

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Selected from Eastern Papers.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.—The boring classes in England are distressed beyond precedent. It may be believed that several hundred thousand persons have been thrown out of employment, and many were in want of bread! Great exertions were making to relieve them, but the aggregate help needed was far beyond the means of supply, unless, indeed, very sparingly. The silk manufacturers seem to have been almost all crushed—by "free trade." Many of the woollen weavers were literally starving, though the supply of bread stuffs is uncommonly large, and the prices moderate. The military are frequently used to keep down the people. The manufacturing districts in Ireland are suffering as much as those of England. "Every weaver in Killkenny" is said to be idle.

FRANCE.—The silk manufacture is exceedingly prosperous. The "free trade" act of Great Britain, which has ruined her own manufactures though it protects them with a duty of thirty per cent. has given much life and activity to those of France.

It appears that there have been numerous arrests in Paris. The affair is but casually mentioned; but it is said that the number of prisoners is so great, that the Conciergerie and prison de la Force, are quite filled, and 130 have been removed to the Bicetre.

SPAIN.—is filled with insurrectionary principles. Much disturbance has taken place in various provinces; but in general, the royal forces had succeeded in pretty speedily quelling them. All persons taken prisoners were shot. The end, however, is not yet.

Sir Frederick Lamb, the British minister at Madrid, after having for some months remained a quiet spectator of events, has recently exercised an active influence on the proceedings of the Spanish cabinet. He has strongly urged the acknowledgment of South American independence, and it was rumored that such an acknowledgment was on the eve of being published. The Spanish cabinet is said to be influenced by the dread of a patriot fleet on their coasts. The arguments of the British minister have likewise been greatly enforced by apprehensions for the safety of Cuba, Porto Rico, the Canaries, and the Philippine Islands. The Spanish ministry, however are anxious to obtain some countervailing pecuniary sacrifices from the South American governments.

Official notice has been given that Algerine corsairs attack all Spanish vessels.

RUSSIA.—Extract of a private letter from St. Petersburg, February 14. A report of the commission charged with the investigation of the conspiracy at St. Petersburg, was on the 9th of that month laid before the emperor alone, by general Diebitsch. To this report was annexed a list of the conspirators, pointing out also the greater or less degree of their guilt. The emperor appeared extremely depressed on that day. The mildness of his character recoiled at the measures of extreme severity which the circumstances require. On the 18th, however, his majesty called an extraordinary council of his ministers, and communicated to them the report in question. The council was unanimously of opinion, that the safety of the state demanded prompt justice, and exemplary punishment of the conspirators, especially of those who were taken with arms in their hands.

One account mentions that it is expected 400 officers will be executed!

[It is strongly reported that this conspiracy has existed for a long time—since 1815, under different names; and that it had been resolved to assassinate the late emperor, which was prevented by his sudden death. The whole plot is said to have been discovered. Alexander, Constantine and Nicholas were to have been assassinated on the same day, by different parties of the band, six for each, as Paul, their father, was killed; and one of the reputed assassins of the latter, Michael Orloff, was at the head of the whole affair. The papers, relating to it, were found in the possession of the prince Troubetskoi, at St. Petersburg, who was arrested. A republic was to have been proclaimed, and Orloff was to have been the chief of it.

Much speculation exists about the journey of the duke of Wellington to St. Petersburg—and because that, in the king of England's speech, the affairs of Russia were not at all alluded to,

GREECE.—The rumors from this country so much contradict one another, that it is perhaps, best to let them, generally, pass for the present. On the whole, however, they are very favorable to the cause of liberty and right. These are some of them—

Ibrahim pacha is said to have lost 2000 men in his attempt on Acra. Colotroni had carried Tripolitza by storm. The fight

and slaughter was dreadful. The castle was burned down, with all the Egyptians and negroes from Darfour in it, in retaliation of cruelties by them committed.—Thirty six Christian officers were taken and sold by the Greeks for the present—their bodies to be exhibited as scoundrels. Missolonghi held out gallantly. The Egyptians lately lost 18 vessels of war, captured or destroyed by the Greeks. Col. Fabvier is of great service to the patriots. It was through him, chiefly, that Tripolitza was taken, and 2500 of the enemy destroyed. Ibrahim was severely pressed, and had lost nearly every strong hold that he held in the Morea. It was thought that he has not more than 10,000 men at his disposal.

Later accounts say that Missolonghi had been provisioned by the Greek fleet—that a great Naval victory had been obtained, in which Miaulis and Canaris succeeded in burning 15 Turkish vessels, among them three of their largest ships—and that 2,000 men had left Hydra for Negropont, where a general insurrection against the Turks had broken out.

LATER.

Many more commercial and banking houses had failed in England, and the great merchants and bankers in Germany, Prussia, the Netherlands, &c. were giving way, and for enormous amounts. The like, perhaps, was never heard of before. But the ruin in England appears to be checked by the powerful exertions of the government and of the bank. The revenue is doing well, and the minister shews a flourishing state of finances; which by our own experience, we very well know, may shew a distressed and impoverished people.

