

FRANCE.—The news from France is most important, the affairs of that country having engrossed attention to the exclusion of everything else. The long dreaded *coup d'etat* had been made, and the President, having seized the reins of government, dissolved the Assembly—declared a state of siege—arrested the leading opponents of his policy, and appealed to the People. All this was done at an early hour on Tuesday the 2nd inst.; preparations for it having been perfected, with consummate skill and secrecy, during the preceding night—done and completed before any one had the least inkling that it was in progress, or even in contemplation.

An entirely new Ministry was formed during the night of Monday; Proclamations dissolving the Assembly—appealing to the People—restoring universal suffrage—and proposing a new system of Government, were printed at a private press in the Elysee, and posted throughout Paris before daylight. Copies of these, and of circulars from the Ministry and the Prefect of Police, printed in like manner, were dispatched to all the Provinces, announcing what had been done, appealing to the Nation at large, and conveying stringent instructions to all the officers of Government throughout the country.

The President's "proposal" is, the instant restoration of Universal Suffrage, the instant election by the people, and by the army, of a President to hold office ten years, supported by a Council of State—and by two Houses of Legislature; and that, during the few days required to complete the Elections,—the Executive power shall remain in the hands of the President. The Election is fixed to take place during the present month; and the President promises to bow to the will of the People whether they elect himself or any one else; and declares that he holds power only until the will of the People can be made known.

Mean time, he demands a preliminary vote from both the army and the people, to declare whether they confide to him the Executive Power *ad interim*; the army to record their votes within 48 hours, and the People to be allowed a longer time.

The President declares himself to have been forced into this measure; and it is ascertained that Changarnier, Lamoriciere, Thiers, and others of his opponents, had decided to demand his arrest and impeachment on the 2nd instant; and were together and in the very act of confirming this decision, when they were themselves arrested and conveyed to Vincennes, whence they were next day removed to Ham. The temporary Hall used for the assembly has been taken down by the Government; and wherever members have attempted to meet officially they have been ordered to disperse, and arrested if they refused. More than 200 have been arrested in all—many, however, being released in a few hours,—but all the leaders of opposition are imprisoned. Many members of the assembly had given in their adhesion to the President,—it is said as many as three hundred.

During the first day no organized resistance to the movement was attempted, and telegraphic reports from the departments declared the news to have been hailed with enthusiasm by the provincial population.

Subsequently, however, partial attempts at opposition were made in Paris; and rumours reached that city, hostile to the alleged unanimity of feeling in the provinces.

Barricades were erected in the more turbulent quarters of Paris, but were all broken up by the troops. At one of them, two members of the Assembly, taking prominent places, were killed in the conflict.

A section of the Assembly had contrived to meet at one of the Parisian *Mairies*, on Tuesday, and had decreed the deposition of the President and his impeachment for high treason—but the meeting was dispersed by the troops, and the "decrees" ridiculed and disregarded on all hands.

In addition to the arrests, troops were placed in the houses of some of the ex-officers of the Assembly who were exempted from arrest.—Among others, the house of M. Dupin, President of the Assembly, was occupied by troops, and himself held in a sort of durance—although he was not actually arrested.

"The full rigour of martial law," had been proclaimed against all persons concerned in the barricades, and they were accordingly shot without delay.

Up to Thursday night the success of the movement seemed certain; and London advices to Friday night do not vary materially from the same prospect;—but new elements were constantly mixing in the struggle, and so long as any actual contest continued, not only must there be more or less uncertainty—but the difficulty of obtaining reliable information was indescribable.

LATER FROM FRANCE.—Paris, Friday morning.—A decree appears ordering the voting on the 20th inst., to be secret instead of public. There were rumours of the fighting being continued to-day, but nothing confirmatory has appeared in any London paper. The latest published accounts state that insurgents were put down after a severe struggle.

It is said that 700 French refugees left London for Paris on Thursday evening. It is also stated

that the French government has stopped the transmission of despatches by telegraph.

