

justice, which demand our profound respect, are not devoid of equally reverent respect for the institutions, which require to be stamped with reprobation. If it be a sound principle of one of these systems, that the good pleasure of the prince has all the force of law, it is no less the settled principle of another, that the king can do no wrong, and that the powers of parliament are as boundless even as space or time. Novel and unlike in spirit to our parent institutions as are the principles of government and legislation so happily established in this country, there is the greater necessity that jurists of eminent abilities, whom long study and practice of our laws have enabled to appreciate their defects and excellencies, should bring forth the stores of their erudition to direct and enlighten their fellow citizens. To consummate our independence, we need that our laws should be sifted of the relics of feudal barbarism which continue mingled with them, and that a strong line of demarcation should be clearly and distinctly drawn between what is and what is not adopted from the English into the American codes, so that one and the same uncontaminated spirit of liberty should pervade and animate all our political institutions. While our tribunals of justice and legislative assemblies are gradually effecting this object, as occasions call for their interposition, by sage decisions and enactments, private individuals may usefully co-operate in promoting the same end by disseminating sound and lucid expositions of the constitutions and laws of the confederate states; and in this honorable field of exertion we feel authorized to anticipate many benefits from such publications as the United States Law Journal.

## INTELLIGENCE.

He comes, the herald of a noisy world,  
News from all nations lurching at his back.

From the Charleston Courier, March 10.

### LATE AND IMPORTANT NEWS.

By the ship *Lucas*, Capt. Missroon, arrived here yesterday in 46 days from Havre, we have received our file of Paris papers, "Galignani's Messenger," to the 19th of January; and have been favored with a loan of the "Journal du Commerce," and the "Constitutionnel," of the same dates; from which we copy the highly interesting intelligence which is presented to our readers in this day's *Courier*.

Capt. MISSROON informs us, that it was the general opinion amongst well informed men, that WAR between Spain and the continental powers, was inevitable.

The extracts given from London papers furnish, indeed, contradictory opinions upon the subject—most of the opposition prints inclining to the side of peace, while those on the ministerial side, particularly the *Courier*, appear to consider war as nearly inevitable. So far as the opinions of the different Paris Journals may be regarded as the index of the general opinion, scarcely a hope seems to be cherished, that peace will be eventually maintained.

A postscript to a letter from Havre, dated on the 22d January, (the day the *Lucas* sailed,) states that it was announced from Paris, not, however, officially, that war had been declared; and directing the correspondents of the writers, to cover their property from Spanish privateers, and to consider their previous orders as null.

The English claims upon Spain were, it appears, to the amount of *Three Millions Sterling*; for indemnity to those merchants whose vessels had been captured by pirates under the Spanish flag. They were referred by the government to the Cortes, who, in a secret sitting on the 4th of January, decided that the claims should be recognized, and paid out of the National Treasury. A commission, formed of an equal number of Englishmen and Spaniards, will be appointed to investigate these claims. This intelligence was received at Paris on the 14th of January, by an express who left Madrid on the 9th.—Another circumstance evinces a determination on the part of Spain, to keep upon good terms with England. On the 25th of Jan. the Spanish government gave their sanction to the establishment by an English company, of a Diligence from Madrid to Corunna, and of a steam packet from Corunna to Palmouth.

The *Journal du Commerce* of the 18th January, notices with much praise the answer of the Spanish Cortes to the demands authorized by the Congress of Verona. The following is an extract from the French paper to which we allude.

"The memorable session of the 9th Jan. (speaking of the Spanish Cortes) proves to Europe that a brave people has always energy enough to unite in common cause when threatened by foreign aggressions."

A letter from Madrid of the 15th states that the Spanish ports in South America are about to be opened to all foreign powers.

The *Constitutionnel*, 18th January, noticing the affairs of Spain, contains the following—"The attention of our readers will doubtless be attracted to the treaty of commerce definitively concluded between Spain and England, which we shall make

known to-morrow." It is added, "that she has made a free port to the British commerce—that Spain has acknowledged the claims of England for spoiliations, &c.—and that the independence of the Spanish colonies is also recognized."

Policies to a considerable extent were opened at Eloy's on the 8th Jan. upon French ships from Havana to Havre, at four guineas per cent. against enemies' capture only; and the same risk was done at 2 to 3 guineas per cent. from various ports in the U. States.

