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NEW YORK, THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 8, 1845.

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HIGHLY IMPORTANT!

FOURTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIA.

War between the Protestants and Catholics in Switzerland.

Great Excitement between the Sects throughout Europe.

Insertion of the War Clause in Marine Policies at Lloyds.

A Ministerial Crisis in England on the Maynooth Bill.

FLUCTUATIONS IN THE COTTON MARKET.

Advance in American Provisions.

INCREASE OF TROOPS IN CANADA.

REPEAL MOVEMENTS IN IRELAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE MONEY MARKET, &c.

ARRIVAL OF GOVERNOR GIL DAVIS, OF CONEY ISLAND, AT PARIS.

The steamship Hibernia, Capt. Ryrie, arrived at Boston from Liverpool, via Halifax, at 8 o'clock on the morning of the 6th instant, after a passage of sixteen days and eighteen hours.

By this arrival we have London and Liverpool papers to the 19th April inclusive.

The Cotton market appears to be in a very feverish state. The slight improvement caused by the excitement in relation to the Oregon question, on the 5th ult. was lost on the 8th. On the following Saturday—the 12th—another advance was realized, but it was soon lost, and prices current on the 18th, were similar to those realized on the 4th.

The Oregon question continued to attract a great deal of attention in Great Britain.

Dr. Woolf has arrived in England.

New York Packet Ships.—The Montezuma and the Virginian, both arrived out on the 8th ult. They were succeeded by the steamer Cambria, which reached the Mersey on Sunday the 13th, at 4 A. M. The Hottinguer also arrived on the 13th.

Several regiments are to be drawn from Ireland during the next month. The *Dublin Evening Post* mentions a rumor that 8000 troops are to be sent to Canada.

The English Prelates of the Roman Catholic Church to the number of ten or eleven, in London, forwarded to Sir Robert Peel their united thanks for his conduct on the Maynooth Grant.

Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Downes Jackson, is about to be succeeded in the command of her Majesty's forces in Canada, by General the Earl of Cathcart, K.T., and Governor of Hull.—*Treasury paper.*

Messrs. Alsopp, the great brewers of ale for the East Indies, whose place of business is at Burton, have failed, it is said, in the sum of £300,000.

According to the *English Churchman*, Dr. Lushington has decided that the holding of Roman Catholic doctrines is not sufficient to deprive a clergyman of his living, and that the English church is not Protestant, nor does she require her members to profess Protestantism.

The stock of American cheese on hand in London is equal to the whole stock of English cheese of every kind.

During the present week policies of marine insurance have come over from London, with a clause protecting the underwriters from loss, in case of the capture of vessels by a foreign enemy.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that the Russian Government had published an ukase, permitting the importation of crushed lump sugar from England (only) at the same duty as they now impose on white Havana sugars.

In France a long debate on the abolition of slavery in the colonies belonging to that country has taken place. The Peers passed a law, by which the slave can purchase his freedom. The right of the slave to property is recognized. For his moral and religious rights the bill also provides. It remains to be seen how the bill will fare in the Chamber of Deputies.

Another duel with swords took place in Paris on the 5th ult. between the Duke of Rovigo and M. Perrigault. Both combatants were wounded, the Duke de Rovigo rather dangerously. Among the seconds were two peers of France—the Prince of Moskowa and General Lagrange.

The amount of money coined at the Mint in twenty years, ending 1836, was upwards of sixty-seven millions sterling; the cost of coinage £421,000.

The "associated cotton spinners of Bolton and the neighborhood" have addressed their employers, soliciting an advance of five per cent. wages.

A pugilistic contest for £200 aside and the championship is on the tapis, between Ben Caunt, the Cornish giant, and Bendigo.

Thomas Hood is seriously, if not mortally ill.

John Benjamin Heath, Esq. was elected governor, and Wm. R. Robinson, Esq., deputy-governor of the Bank of England for the ensuing year, on the 15th ult.

Since the arrival of the Duc De Broglie, a number of English and French naval officers who have had experience on the coast of Africa, have been examined several times before his Grace and Dr. Lushington, in Downing street. Cordial good feeling exists between the French and English officers. Capt. Bouet and his friends were entertained at dinner, at Lovegroves, Blackwall, by Captain Trotter and his brother officers, on the 8th inst.

The Right of Search.—The Paris *Presse* says it is assured "that the result of the conferences between the Duke de Broglie and Dr. Lushington is, that the French and English Governments have agreed to suspend the right of search for two years, withdrawing for this period the commission given to their respective cruisers."

Greenock, April 8.—The American ship Flavius, late Jones, from New York, sailed Feb. 27, encountered heavy gales from W.S.W. to N.W. On the 22d ult., encountered a tremendous gale from W. to S.W; the ship was obliged to be placed before the wind, scudding under close-reefed sail; a heavy sea struck the ship on the starboard, which carried away the boats, tiller, and jibboom, started the cutwater, maintopgallant mast, stanchions, and did other damage; the vessel was hove over on the larboard, with the yards in the water, the foretopmast had to be cut away in order to right her, the head of the foremast went with it; Mr. Jones was washed overboard and drowned.

Among the passengers in the Hibernia, is Mr. Rives of Virginia, late Secretary of Legation at London, which appointment he has resigned. Also, Mr. Healy, the artist. He is commissioned by Louis Phillippe to take for him the portraits of Gen. Jackson, John Q. Adams, Daniel Webster, Henry Clay and some other distinguished Americans. We understand that he will proceed at once to the Hermitage, as the precarious health of Gen. Jackson may render him too unwell to sit, should there be any delay.

Amongst the passengers in the Hibernia came a naval constructor, sent out by the British government for the purpose of building five steamers on the lakes.