Movements of troops silent and firm. During the day barricades have been thrown up in earnest. At about half past one o'clock, an immense crowd of about 50,000 troops, moving along the Boulevards, was fired on from the neighbouring passages and houses close by—firing returned and answered by the insurgents. The combat lasted briskly for upwards of half an hour.—Cannon shots and musketry at the same time further down the Boulevards, firing brisk up to 4 p. m., had then nearly ceased in the neighbourhood of the Boulevards Italiens, but continued in other quarters. Complete particulars cannot be obtained. Nothing is certain but this sanguinary struggle has taken place. Many passers by were injured, and a gentleman and his daughter are reported killed. At the Boulevards des Italiens the firing had almost entirely ceased.

Seven o'clock, p. m. There has been a fight in the streets from midday until five o'clock in the Quarter St. Denis. Insurrection quelled in all parts. Cannon required to destroy several barricades. Troops returned to their barracks. The barricades of the Faubourg St. Denis and St. Martin, and the boulevards near the Bastille have been destroyed, and the troops retired.

The *Herald* and *Chronicle* correspondents state that General Castellan, at Lyons, and General Euymier had declared against the government, but this is denied.

Strasbourg and Rheims are also said to have risen. Some doubts are entertained of the fidelity of General Magnan.

The *Daily News* states that General Newmayer is marching from the north with four regiments.

The *Times* says that from the provinces we learn that an attempt at an *emeute* at Diyen-Amend was energetically suppressed. Accounts from the departments in general were satisfactory.

PRUSSIA.—We learn from Berlin, under date of the 2nd inst., that the intelligence from Paris had caused great excitement. The business of the Assembly was interrupted, and the Ministers withdrew to hold a Cabinet Council. The representatives afterwards broke up the sitting.

INSURRECTION IN SICILY.—A letter from Palermo, of the 12th, states that an insurrection in Sicily has been made by Baron Rize, and other noblemen, with a view to proclaim the independence of Sicily, and compel the King to abdicate as King of Sicily, in favour of his son Francis. A portion of the inhabitants of Palermo declared themselves in favour of this project, and the 13th regiment fraternised with them, but by the energy of the authorities the movement was soon checked, and several arrests, including some officers of the 13th regiment, were made.

SOUTHAMPTON, Friday, 10 A. M.—Arrived, Sultan, steamer. Dates, Smyrna, Nov. 19, Malta, 12, and Gibraltar, 23. From Gibraltar she brings news of a bombardment of Rabat and Sallee by the French fleet, which lasted eight hours, causing great loss of life to the Moors. The French also suffered slightly from the return fire from the Castle of Rabat.

It is also reported that the fleet then proceeded to Tangiers for the purpose of bombarding that place.

H. M. S. Janus had been dispatched to protect British interests at Tangiers.

Seven men killed on board the French admiral's ship.

There is no other foreign news of interest.

It is said there is an intention among Arctic officers in England, to propose a national testimonial to Mr. Grinnell, for his noble and humane conduct in fitting out, at his private expense, the expedition, which sailed last year from the United States in search of Sir John Franklin, under the command of Lieutenant De Haven. The project will very shortly be announced, and we have no doubt that it will meet with universal approbation.

The Overland Mail reached London on Wednesday, Dec. 3.

Relations with the Hill Tribes of the North West Frontier, continued in an unsatisfactory state. Sir Colin Campbell was to proceed at once from Peshawar with a force of 2,500 or 3,000 men of an army to chastise a powerful tribe called the Momuns.

There has been a serious Mussulman riot at Bombay. It was occasioned by the Parsee Editor of an illustrated Guzeratee newspaper (in each of which is given a life and portrait of some remarkable historical character) having published in the series (next to one of Benjamin Franklin) a life and portrait of Mahomet. The riot lasted about half an hour, when the mob was dispersed by the Police. Several persons were dangerously injured—shops were plundered, and Parsee women violated. No means had been taken to ascertain the amount of property plundered. Its value is stated by the police authorities and their organ, the *Bombay Times*, to be under £1000, and by the other local papers to have exceeded £15,000.

The mother of the late King of Sardinia has died in Paris, aged 72. She is to be conveyed to Vienna for interment.

The Austrian capital was agitated by the very grave question of Finance Reform.

COLONIAL.

New Brunswick.

