EUROPE.

Closing Debate on the Second Reading of the Irish Church Bill.

THE FRANCO-BELGIAN DISPUTE.

War Policy of the French Government.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

The steamship City of London, of the Inman line, Leatch, from Liverpool March 23 via Queenstown the 24th, arrived at this port yesterday afternoon She brings one day's later advices than those published yesterday.

The project of an occupation of the fortresses of Ulm and Rastadt by Prussian troops is again spoken of at Berlin.

The dispute at the Denaby Main Colliery, where nearly 400 men are locked out for joining the South Yorkshire Miners' Union, continues, with no prospect of a settlement.

Official advices received from Berlin state that the representatives of Switzerland and the Zollverein have unanimously agreed to draw up a commercial treaty between the countries, and it is confidently expected that it will shortly be concluded.

The Emperor and Empress have sent a sum of 2,000 francs, in aid of the sufferers from the disasters caused by the recent hurricane on the coast near Granville.

The Sultan of Turkey received with great distinction Hobart Pasha on his return from Candia.

A communication from Dresden states that the King of Saxony's health inspires much uneasiness in that city. Appetite and sleep both fail him, and his advanced age gives little hope of his long resisting the malady.

The *Etoile Belge* of Brussels states that M. Frère-Orban, President of the Council, is about to proceed to Paris. That journal adds that this journey may perhaps render the meeting of the International Commission unnecessary.

A despatch from Bucharest, dated March 22, says that in conformity with the law which requires that the officers of the National Guard should be changed every three years, the Prince has dismissed those who were lately serving and appointed five new colonels, eleven *chefs de bataillon* and seventy-four captains.

A deputation from the Southern Tyrol waited last week on M. Giskra, the Austrian Minister of the Interior, to ask whether the rumors of a cession of that country to the kingdom of Italy had any foundation. The Minister contradicted the report in the most positive manner.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies on the 20th ult. voted all the chapters of the Budget of Marine. The Minister of Finance presented the draft of a convention with the Cavour Canal Company, and the Assembly adjourned to the 12th April. The Senate has voted the military and maritime code.

The funeral obsequies of five victims of the late explosion on the Place de la Sorbonne, Paris, took place on the morning of the 20th ult., at eight o'clock, at the church of St. Etienne-du-Mont, in presence of an exceedingly large concourse of persons, everything being conducted with the greatest simplicity. At a quarter to nine, the coffins were placed each on a hearse of the first class and conveyed to the Cemetery of Mont-Parnasse, accompanied by at least 10,000 persons.

M. de Lavalette, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has temporarily retired from business, overwhelmed by the heavy domestic bereavement he has just sustained.

A letter from Berne states that several hundred emigrants from the Bernese Oberland and neighboring districts have arrived in that town with the intention of proceeding to South America, several citizens of known probity and honesty having put themselves at the head of an enterprise for founding a Swiss colony in Uruguay.

A Berlin letter says:—"In consequence of the creation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of North Germany the number of special legations will be essentially reduced after 1870. Of the existing diplomatic representatives at European courts four only will subsist from the beginning of that year in as many capitals—at Brussels and Munich, for Saxony; at Paris, for Hesse, Mecklemburg and Saxony, and at Vienna, for those three governments and for Brunswick."

SPAIN.

The Carlists and the Republicans—Doings of the Cortes—Stormy Debates—Individual Rights and Liberty—Probability of a Monarchy.

MADRID, March 16, 1869.

Since the meeting of the Cortes and the comparatively smooth manner in which it is running news is becoming quite scarce. We have a minimum number of fearful reports of Carlist risings, and scarcely any concerning the horrible intentions of the republicans to overturn the government and bring things down with a general crash. To be sure Señor Sagasta, Minister of the Interior, furnishes us with daily food of this kind from his seat in the Cortes, but everybody has become quite accustomed to that kind of mental food, and it no longer attracts attention. People begin to be confirmed in the belief that has been slowly gaining ground, that the Carlist movement is a tremendous bugbear, fitted to frighten children, but too transparent to receive the consideration of sensible men.

For forty years, in one form or another, the country has been threatened with Carlist movements, and there have been an abundance of petty but wild attemps to make headway; but they have all failed. Why should we fear the efforts of these insignificant men when the people of the nation have the government in their own hands? We can well understand Señor Sagasta's cries of alarm when they serve to keep united the diverse parties and preserve their support to the government. Then, too, people are quite satisfied that the republicans are not the band of robbers and traitors that the government is fond of painting them, and they no longer excite fear, but are regarded as a sort of balance wheel to the government, which might go backwards too rapidly if the republicans did not exist. So in every respect the people have no reason to be alarmed on account of Carlist or republican machinations. They have more to dread the policy of the majority, which still has a revolutionary tendency not easily disguised.

