FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

(*Reuter's Telegrams.*)

FRANCE.

VERSAILLES, JULY 16, Evening.

The National Assembly discussed and settled a greater number of important questions to-day than at any previous single sitting. It was first decided without debate, by a show of hands, to pass to the second reading of the bill relating to the election of senators, and the Public Powers Bill was finally adopted by 530 votes against 82. The only modification introduced in this measure was a slight alteration of the wording of Clause II., giving effect to the amendment of M. Pontalis, whereby it is provided that no demand for a convocation of the Chambers can be made during a recess. No speeches were delivered.

The Assembly then discussed three questions which are closely connected with the dissolution. A motion was made on behalf of the Left to commence the debate on the budget for 1876 to-morrow, but a counter-proposal of the Right not to begin the discussion till Monday was agreed to. M. Malartre, of the Right, who has throughout taken the lead in the question of holidays, moved that after voting the budget the Assembly should adjourn until the 30th of November. He demanded that his motion should be treated as urgent, and urgency was declared by 356 votes against 319. M. Feray, of the Left, moved that the Chamber should only adjourn after having voted the Senatorial and Electoral Bills as well as the budget, and after having elected the 75 senators to be nominated by the Assembly. Urgency was demanded for this motion, but was refused by 371 votes against 331. The debate on it was of an interesting character, among the speakers being M. Picard, who accused the Right of wishing to delay the Organic Bills, and M. Tolain, who said that the Right, which had been powerless to prevent the voting of the Republic, now sought to render its organisation impossible. He added that the rejection of M. Feray's motion would be tantamount to an onslaught upon the constitution which M. Buffet had sworn to defend. M. Tolain summoned the Government to keep its word, but notwithstanding his provocative statements the Ministers remained silent.

Towards the close of the sitting the Chamber commenced a debate on the vinegar tax.

PARIS, JULY 16.

The majority of this morning's newspapers, even including the moderate Republican organs, are of opinion that M. Gambetta erred in so violently attacking M. Buffet in yesterday's sitting of the Assembly.

All the Republican journals agree that yesterday's sitting was a very unfortunate one for the Left.

The *République Française*, M. Gambetta's organ, and the *Rappel* publish articles of a threatening character against M. Buffet.

PARIS, JULY 16, Evening.

The Legitimist papers of this evening express their regret that the question of Bonapartism was lost sight of in yesterday's debate in the Assembly, and the organs of the Moderate Right and Right Centre deplore the fact that the Government did not display a more determined and energetic attitude towards the Bonapartist party. They, however, consider that the result of the debate gave increased power to M. Buffet, who at last obtained and seized the opportunity he had long sought of engaging in a struggle with M. Gambetta. Very bitter recriminatory comments are made with regard to the conduct of the latter, even by some of his political friends. It is observed that MM. Jules Favre and Ernest Picard were among those who voted in favour of the order of the day proposed by M. Baragnon. Rumours are current of the resignation of the Prefect of Police.

THE SULTAN OF ZANZIBAR.

PARIS, JULY 16, Evening.

The Sultan of Zanzibar arrived here this evening. He was received at the station by an orderly officer on Marshal M'Mahon's staff, the prefect of police, and two masters of the ceremonies, and was conveyed in Marshal M'Mahon's official carriage to the Hôtel du Louvre. His highness is attended by a numerous suite.

THE BAVARIAN ELECTIONS.

MUNICH, JULY 16.

At Kaufbeuren the 10 Liberal candidates have been returned by a considerable majority. All the Liberal candidates in the 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 7th districts in the city of Ratisbon have been elected after a severe contest. This result secures to the Liberal party 30 out of the 58 delegates to be elected. At Augsburg only Liberals have been returned.

AUSTRIA AND ITALY.

VIENNA, JULY 15, Evening.

Previous to starting on his leave of absence, Count de Robilant, the Italian Minister, has had a special audience of the Emperor Francis Joseph, in which he thanked his Majesty, in the name of King Victor Emmanuel, for the friendly reception extended to Prince Humbert in Austria.

THE FRENCH FLEET.

CONSTANTINOPLE, JULY 15.

The French fleet is at anchor off Smyrna. The officers and men are much *fêted* by the inhabitants.

VICTORIA.

MELBOURNE, JULY 16.

The Treasurer has brought forward the Budget in the Legislative Assembly for Victoria. It proposes a remission of customs duties to the extent of £23,000, and new taxation to the amount of £517,000 upon land, houses, banks, insurance, and stamps. The taxes on spirits and tobacco are also increased. Loans are proposed for £2,750,000 to be expended in reproductive public works.

THE PARIS BOURSE.

PARIS, JULY 16.

Owing to steady purchases for investment French Rentes closed very firm—the 3 per Cents. at 66.47, or 7½c., and the 5 per Cents. at 104.70, or 10c., above yesterday's final prices. Spanish did not close at the best. Other foreign stocks, especially Peruvian, exhibit a marked advance.

Exchange on London, short, 25.30½, or ½c. higher.

Business was done on the Boulevard this evening in the 5 per Cent. Rente at 104.85.

THE BERLIN BOURSE.

BERLIN, JULY 16.

The Bourse remains firm; international stocks, Italian excepted, show a slight improvement since yesterday.

