

## Foreign News.

From London papers of the 30th June.

**Great Britain & Ireland.** The royal assent has been given to the trade and navigation bills, which recently passed parliament. Intelligence of an adjustment of affairs with the Chinese has been received at London. A motion to repeal the tax on salt has failed in the commons, 104 to 92; but a bill has passed to permit the people to use roasted grain in lieu of coffee, if they please. *Wonderful liberty!* A public dinner had been given in London to Mr. Zea, the Colombian minister.

In *Ireland*, famine and disease were in full progress—their destructive force was hourly accumulating. The king's late visit to Dublin, to drink some hot whiskey punch with his dearly beloved subjects there, cost about as much money as the public and private charity of Great Britain has granted for the relief of starving millions—and the fooleries of the coronation many times more!

It was stated by Sir J. Newport, in the House of Commons on the 27th June, in support of a motion to extend the grant for the relief of the Irish sufferers, beyond 100,000, that fifteen persons in one parish had perished by famine; that twenty-eight more were past all hopes of recovery, and that one hundred and twenty persons in the same parish were ill from fever produced by want. In another parish there had been found only food for two days for the people; and the parochial minister had actually prepared his parishioners for their inevitable death according to the rights of his particular Communion.

What language, says the Courier, can exaggerate this scene of misery? It is vast, sweeping, terrific. Let imagination conceive, if it can conceive, a scene of such appalling distress as that of whole parishes having been for three days without food, and, hopeless of relief in this world, flocking round the minister of the parish to prepare them for the next! This is no highly colored picture—would to heaven it were!!! It is, unfortunately, but a faint and feeble sketch of the calamity under which a large part of Ireland is at this moment groaning.

A Clergyman from Galway remarks—"I have been labouring in public and in private to preach patience. It was not necessary.—No reproach was uttered—no angry feeling was evinced—but families clung together with closer affection, as if in the certain knowledge of being soon separated for ever. But the slow and horrible death by famine! At first the hunger was raging—it then gave place in some to successive faintings and depression—in others to violent fever—some struggled long—others sunk at once—but the wasted forms of the poor creatures—the glazed eye—the hollow and sunk cheek!!!—I have seen, in the exercise of my duties, father and son dying by each other's side, and the infant yet living, hanging upon the breast of its just departed mother. God have mercy upon us, and stop this dreadful calamity."

**Spain.** An explosion in this country is expected in France, and hence the march of French troops to the frontier. The cortes has ordered 20,000 militia into service. The province of Valencia is under martial law, on account of disaffection, and the priests are every where exerting themselves, and with considerable success, to produce a civil war—for the "good of christianity"—like they used to roast honest people!

**Sicily.** A violent quarrel took place at Palermo, on the 29th of May between the inhabitants and the Austrian troops, when several of the latter were wounded, and one killed.

**Rome.** The Pope has issued a rescript strongly enforcing the reading of the holy scriptures.

**Sweden.** There have been terrible conflagrations in Sweden, and

Norway—166 houses have been burnt at Subzbach, on the 10th May; and the centre of the quarter of Blasieholmnen, in Stockholm, was destroyed on the 12th of June—the loss of merchandise alone estimated from 4 to 500,000 dollars, besides large magazines belonging to the crown, ships in the harbor, &c. The town of Uleaborg has been consumed and 400 houses burnt in the city of Nordkipping. The town of Embritsham has also suffered exceedingly. These events are supposed to have happened by design; but a Stockholm paper of the 11th June gives us the following terrible narrative of an accidental fire. In the parish of Grue, in the district of Hedemark, in Norway, a church has been burnt by which many persons have come to a melancholy end. The church was of wood, and smeared over with tar, so that the whole edifice was in flames in a few minutes. Several hundred persons who were in it at the time, rushed to the door, whence a press was caused which stopped the way; the people then ran to the windows, and, though they were high, leaped through them out of the burning building. The clergyman, who was in the pulpit, chose this shorter way, and saved his life by a hazardous leap. But above 100 persons, who could not make their escape, perished in the flames. The fire was occasioned by the carelessness of the sexton, an old man, who had not used due caution with the fire kept for lighting the tapers on the altar.

**Russia & Turkey.** The following is given as the force of the Russian armies on the Turkish frontier, and we cannot yet believe that Alexander has abandoned his design of conquest—The first army is 140,000 strong, and the second 260,000.—They have 2000 pieces of artillery with them; 60,000 of the troops are grenadiers, and 25,000 hussars.

**Turkey.** A great number of Greek hostages were slaughtered at Constantinople on the 25th of May, some of whom were lately among the most respectable merchants in the Levant—others were distinguished prelates.

