order and zeal and capable of great things. If they are to be trammelled by inconsistent, indecisive and poetical instructions, such as given to Commodore Aulick, we cannot expect much. Do this, or do that, should be the orders issued—never, do not this, or that. If a clear and explicit order is given to a capable officer, he will never commit blunders by doing what he should not have done. My own opinion about Japan is, that we want that strike; she will do nothing upon negotiation; she is more hard headed and courageous than China, and not at all dependent upon European commerce; now is she so accessible to foreign aggression. The English War in China, under my own observation, was an easy one. The English had nothing to contend against, except disease; and the people on the sea coast clamored to the Mandarin incessantly for peace.

If we once strike, as we must, it will become a war of compulsion. Men for land service will be needed; these can be raised in California, to the number of 15,000, in a few months; the men-of-war seize the seaport and only under the weight of arms will we be able to obtain a footing. If a blow is forbidden by our government, we may show the telegraph, run the machinery, and make presents, and then come away with our tail between our legs, as Commodore Biddle did in the Columbus 74, in 1849; in fact, he was run out. Another thing: Our merchants should be ready with their freighted vessels to commence the trade we demand. But this of course, has not escaped the sharp eye of our practical men. Success attending our efforts, and the result placed side by side with what the English are now so quietly accomplishing in the Indian Archipelago, under Sir James Brooke, the Rajah of Borneo, and the world will be astonished at the wealth that lies hidden in these unknown countries—gold, diamonds and coal, both in Borneo, Labuan and Japan—silk and cotton, spices and odoriferous gums, and every thing else which the Anglo Saxon will cause to arise from the productive powers of the soil—a far surer source of riches than costly ores or gems, for doubtless a time will come when even the United States will fail to raise cotton enough for the wants of herself and Europe.

Thus once embarked on such an enterprise, the United States must carry it out at the cannon's mouth.

To explain any inconsistency of opinion from what is written above, in using force instead of moral influence, any one who has had any experience with Asiatic nations need not be told that to negotiate with them is an undertaking of extraordinary difficulty. If you conduct yourself towards them with courtesy, deference and gentleness, they attribute it to weakness and fear, and repay your humanity with insolence; and if you behave with a high hand, things are soon brought to extremities, and you have to use force for force. The Japanese, in particular, from the jealously they have of all outside influence, and the uninterrupted success with which they have expelled and kept Europeans from their shores, will be the longest in learning this and correcting their mistake. Their empire has been closed for more than two hundred years against western commerce. "Our mission" is to throw open this closed channel to the trade of the world.

To allow Japan to persist in sullen seclusion—now we are approaching her shores from the east—would be a crime on our part against the laws of nature, because it inflicts injury upon other nations weaker than we are. Therefore, in the face of the whole civilized world, the United States will be justified if she employs the "last argument" to compel the Japanese to open their hidden resources, and enter again within the circle of human families. From the contradictory statements in the President's Message, (Fillmore,) and the Secretary of the Navy's report, (Kennedy) it is to be feared that the instructions to our naval officers are not clear and emphatic enough; and it is to be hoped that Gen. Pierce will give it his first attention, and by a clear and concise order place the "now national matter" upon a firm and unmistakable basis, so as to secure success, and entitle the nation to the thanks of the world. EXIL.

Mr. Soule's Appointment.

[From the London Morning Herald, May 20.]

According to our latest advices from Havana, there is very considerable excitement prevailing in that city, and all over the island, on the Cuban question. The official *Diario* is in a perfect blaze of alarm and indignation at the appointment of Mr. Soulé to Spain. It threatens all sorts of dreadful things if he attempts to try on the filibusters at Madrid, in any way. And if there should be a liberating expedition sent over to help the Cuban creoles to independence and free trade, the whole island in its defence will be reduced to a mass of ruins. Meantime, it is reported that the cunning old Catalans are selling off their property, and making all snug, as the sailors say, against the coming storm; while, on the other hand, the still more sagacious creoles are investing largely in real estate. Notwithstanding these portentous movements the slave trade seems to be as thriving as ever, and negroes fresh from the Gold Coast rule at good prices. But the Spanish authorities at Havana have no faith in Soulé, none in Gen. Pierce—no respect for his inaugural address, being fully impressed with the terrible idea that the administration is in league with the Cuban Junta and the Order of the Lone Star to seize upon Cuba the first dark and stormy night, after all the preparations are perfected. Verily, Mr. Soulé, from the outcries of the *Diario*, will never be permitted to enter the city of Madrid. The matter is becoming intensely interesting.

The American Japanese Expedition.

[From the Singapore Free Press, April 1.]