There have been some very warm debates in the French chamber of deputies relative to the affairs of St. Domingo; but the people of France are quiet and seem to be prosperous.

Strong bands of constitutionalists have appeared in several parts of Spain. Another revolution is apparently looked for. The curate Merino is in arms against the government.

Russia is quiet—though 12 or 13,000 persons are said to have been implicated in the late conspiracy, some of them of the first rank. It is stated that the emperor will speedily reduce his army.

The Greeks have evidently been very successful—the Egyptian and Turks, by land and sea, have been severely mauled by them. Important particulars may be expected.

The following extract from a speech, on the Panama Mission, by Mr. Berrien, of Georgia, in the Senate, will explain the "peculiar policy" of the Southern states:

"When we look to the situation of the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico—to the commanding position which they occupy, with reference to the commerce of the West Indies—we cannot be indifferent to the change of their condition. But when we reflect that they are in *justa position* to a portion of this Union, where slavery exists; that the proposed change is to be effected by a people whose fundamental maxim is, that he who would tolerate slavery is unworthy to be free; that the principle of Universal Emancipation must march in the van of the invading force; and that all the horrors of a servile war will too surely follow in its train—these merely commercial considerations sink into insignificance—they are swallowed up in the magnitude of the danger with which we are menaced.

"Sir, under such circumstances, the question to be determined is this—with a due regard to the safety of the southern states, can you suffer these islands to pass into the hands of bucaniers, drunk with their new-born liberty?

"I repeat the question—can you suffer this thing, consistently with the duty which you owe to Maryland, to Virginia, to Kentucky, to Missouri, to Tennessee, to North and South Carolina, to Georgia, to Alabama, to Mississippi, to Louisiana, and to Florida? Nay, sir, New-England, securely as she feels on this subject, is not without interest in the result. A numerous colony of her sons, are, at this moment, toiling in temporary exile, beneath the fervid sun of Cuba. If the horrors of St. Domingo are to be repeated in that beautiful island, they will be its first victims.

"What then is our obvious policy? Cuba and Porto Rico must remain as they are. To Europe, the President has distinctly said, 'we cannot allow a transfer of Cuba to any European power.' We must hold a language equally decisive to the Spanish American States. We cannot allow their principle of Universal Emancipation to be called into activity, in a situation where its contagion, 'from our neighborhood, would be dangerous to our quiet and safety.'—The President would brave the power of England, to prevent her acquisition of Cuba—and why, sir! To keep the receipts

of our custom house at their maximum—to preserve our commerce and navigation. Will he quail before the new Republics of the south, when a dearer interest is at stake?

"I know, sir—the documents before us prove it—that we have been exhibiting the character of a political busy-body, in the cabinets of Europe and America. I know, sir—the documents before us prove it—that in the progress of this splendid diplomatic campaign, certain declarations have been made to the different powers, cis-Atlantic and trans-Atlantic, which it may be difficult to reconcile. But, so far as they conflict with the duty which we owe to ourselves, they must be reconciled. The safety of the southern portion of this Union must not be sacrificed to a passion for diplomacy. The United States are yet free from these diplomatic fetters. They are not pledged. We have entered into no bonds. If it shall consist with our interest that Cuba should pass into the hands of England or of France, rather than to see another Haytien Republic erected there, we are free to permit it. If our interests, and our safety, shall require us to say to these new Republics—Cuba and Porto Rico must remain as they are, we are free to say it. Yes, sir, and by the blessing of God, and the strength of our own arms, to enforce the declaration. And let me say to gentlemen, these high considerations do require it. The vital interests of the south demand it—and the United States will be recreant from its duty, faithless to the protection which it owes to the fairest portion of this Union, if it does not make this declaration, and enforce it.

"Sir, we must cut this Gordian knot.—We must relieve ourselves from these diplomatic fetters. We must pledge ourselves, not to foreign nations, but to that portion of our own citizens who have a deep and vital interest in this question, that the condition of Cuba and Porto Rico shall remain unchanged. To the Spanish American States we must notify our determination in terms of perfect respect and good will, but still as our fixed determination."

A VOICE IN CONGRESS HALL.—The following are extracts from the speech of Mr. Cambreleng, of New York, in the House of Representatives, on Mr. M'Duffie's resolutions for amending the constitution.—Mr. C. spoke in reply to Mr. Storrs.

"There were evident indications of a union, and he was happy to perceive them, among the people of the state (N. Y.)—a union founded upon political and state principles—a union to take from this House the privilege of electing a Chief Magistrate—to restore that right entire to the people—and rescue the constitution from an administration, which if the Executive be an index of its policy, seems to have substituted the preamble for the sacred instrument itself. On which side of these great questions his colleague would be found, it would perhaps not become him to say—in a case of such extreme uncertainty, it would be folly to become a prophet."