Money plentiful at 3⅞ per cent.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

ISCHL, JULY 16.

After dinner to-day the Emperor William drove back to Salsburg. Previous to his departure the Emperor Francis Joseph arrived at the Elizabeth Hotel wearing the uniform of a Prussian colonel of Hussars, and took leave of his Majesty with great cordiality.

BERLIN, JULY 16.

The *Official Gazette*, referring to the journey of the Emperor William through Bavaria, remarks that the Berlin newspapers erroneously announced that there would be a meeting between his Majesty and King Louis. No such meeting was projected on either side this year; on the contrary, the Emperor of Germany desired from the first to preserve the strictest *incognito* during his journey.

THE KING OF SWEDEN

ST. PETERSBURG, JULY 16.

Yesterday morning the King of Sweden made a short visit to St. Petersburg, returning in the afternoon to Crasnojeselo. In the evening his Majesty drove round the camp, and was received with military honours. To-day there will be a review of the whole of the troops in camp, followed by a dinner to be given by the Czarewitch.

AMERICA.

WASHINGTON, JULY 15.

The July report of the Agricultural Department upon the cotton crop gives the averages in the different States as follows:—"In North Carolina 95, in South Carolina 99, in Georgia 97, in Florida 101, in Alabama 102, in Mississippi 103, in Louisiana 105, in Arkansas 104, in Tennessee 109, and in Texas 93, showing an improvement since the June report of 3 per cent. in North Carolina, 2 per cent. in South Carolina, 6 per cent. in Georgia, 7 per cent. in Florida, 1 per cent. in Alabama, 3 per cent. in Mississippi, 10 per cent. in Louisiana, 14 per cent. in Arkansas, and 10 per cent. in Tennessee. There is a decline of 3 per cent. in Texas, where the insects have been injurious to the crop. There is a slight drought in other parts.

NEW YORK, JULY 16.

The Cotton States Congress at Raleigh, North Carolina, has adjourned, after adopting resolutions urging, in the interest of commerce, the construction of a Southern railroad.

Gold closed at 114⅝; the highest quotation during the day was 115; the lowest, 114⅝; exchange on London, 4.87½; Five-twenty United States Bonds (1885), 120; do. (1887), 120½; Five per Cent. Funded Loan (1871), 117⅞; Central Pacific Railway Bonds, 101¼; New York Centrals, 103¾ ex int.; Illinois Shares, 99; Erie Shares, 14½; Western Union Telegraph Shares, 79½. Cotton—Middling Upland, 15⅛. Petroleum—Standard white, 11⅛. Flour—Extra State, $5.85 to $6.05. Corn—Old mixed, 84c. Red spring wheat, $1.38.

To-day's receipts of cotton at all United States ports have been 1,000 bales; the exports to Great Britain 1,000 bales, and to the Continent 2,000 bales.

SOUTH AMERICA.

LIMA, JUNE 13.

The President of Peru has issued a decree dated May 28 imposing an outward duty of 30 cents. per quintal, to take effect immediately. General Prado, the popular candidate for the presidency, has reassumed his seat in congress as chairman of the house. This, combined with the quietude of the Government, has given rise to a belief that the Administration will favour Prado's cause, provided people of its choice are placed for first and second vice-presidencies.

A bill has been presented by the Minister of the Interior to the Legislative Body for authorisation to raise 1,000,000 soles to increase European immigration to Peru.

Castro Ramos, a newspaper editor at Iquique, has been severely beaten by a police inspector and two constables, and an attempt was made to make him swallow his newspaper containing obnoxious articles against the police. The inspector afterwards shot the editor in the stomach. At last accounts Ramos was not expected to live, and the inspector was in custody.

THE EARTHQUAKE AND STORM IN SOUTH AMERICA.

By the arrival of the Shannon at Plymouth yesterday further particulars are to hand of the late terrible earthquake on the borders of Colombia and Venezuela. A letter from Salazar says:—"Cuenta is in ruins, not a single house remaining. The killed are calculated at 5,000. Rosario, San Antonio, Capacho Guasimo, San Juan de Wrena, San Cayctaro, San Christobal, Tarida, Soberatiro de Grila, and the adjoining villages are in complete ruins. This place has suffered severely, and the adjoining country is nearly devastated. Chinacota, Chafo, Sampalona, Cuentilla, Arbdedas, Santiago, Gallindo, and Granalote have also been great sufferers. Not one stone remains on another in the city of Cuenta. The number of the dead is calculated at three-quarters of the entire population. The few families which are saved are now on the outskirts of what was the city, living on what they can procure, but they will soon be obliged to retire, as the putrefaction of the dead will not allow them to remain. It is heart-rending to see the wounded, who can have no care, and who cannot remain long alive in their present condition. No adequate idea can be formed of the condition of affairs there. Thieves and robbers from the surrounding country have swept down on the ill-fated city, and hardly a single safe has been saved from the Custom-house. Pillage is general. Four hundred mules were killed in the streets, and as there is no one to remove them the stench is becoming frightful. The storehouse at Puerto de los Cachos was sacked and burnt by bandits. In Predecuesta the Town-hall is destroyed, and in Pamplona the cathedral is in ruins. From several sources we hear that the Venezuela side has suffered, if possible, more severely than the Colombian; and while it is possible that these statements may yet be exaggerated, nevertheless, in the mildest aspect, it cannot be less than an awful catastrophe. There seems to be a general silence in regard to the volcano, but we hear that it is still in operation. From Ocana letters say the shocks still continue, and great alarm exists in the valley of Cuenta.

