

EUROPE AT REST.

There seems at the present moment to be little in the record of passing events in any of the nations of Europe to challenge particular attention or special comment. For the time being, the surface of society exhibits everywhere an appearance of perfect tranquility. The inhabitants of this broad quarter of the globe, busily engaged in their various avocations, seem to have consented, without the sun still shines, to merge all other considerations in the one great aim of gathering in and securing the bountiful fruits of the earth which a beneficent Providence has afforded them; and thus, in the midst of their progress, the hum of discontent, even in Italy and Spain, is hushed, and conflict between liberty and oppression for the time suspended.

Following this peaceful state of things may continue to be more than any human being can venture to foretell; but it can hardly be expected, that the bitter feelings lately aroused in the bosoms of the oppressed people of the Italian peninsula by the tyrannical and unrelenting acrimony against the tyranny of Naples, of Rome, and of Austria, and that too at no distant day. Whenever this occurs, the danger of a collision between the principal Powers of Europe will again be revived, and, as the result of this peace may one more be suddenly changed into the deadly blast of war.

For the moment, however, everything over the whole face of Europe wears the air of complete tranquillity. In England, London and Paris are longed for, legislators, and politicians of all ranks and creeds appear to be solely bent upon the one endeavor of discovering how the time may be passed in the utmost repose and ease. London and Paris are longed for, the presence of a Court. The streets of both capitals are empty. The sea breeze of Biarritz and the mountain air of Balnear de have courted the two Sovereigns of the mighty British and French Empires, and they have led them to seek in the comparative solitude of those secluded portions of their kingdoms a needful rest from the toils of government. So also with the statesmen of both countries, they remain in their seats, and attend to the general business of the nation, and none are found to resist it. Our heroes, it is true, continue to have some work cut out for them in the shape of banquets and feasts; but as for our unhappy politicians, they are absolutely reduced to the pitiable extremity of having nothing whatever to do, and what is even more deplorable, nothing whatever to say. As an evidence of the condition to which a once numerous and flourishing body of men is now reduced, it is only necessary to observe, that for the last fortnight, the leading topic of discussion in the principal organs of the press devoted to their interests has been an investigation of the progress as to whether they have any existence or not. "Do we exist?" has been the anxious enquiry of the Conservative press for some time past. "Is there such a thing as a Conservative party in these kingdoms?" The inquiry has been generally taken up by the organs of the press, until every corner of the kingdom has rung with its echoes; but no satisfactory reply has yet been afforded; so that at present some of the noblest spirits of the three hundred gentlemen, ordinarily ranging themselves on the opposition side of the House of Commons, who are left in a state of the most perplexing uncertainty and doubt as to whether they are yet alive, or dead. This goes far to argue, that the people of this country are at the present moment all pretty much of one mind upon political affairs, it is but fair to draw the conclusion, that they are all pretty well off and contented with the circumstances which surround them. The same may be said generally of France. It is true that in that country, the popular voice is not so much hushed, as in this; but so far as we can judge from the testimony of English correspondents resident in Paris, and in many of the provinces, the prevalent feeling in every quarter of France is one of almost universal comfort, and tranquillity.

Prussia has been somewhat suddenly startled from the profound lethargy of the

repose in which it has lately been the un-
 tion of her King to give up the
 of his maritime flag, even when floating
 from the mast-head of a ship of war, com-
 manded by one of her Princes of the blood
 royal, has been impudently
 an such a slight defeat by a
 usual band of Moorish pirates. All the
 press of Prussia has been busy for the last
 three weeks in repeating the tale of Prince
 Adalbert's mishap with the Riff pirates,
 and terrible have been the denunciations
 and threats against the audacious rovers.
 The King of Prussia has made up his mind
 to avenge the outrage committed on his
 flag, and to sweep the robbers and assassins
 from the face of the sea.

Fitted out a couple of frigates
 and half-a-dozen gun-boats, and despatched
 them to the Mediterranean, with orders to
 settle all accounts between him and the
 impertinent gentlemen of the Riff coast?
 No such thing. The King of Prussia does
 not avenge himself in that common-place
 manner. He does not undertake the task
 himself, but petitions others to undertake
 it for him! Instead of instantly fitting out
 a new vessel, he petitions for the aid, or
 the punishment of the piratical horde, by
 whom his flag had been insulted, he goes
 a-begging to England, to France, and, as
 it is said, even to Russia, and petitions
 that a nation of such high rank and
 the dignity of a Monarch, assuming to
 associate himself among the great Powers
 of Europe, fall lower than this? To capture
 and hang a pirate who has fired upon his
 flag, and murdered his subjects, is the
 duty of every nation, and to which no
 active co-operation of all the maritime
 powers of Europe! Wonderful to say, his
 own subjects appear to be completely
 indifferent to the whole affair, and to be
 rather inclined to forget it than to avenge
 it.

