

The



Star

And Newfoundland Advocate.

HEARTS RESOLVED AND HANDS PREPARED, THE BLESSINGS THEY ENJOY TO GUARD. — SMOLLET.

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ST. JOHN'S, Newfoundland:—Printed and Published by JOHN THOMAS BURTON, at his Office, opposite the premises of N. GILL, Esq. WATER-STREET.

The Origin of the Fire at Devonport Accounted for.—The origin of the fire is at last accounted for. The suspected foreigners have vanished, no trace of them have been discovered, although the metropolitan police officers have searched the country in every direction. It has now been established that the fire resulted from spontaneous combustion. It appears that what is called a "bin" had been placed under the shed that covered the Talavera. This "bin" is an erection of wood made for the purpose of containing the offal collected from the neighbouring parts of the yard till it can be conveniently removed from the arsenal, and the one constructed under the shed over the Talavera was of the extent of about 400 square feet. It was placed on the south side of the ship, and at the distance of about 30 feet from her. The refuse from all the neighbouring works and offices had been thrown into it, and it contained a large mass of filth, composed of oakum, tallow, waste of paint, old canvas, sawdust, chips, &c. This mass generated a high degree of heat, and spontaneous combustion was the result. The fire thus originating, communicated with the shed over the Talavera; for it is now proved that the shed, not the ship, was first on fire. From the shed the Talavera was kindled, and the coal tar, with which that vessel was impregnated to saturation, generating gas in large quantities, by the heat of the burning shed operating upon it, an easy medium for communicating the flames from one part to another was thus provided, and the rapidity with which they spread from stem to stern is in this manner accounted for.

Foreigners in France.—The equivocal position in which we are in respect to Europe, has caused a sort of panic amongst the numerous foreigners in France. Nothing but landaus, caleches, and postchaises are seen taking the road to the frontiers, several English families returning from Italy, having preferred passing through Germany to return to England.—There is also much activity going on in the Russian society, which, it is reported, has been officially informed, through the organ of its embassy, that it must expect every minute to receive orders to leave France.

FRANCE.

Continued Excitement in Paris.—Some apprehensions of an *emeute* prevailed in Paris on Sunday. On the one hand, the National Guard would it was feared, take some steps to demand of Government a declaration of war; on the other, population, would, it was expected, make some demonstration against the commencement of the works for the fortification of Paris. The regiments quartered

in Courlevoise, and in Rueil (in the neighbourhood of Paris) were marched into town to reinforce the already numerous garrison, but no disturbance took place. A deputation from the National Guards of Paris presented themselves at the Hotel of Foreign Affairs in the forenoon with an address to the President of the Council (M. Thiers), calling upon him not to suffer France to be insulted; but that functionary not being at home, the document was left in the hands of an *employe* of the Minister, and the parties withdrew. The military on guard, however, paid them the honours usually offered to superior officers. An assemblage of some 500 or 600 young men in Lyons to clamour for war, and sing the "Marseillaise," occasioned some alarm in that city, but they were easily dispersed; 30 of their party were arrested.

The 'Univers' states that, notwithstanding the announcement of a telegraphic despatch in the Ministerial evening papers it was currently reported in the best informed circles that St. Jean d'Acre had been bombarded and captured by the English. The 'Siecle' gives a pompous account of the French fleet in the Mediterranean, and asserts that it carries 1,400 guns, whilst the English fleet only mounts 1,000 guns, and that in case of hostilities, by taking a position between Toulon and Algiers, a French fleet could completely command the trade of the Mediterranean. The frigate *La Minerve*, commanded by captain Lagrandais, had sailed from Brest on the 9th inst. for Toulon. The 'Journal des Debats' is, however, more alarming, for it foretells, from the impulse given to popular feeling, a recurrence of revolutionary horrors. Every where the desire for the 'Marseillaise' was expressed by the populace, and as generally it acted as stimulant to their passions, which could hardly fail to have serious results. The 'Debats' also complains of what it calls the system of intimidation attempted to be enforced against the expression of free opinions in the chambers. The preparations of the Government for war were still in progress, but are far from being complete. A great deficiency of seamen is experienced, and the real disciplined military force on foot in France cannot be estimated at more than 180,000 men, although the late additions of conscripts raised its force in men to more than 350,000. The 'Capitole' states, that in compliance with Prince Louis Napoleon's request, Dr. Conneau had been permitted to partake his captivity at Ham. The 'Capitole' asserts that a telegraphic despatch had been received from Lille announcing the approaching arrival of the King of the Belgians, with a remonstrance of the Germanic Diet against the mobilization of the national Guard; which they consider an indication of the intention

of the French Government to march an army across the frontier.

