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THE "UNION" AND THE "MEXICAN QUESTION," ONCE MORE.

We are sorry that we cannot consent that the editor of the Union shall define our position in regard to the Mexican question. With every disposition, doubtless, to do justice to our arguments, he would yet, we fear, succeed little better with them than he does with the geography of Texas. He might, with the same facility, place us beyond the Rio del Norte, as he placed San Antonio de Bexar beyond the Nueces; and, although he has discovered and corrected the latter error, he might be less successful in detecting his misinterpretation of us.

Let the editor be assured, then, that there has been no change of the position which we promptly assumed after the action of the Texian Congress upon the resolutions for annexation, that our Executive would be justified in *defending* Texas against Mexican *invasion*, inasmuch as the United States had, by the acceptance on the part of Texas of the terms offered, acquired an inchoate right to protect it from any foreign interference. From this position we have not attempted to "back out," nor shall we retract a single word which we uttered on the occasion. The question upon which we take issue with the Union is not whether the President of the United States is right in employing the public force in defending Texas from invasion, but whether, in exercising this right, he has invaded the territories of another Power, and waged foreign war. This is the question, and out of this arises the inquiry, what are the boundaries of that other Power? We know that questions of boundary are not to be settled by the dictum of any newspaper—one even of so high authority as the official journal; and fortunate that it is so. In employing, therefore, the terms "settled limits," "actual limits," "acknowledged limits," in reference to the boundary of Texas, we meant—what? To put forth merely the conclusions of our individual judgment? Certainly not. We spoke of limits and boundaries conceded by the concurrent opinions of public men, the acts of our own Government, and the common consent of the world. Does the Union dispute this? Let us refer him to one authority which occurs to us, which, if it be not *entirely* orthodox on the question of annexation, will at least not be ascribed by the Union to foreign influence, and will be sufficient, we hope, to silence its cavils and its unworthy imputations. In the speech delivered by Mr. Benton, in the Senate of the United States, in May, 1844, on the Treaty of Annexation, the editor of the Union will find this passage:

"Concurring with Gen. Jackson now, as I did so many years ago, in the necessity and importance of recovering the country sacrificed by the treaty of 1819, I cannot admit, from any thing that I have yet seen, that he is in favor of this particular treaty. I assume the contrary, and rather suppose him to be against it, when seen and examined by him; and that upon data which I will exhibit to the Senate. The data is this: that, in 1829, being the first year of his Presidency, General Jackson undertook to render the great service to his country of getting back our sacrificed territory; and, by instructions through Mr. Van Buren to our Minister in Mexico, proposed to purchase back the whole, or any part of the dismembered territory which could be obtained. That proposition of General Jackson *did not go the length of this treaty by two thousand miles!* It stopped at the mountains which lie at the head of the Red river and the Arkansas—and which divided the ancient Louisiana from New Mexico—and in the desert prairies which lie to *the east* of the Nueces! *His proposition included no part of New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas. It extended to no part of the river, or even of the valley, of the Rio del Norte.* Not a drop of the water of that river—not an inch of the soil of its valley—did he propose to disrupt from its old possessor, and to incorporate into our Union. General Jackson was a wise man, and a just man, and he was assisted by another man, his Secretary of State, who was also wise and just. *They meditated no such crime or folly as that of adding the left bank of the Rio del Norte, from head to mouth, to our Union.* In seeking to recover the dismembered part of our own country, they did not undertake to dismember the empire of a neighbor. Like a general, he saw the *natural frontier* of his country *in the ridge of mountains at the head of the Red river and Arkansas*, and in the desert prairies which lie *east of the Nueces;* and, like a statesman, he was for limiting the domain of his country to this natural frontier. Leaving the whole valley of the Rio del Norte to the Mexicans, and taking the whole valley of the Mississippi to ourselves, he sought a line suitable to both parties, *more than a hundred miles this side of the Rio Grande,* and even east of the little river Nueces, a solitary frontier stream, connected with no system of rivers, and without a single geographical affinity, and falling into the Gulf of Mexico in a shallow and difficult part of its coast. This was his boundary, and no act of his life shows a more wise and enlightened forecast. A less sagacious head would have stood out for our ancient claim to the *lower* Rio del Norte; his judgment enabled him to see that that would be an encroachment upon the geographical divisions of Mexico—would bring the population of two great countries into contact and collision—give rise to disputes for the navigation of the river, and the possession of its mouth—and sow the seeds of eternal dissension in advancing a salient angle of one empire into the natural domain of another. His sagacious mind saw this; and, waiving the question of old limits, he took those which the future peace and harmony of the two countries required, and left the whole extent of the Rio del Norte—every inch of its soil, and every drop of its waters, with all its towns and villages, and all its fields and flocks—to its ancient possessors, who had held it for centuries."

