TRIBUNE SUPPLEMENT.

NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 5, 1849.

See Regular Sheet of This Morning.

FURTHER FOREIGN NEWS

BY THE WASHINGTON.

HUNGARY.

The Passage of the Theiss by the Russians.

We have already published the substance of the annexed document, but it is so intensely interesting, describing as it does one of the most striking episodes of the war, that we now give it entire. It is the bulletin of the Russian General Gorczakow, describing the difficult passage of the Theiss at Tiss-Füred:

On July 25, the troops destined to cross the Theiss set on, at two, in the morning, from the village of Kereczend to Porosio. There were the 5th division of infantry, the 21 brigade of the 21 light cavalry division, and the 32d regiment of Don Cossacks, with a Cossack battery. At noon, two sotnia of Cossacks, of the 32d regiment, approached the place, and surrounded it on all sides; behind them were the Vanguard under the command of Gen. Count Toraon, between Porosio and a mole leading to the Theiss. It resulted from the intelligence brought,—(1.) That the surrounding of Porosio in an extent of seven wersts, offered those difficulties which are already known to your Excellency only, that in consequence of the great dryness, the morasses were in some parts passable. (2.) That the bridge at Tiss-Füred was not destroyed, but only half carried away, and in order that the rest might be destroyed with all dispatch, the beams were bound with straw and doubed with pitch. (3.) That the bridges upon the mole leading from Porosio to the Theiss were destroyed for four wersts. (4.) That, for preventing the passage of the Theiss, there were posted at Tiss-Füred 2,000 Infantry, partly of the last and partly of the former levy, with artillery and somewhat fewer cavalry, and that this division expected reinforcements on the following day. I started immediately to inspect the bank of the Theiss, and took with me on a thirty Cossacks, to make the enemy believe it was a common excursive party to Porosio. After proceeding three wersts, I was obliged to give up further inspection, for out of the wood lay out the Theiss a smart fire of musketry opened, and a hundred men, who had crossed over in boats, advanced toward me on the right bank. But what I saw was enough to convince me that the consistence of the bank offered great difficulties. Although the marsh on both sides of the mole was in many places dried up by the heat, it was impracticable, not only for artillery, but for infantry. The excessive forced passage depending especially upon the circumstance of giving the enemy no time to think, insent upon observing this principle, laid down for me by your Excellency as a leading rule, I put the infantry in order immediately after their arrival, without regard to the distressing march which they had made in the heat, and to relieve the men, I made them march in their jackets, without their knapsacks.—At the first destroyed bridge along the mole, we were received with a strong discharge of musketry and cannon-shot from two guns on the other side of the river. I ordered 12 gune of the light battery No 5, of the 5th brigade, to be brought up, and some discharges of grape to be fired into the wood; but the infantry outside, 600 paces from the wood. The sappers began to throw up two dams, for the water was shallow. The infantry now crossed with great labor somewhat to the left, along the steep slope of the hollow way, through the watery, boggy soil. After the passage of the brook, the artillery of the enemy did so much the more damage, as the opposite bank approached the more the nearer we came, and there was footing for the troops. The marching through the reeds and the pools was so laborious, that it was 6 o'clock before we reached the second brook, which lies 1½ wersts behind the first. Here the same obstacles presented themselves, only aggravated. It was necessary to pick out the way with the greatest circumspection, and all the while four guns were playing on our flank. The light battery No 5 was brought up, and opened fire, and No. 6, at the place which No. 5 had occupied. On approaching the canal, the Theiss bridge was set on fire. The fight lasted until night. When all was dark, the pontoons were put in the place where we intended to cross. This was a wersts lower than the burning bridge, and the opposite bank was covered with the enemy. The 5th division was ordered by this circuit. At the same time I had two intrenchments thrown up on the edge of the river, with embrasures for 18 guns, opposite the place of passage, about 120 fathoms from the other bank. In the night the burning bridge fell in, and the rebels shouted a loud cheer, fancying that thus a new bar had been placed between them and the Russian army. The works were completed in the night by indefatigable exertion. At half-past three in the morning the batteries on the bank were already armed, all the pontoons of Birago were in the water, and every preparation was made for the passage of the troops. At one in the night the point was alarmed by 50 hussars, who had crossed over to the right bank. They were immediately repulsed; but the team of the battery of position of No. 5 was shy, and brake loose. A confliction and confusion arose from this, in which 16 men were wounded by the wheels of the gun-carriages. At half-past three in the morning the enemy began to fire from the wood, as the advanced posts got into the boats. He was answered with violent discharges of grape from the batteries on the bank. After the landing of the foremost divisions of the Kostram and Halich Jager regiments on the left bank, the enemy began to withdraw, and it became apparent that they had sent away during the night the artillery and greater part of their infantry in the direction of Uj Varos. 23 Cossacks and the 5th brigade of the 5th division of infantry entered Tiss-Füred at 10. Col. Weinmann of the 21st R. with was sent out with his party, we met by clergymen, with crosses, and by the leading inhabitants holding white flags. At 12 the pontoon bridge was established alongside the burn. done and a division of the cavalry of Lieut. Gen. Count Toraon, with two batteries, immediately occupied Tiss-Füred. The whole division, with exception of Jaeg. regiment, moved on the 26, in proximate behind the town. The number of killed and wounded I cannot get perfectly reported, the battle from the reeds having extend through the space of four wersts; but our loss is assigned at 16 killed and 50 wounded. The enemy, commanded by Kortuna, had 2,500 infantry, two squadrons of hussars and 8 guns. The enemy was dismounted by the fire of our batteries. Nos. 5. and carried off in the night, without the carriage. The same battery also ignited an ammunition-wagon, the explosion of which did great damage. On July 27 we proceeded to fortify Tiss-Füred. To-day the men were so knocked up that it was impossible to demand fresh work from them. At the close of my report, I hold it my duty to assure your Excellency that Lieut. Generals Lalinocow and Berthis, and Lieut. Gen. Gortschakoff, conducted the affair in all respects, and that I have the best reason to be satisfied with the bravery and coolness exhibited by the troops of every rank of the 4th battalion of sappers, of the 21 brigade of the infantry division, and the whole artillery. I also feel it my duty to commend by name to your Excellency's special notice, the commander of the 21 brigade, Lieut. Gen. Count Jaeger Col. Ratzan, and Major Lieut. Woronow, commander of the artillery. His Imperial Highness, the Grand Duke Constantine, animated the troops by his presence during the whole battle; he was in the hottest musketry fire and while we were crossing the strip between the first and second canal, several men near his Imperial Highness were wounded.