A RECENT CENSUS of St. John, New-Brunswick, makes the population of that city to be 22,934, showing the increase since 1840 to have been only 2218. Of this number 11,662 are males and 11,872 females. The houses inhabited in the city number 2055. There are 97 unoccupied, and 56 in process of erection. In the city and county of St. John, there are 33,616 inhabitants, which is an increase of only 5658 since 1840.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.—The *Gleaner*, referring to the appointment of the Hon. David Wark to a seat in the Legislative Council, says, the Government could not have made a selection which would have given more general satisfaction to the people of Kent.

We have heard that the Hon. John Montgomery, member for Restigouche, has declined to accept a seat in the Upper House, which was tendered to him; and in the *Royal Gazette* of Wednesday last, it is announced that William Hamilton, Esquire, of Dalhousie, has been appointed to a seat in the Legislative Council, until Her Majesty's pleasure be known.

Mr. Hamilton is a merchant of high standing at Dalhousie, where he has resided for many years, and gained the respect and esteem of all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.—*New Brunswick*, 20th.

SACKVILLE, Dec. 19.—Mr. John Burns, of Westmorland, was found dead on the road this morning; it is supposed that he fell out of the sleigh in a fit. He has been subject to fits at times.—*Tel. to News Reporter*.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—Last Monday evening the Rev. R. Cooney, A. M., delivered the lecture in the Hall of the Institute. There was a respectable and rather numerous attendance on the occasion, although the night was very stormy. The text on which the Rev. gentleman commented was, that reading introduces us to good society. In vindicating this position, the lecturer adduced the several subjects of History, Biography, Poetry, Natural Philosophy and Political Economy, on all of which he made characteristic, ingenious, and pleasant observations.—At various points in the course of the lecture there were examples of that humour and copious diction that distinguish the countrymen of the speaker. The audience listened with a degree of sympathy that proved that their feelings were interested both by matter and manner.

On next Monday evening George Hatch, Esq. will deliver a lecture on "The Advantages of Mental Science"—*Courier*, 20th.

MR. WISHART'S LECTURE.—The Rev. Mr. Wishart delivered another of his course of lectures at the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, on Thursday evening last, before a large and respectable audience. The Rev. Gentleman delivered the lecture in good style, and his audience seemed well pleased with the manner in which he treated the subject, *viz* *Success in Life*.

After a preamble of considerable length, the lecturer threw his remarks under eight heads—First, that success depends on a man's taking some method of drawing out his faculty; second—that singleness of aim is very necessary to success; third—that talent has a specific share in procuring success; fourth—that the receiving from nature one good faculty, is a very essential means in many cases; fifth—that the thing called tact often gave a man much success; sixth—that the man whose success is of the most splendid order is endowed with a number of peculiar powers; seventh—a certain amount of originality is necessary to success; eighth—in a miscellaneous way it was alleged that qualities such as coolness, self reliance, method, temperance, frugality, and the habit of early rising, were means to success. The lecture concluded by maintaining that a man might see into the springs of the subject without being himself an instance of one who had run a successful career.—*Id.*

Prince Edward Island.

The Election for George Town, P. E. I., terminated in favour of Mr. R. McAuley, by one vote over the Government Candidate.

A new House, just finished for Hon. Mr. Hensley, was destroyed by fire on the 6th.

The last P. E. Island *Gazette*, states that the meeting of the Legislature of that Island, stands postponed from the month of December, to the eighteenth of January next.

Newfoundland.

We have Newfoundland dates to the 6th.

Mr. Gisborne had returned to St. John's. At *White Bear*, he discovered a small seam of coal. He had ascertained that silver had been found in the island by Indians. He saw enough to warrant him in saying that the precious ore might be obtained if properly sought for.

The Legislature was summoned for dispatch of business on the 20th prox.

Canada.

ELECTION AFFRAY AND LOSS OF LIFE.—A Telegraph despatch from Quebec states that on the 15th inst., as two Irishmen were passing a tavern during the election excitement in the Township of Broughton, Megantic County, they were sallied upon by the inmates of the tavern, supposed to be Canadians, and most brutally

beaten; one of them was killed on the spot, and his comrade was so severely ill treated that he was expected to die shortly afterwards. We understand that the Coroner for the district left this morning to investigate into the circumstances of the affair. Great excitement throughout the Province about the elections.