Here is Democratic authority for the Union, and, without seeking any further, fully justifies us, we think, in regarding the constitutional operations of the Executive as confined to the territory east of the Nueces. If it is not as good as that of the learned Topographer and Hydrographer of the Union, it is at least the *next best;* and, though it does not come from one of the "tried and distinguished" contributors to the "benefit" of that paper who "have accepted office," it comes from one whom those "distinguished" gentlemen will acknowledge to be, in every respect except that of *accepting office*, as "distinguished" as themselves. That veteran and eminent Senator has certainly studied "the topography and hydrography of the country," and seems, if we may say it without offence, to be as familiar with the names of places and rivers as the editor of the Union himself. He has been for more than "a quarter of a century" making himself acquainted with Mexican history and geography, Mexican treaties, Spanish treaties, French treaties; and if, after all, he is in error about the "limits" of Texas, we must despair of finding authority worthy of confidence. At any rate, we hope that the editor of the Union, if he insists on prosecuting this "boundary" war, will enter the lists with that honorable Senator, as an antagonist more worthy of his prowess than ourselves, and combat his expositions of boundary, not ours.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.

We suppose that the subjoined extract from the correspondence of the Baltimore Sun, which we find endorsed by the "Union" of Saturday night, gives something like a correct statement of the warlike preparations going on in the vicinity of Washington:

"Five thousand stand of arms and a large quantity of ammunition have just left our arsenal for Texas, and another order for ammunition will be despatched in a few days.

"Two hundred and seventy-five new fortification gun-carriages are just placed in hand, which, with one hundred just finished, will make quite a tolerable appearance in case of *trouble.* Besides, we have at this post the following ordnance: 73 42-pounders, 307 32-pounders, 219 24-pounders, 40 18-pounders, 22 12-pounders, 58 eight-inch seacoast iron howitzers, 105 twenty-four-pound howitzers, 29 ten-inch iron mortars: total 853. Add to this 100 heavy cannon at the navy yard, 38,421 muskets, 3,459 rifles, 138 carbines, 775 swords and sabres.

"The Washington arsenal never presented a better appearance than at present. Its well-cultivated grounds, commodious workshops, and abundant facilities for every branch of mechanism, and the cleanliness and neatness which are perceptible throughout, all combine to recommend it strongly to the Department for a full share of work which may be dispensed by it.

"This post is commanded by Captain Mordecai, of the Ordnance Bureau, who is popular with the worthy mechanics employed there."

CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL.

The Directors of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company were in session at Frederick during the whole of the past week. The Herald of that city learns that it is probable, at the next meeting of the Board, which takes place early in September, that a contract will be made for the execution of the work. It is said that the work can be done within the estimates, and payment be made in the State bonds.

Indiana.—"We take great pleasure in assuring our readers of the re-election of Andrew Kennedy, in the tenth district."—*Union.*

How could Mr. Kennedy have failed of being elected, when his gallant Whig competitor, Dr. L. G. Thompson, was prevented by sickness from canvassing the district, and died four days before the election?

A correspondent of the Boston Advertiser, writing from Manilla under date of February 21st, gives the particulars of the acquisition by the French of one of the Philippine islands known as the Basselan. It seems that in the latter part of last year a French man-of-war landed upon the island for water, and while procuring it a boat was cut off and several of her crew killed. The French then proceeded to Samboangan, and acquainted the officers of the Spanish fleet there with the facts, but could obtain no satisfaction. Some two months after, a French steamer, with the French ambassador, a frigate and two corvettes, sailed from Manilla for the straits, with the intention, as is supposed, of acquiring possession of Basselan. A subsequent letter states that it had been ceded to the French for one hundred years by the Rajah of Sooloo, who was to receive for its use during that time $100,000. The Governor of Manilla has protested against the French forming any settlement on the island, he deeming it as one of the group of islands belonging to him.

The Revenue in the principal Northern ports of the United States—viz: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore—for this year, from the 1st August up to last Monday, was as follows: August 1st to 11th, 1845, $1,372,000; August 1st to 11th, 1844, $1,591,000—difference in the two years, $219,600.

Slavery in Mississippi.—By a provision in the Constitution of Mississippi, the introduction of slaves into the State is prohibited after the present year. This prohibition extends not only to the introduction of slaves as merchandise, but settlers within the State cannot import them for their own use. This state of things induced the Legislature, at its last session, to authorize the people to vote on a proposition to change this provision. It excites general attention. The New Orleans Bulletin thinks that the popular sentiment is against any change.

LAKE NAVAL DEPOT.

Com. Morris, of the Navy, and Col. Totten, of the Army, have lately visited the various ports on the lake frontier for the purpose of enabling the War and Navy Departments to submit to Congress a complete plan for its defence, and of selecting a naval depot for Lake Erie. A writer in the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser urges the propriety and expediency of their selecting Buffalo for the depot. The writer says the only places likely to compete with Buffalo are Sandusky and Erie. A Sandusky paper controverts the superiority of Buffalo or Erie to Sandusky, and claims many advantages for the last named place. Doubtless the able officers above named will weigh with intelligence and impartiality the advantages of each place, and decide in favor of that which is best for the general interest.

