INTERESTING FROM EUROPE.

OUR PARIS AND BERLIN CORRESPONDENCE.

THE AUSTRIAN EMPIRE,

&c., &c., &c.

The London *Post*, of the 7th of November, remarks in its city article:—

There appears just now no great disposition to enter into large speculative transactions, the political horizon everywhere, especially in America, being somewhat clouded. Advices from Paris state that the contingency of the spoken of loan, which is said to be necessary, will vary in amount from sixteen to twenty-four millions sterling, and is dependent upon M. Fould assuming the portfolio of Minister of Finance. At all events, nothing can be definitely settled on this head until the meeting of the Corps Legislatif next month. In the meantime, it is supposed that the government will endeavor, as is usual in these cases, to support the quotations of rentes.

On account of the scarcity of cotton, several manufactories at Barcelona, Spain, and the neighborhood had been closed on the 31st of October.

A Paris correspondent of the London *Post* writes thus on the 5th of November:—

Some of the French journals refer to Mr. Cobden's lately expressed regret that so much money should be spent in England and France on warlike preparations. There is no subject which ought to occupy more attention in both countries, and none on which public opinion ought to fail to express itself with decision. Now that Russia, the United States and Austria have domestic troubles which will render them *as aggressive Powers impotent for a long time to come*, the only two great countries of the world capable of fighting up a big war are England and France.

The London *Post* of the 4th of November, in an editorial on the affairs of Italy, says:—

It is now beyond doubt that the Italian question has entered into a new and an extremely serious phase. For some months previous to the death of Count Cavour, and ever since the accession of Baron Ricasoli to office, negotiations have been constantly carried on between the governments of the Emperor Napoleon and King Victor Emanuel. These negotiations had for their object the evacuation of Rome by the French troops within as short a term as possible. The French Emperor has simply intimated to the Italian government that he cannot withdraw his troops from Rome. He had hoped to render the Pope amenable to reason. But his Holiness obstinately refuses now, as he has invariably since his restoration, to take one step in the direction of national unity or independence. France cannot do violence to the Papal will. Because the French flag now floats at Rome, we are told that the honor of France requires that no violence shall be done to the Papal will by any other Power. The Italians must, therefore, do as they best can without their capital.

The following extract from a letter from St. Petersburg, dated the 31st of October, is not without interest:—

The Draconian system to which we are reduced both by day and night, the numerous arrests, all that is passing, in fact, lead me to fear that this letter may fall into the hands of the agents of Schouwaloff, of Patkoul, of Dolgorouikow, and increase the number of victims who at this moment languish in the damp cells in the fortress of St. Peter and Paul. Absent from St. Petersburg for the last two months, I have travelled through a great part of Russia, and I can assure you, *de visu et de audito*, that this country is progressing towards a revolution such as that of 1793 will give you but a very faint idea. At no previous period has popular agitation reached such a height, nor never was it so universal, as I can vouch, as it is at present.

A letter from Vienna, dated the 1st instant, says:—

The towers (martello) erected by order of the Archduke William having resisted the experimental cannonade tried against them last week, ninety-two of them have been ordered to be erected around Vienna, in a vast perimeter, to defend the capital against the attack of an enemy outside. One of these towers will be erected on the Kahlenberg and another on the Leopoldsberg. The cost of each tower will be about £6,000 sterling. The new fortifications of Vienna will thus cost circa £500,000 sterling.

It appears from official returns that the wheat and flour imported into France between the 1st of August last and the 20th of October, amount to 4,164,149 metrical quintals. Of this England supplied the greatest part, next Russia and lastly the United States of America.

Our Paris Correspondence.

PARIS, Nov. 1, 1861.

American Politics at a Fever Height—The Movement Against Mexico—A General Canvass of the Two Questions—A Fashionable Incentive to England's Dislike of the Union—The Ladies of Britain Jealous of the Splendid Display of American Beauty in Europe—No Semi-Official Press in France—Napoleon and the Pope, &c.

There is a considerable fever obtaining here in consequence of the last news from your shores. People whose thoughts are ever on the alert respecting the grand *coup* which they fancy must inevitably befall the present armed truce of France and England—forgooth to say it is nothing more—immediately make political capital in regard to and of whatever new thing appears.