A cry of horror will resound throughout Europe when the new cruelties in Scio are made known. All are massacred. Even the 78 prelates who were retained as hostages have been cut to pieces in the fort. The generous French Consul, Digeon, is the most to be pited. He had gone into the village and proclaimed the Turkish amnesty, and at the same time pledged himself for the Sultan's pardon.—The inhabitants on this, surrendered all their arms, on which the Asiatics fell on 13 villages and executed a general massacre. All fell without defence under the sword of the Turks, who behaved with the most refined cruelties. The whole island is a sepulchre: the few women and children who were sheltered in the French Consulate are in the deepest misery. Some Greeks still combat in the mountains, but their destruction is certain. These events have excited such terror here that no body now ventures to intercede for a Greek family, for fear of being included in the same proscription.

The entire amount of persons slaughtered at Scio, or carried off as slaves, is estimated at ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND! This was one of the most populous and delightful islands in the world, in a very high state of cultivation and improvement, and had famous schools, hospitals, libraries, &c. all which are swept away.

The affairs of the Greeks are desperate—it is affirmed again that the operation of the Turks, both by sea and land, are now directed by English officers!

The Greek fleets are yet in good condition and keep the sea. A late account says—The Turks have twice presented themselves before Patras with their whole naval force, and twice have been compelled by the Greeks to return to their ports. In the last attack, six Turkish vessels

separated from the rest of the fleet, and, pursued by the Greeks, sought to save themselves at Murtis. The English, to give them time, prohibited the Greek vessels from attacking them; and, as a further precaution, they detained the galliot of the Greek admiral, which had come under a flag of truce, on a pretence that it had violated the sanitary cordon of Santa Maura!

**Colombia.** Despatches have been received at Caracas from the headquarters of the "Liberator President" at Pastos. They say—"The war of the south has terminated with glory to the arms of Colombia. A million of Americans are thus added to the family of the republic; and the conqueror of a hundred battles, the generous enemy of Spain, the creator of Colombia, the immortal Bolivar, has added new lustre to his immeasurable glory."

Later—London dates of July 10.

After the preceding articles were prepared for the press, another batch of foreign news was received, via arrival at Boston, and brings intelligence ten days later.

That which now most interests us is to ascertain whether the emperor of Russia will really act the part of a deliverer of the Greeks from the barbarism of the "legitimate" Turks; and every honest man seems willing to pardon his lust of domination on account of the wretches to be punished, and for the sake of the worthy to be relieved.

The body of the reports now are in favor of the opinion that we have invariably expressed on the subject—which is, that there would be war between Russia and Turkey, and that the Greeks might be saved, notwithstanding the efforts of the British to prevent it from happening, but as yet there are no certainties of these things. Several letters state that the infernal massacre of the Sciots has caused a great change in the sentiments of Alexander as to the affairs of Turkey, and his armies on the frontier have been increased, instead of diminished. It appears entirely certain that the Turks have not evacuated Moldavia and Wallachia, as the condition of the proposed peace; on the contrary, fresh Asiatic troops were entering them. The British ministerial papers regard the accounts as "unsatisfactory," and we believe that the sword and not the pen will settle the affairs in the east. Is it not very possible that Alexander, knowing the character of Turks, has been waiting, if not wishing for, some outrage like that of Scio, to give him an overwhelming excuse for assaulting the barbarians?

The Greeks too, do not appear so much discouraged as former advices represented them to be. They have lately gained several important victories—especially one over Churschid pacha, at Kartidza, another over the butcher pacha of Salonica, at Cara Verna, and a third over the barbarian army encamped near Larissa; these were important affairs. The provisional government, seated at Corinth, has declared a large part of the Turkish coasts in a state of blockade. There are some details of the affairs that took place at Scio, from eye-witnesses—they are most horrible. Not content with murdering all they could get hold of or make slaves of them, with burning 40 villages and 32 churches, leaving only 15 houses standing on the island, they opened even the tombs and strewed the bones of the long deceased to embellish the streets, filled with the bodies of the recently slain!!! The actors in these things are allies of christian England. We shall insert some of these particulars.

It appears now undoubted that the British are assisting the Turks—a vessel has arrived at Patras, under the protection of the British consul, to supply the Turkish army with grain. Another has sailed from London, direct for Constantinople, laden with gun-powder. A third was lying in the Thames, filled with cannon, muskets, &c. &c. destined for Egypt, under the direction of the

Pacha, &c. &c. When these vessels arrive in the Mediterranean, it is probable that they will receive convoys from British ships of war!

The French have two sanitary cordons on the Spanish frontier, though no infectious contagious disease is mentioned as prevailing in Spain. Together, they consist of 60,000 men; and two frigates have sailed from Toulon to cruise on the Spanish Mediterranean coast. We cannot understand the meaning of those proceedings, unless another revolution in Spain is expected; which, indeed, seems likely to happen; for, in the very presence of the king, returning from the cortes, an affair took place between two parties, one shouting *live the constitutional king*, the other crying out *live the king absolute*, in which swords were drawn. The authors of the latter cry were arrested. Niles' Register.

## Communication.

For the Richmond Intelligencer.