Such is the melancholy prostration of
 national and manly spirit to which the
 truckling policy of the King has reduced
 the once high-mettled people of Prussia.
 It is a sad and humiliating condition of
 course, giving way to the one all-absor-
 bing ceremonial of the Coronation. Nothing
 that Rheims or Westminster has ever been
 able to boast can equal in grandeur, rich-
 ness, and tediousness that is preparing for
 the King of Prussia at the usual date and
 occasion. It will require no mean powers
 of generalship to organize the multitudinous
 processions, to get the hundreds of officials
 into the Cathedral and out of it again, and
 even, it would seem, to get the multitude
 with due attention, the thousands of distinguished
 personages who will be gathered
 in the ancient Muscovite capital from every
 region of the West and East. The Cor-
 onation of the King of Prussia is not con-
 sidered as the least important ceremony
 of a Western Sovereign. In the words
 of the Grace of God," which in England are
 construed by modern notions into a mere
 phrase, and, in this country, into a mis-
 leading and trifling meaning. The authority
 of the Sovereign is supposed to be directly
 derived from on High; he receives his
 commission from Heaven, through the
 Church, and is answerable to no human
 authority. The coronation is the solemn
 coronation and its accompanying consecra-
 tion are the rites by which the appointment
 to govern the Muscovite world is legiti-
 mately conferred. Until the Emperor is
 crowned by his subjects, he is not acknowl-
 edged and anointed with the holy oil, he exercises
 merely a provisional jurisdiction. He is
 the designated but not the installed Vicar
 of Heaven. Hence the officers of state,
 the chief of the Church, and the
 ambassadors of foreign Powers are invited
 to witness a ceremony which has to
 be the empire a practical reality. Muscovite
 custom requires that each coronation, each
 profession, each province, each regiment
 should be present, and that they should be
 the great day. If the assembled functionaries
 were only such personages as the masters,
 the grand masters, and the arch-masters
 of the ceremonies, the whole would lose
 much of its solemnity and grandeur. The
 of the Asiatics has its representative among
 the spectators of the rite. The chief of
 the peasants of the State domains, one of
 each Government, are there; the ancient
 of the guilds of traders, the foreign mer-
 chants, the magistrates, the section of the

Council of Manufactures, the officials of
 the Custom-house, take a part in the cere-
 mony. The board of Mines, the Chamber
 of Finance, the Commissariat, the Univer-
 sity, the Post-office, the Department of
 Theatres, with a number of other bodies
 of equal rank, are invited to witness the
 all-absorbing character of the cere-
 monial—and hence the mightiness of the
 preparations which have been made for its
 celebration.

In the other Kingdoms and States of Eu-
 rope, nothing remarkable presents itself.—
News of the World.

TURKISH REFORMS.

(From the News of the World.)

The last intelligence which reaches us
 from Constantinople is not altogether satis-
 factory. There can be no doubt what-
 ever, that the Sultan and his Ministers
 are sincerely bent on improving the con-
 dition of their empire, and on the speedy
 application of the ax to the tree; the
 Hatti Honayyiuom has already been promul-
 gated wherever it was prudent and possi-
 ble to do so; and several Greek churches
 are already in the course of construction.
 But the great difficulty displays itself in
 persuading the old Turkish party to ac-
 cept with sincerity the new order of
 things.

It appears that the executive in Turkey
 consists generally and chiefly of a class
 of gendarmes, principally Albanians and
 Redifs, who, during the war, and in the
 absence of the regular army, were charged
 with the guardianship of domestic affairs,
 and particularly to put down brigandage.
 Now, it so happens, that this force has no
 more interest in entirely extirpating the
 brigands, than the professed rat-catcher
 would have in effecting the complete an-
 nihilation of vermin. No rat—no rat-
 catcher; no brigands—no Turkish reform.
 Robbery is said to be certainly on the
 increase throughout the Ottoman Empire,
 and it is plain that there will be no remedy
 for this unless the regular army is employed
 to enforce law and clear the country of the
 lawless.

