

charge; they were armed with a small watering-engine, like those used in gardens, and with it they spouted showers of sulphuric acid upon the enemy, who retreated before them in a roar of dismay. We are for the vitriol, and recommend its use to all revolutionary citizens, especially when flung in small glass vials, or thin flasks, from house-tops, on cavalry. This is only one of the little things we have begun thinking of; and, therefore, ye rosewater anti-corrosives! do not get frightened too soon. You remind us of our excellent, but too nice, friend and historian, Dr. Madden. Speaking of Robert Emmett's store of combustibles, he describes them as 'painful to read.' But if he saw our laboratory—poor man!

Mr. Mitchell has ceased his correspondence with the "Butcher-General," and has now taken the Prime Minister to task for the part Lord John has taken to repress treason by the Bill for the Security of the Crown. Open defiance is, of course, harled at the measure, as a means of stifling public opinion. Alluding to the unprecedented success of his own journal, he asks,—

"And why has it grown so popular? Why do poor men club their pence to buy it, and get it read to eager crowds every Saturday evening and Sunday morning? Why?—Because it utters for them the deep and inextinguishable hatred they all bear in their inmost souls against the 'Crown and Government' of Britain; because it translates this holy hatred, never yet uttered, save in stifled curses and gnashing of teeth, into loud defiance, and hurls it weekly in the face of all your Viceroy and Premiers, and Commanders-in-Chief; and especially because it points out the way, and the only true way, in which brave men ever win freedom or bridle tyrants, and exhorts them continually to rise out of the miserable slough of moral force wherein O'Connell plunged them, and stand erect with the words of freemen on their lips, and the arms of freemen in their hands, defying law, trampling on cant, and waging open war upon humbug. But you, the 'Government,' will not endure this sort of teaching; you will check it at all hazards. If it cannot be stopped as a misdemeanour, you will make it 'felony.' If nothing else will do, the people of Ireland must be weaned from anarchists and 'Jacobins,' by taking the said Jacobins, chaining them in couples, cropping their heads, arraying them in grey jackets, and shipping them to the antipodes! And indeed, my Lord, this 'vigorous' policy will prove an effectual check upon us Irish 'revolutionists,' provided the men with whom you have to deal are fools, braggarts, traitors, and cowards. If we have undertaken the trade of patriotism for profit—if we have played the game of patriotism for notoriety—if we have been merely aspirants to the cheap martyrdom of two years' imprisonment, with fetes, and levees, and couches—why, in that case, the thing is at an end; you have tamed us, and fixed a bit between our teeth—sedition is crushed, and the Queen's 'Crown and Government' are safe for this time.

"Or if we have made a gross and signal mistake as to the position, feelings, and necessities of our country—if we have not, after all, a nation at our back, but are merely isolated enthusiasts, fugging preposterously before imaginary troops—in this case, also, our game is over—we shall just get punished—all sensible men will say we deserved it, and an end. These issues will soon be tried, and I am glad of it. For twelve long months we have desired to see this day."

Referring to Mr. Smith O'Brien's exhibition in the House of Commons on Monday night, Mr. Mitchell thus proceeds:—

"But perhaps, you imagine it was a mere display, of individual contumacy, or piqued vanity? My Lord, in every word, every syllable, every title that O'Brien promised or threatened on Monday night, he knew that he was uttering the inmost thoughts and feelings, the cordial hatred and defiance of 5,000,000 hearts; and it shall be made good to the letter. No more fortunate event has happened for Ireland than your selection of William Smith O'Brien and Thomas Francis Meagher to be treated as degraded criminals or dangerous lunatics; because these are precisely the men who will not flinch before your judges, your bayonets, your juries, or your gibbets. What the people want to see in their leaders is individual heroism; is the determination to do themselves what they incite others to do; and seeing that, I believe they will follow, though it were to the gibbet's foot or the cannon's muzzle."

FRANCE.

The tide of the revolutionary wave in France flows on with impetuous force. One mighty event succeeds another with unintermitting rapidity. After a whole history, curdled into the brief space of little more than two months, France has struggled through the first pangs of political birth, and a new born representative assembly constitutionally formed, now sways the destinies of France. Every lover of freedom, from the bottom of his heart, wishes success to the mighty experiment; and we earnestly hope that the new assembly will give to all nations unity, peace, and concord,—that it will be endued with grace, wisdom and understanding to govern prosperously the French people; and will execute justice and maintain truth in all its laws and ordinances. The blessings of mankind will accompany it accordingly.

