

The Examiner.

"THIS IS TRUE LIBERTY, WHEN FREEBORN MEN—HAVING TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC, MAY SPEAK FREE."—EURIPIDES.

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POLITICS AND NEWS.

From Papers by the last English Mail.

TURKEY.

DREADFUL FIRE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 19.—On Wednesday last, towards seven in the evening, a most lamentable fire broke out in Yemish Iskelessi (dried fruit bazaar), situated between the two bridges. The intensity of the conflagration acquired such force, on account of the surrounding inflammable matter, that in a short quarter of an hour it had extended itself in a fearful manner. In the immediate neighbourhood of the fruit bazaar was the Yagh Kapan, or oil depot, the magazines and warehouses being well stocked with inflammable matter; on the other side, towards the arsenal was an immense timber-yard, the greatest in the city, a quarter of a mile in length, 100 feet in height, and 500 in breadth. By eight o'clock both these places were invaded by the flames. When the noble line of sphere on which the timber was piled was one blazing sheet of flame, the appearance was that of one burning mass of liquified gold. What was still more grievous was, that a compact mass of shipping was moored opposite this spot, and the masting of several Turkish vessels, laden with oil, wheat, and timber, soon took fire, and rendered the scene on the placid and tranquil water still more sublime than on land. The shrill cries of the respective commanders of the menaced vessels, the long, continuous, and savage howls of the mariners and sailors, in their endeavours to draw their crafts from the theatre of the conflagration—all tended to impress the spectator with the grandeur of the dreadful calamity that had befallen the city of Constantinople. Towards nine o'clock the fire had spread out in an awful manner. In one direction it was travelling at a rapid rate towards the Calmoumjilar, in another towards the Uzon Charski, whilst on the other it was raging at the Odum Kapoussi. Notwithstanding great efforts were made to prevent its spreading towards the hill, which gradually rises until it reaches the crest, on which stands the mosque of Suley-manish, and close to that the palaces of several vizirs, the Sheik-ul-Islam Kapoussi (Porte of the Ulenes), and other extensive public and private buildings, with their hanging gardens and kiosks, it was all of no avail. The houses were destroyed one after the other. The flames rushed up the walls, and stood like pyramids of fire in the air. At length, at about eleven o'clock, the pinnacle of one of the minarets of the Suleymanieh, on the extreme height, and fully one mile from the scene of destruction, caught fire. A singular spectacle indeed it was, to see the airy meteor burning and blazing away, whilst the flames in a vast body kept beating like waves against the angle of the Sheik-ul-Islam's palace, after having destroyed, in rapid succession, all the intervening buildings. At about midnight it had reached Baluk Bazaar in the immediate neighbourhood of the new bridge, and great anxiety was entertained respecting the Drug Bazaar, which is a splendid building, well known to tourists who visit this city. In the opposite direction it had reached the Skemnegelar, and was proceeding at a rapid rate towards the Oun Kapan. The efforts made by the Turks to extinguish the fire were useless; they everywhere ceased, and were mostly employed in pulling down buildings. With the poor inhabitants it was a general *saue qui peut*; indeed, many were so surrounded by the flames as to be unable to escape, and were burned to death. Near Oun Kapan a dreadful destruction of life occurred, and it is said that upwards of 20 persons have perished. At two o'clock in the morning the fire had sensibly abated in its violence for want of fuel to aliment it, and at about half-past three no more danger was anticipated. The fire has consumed, according to a detailed estimate, about 2,500 shops and 500 houses; about 40 of the latter were splendid palaces belonging to the Sheik-ul-Islam, Moustapha Pacha, Said Pacha, Irret Pacha, Hassan Pacha, and others. The general loss is calculated at averaging from £2,000,000 to £4,000,000 sterling, but some have carried it to 5,000,000. We should state it, approximatively, about 2,000,000. To account for this great loss, it must be carefully understood that vast depositaries of merchandise were kept there, besides whole bazaars of oil, fruit, wax, rice, spices, tallow, coffee, sponges, &c., as well as the establishments of the knife-grinders, wholesale grocers, nut-sellers, &c. In addition to these must be noted nineteen khans, seven mosques, four baths, two public granaries, 15,000 barrels of rice belonging to the Pacha of Egypt, a Government steam-mill, and seventeen vessels, and among the rest an Austrian and a Russian vessel, &c. This fire exceeds that of Pera, two months back, not only in the extent, but in the value of the

objects destroyed. Here people are positively ruined, as their all was there. A fearful night of havoc, indeed, it was. The Sultan went *incognito* to the scene of destruction, and subsequently took up his position in a steamer in the arsenal. The alarm guns have just been fired, and it is said that a serious conflagration has just broken out at Karagumruk, towards the Seven Towers.