According to later accounts, the enemy defended the passage with 3,000 infantry and ten guns. The success of the enterprise at Tiss-Füred is to be ascribed to the swift motion of our troops, which did not allow the enemy time to assemble stronger masses at the spot, else the passage would have been defended with greater obstinacy. While the 4th corps of infantry prepared the passage of the Theiss, the remainder of the army made the following marches: On July 24, the headquarters, the 4th division of infantry and the 1st brigade of light cavalry division marched to Kapolna. The 3d corps, higher up, (that is, further north,) moved along the high road to unite with the main corps. On July 25, the headquarters and the troops in Kapolna were moved to Mezo-Kowesi, where they stayed the following day. The General of Cavalry, Baron Oesen-Sacken, who ordered from Kaschau to Tokay, and Gen. Golitz, who, on July 24, was not far from Gemor, and two marches from Miskolcz, was directed to unite with Oesen-Sacken. On July 27, the headquarters were brought to Porosio, until the passage of the Theiss should be effected, and the 3d corps was directed to the same place.

FRANCE.

Trial of Bonaparte.

On the 18th of Aug. the trial of M. Pierre Bonaparte, on the charge of striking M. Gastier, in the Legislative Assembly, took place in the Tribunal of Correctional Police. M. Gastier having been called on to make the charge, said that on the 10th inst. while in the Assembly, he was listening to an article that was being read at the tribune. The article was nearly concluded, when he showed his approbation of it. A representative who sat below him requested him to talk in a lower tone. He did not pay any attention to this request, upon which the representative already alluded to called him *vieille bête* (an old fool.) He answered by "*Vous êtes très honnête.*" Upon which the representative turned round, called him a *mal-imbecil*, and gave him a box on the ear. M. Gastier added, in answer to several questions that he never called the President of the Council a *canaille* or a *vieux gredin*.

M. Lebreton, also a representative, gave quite another version of the affair, and persisted in saying that after Pierre Bonaparte had turned round to tell M. Gastier that he did not know what he was saying, the latter cried out, "I can prove what I say; you are a fool" (*imbecile*.) It was then that M. Pierre gave the blow. M. Forion corroborated this testimony given by M. Lebreton, and was supported further by another representative, M. Gavini, who sat close by. M. Savoi said that he saw the commencement of the quarrel, and he heard M. Bonaparte say distinctly to M. Gastier "*Vous êtes un imbécile*." The rest was drowned in the noise, but M. Pierre Bonaparte, when surrounded, cried out, "*Je vous enverrde l'air.*" After much conflicting evidence, M. Pierre Bonaparte was sentenced to 200fr. fine and damages. M. Bonaparte was carried in triumph by his friends from the court.

