

when called out to practise. There were from eleven to thirteen barrels of powder lying in the mansion for a considerable length of time. It was usually kept, as being most out of the way of danger, in a dark and narrow passage leading from one wing of the castle to the other. In this passage—very little traversed at any time—some of the gunpowder had become damp, and was ordered by Mr. Macartney to be laid out to dry. What quantity was taken from the barrels is as yet unknown, but it must have been considerable from the effects which ensued. The powder had remained for some days spread out in the passage. On Tuesday morning Mrs. Macartney, the lady of the proprietor, having occasion to pass through the passage, took with her a lighted candle. Whether she knew that the destructive material was in the situation described, no person can tell; but she had scarcely been a minute in the place when an explosion took place, the roar of which was heard like a burst of thunder, and in an instant, with the exception of the opposite wing from the spot, the castle was a mass of ruins, the unfortunate lady being blown to atoms. It is impossible to know how the melancholy event primarily ensued. Although there were a number of servants in the castle at the time of the explosion, no one was injured save their lady, they being in the wing situated at the other extremity of the building. The lady who met so sudden and violent an end was universally esteemed.

Open Air Meeting of Labourers.—On Tuesday, five hundred agricultural labourers assembled in the camp field at Knockfeiran, county of Limerick, to devise measures for obtaining food by employment. An address to the public, showing their destitute condition, was adopted. The Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, Parish Priest of Ballingarry, attended to preserve order among the crowd. The reverend gentleman has addressed a letter to Mr. Smith O'Brien, describing the distress of his parishioners, stating that there is no employment of any kind in the district, and that "the time for out-door relief has come."

Eviction of Tenantry.—The Limerick Examiner says:—"A correspondent informs us that Mr. John Bouchier of Bago's Town, in this county, has had notice to quit served on nearly all his tenants in the neighbourhood of Kilmallock. Mr. Bouchier is a middle man."

Further attempts to reduce Wages.—The feverish excitement which had nearly subsided among the operatives of Ashton-under-Lyne is likely to be again called into action by a resolution come to by the millowners during the past week, to make a reduction of wages of ten per cent.—a reduction which would place the operatives on the same footing as they were previous to the memorable simultaneous strikes throughout the manufacturing districts.

Substitute for Potatoes.—A large importation of West India yams has lately taken place in consequence of the anticipated scarcity of potatoes, which has given a stimulus to the cultivation of this tropical substitute for that root. Some tons have been sold for the purpose of cattle feeding, and a quantity has also been sent gratuitously to Ireland, to test their applicability to the feeding of pigs.

The late Bountiful Harvest.—The public thanksgiving for the late bounteous harvest has been ordered by her Majesty in Council to be generally observed this day, the 17th. Her Majesty has also ordered that collections should be made in aid of the destitution in Ireland and Scotland, which has unhappily not yet ceased. The selection of Sunday for the public prayers on the present occasion will, it is hoped, add materially to the amount of the public contributions, and it will also have the effect of not depriving the industrious classes of a working day.

Mr. Cobden.—A magnificent banquet was given in Hamburg on the 5th instant, in honor of Mr. Cobden, M. P. There were 700 persons present. The chairman of the festival, in the course of his speech, remarked:—"That the Hanse Towns, which were always distinguished for their love of freedom and their encouragement of enterprise, seized this opportunity of evincing their sympathy with the principles of free trade." He concluded with proposing a sentiment—"The Nurse of all Freedom—Free Trade." The other speakers were equally earnest in the expression of their confidence in the happy influences of an unrestricted intercourse between all nations, and took occasion to compliment our esteemed countryman on the prominent part he enacted in the emancipation of British commerce. Mr. Cobden arrived in London on the 11th instant.

Another Prasin Affair.—An extraordinary sensation has been created at Darmstadt, by the mysterious death of the Countess de Goerlitz, who was found sitting in her room, dead and dreadfully burnt, but without it being possible to conceive how this could have occurred by accident. It is suspected that she was strangled, and that she was then placed on a charcoal fire, (subsequently removed,) to destroy all traces of the means employed to commit the murder. As the Count her husband, who is a man of some note, having been ambassador to the Court of Nassau, and filled a mission in Holland, was known to be on bad terms with the Countess, public rumour accused him of the murder, and, an investigation having been entered upon, some suspicious circumstances were revealed. It appears, however, that at the date of the last accounts the affair was still involved in mystery.

