

Saturday, January 9, 1869

European Mail Summary.

The election returns up to the 22d November show that the liberals have at least 150 majority in the House. It was estimated that they would have 120 majority on the amendment which will be proposed to the Parliamentary address in reply to the Queen's speech. Some people are disposed to think that such strength of numbers will be dangerous to the liberals, fearing that it will tend to produce discord in the party. This apprehension is perhaps imaginary, as nearly all the liberals who have been elected have pledged themselves to their constituents to sustain Mr Gladstone, and the fate of the Addlamites, who have all come to grief, is a warning to bolters. Two fortunate results are considered to be secured—viz., the displacement of the conservatives and the acquisition of power sufficient to exert a decisive pressure on the House of Lords for pushing through the measures for the disestablishing the Irish Church. The aristocratic section of the whig party is charged with intriguing to have the Earl Granville invited by the Queen to form a new ministry, and the radicals are indignant at this underhand course. It is anticipated that the new House of Commons will be on the whole remarkably practical and business-like in character. The exclusion of Mr Osborne, Mr Roebuck and other eccentric individuals is a matter of general congratulation; nor is the loss of the conservative lawyers, including the Attorney General and Solicitor General, much lamented. Regret is felt that none of the workingmen's candidates, who fell for want of money and organization, will be in the House to represent that element in the government. Despatches were received announcing the election of Charles Buxton, liberal, from Surrey East; Mr W Johnston, conservative, for Belfast, Ireland; Sir R Bouverie, liberal, for Westbury; and Lord J. Manners, conservative, from Leicestershire North. The following liberal candidates have been defeated—the Marquis of Hartington, for Lancashire North-west, and Right Hon C Horsman, for Stroud. A heavy fall of snow occurred in England Nov. 14. The Daily News has "reason to believe" that the Bishop of Ely, Dr Harold Browne, is to be the new Archbishop of Canterbury, but no other paper seems to know anything about the matter. It would be not the best, but we believe a very good appointment. Dr Harold Browne is learned, liberal and eminently just. Mr Bright made a most dangerous proposal at Birmingham recently. He recommended that, as the majority of members know little about the Barmen, a Committee should be appointed every year which should go into the whole question, hear opinions, and make a report on every item in the Estimates. Clearly Mr Bright intends that such a report should be acted on, and the Committee would be, in fact, a Cabinet for financial policy. Public policy would be directed by one responsible set of men, and public finance by another irresponsible set, an arrangement which, besides producing utter anarchy in administration, would, we venture to say, in ten years double the expenditure of every Minister would say "yes" to every demand, and leave the Committee to protect the Treasury. There is little news of importance from Spain beyond the fact that the prolongation of the period of suspense respecting the future government excites apprehensions of coming troubles. The Carlist partisans are said to be actively agitating in the northern provinces, while in Catalonia and Andalusia Republican ideas are spreading. The Provisional Government are accused of being pledged to support the pretensions of the Duke of Montpensier. The elections to the Constituent Cortes will be by universal suffrage. The new loan is being liberally subscribed for in Spain. The Times publishes a gratifying account of the improvement of Venetia since her liberation. Her trade has increased from £3,480,000 to £9,160,000, her omage from 283,775 tons to 334,764, while associations are being formed to