ITALY AND AUSTRIA.

THE KING OF SARDINIA'S PROCLAMATION.

We find in the *Concordia* of the 30th, the following proclamation from Charles Albert to the army;—
"Soldiers,—My government is taking all necessary measures for the recommencement of the war. New brethren in arms rush from all sides to place themselves under those banners that you planted on the banks of the Adige. If fatigues and privations of all kinds have deprived us of victory, repose and discipline will bring back our days of triumph. Soldiers, you have to show to the country that she has not reckoned in vain on your fidelity and courage. The memory of your past glory will be a stimulant for your new companions. In following your example they will render themselves worthy of you. Thus, as soon as the armistice shall have expired, we shall either have obtained conditions compatible with the rights of the nation, or, honor calling on us, we will return to the contest with fresh enthusiasm for Italian independence, the object of all our desires. Let the country, which has placed on you all its hopes, learn how deeply you feel attached to our free institutions, which are the basis of the new destinies of Italy. In consequence, I order all officers and soldiers of the army and of the marine to swear to the fundamental statute, that this solemn act may cement union between citizens and soldiers, who are all called upon, without distinction, to enjoy the rights accorded by the law to our faithful and well beloved.

'CARLO ALBERTO.

'MOFFA DI LISIO.

'Alexandria, Aug. 28, 1848.

OUTBREAK AT PERNAMBUCO.

LISBON, AUGUST 29.—By the *Ligeira*, which arrived there on the 21st inst. in 36 days, from Pernambuco, we learn that a popular outbreak against the Portuguese residents took place in that city on the 26th of June last. It appears that it originated in a quarrel between two individuals, a Portuguese shopkeeper and a Brazilian student, the latter of whom was knocked down by the former. Other Brazilians came to the rescue, and the affair soon grew to a general tumult, in which several Portuguese lost their lives, and all the others were obliged to take refuge on board the vessels in the port. Order was at length restored, but with great difficulty, by the authorities. Representations numerous signed had been addressed by the natives to the government, requesting adoption of measures against Portuguese industry. From this it is clear that a feeling of national jealousy was at the bottom of all.

THE MONARCHS OF EUROPE—TERRITORY AND POPULATION.

The excitement in the old world, the revolution, reforms, and the threatening aspect of affairs at our last accounts, have induced many inquiries as to the names and ages of the reigning sovereigns, the extent and population of their various governments. We have, therefore, turned to the latest authorities and gather the following.

Great Britain—Victoria, Queen of Great Britain, was born May 24th, 1819. Ascended the throne June 20, 1837, at the age of 18. Government limited monarchy, with two Houses of Parliament. Population 26,831,105. Territory 116,700 square miles. Religion, Protestant.

France—Louis Philippe, late King of France, now a Republic, was born October 6, 1773. He ascended the throne August 9, 1830, aged 57. Government, late limited monarchy, now a Republic. Population 34,194,875. Territory 202,135 square miles. Religion Catholic.

Nicholas I. Emperor of Russia, was born July 6, 1796. He ascended the throne Dec. 1, 1825, aged 29. The Government is an absolute monarchy. The territory 2,041,809 square miles, and the population (including Poland) 62,500,000. Religion, Greek Church.

Frederic William IV. King of Prussia, was born Oct. 15, 1795. He ascended the throne June 7, 1840, aged 45. The Government has heretofore been an absolute monarchy, with a population of 14,330,000. Territory 106,302 square miles. Religion, Evangelical.

Ferdinand, Emperor of Austria, was born April 19, 1798, and ascended the throne March 2, 1835, aged 45. The Government has heretofore been an absolute monarchy, except Hungary, &c. with a population of

36,519,560. Square miles 255,256. Religion Catholic. Louis, King of Bavaria, (now said to have abdicated) was born Aug. 25, 1780, ascended the throne October 13, 1825, aged 39. The kingdom is a limited monarchy, with two chambers. The population 4,315,460. Territory 28,435 square miles. Religion Catholic.