After a week of comparative tranquility in Paris, but of frightful violence at Rouen, Limoges, and in many of the Provinces, the elections terminated by a decisive majority in favour of the moderate republican party.

We have already said that M. Lamartine, whom the whole of Europe seems to idolise as the genius of peace and order, was elected in about a dozen departments by a transcendental majority. Copious statements of the relative positions of the chief candidates will be found in our continental news, it will suffice here briefly to repeat that the triumph of the moderate party was signal and complete. The effect has been to create the impression in almost everybody's mind, that Lamartine will be unanimously elected the First President of the Republic of France. No doubt can be entertained that a republican form of government will be decided upon by the new assembly. Whether France will profit by the wise example of England and the United States, and establish two chambers, the one the reflex of the popular voice, the other to moderate, direct, and by the exercise of calm passionless judgment to control the sometimes rash impulses of the multitude, remains to be seen. We wish that the deliberations of the new assembly upon this and many vital points affecting the stability, and even the existence of the new order of things, may be entirely free and unfettered; but we should abdicate our duty as faithful chroniclers of the times, if we suffered our prepossessions one way or the other to warp our judgment of the true state of affairs. The assembly is constituted; but the rage and disappointment of the ultra-republican party, which already knows no bounds, will be employed in every way by plots, conspiracies, and even open violence to overthrow the new moderate Republic, in order to carry out their views. In Rouen the blood which had been shed is clearly the work of the agents of that party of which Ledru-Rollin is the exponent. The undaunted courage displayed by these men at Rouen and Limoges, plainly indicates that their resistance to the authority of a moderate rational Government will be one of vindictive audacity; and it would scarcely be correct to measure their capacity for mischief by their numbers, which, indeed, are not insignificant. The Government, following up their injudicious pandering to the taste of the Parisians for spectacles, meditated inaugurating the opening of the new assembly by a magnificent fete at the Champs de Mars, where vast preparations in the Greek and Roman style have been made for entertaining 80,000 persons to a public dinner. This foolish display will cost above a million of francs, which, considering the state of the French purse, appears to us wasteful and ridiculous excess. This fete has since been postponed till the 10th instant; if the Parisians can only be kept from mischief by a series of such extravagances as these, it argues very inauspiciously for their political regeneration. The language held by the clubs since the defeat of the communist party becomes more threatening than ever. It is paraded in the journals, however, that Lamartine and Ledru Rollin are really good friends, and this is stated to re-assure the friends of the Republic. We do not know how to understand this. The noble Lamartine seems one,

Upon whom every god has seemed to set his seal
To give the world assurance of a man :

of Ledru Rollin we forbear to speak as we think he deserves; it is, indeed, 'Hyperion to a Satyr;' and in what way a cordial alliance can exist between two such opposite characters is to us inconceivable. There is no hope for France whilst Ledru Rollin is Minister of the Interior; and to eject him from office must, we fear, revive the old and fatal struggles which stained the history of the National Convention. It is very easy to draw up a constitution, but to govern men, and bad men, too, in that lies the great difficulty. The Provisional Government has commanded General Cavaignac to return from Algeria to Paris, where they hope to prevail upon him to relieve M. Arago from his duties as Minister of War, whilst the ultra party, on the other hand, are clamouring for the regular troops to be all sent out of Paris.

We had written thus far, when the French journals of Tuesday reached us, and other contents verify the painful forebodings which, in spite of ourselves, prevail in our minds, and which cannot but be betrayed in our language when treating of the affairs of France. The frightful scenes which have taken place at Rouen, have been repeated at Nantes, Rhodes, Niemes (where martial law is proclaimed), Marseilles, and Limoges (which place holds out steadfastly against the Provisional Government), with more or less degree of violence; and from the concurrent testimony of all the Paris journals, the French capital seems in greater danger of some violent outburst of popular fury, than at any period since the 24th of February. The clubs have assumed a tone similar to that adopted by Robespierre in 1793. In fact, the declaration of the Rights of Man, drawn up by that portentous tyrant, is made the basis of action by one of the clubs, holding his principles, and a proclamation to that effect was posted all over Paris, but instantly torn down by the agents of the Government. This step of Barbes, for he is the head of the club, has created a profound sensation; and, as the Provisional Government will, in a few days, resign their authority, the question arises, who will have sufficient power, with the troops and the National Guards, henceforth to maintain order. It is plain that a great party is being organised for mischief; and the very unwelcome information is circulated, that the protection of the new assembly is to be confided to the Lyonese self-instituted guard, with the unruly 'guard on foot' of Paris, the two bodies being incorporated. The greatest alarm prevails lest some attack

will be made on the Deputies; and a proclamation of the Provisional Government enjoining confidence, and ending by saying that "madness can alone deprive France of the democratic consequences of the revolution of February," only proves that the members of the Government are fully aware of the secret and universal dread which prevails that the whole country is on the verge of a civil war.

