

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN

EUROPEAN NEWS.

SPAIN.

MADRID, March 5.—The *Gazette* publishes the budget of 1857, the expenses are estimated at 1,800,000,000 reals, and the receipts at 1,562 millions reals; the deficit will be covered by different sources.

We have received the Madrid journals of the 7th. According to the *Espana*, the English and French Governments have declared that Spain, in the event of making war on Mexico, will be warranted in calling on the United States to maintain neutrality.

M. Lafragua, an envoy from the Mexican Government, is expected in Madrid almost immediately (if he has not already arrived), with explanations relating to the unfortunate events in Mexico, and hopes are entertained that war between Spain and Mexico may yet be averted.

SPAIN AND MEXICO.

A Madrid ministerial journal of the 5th in announcing that the Spanish minister at Mexico has not been able to obtain the satisfaction which he demanded and had left for Cuba says:—Vera Cruz and all the coast are already blockaded by our forces, and soon the Mexicans will learn to their expense that the honour and interest of Spain are not to be trifled with. Diplomatic arrangements, it is true, are talked of, but it is not to be supposed that the Spanish government will now yield the smallest of its pretensions, it calls for a just and complete reparation and it must obtain it. The fleet to be sent from Spain to act against Mexico, which consists of the Reina Isabel II. line-of-battle ship, the Baylen frigate, the Pelago brig and the Colon Steamer had arrived at Cadiz.

THE DISPUTE BETWEEN SPAIN AND MEXICO.

MADRID, March 7.—The probability of hostilities with Mexico begins to excite a good deal of attention here. The affair is complicated. On the one hand the government is loth to go to war with that republic, lest its operations should in some way give pretext for umbrage to the United States, of which power it stands in awe. The dislike to risk a dispute with what the Spanish papers are wont to call the North American Colossus is augmented by a refusal which I am assured has been received from England and France to the application made to them for protection for the island of Cuba while an expedition went against Mexico. A special envoy from the Mexican government Senor La Fragua, is said to have arrived at Southampton and to be on his way to Madrid charged with explanations respecting the recent outrages on Spanish residents in the territory of the republic. Until he has been heard, and until the receipt of despatches from the Spanish minister at Mexico, now on the road and expected here next week, no final decision will be taken by the government. Meanwhile, preparations continue. Five large vessels are getting ready to leave Cadiz with troops, and the officers ordered on this service have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for prompt departure. The plan of the Spanish government is the following:—It is proposed to fetch General Santa Anna from Carthagea (South America,) where he at present is, and whence he will have sent instructions to his partisans in Mexico. Vera Cruz is to be taken in his name, and with Spanish aid; his adherents will be in readiness to join him and march upon the capital. This project has probably had its origin in an application which is known to have been made to Spain a short time ago by Santa Anna for a large number of officers to head an attempt he was contemplating. It is thought that the capture of Vera Cruz is spoken of rather too confidently as a thing sure to be effected. St. Jean d'Ulloa passes for one of the strongest fortresses (if not the strongest) in the two Americas and although the French, favoured by circumstances and by a very feeble resistance captured it in 1828, it does not necessarily follow that it is to fall an easy prey to the Spaniards in 1857. Notwithstanding the news lately received via England, of a blockade by Spanish men-of-war of the Mexican ports, it is doubted whether this can be effective and sustained, the more so as the notherly gales, usual in those latitudes at this season, would render it difficult and dangerous for a squadron to remain off the Mexican coast. All the troops that are as yet known to be under orders for Cuba are about 2000 men, draughts from different regiments, and which in any case would be sent later in the year to fill up the vacancies caused by deaths and completion of service in the ranks of the army in the Spanish West Indies. It is asserted, however, that in addition to these a sufficient body of troops could be spared from Cuba to form the expedition against Mexico.

HOLLAND.

At the sitting of the States General of Holland, on the 7th, the bill for removing the restrictions hitherto imposed on maritime fishery was adopted by a majority of 43 to 8. By this bill the prohibition against the importation of foreign fish is also removed. The new law will come into operation on the 1st January next.

