

were transmitted by telegraph from Paris, and she sailed instantly on the arrival of the messenger from Paris with the despatches. It may be that the Brig sent out to carry M. Serrurier home.—[N. Y. Courier & Enquirer, Feb. 21.]

French and American Disputes.

To the Editor of the Courier.

Paris, Jan. 10.

SIR,—The speech of the President of the United States has filled us with sorrow and regret—sorrow, that the Chief of the American Government should feel it his duty to express himself as he has done, with reference to France, on a question of twenty-five millions of francs, or a million sterling—and regret, that a foolish vote of the Chamber of Deputies last session should have justified the language which is now held. As, however, it is very possible that the history of this transaction may not be familiar to you, I propose to supply you with a narrative of the negotiation, and of their results, to the present time.

In 1800, a commercial treaty between France and the United States was signed. It established the principle of free navigation, and the rights and obligations of a neutral flag and states. This principle of maritime neutrality was again consecrated in 1803 by a treaty between the two countries, which had for its object the cession of Louisiana to America; and on the other hand, the granting of commercial advantages to France. The principle that the flag covered the merchandise, and that right of search should not be allowed, was adopted, and that right of search for their protection; but England, as mistress of the ocean, would not consent to it, and, therefore, immediately after the treaty of 1803 had been signed, issued new Orders in Council, submitting neutral flags to the right of search, and even to imprisonment, and compelled American vessels to touch at English ports, and discharge and re-charge their cargoes, before proceeding to their future destination. Of these Orders in Council, it is unnecessary to pronounce any opinion, as they gave rise to a French and European war, and to a resistance upon which history has already decided.

In 1805, new Orders in Council imposed new restrictions, which were again opposed, and in 1806 England declared all the ports between Brest and the mouth of the Elbe in a state of blockade. This continual blockade was met by the savage and odious decrees of Berlin and Milan, and the battle of Waterloo in 1815 decided the long-contested disputes. In 1803 and 1805, the United States of America submitted without hesitation to the Order of the Council. It is said that this line of conduct was dictated by the old Federal party, which was always opposed to France, and which dominated in sea-port towns, and in all the northern states. Napoleon, on the contrary, replied to these Orders of the Council, by the decree of Berlin, which declared the British Isles in a state of blockade. In having recourse to this measure, Napoleon said to the Americans, "You always admit the pretensions of England; you suffer her cruelties to visit your vessels; you allow yourselves to be conducted into British ports, or you go there by her orders. Besides this, you pay a tax on the cargoes which you carry. Thus you constitute yourselves the vessels and the subjects of England. The moment you so act, I consider you no longer as Americans. In my eyes, your ships are English ships—your cargoes are English cargoes—and, in one word, you have authorized our flag." The United States thus found herself placed between the menaces of France and the Order in Council of England, and witnessed, off the American coast, the imprisonment of sailors on American vessels, and the attack of the Chesapeake. In 1807, the President, Jefferson, ordered all American ships to enter into American ports, and thus to prevent the meditated attacks on the independence of the American navy.

This order was made in ignorance of the decree of Napoleon of Berlin, but in knowledge of his decrees of Berlin. The execution of this order, issued by President Jefferson, became very difficult, and was eluded by many American vessels, which continued to convey English merchandise, to those German, Austrian, Italian, and Spanish ports, which were not occupied by French troops. The American Government subsequently issued an order, prohibiting American vessels from having communication with France or Great Britain, but re-establishing all relations with the other powers. When this last order of the American Government, prohibiting any intercourse with France, was published, Napoleon took into his head to consider this measure as a declaration of rupture between France and America, and founded his complaint on the fact, that, as he had permitted American vessels, which were in the French ports, to return to the United States on the demand of Jefferson, that now America had no right to prohibit the intercourse of American vessels with France. This was almost absurd reasoning on the part of Napoleon; for, inasmuch as he had complained of American vessels holding intercourse with England, and submitting to English search, &c., the Government of the United States declares that an intercourse should take place with either France or England, in American vessels, in (Napoleon) ought to have been satisfied, if he was not so, had he signed at Rambouillet a decree, or a decree that every vessel, which was in a French port, should, from the 20th of May following, be brought into or enter a French port, or a port of any French colony, or of any country occupied by its arms, should be seized, sold, and the produce thereof be paid into the sinking fund of the national debt.

