allegiance to a usurped dominion.

The committee say that they are well aware of the great evils, labor, and responsibility which an unrestricted and unsuccessful application to the civil tribunals may impose upon individuals in the discharge of their duty to the Church. The committee see no means of arresting our mitigating these evils, but at the risk of incurring others of a far deeper and more injurious nature.

Those who may be unhappily involved, must be left to the countenance and support of the Church; and the example furnished by the diocese of New York warrants the belief that they will not be left alone in their labors or their burthens.

The committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:—

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to pass any canon, or take any order in relation to any application by accused ministers to the civil tribunals, for interposition or redress.

The resolution was adopted.

News Department.

From Papers by the R. M. S. America, Oct. 29.

ENGLAND.

THE declaration of the Earl of Clarendon, in answer to the Finsbury deputation on the Russo-Turkish question, "that there is not the slightest intention on the part of Her Majesty's Government of abandoning the Sultan, is so far satisfactory, and is in accordance with the principle which we were sure all along must be the policy of the English Cabinet. On the morning of the 14th October the English and French fleets entered the straits of the Dardanelles. They anchored under shelter of the Island of Marmora, in the Sea of that name, and it is understood that at present they will not proceed up to the Golden Horn, the Sultan having required that they should not intervene except at his express request.

Nearly all the country markets have advanced the value of grain, chiefly under the influence of the adverse weather. Wheat has risen from 1s to 5s. (York 4s. Nottingham 5s.); a good amount of business was done. Prices have already attained a considerable height at a season when they range lowest in ordinary years. The highest prices quoted in 1847 were on the 17th May.

Abroad, in the Baltic, prices of corn are maintained with firmness, and an upward tendency; nearly the whole available stocks in the ports were shipping off. Holland and Belgium quiet but firm; France rising again. At Paris the top price of flour has risen to 93 francs per 157 ks. From Marseilles it is stated that nearly all the corn arriving from the Black Sea is disappearing into the interior as fast as it arrives. At Odessa prices have given way considerably on the announcement of the war-declaration. Vessels were in great demand at enormous freights; granaries filled to overflowing. Stocks of corn amount to one-half million quarters. Galatz similarly situated—no vessels, large stocks, prices dropping.

THE UNITED STATES AS A NAVAL POWER.—The congregation of American ships of war in the Mediterranean, simultaneously with the exploit of the United States' commander in the Bay of Smyrna, and the subsequent coil with Austria, has not escaped notice in the European journals, and is not without significance as to the future part which the President and the Senate may possibly see fit to enact in relation to the affairs and events of the Old World. The *Kreuz Zeitung* of Berlin, a Conservative paper, has directed attention to this increase of the American force, and the perpetual coming and going of their ships to and from Alexandria, Tangier, La Spezzia, and other ports, till their commodore appears to have a regular "Mediterranean fleet" under his command. The *Kreuz Zeitung* remarks that "the democrats of the New World have evidently something in contemplation, as they are not the people to send all their ships there for nought; and the language of the Americans themselves confirms the conjecture. An officer of the United States' navy said the other day, when the conversation turned on General Washington and the non-intervention doctrine, that he would talk differently were he now alive—he'd be no idle Whig, but an active Democrat." This dictum corresponds with that of the *New York Journal*, which recently declared that Captain Ingraham, had he but opened a broadside on the Austrian corvette, in the waters of Smyrna, the other day, would have been the next President of the United States. We have been familiarised of late with this vague threat of intervention in European politics from more than one section of the American press; and in the valedictory address of M. Soule, the newly-appointed minister to the court of Spain, there was a still more tangible allusion to the duty of a model republic to render itself henceforward a tutelary intervener between democracy and despotism. The origin of this inclination has been ascribed to the increasing impatience of the citizens of the United States at seeing the continued influence of England, exercising, as she does, a potential and a recognised authority in adjusting the interests and misunderstandings of her European contemporaries. They grow weary of the never-ending allusions to "Aristides the just," and their fretfulness is nourished by contrasting their own powers for intervention with the fact of their practical exclusion. We are not altogether unprepared for the manifestation of this feeling, marking, as we have done, the unprecedented and almost incredible pace of American development. Our readers will, no doubt, be startled at the fact that the mercantile navy of the United States is at present greater than that of the United Kingdom; and that the tonnage of the single city of New York is within a trifle of being equal to that of London, and Liverpool put together. According to the Americans, their mercantile marine was, at the close of the year, upwards of 4,000,000 tons, whilst that of Great Britain was but 3,500,000 tons. Seven years ago the tonnage of New York was considerably less than that of London. At the end of 1832 it exceeded 1,000,000 tons, whilst that of London was 672,000 tons, and that of Liverpool 634,000 tons.—These are marvellous facts; and coupling with the unconcealed ambition of the Republic to assume "a mission" amongst the nations of the earth the knowledge of her prodigious energy and strength, it is neither premature nor presumptuous to infer that in the coming crisis of Europe the statesmen and the fleets of the United States are not likely to rest contented with playing the part of mere observers.—*The Press*.