AMERICA.

United States.

NEW YORK POST OFFICE.—There are made up daily in this post office, 4,400 mails, a considerable part of which are made up thrice each day, making over 7,000 mails made up for separate places daily. About 200 large canvas bags of newspapers are despatched daily; on Wednesday and Thursday 250 extra bags are despatched each day, and on Friday nearly as many more. The average number of letters received at and sent from the office daily is between 50,000 and 60,000. The daily average of newspapers is about 172,000. There are 76 clerks employed, 30 carriers with their assistants. The above work is exclusive of the mails sent and received by foreign and California steamers.

The proscription of the liquor traffic in Maine is productive of some queer developments—for instance, the other day a steamer arrived at Bangor, and among the articles of freight was a rice cask, apparently filled with cabbages; on rolling the cask on shore an accident befell it—it was capsize—out rolled a few cabbages and a barrel of gin was revealed to sight.

Mr. Henry Grinnell, the owner of the vessel employed by Lieutenant De Haven, has generously offered them for another cruise in search of Sir John Franklin, should Congress think proper to authorise a second expedition.

The Columbus (Ohio) Journal says, that A. J. Smith, of Newark, and Cashier of the Branch Bank in that place, had absconded to parts unknown, and that bankers, brokers and business men generally, had suffered considerably. One report was that his deficit was about half a million of dollars. The books of the bank were, upon examination, found to be all right.

HEAVY FORFEITURE.—The goods seized at the store of Mr. J. K. Herrick, in New York, a short time since, were on Tuesday decided by Judge Betts to be forfeited, condemned and ordered to be sold for being invoiced below their cost price, with the intent to defraud the United States of the duties to which they were liable. They consist of a large number of testaments, writing paper and other articles of stationery, worth from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Mr. Charles Cheney, of Newburyport, (Mass.) has a tankard presented to Mrs. Hannah Dunstan, by King William, in 1695, for her courageous conduct in the massacre of ten Indians, by whom she was taken captive. The tankard bears the portrait of King William, supported by the lion and the unicorn.

NARROW ESCAPE FROM DEATH.—A despatch from Buffalo, (N. Y.) dated Dec. 2, says,—Yesterday afternoon, Mr. Bambridge, while crossing the bridge to the tower, near the Horse-Shoe of the Falls, slipped and fell into the rapids, and was carried near the brink of the great falls, when he succeeded in grasping the rocks. He remained in this perilous situation for half an hour, when he was discovered by a party passing over the bridge, who, by taking the reins from their horses, and throwing an end to him, succeeded in drawing him to the shore. When discovered, he had barely strength sufficient to fasten the lines around his body.

TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.—BALTIMORE.—The friends of temperance held an adjourned meeting at the hall in Gay street, last night, to consider the propriety of petitioning the legislature to abolish the license law for the sale of intoxicating liquors. The committee appointed at a previous meeting was not prepared to report.—Several resolutions were proposed, for the action of the meeting, and after being debated at length by many of our most prominent citizens, were appropriately disposed of. Among others was one appointing a committee to draw up a resolution to be signed exclusively by women, asking the Legislature to pass a law for the suppression of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors within this State.—*Patriot*, 11th.

BUFFALO, Dec. 9.—The new ship *Dynderden* is ashore in the St. Lawrence, and 17 lives have been lost.

A train of twenty freight cars arrived at Savannah on Friday morning, with nine hundred bales of cotton, through direct from Chattanooga, Tennessee, shipped at that place, and traversing a distance of 400 miles by rail, without interruption.

UNITED STATES MARITIME COMMERCE.—On the 30th June, 1851, the registered tonnage was 1,726,307 23 enrolled and licensed tonnage 2,046,132 20, total 3,772,439 43.

HEAVY FIRE.—Baltimore, Dec. 17th.—A conflagration commenced in a small building near the Post Office, burning nearly a whole square, including the Post Office and Telegraph Office.

BALTIMORE, December 15th.—At New Orleans on the 5th inst., a suit was commenced by the United States against a rice broker named Kelly Smith, who is charged with being a defaulter thirty years ago while acting as Navy Agent, to the amount of \$280,000. Bank deposits and all other property have been seized to await the result.

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