Obituary.—On the 18th of March, at Pau, Lower Pyrenees, Major-General Fagan, aged 68, formerly Adjt.-General of the Bengal Army. On the 29th of March, the Earl of Romney, aged 67. On the 2nd ult., after a short illness, George Windham, Earl of Egremont, aged 59. On the 4th, at Sherness, Vice-Admiral Sir John Chambers White, K.C.B. On the 5th, Rear-Admiral Raper, aged 77. On the 6th, Major-General Freemantle, aged 55. On the 11th, the Earl of Abergavenny, aged 55. On the 13th, at Dublin, the Marquis of Downshire. His lordship, who was on horseback, was seized with apoplexy, fell, and immediately expired. On the 1st inst., in the Isle of Wight, D. P. Blaine, Esq., aged 74, author of the *Encyclopedia of Field Sports* and other works. The celebrated Father Loriquet, of the order of Jesuits, died at Paris, on the 8th ult., in the 78th year of his age.

Mexico and the United States.—Notwithstanding the great disparity in population, wealth and energy, between the two republics of North America, there are many considerations that militate in favor of the Mexicans. Such a war would not be a war of the United States, but of a party in that country, which does, indeed, possess a bare majority, but which has identified itself with everything that is most odious to a large and enlightened minority in the best States of the Union. Can anything exceed the dissatisfaction of the States of New England, or New York, or of Ohio, at having to meet the calls of war for the sake of an atrocious aggression on a neighboring territory, and for the encouragement of slavery, which they have long since expelled from their own soil? The military establishment of the United States is very well adapted to the objects contemplated by its founders; for a militia, animated by patriotic unanimity, might suffice to repel a foreign enemy who should invade the Union. But offensive and defensive war are two different things. The regular army of the United States was reduced in 1842 to 9,012 men, who are employed in the garrisons on the coast, where they must remain. But to undertake field operations a all, even if they were to extend no further than the occupation of the Texan territory, an army of 20,000 or 25,000 men would be indispensible; and although such a force might be raised among the loose population of the Southern States, it could only be equipped and maintained at the cost of the whole Union. How would such burdens be borne for the sake of such a cause? By what newly-devised system of credit would the partisans of repudiation extract a loan from the capitalists of Europe? Or, by what new taxes is the revenue to be raised to meet a war expenditure? The invasion and conquest of a vast region by a State which is without an army and without credit, is a novelty in the history of nations; and although the United States have several times flung abroad marauders and sympathizers in great profusion, they would find it rather more onerous to support the operations of regular war.

Such a war would indeed be a mere prolongation of a bootless struggle, if Texas herself took a decided part in favor of annexation; but nothing can be further from the truth. American Presidents have told us on various occasions that Texas was soliciting a humble place amidst the group of United republics; and that her territory was forthwith to be re-united to that of the Union, which was dismembered by the treaty of 1819; but it appears to be not improbable that, instead of converting Texans into Americans, the Americans who went out to settle and sympathize, are fairly turned into Texans! "What," they say, "are the advantages offered us by this all-annexing Union? They offer to take all we are worth except our debt. They promise us a high tariff, but the Custom-house duties which may be levied on our trade, will be carried to the revenue of the United States. Why did we come here at all, if the first event that befalls us is to replace us under all the restrictions existing in the Union, and to deprive us of all the peculiar advantages which led us to speculate on the future prosperity of the Texan Republic?" These arguments are unanswerable; and although the American settlers doubtless emigrated to Texas for the purpose of seizing the country and annexing it to their own, they will have no scruple in betraying the one any more than the other, and will probably be guided by their own immediate interests, rather than by any political considerations at all.

We most sincerely believe that those interests, as well as the general interests of the country, will be sacrificed by annexation; and General Jackson used an argument which was at least sincere, when he endeavoured to raise the jealousy of the United States by describing the progress of Texas, as an independent community, more highly favoured by climate and by commercial legislation than any part of the Union. Some may wish to win Texas as an ally, but many more would be well pleased to crush her as a future rival.

Mexico, on the other hand, would be completely united in repelling such an attack. The unsettled state of the country, and the independent habits of the people have left them far behind the United States in all that belongs to the arts of peace; but the Mexicans are perhaps less unprepared than the Anglo-Americans for irregular warfare. Strange as it may appear, such a war would be exceedingly popular throughout the ancient Spanish provinces; the people would engage in it *en masse*; and with ordinary ability on the part of their Generals, they would oppose a formidable resistance to any American force which could enter the country.

If, at the present crisis, the affairs of Mexico and of Texas were wisely and vigorously managed, it might still be possible to terminate this discussion without any evil consequences. The recognition of the independence of Texas by Mexico has been too long delayed; let it now be granted on condition that the Texan Government binds itself to maintain that independence inviolate. Texas has no claim to render herself independent of Mexico for the sole purpose of becoming dependent on the United States. Her independence is absolute, or it is nothing. And if a compact of this nature could be effected between Mexico and Texas, with or without the mediation and guarantee of the European Powers, it is not easy to see by what means the United States could give effect to their scheme of annexation, except by an open violation of all rights, and by a direct appeal to force.—*London Times, April 15.*