All the world is talking of the position the United States has determined to take up with respect to Mexico. For the Union to fling down the glove in the face of France, England and Spain, with the rebel South all in armed array at its doors, appears to be such a gigantic stroke of hardihood that men are confounded. No one supposes that the facts are borne on the face of such a decision. But what is it that lies behind? Then it is that you see looming through the haze of men's opinions something like the following:—

The North never intends a permanent quarrel with France. The alliance between us and America can never really be rent asunder. But a bold stand, such as is now contemplated against the interference of England and France with the affairs of Mexico, places America in a noble position before the children of the republic. Many a rebellious son of the South will feel his heart beat with a forgotten patriotism when he thus sees his fatherland standing at bay before the foremost Powers of the world. There is, however, something besides. May it not be the object of the North to bring France and England before her only that she may the more effectually separate them? The North cannot but know the frail texture of the band that unites these two hereditary foes, and that this is never so likely to be riven asunder as when both parties are making a foray against a Power which at any moment may cast between them the apple of discord. France does not forget that the Canadas are a standing reproach to the honor of her arms. Let hostilities be determined on with England, and the North can possess herself of them by a *coup de main*; and the restoration of French Canada to her old dominion would unite all France to a man to the side of the Union. Then would break forth the long threatened war with England. Then America, with France by her side, would fall upon *la perfide* Albion, and the present differences of the republic would sink into oblivion in a general heaving to and fro of nations that would take place. The North sees distinctly that without some bold defiance of this sort mischief is threatening her on all sides. England, with her hypocritical professions of neutrality, simply means to acknowledge the confederacy the instant any reverse befalls the North. Every day her journals teem with articles showing how her commerce suffers and must continue to suffer from the want of the cotton of the South; and the moment she can find a decent pretext for flinging over the North she will not hesitate to do so. The government of the United States clearly perceives her policy; but as France unites with her in it, the President cannot break with her on that score. But in withstanding her interference in Mexican affairs, even though she be joined with France and Spain, a much coveted opportunity will arise of placing her in a state of isolation.

I give you these opinions just as I hear them broached among various classes. If nothing else, they form, at any rate, the absorbing interest that attaches to every move you make. It is quite impossible but that the feeling in the United States against England must operate on the national sympathies here. Every one feels that the present relations with England are but as tinkling cymbals, and really mean nothing more than motives for gaining time for better preparation for the inevitable struggle; and now that national susceptibility is so strongly awakened among you, the grand and long expected denouement seems near at hand.

It boots not to blink the matter. In England, among all classes, parties and shades of parties, a growing desire is evident to crush the North. The aristocracy who come over here during recess cannot restrain their delight at what they see. The middle classes have been deeply mortified by the growing supremacy of America, and English women are eaten up with spite at the thought of the superior charms of their rivals from America in person and toilet.

Absurd as this may seem, *the pre-eminent position which citizen ladies from the United States occupy in all the capitals of Europe, to the disparagement of les belles Anglais, has not a little to do with the universal feeling in England at the present time against America.* The requisite taste in dress—inferior in nothing to the best toilets of Paris—combined with a delicacy of feature and complexion unapproachable by either France or England, has made a deep impression on the continent, and the women of England, unable to gainsay it, are forced to take refuge in sneers at the usual speech of those whose superior attractions have planted in their hearts such indelible mortifications.

The Emperor has been sorely puzzling his liege by the compliments he has lately been exchanging with the Pope, on the occasion of the investiture of Cardinal Billiet, the Archbishop of Chambery, which took place at Compiegne, with all the forms of high ceremonial, the Empress assisting, and exhibiting in a specially marked manner her devotion to the faith of which she is so worthy a member. The Cardinal is in his seventy ninth year, and is the son of a poor farmer of La Chapelle, in Savoy. Up to the age of fifteen he was an illiterate shepherd, but circumstances bringing him under the notice of the cure of the village, he gave him instruction, and at the age of seventeen the youth was received into the ecclesiastical college. At twenty he was made a professor of theology, and at forty two a bishop. At fifty-seven he became Archbishop of Chambery, and has, consequently held the see twenty-two years. The Emperor, naturally anxious to show his interest in his newly acquired possessions, requested the Pope to make the venerable Archbishop a Cardinal, and his Highness has done so, much to the delight of Savoy, which henceforth is to see from what quarter the purple and fine linen cometh. But all this is not very satisfactory to M. Ratazzi, the official from Turin, who has been using all his skill to induce the Emperor to settle the Roman question. Napoleon, however, it is clear, does not mean to hand over Rome to Sardinia just at present, if he ever does. There are things looming in the distance, and it evidently does not suit his Majesty to make the new kingdom of Italy any way independent of him. The English show much too great a desire to eat the fruit his Majesty has plucked, for Victor Emanuel to be left without a bridle in his mouth. The priesthood are of course overjoyed at the recent ceremonial at Compiegne, and begin to hope that, after all, the Emperor is to see where his true interest lies. As to M. Guizot, who has openly ranged himself among the Pope's supporters for the cause of Christianity, never was Protestant by the Romanists so extolled before. All sorts of disparaging insinuations are thrown out against him by those of his own sect; but I really believe a general notion prevails that he has reason when he says that the hour is come when the believers in revelation must array their ranks against a growing party who, throughout Europe, are loudly declaring that no revelation has ever been made; that the evidences of Christianity are worthless, and that, as a scheme of moral discipline, it is neither practicable nor wise.

