By the Europa.

LATEST.—LONDON, Saturday, 12th.—Stock Exchange yesterday extremely dull. Discount Market rather more active. Bills on Austria advanced.

The cloud in the North of Europe is dark and threatening; but the horizon in the East is black with tempests, and unless Austria is persuaded to hold her peace on Roman rights, it is not impossible that the solution of the Italian question may be transferred from Rome and Milan to Jassy and Bucharest.

England proposes to reduce her home and colonial forces, but to raise the Indian establishment. This is considered an indication of Government's faith in the maintenance of peace.

There the rumored Ministerial changes, including the retirement of the Lord Chancellor, Sir E. Lytton and General Peel.

Paris and Vienna correspondence abounds in warlike rumors, and military movements continue active. Napoleon's intentions are said to be certainly war.

The Daily News says the French envoys at Munich, Wurtemberg and Cassel have been called to confer with the Emperor, and it is presumed on the state of public opinion in Germany.

The French Minister of the Interior had addressed a confidential circular to the Prefects of the Departments, containing the official interpretation to be given to the Emperor's speech on the opening of the session, as it has become the subject of contradictory commentary. The Minister says the Emperor's policy is, while denouncing war without legitimate motive as impossible, not to recoil from it, if honor commands, or if there arises one of those causes for which in all times France has been enthusiastic, because war then is a necessity.

Movements of troops continued very active at Marseilles.

AUSTRIA.—The reported Council of War is formed, consisting of five (?) of the most distinguished Generals in the Austrian army.

The Vienna correspondent of the London Times says:—'Information has been received from France removing all doubt as to the intention of Napoleon, and would not be surprised to see the Austrian army put suddenly on a war footing. 650,000 men could be fully prepared for action in six weeks.'

Another Vienna letter says:—'Russia is calling in her furloughed soldiers and marching troops from Taganrog to the Moldavian frontier.'

Toledo, March 8.

The remains of Ira J. Thurston the Aeronaut who met his death by his unfortunate ascension from this city on the 10th of September last, were accidentally found on Sunday evening last, about ten miles northwest of Toledo, and about ten miles from the place of his second ascension. The remains were brought to this city and fully identified.

Washington, March 8.

The Postmaster General died this morning at half-past nine. A quarter of an hour previous he was conscious, and took leave of his family. Last night the President had a final interview, and was affected to tears. During his occasional delirium the Postmaster General called for 'the bill,' evidently alluding to the defeated one having reference to his department. His death has occasioned the utmost sorrow among all classes of the community.

DETROIT, March 8.—Navigation is fairly open. The boats on most of the routes commence their regular trips during the week. The screw steamer Missouri leaves for Buffalo on Thursday.

Weekly British Whig

"Optimi pro Orbem Diem."

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 10, 1859.

A Plea for Honest Labour.

(*From the Quebec Vindicator.*)

One of the problems that torture and perplex the thinkers of the XIX century is—what to do with our criminals? No doubt, it is a great nuisance to have to think at all for such rascals, yet it must be done. They are in our way—a huge difficulty—and must be contrived for if we would live in safety and comfort. In by-gone times, when our grand-fathers had the management of affairs, the thing presented no difficulty whatever, for they strangled scoundrels without remorse when declared guilty by their peers. But this is a liberal and philanthropic age; the people in it have a holy horror of strangling scoundrels, and a decided feeling for outlaws and criminals. Indeed, if we are to credit every day evidence, the moment a human being signalizes himself by shedding the blood of a fellow-creature, or some other equally horrid crime, he becomes an object of commiseration and active sympathy to every philanthropist in his vicinity. Physically speaking, his condition betters, in life preservation in some useful craft is forced upon him—he is never more pushed by hard necessity—sound, wholesome food, as hard to obtain by honest men, is provided for him with unerring certainty—clean sheets and a pleasant pallet was him to slumber nightly—and winter and summer he inhabits a magnificent mansion, comfortably lighted, heated and ventilated. This at all events is convict treatment in Canada, borrowed from the Model-Prison system in England; and in addition to this luxurious mode of punishing criminals, we copy the sublime satisfaction of knowing, that our place of rascality, at Kingston, is manage by competition, many an honest Cabinet-maker, Shoemaker, and Whitesmith, throughout both provinces. This is no imaginary evil, as might be shown by statistics; and we hope some member will move for a return of the Boots, Cabinet-ware, and Pitchforks, annually manufactured in the penitentiary. Philanthropy may feel delighted to see some villainous burglar exercising his faculties in stitching sole leather, but it is no gratification to an honest son of St. Crispin to know, that the scoundrel convict is undersetting him in the market and taking the bread out of his children's mouths. To say the least it is but a sorry reward for honesty, and a strong argument for a return to the strangulating system. Moreover, as the hangman is no favorite we will not advocate his privileges; but, in the interest of honest labor, we would urgently legislators the necessity of employing the Kingston system to such purpose as more useful to the state and not prejudicial to our artizans. We advocated a scheme last summer for employing our criminals in preparing the way for immigrant settlers, by clearing the wilderness and making public roads. Among other suggestions we advised the making of a good road to penetrate into the heart of the Red River and Saskatchewan valleys; and by way of encouragement to intimation on the part of convicts, we suggested free grants of farms in those distant districts to such as might deserve them by good conduct and submissive industry. We now learn with some satisfaction that Mr. Bellingham has brought up the question in the Legislature, and has so far succeeded in his benevolent views as to obtain a special committee to inquire into the merits of the subject. We shall await anxiously for the report of the committee, and in the meantime expect to see the matter ventilated by our contemporaries east and west. Next to the question of immigration that is one of the practical subjects that should engross our legislators. The action of Nova Scotia, who there would make Canadian legislators responsible, and incite the sympathies of the people. Taking even the worst under footing of the Penitentiary question between, there can be no doubt but an industrial army of convicted scoundrels, employed in quarrying, macadamizing roads, or forcing their way in virgin Homesteads, for the benefit of the country, have some claims on the attention of the Provincial Parliament, and the sooner the matter is taken up the better. Canadian Parliament, Canadian Parliament, Canadian Parliament,