It has been proved in Greece, that the
 regular army is useless for this purpose,
 and the same may be said of Turkey.
 There can be no doubt that the majority
 of the Turkish Ministry are sincerely bent
 on the good reforms; but they are grievously
 obstructed in the execution of the good work
 by prejudices and personal interests of
 certain personages not far removed from
 the Sultan himself, who persist in clinging
 to the old state of things with the most
 obstinate tenacity. It is to be regretted,
 that this party has latterly received a
 sort of covert support from some of the
 members of the French Empire. As the
 object of England and France is to im-
 prove the internal condition and elevate
 the external rank of Turkey, by placing
 in the administration of her affairs, men
 superior to corruption, and sincerely de-
 siring of applying wholesome and neces-
 sary reforms—nothing can be more in-
 jurious or more fatal to the end in view
 than that a contrary policy should find
 the slightest countenance in any official
 quarter to which the direct influence of
 France or England may extend. The
 good effects of the war depend on the
 ability of the Western Powers to renovate
 the Turkish Empire—to make it national
 and thoroughly well governed within it-
 self, and thereby to render it proof
 against any intrigue of Russia in future.
 This can only be done by England and
 France using their legitimate influence to
 surround the Sultan with honest men;
 and if they steadfastly persist in that
 course, there can be little or no doubt
 that they will succeed, since we are
 assured, that the present Sovereign of
 Turkey is really disposed to listen to

his own counsel and advice, and to choose
 honest men and able advisers, who shall
 be more devoted to the welfare of the
 State than the sordid advancement of
 their own personal interest.

A French correspondent informs us
 that there are, at the present moment, two
 bad signs of the times in connection with
 the affairs of Turkey—the arrival in Paris
 of a number of Greek crosses (decorations),
 and a number of Turkish shawls.
 "I hope," says he, "that the latter are
 only intended according to Oriental cus-
 tom, to hide from the world the charms
 of the fair sex. The present is the critical
 moment for the future of Turkey, and
 which all Europe has an interest in keep-
 ing independent; that independence and
 power to resist the enemy, depends on
 domestic reforms; those reforms, again,
 rest on the united action of France and
 England in supporting the Sultan. The
 allied troops have left the domestic af-
 fairs of Turkey to the hands of a local
 Sovereign. There is much to be accomplish-
 ed—many difficulties, the most grave, and
 religious prejudices, to overcome. But
 there is material for the most happy re-
 sult, if the Ambassadors of France and
 England work together for the welfare
 of Turkey, and the common interests of
 the nations they represent."

It is very earnestly to be hoped, that
 the Ambassadors will pursue this course;
 and that they will not permit any short-
 sighted policy to prevent them from im-
 peding the progress of the great
 Turkish reformation, which the Western
 Powers have so deep an interest in seeing
 accomplished.

An extraordinary statement appears in
 the *Coloagne Gazette*, which, indeed, might
 be treated with indifference were it not that
 it is so generally received, and has a place
 in their columns—and it is that the Czar
 has promised to support King Bomba in his
 resistance to the remonstrances of the
 Western Powers, supported, as the latter
 are, in appearance at least, by Austria.
 The statement is so absurd, and so mani-
 festly improbable as it looks. It may
 be the case, that the King of Naples is
 besetted enough to throw himself on the
 Czar for support, and that his agents are
 giving out the story, which has found its
 way to the banks of the Rhine. That King
 Bomba is as silly as he is tyrannical cannot
 be doubted, because folly is stamped on
 every act of his imbecile and reckless go-
 vernment; but there is nothing, therefore,
 which exceeds the bounds of credibility in
 the assertion that he calculates on the
 support of Russia. He is, no doubt, offended
 with Austria for having pronounced in
 favor of the requisition of the Western Powers,
 and he is angry with the Czar, because
 good odour with the Czar, he thinks it easy
 to win the latter's favor and assistance. As
 showing Bomba's folly and stupid persistency
 in his pernicious course of conduct,
 it is to be noted, that the Czar, who
 regards Naples herself, it is hardly possible
 to give a shadow of credence to such an
 imputation on her confessedly astute under-
 standing of political means for practical
 ends and objects.

A few days ago placards were affixed to
 the mansions of the Greppi, Traversa,
 and Poldi, in this city, on which were con-
 spicuous and legible the mottoes, "Long
 live King Victor Emanuel!" and "Long
 live Cavour!" Next morning there was a
 great commotion among the police at the
 sight of these placards, and they ordered
 the owners of the respective houses to re-
 move them at once. The latter declared,
 however, that they had affixed the placards
 to the walls of their houses, they did not
 think it was their business to take them
 down. The police were then obliged to
 perform the operation, which was done in
 a most imposing manner.

The Independence states, that strong barracks
 being erected at Madrid, which will in fact be
 forts, intended to keep the people in order.