

## EUROPE.

LONDON, AUGUST 27, 1833.

The principal article of foreign news brought by the French journals consists of a resolution of the Helvetic Federal Diet, agreed to on the 16th instant, declaratory of the pleasure with which that body had received the official communication by which the Austrian Government announced that the military preparations made by the latter power, in the neighbourhood of the Swiss frontier, had for their object the maintenance, and not the overthrow, of the independence of Switzerland.

From the *Courier*—By the Lisbon packet Columbia, we have received accounts from Oporto, of the 19th, and from Lisbon of the 17th. As usual the private letters from Lisbon do not contain much news of a political nature. It appears by the following extract of one with which we have been favoured that the communication between Oporto and Lisbon is very limited, and that some degree of suspicion, which we hope will prove unfounded, is attached to the Admiral stationed there:—

Extract from a letter dated Lisbon, August 17 1832.

"We are a good deal dispirited here by the little progress Don Pedro has been able to make, and at the present moment are very fearful of an unfavourable result. Our communication with Oporto is very limited, which we think is in a great measure owing to the disinclination of our Admiral to facilitate news from thence. We do not know what his instructions may be, but we cannot help thinking that he has neither maintained the honour nor interest of his country. The firing on the Viper, with the tardy satisfaction (if it can be so called) given, would hardly have been tamely submitted to in former times; and the admission of vessels under the Brazilian and Austrian flags to the exclusion of ours, is prejudicial to the interests of British commerce. It will be by this conveyance have the latest news from Oporto—the reports here are so various and conflicting, that we can give credit to nothing. It appears very doubtful, however, if the good cause can succeed, without foreign interference, as the influence of the rascally clergy over the lower orders is very great, and the liberal party show such apathy, neither coming forward with money nor men, that I fear the task is above the power of so small a force as Don Pedro at present possesses. Should he be defeated, it is difficult to look forward to the consequences—but we must hope for the best. The squadron of Miguel is said to be off, but we believe that none of them are yet (eleven p.m.) inside the bar.—The accounts from Oporto are not so discouraging as we were at first led to suppose, but we are still anxious to learn the issue of the threatened attacks."

By the accounts from Oporto, we learn that Don Miguel's fleet, had returned to the Tagus on the 18th, and some degree of disappointment is felt there, that Admiral Sartorius had not been successful in capturing some of its vessels. The fact, however, of the enemy's fleet leaving is considered as a favourable tendency, as it leaves the coast clear for landing stores, provisions, &c.

At Paris Don Pedro's agents, with or without the connivance of the French government, are organizing an expedition of 10,000 men, the object of which is to make a landing in the southern coast of Portugal and effect a diversion.

It is said that Ferdinand persists in his charge of violation of neutrality agreed upon, and will admit no distinction between foreigners enlisted

under Don Pedro's banner, and a foreign corps of troops acting on his behalf. A Cabinet Council was held at Madrid, soon after the arrival of an express from St. Petersburg, in which the fact of the violation was proved to the entire satisfaction of its members; and it is said to have been resolved, that instructions should be immediately transmitted to the Spanish Ambassadors in Paris and London, to intimate to the French and English governments, that circumstances justify an immediate interference on the part of Spain in favour of Miguel.

According to an order of the Government of Donna Maria, foreign grain is allowed to be imported at Oporto.

Extract from a merchant's letter, Oporto, Aug. 18.—The state of affairs in Villa Nova will, for the present, entirely prevent our shipping wine, as we are in constant expectation of that place being occupied by Miguel's troops, and it will be impossible to attend to business under such circumstances, and we do not attempt to take freight for anything for England at present. All the smaller struggling houses, who have but limited capital and credit here, and depend upon the regularity of their returns to meet their engagements, are daily stopping payment, and they must unfortunately be ruined: it is deplorable, for many are very industrious, honest, and useful members of the commercial community. At this moment we are surrounded by 20,000 of Miguel's troops, every moment expecting an attack. Our force, however, here being strong and the city well disposed, and well fortified, we expect they will be repulsed by our gallant little band. The retreat of Miguel's fleet to Lisbon, has given the Constitutionals great spirits."