By virtue of this abominable decree, which was most outrageously unjust, various seizures were made in the port of St. Sebastian and in other places of American vessels. In addition to this, at the epoch of the expedition of St. Domingo, several American vessels were burnt on the high seas by the French fleet, with no other object than to prevent by that means, the secret of its expedition from being discovered. These seizures and this destruction of property are the basis of the American claims made to-day; claims which are most just and undeniable, and which no one who respects France and her national honor, can refuse to recognize. On the 2d Novr. 1810, the Government of the United States recalled its decree of "non-intercourse" as far as France was concerned, and required England to revoke her Orders in Council within a short time.

In 1811 and 1812, when the relations between the two countries were established, and when negotiations were opened for the adoption of a treaty founded on the principle of maritime neutrality, Mr. Barlow, the American minister, demanded of Napoleon 70 millions of francs, as an indemnity for past seizures and losses, and Napoleon went as far as to offer 30 millions. He thus recognized, as far as America was concerned, the justice of his barbarous decrees of Berlin and Milan, and the flagrant injustice of the burning of American vessels by the French fleet proceeding to St. Domingo. In the meantime the U. States had declared war against England, and Napoleon, then engaged in his expedition against Russia, invited Mr. Barlow to meet him at Wilna, in order to terminate the treaty. Mr. Barlow, however, never reached him, and died on his journey. This war terminated in a state of suspense until the month of January, in the year 1814, when France was visited by all her former allies, and when the United States came forward in the war against the British flag and British navy. Napoleon, being victorious of standing well with America, directed the Duke of Angoulême to examine the claims made, principally with reference to the burning of the ships of the St. Domingo fleet, and these were said to be just and right to the extent of 18 millions of francs. This did not include the claims for seizures of American vessels, by virtue of the decrees of Berlin and Milan.

Then arrive the restoration of peace, and although the annual message of the President always referred to the subject, yet no direct negotiations were renewed until 1818. From 1818 to 1830, the question was always on the tapis. Delay was added to delay, and intrigue to intrigue, and in the meantime, the claims of the merchants and American subject were brought up by a few individuals for the lowest possible price. Some of the pretensions that France owes nothing to America. At length came the revolution of 1830. In 1831 the negotiations were renewed, and a treaty was signed, by which France agreed to pay 25 millions of francs to the United States. For a long time, M. Casimir Perrier endeavored to reduce the sum to 15 millions, but America would not consent, and the treaty was signed. For three years this treaty was kept secret by the French Government, and it was not until 1834 that it was presented to the French Chamber of Deputies for its ratification.

The Chamber of Deputies refused its approbation, on the ground that a compensation had been granted, indirectly, or the seizures of American vessels in Spanish ports, by a treaty which was made between Spain and the United States, by which the former power ceded the Florida to America; and therefore, that France is not bound to pay any sum of money to the United States, that Government having already been indemnified for its losses in respect of seizures, by the Spanish cession of the Florida. Still, at any rate, the burning of the ships by the St. Domingo fleet, remains to be paid for, and yet the treaty has been wholly rejected. This has led to the determination of the President of the United States; and it may end in another American war.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

J. O. U.

But from the commercial sensation yesterday the panic in the money and stock markets, and the change, an ordinary observer would suppose that hostilities were inevitable, if they had not already commenced. Stocks of all descriptions, excepting that of the U. S. Bank, experienced a fall; and marine stocks fell from ten to twelve per cent. French brandies rose twenty cents; and French silks and other goods experienced a corresponding advance. Saltpetre rose twenty per cent. The speculators were of course active. A meeting of the underwriters was held in the evening, for consultation, but they adjourned without any decided action.

This change in the aspect and character of the difficulty between the two Governments, has come upon us so suddenly, and unexpectedly, and the course of the French Government has been so peculiar—as to puzzle, we should think, wiser heads than our own. The message had been in Paris five days—the journals had discussed it, and the Government were apparently acting as though they cared but little about it. The American Minister was in the discharge of his duties, and the interchange of the ordinary courtesies of his station,—when, suddenly, as if moved by some fitful impulse, or governed by passion or freak, or other cause unknown, the diplomatic relations between the two countries were terminated, and Mr. Livingston shown the door, with as much abruptness as though he had been engaged in a conspiracy against the life of the Citizen King. The perplexity is moreover increased, as we remarked yesterday, by the official notification of the indemnity Bill is again forthwith to be introduced.

Now, what are we to make of it all? It is very certain that the decision of the French Cabinet was to recall Mr. Serrurier, and dismiss Mr. Livingston, not an act of premeditation, or there has been greater duplicity on the occasion, than we can suppose possible. The public, and Mr. Livingston, were alike taken by surprise in the premises, and knew not what to make of it—and we are no better off ourselves. Still, we have no belief in sudden hostilities. Should the Indemnity Bill pass, there will of course be no war. And should it not pass, there will be none—at least for the present. The breach may not be narrowed for some weeks to come, but the moment the French Government receives the Report of the Senate, together with the pacific resolution of that body, with assurances that a corresponding feeling prevails in the House of Representatives, the irritation produced by the Message, will probably disappear.