A LANDSLIP IN FRANCE.—A sad accident occurred three days ago in the village of Salvagnac (Tarn). At nine in the evening an enormous rock gave way from a hill behind the village, and, bounding down, was precipitated on the house of a blacksmith, named Lauzerel. The house was crushed to pieces in an instant. All the family, composed of the parents and three children, had been in bed about a quarter of an hour before the accident happened. Their cries speedily attracted the attention of the neighbours, whose fears had been excited by the noise of the falling rock. They at once set to work to extricate the buried family from their position, but while they were so engaged, a second slip occurred; this, however, effected no fresh injury, and the neighbours were enabled to continue their labours. After a time the father, mother, and a little girl ten years of age, were withdrawn unhurt; half an hour after the dead bodies of the two other children were discovered in their bed; they had evidently been smothered by the ruins of the house.

HEALTH OF ST. PETERSBURG.—Intelligence from St. Petersburg to the 28th February mentions that the sudden change from cold to almost spring weather had not failed to cause considerable illness among most classes residing in that city; and one of the greatest evils is the still remaining cholera, which has carried off many people, and probably may carry off more before many weeks have passed away. The Empress has herself hardly recovered from a severe cold, and the son of the brother of the Emperor, Nicholas Nicolavitch, has been taken very ill. Many of the highest dignitaries of the court are ill, and the director of the Imperial Theatre, Count Gucedeonovitch, is even dangerously ill.

PRESENT ASPECT OF THE CRIMEA.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says:—“An officer of the Guard who lately returned to the Crimea writes to the *Academy Journal* a description of the altered appearance of the country from what it was three years ago. All about Simpheropol and along the southern coast the ravages of war are still very apparent; many places look as though the enemy had left them only yesterday. The Greeks and Tartars, who formerly monopolised all trade and commerce in the Crimea, have been entirely ruined by the war, and now the great men in every branch of business are Jews, who have many of them made plenty of money, particularly in Simpheropol, during the war, where also the labouring classes have profited greatly by the great demand for labour during that period. According to another account, published in the *Invalide*, the progress made in the rebuilding of Sebastopol is not quite so great as certain reports had given us to understand. The indemnifications that the government had undertaken to pay to those subjects whose property had been destroyed there during the war are not to be paid till this summer, and in the absence of these funds there are very few persons found in a position to commence building. Such of the former inhabitants or such new settlers as had arrived there have contented themselves hitherto with temporary habitations, knocked up out of the English and French huts. During the autumn divers had been busily at work in the harbour in their endeavours to recover the sunken ships. The correspondent of the *Invalide* was present at the moment when one vessel was successfully lifted above the water's level, and greeted by the enthusiastic cheers of a numerous crowd assembled on that occasion. The dress of the divers employed in the harbour of Sebastopol agrees exactly with that which is familiar to visitors of the Polytechnic Exhibition in Regent-street. Since Balaklava was evacuated by our countrymen it has been taken possession of by an army of fierce rats, who not only consume every object of still life within their reach, but also at night time attack people in the streets; this native enemy has been found so formidable that the inhabitants who had returned to their former dwellings were obliged to vacate them again, and trust to the severities of winter to diminish the oroes of the four-footed enemy. It is the prevailing opinion in Sebastopol at present that the town has never been taken by the enemy, and this is considered as proved by the allegation that even after September 7 the French flag was planted on the Malakoff, and not in the town itself.