The debates in the Cortes have been on the question of elections of deputies and on some interpellations of the minority concerning the proposed act of general amnesty and the abolishment of the law of *quintas*, or of conscription. Señor Castelar has made one or two fine speeches on the subject of a general amnesty of all political prisoners since the beginning of the revolution, but the Cortes would not consider the matter in consequence of the statement of the Minister of Gobernacion, Señor Sagasta, that new conspiracies had been discovered and there was great danger to the commonwealth. It was the old story of Carlist plotting and republican designs, and the Cortes justified his conclusion to put off an amnesty to some future time by a majority of only forty votes—the smallest majority that the Ministry has yet received.

The subject of conscription has also been partially debated and the proposition to abolish the system has been received by the House and sent to committees for examination. General Prim told the House that the country could not do without an army of at least 80,000 men, and he knew of no cheaper mode of keeping it up to its maximum than that now in force. He did not doubt that it might be filled by volunteers, but they cost nearly twice as much as regulars, and could not be relied on in times of great danger. Admiral Topete, Minister of the Marine, said volunteering would not work in the navy, and he would not like to double Cape Horn with a ship manned with volunteers. He begged the Cortes not to interfere with the present system of keeping up the navy.

A number of election questions have been settled and nearly every seat in the House is now occupied. Only one incident occurred in the debates to create excitement, and that was provoked by Sagasta, who unhappily scarcely ever rises without saying something disagreeable and uncalled for in his moments of passion, when his bad temper runs away with him. Señor Figueras had occasion to remark this tendency to give way to "petty passions," and brought the minister to his feet livid with rage. Sagasta returned the phrase, and used the words "vile and miserable" instead, which he attributed to Figueras. The latter denied having used them, but Sagasta vehemently asserted that he did. Figueras demanded that the language be withdrawn, which Sagasta declined to do. Then there was a splendid row, the republicans calling on the Minister to disavow his language, the ministerialists trying to quell the disturbance as best they might, and the Vice President vainly attempting to preserve order by ringing his bell most furiously and crying out "Order, order." It was no use, until Rivero, the President, took the chair and demanded quiet, instructing all the speakers to take their seats. After a great deal of exertion Sagasta was got in his seat, and tolerable silence was obtained. Then Mr. Figueras demanded a withdrawal of the offensive words, and Sagasta said that he was sure he heard them used by Figueras, but there was such a universal cry of "No, no" from all parts of the House that Sagasta was put in the wrong, and with very bad grace he got up and withdrew his words.

The committee engaged in preparing the basis of government and the bill of individual rights will report very soon, as they are progressing finely. The liberty of conscience, of speech, of the press, and the right to trial by jury will be assured every man. It is not decided whether the Church will be separated from the State; but a strong effort will be made to declare them forever divided. Olozaga has not come to aid in the labors of the committee, which is a fortunate thing. There can be no doubt that the committee will report and the Cortes adopt the monarchical as the best form of government for Spain. The republicans will of course thoroughly discuss the question, and the debates will be greatly prolonged; but the result cannot be avoided. After that will a king be selected or will the Cortes proceed to discuss and adopt a constitution first and then elect a king? It is the general opinion that the latter course will be adopted, as the provisional government is in no hurry to give up its power, and the people generally are satisfied to try the experiment a while longer. If a king is not elected before the constitution is fully discussed and definitely adopted we are likely to have the present state of affairs for eighteen months, with interminable debates on the driest and most uninteresting of subjects. It will then cease to be a field for foreign newspaper correspondents to work in to advantage. Already the affair is becoming a good deal of a bore on this side of the water. I do not know how it is regarded with you.

We had quite a war flurry the other day when the telegraph announced that the House of Representatives in Washington had unanimously passed resolutions of sympathy for Spain in her efforts to gain her liberty and for Cuba in essaying to secure her autonomy, adding that the President be requested to recognize Cuba as soon as she had a *de facto* government. The latter proposition excited the ire of some of the journals, and they began to talk of letting slip the dogs of war at once upon the United States. The *Opinion Nacional*, a Montpensier organ, and, perhaps, breathing the warlike valor of that hero, devoted more than two columns to the discussion of the most grave question of the intentions of the United States. It pictured the horrible designs of the Yankees to rob Spain of her most precious jewel and to annex the island to the American Union, and then frantically called upon every Spaniard to seize his gun and fly to the defence of the honor of Spain. Spain had men, money, valor and spirit in abundance, and she would meet the rapacious foe and hurl it back. After working himself up into an exhilarating state of frenzy the editor seems to have reflected on the prospect a moment; because he reserves until another time the question, Is Spain able to go to war with the United States? Since then we have heard nothing more of the subject, and I presume the editor is engaged in a survey of the possibilities of 80,000 Spanish soldiers, under the famous marcher, Prim, overrunning the United States. It is amusing to read Spanish articles on the United States and the world generally. We are taken back to the time when Spain almost ruled the world, when the sun never set on her dominions. Alas, for Spain, those days have long since gone, never to return, unless the revolution breathes new life into the State and stopping its retrograde movements starts it on the path of progress.

RUSSIA.