The truth is, the policy of the world is peace—of France in particular. The occupant of the crazy throne of the Bourbons will be cautious about involving himself in a war, which might extend itself ultimately, so as to draw in other nations, and perhaps in the end be the means of jostling his self over. The Merchants of France do not want a war. And the People of the United States do not want a war—whatever may be desired by Gen. Jackson. He, we know, loves a tempest, and would rush into hostilities to-morrow, if he could. But the Congress—at least the Senate—will not let him. We shall, therefore have no immediate war. But a non-intercourse act with France is very probable. To such a measure we should respond Amen.

It will be seen by the sales this day that Marine Stock has again fallen from 2½ to 6 per cent.—N. Y. Com. Advertiser.

FROM THE EAST INDIES.—Calcutta papers announce the existence of disturbances in the province of Mysore, which a strong military force had been detached to quell. The peace of the district of Visagapatnam also had been again broken in the month last quarter by the re-appearance of a noted rebel, who was said to have had 600 followers. Four companies had marched against him, and he had not, as in former attempts, been joined by any of the vil zers.

Our latest advices from the Oriental Mart of British Commerce, are of the 23d of October, at which time goods were generally high, and in consequence of their increased price, the Philadelphia ship Liberty was not expected to leave there until January. The speculation in metals had subsided.

The English trade with China was stopped on the 17th of August, in consequence of the course of Lord Napier, the Commissioner, who insisted upon a direct communication with the Vice Roy which was refused him. His Lordship had convened a meeting of the merchants and had promised, if they thought it necessary, to bring the Frigate, in which he was conveyed to China, up to Whampoa. There were about 500 sail of merchantmen (British) in Whampoa Bay. It is said that in consequence of this interruption of commercial intercourse very many of the Hong merchants had failed. It would seem from the Calcutta Harkara that this suspension of trade originated with the British, and not with the Chinese—but a cause, adequate to such an important effect, has not been assigned.

FROM SMYRNA.—Intelligence has been received at Boston from Smyrna to the 13th of December; the plague had begun to assume a formidable character at Alexandria on the 30th of November. On the 18th it attacked the arsenal, where 2000 workmen were assembled. Five Egyptian vessels of war had the disease on board, and measures were taken to cut off all communication between them and others.

Blacki Effendi has been appointed Ambassador to London, in the place of Naik Pacha, who has been recalled.—The new Ambassador is to be accompanied by a large number of young men of distinguished rank.

The Cholera is said to have made its appearance in several parts of Arabia.

During the proceedings yesterday at Green street Mr. Ruliven made use of very strong language personally offensive to the Lord Mayor, in alluding to a bill extensively posted through the city bearing the name of his Lordship; to the effect that if Mr. Ruliven should be one of the elected members, that he would be incapable of taking his seat in Parliament for the want of the proper qualification. The consequence was that the Lord Mayor, on returning to the Mansion House, immediately sent for Alderman Sir J. Kingston James, Bart., and formally resigned his office of Chief Magistrate for the city, and appointed Sir John James his *locum tenens*.—(Having also sent for Captain Cottingham he requested him to convey a hostile message to Mr. Ruliven in the event of his declining to make an apology for the offensive expressions he had used. This requisition the ex-M. P. absolutely refused to comply with, and declared he would not make any, the slightest apology or retraction, but named Ebenezer Jacob, Esq. also ex-M. P. as his

successor from Mayor, having resumed his office and the usual insignia, was most cordially greeted and congratulated. The firmness displayed by him was the theme of universal satisfaction, and he had all praise; he has a very young and numerous family. The bad taste evinced by the ex-M. P. in continuing to wear the hat which he had on this morning, and which bore evidence of the very narrow escape he had, was by all well thinking men ridiculed, while the Destructives were using it as an incentive to their party to further exertions. Every thing goes nobly on, and the result of this poll will no doubt be but a precursor of each day's success.

ELECTION NEWS.—Lord Ramsay and Mr. Learmonth, the Tory candidates for the representation of the city of Edinburgh, have been defeated by Mr. Abercrombie and Sir John Campbell, both of whom held office under the late Ministry.

It is said, that in the event of Sir William Rae being elevated to the Bench, of which there is a probability, Lord Ramsay will be returned to Parliament for the County of Bute.