The democratic journals are loud in their denunciations this morning of the trial, and they place in juxtaposition the mere fine imposed in this case and the two years' imprisonment inflicted on M Raspail, for having struck M. Pouit. It seems certainly as if the cousin of the President of the Republic had been let off very easily indeed, as, laying aside the foul language used on both sides, the weight of testimony is certainly in favor of M. Gastier. M. Bonaparte received a well-deserved rebuff from M. Charras, who, when the affair of the former smiled sneeringly at something he said, reminded him that he (M. Charras) was depositing to facts upon oath.

ITALY.

The Pope's Absolutism.

From the London Times, Aug. 23.

The relations of the Papal Government with its own subjects and with the French Republic are daily assuming a character of signal iniquity. It is evident from the conduct of Pius IX that he entertains no intention of compromise in those political differences which drove him into temporary exile, that that his authority has been resumed with the deliberate resolution of carrying out to their full extent those traditional principles of administration which have hitherto so equivocally characterized the States of the Church. We have reasons for surmising that this resolution is not of very recent formation. It would have been no unnatural result if the violent measures of the insurrectionary party in Rome, following, as they did, so closely on the liberal overtures of the Pontiff himself, had induced some reactionary sentiments; but we are not without an opinion that the determination now shown on the part of His Holiness to maintain in their full integrity all the abuses of an essentially corrupt Administration was of earlier growth than the revolutionary schemes of the late conspirators. It is even possible that in the first passages which occurred between the Papal and the French Republic some such doctrines were candidly avowed, but all perplexities on this point are removed by the fact that the pretext on which the overt intervention of France was at last effected was the establishment of good government in the States of the Church, and not simply the restoration of an obnoxious exile to the chair of St. Peter. We should be very sorry to charge ourselves with the full elucidation of French policy in this respect during the last eight months, but it is quite sufficient both for the Roman people and for Europe to know that the object of the expedition so now alleged was the substitution of a reformed and enlightened Administration for the insufferable dominion of Garibaldi and his band, and a single glance at the actual position of affairs will at once show that this condition of the operations is now grossly violated.

Acting, as we are inclined to believe, as much on his own mere motion as the instances of others, Pope Pius has already replaced the most odious machinery of the old Papal Government with every circumstance of abruptness and injury. As if for the purpose of bringing two extremes into suggestive contrast, he has superseded Mazzini's Triumvirate by one of his own nomination, and has apparently left these Commissioners of Sovereignty in the unfettered exercise of discretionary power. They have proceeded accordingly to the enactment of every ordinance which could insult the gentry, aggravate the middle class, intimate the populace, and alienate the provincial municipalities. Pope Pius has been the first to apply by his own conduct a proof that the Roman people were really unanimous, and that with sound reason, in desiring a change of Government. It has hitherto been plausibly argued that the acts of the Democratic Triumvirate were not the acts of the people of Rome, but the measures adopted by the restored Pontiff are well calculated to assure the world that all must have stood alike in their opposition since all are subjected to the same retributive penalties. Pius IX has not chosen to throw himself on the good will, the good sense, the affection, or the generosity of any one class of his subjects. He has kept himself aloof from his kingdom; has surrounded his capital with foreign bayonets, and has commissioned a Triumvirate, whose very names are symbolical of misgovernment and tyranny, to dispose of the liberties and fortunes of his people, while he disports himself in the pleasures of a comfortable asylum.

It has been sometimes said that the effective reformation of the Papal Government must necessarily be tantamount to a revolution, and that such a measure is absolutely incompatible with the temporal power of the Head of the Church. We will not touch upon this assertion at present farther than to say that it is certainly not for the interest of Pope Pius and his Cardinals to offer a practical proof of its correctness. If it can indeed be decided that the good government of the Roman States is essentially inconsistent with the temporal supremacy of the Pontiff, the conclusion is not likely to be that the Pontiff must therefore be supported by the opinions of Europe in governing it. We have not been waiting in our own endeavors, under every disadvantage, to furnish the world with a proof of this ancient elective sovereignty; but if its principles are so incapable of adaptation to the just demands of a people as now seems to be proclaimed, it will be difficult in future to enter on any such defence. Surely it might be conceived that a Pope, and especially such a Pope as Pius IX. had once professed himself, could be reconciled to the idea of a Government indulging in such impolitic freaks of a Spanish Bourbon. Yet, if we look dispassionately at the decrees which have issued from the conclave at Gaëta, we shall be driven to conclude that to restored Sovereign ever warranted the proverb regarding such characters more completely than this once popular and benevolent Pope.