"We have yet to learn what effect will be produced in our own country, by a case something like that of Lord North and Mr. Fox. We have now to discover, whether the American people have as high a sense of their dignity as the British had near a century since. Whether they, as vigilantly, watch the conduct of their distinguished men. It is yet to be ascertained, whether a President of the United States can ever, with impunity, appoint to the first station in his Cabinet, the presiding officer of that very electoral College, to which and to whom he may have been indebted for his election. Let not those in power rely upon their patronage; Let them not confide in an apparent apathy; the deepest impressions are least perceptible; when a nation speaks, its voice will be heard. Let those who have been left in the ebb of party, on this 'alluvion of power,' beware of the flood.

"When ever this House becomes periodically an electoral college, we shall very soon be unworthy the conquest of ambition. The time will soon arrive, when a seat here will be sought for, only as a medium to office and emolument. An election in this House, will present an extraordinary spectacle. Our lobbies will be crowded; our galleries will be closed; in this Hall there will be the silence of the grave; the gaunt and terrible form of CORRUPTION will preside where liberty now stands; wealth and patronage, not liberty, will then be power; the transition from the Speaker's chair to the Department of State, and from thence to the Presidency will be as fixed—aye, 'as the Hanoverian succession.'"

"Let us dissolve this tie. If this unnatural union, between the Legislator and his Patron the executive be not dissolved, every thing like political fidelity and morality, and our reverence for constitutional principles, must be destroyed; every honorable

principle that renders public life desirable that gives it splendour and makes it noble of our ambition, must decay."

[We do not copy the above extract for the same purpose that the Republic does—as an echo to encourage the opposition—but to show what has been said, and what is said, in Congress.—L.]

From the Democratic Press.
Extract of a letter from Washington.
"I was much entertained by the mention that poor M'Duffie got on Saturday from Trimble and Vance.

"M'Duffie had indulged himself in bitter invectives against the Kentucky Ohio members who voted for Mr. Adams, charging them with corruption, &c."

"Col. Trimble, of Kentucky, a steady, mild tempered, but determined man, had the floor, and in the course of speech which was a very good one, observed that 'a man who charged another falsely, under oath, might be prosperous and punished for perjury, but he that uttered false accusations not under oath, equally criminal and detestable.' He proceeded to remark on M'Duffie's resolutions as false, slanderous, and even the word 'rascal,' in obvious application to the gentleman from S. Carolina. M'Duffie looked as much astonished, as a thunderbolt had fallen at his feet, rose to reply on Trimble's closing remarks, but General Vance, of Ohio, the floor, and went on, adding to all Trimble had said. General Vance observed, 'that the gentleman from South Carolina had told the house he would tell truth and shame the devil.' 'Now,' said Vance, 'I shall tell the truth what the devil (looking directly at M'Duffie) shamed or not.' He went on defining Trimble had done the accusers of Clay's friends; and said, among other things, if he were to poll the house to elect a man that he thought capable of corruption, he would fix on him that so loudly protested the charge.

"M'Duffie after enduring all this, said Trimble if he meant to apply what he said to him. To this, Trimble, with an immovable coolness, replied that the explanation must come from the gentleman from South Carolina, if he meant to charge me with corruption. I did intend all I said for him; if he disavowed any such charge against me, I withdraw what I have said, its applying to him.'—'But,' added Trimble, 'I meant to give measure for measure and Heaven blast me if I retract one word.'"

"Under all this, the gentleman from Carolina, has been obliged to remain quiet. He has found that bullying and hectoring won't do, and in coming across Col. Trimble, he has run against a snag'—as Mississippi boatmen say. It is rumored, however, that we shall hear more from him as soon as he can get a suit of silk made by the tailor.

"The impression is universal that M'Duffie has made himself supremely ridiculous, by the contrast between his submission to this castigation, and the less audacity with which he provoked

The late destructive fire which occurred at Rochester, N. Y. has added another to numberless instances upon record of strong fidelity of dogs. An old watchman whose duty it has been to protect the leather about the premises, was standing by a quantity of leather in a Tannery which the flames had already reached; but neither persuasion or threat could induce him to leave his post, when compelled to retreat the watchman left the door open, supposing that the would force the dog to follow them. A poor Birt had received no orders from his master to leave his watch, and upon examination in the morning, the bones of a faithful animal, in the precise spot where he was last seen, furnished sad evidence that his fidelity had cost him his life.

A late Buffalo Journal gives us an account of the melancholy disaster of men being drawn into the resistless current of Niagara, and hurled into the dreadful gulf of the cataract. Their names were Richard Buffum and Quigley.

From the Nat. Intelligencer.
Gentlemen.—Among the curiosities of this Metropolis of the Union, I this day visited the Patent Office of the U. S. and was truly astonished at the number of models collected within these twenty years—for I understand the office has not existed much longer. I am surprised at the crease of the inventions, for I thought the ingenuity of man was exhausted; but as the population increases I find inventions increase; for I was informed the superintendent of the Patent Office that 300 patents were issued last year, 100 already this year, and that the seven new applications were made!

A STRANGE
Washington, 24th March, 1826.