The *Moniteur* has again issued an intimation that there is no such thing as a semi-official press in France; but this it has done so often, in the face of facts to the contrary, that people only cry *credat Judæus*. You are aware that M. Grandguillot has left the *Constitutionnel* to M. Verm, and taken the *Patrie*; and an article in this latter journal, under the title of "La France in Rome," has excited great attention, because it roundly asserts that the Papacy is one of the forces of the Italian peninsula, and that if unity was now formed against the Pope, Italy must be out of the pale of her history. The Emperor of the French, it says, might be told he had, if he gave up Rome, destroyed the work of Magenta and Solferino.

There are four series of invitations issued for Compiegne from November 4 to the 4th of December, from which it may be implied that the residence of the Court there will continue until the 7th or 8th of December. Among the guests of the first series who have already received invitations are the Count and Countess de Morney, Count and Countess de Persigny, M. and Mme. Thouvenel, Lord and Lady Cowley, Commandeur Negri, M. and Mme. Baroche and Prince Poniatowski.

The long talked of military disturbance connected with the carabineers, at Versailles, was disposed of yesterday. These are not times when the chief of the State wishes to get into ill odor with any part of his army, and, therefore, though it was proved that a spirit the very reverse of what military discipline demanded had been displayed, and great violence and even bloodshed had ensued, it was determined that the whole business should be treated as a simple effervescence of spirits, and the prisoners, seeing they had already undergone some confinement, were acquitted. So much for all that has been said in England about the Emperor's intention to break up his heavy cavalry.

No words of mine can convey to you the anxiety with which we look to every mail from New York, and how earnestly the prayers of the faithful are offered up that a great and overwhelming victory may attend the North.

Our Berlin Correspondence.

BERLIN, Oct. 30, 1861.

Riots and Festivities—The Duke of Magenta's Banquet—American Affairs—The Spenersche Zeitung on French and English Intervention—Public Opinion in Germany—The Republican Bubble Not Burst, &c.

The riots mentioned in the postcript to my last report were more serious than was first represented, and continued for several days, causing no little excitement in this peaceful capital, where such scenes had not been witnessed since the revolutionary epoch of 1848. They originated in a difficulty that occurred during the procession, between the corporation of machine builders and the denizens of a narrow lane called the Konig's Manor, almost exclusively inhabited by priestesses of Venus Vulgivaga and their male adherents, in which several of the machine builders were maltreated, and one of them is said to have been mortally injured. The next afternoon a rumor was spread that the comrades of the wounded man had determined to proceed to the street in question and take signal vengeance upon its inhabitants by demolishing their houses or setting fire to them, and an immense crowd of "roughs" collected in consequence to enjoy the fun, or to participate in the work of destruction. The police endeavored to disperse them, but were received with hisses and yells, and finally with a shower of stones and brickbats, which obliged them to draw their sabres and to clear the street by main force. The rioters retreated across the Konig's Brecke to the Alexander's Platz, where they ensconced themselves in the triumphal arch, and for a while resisted all the efforts of the police to dislodge them. The President of Police, M. de Winter, who was at the Opera with the royal suite, was now sent for, but fared no better than his subordinates; he was thrown from his horse and so badly hurt that he had to be carried off the field insensible. In some of the streets leading to the Alexander's Platz barricades were erected, and the military were on the point of being called out, when the police, who by this time had received considerable reinforcements and were near 500 strong, succeeded at last in expelling the rioters from the triumphal arch, capturing about forty of the most obstreperous. The night passed quietly; but on Thursday evening similar scenes were enacted, and the authorities became so thoroughly alarmed that preparations on a most extensive scale were made to restore order. Marshal Wrangel appeared at the scene of action in *propria persona*, ready to take the command of the troops in case of a fresh collision, and the King gave orders to proceed with the utmost severity against the rioters, or, as he expressed it, "not to make any ceremony with them." A great many persons were arrested, a posse of mounted constables patrolled the streets to prevent the people from assembling, and for a time that part of the town in which the disturbances had occurred looked like a city about to be placed under martial law. Since then these rows have not been renewed; and as they do not seem to have had any political object, but rather to have been a sort of spree, got up by those unruly spirits with which every great capital abounds, it may be hoped that public tranquillity will not be again interrupted.

In the meantime the court festivities have been proceeding without interruption. Day after day there are dinners, balls, soirees, hunting parties, performances at the Opera, to which the guests are invited by the King, and everybody and everything appertaining to royalty is kept in a continual whirl of dissipation, as if life were one long holiday, and pleasure were the sole end and aim of human existence. Yesterday the grand banquet given by the Duke of Magenta, which has been the town talk for weeks, and to prepare for which the whole French Embassy are turned topsy turvy, came off at last, and is described as the most sumptuous that has ever been witnessed in these regions. The King and Queen, with the royal family of Prussia, the Grand Dukes of Weimar and Baden, the Count of Flanders and other foreign princes, the *corps diplomatique*, and the most prominent members of the Prussian aristocracy, were present. The *bal ensemble* was arranged with true Parisian elegance, and the *coup d'œil* offered when the State apartments were thrown open is said to have surpassed the most gorgeous visions of Oriental magnificence. Altogether, the Duke of Magenta has engrossed the attention of the public to the complete exclusion of new ambassadors, and even ousted royalty in evidently a part of the policy of Louis Napoleon to dazzle the imagination of foreign nations by the splendor of his representatives, and produce an involuntary impression that he is superior in grandeur and power to other sovereigns—a king of kings—to whom the world must bow down in prostrate admiration.