The London *Courier* gives a flattering account of the Revenue.

It is asserted, on the authority of the Vienna Journals, that another Congress will be held at no very distant period.—The place mentioned for its meeting is St. Petersburg or Berlin—probably the latter, on account of the great distance of the former.

Letters from London, under date January 9, announce that orders have been issued to equip twelve ships of the line, and to recruit a considerable number of seamen.

We regret that the great length of the "Declaration of the three Sovereigns [of Austria, Prussia and Russia] to their Ambassadors at Madrid," renders it impossible for us to give them a place to-day—but their spirit and substance may be inferred from the bold and dignified reply of the Cortes of Spain, which we publish this morning.

By the last accounts from Madrid, all parties appeared disposed to forget their differences, and to unite as a single man, in opposition to any foreign interference in changing the Constitution of their country.

COUNT METAXA, Deputy from the Greek Senate to the late Congress at Verona, addressed letters to all its Members, imploring their succour, but received no answer; and as the Congress is dissolved, the Greeks are convinced that they have nothing to hope from that quarter.

The weather appears to have been very cold in Europe from the first to the middle of January—on the 16th of that month the Seine was frozen over at Paris, the ice being sufficiently strong for persons to walk across.

The active partisan warfare is still carried on by the Royalists, and the Constitutional troops on the Spanish Frontier.

Dreadful gales of wind were experienced on the Spanish coast, towards the last of December—no less than thirty merchant vessels are stated to have been lost between Port Vendre and Barcelona.

The roads were covered with snow between Bayonne and Madrid, which the French papers state to be the only annoyance in them.

M. HYDREK NEUVILLE, is appointed Minister of France to the Court of Turkey.

It was said at Madrid, at the time the British Minister, Sir M. A'Court, made the demand for remuneration from Spain, that a secret treaty for the surrender of Cuba to Great Britain, had been agreed to by the former Ministers of Spain, which their successors refused to sanction.

PARIS, JAN. 18.

Spain.—On Thursday night a courier arrived at Paris from Madrid, which he left on the 10th inst., who brought the decision of the Spanish Government relative to the Notes of France, Russia, Austria and Prussia. The four notes were all received, and the Charge d'Affaires of the latter Powers had demanded passports. No despatches have yet been received from the Ambassador of France. The following is a sketch of the sitting of the Cortes on the 9th inst.:

M. de San Miguel, Minister for Foreign Affairs, announced that the Government of his Catholic Majesty had received official communications from the Cabinets of France, Russia, Austria and Prussia, through the medium of the Ministers of those Powers at Madrid. Although the affairs, he said, to which the contents of the Notes related were not precisely within the province of the Cortes, the Government wished to give a proof of the good understanding which reigns between the two chief bodies of the State, by making known to the Cortes the contents of those documents, as well as the answers of his Majesty's Government, who flattered themselves that they had followed upon this occasion the course that was pointed out by their patriotism and the national dignity.

M. de San Miguel then ascended the tribune, and read first the instructions given by the French Government to the Count de la Garde (1.) and the reply made by the Spanish Cabinet, which was as follows:—

To the Ambassador of Spain at Paris, &c.  
"The Government of his Catholic Majesty has just received the communication of a Note, sent by his Most Christian Majesty to his Ambassador at this Court, and of which your Excellency will receive a copy, that you may have knowledge of it."

"The Government of his Majesty has few observations to make upon this Note; but that your Excellency may not be embarrassed upon the conduct that you ought to adopt in this circumstance, it has believed it to be its duty to manifest to you with frankness its sentiments and resolutions."

"The Spanish Government has never been ignorant that the institutions spon-

taneously adopted by Spain, would excite the jealousy of several of the Cabinets of Europe, and would be the object of the deliberations of the Congress at Verona. But, firm in its principles, and resolved to defend, at any rate, its actual political system and the national independence, it has quietly awaited the issue of that Congress.

"Spain is governed by a Constitution promulgated, accepted, and sworn to, in 1812, and recognized by all the Powers which assembled at the Congress of Verona. Treacherous advisers prevented his Majesty Ferdinand VII. from swearing, upon his return to Spain, to this fundamental code, which the whole nation desired and which was destroyed by force without any remonstrance of the Powers which had recognized it; but the experience of six years and the general will engaged in 1820, his Majesty to conform to the wishes of the Spaniards.