The hurricane that blew at Valparaiso, May 23, is described by the South American papers as horrible in the extreme. Fifty persons were drowned through the consequent accidents among the shipping.

SAFETY OF THE MISSING YACHT.—A telegraphic despatch announces that the yacht Ceres, about whose safety much apprehension prevailed during the past few days, arrived at Bergen, in Norway, on Monday night, with the Duke and Duchess of St. Albans on board.

THE CHARGE AGAINST COLONEL BAKER.—The *Surrey Advertiser* is informed that, in addition to Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., and Mr. Lilley, the counsel already retained for the defence of Colonel Valentine Baker at the ensuing Surrey Assizes, a special retainer has been handed to Serjeant Ballantine.

SWIMMING ACROSS THE CHANNEL.—Captain Webb announces his full determination to attempt the feat of swimming across the Channel. Captain Webb, who has gone to Dover and commenced training, says the distance is but 18 miles. He can swim one and a half miles an hour, and can remain in the water 14 hours. By choosing, therefore, a hot day, when the tide is slack, he argues that the feat at any rate is possible.

THE CARLIST WAR.

(*Reuter's Telegrams.*)

MADRID, JULY 15, Evening.

The Government has received advices from the Spanish Consul at Bayonne confirming the news that 200 Carlists had crossed the French frontier. The commander of the troops at Tarbes has telegraphed to Paris for instructions.

Fresh bands of Carlists have fled into France, closely pursued by the royal troops.

MADRID, JULY 16.

General Jovellar has established his head-quarters at Sarinena (Aragon).

The provinces of Castellon and Valencia are completely freed of Carlists, and the Carlist insurrection is now confined to the mountains of Navarre and the Basque and Catalonian provinces.

The Minister of the Interior yesterday signed an order exiling 1,913 Carlist partisans from Spain.

DENMARK AND GERMANY.

(*By Telegraph.*)

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BERLIN, JULY 16.

The presence of the German torpedo steamer Notus in Danish waters in the Limfjord, which Danish papers have made a cause of indignant complaint against Germany, is accounted for on the part of naval authorities in this country by the fact that the steamer was sent out to reconnoitre the Channel previous to the passage of the dredger Boreas, which is shortly to be towed to Wilhelmshaven by that route.

COUNT ARNIM.

(*By Telegraph.*)

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BERLIN, JULY 15.

An authenticated copy of the judgment passed by the Kammergericht upon Count Arnim in the famous case against him was delivered to his counsel, Herr Munckel, the day before yesterday. Count Arnim has still ten days' space to lodge his second appeal with the highest court.

INSTALLATION OF THE CONSTABLE OF THE TOWER.—Yesterday morning, the weather being sufficiently favourable, the ceremony of installing General Sir James Yorke, G.C.B., as Constable of the Tower of London, in the room of Field-Marshal Sir William Gomm, which had been postponed from the previous day, was proceeded with, and all the customary formalities were duly observed. Shortly after eleven o'clock the Constable elect, accompanied by the Hon. E. Talbot, arrived at the Tower, where he was received by the Lord Chamberlain (the Marquis of Hertford), accompanied by the controller in his department, at the official residence, or Queen's House, situate on the Governor's Parade, or Tower-green. Here he was also met by Colonel G. Bryan Milman, C.B., Major of the Tower; the Steward and Coroner of the Tower and Tower Liberties; Dr. Ivey, Deputy Inspector General Physician to the Tower; the Rev. Graham Green, Tower Chaplain; Colonel Gawler, Keeper of the Crown Jewels, and other officials. The keys of the Tower were then delivered by Colonel Milman to the Lord Chamberlain. On the arrival of Sir Charles Yorke the Lord Chamberlain, accompanied by the officers above named, adjourned to the parade ground, where the troops, consisting of four companies of the 93d Sutherland Highlanders, under the command of Major W. W. Knollys, and the 6th Division of the Coast Brigade Royal Artillery, commanded by Major Heavyside, were drawn up in three sides of a square fronting the Governor's house. In the centre of the part square a circle was formed by the 40 members of the Yeomanry Guard or warders of the Tower. Within this circle stood the yeoman gaoler with that axe which used to be carried in front of peers when being conducted to trial at Westminster. Mr. Humphreys, the coroner for Middlesex, then read the patent appointing the Constable elect Custos Rotulorum of the Tower Hamlets, after which he read that appointing him lord lieutenant of the same. Mr. T. W. Ratcliff, steward and coroner of the Tower Liberties, read the patent appointing Sir Charles Yorke Governor and Constable of the royal palace and fortress of the Tower. The Lord Chamberlain then delivered the keys to the Constable, saying, "In the name and on behalf of her Majesty, I now deliver to you the keys of this royal palace and fortress." The yeoman porter cried, "God save the Queen," and the other yeomen, lifting their hats, said "Amen." The troops presented arms, and the National Anthem was played by the band of Highlanders. The officers of the garrison were then presented to the Constable by the Lord Chamberlain, after which they all proceeded to the Governor's house, of which the Lord Chamberlain gave the Constable formal possession.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER AND MESSRS. MOODY AND SANKEY.—The Bishop of Manchester distributed the prizes at the Birkenhead School yesterday. He spoke in favour of classical education and the cultivation of patriotism among the rising generation. He said he had been told that Messrs. Moody and Sankey had stirred up the Church of England to greater interest in people of low degree. He approved of this, which he called Christian gravitation working downwards to reach the lowest classes, so as to raise them upwards to better Christian life.