The Ellicotts' Mills Free Press says that contracts have been concluded for the erection forthwith of two cotton factories—one for the Granite Manufacturing Company, and the other for the Ely Manufacturing Company.

The citizens of Wilmington, North Carolina, have adopted measures for the erection of a cotton factory in that city.

A large scythe manufactory is now in course of erection at Dayton, Ohio. The building will be one hundred and fifty feet long, will contain eight trip hammers, and give employment to a large number of hands. This is the first attempt at manufacturing this article, to any considerable extent, west of the mountains. There is a small establishment in Miami county, which supplies the neighborhood in part, but its sales extend no further.

The editor of the St. Augustine Herald has been informed by a friend that there are large deposites of Guano on the Pelican Island in the Tomoco river. The pelican and other aquatic birds on the coast congregate on these islands in immense numbers.

THE ANNEXATION.

The annexed article from "The Daily Missourian," is important chiefly on account of the quarter from which it comes. It strikes us to be founded in a misapprehension of the joint resolution for annexation; but if it be really from the pen of a distinguished Missouri Senator, (as the Union seems to think,) or was written at his suggestion, there may be more in it than is apparent to us. If so, we shall hear further of it on the meeting of Congress:

"Texas.—We publish to-day the action of the Texas Convention upon the celebrated resolutions adopted by our own Congress. No one felt more gratified, or rejoiced more at the supposed consummation of the measure of annexation than ourselves. From the glorification of the press generally we were led to believe there was no further difficulty in the way, and that Texas was ours, and needed only certain formalities to be an integral part of our territory; but we have become convinced, by reading the action of the Texas Convention, that such is not the fact. The first and second sections of the second resolution adopted by our Congress have only been accepted, and of course the third section has been rejected. Either, then, our Congress must recede from its conditions, or Texas must comply with the requirements of the third section. Which will yield—Congress or Texas? It is not probable that Congress will yield all the points required by that section. As far as the subject of slavery is concerned, we hope Congress will yield. We have always been opposed to any prohibitions of the kind, and in favor of leaving the whole matter to the people of a territory, to determine what institutions they will have. If they think slavery a good institution, and one which will advance their happiness and prosperity, let them have the privilege of establishing it; but if they think otherwise, let them prohibit it. Entertaining these views of the matter, we hope our Congress will yield that point. But there is a greater difficulty, and one which Congress cannot yield, embraced in the third section. It is that of territory. The section provides that "new States of convenient size, not exceeding four in number," shall hereafter be formed out of the territory of Texas. It evidently contemplates that Texas shall cede territorial jurisdiction to the United States, and that the State of Texas shall receive such boundaries as should be prescribed by Congress. But, by refusing to accept the third section, we presume Texas is opposed to being circumscribed in her limits, and wishes to come in with all her territory. If so, Congress will never consent to annexation. It is a singular fact that Senator Benton, when he introduced what has been classically denominated his 'bob-tail bill,' stated that a difficulty would arise if the House resolutions were adopted. He stated at length the grave nature of such a difficulty, and the objections and reluctance a State would have to reduce herself, and the objections against any State being too large. Col. Benton, with prophetic foresight, saw what would be the difficulty. He saw that the resolutions admitted the whole of the Republic of Texas as a State, while it left her her public lands to pay her own debts; these lands would lie beyond the boundaries of the proposed State of Texas, if she suffered her boundary to be reduced. Taking this view of the question, and assuming that Texas would accept the proposal, and come into the Union, Col. Benton used this emphatic language: 'She would do [no] such thing, *except for the purpose of prescribing her own terms, as the price of reducing her limits and relinquishing her claims to her remaining territory.*' The quotation we have made is italicised as in the printed speech before us; and we hazard the assertion that it will be found strictly to conform to the future action of Texas. She receives and accepts our proposition of annexation. By that proposition we have not assumed the payment of her national debt; but we have not reduced her size as a State, but left her her public lands. She cares not about the *non-assumpsit.* She has got the advantage of us in the transaction of annexation, and she will use it. She will prescribe her own terms, as a price of reducing her boundaries. What will be her terms? We all know. It will be, to take her lands and pay her debts. 'That,' says Col. Benton, in conclusion, 'is the precise reason why the United States should settle the terms beforehand.'

"We now ask why the 'Union' and other journals who raised such a glorification about this subject, and have made the people believe there is no further difficulty about this matter, have not noticed the omission of the Texas Convention to accept the third section, and the difficulties it must necessarily lead to? Perhaps such an admission would have shown that the whole subject was an ill-advised, indigested project; or it would have paid a merited compliment to the prescience and sagacity of the great American Senator. Whatever may have been their reasons for omitting to notice the source of difficulty, we cannot believe that they were not aware of it, or did not apprehend such would arise."