We have one reason, as we remarked, for concluding that the measures recently adopted at Rome express anything but the deliberate conception entertained by the Pontiff of his own privileges and opportunities. There is, however, a remedy fortunately at hand against any such excesses of power. Pope Pius, if unsupported by foreign arms, will speedily be taught, by the undeviating resolutions of the Roman people, to what point his domiciliary illegitimacy extends; but, if the other hand, the arms of foreigners are still employed in his protection, he can only govern in conformity with that power on whose protection he depends. The ministry of the French Republic has openly expressed upon this point opinions wholly irreconcilable with the recent ordinances of Gaëta. In these opinions they will be confirmed by the feelings of the French people, and they must be well aware, that, even if their predilections took another direction, it would be scarcely practicable for a power so circumstanced in its foreign relations as France, to provide for the permanent maintenance of a Pope in his own capital, by force of arms. If such a Guelph faction were once established, the old Ghibeline antagonism would not long be wanting.—All things, however, concur at present in suggesting a different solution of the problem. Excepting the Court of Naples, whose incapacity of service in the hour of danger has been practically shown, there exists no State whose opinions or interests are involved in supporting the ex-Sovereign claims of the Pope and his Cardinals. M. de Torquevile disclaimed any such intentions on the part of his own Government, and the French soldiery, whose demeanor, under existing circumstances, partakes of a certain independence of expression, have evinced a decided feeling toward the cause of the citizens among whom they are now quartered. Austria has not been backward in a similar declaration of sentiment, and there remains no power to which the Pope could turn for support in his unmeaning and ill considered hostility to the claims of his people. To such a pitch have his three commissioners carried their measures of resistance, that a fresh outbreak of popular violence was daily anticipated; and, although no such insurrection could be successful against the present garrison of the city, yet it was by no means certain that the populace would not have attempted to be concerned on, now that the merits of the case had been placed clearly before them. It would, however, be far more in the interests both of Rome and Europe, that Pius IX. should be distinctly taught his duties by those who have not the fear of foreign bayonets before their eyes. The Val Ball should again be consigned to the caprices of a democratic faction, under worse conditions than before.

State of Feeling at Rome.

From the Times Correspondence.

ROME, Aug 7.—I am glad to find that on my first arrival here I was not hoodwinked, as some of your gracious masters desired I should be, into believing that the Pope and the Camarilla at Gaëta were disposed to accept the good advice tendered to them by France, or to lend a helping hand to a despairing people. I now find that my unfavorable anticipations are more than verified, and that the distance between the Supreme Pontiff and his subjects is always increasing instead of decreasing. I may say that matters are arriving at such a state, that the Government of France will have to reconsider its whole policy, and to determine whether it has intervened by force of arms in Central Italy to restore the despotic rule of the Church, or to secure for the Roman people as much good government as is consistent with the rights of an independent sovereign.

It would appear that the last thing the Pope proposes to do, is to return to the city of Rome, against which he seems to entertain a special rancor, and that he talks of visiting Naples, Ancona, and Bologna, before he renders the "Eternal City," and even when he does so, it is evidently not his intention to take up his residence at Rome, and leave the Quirinal in the hands of the Austrian Commissioners. The French Army will consider a visit to the places occupied by the Austrians before the Pope acknowledges their services by his presence in the capital which they garrison, as a direct insult, and it anything could hasten what I have every reason to dread, namely, the fraternization of the soldiers and the people, it will be that very circumstance. I hope the Generalissimo Chief has foreseen this evil, and that he has not hesitated to express the displeasure of his Government at the possibility of such an occurrence. A visit to Naples may be necessary, and the royal and magnificent hospitality of the Sovereign can never be sufficiently acknowledged by His Holiness; but the Pope's visit to Ancona, where the Austrians are, and Bologna, where the Austrians are, would lose him the respect and esteem of the whole army; and with that army ranged alongside a discontented people, what hope remains for his ill advised Pontiff? The first acts of the Government Commission touching the pockets of the people, and insuring a certain loss in all classes, have rendered the existing state of things worse rather than they were, and *I am quite satisfied that if the Quirinal were not guarded by French soldiers, it would not be safe for one hour.* That the popularity will be increased a hundred-fold for all that may emanate from Gaëta, when it is seen that *nothing is the Pope's, if a beneficial answer can be extracted from the Pope.* I observed that the greatest anxiety prevailed in the Quirinal of Rome toward the French officers and soldiers, and which it is generally known that the Government and the Generalissimo Chief have come between them and the vengeance of the Cardinals, their good intelligence may even extend to fraternization. Up to the period the French soldiers are looked upon as the soldiers of the Pope, but let the truth be once made known, and the union may be carried a step too far. Austria will understand it, Naples, and it is as much her interest as it can be as in another to see this irregular state of things terminated, and the Pope fairly restored, with as much of foreign protection as may be necessary to overawe the rouge faction that has still strongly its roots in the city of the Cesars. I send you these few lines by the overland post, but I shall possibly enlarge on this topic by the next steamer.