THE DENBIGH REREDOS CASE.—The Denbigh reredos case, through which the opening of a church has been delayed on account of objections raised against carved figures on the reredos, is likely to be settled. Lord Justice Mellish is about to adjudicate upon it, Dr Stephens appearing for the Bishop of St. Asaph and Dr. Deane for the Church Committee.

IMPORTANT CHURCH RATE QUESTION.—An important debate, showing the possibility of parishes with local acts being saddled with a rate for church purposes as part of their poor's rate, took place at the meeting of the Hampstead vestry on Thursday night, presided over by Mr. P. H. Le Breton, barrister-at-law. A special meeting, presided over by the vicar, the Rev. S. B. Burnaby, M.A., was recently held, under the provisions of an old local Church Act, 7 and 8 George IV., at which the church trustees, through the vicar, sought the vestry's approval of their plan and estimates for the alteration and enlargement of Hampstead parish church, at a cost of £10,500, about half of which has been already subscribed. The vestry granted its approval, it being distinctly understood that no church rate could be or would be made for the purpose, and that the vestry by its resolution of approval involved, itself in no pecuniary liability whatever. At Thursday night's ordinary meeting of the vestry, however, on the proposal to sign the minutes of the special meeting, a discussion was raised on the point by Mr. James Harvey, and by the reading of clauses in the local Church Act by the vestry clerk (Mr. Gribble), and his explanations it appeared that the church trustees, "with the consent of the parishioners" (said to mean the vestry), could make a charge not exceeding 6d. in the pound on the poor's rate for such church purposes as that under consideration. The vestry therefore, on a division, refused by 10 to 6 to allow the minutes to be signed, and it was said that the probable result would be that another special meeting would have to be called.

ACCIDENT TO A LIFEBOAT.—As the crew of the Kessingland lifeboat Bolton were about to put off to a Yarmouth vessel in distress on Thursday night, the boat was capsised, and a man named Thomas Tripp was drowned. Another of the crew named Durrant had to be released by the cutting of a hole through the bottom of the lifeboat. It was blowing a moderate gale at the time.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.—His brothers and sisters in the profession propose to give a performance at the Haymarket Theatre on the morning of Wednesday next, for the benefit of Mr. W. H. Chippendale. This is an occasion in which playgoers may fairly be expected to take a strong practical interest, Mr. Chippendale being, by universal admission, one of the very best actors upon the London stage. His admirable merits and long services both as a comedian and stage-manager at the Haymarket give him a genuine claim upon the patronage of the public.

THE NEW NATIONAL OPERA HOUSE.—The preliminary works in connection with the building of the new National Opera House on the Thames Embankment, at Westminster, are rapidly proceeding. Mr. Webster, who has undertaken the contract for excavating the foundation, has already gone to a depth of 18 feet below the embankment level, but as the basement foundation is intended to be about 45 feet it will be seen that there yet remains much to be done in the clearing away of the earthwork before the superstructure can be proceeded with. In carrying out the mechanical arrangements for the scenery and stage appliances ample provision will require to be made, and the London clay will be pierced to a great depth. In the excavation of the foundations now in progress this process is being carried out, and 20,000 cubic yards of earthwork will have to be removed before the Portland cement basement foundation can be laid. This, it is understood, will be upwards of six feet in depth, and when completed, which it is understood will be in the course of a few weeks, the first stone of the superstructure will be laid, it is reported, by the Prince of Wales, before his departure for India. Mr. Fowler, the architect, is now engaged on the altered design of the Thames Embankment frontage, rendered necessary in consequence of the building coming within 30 feet of the embankment instead of 70 feet as originally intended.—*The Architect.*

FRANCE.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, THURSDAY MORNING.

The *Journal Officiel* this morning gives the long-continued debate which followed the invalidation vote on Baron de Bourgoing. M. Rouher had engaged to reply yesterday to the report which referred to the action of the Committees of the Appeal to the People, and he did so. The Versailles Theatre was crowded, and there was the usual number of ladies present. The Ministers were at their seats, and of course M. Savary, the reporter, was present, the Chamber being presided over by Vice-President A. de Kerdel. And now what had M. Rouher to say? He followed out a very natural argument, and one which has been repeated in the *Morning Post.* He said:—

"Parties had united to form the Republic; the Extreme Left had made concessions, but it nursed hopes based on the right of revision. The Monarchists had not renounced their hopes any more than the Republicans; they had only adjourned them, and counted on the same privilege to substitute some day the King for the Republic. His own party were actuated by similar feelings, and they shielded themselves under the legal position which the revising clause gave them, and would act within its limits; the violence and sarcasms of their opponents would not prevent them. In terminating, he warned his hearers that they were in a way to favour the affairs of the Radical party."