THE KENTUCKY ELECTION.

In responding to a remark of the Albany Argus that "even in Kentucky the Democracy have fought a splendid battle," the Evening Journal of the same city facetiously observes:

"We sha'nt deny that the Kentucky Locofocos fought 'a splendid battle,' nor can the Argus well dispute that they got a 'magnificent licking.' According to the latest accounts, they have not only been badly flogged in the Legislative elections, but have lost one or two members of Congress. The last delegation from Kentucky was equally divided, five Whigs and five Locofocos. In the next the Whigs will have seven and possibly eight members. That this was altogether different from the 'entertainment' which Locofocoism anticipated is evident enough from the following letter, dated Lexington, August 4th, originally published in the Union, and copied with a triumphant chuckle into the Argus and Atlas:

"'Whiggery is decidedly on the wane, and I am confident that T. F. Marshall will be elected over the Hon. G. Davis by a handsome majority.

"'From the signs of the times I am inclined to believe that we will get *eight of our Congressmen out of ten,* viz: Tibbatts, *Marshall,* &c. You will see that we are in high spirits; and, as the Whigs are like rats deserting a sinking ship, we are rising in energy, resolved to conquer our enemies.'

"This estimate of the result in Kentucky, which, coming through the Union and Argus, may be regarded as 'official,' allowed the Whigs but *two* out of the ten members of Congress; the Locos modestly claiming the balance for themselves. The votes, however, tell a very different story."

FROM TEXAS.

An arrival at New Orleans brings Texas papers to the 5th instant. There is, however, nothing of importance in them. The United States troops were on St. Joseph's Island. A steamer left Galveston on the 6th for Corpus Christi, to convey them to the main land. The United States ship *St. Mary's* arrived at Galveston on the 7th instant.

The latest dates from Austin are to the 25th ultimo. The Convention had taken up the bill of rights and settled its provisions; which have been extracted chiefly from the Constitutions of other States.

The provisions relative to the Executive Department, as adopted, require that a Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be elected once in four years; a Secretary of State to be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate; a Treasurer and Comptroller to be chosen biennially by joint ballot. Two-thirds are required to pass a bill over the veto. There was a protracted discussion as to the mode of appointment of Secretary of State, Treasurer, and Comptroller, many contending that the people should elect all officers. The majority did not think so.

A struggle was made to make the Judges elective, either by the People or Legislature; but the appointment was finally given to the Governor and Senate.

There was great difference of opinion as to the time of organizing a State Government.

On the 21st, the word *native,* in the section requiring that the Governor should be a "native citizen of the United States," was stricken out.

INTERESTING FROM MEXICO.

FROM THE UNION OF MONDAY NIGHT.

Letters and papers from Mexico were received last evening, via Pensacola, at the Department of State. We have been politely furnished with the following paper, translated from the "Diario del Gobierno" of Mexico, of July 21.

The reader will of course remark that these official papers, addressed by the Executive Government of Mexico to Congress, are not so much the declaration of war as a recommendation to declare it. It remains, of course, for Congress to decide the fate of the proposition. They will determine whether they will rashly precipitate their country into a war with the United States, and will also decide upon the best mode of raising "the sinews of war," in the shape of fifteen millions of dollars.

The character of Mexican politics is so extraordinary, and this whole transaction comes "in so questionable a shape," that one is puzzled to understand its bearings and its consequences. Is the Mexican Government really determined madly on war with the United States? or, as is suggested in the letter which we lay before our readers, (received by this evening's Southern mail from Pensacola,) is it a mere political manœuvre to ensure the re-election of General Herrera? Be the motive what it may, it becomes us to be efficiently prepared to meet any consequences which may ensue, and to assert the honor and rights of our country.

Translation of a Report addressed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico to the Chamber of Deputies on the 26th of July, 1845.

The Supreme Government, after attentively examining the affairs of Texas and the annexation of that department to the American Union—after weighing carefully all the evils which the Republic may suffer therefrom, if its offended honor and the integrity of its territory, thus seriously endangered, should not be vindicated by the means and in the form established by the law of nations—has decided, with the unanimous consent of the Council, upon the painful extremity of a war with the United States. Although this resolution, resting upon clear and acknowledged justice, and provoked by a series of grievances not to be borne without disgrace, has long since been indicated, and is conformable with the repeated demands of the nation, yet the Government could not but reflect upon the responsibility involved by such a measure, and on the evident circumstance that, as the election of a constitutional President and the establishment of a new administration are near at hand, the Chamber might consider it more natural to leave to that body the decision of a point of such transcendent importance. But the Supreme Government has not wished to appear for a moment less decided in favor of a just and national war than it was disposed for a worthy and honorable peace.

The Government continues to prepare the most efficient measures for recovering Texas, and for placing the nation in the attitude most proper for it. If it does not effect all that it desires, it certainly does all that it can; and the Chamber should not doubt either its efforts or its patriotism. On this very day are prepared the financial measures which must, from their nature, precede the execution of the present initiatory resolution.