We are here perfectly tranquil, under the influence of 20,000 French bayonets, *but men, though they speak not above their breath, grind their teeth and vow vengeance.*

From the Daily News Correspondent.

ROME, Aug. 9—In the capital, the public discontent manifests itself in vast as ways, but one of the most impolitic and most reprehensible deeds that has lately taken place, is certainly the partial destruction by fire of the vast Jesuitical establishment known as the Collegio Romano. If, as is commonly reported, it should prove true that the mischief is owing to the hand of an incendiary.—On visiting the premises this morning, I find good reason for supposing that hatred against this celebrated and powerful confraternity, a great number of whose members had quietly slipped into their old quarters of late, must have been at the bottom of the affair, and more especially as the flames, which were first observed yesterday morning at 5 o'clock burst out in the cabinets of natural history and astronomy, to which no one has access at present, from one of which, consequently, fire could not have arisen. From thence the flames spread to the adjacent hall of congregation, and communicated to the adjacent hall of the seminary immediately below, where six hundred wooden benches added tremendously to their fury, the flames became so unmanageable as to threaten the whole building, and it was chiefly owing to the great exertions of the French soldiers, who, with their customary celerity, are established in that part of the Piazza Sant'ufficio, and the royal and magnificent hospitality of the Sovereign can never be sufficiently acknowledged by His Holiness; but the Pope's visit to Ancona, where the arms of foreigners are still employed in his protection, he can only govern in conformity with that power on whose protection he depends. The ministry of the French Republic has openly expressed upon this point opinions wholly irreconcilable with the recent ordinances of Gaëta. In these opinions they will be confirmed by the feelings of the French people, and they must be well aware, that, even if their predilections took another direction, it would be scarcely practicable for a power so circumstanced in its foreign relations as France, to provide for the permanent maintenance of a Pope in his own capital, by force of arms. If such a Guelph faction were once established, the old Ghibeline antagonism would not long be wanting.—All things, however, concur at present in suggesting a different solution of the problem. Excepting the Court of Naples, whose incapacity of service in the hour of danger has been practically shown, there exists no State whose opinions or interests are involved in supporting the ex-Sovereign claims of the Pope and his Cardinals. M. de Torqueville disclaimed any such intentions on the part of his own Government, and the French soldiery, whose demeanor, under existing circumstances, partakes of a certain independence of expression, have evinced a decided feeling toward the cause of the citizens among whom they are now quartered. Austria has not been backward in a similar declaration of sentiment, and there remains no power to which the Pope could turn for support in his unmeaning and ill considered hostility to the claims of his people. To such a pitch have his three commissioners carried their measures of resistance, that a fresh outbreak of popular violence was daily anticipated; and, although no such insurrection could be successful against the present garrison of the city, yet it was by no means certain that the populace would not have attempted to be concerned on, now that the merits of the case had been placed clearly before them. It would, however, be far more in the interests both of Rome and Europe, that Pius IX. should be distinctly taught his duties by those who have not the fear of foreign bayonets before their eyes. The Val Ball should again be consigned to the caprices of a democratic faction, under worse conditions than before.

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Paternal Government in Lombardy.

The *Milan Gazette* of the 18th ult. publishes the following proclamation:—"Many subjects of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom, who had left their country in consequence of political events, have since returned to it without being in any way molested for the part they have acted in those events. Having been informed that many others of those subjects, desirous to redeem their country, continue nevertheless to remain abroad, because they yield to the advice of turbulent and ill intentioned men, who do not cease to incite to insurrection and pervert the generous and loyal act of the Government of the Emperor toward his deserted subjects, I hereby declare, in order to remove all doubts, and to encourage the timid, that all the Lombardo-Venetian subjects now residing abroad on account of those political events, may freely, and with perfect impunity, reshter the kingdom during the entire month of September. Those and all the persons who have already returned, shall be excluded from the amnesty, in the same as all other subjects, with the exception of the individuals named in the following list, who, owing to unpardonable perseverance in the same resolutions and their subversive tendencies, cannot, in the interest of peace and general tranquillity, be tolerated in the Austrian dominions. Those who, within the above delay, shall not have returned to the kingdom, shall be excluded de facto from the amnesty. All those who have left the country in the night. M. Magnenffi left on the table memorials on the removal of the state of siege in Erfurt and Berlin. The sitting closed at two, and the Chamber adjourned till Saturday.