Apprehended Troubles in Finland—Russia and Western Europe—General Antagonism Towards Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 9, 1869.

Something is going on in Finland. Some persons believe that this seemingly out of the way nook will give us plenty to think about and to do one of these days—as much as Poland in her time, perhaps. We have been found fault with enough on account of our oppressive management of Poland, whose hatred and rebellious tendencies have been explained and justified on that plea. I do not intend, just at present, to enter into a dissertation as to the justice of our respective policies, though I will do so, historically, some day when I shall not be so hard beset by abundance of strictly contemporary matters—questions *du jour*—demanding immediate discussion. I will merely remark that, admitting that our course in Poland made the people our inveterate enemies by being violent and oppressive, it would seem, in the natural way of logical concatenation of causes and effects that an opposite course should have an opposite result. Now, starting from this position, we should have no more devoted and grateful adherents than our Finnish neighbors—I scarcely venture to say subjects, so little are they subjected to Russian rule, beyond being gathered under the same crown—a mere "personal union," as the Germans call the tie which subsists only in the person of the sovereign, with complete administrative autonomy. This is exactly Finland's case. She has her own laws, institutions, her own distinct administrative system, rights and privileges; her own religion, her own schools, in which her own language is taught, and what is the result? A decided leaning towards Sweden, which is natural in so far that the old order of things not having been interfered with nor superseded by another, there has been no reason why it should not have kept its ground, not only in itself, but with all its old attending associations. The language of the educated classes is and remains Swedish, consequently the literature and history which form the subjects of early teaching and training are those of the Swedish people. Now it is notorious that the people with whose writings and doings our mind's earliest impressions and efforts are identified will always keep a forcible hold on our reverence and sympathy. This will scarcely be denied by anybody, least of all by those who have studied the classics, not from compulsion, but inclination.

This, by the by, is the reason why the Russian language is made obligatory in our western provinces, why Russian teachers, to the exclusion of indigenous ones, are sent to the schools, and Russian literature and history is insisted on. It is not a ruffianly desire to tyrannize over the conquered, as is absurdly imputed to us, which instigates this and similar measures; it is, on the contrary, the well meant wish to identify them with ourselves, to bind at least the rising generation to its political metropolis by every tie of historical community and of early association, if the grown up generation and the old people are beyond hope of reconciliation. But to return to Finland. She was never well disposed towards us; passive sullenness was the best we ever saw of her; but now a prodigious and active hostility seems to be brewing everywhere, and there is no knowing when and how it will explode into positive rebellion. The Russian garrison in Helsingfors lately organized a little amateur theatre for their own delectation and that of a small circle of Russian civil officers residing in the town—the most innocent little concern, with no pretensions to anything but affording some amusement. Who could have thought that the indigenous population would have felt offended—nay, outraged and endangered—by such a natural proceeding? The Finnish papers immediately took up the cue, and were loud in their wails "that the 'intruders' began to drop the mask, to show their 'Russicizing' tendencies in the open day, that the encroachment and insult should not be tamely borne," and all in language so grossly abusive as would do honor to an Austrian paper polemicing against some luckless Slavonic opponent. The Russian officers from that day forth became the constant mark of public derision and ill will, and avoided, as much as possible, being seen in public places, for fear of being openly insulted and obliged to seek legal redress, which, of course, would have made matters worse. Now the Finnish papers are again running mad for a no less dreadful offence. One of our great armor manufacturers, who has just received a large order for changing many thousands of rifles according to the newest system, has had the audacity to invite from Helsingfors a certain number of workmen—smiths and locksmiths—who, on their part, have been so deplorably blind as not to see a snare in the agreement offered them and to migrate, not to Siberia or the Amoor, but simply to Petersburg and the Sisterbeck manufactories, still nearer home. This was sufficient for the patriotic press to raise the hue and cry and to denounce the designing wickedness of the Russian agents, who do not scruple to entice poor ignorant men from their homes and families, on oppressive terms and by false promises, thus depriving the Finnish manufactories of the necessary hands. These are ridiculously small symptoms of a very serious organic disorder, which is the more alarming that scarcely any remedies can be expected to put a stop to it.

