

THE GENEVA AWARD.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

From the London Advertiser.

"What a farce has been played at Geneva, where England has been adjudged to pay tribute to a bully who repudiates his own obligation. America is not yet contented with the settlement of the claims against England."

From the London Herald.

"The breach between the two countries has only been widened. Of course had the Arbitrators decided upon a larger sum of indemnity, England would pay it; if they had awarded nothing America could but show her teeth. What humiliation next awaits?"

From the London Standard.

"We went to Geneva for justice and reconciliation, but instead met with invectives from the American counsel and a partially adverse award dictated rather by a desire for compromise than by equity. The whole proceedings in connection with the arbitration are entirely unsatisfactory to England."

From the New York Herald.

"Probably a more through imposition than the Treaty of Washington has never been palmed off as a great diplomatic triumph upon a credulous people. We have gained by it neither honor, credit nor pecuniary advantage. As a settlement of our direct losses through the acts of the Anglo-Confederate privateers during the war of the rebellion, the Alabama claims portion of the treaty is neither honorable nor so profitable as would have been the settlement proposed by the Johnson-Clarendon Convention, rejected by the Senate in 1869. The discarded plan of adjustment was a plain, straightforward business arrangement, made by the clear heads of an able lawyer and ripe statesman, and looking to a speedy and satisfactory settlement of the moneyed part of the dispute. The other has been a glittering fraud, puffed into importance by the breath of scheming politicians and ending in less practical benefit to the United States, in a material point of view, than the rejected Johnson-Clarendon Treaty would have secured."

From the New York Tribune.

"The controversy, it says, has grown stale, and every one will be glad so hear that it is at an end. But it scarcely could have ended worse. We have lost every point we tried to make. By asking too much we have gained nothing. The thousand millions which would have made our case sublime if they had not made it ridiculous, have dwindled to fifteen and a half. This petty sum will doubtless be greatly diminished by the English claims against the United States which are yet to be allowed. Of course the mere matter of money is the least important feature of so grave and authoritative a decision which forms a sort of epoch in international proceeding. But this trifling sum is positively all we have gained. In every point of view the great moral advantage is with England, and against us.

There was a great opportunity presented for an important and beneficent improvement in international procedure. But it has been thrown away on our side by the vacillation and incompetency of our Government."

From the New York Express.

"When it is remembered how high the American eagle perched in the magnitude of its pretensions at the close of the Treaty

Commission and how low he roosts now, the conclusion is not at all encouraging to American pride."

From the New York Star.

"As diplomats the present Cabinet are no more capable of contending with the statesmen of the Old World than a lamb is with a tiger. They have been beaten on every point. We shall not receive the award made by the Geneva Tribunal until all these claims are fixed. All claims other than those growing out of the depredations of the Alabama and other cruisers were, by the treaty, to be referred to a mixed commission of three members, one each appointed by the two contending powers, and a third appointed by them conjointly. This commission was in session at Washington during last winter, and will recommence its sittings next month. The majority of cases before this commission are claims upon our Government for cotton and blockade runners alleged to have been wrongly seized; and it is already plain that a considerable sum will have to be paid by the United States on the damages. It is estimated that the British Government will obtain at the least \$5,000,000. This will reduce our little bill to \$10,000,000. England damaged this country all she could, assisted to run up our debt to an almost fabulous sum, and now gets everybody to agree that this sort of thing was wrong, and in future it shall not be tolerated. Cunning John Bull, having every thing to gain by the establishment of this principle, practically insures his commerce from danger in future wars; soothes the mighty American Eagle with £2,000,000 and laughs in his sleeve at the stupidity of American statesmen and the imbecility of the Government at Washington."

From the New York World.

"The United States as plaintiffs before the Court of Arbitration come out non suited and made rather more than ridiculous. All that the Court has recognized is the private claims of sundry American citizens for damages in certain specified cases. This claim might have been quite as well adjusted under the Johnson-Clarendon treaty, which was so spitefully rejected by the Senate in a passion of partizan malice, under the pretext that it failed to adjust those claims of 'the nation' which we have just united with Great Britain under the Treaty of Washington and President Grant's diplomacy in branding as unfounded and untenable."

From the Courier des Etats Unis.

"Under the circumstances one might ask at first sight which of the two parties has reason to complain. But it will appear from an attentive examination that the United States have no reason to congratulate themselves. The verdict accords no more, neither to national pride nor the principles sustained, than was to be found in the Johnson-Clarendon treaty, which the Senate rejected in 1869."

GERMAN TROOPS.

The New York World has the following rather startling editorial summary of the state of affairs in Berlin:

The accounts received on all hands from Berlin point to a terrible state of disorganization in the capital of Germany. Rents are doubled, and whenever a family is evicted the populace take sides with it, attack the police, and very often win the battle. As it is the official theory that the soldiers must always win if called out, at any loss of

life, and as a Berlin mob is composed of soldiers who do not like to fly, the Government is most reluctant to appeal to the military, and the police are often very hardly treated, Crime too, is rapidly on the increase; Berlin is full of swash bucklers, who get into willful quarrels with civilians; and the sanitary condition of the city is the worst in Europe. There is no scientific drainage whatever, the death rate is double that of London, and if the cholera effects lodgment it may become epidemic. The Government, however, with the \$1,000,000,000 taken from France, will not give the Berliners even the \$40,000,000 extracted from Paris, and the town council cannot get rid of its old tradition of saving pennies.

HOW A PRESIDENT IS ELECTED.

The question is often asked as to how the President of the United States is elected. We will answer.

Each State is entitled to as many electors for President and Vice-President as it has Senators and Representatives in Congress.

In each State the electors are chosen by a plurality vote. That is, if there are three sets of electors voted for, the highest number of votes is chosen.

But a candidate for President, in order to be successful, must have a majority of all the electors.

If there be three candidates for President and none of them receive a majority of the electoral college, there is no choice, and the election then goes to the House of Representatives.

The House must confine their choice to the three highest candidates voted for by the electors. The Representatives vote by States, and each State has but one vote; so that the power of Delaware is as great as that of New York. A candidate, to be successful, must receive a majority of all the States, or nineteen States. If the delegation is divided, the vote of the State can not be cast, and therefore is lost.

TESTING OUR HEAVY ORDNANCE.—A 9-inch Woolwich gun, returned from Portsmouth, with a transverse fracture of the A tube, or outer wrought iron skin, about 18 inches from the muzzle, and of considerable extent, is being tested at the Royal Arsenal proof butts to ascertain how far a gun so injured may be relied on for further work in an emergency, and to ascertain other facts of value to artilleryists. About forty rounds have been fired with the ordinary service charge, but at present without any visible effect either upon the external fracture or upon the steel inner tube, which remains intact. With some of these rounds a trial has been made with Captain Maitland's expanding wad, fixed in the base of the projectile to prevent the escape of gas between the shot and the bore, but so far the experiments have been attended with uncertain results, and further trials will be necessary before any opinion can be pronounced on the value of the invention.

NEW CHINESE STEAM FRIGATE.

A steam frigate of 2700 tons, 400 horse power, and armed with twenty 40 pounder and two 90-pounder rifled guns, was lately launched from the Chinese Arsenal at Shanghai. Everything about her except the shaft was made at the arsenal by Chinese artizans, and under the superintendence of only five foreigners from first to last.