The Monster Gun for the American Navy.—The heavy piece of ordnance, ordered some time ago in this town to be made for the Princeton, United States steam frigate, is now approaching to completion; and being the largest cannon ever made in this country, and requiring in its construction great skill and attention to perfect it as a solid mass, it has become an object of considerable interest and curiosity amongst nautical and scientific men. It will be remembered that the Princeton had on board a gun of great weight and calibre, which, last year, burst on being fired, while a large party of American officers were present to view the vessel, by which several persons lost their lives, including the Secretary of State. It is in lieu of the gun then destroyed, which was of malleable iron, and made imperfectly, of the same material, (requiring, if well made, less bulk for a given strength than cast iron.) The gun was manufactured in the solid by Mr. Horsfall, at his "Mersey steel and iron works," and being of great length and proportionate thickness, the securely welding or conglomerating the whole from pieces into one equal mass before turning and boring, required the utmost effort of modern skill, and the aid of powerful machinery in heating and fashioning it. In the rough it was nearly fourteen feet long, and little short of thirty inches in diameter at the thicker end. A round shaft of seven inches in diameter was first formed, and on this, as a foundation, were successively laminated wedges of iron, placed longitudinarily, on edge, and reversed in position so as to fit. These placed round the original spindle, were, (as well as the shaft) brought to a white heat, and securely welded by a hammer eight tons in weight, worked by steam. Another layer, in like manner, was added over the former, and so on until the whole was of the requisite thickness throughout. When thus so far fashioned, and proved to be perfect and equal in all its parts, the mass—a most creditable, and, indeed, extraordinary specimen of forged work—was sent to the works of Messrs. Fawcett & Co., engine makers and founders. The gun, as sent to the foundry, weighed 11 tons 3 cwt. 2 qrs. and 11 lbs. In the turning and boring it was reduced in weight about 2 tons 1 cwt. The length of the cannon, now that it is turned and bored, is 13 feet, and the bore 12 feet in length, and 12 inches in diameter, leaving a thickness of solid metal of one foot at the breech. In form the piece is plain and unassuming in appearance, without raised mouldings or rings, (on the French system,) the object being to attain the required strength at each point, without useless metal; and the whole tapering nearly equally from the breach, which is 27½ inches in diameter, to the muzzle, which is 19 inches—giving a thickness of metal to it as a tube of 7¼ inches at the former, and 3½ inches at the latter. The model for this gun was provided by the Americans, who ordered it, and was made on an inch-and-a-half scale. The turning and boring occupied over a space of nearly three months, though the operation is by no means slow, considering the quantity of metal to be cut away at a gradual and cautious rate, to prevent any imperfection. The first drill introduced was seven inches in diameter; and about a foot from it, a 10 inch boring head followed on the same shaft, making a bore of 10 inches at once. An 11½ inch drill was next used, and finally one of 12 inches. The gun, finally adjusted in the lathe, was turned, the borers being stationary. The finishing operation with the 12 inch drill took three successive days and nights, without intercession, the engine being kept at work, lest by ceasing even for a short time the contraction or expansion of the iron might, from alternate heat and cold, prevent the production of the desired trueness of the bore, or leave a mark. As it is, the bore is as fine and smooth as that of a first rate fowling piece; and the exterior of the gun is equally bright and even. Through the centre of the breech a large hole is drilled to admit of a thick bolt, with a large head, to be counter sunk in the rounded cup or basin of the breech, where the charge will be deposited. This bolt terminates exteriorly in a strong screw, upon which will be secured the outer or terminating breech piece as a finish; and this pin is so massive at the head, and will be so closely fitted, that it will become part and parcel of the gun, and cannot be blown out by any explosion which the piece will bear. In looking through this hole (now open) the whole resembles a huge telescope. The piece will be poised on its carriage on strong trunnions of 8 1-3 inches long, forged upon a massive iron belt or ring encircling the gun near its centre. The belt is 11½ inches in width, and 3¼ in thickness, and will also be brightly polished. It will be put on in a hot state, so as to contract in cooling, like the tire of a wheel. Immediately in front of this belt (which cannot move towards the breech, from the increasing thickness of the gun, as well as a small flanche) a groove or flat ribbon indenture has been turned out of the gun. Round this a hoop or belt of iron will be put on to fit flushly, but not welded; and over this another strong hoop of iron will be driven on hot, and in contracting will clip the other so tightly, that the trunnion belt will become immovable, or, as it were, in one mass with the gun, to resist all recoil or shock, the gun itself not being weakened in the least degree by any drilling or perforation to secure the belt. The balls which this monster gun will carry, will each be 11¾ inches in diameter, a quarter of an inch being left for windbore; will each weigh in cast iron 236 lbs.—so that the piece is in reality a "236 pounder." Before delivery it will be proved at Bootle Bay, with a double charge of gunpowder (45lbs.,) and two balls, weighing (of course together) 472 lbs. It will be covered during the experiment with mats and sand, to avert the consequences of any accident from disruption—though this, from its admirable and scientific construction, is by no means to be apprehended. The Princeton is, we learn, to be here shortly, to take the monster on board.

Another Attempt on the Life of the King of Prussia.—A fresh attempt upon the life of the King is talked of. A man of the lower classes, named Durden, is said to have stationed himself in the Palace court, and awaited, with a stone in his hand, the departure of the King in his carriage. Tired of waiting, the fellow flung the stone into a window on the first floor, and run away, but was soon stopped and questioned. He declared that in throwing the stone he had intended to wound the King. According to another account, the stone was really thrown into his Majesty's carriage; but this is incorrect, for since yesterday the King has taken up his residence at Potsdam.—*Manheim Jour., April 9.*

Improvement of Egypt.—Mehemet Ali's vast projects for the improvement of the soil of Egypt appear to extend themselves in the inverse ratio of his failing health and declining years. The barrage of the Nile is proceeding; and the pasha is, we hear, on the road, with his principal engineers, to visit the Lake Mœris, with a view to devising the means of employing, like the Pharaohs of old, their vast lake as a basin for the irrigation of Egypt during the droughts of summer.

The Indian Mails.—Alexandria, March 23.—The Hon. East India Company's steamer Atalanta, which reached Suez on the 19th inst., with the Bombay mails of the 1st of March, when off Mocha, on the 12th inst., exchanged signals with the Berenice, which left Suez on the 23d of February, and should have been by that time not far from Bombay. It appears that when the Berenice left Suez her main shaft was not in very good condition, and it is supposed that it must have broken at sea, but as she was seen making way under steam against a head wind, it is presumed she must have put in at Jedda, and there repaired the damage done.

