

ENGLAND AND PERSIA.

The Treaty between England and Persia has arrived at Teheran. The ratification will not take place for five or six weeks.

ABDICATION OF PRINCE DANILO.

Accounts from Cattaro mention a report that Prince Danilo was about to abdicate, on receipt of a pension, in favour of his nephew, the son of Vice-President Mirku. The young prince referred to, now seventeen years of age, is at present with Prince Danilo in Paris.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S PEACE-MAKING.

Our Paris intelligence represents Louis Napoleon as a successful mediator between Spain and Mexico, and between Turkey and Persia, and as endeavouring, in conjunction with the United States, to prevent the English contest at Canton from abstracting the commerce of other nations. Between Austria and Sardinia, too, French negotiation is at work in a spirit friendly to both. As for the Neuchâtel dispute, it is still apparently remote from settlement, but it can never lead to actual war. The European prospect may, therefore, be considered as extremely pacific.

TAXATION AND REVENUE IN FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* publishes a tabular statement of the revenue from direct and indirect taxation, from which it appears that the revenue of the first quarter of the year 1857 exceeds by 14,202,000 francs the revenue of the corresponding quarter of last year; and it is estimated that the increase would have amounted to 16,886,000 francs but for the accident of the year 1856 having been leap year; the increase for the month of April amounts to 7,170,000 francs, as compared with the same portion of April last year.

THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA'S JOURNEY TO HUNGARY.

The journey of the Emperor into Hungary is announced by the preparations, which are being made on a grand scale. His Majesty's departure is fixed for the 3rd of May, and his return for the 20th of June.

AUSTRIA.

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS PLAYING AT HUMILITY.

On the 9th, the ceremony of "The Washing of Feet" took place at the Austrian Court. At nine o'clock in the morning twenty four old people—twelve men, and as many women—who were dressed in the ancient German costume, were conducted to the "Hall of Ceremony" of the Palace. On their arrival the men were placed on one side of a long table, and the women on the other. As soon as the seniors had taken their seats, their Majesties entered, and placed before them a number of dishes which were brought in trays by the imperial servers. The Emperor handled the "crockery" in a masterly manner, but the Empress required the assistance of her ladies. After the dishes had been set on the table, they were removed and placed in twenty four large baskets, which were sent to the rooms occupied by the paupers in the almshouse. At ten o'clock the washing of feet began in the chapel of the palace. The Emperor performed the ceremony on the above-mentioned twelve old men, and the Empress on the women. His Majesty received from the hands of his Lord Steward a gilt ewer, and poured from it a few drops of water on one of the feet of each of the men. After a towel had been pressed once or twice on each of the wetted feet, and a little bag containing thirty-two silver groats had been hung round the necks of the old people, the ceremony was at an end. Her Majesty, who was attended by her Lord Steward, acted in exactly the same way as her imperial consort.

News by the "EUROPA."

A numerous meeting of merchant and manufacturers had been held at Manchester for the purpose of forming an association for the promotion of the growth of cotton all over the world, to be called the Cotton Supply Association; to encourage by all practical means the growth of cotton in colonies, and other countries, by diffusing information, supply of machinery, and possible removal of legislative impediments.

At a special meeting of the European and American steamship company, the report stated the total cost of the eight steamships recently purchased was 4,400,000, of which had been provided £227,000, and a resolution was passed at the meeting to raise the balance of £180,000 by issue of 200,000 £3 shares.

A fire at Liverpool destroyed 2,500 bales of cotton, belonging to J. & D. McDermott & Co., Henry Moore & Co., B. J. Babcock & Co., and F. Lyon Bros.

A letter from J. Hall, Under Secretary for Colonies, informs the Geographical Society that the British Government had agreed to propose to Parliament a vote for the Northwest American exploring expedition. The expedition would proceed in about a fortnight, under Mr. Palliser, to its starting point, west of Lake Superior, for the purpose of surveying the vast tracts of British North America, particularly the country watered by the affluence of the Saskatchewan, and with a view of examining the southern portion of the Rocky Mountains in the British territories, and possibly of discovering a new and practical passage to Vancouver's Island. The expedition would be accompanied by Dr. Hector, as geologist, naturalist, and surgeon, and Lieut. Blackstone to take magnetical observations, and by a botanist.

FRANCE.

The Grand Duke Constantine had a great reception at Toulon. A review of 50,000 troops will be given at Paris about May 6th in his honour.

The Council of State has commenced the examination of the bill against the usurpation of titles of nobility.

The *Moniteur* publishes the convention concluded between France and the Grand Duchy of Baden, in Feb. last, relative to the strengthening of the banks of the Rhine.

Ferouk Khan is just now engaged in settling with the Sardinian Ambassador, the draft of such a treaty between Persia and Sardinia.

SPAIN.