Every one in France knows that for months past M. Rouher has presided over Bonapartist committees twice a week at the Rue de l'Elysées. Every one is aware that the Imperialists have a press in France paid and devoted to their cause; the photographic likeness of the Prince Imperial has for months past been universally distributed; when partial elections have taken place the Bonapartists were in the field, supporting by ordinary electioneering manœuvres their candidates. Their party in the National Assembly has voted on all occasions with a view of thwarting the consolidation of the Republican *régime* as occasion might dictate—now with the Radicals, now with the Legitimists; they have kept alive the cause of Imperialism in the provinces by old officials of the Empire, by provincial committees, and by pamphlets. Those are the acts of accusation, which would equally apply to Monarchists and those who have worked for Republican institutions during and after the Septennate. In Imperial times no such license was allowed to any party. An Orleanist pamphlet was immediately seized, and when the Republicans moved they were soon placed under the law. But we have passed through a period of hesitating Government toleration, when Henri V. was openly invited to the throne. We have had a fusion of Bourbon pretensions; we have seen the half-voted Septennate attacked and demolished. The Bonapartists during this period of uncertainty have acted like other pretenders—nothing more and nothing less; and this is the substance of M. Rouher's speech, which occupied the whole of yesterday's sitting. The weak part of M. Rouher's position is this:—

"I declare that as far as I know there does not exist at Paris any Central Committee of Appeal to the People. . . . I address myself to the Ministers of Justice and the Interior to beg that they will order an inquiry to verify whether or not there exists such an association in the capital; whether or not this occult political society, supposing that it does exist, has ramifications in the departments."

This was referred to in the debate, and remained unanswered. All M. Rouher could say was that their party had acted within the limits of the law. To-day M. Savary was to reply, and the telegraph will inform you of what he has put forth in defence of a report exaggerated by party passions.

It may be asked—"And what effect will this debate have on public opinion in France?" In the first place, it reveals nothing that was not already known. If the Bonapartists "conspired" they could only do so openly, and there is not a reader of a French newspaper in the most humble *café* of the towns and provinces who is not aware of the "conspiracy" to restore Henry V. through the agency of Legitimist committees, photographs, &c. All this dispersed suddenly by the flutter of the White Flag! The National Assembly has for four years been nothing more than a nest of conspirators, who ever recoiled from asking the people of France what form of government they desired to live under. Doubtless a new situation was created when the Versailles Parliament voted a permanent and defined Republic, the full legislation for which, however, to this day has to be completed. Government has now, nevertheless, a legal right to prosecute any attempts to undermine and weaken the authority of the President of the Republic and the Republican Constitution. But that will not prevent the Bonapartists continuing their work within legal limits in favour of their cause. M. Rouher has said as much. The Monarchists will put forward their candidates at the general elections. The Republicans who wish France to remain a Republic will do the same, pretty nearly sure of success as regards a majority. Perhaps we may conclude that the debate on the action of the Bonapartists will neither weaken nor strengthen their cause, since, as before observed, it reveals nothing new. The ultra-Republican journals are writing in a sunshine of satisfaction; the more moderate seem to think the Assembly has wasted three days on a fruitless debate. The people of France will, in all probability, become yet more anxious for a new Parliament, when there will be less party passion and intrigue and more patriotism, let us hope.

The *République Française* expresses itself in these terms:—

"The Bonapartists are really to be pitied. In order to save their Bourgoing and spare the faction a new rebuff they proposed to the leaders of the Right this honest bargain:—'Pass us our deputy and we will hand over to you superior instruction. Promise us to close the eyes on our doings in the election for the Nièvre and the manœuvres of our committees, and we will assist you in re-establishing mortmain.' That compact concluded, the Imperialist group voted with ardour the most clerical provisions of the law on teaching; it pronounced in favour of the Lucien Brun amendment and rejected that of M. Lepetit. Down to the last it courageously fulfilled its engagements. It bowed to all the exigencies of the clericals. Alas! those efforts, those sacrifices, were wholly useless. The Bonapartists have compromised themselves; in a capital question they have voted against what they call their principles, and they get no benefit by their complaisance."

As you get rid of your London season likely most of them will come over to Paris, I fear we must say "on the loose," for there is no Court, no society control to keep illustrious personages in order. We are expecting some of the German royal princes who have figured at your painfully crowded gatherings. We expect his Royal Highness Prince Humbert, his Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantine, and no doubt a great many more foreigners, who, we hear, appreciate your open-air garden *fêtes* more than your small closely packed reception-rooms. The first to arrive amongst us will be the Zanzibar Sultan. He will be received by the Marshal-President and the municipality of Paris with sovereign honours. His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Alexis is at Brest visiting that great naval depot.

Amongst the visitors now at Vichy are the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Duchess Decazes; the Prefect of the Allier, Baron de Nervo, accompanied by his private secretary; the Count and Countess de Coriolis de Monréal, the Prince de Beauvau, the Viscount and Viscountess de Reverseaux, M. de la Morandière, Countess de Savigny de Montcorps, Count de Bastard, Prince Mourawief-Amoursky, and MM. Ricardo and Ancho de auta-Maria, the Rodoconachi of St. Petersburg, Morpurgo, Grandin de l'Epervier, the Receiver-General, Jules Barbier, Paul Ferrier, Charles Grisart, Roger de Marrélin, De Suckau, Marjoribanks, Edouard Fould, and an incalculable number of Turks and Egyptians.

