

his opinion to the King, and warmly sustained the policy and the necessity of the plan they have just described. On Tuesday the Council of Ministers assembled, and the different opinions of ministers were then expressed with the utmost clearness. The partisans of intervention were M. Thiers, M. Passy, M. Sauset, Marshals Maison and Dupleire, and M. d'Argout. Against intervention were M. Pelet de la Lizerie, who was likely to issue from a war of which no one can foresee the result; and M. Montalivet, although less determined than M. Pelet, was still adverse to the measure.

Opinions being thus divided, M. Thiers first thought it his duty to offer his resignation, and his example was imitated by his five colleagues. The resignations were carried to the King by M. Montalivet, who had made the greatest and most loyal efforts to prevent this ministerial schism.

On Wednesday it was endeavored to induce M. Thiers to change his determination to resigning office; but he still persevered in his intention, and after a long conference which led to no result, the Ministers again met at St. James, when the telegraphic despatch announcing the acceptance of the resignation of 1812 by the Queen. This step, as we have already stated, put an end to the ministerial differences upon a question which has ceased to be the order of the day. In the actual state of affairs, the French Ministry faithful to its plan of not taking any part in the internal quarrels of the Peninsula, has nothing more to do, than to remain in an expectant attitude. The French troops which are now in Spain will remain there to make war upon Don Carlos, but the auxiliary corps now forming at Pau will probably wait before it passes the frontier, until the course of events enlighten us with respect to the true situation of the Queen, who we sincerely hope is neither a captive nor has been outraged in her palace of St. Ildefonso.

ORIENTAL TRAVELLERS IN EUROPE.

The Pacha of Egypt, as well as the Grand Signior of Constantinople, have of late years sent from time to time to Paris, promising young men from their respective countries, to be educated in France at the public expense, and to make themselves acquainted with the European sciences. We have occasionally extracted from the Paris papers, notices relating to the progress of some of these students. A late number of the *Courier des Etats Unis*, contains an account of a work published at Cairo in the year 1824, and containing the experiences of one of these young men. The title of the book is, *Takhtis-Al Idris Fi telkhis Bariz* (Purification of Gold for the short description of Paris) by the Cheik Refaa, Rafi Al, Tahtahui. The particular meaning of this quaint title is not apparent from the account of the book given in the *Courier*. The author of the work is said to be a great favourite of the Pacha of Egypt. After the return of this Cheik to Egypt, he established a journal which is published at Cairo, in Turkish and Arabic, of which he is principal editor. He has persuaded the Viceroy to put a stop to the sacrilegious spoliations of the Europeans who go to explore the land of the Pharaohs, and spoil it of its monuments, which they place within the walls of a museum. The Cheik Refaa has founded at Cairo a museum, consecrated to the antiquities of the country. After giving these and some other notices of this young man, the *Courier* makes some extracts from the work, which we copy.

"The author speaks of the motives which have induced the Pacha to send young Egyptians into a country inhabited only by infidels. He allows that the Europeans are now the only possessors of the sciences which they formerly learnt from the Arabians. He quotes the example of the Kalif Almamoun and other Arabian sovereigns who called to their assistance the literature of Greece, to spread science among Mussulmen, and he supports himself by the words of the Prophet, 'Seek for science even in China, though the Chinese' he adds, 'are Feticists.'

After showing the necessity of the study of the sciences, he enumerates the different studies to which the Egyptian students were to devote themselves. He gives a general sketch of geography according to European geographers. If the Pacha chose France as he place to which to send his pupils, it was because the French are very tolerant on the subject of religion. All forms of worship are there equal protection. He gives a short description of his voyage from Cairo to Marseilles, of the quarantine—the French diligences—and the face of the country, here cities and villages are scattered all along the way, offering to the traveller all the conveniences of life, so that he thinks himself passing through a single city. He gives finally a description of Paris, gives the geographical description of it, and passes to the inhabitants of Paris.

"Know that the Parisians are distinguished among a great many Christians, for their penetrating genius, for the refinement of their understandings, and for a zeal which lights to plunge in the depths of science.

"They are not like the Coptic Christians, who are naturally inclined to ignorance and stupidity. Far from being servile imitators they like, on the contrary, to know the bottom of everything and find proofs of every thing. Among them, the lowest classes know how to read and write, and search into all subjects, every one according to his profession. The common people in this country are not brutes, like those for the most part in Arabian countries. They have works on all the branches of the arts and sciences, of industry, and even the most vulgar trades, so that the artisan must know how to read and write to acquire a knowledge of his trade."

"Though they are attached to their country the French are very fond of travelling, and pass years at a time in going from country to country. They are very fond of strangers, particularly if they are dressed in fine clothes."

"The men at home are the slaves of the women, and are under their orders, whether they are beautiful or not. Europeans in general do not think ill of their wives, though they may be reproached with numerous peccadilloes. It has sometimes happened, however, that their most distinguished men, being convinced of the infidelity of their wives have separated from them entirely, and quit them for ever, and yet others do not take warning from their example!"