Just now, however, the French autocrat seems inclined to remain on good terms with Prussia, and, in the opinion of diplomatic circles he intends to have Europe at peace for the present, in order to occupy himself seriously with transatlantic affairs. The language held by Earl Russell is looked upon as very significant, and the joint action of France and England in Mexico is thought to presage a similar course in the United States. *Spenersche Gazette*, a paper which occasionally derives its inspirations from official sources, says—"In all probability the denouement of the American crisis will not be brought about by the arms of the contending parties, but by the intervention of European Powers, and the moment in which this intervention will become an accomplished fact is drawing nearer and nearer. The principle avowed by the United States in the flush of power and prosperity—America for the Americans—has in Europe three declared antagonists—England, France and Spain. That principle only remains valid so long as the United States are powerful enough to enforce it. It has ceased to exist since the jobbing politicians of the Union have plunged the several States into the horrors of internecine war. We know that Mexico has long been in a chronic state of anarchy—plundered sometimes by the clericals, sometimes by the liberals—and that the European residents have been exposed to the violence and extortion of either party. But how long would not England, France and Spain have suffered all this, if North America had continued strong and powerful? They all respected her claim to the future possession of Mexico. And now, since the latter has brought ruin upon herself, the statesmen of England, France and Spain discover all at once that the European creditors and merchants are wronged, and must be protected and indemnified. It is true Earl Russell expresses himself very cautiously. England will be satisfied with compelling the *de facto* government of Mexico to respect the persons and property of British subjects, and to fulfil its engagements. For this purpose a British squadron is to sail for the gulf of Mexico and blockade its ports. But Spain steps forward more boldly, and is resolved, if necessary, to settle the matter herself, for Spain has 21,000 white and black militia in Cuba, and 4,000 troops at Porto Rico, and France would have no objection to take part in one of those mixed expeditions which have lately become the fashion. The moment approaches when France will take advantage of the American troubles to increase her maritime force on the coasts of that hemisphere. France has only waited for the hostile parties in the Union to become inextricably involved, and for a separation of the North and South to appear inevitable. It is on this separation, too, that England founds her hopes of success. A few days ago Lord Russell thought proper to drop the philanthropical tone in which he used to discuss the American question, and to descend to matters of fact; even now he talks in riddles and with apparent impartiality; but his speech may be considered as the announcement of a change in the political attitude of England. This change has been long preparing. It is not without reason that, since the breaking out of hostilities, the North of the Union have expressed their suspicions of England. They feel very well what they have to expect of that Power. England has been all along a pleased spectator of the fratricidal struggle in America. There is nothing she would like better than a separation of the Union into two or three confederacies. Such States would be much more easy to deal with than that single and united Commonwealth from which England has had to put up with so many insults. To no Power has England shown such deference as to the Union. In every dispute she has thought it advisable to give way; and not even the ignominious dismissal of her ambassador has been able to arouse her resentment. After the humiliations England has suffered at the hands of the proud republic, it is very natural that she should feel a malignant satisfaction at the ruin which in unparalleled blindness, the United States are inflicting upon themselves; and that since the South has risen against the North, the English politicians should ask—'Why may not eight millions of people decide under what government they wish to live? Who is to hinder them?'"

Here in Germany, public opinion still continues decidedly in favor of the United States, and it appears to me as if the true nature of the contest were better understood than at first. Yesterday the *Vossische Zeitung* had a very interesting letter from New York in answer to an article in the Cologne *Gazette*, commenting upon Sir John Ramsden's famous dictum about "the bursting of the republican bubble." The correspondent shows that republican institutions have nothing whatever to do with the present difficulty, and that even if the Union were to be split into two, or three, or half-a-dozen fragments, not one of them would dream of abandoning republican institutions or adopting the forms of monarchy. The only portion of the German press that sympathizes with the South is the *Kreuz Zeitung* and its tail of ultra revolutionary prints, whose ravings have no other effect than to confirm the public in the conviction that the cause of the North is identified with that of liberty, both in America and in Europe.

Statistical Handbook of the Austrian Empire, Prepared by Carl Frederick Von Czoernig. Vienna, 1861.