organize direct communication with foreign countries, which has hitherto been mainly conducted via Trieste. A line of steamers has been opened to Alexandria, and a Technical College of Commerce is about to be opened. Mr Reverdy Johnson, warned by the Lord Mayor's hospitality, was complimentary to England and to Lord Stanley, and to London and to British institutions generally, that he seems to have been frightened when he read the next day a report of his own speech. Accordingly, he immediately sent a revised edition in sobered terms indeed to the paper, which the Daily News prints side by side with the actual oration, remarking on the great convenience of having two speeches for one occasion. The actual speech was, indeed, obviously meant for England, and the second thoughts for America. Whether the Americans will feel at all gratified by seeing what Mr Reverdy Johnson would wish to have omitted, when he read his own speech the next day, remains to be seen. Probably they will think his second thoughts best, but demur to being asked to substitute them for his first and only acts. The Gaulois announces, although in a somewhat roundabout manner, that the Empress of the French is en route. Et nos quoque tela sparsimus. "We too, have scattered arrows." Such was the motto of the Marquis of Hastings, who died on Tuesday afternoon at the age of twenty-six. So early a death, and such a career, need but a simple record. The Independence Belge says that the French Government has just made a present to the Roman Government of 20,000 muskets, 6,000 of which are Chassepot's—an act of generosity which the Belgian paper thinks will not be overgracious to Italy. It is reported that the ex-Queen of Spain wished to be invited to Compaigne—but as the French Court has never received Don Carlos, her Majesty is not likely to join the Imperial circle. It is expected that the French Chambers will open in December for their last session, as they expire by law in May, 1869. Much curiosity is felt about what the Emperor will say in his address from the throne. In affecting simplicity, accompanied to the grave by his relatives and a few personal friends of the deceased, the corpse of the late Marquis of Hastings was buried in Kensal Green Cemetery on Saturday, the 14th Dec. The late Marquis was not all bad, as those who were in such haste to denounce him were not all good. In reply to a letter from the Honorary Secretary of the National Sunday League, Mr Stuart Mill says that he has repeatedly stated at public meetings that he should vote for the opening of places of instructive recreation, such as museums and libraries, on Sundays. General Prim has addressed a circular in response to a request made by nearly all the Captains General for an increase in the provincial garrisons. The circular announces the concentration of a considerable body of troops in New Castile, which, thanks to the numerous railways and telegraphs, could be instantly despatched wherever it might be necessary. Mr Gladstone addressed a large meeting in Lancashire, on the 14th ult. In his speech he said—"The great evil of Ireland was Protestant ascendancy, as shown by the spirit of domination, the system of maintaining it by a favored minority, and relying upon that to govern a country without regard to the convictions, habits and feelings of the great mass of the people." Mr Bright spoke the same afternoon in Birmingham. He commenced by an allusion to the greatness and power of England. "Yet he said—"With all our greatness and all our wealth, if we looked at home we found among our population a mass of poverty and ignorance, and a suffering of which a Christian country ought to be ashamed. He glanced at what had been done to ameliorate that condition in the space of the last thirty years, and drew a picture of how much remained to do to remove the ignorance, to check the crime, and diminish the pauperism of the people."

THE "S D BAILY" BARRETT CASE.—ASTOUNDING DEVELOPMENT OF VILLAINY.—Intelligence received from Melbourne, Australia, via San Francisco, gives a full account of the circumstances attending the capture of the schooner S D Baily, bound from San Francisco to Victoria. Capt Robbins was arrested at Melbourne, at the instance of the American Consul, upon a charge of forgery. Robbins' statement when taken into custody adds an astounding chapter of villainy to the annals of crime. As he states, a commission merchant at San Francisco, named Reinhart and he (Robbins) planned to purchase a vessel at San Francisco, to half fill her with real cargo, half with stones and rubbish, to insure her high rate on the voyage, to scuttle and sink the vessel at sea, and then to claim the insurance money. Robbins was to act as captain, and come back to San Francisco in the ship's boat, and then to receive from Reinhart \$4000 as his share of the plunder. This plan was carried out until the voyage had begun, when Robbins, thinking his schooner too nice a vessel to be destroyed as planned, altered his mind, took her to the Sandwich Islands, and sold his cargo for coconuts. He then went to New Zealand, sold his oil at £800 profit, paid off his crew with £400, and as he could not readily sell his schooner he left her at Nelson and came on himself to Melbourne. Here he lodged his remaining £400 in a bank, deposited the bank receipt in the hands of a hotel landlord, and lived at his ease on the money. The forgery of which he was arrested was said to be alterations he made at sea on the schooner's papers, and on bills of lading, &c, to enable him to sell the cargo and vessel as owner. The case was remanded for further evidence. Reinhart's private letter states he fled from San Francisco to unknown parts, he having been paid, some months ago, by the Insurance Company, \$18,000 in satisfaction of his supposed losses.

PERSONS who changed to stand upon an eminence overlooking the Straits in this vicinity on New Year's day, were treated to a strange sight. Eight large ships, with all sails set, were observed wall over on the opposite side, scudding rapidly along, and sailing so closely together that at times a collision appeared inevitable, the vessels were constantly heaving to avoid each other. Before sundown the visitors had passed out of sight and caught the eye of the observer, with the broad blue expanse of smooth water, with the snow-white outline of the grand Olympic range rising like a grim sentinel in the background.

THE STEAMER FLY arrived from New Westminster on Saturday evening with a number passengers and a mail. Among her passengers was the Hon Mr Humphreys, of Lillooet.

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