"What characterizes the French is their passion for novelties, and their love of change and variety in every thing particularly in what concerns their manner of dressing. I do not mean that they change their costume entirely, but it is constantly undergoing some modification. Thus for example they never exchange the hat for a turban, but their hats are constantly changing in fashion and colour. They are by nature active and agile,—you may see a man of rank running in the street like a child. They are light, inconstant, and pass easily from joy to sadness, from seriousness to pleasantry, and vice versa, so that a man will occupy himself in one day with a multitude of opposite affairs. They do not however, act in this way in important affairs. In politics, for example, they never change, every one remains faithful to his opinion, and strengthens himself in it, through his whole life." (This last remark would lead one to infer that however deeply versed the Egyptian student may be in scientific lore, he cannot be very learned in the history of the men engaged in political life in France for the last twenty years.)

"After politics our author returns to the private life of the Parisians. He speaks of their houses, their food, their dresses,—praises much the grace which the Paris ladies give to their toilette, and gives some details of it which we do not follow."

"One of the most wonderful things he says is, that when a lady is laced, a gentleman can clasp her waist with his two hands."

In general the Cheik Refaa, manifests a very decided taste for European ideas, and his book will do much, we think, to regenerate the Mussulmen world.

From *Fetalla Sayeghir's Travels among the Arabs.*

THE SIMOON.

We took the road to Heggies, resting every night with one of those tribes which overspread the desert. The fifth day, after passing the night under the tents El Henadi, we left with the sun and went to saddle our dromedaries; but found them, to our great amazement, with their heads plunged deeply into the sand, from whence it was impossible to disengage them. Calling to our aid the Bedouins of the tribe, they informed us that the circumstance presaged the simoon, which would not long defer its devastating course, and that we could not proceed without facing certain death. Providence has endowed the camel with an instinctive presentiment for its preservation. It is sensible two or three hours beforehand of the approach of this terrific scourge of the desert, and turning its face away from the wind, buries itself in the sand; and neither force nor want can move it from its position neither to eat or drink, while the tempest lasts, although it should be for several days.

Learning the danger which threatened us, we shared the general terror, and hastened to adopt all the precautions enjoined on us. Horses must not only be placed under shelter, but have their heads covered, and their ears stopped; they would otherwise be suffocated by the whirlwinds of fire and sand which the wind sweeps furiously before it. Men assemble under their tents, stopping up every crevice with extreme caution; and having provided themselves with water placed within their reach, throw themselves on the ground, covering their heads with a mantle, and stir no more till the desolating hurricane has passed.

That morning all was tumult in the camp; every one endeavouring to provide for the safety of his beasts, and then precipitately retiring under the protection of his tent.—We had scarcely time to secure our beautiful Nedgde mares before the storm began. Furious gusts of wind were succeeded by

clouds of red and burning sands, whirling round with fierce impetuosity and overwhelming or burying under their drifting mountains whatever they encountered. If any part of the body is by accident exposed to its touch, the flesh swells as if a hot iron had been passed over it. The water intended to refresh us with its coolness, was boiling, and the temperature of the tent exceeded that of a Turkish bath. The tempest lasted ten hours in its greatest fury, and then gradually sunk for the following six: another hour, and we must have been suffocated. When at length we ventured to issue from our tents, a dreadful spectacle awaited us: five children, two women, and a man were extended dead on the still burning sand; and several Bedouins had their faces blackened and entirely calcined, as it by the action of an ardent furnace. When any one is struck on the head by the simoon, the blood flows in torrents from his mouth and nostrils, his face swells and turns black, and he soon dies of suffocation. We thanked the Lord that we had not ourselves been surprised by this terrible scourge in the midst of the desert, but had been preserved from so frightful a death.

"A Colonel Millard undertook to arrest President Burnett, which produced a prodigious sensation—the people rose in arms to oppose him, and he gave it up. General Rusk will have the Colonel arrested, and he no doubt will lose his commission." Millard is from New York. Austen is confidently spoken of as President.

HORRIBLE ATROCITY.—We are informed by several gentlemen from Columbia, Chicot country, that on Monday evening, after the election closed, a man by the name of Bunch was taken and hung by the citizens of that place. The cause which led to the infliction of such summary punishment, we are informed, was owing to unlawful conduct of Bunch. He claimed the right to vote, which was refused him by the judges, owing to his being a colored man. Bunch took umbrage at this rejection, and resorted to violent measures. During the affray, Dr Webb, a highly respectable citizen, was stabbed several times, the wounds supposed to be mortal.—This so incensed the citizens, that Bunch was taken up and hung. We forbear to make any comments, as the whole affair will no doubt be fully and fairly investigated.

THE WAR IN TEXAS.—We have been allowed to peruse a letter from a gentleman, accurately situated for becoming acquainted with the state of affairs in Texas, and the prospects of the emigrants to that country.—He is of opinion that the Mexicans will make a vigorous effort to recover the country—that they will give up Santa Anna, and will continue the contest as long as they can command men or money. The Texans are divided amongst themselves, and their numbers do not increase according to their expectations. Speculators have produced a strong impression through the press, on the public opinion in favour of the cause of Texas, and many volunteers have enlisted but they soon get sick of the cause, and silently return in disgust to their own homes. A majority of the real Texans, he states, are known to be lukewarm in the cause. If this view of the state of affairs be correct, and we consider it entitled to a good deal of reliance, the independence of the new state is not so near being established, as some of its friends in Congress imagined, and it will need all the co-operation which Gen. Gaines with his army can give it.