THE FLOODS.

The latest intelligence received from the flooded districts in the West of England and Wales is reassuring. No further disasters have been reported, and it is hoped that the danger is now over. In Monmouthshire the rain has abated, and the waters are fast subsiding. Two more dead bodies have been recovered from the River Ebbw, which in many places is choked with *débris*, including many articles of furniture, which have been washed down from the homesteads on its banks. On the Great Western Railway, between Newport and Pontnewydd, the traffic is suspended, and passengers to the north are conveyed over the Monmouthshire line to the latter station. It is fortunate that this line remains clear, as at Varteg, only a few miles above, thousands of tons of earth have fallen upon the line and intercepted all traffic. The Western Valleys Railway remains closed above Cross Keys in consequence of threatened landslips. In Tredegar Park, through which the line passes, a slip has occurred which necessitates all up trains passing on the down line. Precautions are being taken against further earthfalls. The scaffolding and two cylinders of a new railway bridge at Redbrook, on the Wye Valley Railway, were washed away yesterday, together with a temporary bridge erected for the use of the workpeople.

At Cardiff the waters are also subsiding, the rivers Ely and Rhymney returning to their normal condition. The streets of Canton, near Cardiff, are still impassable to foot passengers, and trucks and boats convey the public along the submerged thoroughfares. A great many shops are closed, and the cellars in all low-lying districts are still filled with water.

On the banks of the Wye, in the neighbourhood of Hereford, the meadows for a distance of some miles are covered with water, and the destruction of hay and growing corn is immense. The waters yesterday were subsiding, but it is feared that the heavy rains on the Welsh mountains during the night will again swell the river. During the whole of yesterday sheep, horned cattle, hurdles, and masses of hay and straw were floating down the stream. The water at Hereford Bridge is 10 feet higher than has been known for many years. The flood at Bridgend is abating. The body of an ironworker named James Thomas was washed ashore at that place yesterday. The deceased is believed to belong to Aberdare.

The rainfall at Bath has been 2¾ inches in 48 hours, which, according to local records, is unprecedented, and is more than the average rainfall throughout the whole month of July. The lower parts of the city are quite under water. The water was at its height on Thursday evening.

A telegram yesterday from Yeovil says the heavy rain which has fallen during the past few days has caused deep floods in Mid Somerset. The extensive moorlands are deeply covered with water, and hay is being washed away in large quantities, several of the rivers having overflown their banks. In Dorsetshire also a large tract of country is flooded, much damage being done to corn as well as to the newly-mown grass.

From, say, four miles north of Stafford to Tring many thousands of acres of ground are covered with water, and the hay in the underlying districts is totally spoilt. If there is another heavy rainfall the loss to the tenants will be very considerable, seeing that all is gorged below. Much of the wheat and corn is beaten down by the incessant rains, but probably this will recover. The greatest part of the hay crop will be of no value for feeding cattle.

There has been a steady fall of rain at Kelvedon for the last 50 hours. The river Blackwater is rapidly rising. Rain still continues.

The Nene at Northampton has overflowed its banks, and great quantities of hay have been spoiled.

A visit to the scene of the disaster at Cwm Carn discloses the fact that the damage sustained by the inhabitants of the district is much more widespread than at first expected. At Contymister, three miles below the point, most of the houses were inundated, and along the principal roadway the waters were several feet deep. Many of the inhabitants here seem to keep pigs, and most of the animals were for a time taken up in the bed-rooms, and remained with the family. The metalling of the roadway for a long distance is clean swept away and cut up for at least 18 inches. The fine weather of Friday induced the people to be busy in cleaning the dirt from their dwelling-rooms, and rendering them once more habitable. It was above this village, in Graigy Cooper-works, that a spring burst forth and scoured the hill side to a great depth. The inmates of a farmhouse at the foot of the hill escaped almost miraculously. The house still stands, but is filled with soil even to the upper rooms. A cart and waggon, and about 50 ducks and fowls are buried beneath the *débris*. Mr. William John Basalleg had £60 worth of hay swept into the Ebbw, and other farmers have suffered similarly. On the other side of the valley the roadway has sunk into an old coal level, the existence of which was forgotten and the danger ignored. In the course of the day five other bodies have been recovered—Mr. John Hunt, eldest son of Mr. Hunt, of the factory; William Carn and his two sisters, Letitia and Elizabeth Weeks; one of the servants, and George Klain, an apprentice, from the Caerleon Industrial School. All the bodies, except that of John Hunt, are much bruised; that of Elizabeth Weeks has a large wound on the chest. Hunt was a well-developed, muscular young man, but his strength was evidently no avail against the force of the water. The bodies of Mary Jones, of the factory of Howell Davies, and her son, are still missing. Excavations on the site of the cottage were going on during the day, in the faint hope that they may have been buried there, but the labour has been fruitless. The eight bodies are now lying at the Cross Keys Inn awaiting the inquest, which will be opened by Mr. Brewer, the coroner, on Saturday. Mr. Tovey, undertaker of Newport, has prepared the necessary coffins. A large number of persons have visited the scene of the calamity, and some surprise is expressed that the embankment should so long have withstood the pressure of such a body of water. Old Mr. Hunt was not so well yesterday. His medical man says he must have swallowed much sand and mud.