Cape of Good Hope.—Advices have been received from the Cape of Good Hope with Grahamstown papers of the 30th January. These papers contain a return of the exports of the eastern province for the year ending with December: these exports amounted in value to £142,372, against £110,952, in 1843. The increase in the export of wool was from £56,582, to £76,809. The imports during the year amounted to £149,183, against £118,860. It is, perhaps, worthy of notice that in the exports from the eastern provinces the article of wine does not appear for the last year, which shows that that branch of trade has been abandoned for the more profitable production of wool. There had been another conference between Mr. Stretch, the colonial agent, and the Caffre chiefs, and the latter had at length agreed to sign the treaty. They for some time demurred against two of the articles, one of which relates to the establishment of local courts, and the other relates to the permission of the people to attend the missionary schools. Some of the chiefs signed the treaty, under a protest against these articles, the basis of their objection being, that the evils they are intended to provide against could at any time be redressed by the authority of the chiefs over their own tribes, and were, therefore, superfluous, and an evidence of unmerited distrust in their sense of justice.

Marvellous discoveries have been made by Lord Rosse's Telescope. It is said that Regulus, instead of being a sphere, is ascertained to be a disc; and, stranger still, that the nebula in the belt of Orion, is a universal system—a sun, with planets moving round it. Professor Robinson, of Armagh, who, with other scientific gentlemen, has been staying some weeks with the Earl of Rosse, has communicated a few particulars respecting the first achievements of this great telescope. Of forty-three of Herschel's nebula, considered unresolvable by him, all were found to be composed of stars. The bright centres which some of them have, and which Herschel considered proofs of condensation, prove to be central globular clusters of much larger stars; and this seems to be a general arrangement. No planets were visible. It defines very well, showing Gamma and XI, Virginis, under very unfavorable circumstances.

Commercial Treaties.—The accounts received from the United States, both public and private, may be regarded in every respect of a more pacific and satisfactory tone than any which we have received for some time past. Our private accounts, however, induce us to think that the Americans will be but little prepared for the firm and decided expression of the leaders of both the great parties in Parliament, in relation to the bold pretensions of the inauguration speech, carried out by the last steamer.

Meantime, however, trivial as are the reductions in our tariff introduced in the present session, in matters immediately affecting the agricultural party in the United States, the greatest satisfaction is already discernible in the spirit with which they have been received. Nor was there ever a period when all circumstances combined to render any concessions on our part, to a just and wise conception of mercantile intercourse, so likely to be fruitful of mutual advantages to both countries.

In this country there is a conviction, every day becoming stronger, that we have in times past committed an enormous error in the policy that we have pursued towards foreign states—a policy marked by a narrow and selfish regard to special and favored interests—a policy distrustful of our powers to sustain a fair competion, in the face of the strongest facts of our ability to do so,—a policy which has called into existence a manufacturing interest in countries where nothing but the necessities arising from the exclusion of their more natural products could have done so; and the worst features of which are now, that they cannot exist without high protective duties,—a policy which has misdirected the capital and industry of this country, as well as of those which were our nearest and most natural associates and co-operators in the great process of production, with whom our intercourse need not have been, as it is now, a hot and jealous competion, but a friendly and mutually advantageous co-operation.

The fatal error which we have committed in Europe, and which has already advanced far in America, we have yet the power to arrest in the latter country. And the circumstances of the present moment are more than favorable for that purpose. It is true that the same reasons which have prevailed in Germany, have influenced to a great extent the establishment of manufactures and the submission to a protective policy in the United States. But there is still a large majority of that nation whose interest it is equally to find a market for the produce of the soil, and to purchase the cheap manufactures of this country. Our policy hitherto has so far estranged that natural co-operation from us. Our recent acts, trivial though they may be, have raised hopes that our views and our policy are undergoing a change—a change which is not the less dictated by our own internal necessities than by our foreign commercial relations. There are still, and especially at this time, powerful interests in the United States, willing to cultivate a close and free interchange with this country; but every year that we allow to pass entirely removes some and weakens all. *A bold, a generous, a wise policy, onr ou part at this moment, towards the United States, coming to the aid of the known predelictions and interests of the new government in America, and of the efforts to be made in the next Congress in favor of a great reduction of their tariff, could not fail to be crowned with the most lasting benefits to both countries.* But we must do something more than spend our time in disgraceful squabbles, so derogatory to the dignity of any legislature, about the reduction of a duty of *one shilling and eightpence* per cwt. on grease, or *two shillings and sixpence* on lard; we must evince a willingness freely to receive in exchange the great and important articles of which they have such abundance—of which we stand so much in need.

Our correspondents in the United States talk confidently of a new treaty with this country. But no minister who adheres to a sliding scale of corn duties; no minister who is not willing to admit freely the great agricultural produce of the Western States, can arm an American cabinet, however willing, with power to contend against the great manufacturing corporations, whose growth and existence is so dependent on the exclusion of British manufactures. Our prohibitory laws alone furnish them with power to maintain their monopoly, which nothing but a liberal policy on our part will render the Government able, or the people willing, to modify or abolish.—*London Chronicle.*

Parliamentary—The Maynooth Question.