Emeute at Lyons.—The *Courier de Lyon* of the 12th states that the attempt at disturbance on Friday evening had put the authorities on their guard, and every preparation was made on Saturday for preserving order in the city. Detachments of cavalry and infantry were posted towards nightfall near the theatre of the Gymnase, where the singers of the "Marseillaise" were expected to assemble. Between the acts several individuals in the pit sang the air without being interrupted by the police, but a crowd which had assembled on the Place des Jacobins was dispersed by the military. After the play was over, a double line of soldiers forced the people to retire to the Quai Saint Antoine. Here the persons who had sung the "Marseillaise" in the theatre repeated the air, but the crowd was forced to move on by the soldiers, and was finally dispersed. At midnight every thing seemed perfectly tranquil, but at 1 o'clock, a band of about 500 individuals, believed to have come from the Croix Rousse, marched down to Quai St. Claire, singing the "Marseillaise." A patrol of cavalry met and forced the greater part of them to Pont Morand; but the gates of this bridge being shut at the other end, the rioters were caught in a trap, and sixty of them were arrested. Tranquillity was then completely restored. Out of the persons taken into custody on that night and the previous one, a large proportion proved to be Piedmontese, Prussian and other German workmen. In consequence of this, the authorities of Lyons immediately marched these individuals off to the frontiers of Savoy and the Rhine, to be expelled from France.

WARLIKE MOVEMENTS IN FRANCE.

The *Journal du Havre* asserts that numerous applications had been made to the Ministry from the ports of Brest, St. Malo, Treguier, and other harbors in Brittany (which were celebrated for their privateers during the last war) to be furnished with letters of mark. Nantes, Bordeaux, and Havre, had solicited permission to fit out cruisers, and had offered to purchase some old corvettes from the Government, which would make excellent privateers. At Havre it was proposed to fit out steamers, which it was considered would be fully competent to meet any English steamer.

A letter from Abbeville says—"We are led to believe that our fortifications are about to be replaced upon their old footing; that, in case of war, the works will be increased by both infantry and cavalry. At St. Valery-sur-Somme it is expected that batteries will be immediately erected for protecting the entrance into the bay, and that the old Fort de l'Empereur at the Point de Hordel is to be restored and mounted."

Letters from Boulogne state that the preparations for the defence of that port were pushed with increased activity.

We learn from Brest, says the *Journal*

du Havre, that the *Didon* frigate, of 6 guns, with another of the same force, name unknown, sailed on the 7th with sealed orders. Several days prior to this another 6 gun frigate also took her departure from Brest for an unknown destination.

The same paper observes that no change had taken place in the commercial movements in that port last week. The reports of war had been reproduced with increased violence, and the premium of insurance had risen to 28 per cent., to return 25 if war should not be declared. 2 per cent. had been paid as an insurance for the Channel alone. In consequence several vessels had renounced their intended voyages.

Some symptoms of civil war are beginning to manifest themselves in La Vendee. Since the promulgation of the amnesty a number of Legitimists have returned to the country, from which period unusual activity have been observed among the leaders of that party. Prayers ceased to be offered in several county churches for Louis Philippe. Letters from May of the 5th inst. state, that they were upwards of 60 Chouans, some of them well armed, in the district of Beaupreau. Forty more have been met in the forest of Juigne, near Niort.

The Marseillaise Hymn is going the round of France. At Lille it was loudly called for at the theatre on the 7th, and the assistants would not permit the actor who came forward to sing it, until a tricolour flag was brought on the stage and placed in his hand. At Orleans a similar manifestation took place on the 6th. The director himself chanted the revolutionary hymn, and some young Legitimists having refused to take off their hats and retired sooner than obey the injunctions of the pit, were hooted and saluted with epithets of "Chouans" and "Prussians." At Maas and Rouen it was also sung on the same night on the stage and in the streets.

The Toulon correspondent of one of the Marseilles papers writes on the 3d instant, that orders had been transmitted that the frigates now fitting out should be in the roads on the 15th, and that the Ocean, Marengo, and the Souverain should be ready to sail at a moment's notice.

The Bourse of Saturday is described in private letters as the most calm known since the commencement of the crisis, and a trifling improvement of prices (as compared with those of Friday) took place in the funds. A very strong spirit against war was moreover, we are informed, propagating itself in Paris, which could hardly fail to produce beneficial effects.

M. Mauguin, the celebrated barrister and Deputy, returned to Paris from St. Petersburg, on Saturday last. On being questioned respecting the alleged sailing of the Russian fleet, he was understood to have replied, that "the greater part of it was lying disarmed at Cronstadt when he left St. Petersburg, and that no preparations for war were in progress there, nor in any of the governments of Russia which he had visited.

Marshal Gerard, as Commandant of the National Guards of Paris, issued an order on Wednesday, expressing his disapproval of their announced intention of assembling on Sunday to demand from the President of the Council, the adoption of more decided measures. Such an act, the Marshal observes, would be illegal on their part, and an attack on the commonwealth and constitution.

The cry "*Aux armes!*" has been raised in many of the provincial journals of France and the terms employed by many of them are in the highest degree extravagant.—"The time for talk," says the *Journal de Rouen*, "is past; that of action is come.—In every month, in that of the *juste milieu* man as of the democrat, of the man of business as of the soldier of the empire, of the young man as of the old, there is but one thought, one word, and that is, 'to arms!'"