The U. S. steam frigate Mississippi Captain Lee, arrived here on the 29th instant, and left this for China on the 31st. This is one of the fleet destined for the expedition to Japan. The result of this demonstration will be known before the close of the year. Should it be successful it will exert a great influence on the commercial and political affairs of this part of the world. A large, populous and comparatively civilized empire will be thrown open to commercial enterprise, and a new outlet will thus be made for European manufactures, which cannot fail ultimately to become extremely valuable to the commerce of Europe and America. But even should the first efforts of the United States government to establish relations with Japan prove unsuccessful, it is not likely that it will thereupon relinquish its purpose. Further measures will be adopted, and it may be assumed that the result desired will sooner or later be brought about. Having thus entered upon a different course of policy from what which has hitherto appeared to characterise the United States government—viz., an abstinence from interference in distant quarters—we cannot suppose that they will stop short, and content themselves with their operations in Japan. It is probable that they will next endeavor to obtain a footing in China and Chusan, which was so foolishly given up by the English, will probably, ere many years elapse, be an American settlement. There will be no lack of occasion for a quarrel with the Chinese, if that is needed, for the accomplishment of the plans of the United States. They have a Plenipotentiary in China, and he must be ill versed in the business of his craft if he cannot find cause for offence when the proper time has arrived. In the Indian Archipelago, America has a wide and inviting field for the enterprise of her stirring and adventurous citizens, and in any operations which they may undertake in that locality, they will be free from the treaty engagements which have been found so restrictive of English enterprise in this quarter. There is nothing to prevent the Americans from forming settlements and endeavoring to develope the commercial resources of New Guinea, Borneo, Celebes, or any other quarter of the Indian Archipelago not in actual occupation of European powers. We should not regret seeing the Americans taking such a practical interest in the affairs of the Archipelago, as it is clear that the Dutch will not aid in opening up the Archipelago to other nations, and the English government has for so many years persisted in a vacillating and inconsistent, but in general obstructive course of policy, that it is evident we can little expect any effectual assistance from it. To the enterprise of the Americans we must, therefore, look for those measures which shall extend the civilization and commerce of western nations amongst the islands of the Indian and Papuan Archipelagoes, whose rich and varied natural productions will well repay the labors which may be bestowed in making them available.

The Present Position of Turkish Affairs.

[From the London Times, May 20.]

The last intelligence which has reached us from Constantinople is less satisfactory than that which had preceded it, or than that which we had reason to anticipate. The question of the Holy Places has, indeed, been adjusted without any great difficulty; for, as we have constantly asserted, the pretensions of the Emperor of Russia were not of an exclusive character, and the French government itself admits that the claims of the Latin Church to certain privileges at these shrines have not been interfered with. Louis Napoleon, therefore, lays claim on very easy conditions to a display of firmness, when in truth none of his claims were directly assailed. Not no sooner was the firman signed which was to terminate this part of Prince Menschikoff's mission than other demands were put forward by that ambassador of a more questionable character. For some days previously the Russian envoy had withdrawn from the society of his colleagues under pretence of indisposition, and despatches had been forwarded to him from Odessa, which were supposed to contain fresh instructions. Immediately afterwards, the Porte was apprised that the Russian government required of it the conclusion of a separate treaty or convention, by which the matter of the Holy Places, and the relations of the Emperor of Russia with the members of the Greek Church throughout the Ottoman dominions, should be placed under the sanction of a precise diplomatic engagement. This demand was made on the 5th of May, and it was accompanied by a species of threat that if it were not complied with in the course of a very few days the mission of Prince Menschikoff would be at an end. Another steamer has subsequently arrived at Trieste, with intelligence from Constantinople down to the 9th inst., when it seems that the Prince had given the Porte a week to deliberate on his proposal.

It is possible that this demand is not in itself of a very novel or aggressive character, for the Russian government has repeatedly protested that its sole object is to maintain rights which have long been recognized as belonging to the Greek Church, and a treaty signed between Russia and the Porte in 1774 contains an express promise of protection to the Christian religion and the churches of the East, especially to that Greek Church in the quarter of Galata which the Russian government was thereby authorized to erect. But neither that treaty, nor any other with which we are acquainted, contains any recognition of the religious supremacy now contended for by Russia over the Greek population of the Ottoman empire, and the Porte appears at all times to have felt that to deal with a foreign power in reference to its Greek subjects was to concede rights which no foreign State could exercise with impunity over so large and important a part of its own population. As to the precise extent of the pretensions now put forward by the Russian envoy we must wait for more complete information; but it is probable they amount to no more than the rights already enjoyed by the other Christian communions, and long recognized by the Turks themselves. The change consists in the admission of Russia to be a contracting party on so grave a subject of internal policy. The Porte, however, is in no condition to offer any serious resistance, and, accordingly, news was received last night at the Russian Legation in Paris that Prince Menschikoff's ultimatum had been accepted.