The North German States.

The Brunswick Chamber decided, on the 11th inst by a majority of 31 to 21 votes, in favor of the ministerial proposition for the accession of Brunswick to the league of the three kings. The Chamber of Saxe-Altenburg has so pronounced by a majority for the same course. The Brunswick Chamber was prorogued on the 10th until the 9th of November. The Chamber of Saxe-Meiningen was dissolved on the 11th. The Government of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha having declared its adhesion to the league of the three kings, the president of the Coburg section of the ministry, Brodorf, has given in his resignation, which was accepted on the 10th.

Schleswig-Holstein.

The exchange of prisoners between Denmark and Schleswig-Holstein, which was to take place on the 13th August, has not been effected. The Danes appear to have committed a shuffle and a violation of the treaty. Gen. Bülow announced to Gen. Prittwitz that the prisoners would be at Sonderburg on the 13th. Next he proposed that the Danes should be set at liberty first, and the Schleswig-Holsteiners a day later. Gen Prittwitz referred him to the terms of the armistice, which declares that the liberation of the prisoners on both sides shall take place simultaneously. When the 1,200 Danish prisoners, under a convoy of hussars, reached Sonderburg on the 15th, the Schleswig-Holsteiners who had been captured by the Danes were not forthcoming. The Danish commandant declared that they had not yet arrived from Copenhagen. He could, however, assign no reason for the delay. Of course the Danes were not delivered up to their countrymen.

EGYPT.

Death of Mehemet Ali.

The *London Times* announces the death of Mehemet Ali which event took place, on the 2d Aug at Alexandria. His body was interred on the 4th, in the new alabaster mosque built by himself in the citadel.

Protection of Lives on Board Steamships.

From the Boston Journal, 30th.

The following letter from R. B. FORBES, Esq. written on his passage to India, contains some valuable suggestions, and will be read with interest:

STEAMER HINDOSTAN, *Off Cape Finisterre, July 23, 1849.*

JOHN S. SKINNER, Esq.—*Dear Sir:* Having taken leave of old England, and being comfortably located on board this fine ship, with a smooth sea and nothing better to do, it may not be out of place to put down a few reflections on the better protection of the lives of individuals traveling by sea, more especially between the United States and England, where so much competition exists, and where steamers constantly meet with emigrant and other ships—and where they should be always prepared for such direful emergencies as befel the Europa on the 27th ultimo.

Many people think that steamers should "slow" the engines in thick weather—but I protest against this, for the following reasons, which I know will be responded to by the "go ahead" travelers, who are never satisfied with going the slow coach.—The faster one goes, consistently with the safety of the machinery, the better, for the danger is then soonest over—and when going at full speed the noise of the paddle-wheels can be heard further than when going slow. We will then admit that it is best to "go ahead" as fast as possible—but the most vigilant look-out should be kept, and a thick weather a steam whistle, or something like it, should be frequently sounded—a speaking tube should be led from the bridges, where the officer of the deck is stationed, to the wheel-house, and it should have three mouths at the bridge, say one amid-ships and one on each side so fitted as to convey the order to port or starboard the helm, at once, to the man at the wheel.

It may be said that there are always officers or others stationed on the poop and at the wheel house, to pass the orders. This is often the case, and as often they are spinning yarns with the passengers, or interrupted by the promenaders of the poop, and sometimes these persons are obliged, notwithstanding their vigilance, to be elsewhere, attending to other duties. A gutta percha tube leading aft, properly contrived, and placed where it can always be got at easily, cannot give any other order than that given by the responsible officer of duty—*it cannot lie.* The Cunard ships have an alarm bell at the bridge on each side, placed there to give the order to stop the ship and to call all the engineers to their posts. This is done because it is not possible to give the alarm in any other way so certainly. Why, then, should not the helmsman have the means of obeying the order of the deck officers instantly? Even supposing the officers are at their posts, some little time is lost by giving the order through several mouths. A delay of a few seconds may some times be fatal. Take the case of the Europa and the Charles Bartlett—the first order given was "starboard," but it was countermanded before any effect had been given to the rudder—still, who can say that the loss of time between giving the order to "starboard" and the next to "hard a-port," did not cost some lives?