Extract of a letter from a seaman on board the *Reinha da Portugal*, dated at sea, off Oporto Bar, August 14.—The first engagement we had with the enemy was upon the 3d of this month, about 11 o'clock at night. We only had three British ships, and our own ship being the *Donna Maria*, 36, and our own ship, the *Reinha da Portugal*, 42. The second was fought on the 10th, from eleven to one at night. The Admiral turned the hands up, and told us that he was determined to give the *Don Juan*, 74, a warning. We answered him with three British cheers. We made all sail, and stood for the centre of their line, when the whole of their force—consisting of one 74, one 50-gun frigate, three corvettes, and two brig-sloops, opened fire upon us. We kept all fast, and went with three pistol ranges, and the word was passed "Are you ready!" "All ready!" "Fire." And we kept it up for one hour and fifteen minutes, (after breaking their line,) ourselves and the *Donna Maria*, the small craft being ordered by the Admiral to keep to windward. We received many shots about the hull, masts, sails, and rigging. The next morning about ten o'clock we were about four miles to windward of the enemy, trying to find out what damage we had done them, when the *Don Juan's* maintop-mast went over the board. We gave chase, and stood down to them, but unfortunately for us, it fell a calm, or else we would assuredly have had her in tow. We are now off Oporto, two steamers and a cutter have come out to us; the latter of which brings this letter. The Admiral has told us to day, that the moment we can collect four force together, he will again show fight. Why don't they do it?—seven to two! Don Miguel's fleet is now standing for Lisbon. We are in chase—only two! We have heard from the *Leveant*, British man-of-war, that the enemy sustained great damage."

At the time of their exchanging shots, and

in which the Don John had her main top mast shot away, Sartorius had two men killed, and eight wounded; whilst the loss of their power-ful opponent was stated to be upwards of 100 killed and 50 wounded. The Constitutional fleet were off the bar of Lisbon; it consisted of two frigates, two brig-sloops, and two schooners; there were two corvettes and several schooners getting ready.

*Madrid, Aug. 26.*—In an interview of a somewhat stormy nature lately took place between the British Plenipotentiary, resident here, and our Foreign minister. The latter threatened to send a Spanish Army into Portugal in case of a particular state of circumstances arising upon this the British Minister emphatically told him that Great Britain would never, under any possible conditions, or on any pretence whatever, permit the Spanish government to interfere in the domestic affairs of Portugal, and that the government of France had agreed to assist her. A letter from Oporto states that Don Miguel has received 8,000 muskets from England, 40,000 pair of shoes, and 40,000. The profoundest silence is uniformly observed by our government respecting the affairs of Portugal; they simply allow their *Gazette* to speak in the most favourable manner of the resources of Don Miguel, but no explanation whatever is given of the late actions in that kingdom. Reports are abroad that a negotiation has taken place, whereby Don Pedro is to enter Lisbon and Don Miguel to retire to Rome. This news I am assured, has been carried both to the government and to the British Minister. However this may be, it is certain that a large sum of money has been lately placed at the disposal of Don Miguel by Spain; and this must certainly be the last pecuniary gift which it is possible for the Spanish treasury to supply. Such, indeed, has been the embarrassed state of our finances that it has become necessary to lay violent hands on the Royal Volunteer's funds: this will not go far, and now the troops and clerks are unpaid.

The army of the Pacha of Egypt continues its successful march in Syria. The British are on the point of committing to him, in intelligence of an engagement between his fleet and that of the Porte, was hourly expected at Alexandria. The Egyptian force was numerically inferior to that opposed to it, but is represented as superior in equipments and discipline.

Accounts from the frontiers of Poland, of July 20, state that no fewer than 20,000 Polish women will be very shortly expatriated. This will consist, 1st, of all women married to Russians—and Russian officers are encouraged to take Polish wives by grants of rewards; 2nd, of the wives of all Polish officers who have been taken prisoners, and who are to join their husbands in Russia; 3rdly, the wives of all Polish officers who were killed during the revolution; 4thly, the wives of all Polish soldiers who were killed; and 5thly, all the public women.

The Prussian army is said to consist of 250,000, and the Dutch of 130,000 men. This, with the Austrian and Russian force, would be a formidable armament to oppose to the French, even if aided by *les braves Belges*." The former too—especially the latter—are in higher discipline and condition than the French, which Charles X. left in a state of disorganization, by which the exertions of Soult—great and unceasing as they have been, can hardly have sufficed to apply a sufficient remedy. Preparations for war are making on all sides. Switzerland has decided on a general armament, that she may not be the only defenceless state in the present threatening posture of affairs. Her force will be 100,000 men.