The name of Von Czoernig appended to a statistical work as its author is of itself a sufficient guarantee that it is one of great correctness and marked ability. Occupying a position at the head of the Statistical Bureau of the Austrian empire, Von Czoernig has by his various contributions to statistical science secured a position throughout the learned world by the side of Casper, of Berlin, Quetelet, of Brussels, and Farr, of London. His more voluminous contribution on the Ethnographical History of Austria, in three large quarto volumes, is a work of unwearied industry and great research. In the present small volume he has successfully endeavored to give, at a single glance, the actual condition of the Austrian empire, so far as the same is capable of being developed by figures. The civil and religious status of the population, the sources, revenue and modes of expenditure, the state of the public funds, the number of miles of railways, the number of vessels afloat, the condition of education and the state of the army, with many other important facts, are here all brought to the notice of the reader.

From this work we learn that the actual number of officers and men in the Austrian army, in time of peace, is 280,061, and in war, 624,922. The number of horses connected with the peace establishment is 48,916, and with the war, 125,200. These are distributed into various corps as, follows:—

	In Peace.		In War.	
	Men.	Horses.	Men.	Horses.
Infantry	162,318	446	442,093	10,960
Cavalry	40,344	33,442	52,759	45,518
Artillery	32,875	6,098	54,881	21,118
Technical troops	9,795	18	16,384	872
Transports	3,548	1,872	22,670	46,000
Gendarmes	7,948	600	7,948	600
Military police, &c	2,552	118	2,552	118
Non military men in various capacities	5,740	6,025	5,740	6,025
	9,164	—	14,809	—
	2,426	297	2,446	—
	2,611	—	2,710	—
Total	280,061	48,916	624,922	125,200

The navy comprises 135 vessels, 839 cannon, 10,802 men, and 7,846 horse power. Of the men 7,929 are sailors and 2,253 marines.

The number of ships entering Austrian ports in 1859 was 86,488; tonnage, 3,238,960; value of cargoes in guilders, 175,520,300. The number of vessels leaving Austrian ports was 86,854; tonnage, 3,232,443; value of cargoes in guilders, 135,169,700.

The receipts of the government for the year 1859—the last tabulated—were 316,188,865 guilders, derived from the following sources:—

Direct tax	9,744,534
Indirect tax	159,249,677
Income from State property	6,483,376
All other sources	54,761,248
Total	315,188,865

The expenditures for the same period were:—

Civil list	144,580,062
Military list	110,950,097
Other purposes	111,492,535
Total	367,052,684
Deficit	51,863,819

The whole work shows a care in the tabulation and a system in the management of governmental concerns, in Austria, which might serve as a useful example for those nations who regard statistics as unimportant or the cost of their collections as a useless expenditure.

The statistics which relate to the developement and industry of the various resources which constitute the chief sources of wealth of the Austrian empire will repay a careful perusal. They certainly demonstrate that Austria, with but little seaboard as compared with most maritime countries, has an industrial population and an extent of trade which the world has hardly given it credit for, and possesses resources which justly entitle her to the first rank among European nations.

The people of the United States have heretofore not been thrown in contact with Austria except through the intervention of other countries. It is desirable that some direct communication should be established, by means of which two countries with such vast industrial resources as those of Austria and the United States may be enabled to exchange their various products without the expense of employing a third party in their transmission.

Mr. Loosey, the Austrian Consul General at New York, with a view to the development of these resources, some time ago prepared a project which has been submitted to and favorably entertained by the Austrian government and mercantile community, for a line of steam vessels to ply between New York and Trieste, in connection with the Austrian Lloyds steamers, for the transmission of mails, passengers and merchandise to every important port of the Levant. It is a matter of surprise that this proposition has not already been carried into actual operation.

Summary Arrests by the United States Government—The Coast Defence Circular and English Neutrality.

[From the London Post (government organ), Nov. 6.]

The suspension of representative institutions in the United States has naturally enough been accompanied by a suspension of ordinary law. Under these circumstances, when the voice of Congress is silenced, the Executive government can only announce its policy and enforce its will by means of State papers, which assume either the shape of proclamations addressed to American citizens, or of letters directed to the diplomatic agents of foreign States. Republican America has always prided itself upon the skill and ability of its "militia diplomatists," meaning, of course, that ambassadors and ministers taken from the ranks of the party in power at Washington are usually more than a match for the regularly educated diplomatists of other countries. Mr. Seward, the Secretary of State, is a distinguished disciple of the American school, and during the present unhappy contest he has had abundant opportunity of *writing those long-winded and preventious State papers which appear to console the American people for the decrease of liberty and the arbitrary abridgment of the law.* Three documents have recently emanated from the pen of this gentleman, *in all of which English interests are deeply concerned.* We allude, of course, to the circular addressed to the Governors of the Northern States recommending the immediate construction of coast and lake defences extending over frontiers several thousand miles in length; the correspondence with Lord Lyons respecting the arbitrary arrests of British subjects in the United States, and the letter addressed by Mr. Seward to the same noble lord on the subject of blockades. The first may fairly be supposed to be a revival of the Monroe doctrine, which, originally announced as a protest against the European Holy Alliance of some forty years back, has, notwithstanding the disapproval of the United States government on various occasions, never received the countenance or sanction of any foreign country. In fact the doctrine was founded upon an erroneous assumption, inasmuch as it ignored the authority of Great Britain, which, in right of its American provinces, *has as much to do with the balance of power upon the North American continent as the United States themselves.* As it is understood that the federal government has been invited to take part in the joint expedition which England, France and Spain are about to despatch to Mexico, it scarcely can be believed that Mr. Seward has answered the invitation by a circular, the object of which is to place the whole coast of the republic in a state of defence against some threatened invasion. Does Mr. Seward imagine that the Canadians are about to ally themselves with the South, or that any foreign Power is disposed to take advantage of the present condition of American affairs to threaten or insult the United States government? *We doubt very much whether the conventions which make the great lakes neutral, and prohibit the employment of armed vessels in their waters, would justify either England or the United States in constructing fortresses along their coasts, which, in reality, could only be construed as warlike measures,* because they could not answer the end desired—that of protecting a frontier which, not at a hundred, but at a thousand points, must always be accessible to an enemy. It suits Mr. Seward's present purpose to amuse the American mind with one of those periodical and offensive exhibitions towards England which the statesmen of the republic have on former occasions found useful. *As no foreign Power, in all probability, has the slightest desire to hold permanently a foot of Mexican soil, or to invade the United States, either from the lakes or the Atlantic,* Mr. Seward's circular may be regarded, if successful, as another illustration of the maxim, "*Populus vult decipi et decipiatur.*"