"It was not a military insurrection that established this new order of things in 1820. The courageous men who pronounced themselves in the Isle of Leon, and successively in the other provinces, were but the organs of the general opinion and wishes of the whole nation.

"It was natural that a change of this nature should make some discontented; it is an inevitable consequence of all reform, the object of which is the diminution of abuses. There are always in nations individuals who can never accustom themselves to the restraints of reason and justice.

"The army of observation that the French government keep up at the foot of the Pyrenees, cannot assuage the disorders which afflict Spain. Experience, on the contrary, has proved that the existence of a Sanitary Cordón, transformed afterwards into an army of observation, has only augmented the hopes of the fanatics who have pushed into our provinces the shout of rebellion, by cherishing the idea of an invasion of our territory.

"The principles, the views or the fears which influenced the conduct of the Cabinets that assembled at Verona not being possible to serve for a rule to the Spanish government, it abstains for the moment from replying to that part of the Count de Lagarde's instructions which relates to that Congress.

"The time of calm and tranquillity that the government of his Most Christian Majesty wish the Spanish nation, the latter desires with no less impatience for itself and its government. Both persuaded that the remedy for their evils can only be the work of time and perseverance, they strive, as much as they ought, to accelerate the useful and salutary effects of them.

"The Spanish government appreciates the offers made to it by his Most Christian Majesty to contribute, as much as possible, to its welfare; but it is persuaded that the means and precautions which his Majesty takes can only produce contrary results.

"The assistance which the French government would at this moment give to that of Spain, is purely negative; it must dissolve its army of the Pyrenees, repulse the factious enemies of Spain, who flee for refuge to France, set herself in an energetic manner against all those who take pleasure in depreciating, in the most shameful manner, the government of his Catholic Majesty, as well as the institutions of Spain and her Cortes. This is what the right of nations requires, a right respected by those where civilization prevails.

"To say that France wishes for the prosperity of Spain and its tranquillity, whilst it holds continually burning those brands of discord that nourish the misfortunes with which she is afflicted, is to fall into an abyss of contradictions.

"Whatever may be the determinations that his Most Christian Majesty's government may judge it expedient to adopt in this circumstance, that of his Majesty will continue to walk in the path pointed out by its duty, the justice of its cause, the character of firmness, and the attachment to constitutional principles which eminently distinguish the nation at the head of which it is placed; and without entering for the moment into an analysis of the hypothetical and ambiguous expressions of the instructions of the Count de Lagarde, it concludes that the repose and prosperity of the nation, as well as whatever can multiply the elements of its well being, cannot interest any person more than itself; that its motto and the rule of its present and future conduct is a constant attachment to the Constitution of 1812, peace with the nations, and above all, never to acknowledge the right of any person to meddle with its affairs.

"Your Excellency is authorized to read this note to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and to give him a copy of it, if he requests it. Your judgment will suggest to you the conduct firm and worthy of Spain, that you ought to maintain at this moment."

"Such are the communications that his Majesty commands me to make to you, &c."

(Signed) "EVARISTI SAN MIGUEL."

He next read the official communications of the Russian, Prussian and Austrian Cabinets.

Whilst reading these documents, the minister was frequently interrupted by the clamor of the spectators in the gal-

leries, and the noise which arose among the deputies.

M. San de Miguel then informed the Cortes, that as the notes he had just read contained no definite proposition, the government of his Catholic Majesty had not thought proper to reply in a categorical manner to communications which presented nothing but a tissue of false suppositions, invectives and calumnies, and added, that the government intended to issue a manifesto, in which it would trace faithfully the history of the Spanish revolution, as well as the conduct which the Spanish government had constantly observed.

His Excellency afterwards read the following instructions which he had addressed to the Spanish Charge d'Affaires at the above mentioned Foreign Courts, and of which copies had been sent to the Representatives of those Powers accredited at the Court of Madrid.

Circular to the Spanish Ambassador.  
"It would be unworthy of the Spanish government to reply to the notes of Russia, Austria and Prussia, because they are only a tissue of falsehoods and calumnies; it confines itself to make known to you its intentions:

"1. The Spanish nation governs itself by a Constitution which was solemnly recognized by the Emperor of Russia in 1812.

"2. The Spaniards, friends to their country, proclaimed from the beginning of 1812 that Constitution, which was abolished by violence alone in 1814.