In the midst of the doubts excited by the spectacle of a great empire so ill prepared to defend itself against violence or against intrigue, one principle is at least definite, precise and secure. The great powers may treat these questions in safety, as long as they are determined to treat them in common, and to regulate them by the general interest; but, when any one of them attempts to steal a march upon the rest of Europe, the consequences are unpleasant, and may become dangerous. France, Austria, and Russia have successively tried this mischievous game within the last few months, and they now see the result. The menaces of M. de Lavalette and the concessions extorted by Count Leiningen, have furnished Russia with a motive and pretext for a separate convention with herself on a subject of peculiar interest to the Christian subjects of the Turkish empire. We have repeatedly expressed our opinion that the time will come, and is perhaps is not far distant, when the strength of that Christian population will overpower the authority of a barbaric State which has steadily declined since its nearer contract with civilization. We do not fear the consequences of such an event, if it arises either from exclusively internal causes or from the united action of the great powers; but it is of essential interest to the peace of the world and the security of many countries that the signal for such a change should not be given by any single State, and that this formidable weapon should not be wielded by any single hand. By acceding to the collective note of July, 1839, and to the treaties of 1840 and 1841, Russia appeared to have renounced the selfish policy which led to the treaty of Unkiar Skelessi; and in all her recent communications to the other courts she has uniformly insisted on her own faithful adherence to those conditions. We have given the Emperor of Russia credit for good faith and veracity in making those declarations. We have held it in the highest degree improbable that he should be prepared to place the nations of Europe in serious danger of hostilities, in order to pursue any visionary scheme of settling the future condition of the East without their assent, and contrary to their interests. The moral contradiction which so false and short-sighted a line of policy would imply seemed to us to outweigh all the facts, exaggerated by fear, on which some of our contemporaries have built up conclusions different from our own. The British government showed no disposition to give ear to reports that might have warranted suspicion, or to adopt measures that would have implied distrust; and the Emperor of Russia gave his own personal honor, in a pointed and peculiar manner, as the pledge of that confidence to which he aspired, and which was not withheld from him. That is a consideration of far higher importance to a sovereign who claims so high a rank among the rulers of mankind than the paltry results of Prince Menschikoff's mission. No one could express more forcibly than the Russian cabinet its consciousness of the danger of separate interference, by the pains it took to disclaim such intentions; and, since those assurances were publicly accepted, and made known to the world by the British foreign minister in his place in Parliament, we have a right to expect and to require that nothing shall have been insisted on at Constantinople which does not strictly fall within the limits of Prince Menschikoff's mission. The statements current in the East, the alarm spread throughout the European provinces of Turkey, and the rumors of massacres and risings at Constantinople and elsewhere, have probably been disseminated by the artifices of one party as much as by the fears of another. No event of serious consequence has occurred, and it is but the vague anticipation of a danger which keeps the world in suspense. To avert that danger the effectual remedy is the firm union of the great powers; and if that union were unhappily destroyed by the selfish pretensions of any one of them, it would impair our hopes of dealing on sounder and more equitable principles with the emergencies which, in the present wretched condition of Turkey, may easily arise.

The Manufactures of Japan at the Dublin Exhibition.

[Dublin Correspondence of London Daily News, May 19.]

The unique collection of manufactures, works of art, and curiosities from Japan, contributed to the Exhibition by the King of Holland, demands notice, independently of its intrinsic merits, from the circumstance that it is the first time similar productions have been seen in Europe beyond the walls of the Museum at the Hague; and an early notice is well deserved, also, because, with Dutch punctuality and business-like management, this collection was ready for inspection at the opening of the Exhibition when all around was confusion and packing cases.

That branch of manufacture which, from the place of its origin, has in this country obtained the name of "Japanning," is not so largely represented as might have been anticipated, but the comparatively few specimens are sufficient to show that the Birmingham manufacturers have not yet attained so high a degree of finish in this art as the Japanese. It is not that the polish of the varnish is brighter, but there is a perfect evenness of surface that reflects the light equally as from a surface of ground and polished glass, without any of the irregularities so generally observable in English goods of a similar kind. It would appear that the varnish of the Japanese must be of superior quality to that of the English, for, judging from a set of tea cups made of papier maché, that material is accustomed to be used in contact with hot water, without much injury to the surface, and without imparting a disagreeable taste to the beverage. There is a specimen also of a bowl for holding liquids, made of straw japanned, which feels lighter than papier maché and equally strong. It is evident, indeed, even from the small variety of specimens of this branch of manufacture in the collection, that the Japanese apply the process of japanning to many other uses than we are accustomed to. Among the warlike accoutrements, for instance, there is a highly finished japanned shield, entirely black, without ornament, which projects in the centre, in the approved form of ancient shields. Whether a ball would glance from the curvature may be very questionable, but it is at all events well adapted to ward off any missile projected by hand.

The specimens of silks and velvets very clearly show that the Japanese makers of such fabrics can rival the European manufacturer in the quality of the article, however rude may be the machinery they employ for the purpose. Some silken cords, of various degrees of thickness, will also bear comparison with any that can be produced by the improved machinery of England. The wax candles, of which there are several specimens, deserve notice, from the peculiarity of their shape, and the mode of manufacture. They are made of the hardest wax, and are evidently formed by the process of successive dippings, like the wax candles in this country, the unevenness of the surface being in like manner subsequently removed by mechanical means. The peculiarity in their shape consists in their being conical instead of cylindrical, the broader end being placed uppermost. To give additional finish to the exterior, the candles are painted.

