

EUROPEAN GOSSIP.

Dillon's Popularity With the Irish Party the Final Blow to Parnell's Prestige.

Agitation in Hanover for the Restoration of the Old Royal House.

Republican Movement in Portugal—The Visit of the French Fleet to St. Petersburg.

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FRANCO-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE.

LONDON, Aug. 1.—Advices from Paris go to show that American interests are confronted with new disadvantages. The political alliance between France and Russia, virtually arranged, if not formally signed, is to be cemented by intimate commercial reciprocity. Russia is to be the cornfield of France, and French manufacturers are to have favorable admission to Russia. This year, the calamitous condition of the Russian harvest will prevent the agricultural interest of that country from profiting greatly by a preferential arrangement with France, but it is not deemed likely that French production will be greatly stimulated. The proposed pork tariff to take the place of the prohibition now existing on American pork is sufficiently burdensome to discourage American importation. In fact, most statesmen have excused themselves to the pig producers of France on the plea that the new tariff will be prohibition in another form, while it will evade the penalties of the McKinley tariff. In fact, American and other nations alike. If, therefore, Americans are under the impression that by the bill adopted by the Chamber of Deputies shall have passed the Senate, French ports will be open to American pork, they will find themselves mistaken. Not a pound will be landed without the payment of a heavy duty.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

English Radicals are arm in arm for the first time with the Irish Tories. Their bond of union is a common hatred of Roman Catholic supremacy in Ireland. The Tories claim that Balfour is betraying them to the enemy, and is willing to conciliate the Roman prelate at the expense of the Irish taxpayer. To great is the feeling aroused that Balfour has been compared to a schoolmaster, which was believed to conceal the insidious surrender of Irish education to the Church of Rome. The Irish Protestants, being about one-fourth of the population, numbers, and being considerably more important in property interests, are opposed to any educational plans that do not make allowance for Protestant claims. Little doubt is there that the Tories will some understanding accomplished between the Catholic hierarchy in Ireland and the Government. The English Radicals, it is evident, will not consent to Irish home rule with the Catholic clergy on top, and the English Tories at heart are not nearly so opposed to the Catholic Church as the Non-Confessionists. On the other hand the Irish Tories have not lost the old, narrow towards members of the opposite party. It is not singular that when they suspected Balfour of conceding something to Catholicism, they should join hands with the Non-Confessionists to oppose him.

DILLON AS LEADER.

Dillon is already by popular acclaim the leader of the Irish party. His announcement of opposition to Parnell was the first blow to Parnell's prestige, and reduced the former leader to the rank of a guerrilla. Indeed, before Dillon's release, it was apparent that Parnell's most persistent followers were becoming shaky in their allegiance. He gives no sign of yielding, but, except in Dublin, he can hardly be said to have a respectable following. There the multitude is with him still, and, beyond question, he would be returned in a general election.

THE O'SHEA DIVORCE COSTS.

The payment of the costs of the O'Shea divorce suit is adding to Parnell's unpopularity. People say that as he got O'Shea's wife away from him he ought to be willing to meet the cost of the husband. There is much to be said for Parnell's financial condition. Mrs. O'Shea has property in her own name and will come into considerable money, whatever may be the result of the suit about the cost of the late Lady Wood. On the other hand, Parnell has been extravagant of his private means in the development of his Wicklow property and in carrying on his futile contest of Irish elections. It is thought there may be element of revenge in his opposition to Capt. O'Shea's claim for costs, as the impression is general that O'Shea was well paid for breaking down the Irish leader.

GERMAN EMPIRE THREATENED.

While the German Emperor is amusing himself on the edge of the Arctic circle, danger of a grave character is threatening the empire from within. The agitation in Hanover, in behalf of the old royal house, has assumed proportions of late that Prussia can no longer ignore. Heretofore the Prussian authorities have acted on the safe assumption that the Guelph movement was sentimental. That it was natural and a credible expression of devotion to a family that ruled over Hanover for centuries, and if not to be encouraged, at least to be condoned as an example of reverence for the divine right of crowned heads. But of late startling proof has come to the knowledge of the government that the Guelph movement in Hanover is a conspiracy for the overthrow of Prussia. It is the story of the Jacobites over again, with the descendants of the Georges, instead of the Stuarts, as the heroes, and the violence of the drama. The movement has developed into treason, looking at the matter from the Prussian standpoint. The restoration of the House of Hanover is the deliberate aim of the Guelph organization, which loses no opportunity to keep alive the popular recollection of Hanoverian independence. The Duke of Cumberland is undoubtedly aware of this, and it is equally certain that he has given up hope of becoming king of Hanover. Otherwise he would not hesitate to accept the magnificent offer which Prussia has made for the surrender of his hereditary claims, which are otherwise valueless, unless he is permitted to sit on the throne of his ancestors. In view of the discoveries made, the Prussian government has suddenly adopted a policy of harsh severity towards the Guelph clubs and societies. The police have seized the papers and lists of members of many of them, and in numerous instances such clubs have been ordered to give up their meetings. No arrests have been made as yet, as the government is waiting to see the effect of milder measures. The authorities have even gone so far as to prohibit the decoration of the graves of Hanoverians

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

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MOBE DEVILTRY.

Outrage in West Virginia Committed by a Mob of Drunken Navvies.

They Murder in Cold Blood An Entire Family of Peaceable Citizens.

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