The Chamber will bear in mind the third part of the 34th article of the treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation with the United States. In the opinion of the Government, it has already practised over and above all that is therein required.

In virtue of what is here said, and of the circumstances and documents communicated to the Chamber relative to this important affair, and under the conviction that the facts to which the first article of the following resolution refers will be confirmed, his excellency the President, at a Council of the Ministers, and with their full assent, has been pleased to order me to address the Chamber in the following terms, as approved by the Council:

Article 1. From the moment when the Supreme Government shall know that the department of Texas has annexed itself to the American Union, or that troops from the Union have invaded it, it shall declare the nation at war with the United States of North America.

Art. 2. The object of this war shall be to secure the integrity of the Mexican territory, according to its ancient limits, acknowledged by the United States in treaties from the year 1828 to 1836, and to ensure the independence of the nation.

God and liberty!—Mexico, July 21, 1845.

LUIS G. CUEVAS.

On the same day a proposition was submitted to the Chamber of Deputies by the Minister of Finance, for a law empowering the Government to contract a loan of fifteen millions of dollars, either at home or abroad.

The report accompanying the proposition intimates that the funds are to be raised by extraordinary means—that is, by force.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PENSACOLA, AUGUST 11.

"In the New Orleans papers of the 6th, 7th, and 8th instant, you will see it stated, under the head of Mexican news, received there by the schooner Relampago, which sailed from Vera Cruz on the 21st ultimo, that there is a strong probability that Mexico will soon declare war against the United States; and that such a measure would be submitted by the Executive on the 17th July, for the deliberation of Congress.

"The French brig-of-war *Mercure* has just anchored in this harbor, bringing dates as late as the 27th July from Vera Cruz. I have seen the commander of the brig, and he is of opinion, derived from conversing with his countrymen long established in Mexico, that the war proposition above mentioned is a political measure to ensure the election of General Herrera; and that no one at all acquainted with Mexican politics believes that Congress will, in any case, acquiesce in it. It is said to have been accompanied by a message from the Executive, stating that *fifteen millions* must be raised at once, to meet the expenses of the war. I write in great haste, as the mail is just closing."

A STEAMER SUNK—EIGHT LIVES LOST.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DETROIT ADVERTISER.

At half-past 3 A. M. of Tuesday, below Point au Pellee, on Lake Erie, the "London" steamer from Buffalo, and the "Kent" steamer on her downward passage, came in contact with a dreadful crash, and the result of the concussion was the loss of the latter boat, and, we grieve to add, several lives.

I have no heart to dwell upon the scene we witnessed. For some minutes we supposed we had broken the machinery of the London, and were going to the bottom; and were only relieved from the apprehension of a watery grave by the sight of the Kent rapidly sinking, at our bows. Every effort was made to save her passengers, and all who were in sight were saved; several of those from the cabin being transferred to our boat without even their clothes. But, sad to say, a number were lost, being unable to gain the upper deck in time. Among these we reckon—

Rev. James E. Quaw, of Redford, Michigan.
Mr. Chauncey Osborn, of Genesee, New York.
Mr. Seth Deming, of Berlin, Connecticut.
Master Bruce Deming, of Galena, Wisconsin Territory.
Mr. James Lowden, of Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Ywo young ladies and a boy from near Ypsilanti, names not known.

All the officers and hands of the boat, and seventy-nine passengers, including ten children, were saved.

Without any formal proceedings on the subject our passengers have endeavored to ascertain the cause of this dreadful accident, and we have no doubt it occurred in consequence of the error in the pilot of the Kent attempting to pass on the wrong side of the London, which brought her directly across the bow. We remained five hours with the wreck gathering floating parcels of baggage, &c. and attempting to tow the hull ashore, but she gradually sunk by the head, and we were compelled to perform the sad office of hoisting her flag half-mast and leaving her to her fate.

It is feared more names will hereafter be added to the list of missing. Both the boats were owned in Canada.

LATE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

We yesterday morning received a copy of Willmer & Smith's European Times" of the 5th instant, being just two weeks old, brought by the Atlantic steamer Hibernia, which arrived at Boston on Sunday, after a passage of less than twelve days from Liverpool. We extract such portions of its contents below as appear to be of interest.

ENGLAND.—Liverpool, August 5.

Parliamentary.—The session is rapidly drawing to a close, but the precise day when the Queen is to address her "faithful Commons" cannot yet with certainty be fixed on. Probably it will not extend beyond the end of the present week. She is anxious to carry her presence to other lands, and, with all her young and buoyant feelings in their freshness, the dry details of parliamentary lore cannot compete with the attractions of the Rhine and the society of continental sovereigns.