The primary bone of contention in Parliament, as in the country, has been the increased grant to Maynooth. The subject was brought before the House of Commons, on the 4th inst., by Sir Robert Peel, in a speech of considerable length and power. He entered fully into the subject, and astonished the great body of his supporters, by the boldness of his innovations, and the length to which he professed his willingness to go in order to secure the pacification of Ireland. Mr. Shiel, as the mouth-piece of the Irish nation, gratefully accepted, and warmly eulogised the Premier's foresight and liberality. In this way the Maynooth grant was introduced, and the second reading of the bill was fixed for Friday last, when the debate may be said to have commenced in earnest. It was marked, on the part of some of the speakers, by more than usual acrimony and talent. Amongst the speakers who most distinguished themselves was Mr. D'Israeli. He addressed the House with point and bitterness, and the taunts which he levelled at Sir Robert Peel were more savage than playful—more personal than argumentative. He rested his objection to the measure principally on the previous character of the men from whom it proceeded—men who in opposition had done all in their power to raise the "no popery" cry, and contributed, by their then tactics, to raise the storm of bigotry which is now sweeping over the country. He sneered at Sir Robert Peel's refusal to "bandy personalities," and made a forcible appeal to the leader of the opposition, Lord John Russell, not to attain power other than by legitimate means—means which, instead of embarrassing his position when in office, would materially strengthen it. The evening was marked by an unlooked for speech from W. E. Gladstone, who was understood to have left the ministry on account of his opposition to this same Maynooth grant. With some nibbling criticism on the measure, Mr. Gladstone gave it his unbounded support, on the ground of its urgency, and the peculiarity of the times. These were the principal speakers during the first night. On Monday the question was renewed; the crack speaker of the night was Mr. Macaulay, the member for Edinburg—a man of popular talent, and something more than a hack politician. Mr. Macaulay's constituents are strongly opposed to the measure; but he professed his readiness to sacrifice his seat rather than his principles with regard to it. He followed in the wake of D'Israeli, and was bitterly sarcastic at Peel for his tactics in opposition. This part of the speech, as is generally the case in matters involving personalities, was more telling than the mere abstract truths to which he gave eloquent expression.

On Tuesday and Wednesday the speakers were not, generally speaking, men of great mark. The *pros* and *cons* were nearly divided. The "Young England" section, led by Lord John Manners and Mr. Smythe, made warm, even enthusiastic speeches, in favor of the increased grant. The result will not be without its effect on the constitution of parties.—Out of favor with the agriculturists, Sir Robert Peel has been deserted by numbers of his political supporters, while many of the liberal members, representing constituencies in which the dissenters are numerous, will, by supporting the government measure, bid adieu to their seats. It is certainly creditable to the moral courage of the Premier, that, well knowing the hornet's nest which the measure would raise, he had the temerity to introduce it. The whigs, as a party, have exercised a praiseworthy forbearance on the occasion. It was a tempting opportunity to trip the Minister's heels; and had they followed the example which he set them in opposition, they would have done so. As the professed leader of the Tories, Sir Robert is censurable for having pandered to the sectarian prejudices which now threaten to overwhelm him. The business of the House has been delayed every night by the presentation of petitions against the measure. Indeed so well organized are the religious bodies throughout the country—so perfect is their machinery on any point involving violence to their sentiments, that their influence and agitation can, by meetings and petitions, be heard and felt in almost all parts of the country simultaneously. The meetings of which Exeter Hall is the scene, on any such emergency, may be referred to in proof of the fact.

On Thursday, the principal speaker on the government side was Sir James Graham, who entered into an elaborate defence of the measure, and rebuked the "No Popery" cry of its opponents. He alluded to the phrase to which he had given utterance pending the Irish State Trials, that "concession had reached its limits"—a phrase which had been so much commented on—explained the sense in which he used it—and apologized for having, in a moment of excitement, uttered, as a minister of the crown, language which was calculated to irritate a sensitive people. He defended the policy of the government, when in opposition, and contended that his conduct, and that of Lord Stanley, had always had for its object the civil and ecclesiastical progression of the Irish people. The tone of the Home Secretary's speech was firm, but conciliatory, and gave no evidence that he or his colleagues were disposed to bend before the blast.

On the last night of the debate, (18th April,) the interest was immense, and the Minister, (Sir Robert Peel,) avowed that his motive was to conciliate Ireland, for the purpose of being prepared for war with the United States, if necessary, on the Oregon question. The following are his closing remarks, and the vote:—

Sir Robert Peel said— * * * As a Minister responsible for the public peace, he said that it was necessary to break up that formidable combination which at present existed in Ireland against the British government. He did not think that that combination could be broken up by force, but he did think that it might be subdued by kindness, forbearance, and generosity; and it was essential that it should be subdued if we wished to cement the union between the two countries, and to increase the strength of this united empire. When he first thought of proposing this measure to Parliament, he had no anticipation of any interruption of the relations of amity between this country and any other. *But on a recent occasion Lord John Russell had considered it to be a duty to raise the veil which concealed the distant future. It then became his duty to state publicly that, though he was anxious for an amicable arrangement of our differences with the United States, we were resolved and prepared to defend our unquestionable rights, if they were invaded.*—He owned that, when he was called upon to make that declaration, he recollected with pleasure that he had sent the very day before a message of peace to Ireland. Mr. Smythe had said in his very eloquent speech on a former evening, that *the time might come, when all the energies of the country might be wanted in its defence.* God forbid that peace should be broken; but if it were broken, thoug hhe might not be a member of the Government called upon to vindicate the honor of the country, he would be found by the side of the Minister, whoever he might be, supporting him in the prosecution of a just and honorable war. Whenever that war should occur, he trusted that it would find Parliament and the country united in loyalty to the throne, and in determination to support the common interests of the empire. Then, confiding in our good cause, and in the valor, perseverance, and fortitude of every component part of these united kingdoms, he should view the result with composure, being convinced that the energy of an united people must insure the safety of the empire.

The House then divided, when there appeared—

For the motion	323
Against it	176
Majority	147

On this extraordinary question, all the tory journals are out against Sir Robert Peel. The *London Times* has the following significant remarks:—

The public will have been prepared for the majority by which the Commons have passed the second reading of the Maynooth bill. The most obvious remark to be made upon it is, that it does not bear quite the same ratio to the total sum of the votes as at the first reading; a circumstance which indicates that those members who had not compromised themselves at the first reading, have not mustered so strongly to the support of the bill as they have against it. For this we are indebted probably to the popular feeling so vigorously expressed on the subject.