The constituency of Perthshire have returned Mr. Fox Maule. At the close of the poll the votes stood thus

Mr. Maule, - - - - - 1453
Sir G. Murray, - - - - - 1371

This result is to be attributed, in all probability, to the disingenuous conduct of Sir George, in reference to the claims of the Dissenters. His own party, we remember, did not look with an eye of favor, either upon his promise to support these claims, nor upon his subsequent vote against them. His talents as a debater are of so high an order and his acquaintance with business so extensive, that a seat is to be procured for him elsewhere.

In Stirlingshire, Admiral Fleming, the Whig candidate, has been defeated by his old opponent, Mr. Forbes, of Callender. The latter is represented as being likely to prove an active and useful Member in the new House. Sir George Clerk has been returned for Midlothian, in opposition to Mr. Gibson Craig.

The Repeal candidates in Ireland are not doing so well as they anticipated. Mr. Maurice O'Connell got in for Tralee by so small a majority as four, and the Agitator himself is by no means sure of being returned for Dublin City. The Conservatives were but a little way behind him, and were rapidly diminishing the distance. Mr. Copeland, a Reformer, only gained his election for Coleraine by a glorious majority of one. Captain Matthew, a Tory, has succeeded in turning Mr. Talbot, a Repealer, out of Athlone. Mr. Michael T. Sadler, well known by his writings on political economy, and by his long and keen contest with the Malthusians, has been returned on the Conservative interest for the town of Belfast.

Whatever be the result of the election contests now going on in Great Britain—whether a majority of Conservatives be returned, or a majority of Whigs and Radicals, one thing appears to be pretty clear, that Sir Robert Peel will get a fair trial. A large body of moderate men, who usually vote with Lord Stanley and Sir James Graham, will support the new Ministry, so long as they do not deviate from the line of conduct chalked out by Sir Robert Peel in his address to the constituency of Tamworth. An explanation of the offer lately made to him to take office, Lord Stanley is represented as having stated to the electors of Lancashire:—

"All I deem it necessary to say that the offer was such as our gentleman had a right to expect from another. They attention to this point, being anxious that you should be convinced I acted rightly. It happened soon after Lord Melbourne's cabinet was dissolved. It would be foolish in me not to admit I anticipated such an offer. This anticipation, however, only enabled me to be prepared."

My refusal, Sir, of a situation, to which a similar offer was made, without any communication with me, gave, in substance, a similar answer to myself. You will, therefore, I trust, believe that our motives were at least sincere. It has been asserted, or rather insinuated, that I would not consent to act under Sir R. Peel. I allow me to say, would not have influenced me for one moment, had I only seen sufficient ground to think that my principles would have been carried into effect,—(cheers)—notwithstanding the certainty that would have awaited me for joint such an administration. We thought it best to act on our own views. We, however, are more independent, and are at full liberty to approve or disapprove of any measure that may be proposed. Allow me to say, that the offer made to me was candid, frank, and free from anything approaching insincerity. Some are pleased to talk about coalescing with the view to oppose the ministry; I shall be content to such coalition. Reformers do not necessarily entertain the same views on all subjects. Unless, therefore, there is a prospect of obtaining a better Government than that which now exists, I will be no factious opposer of its measures. I shall always take care of my own character."

Sir James Graham made use of language somewhat similar to the above, when addressing the electors of Cumberland.

DESPATCHES BY THE ORPHEUS.—The Government Despatches by the Orpheus which our news schooner brought up, were sent by the Rail-Road Line to the Post Master in Philadelphia, with a request that he would forward them by Express to Washington. We received a letter from Col. PAGE yesterday, informing us that they reached Philadelphia by express, in half an hour after the arrival of the steambot; so that in all probability they reached Washington yesterday morning about 6 o'clock—some thirty hours in advance of the mail, & no doubt their contents were submitted to Congress yesterday. We presume that Congress will not adjourn over on Sunday, and that in all that relates to placing the country in a state of defence, they will act precisely as if war had actually been declared by France. Prudence requires that they should not adjourn without providing for every contingency, and we think that the Executive should immediately convene the new Congress. We are aware that all the members are not elected; but this is the result of the States, and they must immediately convene their Legislatures and change their laws on this subject, or be content to remain unrepresented at this important crisis in our affairs.

NAVAL.—Our navy yard at Charlestown presents at this moment rather a busy scene; a number of the largest size guns, and a great quantity of ammunition were received at the yard while we were there a few days since, and we understand that more is on the way, and that orders have been received "to have the Constitution and Boston fitted for as quick as possible." The former is nearly r

with any country, would, to them, be a

able amusement. (Boston paper.)