FRANCE.

The returns of the Customs received for the first nine months of the year ending October 1st, have been published. They amounted to 103,318,000*l.*, exceeding by 18,000*l.* those of the corresponding period of

1852, and by 16,043,000*l.* those of 1851. The receipts for the month of September were 12,704,000 *l.*, or 1,325,000*l.* more than on September, 1852.

General Baraguay D'Hilliers is stated to be the successor of M. de la Cour at Constantinople.

An article of a warlike character, which appeared in the *Moniteur*, upon the Turkish question is, stated to have been written by the Emperor himself.

Everything is prepared for a land expedition from France to Constantinople; but no orders will be given for it to leave unless new circumstances should render it necessary. This is not all that has been done at the Ministry of War. The Military cadres have been reformed, and such admirable arrangements have been made, that in less than six weeks the standing army of France could be raised to 750,000 men.

ROME.

The garrison at Rome is about to be strengthened by more French troops, and the alarm of war strikes terror into the heart of the Pope and his Government. We have, however, little or no reliance upon any pretended news which reaches us from any part of Italy. The people are, however, greatly suffering from the high prices of food.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

St. Petersburg letters received in Paris, speak of a strong desire for a negotiation on the part of the Count de Nesselrode; and even the *St. Petersburg Journal* has an article that is decidedly in this sense. It is believed that endeavours are still being actively made by the four powers to effect a peaceable solution.

A telegraph despatch from Bucharest states that on the 23rd instant two Russian Steamers and eight gunboats forced a passage on the Danube, and encountered a smart fire from the fort of Isactcha, situated on the right borders of the River, between Reni and Ismail. The Colonel commanding the flotilla, along with 8 officers and 12 men, were killed, and fifty wounded. The Russians assert that they succeeded in setting fire to the fortress of Isactcha.

The reports from the Russian quarters in the Principalities state that 17 hospitals already exist, and that ten more are about to be opened. The most costly furnished and admirably arranged palaces and dwelling-houses of the inhabitants are taken without remorse by the Russians for the purpose of accommodating their sick, who multiply so fast on their hands that they have ready adopted the expedient of removing such as can bear it further northward.

The report that Prince Paskiewitch has been appointed to command the army on the Danube has been positively contradicted.

THE SULTAN'S FIRMAN IN FAVOUR OF HIS PROTESTANT SUBJECTS.—Most honoured vizier, illustrious counsellor, maintainer of the good order of the world, director of public affairs with wisdom and judgment, accomplisher of the important transactions of mankind with intelligence and good sense, consolidator of the edifice of empire and of glory, endowed by the Most High with abundant gifts, and Moushir, at this time, of my gate of felicity, my Vizier, Mehemed Pasha, may God be pleased to preserve him long in exalted dignity.

Let it be known on receipt of this my noble rescript, that—

Whereas, those of my Christian subjects who have embraced the Protestant faith have suffered inconveniences and difficulties in consequence of their not having been hitherto placed under a separate and special jurisdiction, and in consequence of the patriarchs and primates of their old creeds, which they have abandoned, not being naturally able to administer their affairs.

Whereas, in necessary accordance with my imperial solicitude and benevolence towards all classes of my subjects, it is contrary to my imperial pleasure that any class of them should be exposed to trouble. And whereas, by reason of their faith, the aforesaid protestants form a separate community. It is, in consequence my royal pleasure that measures be taken for the sole purpose of facilitating the administration of their affairs, so that they may live in peace, quiet, and security.—Let, then, a respectable and trustworthy person, chosen by themselves, from among their own number, be appointed, with the title of "Agent to the Protestants," to be attached to the department of the ministers of police. It shall be the duty of the agent to take charge of the register of the members of the community, and which is to be kept at the police department. The agent is to register therein all births and deaths. All applications for passports and marriage licenses, and on those special affairs of the community which are to come before the Sublime Porte, or any other department, are to be made under the official seal of the agent