It is with real concern that we find the public sentiment so little represented either in the debates of the House, or in the policy of the Cabinet. We repeat, that if the measure was so sound, so humane, so healing, so necessary, it is the greatest pity that Sir R. Peel did not secure beforehand the sympathy and acquiescence of the people. As it is, the majority is ministerial, not popular. If Peel is right, the nation is wrong; and if he intends to carry on a series of similar revolutions, it is painful to think of the vast amount of public distrust, and indignation, and remonstrance that lie in store for us. When Peel is on one side, and the people on another, we are not ashamed to own on which side our sympathies lie. We are almost content, in that case, to resign to him that monopoly of wisdom and virtue which he so sufficiently appreciates, and to seek the consolations of society among the uninitiated, impolitic multitude.

On this extraordinary state of things, the House of Lords will probably kill the bill, a crisis will be produced, and then Sir Robert Peel will resign, dissolve the House, and appeal to the people.

United States' Bank.—On Friday a sale took place at the Auction Mart, London, by Mr. Shuttleworth, of 343 shares of $100, or £25 sterling each, in the Bank of the United States of America, amounting to £8,575. The auctioneer said that it was rather peculiar property now, but that it must be sold without reserve. There were seven lots, the lowest comprising sixteen shares, and the highest 153 shares. The first offer was 10s. per share, when, after some competition, it was knocked down for 22s. per share. The remaining lots were sold at 23s. and 24s. per share. The shares were to be paid within seven days after the day of sale.

A Word in the Ear of Mr. Polk.—Harken, Mr. Polk, President of the United States of America, to a friendly whisper of your friend *Punch*. You have been lately expressing an intention of seizing on the Oregon territory; and, in defiance of the British lion, appropriating the lion's share. You have thereby caused the said lion to wag his tail, and roar. Attend to that roar, Mr. Polk—mark that tail—be warned, and beware! Run not your head into the lion's mouth. In other words, do not engage yourself in a contest with Great Britain. In the first place, you want money to buy powder and shot; you have no national uncle, nor anybody else to lend you a sixpence, for those who lend sixpences expect to see them again. Secondly, Mr. Polk, there is a circumstance on which it behooves you well to ponder. Among your glorious institutions, that of slavery is very conspicuous. You have a large negro population. That's a fact, sir, as your countrymen say; a great fact. You will hardly venture to arm your negroes. You dare not trust your slaves with arms. It would not be against the friends of freedom that they would direct those weapons. Would you expect them to fight for your chains and drivers, and to defend the law of Lynch? Do you calculate that they would rally round their whipping-posts, and be faithful to their colors—the stripes? On the contrary, does it not occur to you that England might present them with their freedom in cartouch-boxes? We should need to send few men to Kentucky, if we sent plenty of muskets. Liberty, remember, is inscribed on the British flag; it would be awkward for you were we to hoist that flag in America. You are yourself a slave-owner, Mr. Polk. What would be the effect of a proclamation of the O'Connell species, addressed to your "hereditary niggers?" Think of that, Master Polk. No, sir; vapor, hector, bully, bluster, swagger, as much as you please. Shake your fist, cock your chin, make faces, take sights across the Atlantic at the "Britishers," and welcome. You will only divert us—ourselves especially—by affording us subjects for jokes and caricatures. In a word, talk as long and as big as you like about going to war; but don't do it. If you do, depend upon it, as Richard the Third says, "a black day will it be for somebody;" and who that somebody will be, you may pretty particularly considerably well guess.—*London Punch.*

Ireland.

Repeal Association.—The recent proceedings at the Repeal Association on Monday, the 7th instant, were somewhat striking. Mr. O'Connell introduced Mr. Richard Grey Porter, late High Sheriff of Fermanagh (and author of a well known pamphlet on Federalism), and moved that he be enrolled a member of the association; which was carried by acclamation. Mr. Porter avowed his adherence to Federalism. The chief features of the new act of Union which he advocated were, firstly, the recognition of the independence of Ireland as a voluntary partner in the Hiberno-British empire; secondly the settlement of the national debt of the two countries on equitable principles; and next, an increase of representatives in the British House of Commons, to the extent to which this country was entitled according to population and amount of territory. But he gave the associators some advice. He would tell them some of the reasons which deterred many thousands of men of moderate opinions in the north of Ireland, and indeed in every part of the country, from joining them. The first was, the fear that this association was merely O'Connellite. But this fear he believed to be unfounded; they had chosen Mr. O'Connell as their chief because he had the best head among them; but that he could turn them as he pleased he denied altogether. Another reason was, that they were afraid that the establishment in College Green would lead either to its own suicide, as formerly, or a separation of Ireland from England. He agreed with those who believed that if there was a Parliament in Dublin, there would be a separation of the countries in two years. ("No, no!") He stated this merely as his own opinion. The last reason to which he would advert, by which many were influenced in persisting to refuse joining the Association, was the non-publication of their accounts. If every thing connected with their accounts were above board, they would stand much higher in the estimation of the world; and for his own part, he did not join them until he obtained a plain promise from Mr. O'Connell that for the future the accounts should be published every week, item by item.

Mr. O'Connell said, that up to the commencement of the State prosecution the accounts had been regularly published; and since that time the current expenses of the week, to the last farthing, had been regularly reported to the Committee every Thursday. The accounts likewise had been under consideration with a view to publication; but one of the auditors had been taken ill, and had only returned among them that day. He had no doubt that within a fortnight they would be able to publish them.

Mr. Smith O'Brien expressed dissent from the views put forward by Mr. Grey Porter, and declared himself an unconditional repealer.