The accoutrements of war do not present a very formidable appearance, nor is a figure of a warrior armed cap-a-pie, with a visor over the lower part of his face resembling a demoniacal mask, calculated to excite much alarm in any but little children. The firearms are long and heavy, and are not adapted to be fired from the shoulder; the swords are short, with daggers attached, and they are enclosed in clumsy cylindrical sheaths. The armor of mail with which the model warrior is clad is composed of a woven fabric sufficiently thick to resist an arrow or the thrust of a spear. There is nothing in this display of weapons and armor to deter the Americans from making their inroad into Japan, and the only seemingly rational cause of making it a death penalty to take any arms from the island must be to prevent exposure of the defenceless condition of the people. The martial music consists of drums of various kinds, and with them are placed several lutes and guitars, curiously shaped, but these are no wind instruments.

The articles of luxury do not exhibit so much refinement and finished workmanship as those of the Chinese. There are several cabinets, but not one of them is elaborately decorated; the fans are common, and the articles of a lady's toilet, though they indicate the great variety of things requisite in the dressing of a Japanese belle, are rather coarsely manufactured. One cabinet is expressly adapted for smokers. There is a censer at the top to hold fire for lighting the pipe, with drawers underneath to contain the pipes and tobacco. The Japanese *fumeur* is very choice in his tobacco, and remarkably delicate in its use, for the specimens of pipes exhibited—one gold, the other silver—will not hold half of a small thimblefull of the plant. A parasol is, perhaps, more an article of necessity than of luxury in Japan, and the specimens of them are certainly not externally ornamental, though they deserve notice from the materials of which they are constructed.

The part that is silk in our parasols is made of paper creased into many folds, the ribs of thin split bamboo, and they open and close with great ease. The outer covering is of a dark color, the interior white, which is the reverse of what theory would declare to be the proper colors for repelling heat; but these paper parasols must nevertheless form much better shades than semi-translucent silk.

A collection of Japanese coins, from the largest gold to the smallest silver, forms an interesting part of the collection. The gold coins are oblong, with rounded corners, and the value of the largest is about £50. The smaller of the silver coins are oblong, with sharp corners. Next to the coins are placed specimens of Japanese printing types. They are made of wood, the body of the type being cylindrical, with the letter at one end, and they must consequently be used separately, and not set up in "form," like our printing types.

Those who are not experienced naturalists may be somewhat startled at the stuffed monsters from Japan. What the unexplored parts of that island may not contain it would be presumptuous to state; but it requires a considerable stretch of credulity to believe in the existence of flying monkeys, and of serpents with monkeys' heads; yet such objects are presented with indubitable skin, hair and bones; and it is difficult to detect where the skin of one animal has been joined to that of another. To artists so skilled in the manufacture of monsters the creation of a mermaid would present little difficulty; and, though there is not the bodily presentment of one, there is a pictorial representation, which, instead of realizing the poetical idea of such a being, seems to be a literal copy of a mermaid, manufactured by the junction of the body of an ape to the tail of a fish. There are several other specimens which indicate a prevalent taste for monstrosities.

England.

RE-ASSEMBLING OF THE LEGISLATURE—PROPOSED NEW MEASURES—THE ANNEXATION OF PEGU—INTERVENTION IN CHINA—GIRABALDA AS A PILOT—LATEST COLONIAL NEWS IN ENGLAND—SUDDEN DEATH OF CAPTAIN GORDON—THE RUNNERIES AGAIN—MARKETS—SHIPPING, ETC., ETC.

The lower House of Parliament re-assembled on Thursday night, 19th ult., after the Whitsuntide recess. The reports of the committee of ways and means, and of the committee of the customs acts, were received and agreed to, and bills ordered to be brought in founded thereon. Lord John Russell stated that, on 3d of June, the government would state their views with respect to the future administration of India. Mr. Milner Gibson asked a question in reference to Jewish disabilities, to which Lord John Russell replied, that he did not think it desirable to introduce a measure upon the subject, but that he intended to deal generally with the oaths taken by members of the House. He added, that there was a bill before the House of Lords which might meet the case.

On Friday night the Income Tax bill was read a second time, the opposition reserving their force until the third reading. Mr. Cobden asked by whose authority the Province of Pegu was annexed to British India, and contended that the people of Britain ought to have had a voice in the matter. Sir C. Wood replied that the annexation had been made by the Governor General, under the authority of the home government, as compensation for the expence of the war. There was reason to expect the province would pay its own expenses, and no authorization had yet been given for any further annexation. In reply to Lord Jocelyn, Lord John Russell stated that the Emperor of China had applied to England for assistance, but no orders had been given to interfere in the war in any way except for the protection of British property and subjects. The House then adjourned till Thursday.

On the notice book is a motion by Lord Dudley, Stuart to inquire whether any information had been received by government respecting the recent expulsion of political refugees from Turkey, at the dictation of Austria and Russia. The draft of a bill, directed against nunneries had been printed: "An act to enable the Lord Chancellor to appoint Commissioners to visit houses where it is supposed women are improperly detained, and to issue writs *habeas corpus*."

