

EUROPEAN STATES AND RULERS.

COUNTRY.	RULER.	Age.	Length of Reign.	Population.
Catholic Christendom.....	Pope Pius IX.....	82	27½	
German Empire.....	Emperor William.....	77	3	41,000,000
Prussia.....	King William.....	77	13	24,656,078
Bavaria.....	King Ludwig II.....	28	10	4,852,026
Saxony.....	King Albert.....	45	2	2,656,244
Wurtemberg.....	King Carl I.....	51	9½	1,818,539
Baden.....	Grand Duke Frederick.....	47	22	1,461,562
Hesse.....	Grand Duke Ludwig III.....	67½	25½	852,894
Meck-Schwerin.....	Grand Duke Fred'k Franz.....	51	32	557,897
Saxe-Weimar.....	Grand Duke Carl Alex'r.....	55½	20½	286,183
Meck-Strelitz.....	Grand Duke Fred'k - Wm.....	54	13	96,992
Oldenburg.....	Grand Duke Peter.....	46½	21	312,696
Brunswick.....	Duke William.....	68	42½	311,764
Saxe-Meiningen.....	Duke George II.....	48	7½	187,857
Saxe-Altenburg.....	Duke Ernest.....	47	20½	142,122
Saxe-Coburg - Gotha.....	Duke Ernest II.....	55½	30	174,339
Anhalt.....	Duke Frederick.....	43	3	203,439
Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt.....	Prince George.....	35	4½	75,523
Schwarzburg-Sonderhausen.....	Prince Gunther.....	72	38	67,191
Waldeck.....	Prince George V.....	43	29	56,224
Reuss (older).....	Prince Henry XXII.....	28	14	45,094
Reuss (younger).....	Prince Henry XIV.....	42	6½	89,032
Schauenburg-Lippe.....	Prince Adolph.....	56½	13	32,059
Lippe-Deimold.....	Prince Leopold.....	52½	23	111,135
Lubeck.....	Free City.....			52,158
Bremen.....	Free City.....			122,482
Hamburg.....	Free City.....			338,974
Alsace-Lorraine.....	Imperial.....			1,549,587
Total of the German.....				41,000,000
Russia.....	Czar Alexander II.....	55½	19	17,174,190
France.....	President MacMahon.....	65½	1	36,102,921
Austro-Hungary.....	Emperor Francis-Joseph.....	43½	25	35,904,435
Great Britain and Ireland.....	Queen Victoria.....	54½	36½	32,300,000
Italy.....	King Victor-Emmanuel.....	53½	13	27,000,000
Spain.....				16,800,000
Turkey.....	Sultan Abdul Aziz.....	44	13	9,800,000
Roumania.....	Prince Carl I.....	35	8	4,500,000
Servia.....	Prince Milan.....	19	1½	1,325,000
Montenegro.....	Prince Nicholas.....	33	13½	120,000
Sweden and Norway.....	King Oscar II.....	45	1½	6,013,000
Belgium.....	King Leopold II.....	39	8	5,087,100
Portugal.....	King Louis I.....	35	12	4,000,000
Holland.....	King William III.....	57	25	3,674,000
Switzerland.....	Republic.....			2,669,000
Denmark.....	King Christian IX.....	56	10½	1,865,000
Greece.....	King George I.....	28	10½	1,458,000
Liechtenstein.....	Prince John II.....	33	15	8,320
Monaco.....	Prince Carl III.....	35	17½	3,127
Andorra.....	Republic.....			12,000
San Marino.....	Republic.....			7,306

The four latter principalities and republics in the list are placed as a matter of curiosity, and for the sake of completion. Their populations do not amount altogether to much more than 30,000—enough for a small town. On glancing over the list it will be found that the Holy Father is the oldest, eighty-two; then follows the Emperor of Germany, seventy-seven; then Prince Gunther, seventy-two. His Holiness does not seem to have any intention of pleasing his enemies in a hurry. The rumor of his sickness brought many to Rome in April last; but the aged Pontiff recovered, and has been heard of since then. The Emperor