The Lord Mayor has signified his willingness to receive subscriptions in aid of the loss and distress which may be occasioned by the floods in the Forest of Dean and the West of England.

THE CHELSEA CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.—The annual dinner of the Chelsea Conservative Association takes place on Wednesday next. The Earl Cadogan, the president, will take the chair, and the following noblemen and gentlemen are expected to attend:—Lord George Hamilton, Lord Colchester, Lord Hawarden, Viscount Bury, the Hon. H. Dudley Ryder, the Hon. E. C. Curzon, Sir Coutts Lindsay, Bart., Sir Alfred Slade, Bart., Sir William Fairfax, Bart., Sir Sibbald Scott, Bart., Mr. W. Gordon, M.P., Mr. Charley, M.P., Colonel Beresford, M.P., Mr. Puleston, M.P., Mr. Cecil Raikes, M.P., Mr. Praed, M.P., Mr. Morgan Howard, Q.C., Major-General Sir Charles Daubeney, General Sir E. Hodge, Major-General Huyshe, Mr. J. A. Shaw Stewart, Mr. G. Weldon, Captain Morley, Sir William Palliser, Mr. Seton Karr, Mr. Ralph Disraeli, &c. We are requested to state that no more tickets can be issued, as every place at the tables is taken.

THE CHATHAM CONSERVATIVE BANQUET.—The committee formed for the purpose of entertaining Admiral George Elliott at a banquet at Chatham have received a telegram from the admiral stating that the regulations of the service will prevent him from taking part in any political demonstration, and the banquet is therefore abandoned.

FASHIONABLE WORLD

HER MAJESTY, &c.

OSBORNE, FRIDAY.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice drove out yesterday afternoon, attended by Lady Waterpark; and her Majesty walked with the princess this morning.

Colonel Du Plat has succeeded Colonel the Hon. Henry Byng as Equerry in Waiting.

The Princess of Wales, attended by Miss Knollys, drove out yesterday.

Their Royal Highnesses the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz dined with the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough yesterday evening at their residence in St. James's-square. There were present to meet the Grand Duke and Duchess the Duchess of Bedford and Lady Ella Russell, the Earl and Countess of Wilton, Earl and Countess Cadogan, the Earl of Portarlington, Lord Redesdale, Sir Ivor and Lady Cornelia Guest, Mr. and Lady Augusta Sturt, Mr. Johnstone, Mr. Chaplin, and Baron von Both and Lady Caroline Cust in Waiting.

His Excellency Musurus Pasha entertained at dinner, on Thursday, at the Turkish Embassy, Bryanston-square—His Excellency the French Ambassador and the Marquise d'Harcourt and the Countess A. d'Harcourt, his Excellency Ali Pasha (Turkish Ambassador at Paris), his Excellency the United States Minister and Miss Schenck, Count and Countess de Florian, Viscount and Viscountess Cardwell, Lord and Lady Clarence Paget, Admiral Hobart Pasha, the Right Hon. Sir Andrew Buchanan, Sir John and Hon. Lady Sebright, Mr. and Lady Catherine Weyland, Mr. and Mrs. Warner Heriot, E. Musurus Bey, Paul Musurus Bey, and Ali Mouhsyn Bey.

His Excellency Count Münster received at dinner yesterday evening, at the German Embassy, Prussia House, Carlton-house-terrace, the Duchess of Westminster and Lady Elizabeth Grosvenor, Earl and Countess Spencer, Lord and Lady Chesham and Hon. Miss Cavendish, M. de Martino (the Italian Chargé d'Affaires), Hon. Ashley and Mrs. Ponsonby, Colonel and Hon. Mrs. Loyd-Lindsay, Sir Thomas Henry, Captain Hozier, Mr. Delane, Baron Brincken, Prince d'Arenberg, Count Redern, Madame von Hindenburg, &c.

The Minister of the United States and the Misses Schenck have left town on a tour to Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, from which they expect to return about the 1st of September. During the absence of the Minister the business of the legation will be in charge of Colonel Wickham Hoffman, acting as Chargé d'Affaires *ad interim.*

His Excellency Ali Pasha, Turkish Ambassador at Paris, who arrived in London on Thursday morning, returned to Paris by last night's mail train.

The Duke of Norfolk, the Duchess of Norfolk, and Ladies Howard left Norfolk House, St. James's-square, yesterday, for Arundel Castle.

Earl Brownlow returned to town a few days ago from Scotland, where he had been fishing. The countess has also returned from the Continent.

Lord and Lady Leconfield have left town for Petworth House, Sussex, for the season.

Sir Matthew White Ridley and Miss Ridley have left town for Blagdon, Northumberland.

Lady Marian Alford had a small party at Alford House, Kensington-gore, yesterday evening.

Lady Margaret Beaumont had a small dance last night at the family residence on The Terrace, Piccadilly.

Lady Molesworth received at dinner last evening, at her residence in Eaton-place, the Marchioness Camden, the Earl and Countess of Rosslyn, the Earl of Clonmell, the Earl of Clarendon, Lady Randolph Spencer Churchill, Viscount and Viscountess Malden, Viscount and Viscountess Grey de Wilton, Viscount Torrington, Colonel and Lady Emily Kingscote, Lady Elizabeth Adeane, Mr. and Lady Virginia Sandars, the Count de Lutzow, Sir Robert and Miss Gerard, and Sir Charles Wyke.