Nevertheless, there has been some "solemn talk," and even acrimonious debates amongst our legislators on various topics more or less interesting. The subject of the tardy progress of education has been on the *tapis,* and the indefatigable Mr. Ewart has wrung something like an admission from the Premier that hereafter the pecuniary statistics of the question shall figure in the Minister's budget. The friends of education hail this as a recognition of the importance of the subject and the utility of their labors.

The last few days have been unfortunately rife in railway accidents. Misfortunes, it is said, seldom come singly, and the calamities by locomotive transit strengthen the correctness of the axiom. Lord Palmerston brought the subject before the House of Commons, and coupled it, strangely enough, with a strong condemnatory peroration on the defenceless state of our seaboard. With regard to travelling by rail, the Premier threatened, unless the directors used a keener supervision over their servants, to ease them of the duty, and transfer it to the hands of the Executive Government—a threat which will probably work a speedy and permanent cure. On the subject of national protection, he evinced less apprehension, and seemed to chide the fears of his assailant.

The Slave-trade Treaty Bill, which seeks to render the subjects of Brazil amenable to English law courts, and to treat them as pirates, has met with a becoming but a fruitless opposition.

Commercial.—The elements continue to be an object of serious apprehension, and fears for the safety of the harvest are daily on the increase. The weather continues broken, the temperature is low, there is little sunshine, and the absence of warmth is supplied by occasional falls of rain, which in some districts have done serious but not irreparable injury to the growing crops. Up to the present moment the amount of injury, taken in the aggregate, has not been heavy, and, with the return of fine weather, the produce of the fields would speedily ripen, and the result would equal, perhaps exceed, the yield of any recent year. The danger is as to the future. The harvest, under any circumstances, must be late, and a late harvest is always perilous. In the mean time, the stock of grain in the country is daily dwindling away, and calculations are being made that there is not actually more than a fortnight's consumption in hand. A bad harvest would be a national calamity.

The weather has already began to influence the corn markets. In London the rise has been considerable, and the quotations indicate not so much the business done as the fears which prevail. In the Liverpool market, on Friday and Saturday, prices improved considerably, and the market closed firm at an advance on the previous quotations. The same influence has and will be experienced in the other great corn markets of the kingdom. The upward price of grain during the last month has been steady and uniform, and the article is dearer now by 12s. to 14s. per quarter than it was at the corresponding period in July. At Liverpool, on the last market day, foreign flour improved from 2s. to 3s. per barrel, and wheat upwards of 3d. per 70 pounds. As a large supply will be looked for from North America, where the recent accounts represent the new crops as being prolific, the subject is of the last importance to our commercial readers, and to it we direct their special attention. Even with fine weather, it is believed, so low are the stocks, that the recent advance will be maintained; and, if the worst apprehensions are realized, wheat, in less than a month from this time, may be at 80s. or even 90s. per quarter. If dependence is to be placed in the accounts from the Baltic ports, the produce of wheat in the districts where it is most extensively grown is likely to be very deficient.

The state of the weather has been making itself felt in the cotton market. The gloomy atmosphere of last week chilled all disposition for business, and prices on the middling kinds of American declined ⅛d. per pound. The sales of the week were only 32,000. Yesterday, however, the market rallied a little, speculators were nibbling, and matters wore a more healthy appearance. The sales were 8,000 bags, and of this quantity 3,000 American were taken on speculation. In the manufacturing districts there has been no change worthy of notice. Business remains in nearly the same condition as at the sailing of the last packet, with perhaps less buoyancy of feeling, owing to circumstances at which we have already glanced.

FRANCE.

Paris, July 30.—On Monday, the 21st, the session of the two Chambers was formally closed by royal ordinance. Taken altogether, this session has been one of considerable importance. During it the disputes with Morocco have been satisfactorily settled; secret voting in the divisions has been abolished; the obnoxious right of search has, contrary to all expectation, been done away with; laws relative to the great lines of railway from Paris to Belgium, to Lyons, to Anjou, to Strasbourg, and others of minor importance, have been passed; the negotiations with the court of Rome for the withdrawal of the Jesuits have been crowned with success; and a very great number of laws of domestic interest have been adopted. The Ministry had some severe battles to fight at the commencement of the session, but it triumphed in all, except in that on the Tahiti question, and even then it had in its favor a majority of eight. The Cabinet altogether has reason to be satisfied with the campaign, though, of course, the Opposition newspapers cry that it was disastrous to them.

Since the termination of the session, the great question agitated in the newspapers has been, Will there, or will there not, be a dissolution of the Chambers? The different sections of the Opposition profess to be desirous of an appeal to the country; and the Ministerial organs profess to have no objection to it. If a dissolution should take place, you may depend upon it that there is every earthly probability that its result will be triumphantly in favor of Ministers; for, in this country, with the immense staff of prefects, sub-prefects, mayors, and all the host of Government functionaries under their command, they have the very best means of procuring the correctest information as to the state of feeling in every constituency; and, of course, if that feeling were against them, they would never think of dissolving the Parliament which gave them and keeps them in office and power. Perhaps they could not have a more favorable time for a dissolution than the present; for it is undeniable, let the oppressed press say what it will, that their later measures, especially the abolition of the right of search and the suppression of the Jesuits, have afforded very general, if not universal, satisfaction. At present, however, I believe that the Cabinet has come to no determination whatever on the subject of calling a new Parliament.