THE KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN.—In reference to the presentation to the Emperor Louis, Napoleon of the ancient palace at Jerusalem the former residence of the Knights of St. John some particulars relative to the order may not be without interest. The military order of the Knights Hospitallers was founded by Gerard Tour, who was born at Martigues, in Provence. After the capture of Jerusalem he established in that city in the year 1099, a house of refuge, for the purpose of giving an asylum to the pilgrims who were in the habit of coming from all parts of the Christian world to visit the Holy places. Raymond Dupuy succeeded Gerard as Grand Master of the order. He decided that the order should in future become military as well as hospitalier, and that it should defend by arms

the Christians against the infidels. The order thenceforth assumed the title of Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. When Saladin obtained possession of Palestine, in the year 1183, the Knights quitted Jerusalem to establish themselves at Acre, subsequently at Rhodes, and in the year 1530 in the Island of Malta, which was given them by Charles V. The French Government long coveted the ruins of the establishment at Jerusalem, as belonging to France by right, which, since the Crusades to the present day, has always assumed to represent in the East the military spirit of the West, and to be in that country the most pious and most steadfast supporter of Catholic interests.

THE PRINCE LOST IN A FOREST.—On Friday, the 6th, the Prince of Wales, attended by his tutors, Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Tarver, left Windsor Castle in one of the royal carriages, and proceeded to Ascot Heath, where they alighted and entered the Swinley preserves—a wild and romantic part of the forest—giving the postillions directions to take the carriage to the Bagshot entrance a distance of about three miles, there to await their arrival, it being his Royal Highness's intention to stroll through the forest in that direction. In the pursuit of his studies and intellectual conversation with his tutors all three were lost in the intricacies of the woods, and after perambulating for a lengthened period, they discovered to themselves to have taken a wrong route, which brought them back to the Swinley gate, at which they had entered, instead of the Bagshot gate, where they contemplated leaving the forest, having consequently no carriage, and being a distance of seven or eight miles from the Castle, they made their way across Ascot Heath, where they fortunately hailed a cab belonging to Mr. Barber, of Sunninghill Wells, which was returning from Bagshot with a party of ladies and gentlemen. The latter being near home, on ascertaining that the Prince was in a dilemma, readily gave up the vehicle, in which his Royal Highness and his attendants proceeded to Windsor Castle, where they arrived at half-past five o'clock.

THE FISHERY BOARD OF SCOTLAND.—Copies of a report addressed to the Lords of the Treasury in 1856 on the subject of the Fishery Board of Scotland have been printed. They show the great and increasing prosperity of the trade in white herrings, the number of those cured having increased from 543,945 barrels in 1850 to 766,293 in 1855 and the exports from 252,522 to 447,261 barrels. The use of the brand has largely increased. The total produce of the herring fishery of 1855 is estimated at 897,462 barrels and the value thereof at upwards of £1,000,000. The capital embarked in the trade is £2,700,000, and it is supposed to give subsistence to 70,000 persons. There were 7,323 boats of the first and second class, besides 4,424 of the third class occupied in the shore-curing department, employing some 30,000 men, besides coopers, gutters, and packers. The report sums up the argument for and against the branding system, and the result is an opinion that the abolition of the brand is inexpedient and a recommendation that it should be continued on the condition of being self-supporting. One of the commissioners Captain Suttan, dissents from the view of his colleagues, and explains his reasons for so doing in a separate report.

THE IRISH ELECTORS.—Several Irish members including Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald, attorney-general have arrived in Dublin from London to prepare for the elections. Contests are threatened on all sides, and there will be some bitter ones. In many places changes will occur, and the utmost that can be expected by the Irish Liberals is to maintain in the new parliament, the position they have held in that now near its termination. No Liberal candidate is yet actually in the field for the city of Dublin; but Mr. F. Codd, honorary secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, is likely to be called upon by the mercantile classes as a candidate, chiefly on commercial principles. Mr. Codd is a very able man, and he would obtain a large amount of Conservative as well as Liberal support. In all probability he would be returned. On the Tory side, Mr. Palmer son of Sir Roger Palmer, has started for Mayo. Colonel Ouseley Higgins (one of the present members, and a thorough Liberal) is about to enter upon his canvass, with the best prospects of success. Mr. George More (“Young Irelander”) is still in Tipperary, but his parous are working for him, there will be a severe struggle at Mayo. Mr. James Leicester O'Beirne, of London is now canvassing Athlone as a Liberal.