A marriage is arranged, and will take place on the 27th inst., between Mr. Hodgson, son of the late Mr. G. Hodgson, and Miss Gwynne, of Llanthetty Hall, Brecknockshire.

THE CROWN PRINCE OF ITALY.—During the last two days, in consequence of the wet weather, the Crown Prince of Italy and his attendants (Captain Count Brambilla, Major Chevalier Bertola, and Chevalier Torriani) have confined their movements to sightseeing and shopping. On Thursday the Crown Prince entertained, in addition to his suite, a few Italian nobles and gentlemen at dinner at Claridge's. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge and his Serene Highness the Duke of Teck have called at Claridge's to pay their respects to his royal highness; and among others who have shown the same courtesy are the Earl of Derby, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, his Excellency Count Beust, his Excellency Count Münster, his Excellency General Bülow, the Marquis of Lorne, Earl Beauchamp (Lord Steward of the Queen's Household); M. Gennadius, Greek Chargé d'Affaires; Count de la Londe, Count de Florian, Count Pourtalès-Gorgier, Count Steenbock, Swedish Chargé d'Affaires; Lord Camoys, Mr. and Lady Catherine Weyland, Baroness de Bretton, Count de Lancastre, Baron de Bourgoing, Count Maffei, Lieutenant-General Sir Francis Seymour, Lieutenant-General Hon. George Cadogan, Lieutenant-General Murray, Sir Tatton Sykes, Lieutenant-Colonel Kennard, M.P., Mr. George Cavendish Bentinck, M.P., &c. Yesterday, after dinner, the Crown Prince, accompanied by the whole of his suite, went to one of the metropolitan theatres. We understand before quitting England the Crown Prince, with his suite, contemplates making visits to the manufacturing districts, and probably will visit Ireland and Scotland.

THE SULTAN OF ZANZIBAR.—Before leaving England his Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar forwarded to the Lord Mayor a cheque for £100, with the expression of his wish that his lordship would distribute it as he might deem most advisable amongst the charitable institutions in the metropolis, in which he was well aware that amidst great wealth was concealed much poverty and suffering. His highness also presented the Lord Mayor with a very handsome scimitar, shield, dagger, and belt of African workmanship, the weapons being excellent specimens of those used by the Arabs of the territory of Zanzibar. The present was accompanied by an excellent portrait of his highness, with his autograph appended. His highness has also presented his portrait and autograph to Mr. Vine, the Lord Mayor's secretary. The Sultan of Zanzibar has forwarded to the mayor and town clerk of Manchester a handsome Arab sword, richly mounted in virgin gold, in recognition of their personal attentions to his highness during his stay. A communication has also been received from Mr. Clemence Hill, of the Foreign-office, who was in attendance on the Sultan, enclosing a cheque for £50 from the Sultan for distribution among the Manchester charities.

DEATH OF MR. MUNDELL, Q.C.—Mr. W. A. Mundell, Q.C., died on Thursday last at his residence, Buckingham Palace-road. The learned gentleman enjoyed a considerable practice at the parliamentary bar, principally in the conduct of Scotch railway affairs. He was originally a clerk in the office of Messrs. Berridge and Morris, solicitors, Leicester. Subsequently he became a managing clerk in Messrs. Calthorpe's office, Whitehall, where he acquired a sound knowledge of conveyancing. Deeming the bar a more lucrative profession he studied, and was "called" in 1847 by the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, and went the Midland Circuit. In 1866 he was appointed Queen's counsel, and immediately afterwards was made a bencher by his inn. He had studied and knew the meaning and practical applicability of nearly every term used in trades, a knowledge which he had often admitted had paved the way to his success. He was a well-known associate of literary men, and enjoyed the friendship of Charles Dickens, Mark Lemon, and Douglas Jerrold.

THE RECEPTION OF AMBASSADORS IN CONSTANTINOPLE.—The Constantinople correspondent of the *New Free Press* gives a somewhat different account of the recent imperial order, providing that foreign ambassadors and envoys shall be introduced to Prince Yussuff Izzedin as well as to the Sultan, from what has reached this country through other channels. The Sultan's order appears, indeed, to have been misunderstood and consequently misinterpreted. The circumstance giving rise to the decree is stated to have been the reception of the new French Ambassador, M. de Bourgoing, which was solemnised as a gorgeous pageant, brilliant and impressive enough, but at the same time so fatiguing to the Sultan that after going through it he felt unwell for some days. He consequently gave orders that receptions in the same style should not take place, except when his son, Prince Yussuff, can act in his father's stead. Prince Yussuff is in that capacity to receive the honours due to the Padishah, but he will only act as his father's viceregent.

THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW.—The admissions to the show yard by one o'clock yesterday was 4,563, compared with 14,643 at Bedford. Weather dry, but very dull.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—On Monday next the Odd Fellows will hold a great *fête* at the palace. The entertainments in the theatre will be of a varied and amusing character, and, under the superintendence of the London Swimming Club, a special swimming *fête* will take place in the lake. In the afternoon there will be a balloon ascent, and, in addition to the company's orchestral and wind bands, four military bands will perform during the day.

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