The correspondence which has passed between Lord Lyons and Mr. Seward respecting the arbitrary arrest of British subjects involves a question of public law of the greatest gravity and importance. It matters little whether Mr. Patrick and Mr. Blanding were discharged from custody as soon as it was discovered that they had been guilty of no offence. These two gentlemen were arrested by the warrant of the Secretary of War, they were incarcerated in a military prison, and they owed both their arrest and liberation to the act of an officer whose authority was above the law and exempt from parliamentary responsibility. It is notorious that throughout the Northern States the governors of the military prisons refuse to obey the writ of habeas corpus. In this total subversion of ordinary law, British subjects in the United States can *only look to their government for redress, and, we may add, if there is any country in the world which has exercised this right more strictly than another, it is America, which has thrown its protection around naturalized Americans while resident in a foreign country.* The third document shows that those courts which only exist in a time of war are in full operation in the United States, and that their decisions receive the ready obedience of the federal government. The proclamation declaring the blockade of the Southern ports, which was issued on the 11th of March, contains this passage:—"Neutral vessels will be allowed fifteen days to leave port after the actual commencement of the blockade, whether such vessels are with or without cargoes, and whether the cargoes were shipped before or after the commencement of the blockade." Upon the faith of this announcement several British ships took in cargoes within the period of fifteen days and sailed from the blockaded port. They were, however, seized by federal cruisers, and the Judge of the New York Prize Court has decided in one of those cases "that the law of blockade does not permit a vessel in a blockaded port to take on board cargo after the commencement of the blockade." In other words, the proclamation of the President goes for nothing, and thus a serious injury is inflicted upon foreign commerce. The Judge of the Prize Court appears to have taken that view which suits the convenience of the executive government. Everybody conversant with public law must know that the authority which declares a blockade can mitigate its pressure. Mr. Seward, however, readily adopts the subservient dictum of the Judge, and thus wantonly adds another to the many causes of difference *which he wishes to perpetuate* between England and the United States.

Sir John Bowring on the American Question.

MY DEAR DR. MACGOWAN— * * * Your American fratricidal war is the most dreadful event of modern history. No doubt it will be controlled and directed for good, but that it should end in anything but a separation of the North from the South seems to be quite improbable, if not impossible. I do not think the federal government has shown any disposition to put down slavery, or to extend to sympathy on that account. It does not appear to me that you are justified in calling the Southerners "rebels." Our statesmen of the time of George III. called Washington and Franklin by that name. I do not believe the cotton lords have had anything to do with the opinion which you believe to be unfriendly to the United States, but which assuredly it is not. I never knew a question in which there was so much unanimity of views among our wise and good men as this. We want you, as freemen, as philosophers, as statesmen, as Christians, to settle in peace what war will never settle. As you are now unfortunately engaged in a policy which compels—or, at all events, employs—acts of despotism which would seem incredible, and are taking measures against British subjects which we should tolerate from no other government, I think your North would be stronger without a discontented South. If it choose to tax itself by monstrous and unfriendly tariffs, and to repudiate the doctrines of free trade, so gloriously triumphant elsewhere, so be it, but let it not blame the South for throwing off the fetters. We want you to be strong, your policy makes you feeble; rich, you are doing your best to impoverish yourselves; brotherly, and you are engaged in Cain like slaughtering; happy, and what woes are in all your households; peaceful, and you are busied in wide wasting war. I write very frankly to you. My heart is full. I love America too well, too many dear and valued friends, not to desire her progress and prosperity. I have no interest to bias my judgment, and all my prejudices have been on your side of the Atlantic. Yours, very truly, JOHN BOWRING.