Another interview has taken place between Marshal Serrano, the Spanish Ambassador at Paris, and Senor Lafrague, the Mexican Plenipotentiary, and as its result, Marshal Serrano will leave for Madrid, to receive the Senor Lafrague's reception at the Spanish Court.

The treaty settling the frontier between France and Spain, is to be laid before the Cortes, at their first meeting.

"Progressistas" and the members of the liberal Union were labouring to effect a coalition. Government, apprehending disturbance, at Logrono, Burgos, Vittoria, and all Cataluna, had taken measures of precaution.

The troops destined for Cuba are to be despatched from Cadiz at the end of this month.

DENMARK.

There is no farther news concerning the Ministerial crisis at Copenhagen, except that the Danish Envoy at the Germanic Diet has been sent for. This circumstance shows that the quarrel with Germany enters as an important element into the present complication.

Andrae, the late President of the Council, who was deputed by the King to fill up the vacancies caused by the withdrawal of Scheele, has been unable to do so, and Rail, hitherto Minister of Public Worship, has, as was anticipated been entrusted by the King with the formation of a Ministry.

NEUCHÂTEL.

The Prussian and Swiss Plenipotentiaries have accepted the propositions of the mediating powers, ad referendum, for the approval of their respective governments.

PRUSSIA.

The proposition to substitute legal, instead of police supervision, over printing licences, in Prussia, which was carried in the Prussian Chambers on Monday by a majority of one, was rejected next day, government having collected its force.

AUSTRIA.

Baron Bach's vast plan of communal organization for all the Empire, which has been for some time under examination of the Supreme Council of State, is, it is said, considered too liberal, with a request that it may be so modified as to be placed in conformity with circumstances in vogue before the invasion of liberal ideas in 1848. Bach is discomfited, and it remains to be seen.

TURKEY.

The commission for the regulation of Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia, as instituted by article 30 of the Treaty of Paris, and which has to consist of two Turks, two Persians, one Englishman, one Frenchman, will assemble at Kars May 13.

MONTENEGRO.

A despatch from Paris announces that the difference between Austria and Montenegro, appears to be in a fair way of settlement.

Prince Daniela has released a prisoner, and Austria has ordered that the Montenegrin refugees shall be removed to the interior.

CHINA.

Despatches by telegraph from Trieste, give dates from Hong Kong, March 15, Calcutta 21st, and Bombay April 2.

The Europeans on board the British steamer *Queen*, under the Portuguese flag, had been murdered by Chinese passengers, and the crew of the steamer, with a valuable cargo, were carried off.

The government contractors' storehouses at Hong Kong had been burned down by incendiaries, and 700 barrels of flour destroyed.

The Chinese in Sarawak, Borneo, had risen on Feb 17, and massacred several Europeans. Sir James Brooke saved his life by swimming across a creek. One of the Brooke Co.'s steamers subsequently arrived at Sarawak, and with the aid of Sir James at the head of the body of Malays and Dyaks avenged the destruction of the settlement by killing 2,000 Chinese. A war steamer was sent over by the Dutch authorities, but her services were not required.

The latest dates from Bushire are to the 6th of March. They bring no intelligence of fresh operations in the Persian Gulf.

Exchange at Bombay, 2s 1½d. Money was plentiful, and the Bank had lowered the rate of interest. There was little change in the import market.

At Calcutta the Import market was rather dull. Money had improved. Exchange, 2s 2½d. At Madras Exchange was 2s 2½d.

The total value of goods from China to Great Britain in 1856 was £1,400,000.

Exchange at Hong Kong was 4s 0½d.

At Shanghai the price of Silk had advanced. Settlements 74,000 bales. Exchange, 6s 7½d to 8s.

PERSIA.

The Persian accounts of the recent battle of Bushire are published. They state the English advanced until meeting with the main body of Persians. They set fire to their (British) camp equipage, and retreated towards Bushire, where, being reinforced, the battle began and lasted four hours, both parties retiring in consequence of torrents of rain, which fell the whole time, rendering the ground unfit for cavalry. The Persians left some guns in the mud, but afterwards recovered them.

The Persians estimate the British loss at 1000, and their own at 400.

LATEST.

FROM THE TIMES.—The news by the overland mail shows how fully justified the government and people of England have been in promptly supporting their officers in China. Certainly our troops, our frigates, and our gunboats have not been despatched an hour too soon. We are evidently engaged in a momentous conflict, which it will require the utmost vigor, courage, and decision to bring to a close. The diplomatic labors of Lord Elgin must be delayed until the sterner tasks of the military and naval chiefs have been effectually completed. There is an end for a time of missions and negotiations.

THE RUSSIAN RAILWAYS.—The only notice of this scheme is contained in the following paragraph from the *Daily News* city article.—"The shares in the Russian railways remain nominally quoted at 1 to 2 premiums, but there is scarcely a transaction going forward in them."

Cape of Good Hope news is to Feb. 13. Robbery and violence were on the increase in British Kaffraria.