You are probably aware of the increased virulence with which the Occidental press has thought fit to renew its habitual attacks against Russia since the close of the famous conference. The French papers, especially, have opened all their batteries on us. To the usual list of accusations of barbarism, retrogradism, tyranny, &c., &c., is added now an important head—our real and suspected way of acting and even thinking in the Eastern question. The Petersburg Cabinet says "the *Correspondance Bullier* is strongly suspected of the wish to work underhand, with a view to entangle the question, while giving herself, on the other hand, the air of acting in concert with the Western Powers for the pacification of the East." It seems, then, Russia is forbidden even to sympathize with Greece—to say a word of comfort to her after the cruel blow which has just been so deliberately and successfully aimed at her national dignity, almost at her very existence. Russia has done all, more than she could. She has taken part in the conference, which in itself was an insult to Greece. She has signed the iniquitous declaration, which, however polite in form, is in substance neither more nor less than a verdict of "guilty;" she has urged Greece to submit, endangering thereby her own popularity and her influence in the East. But this and much more is not enough yet. It is required of her that she enter into contradiction with herself; that she renounce all her traditions, all her historical sympathies with the Christian population of the East and openly betray. And were she to do even this, it should not be enough yet, as nothing will ever be enough that she may do, in her wish to soothe the ruthless, savage enmity of the European people, in whose Assembly she will have a seat, *coûte que coûte*. This very wish is her chief error, the source of all her faults, of all her interior and foreign misgovernment, of which there is, of course, a good deal left, notwithstanding all that has been and is being done. Unfortunately much is done which should not be, solely to ingratiate ourselves with Europe, who will never give us our due, never accept us, never indorse our doings, never forgive us our existence; for she hates us, not for what we are and what we do, but because we are. Between us and her is the antagonism between black and white, between pole and pole, between east and west. There is a highly remarkable article in one of our monthly magazines on this theme of "The Cause of Europe's Hostility to Russia." The first part only has appeared till now. When I shall have read the second I shall devote a whole letter to review it, and I am sure your readers will thank me for it, for they will find in it stirringly novel and at the same time correct views of this all-important question.

ENGLAND.

Conclusion of the Debate on the Second Reading of the Irish Church Bill—Closing Remarks of Mr. Gladstone.

The concluding debate on the second reading of the Irish Church bill was resumed in the British Parliament on the evening of March 23, and at an early hour next morning it was concluded, when a division of the House was taken, resulting by a vote of 368 in favor of the bill being read a second time against an adverse vote of 250. The following is a brief *resumé* of the proceedings:—

Mr. WALPOLE opened the adjourned debate, taking for his text Mr. Bright's quotation from Wycliffe, that when endowments are perverted princes may take them away, and his aphorism founded on it, that when they are mischievous Parliament may suppress them. But without these two conditions such a measure as this, he maintained, was nothing less than a legislative revolution. Hitherto our revolutions had been reformations or restoration, but this was simply a destruction, a violation of fundamental laws, and an abolition of institutions hitherto deemed essential to the well being of the community. This revolution he divided into two parts—entire disestablishment and universal disendowment. Finally, he summed up his objections to the bill thus:—It would, for the first time in our history, destroy the securities hitherto taken by the State for the extension of the ordinances of religion to all parts of the country and divert the funds for that purpose to purposes for which they never were intended. It would be the first step towards ecclesiastical communism and would unsettle the laws of ecclesiastical property in England and Scotland, perhaps of all other kinds of property, and certainly of corporation property. It overthrew a solemn compact between two independent Legislatures; it would impede religious progress and would stir up endless discord in Ireland.

Sir H. BULWER disclaimed all claim to argue the question as a lawyer or theologian, for it was solely a statesman's question—"how are we to govern Ireland?" The resistance offered to the bill he held to be an anachronism, for when we had granted political equality in 1829 religious equality had become a certainty, and Lord Liverpool had remarked that there were only two alternatives for Ireland, that the Roman Catholics should all be converted, or that the Protestant Establishment should be abolished.

Mr. MOWBRAY objected to the bill that, for the first time, it proposed to subvert what had always been a constitutional principal—the recognition of religion by the State—and substitute for it voluntaryism, which he showed, by a review of our colonial experience of it, would be a failure and would produce deplorable results.

Mr. AGAR ELLIS and Mr. DALRYMPLE spoke strongly in favor of the bill and were followed by Mr. MILLER, who took side with the opposition. Mr. W. VERNER treated the question as a struggle between Protestantism and Popery.

The O'DONOGHUE, after pointing out that the arguments of the other side in favor of an establishment were applicable only to a country where something like religious unanimity prevailed, declaimed at some length in favor of the bill, principally because it would establish religious equality.

Lord GEORGE HAMILTON made a spirited attack on the bill, which he characterized as a specious excuse for transferring a large part of the Church revenues to the aggrandizement of the Roman Catholic Church.

Mr. G. H. MOORE, while supporting the principle of the bill, criticised the details, and doubted whether so much "greasing and lubrication," so much jobbery and waste, was necessary to pass it.

Mr. HARDY rose to wind up the debate on the opposition side. Beginning with a vindication of the right of the conservatives to oppose this bill to the end, notwithstanding the verdict of the country (which was provoked by a remark of The O'Donoghue), he went on to examine the bill, giving Mr. Gladstone full credit for having redeemed his pledges to sweep away all that he once deemed precious. Considering all that had been done of late years to raise the position of the Roman Catholics, both of priesthood and laity, and their practical equality, he could discover no reason for this attack on the Irish Church but jealousy, such as animated Haman. He denied that the Church was a badge of conquest; he looked at it rather in an imperial light, as a recognition by the Executive of the Almighty superintendence—a token of the Protestantism of the sovereign. What had the Church done to deserve destruction? For the penal laws she was not answerable, and, without defending them, Mr. Hardy pointed out, by a quotation from Lord Russell, that liberal statesmen had seen some justification. He objected to the extent of the Church's work being judged by the census, for her ministrations of charity were not confined to her own denomination, and he maintained—fortifying himself by numerous quotations—that she had practically made many converts, and, to use his own words of last year, had kept alight in the dark places of Ireland the lamp of the Reformation. Finally, he drew a picture of the condition of Ireland in which he painted the institutions of the country as satisfactory; freedom as complete, law as justly administered as in England, but the people discontened without a cause, sympathizing with crime, and influenced not for good by the priesthood. The moral he drew was that an interval of peace and industry—not a destructive measure, which, amid loud cheers from the opposition, he denounced as wrong in the sight of God and opposed to the interests of the empire—was the real panacea for Ireland.