LARKSHEAR, EXETER, Nov. 7, 1861.

Foreign Dramatic and Musical Items.

American vocalists are rapidly rising into estimation abroad. After a series of brilliant successes in England Patti has been winning fresh honors in Germany, Phillips has been disputing the laurels of Alboni in Paris, and now a new American star is rising in the musical firmament, and charming London audiences in English opera! The London *Daily News* thus speaks of this lady—Madame Guerrabella—on her first appearance in the *role* of Maid Marian, in Macfarren's opera of "Robin Hood:"—

The sensation which she created was akin to that which was made by the first appearance of Mlle. Patti. The audience, expecting little or nothing, were delighted to find that the stranger was a beautiful and graceful young woman, a charming artist, and a singer of the very highest class. Her aspect, when she came upon the stage, made an instant and visible impression, and the delicious sweetness of her voice, manner and expression in singing the air—the gem of the opera—"True Love in My Heart"—completely gained the favor of the house, and her whole performance, to the end of the piece, was a series of triumphs. Madame Guerrabella is by birth an American, but has lived since her childhood in Italy and France, where she has received a musical education of the most complete description.

A new play, entitled "The Emerald Isle," from the pen of Mr. Grattan Plunket, has been produced with great success at the Royal Amphitheatre, Liverpool.

The Queen's theatre, Belfast, has been burned to the ground, with all its scenery and properties.

Grisi's farewell performances in Liverpool were drawing large houses. Mlle. Elena Conran (Signorina Elena), who appeared here last winter, has been engaged by Mr. Beale to sing with her. She has entirely recovered her voice.

Balfe's new opera, "The Puritan's Daughter," and Benedict's new opera, founded on the "Colleen Bawn," are both in such a state of forwardness that their production at Covent Garden may be expected in a short time. We also hear that Mr. Macfarren is engaged in the composition of a new opera—a piece of intelligence of no small interest.

The *Gazette Musicale* announces a new singer, Senhora Rosario Zapater, who will not come out yet for awhile though she is now, when only seventeen years of age, an accomplished mistress of her art, with a remarkable voice.

Liszt, the pianist's, marriage with the Princess Wittgenstein has been prohibited by the Roman authorities on the ground that the Princess has a husband living.

A new serio-comic drama, in two acts, is in rehearsal at St. James' theatre.

"Peep o' Day," Mr. Falconer's new comedy, has been produced at the Lyceum theatre.

Sheridan Knowles is suffering from severe illness, in the neighborhood of Belfast.

Mr. James Holloway, well known in connection with Astley's, is engaged at the Britannia, and was to appear there on the 11th in a piece from the pen of the late E. G. P. Wilkins.

The late M. Scribe is said to have left a libretto, which is in the hands of M. Auber, who has nearly finished the music. The title is "La Fiancee du Roi de Garbe."

Sothern is playing Lord Dundreary to crowded houses at the Haymarket.

Mr. Charles Mathews contradicts the report that he has quitted the stage. "That I am going," he says, "to try the experiment of an 'entertainment' is true, and I hope its success may be such as to give me a little respite from my dramatic labors, to which, however, in a short time, I intend to return. As an actor I first asked for public favor, and as an actor I hope, when the time shall arrive to make my final bow."

Barry Sullivan is giving a series of farewell performances in England prior to his return to this country on his way to California and Australia.

The Florences are playing in Dublin.

Miss Avonia Jones, a young actress favorably known in this country and Canada, and who has just returned from Australia, made a highly successful debut in "Medea," at Drury Lane, on the 6th inst. The London *Sunday Times* has the following enthusiastic notice of her performance:—

Her voice is resonant and sweet, and her elocution measured and emphatic, without being stilted or forced. In her pathetic utterances she almost sang her words, yet in a cadence so mournful, and with an enunciation so unaffected, that the tone went to the heart without disturbing any of the scruples of a critical judgment in its passage. Indeed, we are disposed to think that in tenderness she was even greater than in indignation, and that the yearnings of her love were even more effective than the rage of her jealousy and her revenge. In declamation and denunciation Miss Jones has the great merit of vocal moderation, relying for her impressions more upon the intensity of her look and the fire of her words than upon any outrageous exertions of mere physical force. The performance won upon the audience generally, and the success was climacteric. At the end of each act Miss Jones was called before the curtain to receive the applause of the audience, and at the end of the play Mr. Smith led her forward amid enthusiastic acclamations.

The London *Herald* winds up a similarly flattering notice with the following:—

It is certainly some time since an actress so capable of expressing passion, and with so much poignancy, even in her intensity, has made her appearance before a London public, and it is not a little remarkable that the performance generally was characterized by a degree of refinement that in our ordinary notions the practice of a colonial stage is not calculated to produce.

This young lady is, we believe, a daughter of the individual styling himself the Count Johannet.

City Intelligence.