As there is some doubt as to whether the steam pressure is sufficient to have a loud and sharp whistle, the surest way is to have a machine for the purpose. I inspected one at the Royal Exchange in London, worked by a crank; it consists of an air-pump, contrived to whistle as loudly as the locomotive whistle—it is portable, and ought to be adopted in all European packets, whether steamers or sailing craft; placed near the bow in foggy weather, the crank could be turned by hand in sailing vessels, or by a band in steamers. It is of much more consequence that the sailing vessel should have the means of warning the steamer, than that the steamer should have the means of warning the sailing vessel, because the latter cannot, like the former, command her position and course.

The crews of all vessels, and particularly of steamers, should be *stationed* and occasionally *exercised*; so that in sudden emergencies every man should know his place, and *thus be effective at it.* A general order should be given and well understood, that in case of collision, or of fire at sea, every man should repair to a certain place on a given signal. Amid the confusion incidental to any great catastrophe, all the discipline in the world *will not insure success and safety*; but every expedient should be resorted to in time, to render the chances of life more certain.

The first thing done on board a steamer, when the order is given to "stop her," is to blow off an immense volume of steam, with a noise which drowns all orders; this should be remedied by holding on a certain time, say one or two minutes, so that the orders on which many lives and much property may be saved, shall be perfectly understood. There is no occasion for *instant* letting of steam; or if there is such a necessity, let it be blown off at the side under water.

It is of little use to have fine boats unless they are always provided for emergencies; firstly, by having *appointed crews*, the smallest and best boats to have choice crews to man them quickly; all the locations of the boats should be provided with one or more hatchets or tomahawks to cut the lashings. It is questionable in my mind whether boats should be covered up by canvas covers; when covered the sun is excluded, but the water, which serves to keep them tight, is also excluded in a great degree. On the whole, I prefer that steamers' boats should be uncovered, and that their masts, sails, oars, and even water kegs, compasses and stores should be always at hand, *ready to immediate use.* This ship has excellent boats—two particularly—30 feet long, and of beautiful model, alike, or nearly so at both ends. They are life boats and have a place for stores out of the way of water; *but they are too snugly secured.* The fact is, that seamen will not anticipate danger. They think all will go well as it has done before; but by and by comes a terrible disaster, like that of the Europa, and all hands exclaim, "Oh that we had been prepared for this catastrophe!"

Beside the precautions I have named, there should be a dozen Cartes' Life Buoys, on each side the bulwarks, each to have ten or twenty fathoms of lead line attached, so that in case of sudden peril they could be thrown over. There should be also, at intervals, coils of rope, forty or fifty feet long, to throw over, and the painters of the boats should be led along to the paddle boxes, or to some other convenient place, so that the boats, on being suddenly lowered, should not get adrift half manned, as is often the case.

Capt. Sohy, of the Hindostan, is a most vigilant and experienced commander, always at his post—a man calculated to inspire passengers with confidence; he is continually on the watch, and every man appears to know his place; still these fine boats are *too nicely secured*, and I would wager a hat, that if the order were given at this moment to lower the boats, not one of them could be got into the water under eight or ten minutes, during which brief period, as my late experience proves, many a strong swimmer in his agony might perish!

It must be confessed that the flush upper deck of the Hindostan is a great improvement over the deck of the Europa; the ship is much more easily kept clean, which is not an unimportant feature; and all the state rooms in the saloon have nice windows opening out *to sea!* There is no doubt in my mind that the arrangements of this ship are superior to those of the Cunard ships, although the engines are not so powerful. We have made an average of about twelve revolutions since leaving Southampton, and do not expect to get up above fourteen or fifteen when the ship comes out of the water. I am, very truly yours, R. B. F.

Rockland Lake.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

I have met with few persons who knew anything of this beautiful sheet of water; and what little that was, was comparatively nothing. Nevertheless, I determined to visit it, with the understanding with myself that if I was not satisfied, after a day's residence there, I would move my quarters. My health being very much impaired, and my constitution seriously prostrated from the effects of an intermittent fever that had afflicted me for some months, and requiring some relaxation from the pursuits of business, as well as to regain my lost health, I repaired thither, and I was not disappointed. The place and its belongings, as it lies in the lap of Beauty, surrounded in part by eminences that command a view of our noble Hudson, the Lake, the Highlands of West Point, and many miles of cultivated farms, woodland groves, towns, and river craft upon the Hudson's tide—inferior only to the view from Catskill Mountain House, (our artists know it not,)—I determined to remain my allotted time, for the place grew upon my affections like some loved thing. So, what with the comforts of the Lake, Mountain House, the kind and gentlemanly treatment of the worthy proprietors, Messrs. Mandeville and Montgomery—the delightful and refreshing air, the pastimes there enjoyed, together with balmy sleep that luxuriously came o'er me when day was lost in night—the time flew rapidly, and weeks were but as days, and days but hours. My health was greatly restored, and I returned to the City with recuperated energies.

