

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The health of Her Majesty the Queen still continues to improve. She has contributed £500 sterling to the Chicago relief fund.

English journals gravely assure the world that the idea of a regency has not been entertained, as it is very much the habit to "chronicle small beer" now-a-days. The utterance or ratings of a scamp named Bradlaugh, the leader of the Whitechapel lambs—the thieves and pick pockets of London—was the foundation for the rumor.

The real working Englishman naturally turns to the national leaders of the people, the nobility of England, as the proper champions of the rights of the people. The leaders of the trades unions, Messrs. Howell and Applegath, Scott, Russell and others have signed what is called a written treaty with the Lords, in other words the famous Seven Resolutions have been acceded to by the following noblemen:—Marquis of Salisbury, the Marquis of Lorne, Earls of Litchfield and Carnarvon, Lord Henry Lennox, Lord John Manners, Sir Stafford Northcote, and Mr. Hardy, on the part of the Tory Peers and Commons. Radicals are predicting all kinds of complications from this alliance, but it is very certain that they would bid for the support of the working men, if the latter would trust to their leadership. It is evident the revolutionary measures of Gladstone's administration found no favor in the eyes of the steady, honest English artisan, who never was either a communist or a socialist and who thoroughly understands the rights and value of property.

The fund for the relief of the sufferers by the Chicago fires amounted on the 25th inst. to £38,370 sterling at the Mansion House, London; Glasgow subscribes £5,350 sterling, Liverpool a large sum and all the other large towns of Great Britain and Ireland contributed handsomely.

The Geneva Tribunal on the *Alabama* claims is now complete, the Brazilian member of it having just been appointed. The Commissioners are: Sir Alexander Cockburn, for Great Britain; Charles Francis Adams, for the United States; Jacques Staempfli, of Berne, for Switzerland; Frederick Sclopis, Count of Solerana, for Italy; and Baron Itaguba, for Brazil. The Tribunal must meet on or before the 16th Dec. next.

Sir R. J. Murchison the great geologist is dead.

President Thiers seems to hold the reins of power on a very uncertain tenure in France.

Officers addressing their troops decline to use the term republic as applied to the government, but use the word France instead. It is stated that on more than one occasion the health of the ex-Emperor has been drunk openly by military officers, and the dread of a Bonapartist raid is so great that orders have been issued to the fleet to be

prepared to repel an invasion of the French coasts.

The courts martial for the trial of Communists have terminated their proceedings. 91 prisoners were sentenced and 9000 discharged.

The *Courier Diplomatique* publishes a communication which, it says, comes from a diplomatic personage of high rank, making important revelations in regard to the negotiations which preceded the war between Denmark and the allied powers of Prussia and Austria. The statement is, in substance as follows: In 1864, Earl Russell, then British Minister of Foreign Affairs, made overtures through Lord Cowley, British Ambassador at Paris, to M. Rouher, proposing an alliance, offensive and defensive, with France to help Denmark in case Prussia and Austria should declare war against her. England was to co-operate with France by sea and land, and was willing to promise France, in return for her assistance, the rectification of her frontiers on the Rhine by the annexation of a portion of the Rhenish provinces. Rouher asked time for the consideration of these proposals, but in three days from the time they were laid before Rouher, the Emperor Napoleon accepted them. Lord Cowley immediately communicated the fact of the Emperor's acceptance to his Government, whereupon Earl Russell replied that it was too late, as Her Majesty's Government, had decided not to interfere in the case of Denmark. This closed negotiations, and no attempt was made to re-open the subject.

The contributions for the relief of Chicago now amount to 178,430 francs.

A despatch from Ajaccio reports a stormy session of the Council General of the Island of Corsica. Prince Napoleon was not present, but his partisans, who proved to be in a minority, joined in a protest against the elections, which they claim were not conducted in a manner to allow the free expression of the wishes of the people.

A general strike has occurred amongst the railway employees in the city of Cologne and vicinity; over 1000 persons have joined in the demand for higher wages.

The customs treaty with France has been ratified.

The German expedition to the North Pole claims to have discovered a Polar sea free of ice.

Austrian political affairs appear to be in some confusion. Great difficulty has been experienced in dealing with the different nationalities forming the Empire; the latest complication is in relation to Bohemian affairs and the Emperor Francis Joseph is still undecided as to the course to be pursued in relation to the demand of the Bohemian Diet. All idea of accepting the compromise proposed by Count Androssy has been abandoned, as both the Hohenwarth Ministers and the Czech leaders object to its terms. It is now said that in case Bohemia

sends no Deputies to the Reichstag, Count Hohenwarth will resign office as President of the Council of the Empire.

The fires in Wisconsin have been of a most disastrous character. The summer had been the driest on record, and on the 8th inst. a furious tornado carried the fires which had been smouldering in the prairies and swamps of a large extent of country with a width of ten miles. About Green Bay on Lake Michigan the damage done to life and property has been fearful; whole villages with large numbers of their inhabitants destroyed, and it has been calculated that over 1500 lives have been destroyed by fire, including the Chicago disaster.

The prosecution of the Mormon leaders for adultery still goes on at Salt Lake City. Several convictions have been already obtained.

Advices from Brazil give details of the bills passed for the emancipation of slaves. The emancipation will be gradual, and a large money grant has been made to procure the freedom of the million and a half bondmen. Every child born after the passing of these measures will be free. This is wiser than spending \$300,000,000 in a fratricidal contest on the question of emancipation.

Mexico is in a state of turmoil once more, a part of the troops and people have pronounced against Juarez; there has been some fighting. Commerce has been driven from the country and the American consul at Monterey mulcted in a forced loan.

A heavy gale at Halifax and along the coast generally caused some loss of life and considerable loss of property.

The Hon. C. Dunkin has resigned his portfolio as Minister of Agriculture; he has been elevated to the Bench of the Supreme Court in the Province of Quebec and is succeeded in the Canadian Ministry by J. Pope, Esq., M.P. for Compton.

Reinforcements for Fort Garry sailed from Collingwood on Saturday afternoon, 21st inst., passing through the Sault Ste. Mary Canal on the evening of the 22nd and with this weather will reach their destination in three weeks.

A very considerable excitement is reported to exist over gold discoveries in Canada and it will doubtless cause a very large movement of population to what has till very lately been considered an inhospitable region. Lake Shebandowan, on whose shores the gold discoveries have been made, lies about 40 miles due west from Fort William, and at least 400 from Fort Garry. The lake is only 10 miles long by two or three wide. It forms one of a chain and on the south and west is bounded by mountains, through which flow a number of small rapid streams. The laborers employed on the government road between Fort William and the Red River Valley have all quit work and are now washing out gold, some averaging \$4 per day, others little or nothing, and some are making small fortunes. As there are large tracts of valuable land in the vicinity, a movement of population there cannot fail to be subservient to the interests of the Dominion.