Mr. GLADSTONE rose just before one o'clock, loudly cheered by his supporters, and first he remarked of the latter portion of Mr. Hardy's speech that it showed his fitness for the task which Burke disclaimed, "to draw an indictment against a whole nation." Yet, even in a picture of the Irish people so unjust as to amount to a libel, serious evils were admitted for which Mr. Hardy had no remedy. But the government, recognizing the existence of an Irish question, the result of years of previous misgovernment, had a remedy which they proposed of necessity piecemeal. Assuming that the issue of to-night would not depend on the details of the bill, Mr. Gladstone passed over most of the comments on them, though he intimated that the payment of the Maynooth grant and the *Regium Donum* out of the Church property was an open question, which was not absolutely insisted on; and before discussing the plan of the government he ran through the four nights' debate to discover what rival plan had been proposed in its place. The proposals of the commission had been entirely thrown aside, and the opposition had either no plan at all or else it was the old plan of leveling up. Sir Roundell Palmer's plan Mr. Gladstone discussed at greater length, and he differed altogether from the ideas of Church property on which it was founded. When property had been given for purposes which were not attained, and could not be attained, it was the duty of the Legislature to see that it was not wasted, and, when it became mischievous, to take it over. But he took a much larger view of the Church trusts, holding that this property had been given for the general benefit of the nation. In giving up establishment, however, Sir Roundell Palmer had abandoned the worthier part of the whole argument, and here Mr. Gladstone incidentally remarked that the bill would in no way touch the royal supremacy. The most serious objection he urged was that Sir Roundell Palmer would sacrifice the small parishes, where endowments were needed, for the benefit of the large and wealthier parishes, and thus, instead of conciliating, would irritate public feeling. Of the scheme for disposing of the surplus he claimed that it was the most perfect which could be devised for spreading the benefits of these funds into every part of the country, and he showed that there was no danger of the funds falling into the hands of the monastic institutions, as had been predicted. The hard words, "robbery," "sacrilege," "bribery," &c., he accepted as proofs that the government had carried out their pledges completely, but without harshness, and he concluded a speech of little over an hour and a quarter by repeating once more his confident anticipation that the settlement of this controversy is close at hand.

FRANCE.

The French Press on the War Policy of the Government.

The *Opinion National* of Paris, of the 21st ult., comments as follows on the calling up of the 100,000 men for the army:—

The report of Mr. d'Andelarre contains numerous pointed and just criticisms, and the presence of an epigram may be detected against the policy, or rather the absence of policy, that reduces France to the necessity of placing herself on the defensive. And still the report concludes by proposing to grant all that the government demands. Perhaps it is but a feint of the left, by which to challenge the Ministers for explanations. What does the government require, and what does it intend? Where are we being led to; for, unfortunately, we are being led; we are being disposed of, our money, the blood of our sons is being disposed of, without our being consulted! Are we being led towards peace or on to war? If towards peace, why then these ruinous armaments? If on to war, against whom will it be directed, and for what reason is it entered upon? What can be this fresh Mexican expedition that is being prepared for as without even any warning being given? In which victory of Mentana or in which catastrophe of Querétaro are we being invited to participate?

FRANCE AND BELGIUM.

Agreement for the Settlement of the Railway Dispute.

The following is the text of the note relative to the Franco-Belgian difficulty published by the *Journal Officiel* and at the same time by the *Belgian Moniteur*:—

After negotiations between the governments of their Majesties the Emperor of the French and the King of the Belgians the two Cabinets have agreed on the terms of the following declaration:—

The presentation and vote of the bill of the 23d February last on the transfer of railway concessions have given rise in France to notions on the subject of which the King's government has thought right to transmit to Paris explanations of a sincere and entire unreservedness.

The French and Belgian governments, in order to afford to each other a mutual proof of their cordial and confiding dispositions, and with the desire to conciliate the interests of the two countries, have come to an understanding to institute a mixed commission to be charged to examine the different economic questions which have been produced, either by the existing relations, or by recent projects of treaties for the cession and working of railway lines, and of which the solution would be of a nature to develop the commercial and industrial interchanges between the two countries.

FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The King of Birmah has fifty wives and ninety children.