When we engage in controversy, or take an active part in disputed points, we seem to enlist ourselves as advocates of the doctrine that we espouse, and I think we may fairly presume that the greater number of those who thus voluntarily engage, merely for the trial of their skill, or a display of their talents, erudition, &c. are apt, through the heat of zeal, to transgress the bounds which their cool and sober judgment would justify; and thus not only overstrain their own arguments, but disqualify themselves from allowing to the arguments of their opponents, that degree of weight which they justly deserve. Hence, it seems, they intentionally shun conviction, even when it is irresistible to the unbiased mind. And were this the beginning and end of the business, there would certainly be but little use or inducement to enter the list of controversy. But, notwithstanding the adherents of each partizan are but too apt to view reasons and arguments through the same kind of telescope, yet the public is the tribunal to which the appeal must be made, and the result submitted to its decision. And thus it happens that important changes are sometimes wrought in the public mind, society enlightened, and principles and practices established, from the adoption of which, eminent advantages result to the community, which had previously been discarded as too flimsy and effeminate to claim the attention of those who held the reins of government; for proof of which we need only refer to those sanguinary modes of punishment recently practised, and notwithstanding they have been judged indispensable for the subjection and government of mankind, yet they have, and are gradually giving place to the more mild and philanthropic system adopted in many of the states for the punishment of offenders, whereby much cruelty and bloodshed is dispensed with, the state, perhaps, benefited, perpetrators of crimes equally deterred, and the honest citizens equally secure. With the principle in view of endeavoring to meliorate the condition of man, we are justifiable in making the attempt, however, absurd and repugnant it may appear in the view of others, and especially when we find those doctrines agitated in which we take a peculiar interest, and on which we have taken a decided stand.

On the great and calamitous subject of War much has been said in perhaps all ages of the world. At the present day it appears that serious doubts exist in many minds respecting the correctness of the practice in any form, or under any pretext. Others again seem to be settled in the belief that no pretext or provocation, however flagrant, can justify an appeal to arms, while, on the other hand, a large majority perhaps of the christian world deem defensive war justifiable, lawful, and absolutely necessary for the security and preservation of government, liberty, &c. It is doubtless of incalculable importance that a question involving the most serious and al-

arming consequences of any one under heaven, should be settled on immutable principles. Here the query is presented, who shall direct us, or what shall govern us in establishing the question on pure unshaken grounds? The warlike character whether christian or pagan replies, without hesitation, one reason, that noble gift of the Creator to the creature, speaks as forcibly and intelligibly now as it has done from the creation of the world to this day; thus, repel lawless force and hostilities with lawful force and hostilities; teach the abandoned aggressor by woful experience, that he shall not thus wantonly invade our rights and liberties; let him know that he does this, he shall find, to his shame and sorrow, the weight of revenge unmingled with mercy on his guilty head. Although this has been the plea and practice for some thousand years, still it has failed to produce the desired effect. It has been judiciously observed by eminent modern authors that capital punishments have an effect on the minds of the spectators, directly opposite to what was intended, and has been generally held out as a reason to justify them, viz: a solemn warning and caution to others. It is said that experience proves, that instead of their tending to harden the heart, and induce a strange degree of sensibility to the sufferings of others, by familiarizing ourselves to scenes of misery and distress, we become insensibly callous to the calamity of the sufferers; the truth of which can be attested, I presume, by every Surgeon in the army and navy, who has witnessed those spectacles of horror, to which they are constantly exposed during the tremendous and full period of a bloody conflict. Admitting the truth of this, which I think undeniable, and it follows, course, that the like cause will produce the like effect in the feelings of the Soldier as well as the Surgeon. Hence, the practice of war, by frequently presenting its effects to the view of those engaged, induces a lathargic indifference to its dreadful consequences in the mind of every grade, from the commander in chief to the footman in the ranks, and it is that one war, instead of teaching the aggressor a better system of policy, generally paves the way for another, as it is a subject generally involved in doubts and uncertainty, and it can rarely be clearly ascertained which of the parties was the first and principal aggressor, each pleading justification, and each praying, or pretending to pray, to Jehovah for success, and that he will afford them succor in a cause that he never authorized them to engage in. These circumstances, I conceive, furnish a strong argument for suspending the plan, and warrants the trial of some other.

The great founder of Christianity when personally on earth, both by precept and example, taught his followers one of quite a different character, the tenor of which every conversant with the narrative of his life and doctrine, is certainly apprized of. We find that his immediate followers, the Apostles and converts of that day, scrupulously and religiously adhered to the non-resisting pacific principles inculcated by the Saviour, notwithstanding they suffered all the cruelty which the malice of their enemies could inflict, and with patient resignation laid down their lives as a glorious testimony of their faithfulness to the great pattern of Holiness; who said that his kingdom was not of this world, else would his servants fight that he came not to destroy men's lives but, to save them; taught his disciples to love, and pray for their enemies; and, in short, the whole tenor of his life displayed the same philanthropic spirit, in direct opposition to the fighting system. Would ask the christian war advocate is there any thing in this worthy of his notice? He replies, if I have read all this as often perhaps as you have, and believe the record of his life, doctrine, and practice, as contained in the New Testament, I believe that he was shamefully treated by the Jews, that he suffered as