Mr. O'Connell, after some remarks on the repeal of the Union, expressed his belief that the Union would be repealed, and that Sir Robert Peel would be the man to bring in the bill. "When you talk of a man's future conduct, the best grounds on which to conjecture what that shall be is to look to his past conduct; and is there anything in what may be called the antecedents of Sir Robert Peel that is inconsistent with his bringing in an act of Parliament for the repeal of the Union himself? Was there ever, I ask, so determined an enemy of Catholic emancipation as Sir Robert Peel—conscientiously I admit, but still a little usefully to himself; it was by taking the ground of No-Popery in his early political life that he, the son of a manufacturer—a manufacturer of high character certainly—has risen to the dignity of Premier of England. He was in this country the enemy of Catholic Emancipation, and the principal man that organized the Orange lodges throughout Ireland. He left that system after him in operation, which was carried so far that almost every young gentleman in the north of Ireland when he attained his age was, according to Peel's scheme, regularly sworn in an Orangeman. That system continued several years in existence under his auspices; and no man ever made or published more speeches against Emancipation than Sir Rober Peel. But who conceded it? who carried it and worked it through the House of Commons, and assisted by his influence to carry it through the House of Lords? The same Sir Robert Peel. Hurrah, then, for Peel, and Repeal!" They said, indeed, that they gave the legal right to Catholics, but they would have a 'Protestant preference' in all things possible. The words of the Duke of Wellington were 'a Protestant preference.' That was a shabby way to emancipate us; it was like flinging a bone to a hungry dog without any meat on it. But, perhaps, as he is growing older he is growing wiser and better. I think I must fall in line with him; for nothing was ever more fair, manly, and excellent in all its details, than his plan respecting Maynooth." On the last day of meeting he did not hazzard any opinion with respect to the proposed Maynooth grant, and he had intended to be cautious this day; but having just read the bill, he had no hesitation in pronouncing it to be most excellent, and the speech by which it was accompanied was as fair and manly as the plan itself was admirable. It was done in a noble and generous manner, and he was grateful for it. He repeated that the bill was excellent in all its details, and quite satisfactory and unobjectionable. The increased grant was to be given without restriction of any kind; but would that make them give up their agitation for repeal? He firmly believed that for that very grant he ought to say, "Thank you, agitation; and Conciliation Hall, I am obliged to you; and Repeal Association, Maynooth ought to pray for you." (Laughter and cheers.) Sir Robert Peel was well aware of the favorable impression which the bill would produce on the minds of the people of this country; and, accordingly, the evening of the bringing it in he set the Americans at defiance. If he persevered in his present line of conduct towards this country, Ireland would set them at defiance too. "To America I say, don't dare attack England; they are conciliating Ireland; and you have three millions two hundred thousand slaves among your inhabitants."

The rent for the week was £333.

Edward Clements Esq., presided at the weekly meeting on Monday the 14th instant, and the Members of Parliament who think themselves better employed spouting and collecting repeal rents in Dublin, than in defending their country and vindicating its religion in the House of Commons, were Messrs. O'Connell, Grattan, J. O'Connell, and J. Kelly. Another truant was announced as coming, Mr. D. Callaghan, M. P. for Cork. Mr. O'Connell postponed the intended Clontarf banquet till the 6th of September, and afterwards read the report of the committee on the Maynooth Endowment Bill. The following is the most material passage:—"As far as we understand the matter, the bill appears to be framed in a just and conciliatory spirit, and to present no matter of difficulty or doubt in any of its details to any Roman Catholic, however suspicious he may have been rendered by reason of the conduct of the present or any former Government.—A question, however, arises upon the principle involved in the bill. The Catholic clergy and laity have heretofore protested, and they do still protest, against any state provision for the Catholic Church. They have repeatedly declared, and they still are of opinion, that no one class of Christians ought to be called on to support the clergy of any other persuasion than their own. Circumstanced, however, as this country now is, with its ecclesiastical state revenues, originally granted for Roman Catholic purposes, vested in the Protestant church establishment, it is deemed no infringement of the voluntary principle to receive, by the way of restitution, the means of educating the Catholic clergy, especially when tendered in so satisfactory and conciliatory a way as it is by this bill." Mr. O'Connell having declared that if the bill were suffered to pass into a law, the Roman Catholics of Ireland would gratefully receive it—proceeded to refer to the exhibitions of bigotry and fanaticism taking place in England, and to the placards carried about, disseminating the grossest and most atrocious calumnies against the College of Maynooth and the Catholic religion, as proofs of what he had been rebuked for saying, namely, that it was the people of England, not the Government, that were opposed to Ireland. He was not sorry, however, that such an exhibition had taken place. If the Catholic clergy had objected to the measure, he would himself have moved that it be kicked out of the House; but he was most happy in having it in his power to say that Sir Robert Peel had, in the most open and generous manner, consulted the Catholic authorities on the subject. He had been asked why he did not go over and support the bill, but he would say in reply, that he was better employed here. Amongst the contributions handed in were the following from America:—From Boston, £250; from Illinois, £100; and £44 16s. from Philadelphia; and the total amount of the week's rent was announced to be £700 4s. 11d.

How the Repealers will Receive the Queen.—The Queen is to come here early in July, leaving, 'tis said, Parliament sitting—leaving an excuse for her Ministers to stay from us—leaving a Legislature ready to fling us little concessions, or fiery coercion—sugar plums, or cannon shot, as we show ourselves duped slaves or firm men. Let her come—she is a young and kindly woman—she shall be welcomed with tenderness. Let her come—she is our first magistrate (by courtesy at least, for Peel is so in fact,) and shall meet loyal respect. But let her not come, if she come to trick us into forgetfulness of liberty. To that we owe a higher loyalty—to that a deeper love. Let her not tread the soil of the volunteers, the battle-ground of Brian—let her not pass the grave of Tone, the prison of O'Connell, or the gibbet ground of Emmett, in hopes of teaching us slavery—let her not be falsely made to hope the priests of nationality shall stop their anthems, because a monarch hath come in. Let the Queen come, and every shout shall ring alternately "The Queen and Repeal!" "Repeal and the Queen!" Let her come, and see no crouching serfs ready to worship her sceptre, or of savage child-men to gape at her glaring pomp. Let her come, and right welcome; but sooner may the sod wither from our land, and bare the bones of our martyrs to our famished eyes, than Ireland, for courtesy or favor, halt in her march to independence!—*Nation.*

France.