William has recovered from his recent attack. Death has been busy in the royal ranks during the year. The Emperor Napoleon died on the 9th January. The Grand Duchess Helene of Russia followed on the 21st of the same month. Duke Carl of Brunswick, elder brother of the reigning Duke, died at Geneva in August. He had enjoyed the pleasures of rulership for a time, but had been driven from his throne and declared incapable of reigning by the German Bund in 1830. The most important change caused by death was the accession of King Albert to the throne of Saxony, succeeding the lamented King John. The new King, who delights in a long name—Albert Friedrich August Anton Ferdinand Joseph Carl Maria Baptist Nepomuk Wilhelm Xavier George Fidelis born on the 23rd of April, 1828, began his reign by coming into gentle conflict with the Empi e. He thought it necessary to his dynasty as King by the grace of God to send special Ambassadors to the European courts to inform them that Albert was now king. He also issued an address to the Saxon army, calling it "his," which claim offended the Kaiser in Berlin. He now talks of getting crowned and anointed, and has the idea of asking his august uncle at Berlin to attend, and give character and dignity to the imposing ceremonies then to take place. The year 1873 produced "one more unfortunate" dismissed from his throne. King Amadeus abdicated the Spanish throne on the 11th of February.—*Frankfort Correspondence.*

Girding the Earth with Postal Service.

The Cunard steamship Parthia, which arrived at Boston on the 26th day of January last, brought, among other mails, that for the Australian colonies, New Zealand, Sandwich Islands, etc., from London, consisting of one hundred and eighty sacks. These were forwarded to San Francisco for the steamer which sailed on the 31st of the same month. This was the first mail landed in the United States in connection with the establishment of the new mail line of steamships between London and Australia via San Francisco, opened for service on the 13th day of January. The connections were promptly made, and, it may be added, the fact illustrates the rapidity with which the commercial world is moving toward a complete, rapid, and universal postal system, involving the closer interchange of trade between the United States and England's great colonies in the Southern Seas, and creating mutual advantages calculated to bind the two countries in still closer bonds of friendship.

This great mail-route of over ten thousand miles, girdling the earth in about fifty days, has only been established after repeated efforts. Thrice has the attempt been made, but never before with greater prospects of permanent success than those which now present themselves. The previous mode of communication to Australia from London, for mail purposes, was via Suez, and the time consumed in making the trip over fifty days. The steamers now employed under the new arrangement, will be only temporarily employed; four fast steamers, of 2,500 tons register each, are being built, to be ready for service some time next summer. The McGregor, which arrived at San Francisco January 26th, was the pioneer antipodal steamer of the line. She brought dates from Sydney, New South Wales, to December 20th, and from Auckland, New Zealand, to December 22nd. Upon her return, which was January 31st, she carried the mail to the Sandwich Islands and to the Australian colonies, stopping at Cordova, a station in the Feejee Islands, to connect with a steamer to Sydney and another to New Zealand. In this connection, consequent upon the establishment of this mail-line, the New-Zealand Navigation Company has placed, on the passage between Auckland and Poverty Bay and Napier, a steamer, and also one to engage in the coast-trade.

The establishment of this mail-line of steamships is worthy of more than passing notice. It is a striking feature in the romance of commerce and the advance of civilization. While among the stupendous ideas of modern commerce, we have an inkling of traversing by rail a distance of six thousand miles, by the Euphrates-Valley Railroad to India, through Turkey, extending to and crossing the Bosphorus by ferry thence straight to Adalia, on the Mediterranean, thence through the Euphrates-Valley, and along the shores of the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea, to its destination; while the railway under the Alps will shorten and cheapen the distance between the extreme East and the West; and from Egypt to London in a week, and to New York in seventeen days, will sooner or later, be reduced in time, and from New York to Bombay in eighty days instead of ninety-three, we are reminded, in a very striking manner—that the "iron horse" is jealous of the marine engine; that the palace-car vies with the sumptuously appointed cabin of the magnificent steamship. Viewed in the light of inter-commercial