A verdict of "manslaughter" had been returned against the Directors of the York and North Midland Railway, for causing the death of Thompson, engineer, and Sykes, brakeman, of a train which Thompson was guiding, and which run off the track, owing to the imperfect condition of the rails.

A letter from London states that captain Robert Gordon, of the Albert, American liner, died very suddenly at his lodgings on the 17th ult. The deceased had been to a party in the morning and returned home, apparently in good health, but soon afterwards expired.

A meeting of the inhabitants of Southwark (London) was held on the 18th ult. in denunciation of the *spy* system, and to express their sympathy with Kossuth.

A Crystal Palace is to be built at Glasgow, on the plan of the new palace at Sydenham.

Ireland's Great Exhibition is succeeding even beyond all hopes. All the arrangements are not yet completed. They are, however, progressing rapidly, and in another fortnight the building and its contents will fully justify public expectation. On the 17th, 5,804 persons visited the building; of these 5,485 were holders of season tickets, and the remainder paid five shillings each on entrance. Next day 4,549. A national (Irish) testimonial is to be presented to Mr. Dargan for his munificence.

The Panama mail, which left Southampton on the 17th ultimo, was directed to be landed at Colon, instead of Chagres, for the first time. The London *News* says:—Colon is a town where the railroad station on the Atlantic side of the isthmus is situated. It is built on piles, on a swampy island, close to the shore. It had no existence before the railway was projected. It has now handsome shops, and an immense hotel, gambling saloons, &c. The number of permanent inhabitants is not at present very large, but thousands make a temporary sojourn in passing over the Isthmus, on their way to and from the Pacific, California, and the south-western coast of America. The Americans wished to call the town Aspinwall, which is the name of one of the spirited projectors of the Panama railroad, but the New Granadian government, in whose territory it is situated, decided on calling it Colon, in honor of the great discoverer of America, Christopher Columbus, or Colon, as he was called by the Spaniards; and this name has been adopted by the English government. Colon will probably bear the same relation to Australia and America that Alexandria, in Egypt, does to Asia and Africa, and will ultimately be a great gateway through which both shores of the Pacific will be reached from Eastern America and Europe.

The government bill to alter the customs duties on spirits, from the 21st of April last, was issued upon the 19th ult. From the day named, the duty on spirits the produce of British possessions in America, if imported into Scotland, the gallon, 5s., and if imported into Ireland, 3s. 8d. On rum, the same duties, as also on rum shrub.

The South Shields shipwrights had struck upon the 17th, and were walking about all day. It seems they were content to receive 27s. per week, provided the masters allowed them half an hour at 4 o'clock for tea, while employed at new work. They now ask 30s. per week, or the half hour per day. One master complied with this request, and it was likely that the other shipbuilders would also concede to the demand. The master joiners refused to comply with the demand of the men for an advance to 27s. per week, and were clearing out their shops as their contracts were completed. The journeymen tailors of South Shields struck work for an advance from 3s. 6d. to 4s. per day; 13 masters agreed to the terms.

The following notice of motion was placed upon the books of the House of Commons, May 19: Mr. Whalley, in committee on Copyholds bill, to move the following clause:—

That in all cases of enfranchisement under the Copyhold acts, all costs properly payable by any person interested in the enfranchisement of any land shall be settled and ascertained by the commissioners, or assistant commissioners (pursuant to the provisions of the act passed in the 15th and 16th years of Her present Majesty); and that no costs or expenses shall be due or recoverable from any person whomsoever, of or relating to or by reason of any enfranchisement, until the same shall have been certified under the hands and seal of the said commissioners, or of an assistant commissioner, to have been reasonably and properly incurred.

The Joshua had arrived from Port Phillip, whence she sailed the 18th of January, with 5,738 ounces of gold, valued at £22,900.

The reports about the intention of the Queen to visit Dublin during the Industrial Exhibition, were daily gaining ground, and the 29th of July was set down as the day for the arrival of the Royal family, who, it is stated, are to remain at the Viceregal Lodge, Phœnix park, for three days, as the guests of his Excellency the Earl of St. Germans, previous to their annual visit to Scotland. It is stated that Her Majesty and her Royal Consort will be accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Prussia, and that it is not unlikely that the King of the Belgians and his sons will also be included in the party.

France.

THE EASTERN QUESTION IN PARIS—LEGISLATIVE DISCONTENT—THE SOCIETY ISLANDS—AN AMERICAN CLIPPER WAGER—DEATHS—PENSIONS—INUNDATIONS.