Ex-Queen Isabella has her fortune told by cards twice every day.

The Porte has made a treaty with the Messageries Impériales for carrying back the Cretan refugees.

M. Paul Féval, the well known writer, has just been promoted to the rank of officer in the Legion of Honor.

A marriage is announced to take place between M. Fausto de Saavedra, son of the Duke de Rivas, and Mlle. de Salamanca.

A Bombay paper calls attention to the fact that the Fourteenth foot is armed with Sniders, but has no Snider ammunition.

Circular excursion tickets will be issued by the South German railroads during next summer at a reduction of fifty per cent.

A communication from Christiania states that King Charles XV. has arrived in that city and been received by the population with great sympathy.

In the year 1868 the population of Great Britain stood as follows:—England 21,500,000, Scotland 3,125,000 and Ireland 5,500,000, making a total of 30,369,845.

A wild elephant has been doing sad havoc on the mountainous parts of the western coast of Madras. No less than ten persons have fallen victims to his rage within a short space of time.

Every railroad train in Sweden is provided with an efficient medical staff and complete pharmacy, so that in case of accident no time is lost in administering to the wants of the wounded.

There are 300,000 workmen and artisans in Paris. Of these 65,000 average three francs or sixty cents per day, 220,000 vary from three to six francs and 15,000 from six to twenty francs per day.

The most remarkable piece of information which appears in the telegrams of European news published in the Indian papers last received is that "the extraordinary mission to Ladorma has terminated rabbonyous."

The Moscow *Gazette*, in reply to a recent article in the *Times*, deems it derogatory to Russia to enter into any agreement with England as to her relations with Balkh, Afghanistan, Yarkand or any other portion of Central Asia.

The flag of the Reform Club, of Neufchatel, in Switzerland, bears the following inscription:—"A church without priests, religion without catechism, the Divine creed without mystery, morality without theology and God without system.

The two daughters of Lady Matilda Montgomery were assaulted a few days ago at noonday on the stairs of their residence in the Via Della Croca, Rome, by an audacious robber, who cut a gold chain off the neck of one of them and escaped with his booty.

Monseigneur Mouly, Bishop of Pekin, in China, has died, after fulfilling the duties of that episcopate for forty years. His funeral was celebrated with great pomp on the 19th of December. The French Legation, the foreign diplomatic body and various high personages followed the coffin on foot.

A teacher of the commune of Wallstellen (canton of Zurich) has just been arrested on a charge of causing the death of a little girl by corporal punishment. He had caught her by the hair and shaken her head with such violence that a cerebral congestion supervened, of which she died in a few days.

The journals *Asino* and *Zenzero Primo*, of Florence, of the 7th ult. were seized by order of the judicial authorities. The first contained an article in favor of a republican *régime*, and the other an attack on the management of the royal household, entitled "The Civil List in the Province of Pisa," and containing calumnious allegations."

In the year 1868 500 officers were cashiered from the Austrian army on account of dishonorable behavior, among which figure very considerably the fact of not paying their bills after pledging their "word of honor." A lieutenant's pay ranges from fifteen to twenty dollars per month, out of which he has to find his outfit, uniform and subscribe towards the maintenance of the regimental music corps.

A communication from Munich says:—"All the letters containing securities, as well as those registered, destined for Frankfort and beyond that city, were recently abstracted from the post office here, a clerk whose duty it was to sort them, disappearing at the same time. Several commercial houses have lost large sums by this robbery. At present nothing is known as to what has become of the delinquent."

The criminal Poincet, who was lately executed for murder in France, sent for the doctor on the evening preceding his execution, "Doctor, I feel very unwell." "How is that, let me see your tongue? Ah, yes; a little agitated, pulse quick and irregular, but that is nothing. A little repose and some cooling medicine will put that all right." The cooling drink was taken regularly, and the next morning he walked coolly to the scaffold.

A curious and mysterious incident occurred recently at the Palace of the Tuileries, in Paris. At two o'clock in the morning a well dressed gentleman was arrested while endeavoring to enter the portion of the building allotted to General Frossard. In the guardhouse he insisted upon seeing the General without delay on a matter of vital importance. Whatever transpired was kept profoundly secret; but it is worthy of remark that immediate precautions were taken, especially by placing extra guards around the apartments of the Prince Imperial. All the doors were closed and the sentries doubled. It is naturally concluded that an attempt was feared on the life of the young Prince.

MEXICO.

The Troubles in Tamaulipas—Anarchy the Rule—Murder of Americans.

MONTEREY, March 21, 1869.

Since my last difficulties have commenced on the southern borders of this State. A party of the rebel Vargas, of Tamaulipas, defeated a force of Escobedo, near Villagrasa, taking his equipage, archives, and about $7,000 in silver and $10,000 in gold (as rumor states), and thence, falling upon the plantation of Escobedo (Hacienda de Guadalupe), destroyed it completely by burning everything contained therein. This same party then marched upon Linares, a town some sixty miles from this city, demanded its surrender and a loan of $8,000, which being refused, they attacked the place, but were defeated and had to retire—this place being strongly fortified with artillery, &c.—the loss being considerable on both sides.