Loss of the War Steamer "Cleopatra."—For several weeks past a feeling of the deepest regret has prevailed amongst the authorities of the East India House, in Leadenhall-street, in consequence of the receipt of intelligence from the Company's Marine Depot at Bombay, announcing the probable loss of the above-mentioned vessel. She steamed from Bombay on the 14th of April last, with orders for Singapore, and had on board nearly 200 convicts. Her crew comprised 70 persons. There was also a detachment of marines on board. Among the officers in charge of the ship may be mentioned—Captain J. A. Young, commander, Lieut. Eden, Lieut. Ralph, Mr. F. W. Nott, Mr. T. G. Croad, acting master, and Mr. J. Soady, son of Captain Soady, R. N. Four days after the departure from Bombay, it came on a frightful hurricane, which continued with unabated violence three days—the 17th, 18th and 19th. It is very probable that the Cleopatra had at the time of encountering the storm, reached the Malabar coast, off which, unfortunately, there is too much reason to believe she foundered, with every human being on board. It is added that her peculiar build had unfitted her for the service in which she was employed.

Capture of Four Slavers.—By a French steamer arrived from St. Thomas's we have accounts of the capture of four slave vessels—three of them by the Ferret, 8, Commander Sprigg. The first captured by the Ferret was taken June 27th, after a long chase by night. She was a Brazilian brigantine of 180 tons, fully equipped, and bound to Cape Lopez. The Ferret, three weeks after that, captured a small schooner named the Sebastiano, also fully equipped; and on the 16th of July, off Cape Maguerita, gave chase to a Brazilian brig, which turned out on capture to be the Faiska. She beat the Ferret in sailing; but the wind falling light, Mr. Mitchell, the master, with a boat's crew, was detached from the cruiser after her. Great credit is due to Mr. Mitchell for the gallant and spirited manner in which he dashed alongside and seized the slaver, who from her appearance, was just the craft to make some resistance, especially as from the time the boat shoved off to coming up with her she had gained two miles on the Ferret. She is a splendid craft, and quite new. She was from Hamburg, Liverpool, and Rio, which was the only trip she had made previously to being captured. She had a picked crew of 20 men, notwithstanding they all threw their arms into the sea when the Ferret's boat got within hailing distance. The Rapid, Commander Dixon, captured her prize off Loango, on the 6th July. It was a Brazilian brigantine of 160 tons.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

The whole of her Majesty's ministers assembled in town on the 12th inst., when a council was held; and it is expected that successive meetings of the cabinet will take place during the next few weeks.

The report is in circulation that Mr. Herries, formerly Chancellor of the Exchequer, is to be put forward as the leader of the Conservative party, in lieu of Lord George Bentinck, when the new parliament assembles.

There are in the new House of Commons fifty-four eldest sons of peers, seven heirs presumptive, thirty-five younger sons, nineteen grandsons, forty-five brothers, and altogether 266 persons connected with the peerage.

About 160 persons sat down, on the 8th inst., at Bornheim, near Frankfurt, to a banquet of horse-flesh.

It is stated that the managers of the Scotch railways have commenced curtailing their expenditure, and 100 workmen were discharged last week.

A deputation of the Society of Friends is now in Dublin, negotiating for the purchase of £40,000 of waste land on the coast of Donegal, for the purpose of promoting an extensive lobster fishery.

Extensive robberies of bills of exchange, &c., have been discovered at the Paris Post-office; they have been committed by a clerk in the post-office, named Niogret, who employed an accomplice named Camuse to get payment for the bills. Both have been convicted, and Niogret has been sentenced to eight and Camuse to six years' hard labour at the hulks.

In consequence of a rather serious disturbance having taken place at Port-au-Prince on the 22d ult., endangering to a certain extent the lives of British subjects resident there, her Majesty's schooner Viper, Commander Hoare, has been dispatched from Port Royal to that place for the purpose of affording such protection to British interest as may be required. She sailed early this morning.

Parliament has been further prorogued till the 11th November.

Louis Philippe completed his 74th year on the 5th instant.

The wife of the celebrated Vidocq has committed suicide in Paris.

The Archbishop of Paris has just been named by the Pope Count of the Holy Roman Empire.

The Emperor of Russia has sent to England as a present to the Zoological Society, two aurochs, or European bisons. These rare animals have never before been seen in England.