FIRE IN WEST THIRTY-SIXTH STREET.—At half past eight o'clock Sunday night a fire broke out on the fourth floor of the buildings Nos. 236 and 238 West Thirty-sixth street, in the premises occupied by A. France as a hoop skirt and tape manufactory. The flames spread rapidly, and before the fire was extinguished the stock and machinery on the fourth floor and the roof of the building were destroyed. The three lower floors are occupied by George Blaney as a steam laundry. Stock and machinery damaged by water about $500; no insurance. Mr. France estimates his loss at about $1,500, insured for $1,000 in the Greenwich Insurance Company. The building is owned by E. J. Beach. It is damaged about $300, insured for $4,000 in the Greenwich Insurance Company. Some damage by water was also done to Mr. France's furniture in his dwelling, No. 240; insured for $300 in the Greenwich Insurance Company. The origin of the fire is unknown at present.

FOUND DROWNED.—The body of an unknown woman was Sunday morning found floating in the dock at pier 38 East river, and the Coroner notified.

IMPORTANT MILITARY MOVEMENTS.

OUR BALTIMORE CORRESPONDENCE.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 18, 1861.

How the Work of Reopening the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Progresses—The Road Opened from Cumberland to the Little Cacapoon River—A Lion in the Path—Work for General Stone—Manœuvres of the Left Wing of Gen. Johnston's Army, under General Evans, to Prevent the Reconstruction of the Road—Halteras to be Retained—Immense Railroad Travel Between New York and Washington—News from the South—Concentration of a Large Rebel Force at Norfolk—Designs of the Rebels on Newport News—Fasting and Prayer in Baltimore—Troops at Annapolis, &c.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company have succeeded in opening for travel twenty miles of their road east of Cumberland, being that part of the road protected by the operations of General Kelly. There were three important bridges on this part of the route, all of which had been entirely destroyed by the rebels in June last—namely, the iron bridge at the South Branch, fourteen miles east of Cumberland; the bridge at Patterson's creek, and the bridge over the north branch of the Potomac. These were all first class structures, and they have all been rebuilt in a durable and substantial manner. The next bridges to be rebuilt will be those over the Little Cacapoon and Great Cacapoon rivers, which are twenty and forty miles east of Cumberland; and when these are completed the road will be open to Hancock, fifty miles east of Cumberland. It is not so easy to say when the remaining portion of the road—forty-nine miles, between Harper's Ferry and Hancock—will be restored to public use. It is just here that the Confederates are in strong force. General Evans has detached a large portion of his force from Leesburg and sent it to Winchester. The main body of this detachment is stationed at Winchester, but part of it has been thrown forward to Jamesburg and Martinsburg. It is evidently the object of General Evans to prevent the occupation of this part of the territory of Virginia by General Kelly, and so to prevent the rebuilding of the railroad. From Harper's Ferry to Hancock the railroad runs parallel with the Potomac river, but about twelve miles distant from it. It will not be difficult, therefore, for General Evans to throw such obstructions of a military nature in the way of the reconstruction of this part of the road as to make it impossible to have it open this season. This is, of course, if General Kelly is left with his present force. If General Kelly is reinforced by the troops of Banks and Stone (who have been sent into winter quarters much against their will), and if these troops are sent to his assistance, he will be able to drive General Evans back to the right bank of the Shenandoah at least. As soon as this is done that portion of the road can be rebuilt. It cannot be rebuilt until this is done. The soldiers of Banks and Stone would eagerly embrace such an opportunity of rendering an important service to their country, and they are indignant at the useless inactivity to which they are condemned. One of the officers of that division, who fought bravely at Edward's Ferry, and who was in this city on furlough a few days ago, says that the men complain bitterly of the way they are used, and say they never enlisted to spend the winter in huts, while their comrades elsewhere are being defeated for want of reinforcements. I learn from Washington that General Stone was summoned there by the Commander-in-Chief a few days ago, and was asked by the latter how long it would take him to march his brigade from their present position to Williamsport. If this is true, it looks like business. At Williamsport General Stone's brigade might be of some use. At Darnestown it is worse than useless.

From a gentleman who came from Norfolk under a flag of truce, and who came up from Fortress Monroe in the steamer this morning, I learn some interesting Southern news.

Troops had been concentrating at Norfolk for a week past, in large numbers. They came principally from Richmond, where they had been encamped for more than a month. They consisted of regiments from Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and one Texan regiment. They were all warmly and comfortably clothed in winter uniforms, with overcoats and blankets. Their arms were new, and most of the regiments were armed with muskets of European manufacture. Their arrival swells the number of troops under General Huger to fully 25,000. It was the general impression at Norfolk that an expedition was on the tapis, to operate against Newport News, in connection with an expedition from Yorktown by a portion of General Magruder's force. My informant was in possession of facts showing that the statement that a large quantity of cotton at Beaufort had been burned, in order to prevent its falling into the hands of the Unionists," is erroneous.