General Escobedo being the principal owner of a large sugar factory and refinery at Linares, had it well supplied with arms and ammunition, and, consequently, a few soldiers, with the aid of its citizens, made a strong defence. Linares has a population of some 10,000 inhabitants. Had the rebels been enabled to take the city they would have completely destroyed the factory and all its contents, in retaliation for the burning and destruction that Escobedo has done and ordered execution in Tamaulipas—whole villages having disappeared; and now the rejoinder comes upon this State.

Respecting Tamaulipas, I do not say that the people are unoffending; they only resist as desperate men can resist, and if they did not it would be all the same. Escobedo's policy is extermination; nothing but extermination diverts him. All he has done is to pass his scythe over the places he has occupied, and he has reaped a full harvest of blood, which has been the cement of his power since French disoccupation. There surely will come a day of vengeance, when the wrongs of these unfortunate people will be redressed. God in His justice will surely repay their wrongs upon their oppressors. May His vengeance come suddenly, swiftly and terribly.

The Governor of this State, with 200 soldiers, left this place in aid of Linares, but having been informed of the retiring of the rebels he returned to this place yesterday.

Two Americans, on their way to the Rio Grande, were shot by the military on the road, robbed of their money and hung up to the trees as robbers; but it appears they were innocent travellers, who were returning with their gains to Texas, having sold their stock at Saltillo; so it has been proven by the letters and note books that were found upon their persons. They must have had some $2,000.

The butcher, Escobedo, has given orders to have all foreigners shot who have not the required passports with them. Yours, &c., S. H. MEARS.

THE NEW POSTMISTRESS AT RICHMOND.—Miss Van Lew yesterday formally entered upon the discharge of her official duties as postmistress of the city of Richmond. She found the office in excellent condition, and proposes to make but few changes in its employes and clerks. She will place the ladies' delivery in charge of two ladies of Richmond, instead of employing gentlemen, as heretofore, in that capacity. The money order and registered letter accommodations will be enlarged, and the facilities to the public in this important department greatly increased. The special agent of the Post Office Department has been assigned a room separate from the Post Office, where he can transact his business. Miss Van Lew hopes at an early day to secure the free delivery of letters in the city by placing secure boxes on our streets for the reception of letters and by the distribution of letters throughout the city by employes of the office soon after the arrival of the prinipal mails. This, she thinks, will prevent a rush at the office. Miss Van Lew anticipates the cordial support of the Post Office Department in the reforms she proposes.—*Richmond Whig, April 3.*

AMUSEMENTS.

Concerts Last Night.

Miss Josey Hofie and Mr. Frank Gilder were the soloists at Steinway Hall last night. The lady sang an aria from Figaro's "Hochzeit" and Gounod's "Ave Maria" and the pianist rendered Weber's "Polonaise" in E flat, one of Mason's nocturnes and a tarantella by Dochler. Mr. Gilder did not impress us favorably. He has some merit in clean execution, but he plays mechanically and without the slghest expression. Thomas' orchestra played a symphony by Bach, a fantasia on the "Midsummer Night's Dream," the overture of "Rienzi" and a selection from "William Tell." The hall was crowded and there were many *encores*.

A very large audience also attended the concert at Irving Hall. The Mendelssohn Orchestral Union gave the "Euryanthe" overture, a Tannhauser fantasia, "Orpheus" overture and one of Dodworth's inimitable quicksteps in spirited style. Miss Rokohl, an amateur, sang a couple of selections from Beethoven and Lachner passably, and Mr. Arnold gave a satisfactory rendering of a violin fantasia by Vieuxtemps. Harvey Dodworth conducted.

Theatrical Notes.

The Florences played to a $1,000 house in Hartford on Thursday night, which is good for classic Hartford.

Colonel Fitzgerald, the author of "Wolves at Bay," "Light at Last" and other American plays more or less successful, has a new drama on the stocks entitled "Bound to the Rack." It is said to be the most ambitious effort the industrious Colonel has yet made; and we therefore look to see something worthy of the managerial skill and liberality of Mr. Clifton Tayleure, who is now negotiating for it, if it is at all adapted to his spacious stage.

Miss Edith Challis, who was to have joined the English burlesque company which opened last week in Philadelphia, has returned to New York, not liking the lookout.

Ouida's novel, "Strathmore," has been dramatized and Mr. Adam Everly played it at the Arch in Philadelphia for his benefit on Saturday night.

"Women Rule," the new comedy by a "distinguished member of the Philadelphia bar," was not a success. It is defective in plot, dull in dialogue, heavy in action and about as cheerful, but not so eloquent, as one of Judge Bedford's charges to a murder jury.