The non official column of the *Moniteur* contains the following article on the Eastern question:—

"At the time when Prince Menschikoff went to Constantinople as Extraordinary Ambassador of his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, there was some reason to fear that one of the results of his mission would be the cancelling of part of the concessions obtained in 1852 by M. de Lavalette for the fathers of the Latin Church of Terra Santa. It will be remembered that on the demand of the French legation, the government of his Highness the Sultan had consented to restore to the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, which is the delegate of the Holy See, the key of the principal gate of the Church of Bethlehem, and that it had given orders to replace in the Grotto of the Nativity a certain star with a Latin inscription, which had disappeared in 1847; and lastly, his Highness' government had consented to grant to the Catholic community the right of celebrating their rites in a most venerated sanctuary in the church, which is commonly known as the Church of the Grave of the Virgin. The government of His Imperial Majesty could not consent to the withdrawal of any of these advantages from the members of the Latin church. The cabinet of St. Petersburg, moreover, transmitted, at an early period, to the cabinet of the Tuileries, the assurance that it was by no means its intention to compel the Porte to revoke any of the concessions made to us. The last news from Constantinople, which arrived by the Chaptal steamer, and which bears date of the 7th of May, enables us to affirm that the maintenance of the *statu quo* at Jerusalem, as claimed by Prince Menschikoff, does not, with regard to the state of possession by the members of the Latin Church, implicate any modification which can possibly affect the arrangements made by the Marquis de Lavalette. This was, for us, the most essential point, and one which could not, as far as we were concerned, become the object of any transaction. As to our old treaties with Turkey, they cannot be invalidated by any diplomatic act or resolution on the part of the Porte without the express consent of France. Prince Menschikoff demands, also, from the divan the conclusion of a treaty which would place under the protection of Russia the rights and privileges of the Greek Church and clergy. This question, which is altogether distinct from the question of the Holy Places, affects interests of which Turkey should be the first to appreciate the value. If this question were to lead to certain implications it would become a question of general European policy, in which France would be engaged with the same right as the other powers who signed the treaty of the 13th July, 1841."

The proceedings of the Corps Legislatif begun to assume an aspect unfavorable to the government, so much so that there were surmises of a dissolution. On the Civil Pensions bill the government commanded a majority of only thirty two, no fewer than ninety eight members of the Legislature having had the courage to vote against it. The demand for a sum equal to $60,000 for indemnity to the widow of Marshal Ney, for the loss of her pension from 1815 to 1820, had also proved exceedingly unpopular, being regarded as an ill-disguised attempt to pay off the debts of the Prince de Moskowa; and it was expected that the committee to whom it was referred would make no report. Further, the bill to revive the penalty of death for attempts against the government, was received with strong disfavor in the Assembly. M. de Mésonan, an officer who was tried and convicted for taking part in the Bologne expedition, declaring that he could not support the government bill, seeing that he owed his life to the mitigation of the punishment. The committee named to report on this penal measure, were, for the most part, adverse to it, and there were hopes it would be either modified or rejected. Another source of distrust is the encroachment of the government on the business of private banking, by lending the State credit to towns and municipalities on the security of their real estate and local taxation, thus bringing the whole public bodies in the country under government control. These causes, joined to a succession of fabulous rumors from the East, had caused great unsteadiness in the funds. The Princess de Moskowa had, however, written to the Emperor declining to urge her claims to arrearage, in consequence of the opposition it met with from the Chambers. The letter is printed in the *Moniteur*.

The *Patrie* contradicts a statement that has appeared in the American journals, that French ships of war are on their way, with hostile intent, against the Society Islands. It further denies that the French have purchased any tract of territory along the Red Sea, nor do they intend to take possession of an island there, as had also been reported.

The *Indicateur*, of Bordeaux, states that a wager of 40,000 francs has just been laid between some shipowners of that city and some gentlemen of the United States. The President Fillmore, an American vessel, that has just taken in her cargo at Bordeaux, is on the point of sailing, and the owners of the Benjamin, a new clipper, lately built by M. Arman, of Bordeaux, have made the above bet that the Benjamin will beat the Fillmore in a voyage to New York. This wager excites great interest at Bordeaux.

An address from the inhabitants of Reunion, (formerly the Isle Bourbon,) had been sent to the Emperor, praying that the island may be called the Isle Bonaparte.

Gen. Be Thobeé, Governor of the Polytechnic School, under Louis Philippe, died at Paris on the 14th.

A pension of 6,000 francs is granted, by unanimous vote of the Assembly, to the two heirs of Philippe de Gerard, inventor of the flax-spinning machine.

At Castelsarrasin, in the Tarn et Garonne, there had been great inundations; the loss of property was enormous, the crops being totally destroyed. From Foix, in the Ariege, we have similar disastrous accounts of the overflowing of the river Ilers. At Perpignan, Millas Ilis, Ceret, and Prades, great destruction had been caused.

Munos, Duke of Rianzares, husband of Queen Christina, is in Paris, and had an interview with the Emperor. Report says he comes about pecuniary matters, his wife having lost heavily lately by stockbroking.

A man was arrested the other day in the Bois de Boulogne and without trial (so they say) was hurried off to Cayenne, on suspicion of his having entertained sinister designs against the Emperor. This is the third story of the same kind that has circulated within a few weeks.

Napoleon is said to be exceedingly hate at the reception given to the King of the Belgians and his son, at Vienna.

