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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Despatches from all points describes the gales in the English Channel on Saturday last as terrific. Many vessels were wrecked and the loss of life caused thereby was considerable.

The last Sunday meeting at Hyde Park was a failure. Constables recently dismissed from the police force, who were expected to be there, did not appear. There were only 300 persons present. Odger presided, and a remonstrance addressed to the Home Secretary was adopted. Interruption of ruffians brought the proceedings to a stop, and compelled the breaking up of the meeting.

Italy and France have asked Austria, Russia and Great Britain to join them in an effort to adjust the difficulty with regard to the Laurin mines near Athens.

The gales continue in the English Channel, and have been very destructive in the vicinity of Devonport. The transport steamer *Himalaya* has arrived here with the loss of eight of her crew.

A later despatch from Devonport brings intelligence of a lamentable disaster, in that harbor, causing additional loss of life among the crew of the *Himalaya*. A boat belonging to the transport was capsized by a heavy sea, while proceeding to shore, and ten persons were drowned.

Troops are arriving here to strengthen the local garrison. A municipal election is held here today, and the additional force is precautionary, trouble being apprehended.

The Khedive's expedition consists of 6000 men and is commanded by Furdéy Bey. It goes to Zanzibar in transports, with the ostensible intention of joining Dr. Livingston and of co-operating with him, if agreeable; otherwise, to act independently in solving the problem of the sources of the Nile, under the Egyptian colors. It is however, doubtful whether the expedition is intended to join Dr. Livingstone or meet Sir Samuel Barker, or open up new lines of operations in Abyssinia.

Sir John Browning, English Politician and author, formerly editor of the "Westminster Review," member of Parliament, and British Minister to China, died yesterday 22nd inst.

The Shah of Persia has granted an exclusive concession to Baron Reuter, President of the Reuter Telegram Co., for the construction of railways, tramways, and water-works, and for the working of mines in Persia.

A Mr. Lewis, a Conservative, has been returned to Parliament from Londonderry. O'Leary, one of the leaders of the recent

Hyde Park demonstration in favor of the release of the Fenian prisoners, made application today before Justice Quain for the withdrawal of summonses to appear, as the charge against him and six others had been abandoned. Applicant stated that he contemplated, emigrating to America, where his prospects would be injured should the summonses remain in existence. Justice Quain in reply to the application, denied the petitioner would be reproached in America for his not here, and expressed the opinion that instead of reproach he was more likely to be regarded in the United States as a martyr, and be given a public dinner and other honors. The Justice, in conclusion, refused to grant the application.

Paris, Nov. 22 (evening).—At a meeting of the members of the Left Centre today, M. Picart, an intimate friend of Thiers, was chosen chairman in place of General Chauzy, who resigned on account of official duties. The selection of Picart as presiding officer will serve to strengthen the good understanding between the party and the President.

The committee appointed by the Assembly to draw up a project of electoral law, made their report today. They recommend that the age of 21 be retained as the qualifications for exercise of the franchise, and that soldiers in active service be disqualified from voting, and that officers of the army be permitted to vote only when placed on reserve. The proposed law incidentally disfranchises a large class of citizens who by the army law are compelled to do military service under the age of 25. It will undoubtedly give rise to a heated debate.

Thiers appeared before the Assembly, and spoke for an hour and a half. He urges them to terminate the present state of indecision, reiterated his opinion, that a Republic was indispensable, and declared that he was willing to accept the principle of ministerial responsibility and a Parliamentary system which would not completely exclude him from debate. The President will attend the sittings of the Committee tomorrow.

The Left Centre had drawn up a bill prolonging Thiers' present term of four years, and providing for a Vice President, who shall succeed the President in case of resignation or death. The President, and Vice President to be re-eligible to office for a second term. One third of the Assembly to be renewed annually. The President to be entitled to suspend the promulgation of bills passed by an assembly until after an annual election; then, if the Assembly insist on the law, it must be promulgated. It is understood that this project of law meets the approval of M. Thiers.

It is known that President Thiers endorses the plan lately proposed by a Committee of the Left Centre for the formation of a Second Chamber of the National Legislature. He also favors some definitive settlement of the relations between the legislative and executive departments of the Government as to questions of general policy. In the internal affairs of the Republic M. Thiers adheres to the conservative ground taken in his recent message to the Assembly.

There was no discussion of national questions to the Assembly yesterday. Nothing is known yet of the decisions of the committee to draft a reply to the President's message. M. Thiers stated his views very freely at the session of yesterday. After his withdrawal the committee held a private conference for the consideration of the points of M. Thiers' statement.

The Bill providing for the restoration to the Orleans Family of their property confiscated in 1852 has passed its second reading in the National Assembly.

The Geographical Societies of Germany give their approval to the plan for the methodical exploration of Africa. Committees to carry out the purpose are forming.

A report was current in London this afternoon that King Amadeus of Spain was dead, but a despatch from Madrid says it was officially announced from the Palace this morning that he is better.

Bulletins from the Royal Palace at Madrid dated last night announce that the condition of the King is gradually improving.

Mail advices from Madrid report slight disturbances in the capital last Monday, on account of the drawings for the military conscription, and the lines of telegraph to Barcelona, Gerona, Saville and Cadiz were cut.

The telegraph wires between Barcelona and Saragossa have again been cut.

A band of armed republicans had appeared in the vicinity of Arco de la Frontera in Andalusia.

A despatch from Brast reports that a heavy gale prevails out side that port, and the departure of the steamer "Washington" for New York has been postponed until it abates.

General Ladmirault, Governor of Paris, has suppressed the Radical journal *Le Républicain*.

The situation at Versailles is unchanged. Each party proposes its own solution of the difficulty. No two of them have yet been able to adopt a conciliative policy. The Press awaits the action of the Assembly, and meantime the crisis continues.