Our News Boat has just arrived from bringing Havre papers to the 17th. The probability that the bill authorizing the American treaty will pass, a law to having been presented provided argum speeches of Dubin and M. Hamann appears, but the lateness of the hour prevents the translations.

Captain Forbes, of the Sully, from I ult., informs us that the excitement which vailed in France, was subsiding, and the general adverse to a war with the United States. The English papers approve the honest intentions of the President, and condemn the conduct of France.—Feb. 21.

Death of Mr. Justice Tanton.—The de Justice Tanton took place on Sunday night in Russell-Square. The learned Judge was walking in Oxford-street on Sunday apparently good health as he has of late William was a Judge of great and deep legal and was appointed one of judges of Court Bench in Michaelmas Term, 1830. Spankie and Coleridge have both been his probable successor.

SHIPWRECK OF THE SOVEREIGN.—We announce the loss of the fine packet ship commanded by Robert Griswold, which was London on the 8th ult. bound to New York full and very valuable cargo of dry goods, and wines, and from 1 to 2 hundred thousand dollars in gold. The ship went on shore at the morning of Tuesday on the Jersey Squam beach, thirty miles below Sandy Hook, and she now lies logged, and full of water. There were on board twenty-five cabin passengers of whom was drowned in attempting to the shore. The others were landed in safety gentleman lost, whose name we have not heard said to have been a young man, without far messenger arrived in town yesterday, him intelligence, who states that the ship will be lost; but that if the weather remains fair, a of her cargo may be saved. At the time the senger started, the wreck lay on the outer hundred yards from the shore, and the wind that no lighter could lay alongside. The boat Hercules was immediately despatched Insurance Companies, with supplies. The be a heavy one for the New York and Louisiana.—N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

ORIENTAL ANECDOTE.—A certain man went to the and proposed three questions:—first, "Why do they God is omnipresent? I do not see him in any place, where he is!" Second, "Why is man punished for since whatever he does proceeds from God: man has will, for he cannot do any thing contrary to the will of God, and if he had power, he would do every thing for himself?" Third, "How can God punish Satan in hell fire, since formed of that element; and what impression can fit on itself?" The dervish took up a clod of earth and him on the head with it. The man went to the cadi as "I proposed three questions to such a dervish, who clod of earth at my head, which made my head ache." cadi having sent for the dervish, asked—"Why did you a clod of earth at his head, instead of answering his quest?" The dervish replied—"The clod of earth was an answer speech: he says he has a pain in his head—let him show it is and I will make God visible to him; and why d exhibit a complaint against me? Whatever I did was of God; I did not strike him without the will of God power do I possess? and as he is compounded of earth can he suffer pain from that element?" The man was humbled, and the cadi highly pleased with the dervish answer.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TORONTO, TUESDAY, Feb. 1

This day at one o'clock His Excellency Lieutenant Governor came down to the Legislative Council Chamber, and the members of the Assembly being in attendance at the bar, His Excellency was pleased to signify his assent to the following bills:—viz.—A Bill to allow members of Parliament representing towns the same wages as county members. A Bill to authorise the Court of King's Bench to issue Writs of Error. A Bill to extend time of holding the election for the county of Lj to a period not exceeding twelve days, and not later than 3 o'clock, P. M. on the last day on which election shall be held. This is the bill so frequently referred to in the foregoing debate; and despatch was sent from the Government office this day's mail acquainting the Returning office, its being passed—consequently the election which commences next Monday for that county will held twelve days.

QUEBEC, Monday 2 o'clock

According to adjournment, the House of Assembly met and proceeded to the Legislative of Council, (having been summoned thither by the Usher the Black Rod,) where His Excellency the Governor-in-Chief approved of Mr. Papineau as a Speaker, and delivered the following SPEECH:

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

It was my intention to meet you on the day appointed by the Royal Proclamation of the 14th December, 1831, for the assembling of the Provincial Parliament for the despatch of business. I had already received some important communications upon subjects deeply affecting the interests of the Province, which it being the past have engaged the serious attention of some of the Province's Government, and in relation to which I should be in possession of their instructions previous to the meeting of the Provincial Parliament, when the official intelligence received of a change having taken place in His Majesty's Council; whereupon the meeting of the Provincial Parliament was postponed to the 1st of the month to which I have just alluded.

The receipt changes in the course of the instruction must unavoidably have delayed the transmission of these instructions which have not yet been received. I should be much obliged to you to consider it desirable to possess them previous to the meeting of the Provincial Parliament, I have nevertheless judged it to be expedient now to call you under the apprehension that the public interests might be exposed to serious inconvenience by a delay.

I have received from His Majesty's Government official information of the passing of a Bill in the Imperial Parliament relating to the Post-office D