Oscar I. King of Sweden and Norway, was born in July 1790. He ascended the throne March 8, 1814, aged 45. Government limited monarchy, with a diet. Population 4,156,900. Religion Lutheran.

Christian VIII. King of Denmark, was born Sept. 18, 1786. He ascended the throne December 3, 1839, aged 59. Government absolute monarchy. Population, 2,033,265. Territory 59,762 square miles.

William II. King of Holland or Netherlands, was born December 6, 1792. Ascended the throne October 7, 1840, aged 48. Government, limited monarchy, with two chambers. Population 2,915,369. Territory 13,890 square miles. Religion Reformed.

Leopold I. King of Belgium, was born Dec. 16, 1790. He ascended the throne July 31, 1831, aged 40. Limited monarchy, with two chambers. Population 4,242,600. Territory 12,569 square miles. Religion, Catholic.

Frederick, King of Saxony, was born May 18, 1797. Ascended the throne June 6, 1836, aged 39. Government, limited monarchy, with two Chambers. Population, 1,652,114. Territory, 5,705 square miles. Religion, Catholic.

Ernest Augustus, King of Hanover, born June 5, 1771. Ascended the throne July 20, 1837, aged 66. Government limited monarchy, with two chambers. Population, 1,706,280. Territory, 14,600 square miles.

William, King of Wurtemberg, was born September 27, 1781. He ascended the throne July 20, 1816, aged 35. Government, limited monarchy, with two Chambers. Population, 1,634,654. Territory, 7,568 square miles.

There are, besides, 26 other German Principalities, Grand Duchies, Langravines, Electorates, &c., some in the form of absolute and others of limited monarchies. There are also in Germany, Bremen, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Lubec, free cities, which are separate and republican.

Isabella II. Queen of Spain, was born Oct. 10 1830. She ascended the throne Sept. 29, 1833, aged 3 years. The Government is a limited monarchy, with a Legislature (the Cortes.) The population is 12,286,941. Territory, 176,480 square miles. Religion Catholic.

Maria II. Queen of Portugal, was born April 4, 1819. Ascended the throne May 2, 1826, aged 7 years. Government, limited monarchy, with one chamber. Population 3,550,000. Territory, 34,500 square miles. Religion Catholic.

Switzerland is a Republic, with a Diet. Population 2,135,480. Territory, 17,208 square miles. Religion Catholic and Protestant.

Charles Albert, King of Sardinia, born October 2, 1798. Ascended the throne April 27, 1831, aged 32. Government, absolute monarchy. Population 4,168,000. Territory 28,820 square miles. Religion Catholic.

Leopold II. Grand Duke of Tuscany, born October 3, 1797. Government, absolute monarchy. Population 1,436,785. Territory, 8302 square miles. Religion Catholic.

Pius IX. Pope of Rome, is the temporal Sovereign of the States of the Church. Born, Dec. 23, 1792. Was elected by the College of Cardinals, June 21, 1846, at the age of 54. Elective Sovereignty. Population, 2,732,436. Territory, 17,048 square miles. Religion Catholic.

Ferdinand II. King of the two Sicilies, born Jan. 12, 1810. Ascended the throne Nov. 8, 1830, at the age of 20. Government, limited monarchy, with a council.—Population, 7,975,850. Territory, 41,531 square miles. Religion Catholic.

There are also Duchies in Italy—Parma, Modena and Massa; and the principality of Monaco. Neither should we forget the small Republic of San Marino, in Italy, with 7,000 inhabitants, that of Andorre in the Pyrenees, with 7,000—and that of the Ionian Islands, with 208,100 inhabitants, in the Mediterranean, under British protection.

Otho, King of Greece, was born June 1, 1815. He ascended the throne May 7, 1832, aged 27. The Government is a limited monarchy. Population 926,000. Territory, 10,206 square miles. Religion Greek Church.

Abdul Medjid, the Sultan of Turkey, was born April 20, 1823. He ascended the throne July 1, 1839, aged 16. Government absolute monarchy. Population 9,545,000. Territory, 183,340 square miles. Religion Mahometan.

The foregoing outline possesses unusual interest at the present time, and will be found usual as a matter of reference.