On questions of interest to America little has been said of importance during the fortnight that has elapsed since I last addressed you. The annexation of Texas to the United States, now that the event has taken place, has excited much attention. A very general feeling of dissatisfaction is entertained against the Ministry, and especially against M. Guizot, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, for having permitted the diplomatic agents of France to associate themselves with the agents of England in their exertions to induce the Mexican Government to acknowledge the independence of Texas, and to prevent its annexation to the United States. It is true that it is not *quite* certain that the French agents, nor even the English, have taken so very active a part against the annexation as has been represented; but still there is the best reason to believe that they regarded it, and do regard it, with any thing but favor. England's dislike of annexation may be understood; but France has no particular interest either for or against the measure.

Sunday, Monday, and yesterday, were the anniversaries of the three glorious days of July, 1830. The revolution which took place fifteen years ago overthrew for ever a family that had possessed the crown of France for centuries, and put in its place the chief of a junior branch. Fifteen years is no very long time, but it has sufficed to the astute Louis Philippe to establish his dynasty firmly. Some political parties profess to think the revolution a failure; but, in reality, it was a great triumph for the people—not a mere temporary triumph, but permanent. It is true that the pledge given to the press has not been completely fulfilled; but though the license of newspapers has been restrained, they enjoy every reasonable liberty of discussing men and things. As usual the revolution has been duly celebrated this year. On Sunday alms were distributed to the poor, and the public buildings and monuments were decorated with tri-colored flags; on Monday prayers were offered in most of the churches for the repose of the souls of those slain in battling for popular rights; and on Tuesday (yesterday) there were rejoicings of all kinds and descriptions.

A statue has been erected in the Court of the Louvre to the memory of the Duc d'Orleans, the King's eldest son, who was killed by a fall from his carriage three years ago. It bears a simple inscription, "L'Armée au Duc d'Orleans, Prince Royal."

One of the newspapers publishes a letter from China, in which a very awful account is given of the prospect of establishing commerce between this country and that. The Chinese, says the writer, dislike French wines and brandy; the little nick-nacks for which Paris is celebrated they don't care for, being able to make as good themselves; cloths they can get at a cheaper rate from England and Germany; and in other articles they are undersold by the English and the Amecans. In *mousselines de laine* and *indrinnes* the writer thinks it possible that something may be done, but not much. He concludes his disheartening epistle with the assertion that there "will never be any commerce worth speaking of between France and China." This letter is of an entirely different effect to others that have been published, but it is said to be from an eminent mercantile man now or lately in China.

TAHITI.

There is likely to be more trouble at Tahiti. The French having refused to permit the English frigate Talbot to communicate with the shore, unless her commander would consent to salute, not only the French flag, but the flag of the protectorate which the French have established in that island, the real object being, no doubt, to prevent General Miller, the English Consul-General for the Islands of the Pacific, who was on board the frigate, from landing to assume his Consular duties. Admiral Seymour was expected to proceed from Callao to Tahiti in the Collingwood, of 80 guns, to demand an explanation of this unfriendly act on the part of the French authorities.

RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg, July 19.—The General commanding in Caucasus, Woronzow, has succeeded in gaining a victory; but, though made the most of by our officials, it does not appear to have been a very brilliant affair. Nevertheless, as a victory, it is something, for so far Russia has had more defeats than triumphs in her encounters with her daring and warlike foes.

The Emperor has issued a ukase, depriving certain classes of the privilege of obtaining nobility, in virtue of official station, with the same ease as has heretofore been customary. The measure is agreeable to the aristocracy, for the yearly additions to their ranks became so considerable as to lessen the consideration with which they think it desirable that the aristocracy should be regarded.

The Empress, I regret to say, is in feeble health. Her Majesty takes great interest in promoting the welfare of the poorer classes, and has lately caused to be established, under her patronage, an institution for giving employment and assistance to the needy.

PRUSSIA.

Berlin, July 22.—Four things at present occupy the attention of our people and press. The first is the Zoll-Verein, on which there is no end to talk, and scribbling, and guessing; but as the real deliberations of the persons deputed by the different States only commence on the 8th of August, though their formal meeting took place a fortnight ago, and as the result of those deliberations will not be known for some time, it is useless to occupy one's self with the aforesaid gossip. The next thing is the visit of the Queen of England to the banks of the Rhine, for which great preparations are being made. The third is the gigantic concerts and ceremonies that are to take place at Bona, on the occasion of the inauguration of the statue of Beethoven, on the 10th of August. The last, and perhaps most important of all, is the project of the constitution, which the King is said to be determined to give. A constitution to Prussia was promised years ago, but delayed on one pretence or the other. The present King long since declared that the people were entitled to it, and when the royal power passed into his hands, he promised that they should have it. But, though prayed and entreated again and again, he has hitherto always shuffled out of the fulfilment of his pledge. Whether at last his conscience has pricked him into the redemption of his solemn promise, I know not. For my part I am not very sanguine that it has; but still the press seems confident of the matter, and even gives a sketch of what the new constitution will be.

