

Foreign Miscellany.

From the London Times. It is, we believe, wholly without precedent, that events of the nature of those which are now taking place in Central Italy should occur, without full and frank communications on the subject to all friendly powers...

FOREIGN THEATRICALS.

Mrs. MOWATT.—A London correspondent of the N. Y. Spirit of the Times gives an account of the production at London of a new play called "The Witchwife," by Henry Spicer. Our own countrywoman, Mrs. Mowatt, made her first appearance, after an illness of some weeks' duration, in the character of the heroine of the play, "Cecil Howard."

The present case of the expedition against Rome is somewhat analogous. It differs from the enterprise of 1850, inasmuch as the French government has not been pressed to give any explanation at all of this more unprovoked aggression; but it resembles it in the total indifference to the result which Lord Palmerston has shown in both instances.

When first the subject was brought before the House of Lords by Lord Aberdeen, we were informed that some communications had passed between the French and British governments with reference to the Roman expedition, but that no communication whatever had been received from Austria. It turned out shortly afterwards that Lord Lansdowne's assurance had been directly misinformed.

A play called Strathmore has been produced at the Haymarket Theatre, which is far above the average of the dramas which have appeared during recent years. The usual rule of playwrights is to arrange a person against a principle, varied from—Strathmore himself being the incarnation of a principle.

There are two very significant declarations in the above extract. First, the leading editor of the Union called God to witness that he abhors southern institutions; and the other is, that in advocating the extension of slavery beyond the Mississippi, he was tipping the Abolitionists assistance on the sly.

What manner of respect can the people have for the opinions of an organ which holds to no set of principles any two consecutive days. In 1820 its senior editor held southern institutions in such lofty horror that its denunciations were solemnized by the most terrible of all invocations.

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ALLEGIANCE.

The following ridiculous paragraphs are from a Canadian paper of no small influence and weight. They are taken from the centre of a lengthy reply to a very able exposition of the situation of Canada, and the probable advantages or disadvantages which would accrue to the colony in case of annexation to the United States.

The Streetsville Review says: "Monarchy is not an institution of human origin—the King is God's Minister—and we consent that men are no more at liberty to speculate in cold blood about renouncing the authority of that minister, than they are to discuss the question as to whether the Bible is to be their rule of life."

Certainly, in this busy, thinking, speculative age, near the middle of the nineteenth century, when "the right divine to rule" has been abandoned by every civilized monarch, except the Emperor of Russia, we did not expect to hear of the crudities of Sir Robert Filmer being trumpeted forth, or that the exploded opinions of the reigns of the last Tudors and first Stuarts would be seriously advanced, even in Canada.

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MASONRY.

There are, it is well known, two orders of Masons—those of the York and of the Scotch lodges. The Masonic fraternity in this country uses the ritual of the first, while the lodges of Mexico and most of the Spanish nations have adopted the Scotch. The highly moral and liberal Christian tendencies of the Scotch lodges have drawn recently a number of our Anglo-Saxon citizens into its temples; such numbers, indeed, that it may be said a revival is going on, and that a new era in the history of the Order in the United States has begun.

On Friday, the 22d of June last, several gentlemen, of the highest standing in New Orleans, were admitted to the thirty-third or highest degree of Free Masonry, in the hall of Perfect Union Lodge, in Rampart street.

These formed a counter-club, which extended its influence over the whole territory of the Republic, so that as Escoffier became the nickname of a monarch, Yorkino was that of a republican. The new lodges will doubtless prosper, as almost all the Masons of the southern nations of Europe follow the Scotch ritual.

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EGYPT.

Letters from Alexandria of the last of July state that difficulties had occurred between the Viceroy and the Consuls of France and England. (Lambert) Bey had been sent for, to return to Cairo and negotiate the affair. The Consuls complain of the administration of justice and the continual insult to which they are subjected.

The library of the Duke of Buckingham, recently sold in England, was one of the most recherché private collections in the kingdom. Among other treasures of antiquarian interest were the following, many of which strike us as too valuable to have been allowed to be purchased by an individual collector; they should have been procured for the British Museum, or for one of the great universities.

A collection of original Anglo-Saxon charters, from the 7th to the 11th century, on parchment, in a large folio volume. The first charter is that of Wilfred, King of Kent, A. D. 697, by which he granted certain lands to the nuns of Liding, in Kent. The subscriptions are in the same hand as the text. The first subscriber is the King, who says that, being illiterate, he only makes the sign of the cross, and that he has asked proper witnesses to subscribe it.

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THE HISTORY OF THE PULTENEY GUINEA.

In the British Museum is a collection of coins, among which is one called the Pulteney Guinea, so called from the following circumstances. William Pulteney, afterwards Earl of Bath, was remarkable alike for his oratorical talents and his long and consistent opposition to the measures of Sir Robert Walpole, the great Whig minister.

With his usual tact, Pulteney immediately rose, and observed, "that the right honorable gentleman's logic and Latin were alike incoherent, and that Horace, whom he had just mentioned, had written 'nulla pulteuce culpas.'" Walpole maintained that his quotation was correct, and a bet was offered. The matter was thereupon referred to Nicholas Harding, Clerk of the House, an excellent classical scholar, who decided against Walpole.

THE SLAVERY AGITATION.

A Leaflet of History. The complacency with which the Union contemplates the progress of the "disgusting coalition;" the ecstasy with which it announced the first fruits of this "dangerous organization," in the result of the Connecticut elections; and the rapture with which it dwells upon the promised amalgamation of the extreme factions of its party upon a platform "worse than that of the Whigs," however they surprise the superficial observer, are susceptible of a very intelligible explanation.

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THE ARTS OF PEACE.

We published, a day or two since, an extract of a letter from this city, giving an account of a visit of President TAYLOR to the Patent Office, and expressing the interest felt by the Chief Magistrate in the progress of invention, and in the protection of the rights of patentees.

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FUNERAL OF MRS. MADISON.

Yesterday the funeral of the lamented Mrs. MADISON, so long one of the brightest ornaments of the society of Washington and of the nation, took place from St. John's church. From ten o'clock in the morning the body was exposed in the church, and was visited by numbers anxious to take a last look at her who had been so long the observed of all observers, and who had, after occupying as exalted a position as a woman may in America, showed in private life that she had cast dignity on, not received lustre from it.

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STEAM MARINE OF FRANCE.

A recent official publication establishes the following to be the steam list of the French navy available now: One ship of 650 horse power, the Mogador; two of 540, the Descaetes and Vauban; Seven of 450, the Asmodée, Labrador, Magellan, Cacique, El Dorado, Albatros, and Orénoque; one of 320, the Proxy; twelve of 260, Canton, Espadon, Cameleon, Pluton, Archimède, Phoque, Elan, Caiman, Titan, Cassini, Choptas, and La Muette; three of 200, the Heron, Dauphin, and Phenix; three of 180, the Eclairer, Petres, and Epervier; thirteen of 160, the Chimère, Achéron, Cerbère, Phare, Météore, Coq, Tonnerre, Euphrate, Tenare, Australe, Narval, Brandon, and Solon; ten of 120, the Biche, Ariel, Ancone, Sentinelle, Castor, Brasier, Flambeau, Vedette, Pelican, and Salandre; two of 60, the Galibi and Voyageur; one of 70, the Babou; two of sixty, the Antelope and Lionnet; three of 20, the Basille, Serpent, and Penguin; and one of 20, the Guet'n'dar. The total is 61 vessels. The sum of the motives, 13,200 horse power.

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