In Rockland's vale, embosomed 'mong the hills
That bound the pride of streams, in beauty lies
A silver lake; and gently is it moved
By winds whose freshness, coming through the glen,
Are laden with perfume from new-mown hay
Or aromatic flowers—'Tis Rockland's boast.
Perchance thou hast been there; if not, go hence
As I did, for health which had run down space,
Burdened my life with sadness, and I cleaped
The fruits of manly sports, and vigorously grew.
If pleasure be thy aim with book and line,
Or rowing, sailing, riding throwing quoits,
Or flashing powder through he woodland groves,
Thou hast them all, and days will seem but hours.

W. A. R.

Interesting Account of the Oregon Country.

The editor of the *Galena Daily Advertiser*, Ill was gratified to hear, a few days ago, from his old friend, Israel Mitchell, who, in his declining age, brings up on the shores of the Pacific. Mr. Mitchell lost everything he had in getting there, but his life and that of his family were spared. Those who know him will ask no vouchers for the strictness of his statements. His letter is dated

PORTLAND, May 20, 1849.

We left Iowa on the 15th of April, and arrived at Vancouver the 14th of November, 1847. The first part of the journey was pleasant, the latter part hard and tedious. As we approach near the Mountains, the cattle begin to die, poisoned by the mineral waters. Their carcasses dry up without putrefaction, so pure is the air. No flies or musquitoes. We soon came to the saleratus lakes, which are a great curiosity. In the wet season, these lakes are strong lye, shallow, and from 100 yards to 300 miles in circumference. When the dry season approaches, these lakes dry up, and saleratus is formed two or three inches deep, white as snow, and good for all the purposes of the common saleratus. At the head of Sweet Water, we ascend a hill say 500 feet in two miles, and are on the great divide between the Mississippi and the Pacific.

In a few miles we came to the Pacific Spring, which empties its waters into the Colarado. In due time we come to the Soda Springs, which are great curiosities. There are vast numbers of them, rising just to the level of the surface, and many others forming stone basins for themselves, and rising two or three feet high, some running off with a strong current, and all effervescing precisely like the soda of the shops. Here are signs of volcanic action are very apparent. In traveling down Snake River, we are constantly seeing strange sights—immense cascades, boiling springs, hot springs, chasms of extinguished volcanoes, &c. When we come to the Dalles, on the Columbia, we see where that river has forced itself a channel in the solid rock from fifty to three hundred feet deep, through which the stream rolls and foams with great rapidity. At the Cascade Falls, this mighty river descends about twenty feet in the distance of three or four miles.

From the foot of these Falls to the mouth of the Willamette, or to Vancouver, there is a current of about three miles an hour, when not affected by the tide—Astoria, near the mouth of the river, is destined to be the New-York of Oregon, while Portland, on the Willamette, is to be the Albany—the head of ship navigation. Thirty feet water from this place to the ocean can always be obtained—except in two places, one at the mouth of the Willamette, and the other a little up, where at low water and low tide, there is only nine feet. The tide affects it four or five feet, so that every day a vessel may come in drawing 12 feet water. Oregon City, by nature, is equal in water power to what Rochester has been made by art. A river, twice the size of Rock River, pours down three different channels, cut in solid rock, 30 or 40 feet. Islands are formed between those channels on which machinery may be erected. Above the Falls, the valley widens out into extensive plains, the most productive in wheat, I think, of any on earth. Our great export, however, is lumber; our forests are inexhaustible; our water power immense; our market lucrative and increasing. It is now worth from $40 to $60 per thousand, owing to the gold discoveries in California, and will always be worth $30 for exportation to the islands. There are 3,000,000 of acres of fine timber-land unoccupied, some immediately on ship navigation.

Each of the three great divisions of Oregon have their peculiarities. The East is almost a desert, destitute of timber, burnt by excessive drouths, and the soil is wholly of volcanic formation—lava, leached ashes, &c. The Blue Mountains, however, have much good land and timber, and will some day, no doubt, be inhabited by a healthy and happy people. Middle Oregon is a good soil, in general, and the best grazing country, I suppose, on earth, though apparently not half so luxuriant as the Mississippi Valley. The grass is more nutritious, and in many places it is so thick as to form a mat, which, to a person walking through or over it, seems like walking over a bed; and there is one kind as salt as br