It was asserted in Paris, but doubted, that a despatch had been received from Vienna by the government stating that the Porte had actually accepted the Russian ultimatum.

The Paris *Moniteur* contains a strong article upon the Eastern question, but does not think it will lead in the end to complications of the European powers. The writer states if it did that France would be engaged under the treaty of July, 1841.

It was stated in Paris, but doubted, that the Porte had accepted the Russian ultimatum.

There were surmises of a dissolution of the Corps Legislatif, owing to the growing opposition to the government.

A succession of such reports had caused much unsteadiness in the funds. The *Patrie* denies the statement of the American journals relative to the sailing of French ships, with a hostile intent, to the Society Islands.

A Bordeaux journal states that 40 000 francs had been wagered there between some American gentlemen and French ship owners, that the American ship Fillmore would beat the French clipper Benjamin, on her voyage from that port to New York.

Gen. de Tholose died at Paris the 14th ult.

There had been great inundations at Castle Sevassin, in the Farm et Garonne, and much property destroyed.

The husband of Queen Christina had an interview with the Emperor.

Napoleon is said to be offended at the reception given to Leopold of Belgium.

Spain.

THE PRESS AND MR. SOULE—NEW PROJECTS OF FINANCE, ETC.

The *Diario Espanol* continues to write against the reception of Senator Soulé. The *Heraldo* considers that it would be more dignified for Spain to take no notice of Mr. Soulé's proceedings when in an unofficial capacity.

The Marquis de Viluma has been appointed to the vacant ambassadorship at Paris.

The Queen Mother has lost 12,000,000 reals, within a short time, by mining speculations.

A new frigate, named the Princessa de Asturias, is to be built at the Caracca arsenal.

The Minister of Finance, on the 12th, submitted his budget.

The Queen Mother had lost twelve million reals by mining speculations.

The Minister of Finance had submitted his budget to the Council of State, under the presidency of the Queen. It adopted the immediate deficit would be 800 000 reals, but the minister was of opinion that the increase of customs arising from the reduced scale of duties would more than compensate for the loss.

Germany.

The session of the Chambers of Saxe Coburg Gotha was opened May 12.

Austria.

The King of the Belgians, and his son, the Duke of Brabant, are still the guests of the Emperor of Austria. The marriage of the Duke with an Austrian archduchess seems more likely, and there are surmises that the Emperor would not object to wed a Belgian princess. As yet these tales are but gossip.

Both the Trieste *Zeitung* and the Augsburg *Gazette* contain vague allusions to some disturbance of the public peace it was expected would have taken place at Milan. We are informed that the rumor of a projected "dagger insurrection" was prevalent in Sardinia as well as in Milan. The Trieste paper does not exactly say that the whole garrison of Milan was under arms on the 8th but from the words—"the redoubled watchfulness and the imposing strength everywhere displayed by the military power," &c., it is to be supposed that such was the case.

In diplomatic circles it is asserted that the misunderstanding between Austria and Sardinia will soon be at an end, as the latter power will yield. An Austrian paper says:—"Since the appearance of the well-known memorandum, neither England nor France have taken any step in favor of Sardinia."

Switzerland.

The *New Zurich Gazette*, of the 16th, says:—

The Pope's Nuncio has presented to the government of the canton of Fribourg a note demanding the re-integration of Bishop Marilley, and the abrogation of a legislation which he calls anti-religious. The note is couched in offensive terms.

A letter from Bellinzona, of the 13th, in the *Parlamento* of Turin, states that there is considerable uneasiness in Mendrisio (Ticino) on account of the difficulties arising from the Austrian blockade. Corn is becoming scarce and rising in price, while the population, which used to diminish considerably about this time of the year, being in the habit of emigrating to Lombardy, now remains stationary.

Italy.

RUMORED PREPARATIONS FOR ANOTHER REVOLT.

Mazzini intended to publish a book at Genoa, but no sooner had the specimen copy been lodged at the Governor's office than the police visited the publisher and seized the entire edition. The *Italia e Popolo* publishes a consultation with regard to that measure, and to the arrest of the printer Moutti, in which the lawyers ask—1st. Can there be an offence of the press without a publication, and what constitutes a publication? 2d, Has the work of Mazzini been published? 3d, Were the judiciary acts which preceded the seizure legal? 4th, Is the imprisonment of Moutti legal? They examine in succession each of those questions, and solve them negatively, by quoting the very text of the laws, the opinions of the highest legal authorities, and by adducing solid reasons developed with precision. The consultation is signed by MM. Morchis, L. Casanova, A. Caveri, C. Cabella, and Castagnola, and eighteen other distinguished jurisconsults have adhered to it.

The Council of War in session at Mantua had condemned nine schoolboys of Ostiglia to imprisonment in irons for uttering "subversive language." Eight of them, from thirteen to fifteen years of age, were afterwards pardoned, on account of their youth and previous good conduct.

The French are rendering Cassale a place of great strength. Its fort already mounts eighty-one pieces of cannon.

