

have perished, and two-thirds of the buildings, public and private, have been destroyed.

The peasants of Grodno having refused to join the Russian militia because they were wanted to gather in the harvest, the Russian authorities ordered the destruction of the standing crops, which has been executed.

The Emperor Napoleon has repeated his declaration not to undertake any intervention in behalf of Poland if he is not assisted by England and Austria.

Affairs in Mexico are not likely to settle down so quietly as was anticipated. Ortega, the defender of Puebla, is in command of the state of Zacatecas and is open hostility to the French: the abandoned city of Tampico has been occupied by another Mexican general, named Gaxn, whom the French are about to attack; and Juarez, the ex-President of the Republic, lingers about Potosi. These facts show that the work of the French expeditionary corps is not yet completed.

President Juarez (for he still claims to be the ruler of Mexico) has despatched a mission to Washington demanding assistance to expel the audacious invaders who have proclaimed the Archduke Maximilian Emperor.

The Government of Japan has paid the indemnity of \$400,000 demanded by the English Government for the murder of Mr. Richardson, but refused to surrender the murderers.

The natives of New Zealand have been defeated, with considerable loss, at Tarnaki, by a force under General Cameron. Of the 650 British troops engaged, only one was killed and nine wounded.

A NEW INFERNAL MACHINE.—A newly-invented machine for destroying ships has just been successfully tried at Helsingfors. The inventor is Lieutenant Colonel Ramsdort. It is made of glass, and contains about 8lbs. of powder. An old ship with which the experiment was made was completely blown to pieces. The Russian Government has now given an order for a large number of these machines.

REMARKABLY PROLONGED SLEEP.—Dr. Cousins, of Portsmouth, has under his care an extraordinary case of this nature. The subject of it is a farmer, aged forty-three. He has never suffered from any head affection, and his general health has been excellent. At various times during the last twenty years he has been subject to unusually prolonged sleep. The longest period of somnolency is five days and nights; three is not uncommon, and even four, but the average time is about two days. He never dreams; memory is retentive; and when he becomes conscious after these attacks, he remembers everything that happened just before.

The sanitary condition of the French army in certain parts of Mexico is represented as most deplorable. It is stated that not less than 4500 soldiers have perished from yellow fever, and of the Egyptian battalion of 400 men lent by the Pasha only 150 remain.

Accounts from Messina state that the volcano of Mount Etna is vomiting fire and lava. A new eruption is threatened in the direction of Bronte. The inhabitants of Catania are terrified at the formidable noise and the shower of ashes and stones falling in that direction. The population of the mountain have made preparations to quit their dwellings. Their horses are saddled, their cattle gathered together, and all their household furniture packed up to be ready for immediate removal.

EXTRAORDINARY LONGEVITY.—The Hampshire papers record the death of Jane Hoskins, at Romsey, who was 109 years old. She was twice married—first to a hawker and secondly to a wood-cutter. She enjoyed throughout life good health, and her death resulted simply from decay.

A woman named Gainstock has just died in the Marlborough Workhouse, Wilts, at the extraordinary age of 106. She was in the full possession of all her faculties to the last.

A FLYING MAN.—The Journal de Constantinople publishes the following strange story:—"One evening last week, two young men from the Isle of Prinkipo were returning in a caique from a sporting excursion on the coast of Asia, when they suddenly heard a noise for which they could not account; but soon after they perceived over their heads an enormous bird, the sight of which filled them with alarm. Seizing their guns, they both fired at it, and were still more amazed when they heard broken words and cries which could only proceed from human organs. They at once steered for the spot where the supposed bird had fallen, and were struck with stupefaction on finding that what they had taken for a volatile was a man with an immense pair of mechanical wings. They took him into their boat, and were not a little relieved on finding that he had only received a few scratches.

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune, states—on the authority of a letter he has received from Richmond—that after fifteen days of close conference between the Governors of the Confederate States and the members of the Cabinet, it was decided that the salvation of the country required the arming of the slaves, and that a call of 400,000 blacks, one from every eight inhabitants, should take place forthwith.

APPALLING DISASTER.—A correspondent of the New York Herald gives an account of an appalling disaster at Vicksburg, by which 200 soldiers, citizens and negroes were killed, wounded or drowned. On the 18th ult., a heavy detail of soldiers, numbering 160, was made from one of the regiments, for the purpose of conveying on board the boat City of Madison a quantity of fixed and unfixed ammunition, together with an additional number of projectiles. About 20 negroes were also engaged in the work. One hundred and fifty tons of the terrific but slumbering agent were already delivered; when early in the evening—while some of the men were employed in the hold, others engaged in conveying the dangerous freight on board, and all hastening to complete their labours for the day—a soldier had given a shell into the hands of a negro to be passed down. Unfortunately the negro standing below failed to properly secure in his hands the shell handed him from the one in the hatch above. It slipped, he made an effort to regain his grasp, but it had already struck.

The shock sustained by the full ignited the irresistible powder within. No sooner came the flash than followed the report. In an instant, as if the fire were merely the premonitions of the great terror to succeed, the very city shook to its foundation, window panes fell in by the terrible force of the concussion with a deafening crash, the river boiled violently and spasmodically, and its very bottom was ploughed up by the immense rush of the element.

Then followed all the horrors which ever mutilated the human form and wound it in the writhings of most painful and shocking tortures. Destruction, pain and death lay round in one mass of mangled, singed, and blackened bodies, shattered timbers and the debris of buildings, vehicles and vessels.

A grand Temperance demonstration is announced to take place in New York, on the 29th inst., being the 21st anniversary of the Order of Sons of Temperance. Delegates from the Grand Divisions of the Federal States, Canada and the Lower Provinces will be present.

A Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune says it is rumored among politicians in Richmond that Robert M. T. Hunter will be sent to Mexico as the representative of the Southern Confederacy, in order to prepare the way for an offensive and defensive alliance between the Emperor of that country and the Government at Richmond. Mr. Hunter is now in Paris, where he was sent nearly two months ago by his Government with a special mission to the Emperor of the French. He will leave Europe and will accompany the Emperor of Mexico to his capital as soon as the candidate for that throne shall assume the government of his dominion.

[For later Intelligence, see page 95.]