As a sign of public opinion, M. Thiers, the ex-President of the Council, the most celebrated historian, and no insignificant statesman of the time, a man of unquestionable talent, and an opposition leader, has been rejected by the electors of Les Bouches du Rhone, and at present has no seat in the new assembly. Lucien Murat, son of the former King of Naples, is elected for the department of the Lot.

The Legitimists are not idle, for the *Independant de l'Ouest* has proclaimed the accession of the Duke of Bordeaux to the throne of France.

We have received details of the proceedings at the opening of the French Chamber on the 4th inst., which were highly interesting, and passed off satisfactorily. The members of the Provisional Government, distinguished by tri-coloured sashes, went in procession to the Chamber, from which all persons having arms were excluded. Loud applause greeted them on the way, and on their arrival in the Chamber. Amongst the members present, beside the Government, were the Bishop of Orleans, Lacordaire (in the dress of a Dominican friar), M. de Montalembert, Odillon Barrot, Dupin, Berryer, Beranger, Larochejaquelin and Billault. M. Dupont (de la Eure) was the first of the Government who entered, followed closely by Lamartine and the others. M. Andre de Puyreveau, senior deputy, took the chair as president; after which M. Dupont ascended the tribune, and delivered the following speech:—

Citizen Representatives,—The Provisional Government bows before the nation, and renders homage to the supreme power with which you are invested. Elected of the People, welcome to the great capital where your presence excites a sentiment of happiness and hope, which will not be disappointed. Depositories of the national sovereignty, you are about to establish new institutions upon the large basis of democracy, and to confer on France the only constitution fitting for her,—a republican constitution. Thus having proclaimed the great political law which will definitively constitute the country, you will, citizens, like us, occupy yourselves in regulating the peaceable and efficacious action of the government in the relation which the necessity of labor establishes among citizens, and which must have for its basis the sacred laws of justice and fraternity. In fine, the moment has arrived for the Provisional Government to resign into your hands the unlimited power with which the revolution invested it. You know whether with us the dictatorship has been anything more than a moral power, exercised amidst the difficult circumstances in which we were placed. Faithful to our origin and to our formed convictions, we hesitated not to proclaim the nascent republic of February. To-day we inaugurate the labours of the National Assembly to that cry at which we will always rally—'Vive la Republique.'—(Applause.)

Some business was gone through in the after sittings, but it was not expected that the President of the Republic would be declared till next day.

SARDINIA AND AUSTRIA.

Reports are current that the Army of the Alps had entered Savoy to aid in the defence of Italian independence against Austria. The *Moniteur* of yesterday published a decree granting a credit of 32,000 francs for war purposes. The inference drawn from this circumstance is, that a movement on Lombardy is in contemplation, in the event of the Austrians defeating the Sardinian troops, with their auxiliaries, of which it is considered there is now a strong probability. The *Constitutionnel*, however, denies that there is any truth in the report that France is about to declare war against Austria.

Later accounts from Italy state that King Charles Albert had resolved to attack the Austrians in their entrenched camp at Verona, and was within a league and a half of its walls for the purpose on the 28th. The head-quarters of the Sardinian army had been transferred from Volta to Vallegio, on the left bank of the Mincio. Near Villafranco the Piedmontese surprised a body of the Austrian army. The officers fled with part of the soldiers. The others laid down their arms. Marshal Radetsky has sent to Innsbruck some families of Verona as hostages. The capture of Udine by the Austrians is confirmed; but it turns out they were almost immediately attacked again, and driven from the city. There is no further news relative to the advance of Nugent. From Vienna we learn that the Archduke Francis Joseph had gone to Verona, the head-quarters of Radetsky.

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the Subscriber are hereby notified to pay their respective accounts on or before the first day of July next. If not settled then, payment will be enforced.

April 21.

J. D. P. COLES.

WE, the undersigned, have appointed MOSES HAVES our Town Crier during the present season.
H. W. LOBBAN.
A. H. YATES.
W. H. GARDINER.
April 12.