In the Chamber of Peers, on Saturday, the Colonial Administration Bill was passed by a majority of 103 to 59. The report of the committee on the bill admits that slavery is to be abolished; the only question being, as to how and when that object is to be carried into effect. The *Constitutionnel* publishes a second note addressed by M. Guizot to the Swiss Vorort, in which he expresses his friendly disposition towards Switzerland, disclaiming any intention of interfering with the independence of the Confederation, but calls upon the Diet to take prompt and effectual measures for putting an end to the anarchy and disorder that prevail in that country.

Arrival of His Excellency Gil Davis, Governor of Coney Island, United States, at Paris.—A few days ago, Gil Davis, Governor of Coney Island, an independent republic on the coast of the United States of North America, arrived in Paris, after an extended tour of the wine districts of Italy, Portugal and France. In the course of his peregrinations, his Excellency collected some very important information, besides selecting a stock of wine, the pure juice of the best growths, such as cannot be surpassed in all Europe.

His Excellency has visited Rome, Naples, Florence, Geneva, Pisa, Leghorn, Marseilles, Barcelona, Valencia, Alicant, Carthagena, Malaga, Gibraltar, Cadiz, Seville, Madrid, Bordeaux, and is now *en route* for London, Liverpool and Coney Island. In all his travels, his Excellency found the *New York Herald*, and so eagerly is it looked for and highly prized by Americans abroad, that a worthy Quaker lady in Rome informed his Excellency that she would willingly give half a dollar daily for a copy of the *Herald*. At Rome, his Excellency had an audience with his holiness the Pope. The scene of the meeting between these two distinguished characters, was interesting and impressive in the extreme. His Excellency describes the father of the faithful as being a man of middle height, rather stout, with a very red face, and a prodigious nose somewhat inclined to one side, like the town of Lebanon looking towards Damascus. The age of his Holiness is 82 years, and his Excellency adds the important and significant information that on the occasion of this visit he was well and drank Champaigne wine. His Excellency was favored with a sight of all the wonders of the Eternal City—the cradle in which the Saviour was rocked—the tail of the mule on which he rode into Jerusalem—the pillar he leaned against when he disputed with the doctors—but "the bottle of Egyptian Darkness" he did not see. When his Excellency was at Rome, the Carnival was at its height, and the scene afforded an infinite deal of amusement to our distinguished and attentive philosopher. His Holiness was carried about in St. Peter's chair till the poor old creature got quite dizzy. He then blessed all the candles and the priests, blessed all the horses and sprinkled them with holy water. A jackass, gaily adorned with red ribbons was brought up, and a prayer was read in his long ears, to which the intelligent animal devoutly wagged his tail, as his Excellency did not fail to notice.

Altogether the tour of his Excellency has been interesting in the highest degree—full of incident and humorous adventure. His subjects at Coney Island are now anxiously awaiting his return, and we implore the winds to be propitious to him, and his ship, laden with something better than the "bottle of Egyptian darkness," which his Excellency did not see.—*Le Garçon*

Spain.

The Cortes were to sit on the 8th. A fierce opposition was expected to the grant of the three millions of reals which was proposed by the Budget Committee to be made to Queen Christina. The *Clamor Publico*, condemns in strong terms the residence of the Munoz family at the Royal palace.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 8th publishes the law in virtue of which the unsold property, the sale of which had been suspended by a Royal decree of the 26th July, 1844, was restored to the Clergy. The sitting of the Chamber of Deputies presented considerable interest. The Assembly was crowded, and all the Ministers were present. The President of the Council of Ministers demanded permission to address the Chamber. His Excellency announced that he was about to communicate to the Chamber a Royal decree, authorizing the marriage of her Majesty, Queen Maria Christina of Bourbon, and the manner and form which had been adopted.

Dispatches had been received from Rome, which promised that the relations of Spain with the Holy See would soon be placed upon an amicable footing. It was proposed to create two new ministerial departments, one for public instruction, and the other for transatlantic and colonial affairs. A court martial had sat at Logrono to try the persons implicated in Zurbano's insurrection; but only one had surrendered to take his trial, and he had been sentenced to two years *prisidio.*

Switzerland.

The accounts from Switzerland confirm the unfavorable impression created by previous advices. The free corps have invaded the territory of Lucerne, and, contrary to expectation, have been signally defeated by the troops of that canton. The excitement occasioned by this bloodshed pervades all parts of the Confederation, and a general civil war can only be prevented by some vigorous measures on the part of the Diet. The last accounts state that the Diet had been convoked in great haste, and that at their sitting on the 5th, a committee was appointed to inquire into the state of affairs. From the accounts we have received, which are somewhat confused, we collect that the free corps presented themselves before Lucerne, upon the morning of the 1st, and were received by a fire of musketry, and two attempts to enter the town were repulsed. It is added that the besiegers, believing in a capitulation, retired to the faubourgs, where they were received by a fire of grape-shot so terrible, that from 800 to 1000 were killed. The remains of the corps returned to their homes. The troops of the city captured a park of artillery, consisting of four howitzers, four cannon, three howitzer caissons, and a large quantity of smaller ordnance. It is said that out of the 600 men who marched from the half canton of Bale country, only 100 have returned, and that a single man alone has got back to Liestal. Stieger and Rothpletz, two of the leaders, who had been captured, had been brought before a military commission. It is stated that Dr. Steiger was tried and condemned, and immediately shot.

Letters from Zurich of the 9th state that the exasperation of the conquering party is so great that serious apprehensions were entertained as to the fate of the prisoners taken before Lucerne. These prisoners are said to be 1,602 in all. Among them are 180 Bernese and 694 Argovians.

The Catholic cantons had held a council at Lu-