Mr. A. G. Hibbard, of Detroit, wrote a poem which was recited as a prologue at the opening of the new opera house by Mrs. Claude Hamilton. Hibbard's "pome" mentions Thespis, Æschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, Terence, Plautus, Racine, Corneille, Moliere, Goethe, Shakspeare, but, singularly, makes no mention of Farnie. But what can be expected from a man who calls a Western theatre "a classic Fane" to rhyme "fame," and then further commits himself to a Quixotic absurdity by

> We promise you that here no word we'll speak
> To call the mantling blush to virtue's cheek,
> That all our company, both maid and man,
> Will now and ever do the best they can.

That shuts out married ladies from the company and *opera bouffe* from the stage.

Kate Reignolds won a triumph in Detroit as Lady Gay Spanker.

Opera bouffe at the Fifth Avenue theatre (Brougham's) promises to be well attended, if we may judge by the rapid sales of seats for the first week. The rivalry between Tostée and Irma as to who will draw the largest houses on the alternate nights will make the season a success alone.

The average receipts of the new California theatre have thus far been $1,000 a night.

The celebrated Mexican sheep speculator, John Wilson, has opened his "World Circus" in San Francisco.

A travestie of Hamlet—"Ye Dismal Prince, ye Bigamiste and ye Ghost," by T. Cooper de Leon, editor of the Mobile *Register*, has been produced at the Mobile theatre.

Newton Gotthold has got hold of Robert Penfold in "Foul Play" at the National, Cincinnati, with Fanny Price as Helen Rolleston.

Mrs. Lizzie Madison and Miss Alice Seidler assumed the *rôles* of the Misses Jennie and Irene Worrell, who were "indisposed," according to the Porkopolitan papers.

Anna Dickinson has lectured 154 times since last autumn.

"The Field of the Cloth of Gold," as produced by Manager Macauley, at Wood's, in Cincinnati, must be a marvellous mosaic. Miss Sophie Worrell dances a clog as Darnley, Billon and Van Hamme in a "poetical ballet," Professor Dobson does the chime of bells on the banjo, Sir Guy, the cripple, is a necromancer and does feats of legerdemain, the kings have a prize fight, and this wonderful composition winds up with a walk around, cancan, Grecian bend and the wild velocipede.

Ada Webb is playing at De Bar's, in St. Louis.

Lellingwell is in Galveston.

Laura Keene is expected in Trenton, with her company.

Robertson's very latest, entitled "Dreams," has been produced at the Queen's, in London.

Palgrave Simpson's historical drama of Marie Antoinette was played at the Princess', London, with Mlle. Beatrice as the "Austrian woman."

A dramatization of Wilkie Collin's "Moonstone" is announced at the Adelphi, London.

Theatrical Affairs in the British Capital.

LONDON, March 17, 1869.

The stagnation of commerce and trade in London, owing to the almost constant absence of the Queen and Court from the metropolis, has not only affected those most intimately connected with mercantile pursuits, but has sadly depressed all amusements, and, with only two or three exceptions, managers have a hard struggle to keep their doors open.

This may appear strange in the face of the fact that several new theatres have been built and opened here within little more than a year. Still it is the truth, and although it is not palpable to the public I have no doubt that quite as many theatres as have been built will be closed within a month or two.

The St. James', which was opened three months ago under the lesseeship of a Mlle. Laferté (backed by a rich colonel) and managed by H. H. Davis, well known in New York with Miss Lucy Rushton, has already collapsed. But that unfortunate house is, like an oyster, constantly opening only to close again.

The Lyceum, under E. T. Smith, has sunk into the slough of despond lately and has closed its doors for a week, because there was literally no audience. A gleam of hope has, however, illumined it by the genuine success of Westland Marston's new play "Life for Life," produced there last week. This may relieve the treasurer for a time, but, I fear, only for a time.

The Queen's theatre, of which Mr. Labouchere, the ex-member of Parliament, is lessee, is also about to close or to change hands, owing to a split in the camp—caused, it is said, by rivalry between two ladies. *On dit* that Dion Boucicault will assume the reins of government here, but I think that is very uncertain.

The Holborn, also, one of the batch of new theatres that has sprung up, will shortly give up the ghost as a burlesque sensational establishment, and become the home, or rather the refuge, of the almost discarded legitimate drama. Barry Sullivan will, it is said, reign here. Fanny Josephs, the present lessee, has worked hard and bravely, but unsuccessfully, and the gallant captain in the Blues, who was her chancellor of the exchequer, must have lost heavily.

Our two Italian Opera companies have been smelted down into one, and in the process much dross has been skimmed off both. Her Majesty's theatre, just rebuilt in very magnificent style, will remain closed, Lord Ward, millionnaire as he is, declining to advance the large sum required for furniture, scenery and decorations. Arditi will wield the baton of musical director, Costa having been "shunted" from his seat by some manœuvres not very clearly defined. My impression is that Mapleson will be quietly but surely squeezed out by Gye. *Nous verrons.* We are certain, at all events, to have some other Italian opera started here, and negotiations are already in progress for the Lyceum for that purpose by some *faccino per la musica*. Then we are promised French *