The nomination of candidates for Tipperary took place on Monday, the 9th. The Court House was packed with the “O'Donoghue” partisans, and the show of hands was declared to be in favour of “The O'Donoghue.” A poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Waldron.

THE TIPPERARY ELECTION.—At the close of the poll on the 12th, at Clonmel and Thurles, numbers were—O'Donoghue, 1,376; Waldron, 20. No returns have been received from the 99 other polling places. The O'Donoghue will probably be the successful candidate as the poor landlords have completely joined the Young Irelanders.

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HARBOUR GRACE WEDNESDAY APRIL 15, 1857

It will doubtless be deemed a unique feature in British Colonial history, that the probable result of pending negotiations between British and French ministers with regard to Newfoundland interests became known to the acute denizens of the United States long before any intimation of that fact was afforded by our local Government to the people whose vital interests were most deeply concerned. The Anglo-Saxon of November the 15, thus alludes to the subject “We give the following from a private letter recently received by us from London:—Our Ministers have conceded to France all the rights and privileges of our Newfoundland Fisheries.”

These privileges thus given up to the French are probably of the same nature as those given up to the United States under the Reciprocity Treaty.

Altho our attention was drawn to the above, we did not attach much weight to what we conceived to be an unfounded report, being then as now of opinion that if such a measure had been seriously contemplated, our local Government must have been made aware of the fact.

Assuming this reasonable conclusion to be correct, the grave question arises why was that information so carefully withheld from the public, until the lamentable finale had nearly been accomplished, thus rendering it necessary for the people of this Colony to evince ‘for the first time’ a spirit of independence in a manner, which to say the least savoured strongly of disloyalty to the British Crown. Time was when even this would be regarded as a misfortune of no trifling import by the people of Newfoundland, but we fear that by many now in power the evil is regarded differently, and any circumstance affording opportunity for turgid declamation or giving to their arrogated position importance and prestige, will be seized upon with avidity; that mediocrity of talent may become inflated by bombastic harangues, the ordinary made to appear extraordinary, and characteristic insignificance be placed on a footing at once respectable and indispensable.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary for instance, would shrink into originality if confined to the drudgery of refusing applicants for pauper relief “in this prosperous colony,” or in gravely discussing the cabal claims of illiterate aspirants to office; with his sage colleagues, by Little—a very little better instructed than the needy applicants for place; change of scene and air became requisite, and it is to be hoped that his mission will have a prosperous if not speedy issue.

The Hon Attorney General too resigns for a time his ministerial office to assume that of a Delegate, Ambassador we should style him, to adjust for all coming time the relation of Imperial and Colonial governments, and communicate the grand secret of Newfoundland party-policy, by which, as was anciently done in Scotland, and more recently in America, native is set against native until all are sufficiently weakened for political, moral, and mental subjugation.

All these advantages would have been lost if the convention had been too early brought under consideration, it is true the country will have to pay the delegates, but it will not be very much—a few hundreds only—it is further true that the business of the country was stopped, and about six thousand pounds contingencies paid for little or nothing, the same amount to be again squandered upon another session shortly, are we far wrong when we attribute those and many other evils at which the people may justly complain, to the neglect of this very sad business, on the part of the ministry? Right or wrong such is our deliberate opinion.

SHIPPING IN BELMONT CO.

ENTERED.
April 10.—Haidee.—Tucker, Liverpool—19 days.
Ridley & Sons,
Arrived from the Ice,
Favorite 3000 Puntun & Munn.
Brothers 2800 Ridley & Sons.
Roe 3200 Wm. Donnelly.

SPRING GOODS.

Ridley & Sons,
HAVE just received per [Spirit of the Times] and [Haidee] from Liverpool their Spring Supply of

STORE GOODS.

Comprising everything necessary for the FISHERY OUTFITS
ALSO
100 Firkins Irish BUTTER choice for family use,
100 Tierces Irish PORTER which can be highly recommended.
Together with their usual extensive and varied assortment of
British Manufactured GOODS,
All will be sold on the most reasonable terms or CASH.
Harbour Grace April 14, 1857.

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