By a singular coincidence the *Trieste Zeitung* and the *Augsburg Gazette*, state that a belief was very current that another "dagger insurrection" would break out at Milan on Sunday, May 8. The same rumor was prevalent in Sardinia, and the Austrian troops were kept on the alert; but the day passed over quietly. The examination of the insurgents arrested at Milan on February 6 is now nearly over. It is given out that documents are in possession of the Austrians to prove that the daggers were supplied by Mazzini and Kossuth, as were also the muskets, all of which were of English or American manufacture.

Naples had established a Consulate General at Calcutta, and appointed M. Sanford to the post.

The dreaded bandit Mottino, alias Bersagliere, had arrived at Turin under the escort of twelve carbineers. His trial will no doubt elicit curious disclosures, for it is certain that his escape from the Senatorial prison was favored by a lady of rank, with whom he is supposed to have had culpable relations, and who paid 10,000f. for the purpose.

Since Genoa has obtained a railway communication with Germany, Tuscany, aided by Austria, has spared no exense or exertion to establish a similar connexion between Leghorn and Trieste. The latter, admirably situate at the extremity of the long Adriatic Gulf, for commercial intercourse with the southeast, with Turkey, Egypt, Suez, and India, is not at all favored by that position, to trade with the Straits of Gibraltar and America. Leghorn will consequently be its harbor on the western side. The Appenines, which extend like the spinal bone of Italy, greatly impeded the establishment of the Austro-Tuscan Railway, but the five engineers of the Central States have found means to run it through the defile of the Poretta.

From Milan we learn that the examination of the insurgents arrested on the 6th February is nearly concluded. It is said to be clearly proved by documental evidence that the principal actors were supplied with daggers, proclamations, and money by the agents of Mazzini and Kossuth. *Almost all the guns seized had English or American factory marks, but as no mention of Palmer & Son* is made, it is to be supposed that that famous firm had no connexion with the insurgents.

Greece.

A telegraphic despatch from Athens, of the 13th, says:—The French fleet is performing its evolutions in the gulf. A commission has been named to investigate the differences relating to the frontiers. The vine disease is increasing.

Turkey.

ATTEMPTS OF RUSSIA TO INCITE A HOLY WAR—FEVERISH STATE OF TRADE.

The season of Easter, when a revival of the old disturbances between the Musselmen and "infidels" was feared, had passed off quietly throughout the cities of the empire, except at Smyrna, where there had been an attack of the Greeks upon the Jews, which, however, was put down by the Turkish authorities. Rumors of a contemplated massacre on Easter Sunday had been industriously circulated by Russian agents, but they failed to produce the intended effect of a general outbreak. According to a telegraphic despatch from Smyrna, May 14 a sanguinary riot had, however, taken place in Chalus and Iconium

The death of the Sultan's mother had interrupted negotiations for some days with regard to the Holy Places. Our latest information [see also "France"] is by telegraphic despatch from Constantinople, of May 9th, which says:—"Prince Menschikoff has asked for a decision within eight days. The Porte has solicited the advice of Lord Redcliffe and M. de la Cour, who sent off instant despatches to their governments."

In spite of the pacific declarations of the Russian embassy some uneasiness was felt in commercial circles. From Odessa, correspondents advise their friends to be cautious in their operations, and to liquidate their affairs with Turkish houses. In consequence of this state of things freights had risen to 76s. per ton for tallow, &c.

Layard, the traveller, was on the eve of returning to England, owing, it was said, to a difference with Lord Redcliffe, respecting Oriental politics.

An electric telegraph is to be immediately constructed to unite Odessa, Sebastopol, and the other Russian establishments on the Black Sea, with St. Petersburg.

Australia.

The *London Times*, of May 20, says:—According to the last accounts from Port Phillip, it appears that a very stringent passenger act had lately passed the Legislative Council, under which all vessels landing immigrants are to pay 5s. per head to the government, to provide a fund for such as may fall sick or be incapacitated by infirmity. This measure is an imitation of the system pursued with advantage for some years at New York, and which was substituted for the practice of rendering the captain liable, under bond, for all passengers who might become chargeable upon the city within a certain period. At the same time, it is to be hoped the colonial government have not taken the step without fully recognizing the extent of the responsibility it involves as regards the organization both of efficient hospitals and adequate places of shelter. In addition to the new tax, a clause was also expected to be adopted compelling ships to land their passengers and baggage on the wharf at Melbourne, so as to put a stop to the extortion at present practised by the boatmen and lighters in the bay.

Commercial Affairs.

LONDON MONEY MARKET, May 20.—The English Funds have been improving, and with an increased business. The intelligence that the renewed difficulty between Turkey and Russia has been adjusted exercises a favorable influence, but the easier state of the money market and the large arrivals of specie from America are more potent. Consols are quoted 100 ⅜ to ⅞ for transfer, and 100 ⅝ to ¾ for account. The New Three and a quarter per Cents have been at 102 ⅜⅞, and the Reduced Three per Cents 99⅞ to 100⅛. There has been a purchase of £80,000 of Consols at 100⅛, said to be for the Catholic party. B