REPTILES IN TEXAS.—It is stated in Edward's History of Texas, that scorpions and centipedes are both numerous and dangerous in that country. There are lizards of every hue, generally harmless, except the smooth backed ones. Spiders also of every diversity abound, from the tarantula, one of the most disgusting and venomous in the country, which will measure, when full grown, five or six inches, to a small slender striped one, of the most insupportable appearance, but as the author can testify by dear bought experience, of the most poisonous nature. The flat black headed centipede grows enormously large, is extremely poisonous, and haunts are chiefly to be found under rotten logs and moss grown rocks.

The New England Farmer proposes to substitute cow labour for horse labour on farms, and says the man who shall succeed in this, will deserve the title of benefactor of the poor. In the Duchy of Nassau, the cow teams are driven by women.

Five hundred and forty seven thousand volumes of books were printed in the United States last year, exclusive of repeated editions and pamphlets.

The Buzzard, a British cruiser, captured another slaver in June, making the seventh vessel captured by her since the 17th December, 1834, with a total of two thousand six hundred and seventy three slaves. The King of Naples is at Paris, but for what purpose is not known.

The Duchess de Berri has been in France incognito. She was in Paris when Alibaud made his unsuccessful attempt on the life of Louis Philippe. She travelled as an Englishman.

ANCIENT AND MODERN MINING.—Much curious information was afforded at a late meeting of the shareholders of the West Cork Mining Company, as to the manner in which the Danes obtained their copper at the time they frequented the British islands. This was done by sinking shafts, or pits, of a few feet in depth, and applying the action of fire to the lode of ore in order to its fusion in the earth. In the workings of the company at Horse Island, in the county of Cork, several of these have been explored, and from the richness of the ore, and the extent of the lode, which is about 15 feet wide, it is evident that the knowledge of the Danes in mining operations was upon the most limited scale. The lode discovered in the largest excavation is composed of a slaty substance intermixed with floor spar, and abounds with an infinite number of small veins of the richest ore, so that it is scarcely possible to strike a pick into any part of the lode without finding the precious metal. Some very curious hammers and other instruments have been found, and also several brass pans. There are various traditions in the country as to these shafts, and which together with the circumstances here mentioned, would lead to the conclusion that they are even of an earlier date than the Danish period assigned to them. It is an historical fact, that the Carthaginians worked the mines of Cornwall. The Nation of Ptolemy, or Mizen Head, is but a few leagues distant from Horse Island; and as the whole district, of which that island forms a part, is one bed of mineral riches, it is not likely to have been overlooked by that enterprising people. Another copper mine is now in work by the Company, distant three miles from Horse Island, where the ore which is raised, is also of an exceeding richness; and which upon assay, has been found to contain 55 percent of the pure copper. The place where this mine is situated is called Ballydenoh, or in Irish the Land of Gold.

Don Carlos has just issued a decree by which the property of Spanish emigrants, without distinction as to political opinions, will be confiscated unless they return to Spain within a definite period.

The Province of Portugal, where the military of the army of the revolutionists in Spain. The elections created great excitement, and it was necessary for the military to prepare for an insurrection, which it was feared was about to break out. Spain is bleeding at every pore. Politically, morally physically, she is dead.

THE CHURCH.—The Clergy of the Established Church were lately assembled for several days in Fredericton. The proceedings of this meeting have not yet been made public, but we are informed that they will be soon. Among other important matters, to which the attention of the clergy was directed on this occasion, a principal subject of deliberation was the formation of a Society upon a large scale among the members of the Church, both lay and clerical, for the furtherance of several pious and useful objects, to which every sincere churchman must necessarily wish success. The plan of such a society was unanimously agreed upon, and waits only the formal sanction of the Bishop of the Diocese: upon the receipt of which a vigorous attempt will be made to carry it into effect in every part of the Province.

REAL ESTATE is rising rapidly in St. John, N. B.—The *Courier* states that lots that a few years since might have been purchased for £300, have recently brought £1800.—The Carlton Place, property that has hitherto yielded little or nothing to the corporation, are expected to let this month for £500.

BANK OF NORTH AMERICA.—R. Carter, Esq. has been visiting Picton, P. E. Island, and Miramichi. It would appear by the Papers that there is some prospect that Branches of the Bank of North America, will be established at those places.

THE WEST INDIES.—From Barbadoes papers we learn that Sir Lionel Smith was on the eve of his departure to assume the government of Jamaica. Sir Lionel had been waited on by the members of the House of Assembly of Barbadoes in a body, and presented with a very flattering and gratifying address. The Gannet had proceeded to Dominica, to learn whether Sir E. McGregor would accept the Governorship of the Windward Islands, as it was doubted; should he not accept the appointment, the Gannet was to proceed to Tobago, for Lieut-General Darling.

THE STAR.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1836.

THE ELECTIONS for this District terminated in this Town, on Thursday last, when