Count d'Arnim, the able Minister of the Interior, has quitted the Cabinet, and is succeeded by Monsieur Bodelschwing. But this appointment is only temporary, and there are reports of a complete change in the Ministry.

There is no mercantile intelligence worth giving. The reports current as to the part to be taken by Prussia in the Zoll-Verein are so contradictory, that it is evident that the people who set them on foot have no access to authentic information. *Indeed,* I do not believe that our Cabinet has decided on any particular course of action, but modifies its instructions to its agent from day to day, according to circumstances.

The new church continues its course, and meets with success and with defeat; but upon the whole it gains more triumphs than checks. The Pope applied to the King to take measures to prevent the spread of the schism; but his Majesty refused, reminding his Holiness that he did not help him (the King) in his struggle a little while ago on the mixed marriages question. The Government gives no encouragement to the new sect, but on the contrary regards its proceedings with very great inquietude. Still it has not refused it permission to celebrate its rites in the Protestant churches, when the ministers thereof give permission.

From the neighboring States there is no news that I think worth communicating. Wurtemburg, though a small kingdom, indeed, ever advancing in a liberal direction, has lately passed laws giving the same privileges, political and civil, to the Jews as are enjoyed by other classes.

SWITZERLAND.

Lucerne, July 24.—The deliberations of the Diet have hitherto been without political interest, and of a mere domestic character. The motion to postpone the assembling of the Federal Camp for a year was rejected by a large majority. The discussion of the question as to the revision of the *pacte federal* has been again postponed.

A very melancholy event has plunged the country into consternation and dismay. M. Leu, one of the leading members of the Jesuits party, was found dead in his bed, weltering in his blood. His partisans declare, loudly and unequivocally, that he was basely assassinated; his political opponents, on the contrary, declare with equal confidence that he committed suicide. The physicians declare that, from the position the ball took, (he was shot through the heart with a pistol,) he could not have committed suicide, and the fact that no pistol was found by his side confirms their assertion. But, on the other hand, there are no traces of any person entering the house—no noise was heard, though twenty people at least were in the house—the shutters of his bedroom were closed, and his wife, sleeping by his side, was alarmed by the report of the pistol, but saw no one. The affair is enveloped in great mystery, but it is to be hoped it will be cleared up. The agitation the matter has caused is really indescribable, and it has embittered the ill-feeling which the different parties bear towards each other. My opinion is that more blood will flow before the people become calmed down; and perhaps this suicide or assassination, whichever it may be, may be made the cause of it.

[Since the above paragraph was set in type the French papers bring intelligence that the murderer has been apprehended. He had been a laborer in the service of M. Leu, had borrowed money from his master, who had recently demanded it, and hence the committal of the bloody deed. These facts, if correct, relieve the atrocity of the still deeper stain which previously attached to it. As a deed of blood, the murder is sufficiently bad, but these disclosures take from the crime all complexion of a national stain.

DREADFUL CATASTROPHE.

Constantinople, July 17.—On the night of the 11th instant, on the Black Sea, about forty miles east of the Bosphorus, a most dreadful catastrophe took place. Two Turkish steamers, the one coming from and the other going to Trebisond, came into sudden collision, and one of them went down with the greater part of the crew and passengers.

The vessels were the Scutari, commanded by Mr. Dubbins, and the Medjehrai Tidjahret, commanded by Mr. Lambert. After the collision the vessels parted; the Medjehrai Tidjahret dropped about a mile astern, and in the course of less than a quarter of an hour it was found she was sinking rapidly. The Scutari, which had got but slight damage, then went to her help, but it was too late.

About seventy persons, by swimming and by clinging to spars, reached the Scutari, where they clustered around the paddle-boxes until they were taken in. Captain Lambert and an engineer were picked up by a boat of the Scutari. All the rest, one hundred and thirty-five souls, perished. Their agony was a short one, but it was terrific.

As the Scutari approached the wreck it heeled over, (the people on the deck being visible in moonlight,) and as the sea sucked her down—as the vortex of waters she formed in sinking almost made the Scutari spin round with the motion—there rose a scream of utter horror—a last scream—which those who heard will never forget. But more impressive still was the passive resignation of the Turks; they sat motionless muttering their prayers; neither by cry nor gesture did they manifest any consternation! In passive silence, amid the shrieks of despair of Christians, the fatalists met their frightful doom. From the first shock to the sinking of the vessel not more than half an hour elapsed.

The captains of the two vessels were English; the engineers were also English.