It is rumoured that Lieutenant Munro's sentence will be further commuted to six months, and that he will again have a commission in the army.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

ITALY.

The Austrians gave up Ferrara on the 3d inst. to the Pontifical troops. His Holiness tried, without effect, mild and conciliating remonstrances to induce the Austrian cabinet to withdraw the troops. He then, it is said, informed Count Lutzw, that if human means failed to enable him to preserve the trust which had been confided to him, he would have recourse to divine means. He would first address himself to the whole Christian world, and if after that Austria should persist in keeping her troops in the city of Ferrara, he would be compelled to resort to excommunication. Before this threat Austria recoiled. The guard houses of the town were surrendered by the Austrian troops to the national guard.

Rome continues perfectly quiet. The people seem to have received this news with dignified tranquility. The election of the officers of the national guard was proceeding without any extraordinary excitement. Happily the fears of the retirement of Cardinal Feretti were unfounded.

It is said that the Pope addressed a letter to the King of Naples, in which his Holiness expressed his regret that the useful reforms which he judged it necessary to adopt in his own dominions should be taken as a pretext of revolt in neighbouring states; but at the same time he impressed on the King the expediency of a timely concession of wise reforms. The accounts respecting the insurgents in the two Sicilies are still contradictory. In Lucca the liberty of the press has been declared, but with such restrictions as to reduce the right to nothing.

Letters from Venice of the 22d ult. announce the death of Rear-Admiral Bandiera. With him the last of his race is consigned to the grave, a race that the two noble youths who fell on the scaffold of Cosenzas were to have continued to posterity. He was buried with all the military honours due to his rank.

A commercial congress is about to assemble at Turin, for the purpose of organising an Italian Customs League which Naples has refused to join.

Count Bresson was believed to have presented a note to the King, in which M. Guizot declared that France would oppose all foreign intervention in the affairs of Italy, as well as the intervention of Italian princes in those of their neighbours.

The last accounts from Italy announce the abdication of the Duke of Lucca in favour of the Grand Duke of Tuscany. The fact was made known by the Marquis Mazzarola, the President of the Council of Regency, and it was celebrated at Lucca by a *Te Deum*. The Count Gherardesca, Major-Domo to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, was to proceed on the 10th of October to Lucca to take possession of the Duchy in the name of his sovereign, and was to be accompanied by some troops, in order to give more splendour to the ceremony.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* of the 11th inst. announces a change in the Sardinian Ministry. Count Solar de la Margarita, Minister for Foreign Affairs, reputed the chief of the retrograde party, and the Marquis de Villamarina, Minister of War and Marine, who represented the Liberal interests in the Cabinet, had both resigned their functions. M. de la Margarita had been replaced by M. Asinari de San Marsano, the present Sardinian Minister at Naples, and M. de Villamarina by Count Broglia de Casal Borgone, Major-General commanding the brigade of Savoy. The King, moreover, had appointed the Chevalier des Ambrois Minister of the Interior, and the Marquis Cesar Alfieri di Sostegno Minister of Public Instruction.

The correspondent of the *Daily News*, writing from Rome on the 5th, says:

"News of the final wind-up of our peaceful revolution by the announced evacuation of Ferrara on the 3d has spread general joy throughout the city. You will hear of splendid rejoicings and other results from me on the 7th, the day of my regular despatch. I write to day merely to tell you what a number of British artists met last evening in *Via Condotti*, on receipt of the joyful intelligence, and held an extra banquet in commemoration. Hogan, the sculptor, took the chair in his costume of national guard, and the following extemporaneous song was chanted by Robert Macpherson, Esq. (one of the Cluny bodies), who, wearing a flowing red beard, and being blessed with a strong Scotch accent, electrified the assembly with his unpremeditated melody:—

THE NEW GERUSALEMME LIBERATA.

Air.—*Malbrook s'en va-t-en guerre.*

'The Germans are gone frae Ferrara!
So ends all their tantararara!
An 'eagle' is now 'avis rara'
In Tasso's poetical town.

'Says the Pope, putting on his tiara,
To Austria—'You're drunk, *mia cara!*
Be off from the streets of Ferrara,
Or else I may 'find you a Crown.'

'Pay the wine sellers, next, for the sack ye owe,
You have got the *strong place* of Comacchio;
But from that, too (says Cicerowhackio),
We'll bundle you before long.