"3. The Constitutional King of Spain exercises freely the power delegated to him by the fundamental code.

"4. The Spanish nation interferes in no manner with the institutions and internal regime of other nations.

"5. The remedy for all the evils which may afflict the Spanish nation interests herself alone.

"6. The evils which it feels are not the effect of the Constitution, but the efforts of the enemies who aim to destroy it.

"7. The Spanish nation will never recognize in any Power the right to meddle with its affairs.

"8. The Government will never deviate from the line marked out by its duties, by the national honor, and by its unalterable attachment to the Constitution, sworn to in 1812.

"I authorize you to communicate verbally this note to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Power where you reside, and to send him a copy, if he should require it."

"His Majesty hopes that the prudence, the zeal, and the patriotism which distinguish you, will suggest a conduct firm and worthy of the Spanish name in the present circumstances. Such is what I have the honor to communicate to your Excellency by his Majesty's order. I renew to you my assurances, &c."  
(Signed) "EVARISTI SAN MIGUEL"  
Madrid, Jan. 9, 1822."

Applause followed the reading of this document, and from the galleries were heard shouts of—"Free Spain for ever!" "The Sovereignty of the People for ever!" "Death to the Tyrants."

Several Deputies attempting to speak, some confusion ensued.

The President called to order, and said that the Cortes, after having knowledge of the communications made to the Spanish Government by the Cabinets of France, Austria, Russia and Prussia, declare that no modification shall be made in the Constitution proclaimed at Cadix in 1812, until it be demanded by the unanimous wish of the nation, and be adopted in conformity with what is prescribed by the fundamental code.

M. Galliano proposed that the Cortes should send an address to the King, to inform him of the declaration which they had just made, and to assure him that the Cortes were resolved to make all the sacrifices possible to maintain in its integrity the Constitution of 1812, and the splendour of the Constitutional Throne. That the Cortes would furnish all the assistance necessary to repel every hostile attempt on the part of those Powers who had sent Notes, and that all the Spaniards would contribute with pleasure to an enterprise, the object of which was to defend the national liberty and independence.

M. Arguelles rose, and after expressing to the Cortes the exasperation which he felt in consequence of the notes of the four foreign Powers, observed, that the proposition of M. Galliano had better be postponed, in order that Europe might see that the decision formed by the Cortes had not resulted from the first impulse of feeling. He avowed his firm attachment to the Constitution of 1812, and concluded by proposing that the motion of M. Galliano should be referred to a diplomatic committee, with instructions to draw up an address to the King, and present it to the Cortes within 48 hours.

This proposition was adopted, and M. Arguelles was appointed a member of the committee.

M. Galliano congratulated himself in having M. Arguelles for a colleague in the committee, and although he voted, upon some occasions, differently to that hon. Deputy, he was assured from the beginning that, when the dignity and safety of the nation were in question, there would be but one opinion in the Cortes.

M. Galliano inquired of M. de San Mi-

guel whether passports had been given to the Ministers of the Powers whose notes had just been read.

His Excellency replied in the negative. At the close of the sitting, the hall resounded with cries of—"The Constitution for ever!"—"Independence for ever!" &c."

From the London Times.

Looking calmly at the circular note from the three Courts of Vienna, St. Petersburg, and Berlin, on the subject of Spain, we may say that it has given us very little pain. Indeed, there is something suspicious in the prospect held out to mankind, both from what the allied courts have resolved to do, with the full capacity of accomplishing their resolution, and in their plain confession that there are other purposes which they are willing to execute, but which they dare not attempt. All the humane part of the world must rejoice that Italy is about to be sensibly relieved from the burdens which depress and degrade her suffering population. It is, perhaps, a degradation chiefly that the presence of 17,000 foreigners will be felt in a country so rich and productive as Naples; but a further inference from such a dilution of the troops of Austria throughout the south of Italy, is, that few alarms are now entertained of an extension of the flame of war in Turkey. The portion of the note which relates to Spain is the most satisfactory of the whole composition. The Holy Allies withdraw their Ministers: Why? Simply because, to do any thing more they are unable.—There never was a more unquestionable triumph on behalf of public liberty than this most impudent act of hatred. It is barking from sheer incapacity to bite.

From the London Courier.

Let us for a moment and for the sake of argument, assume one fact; that the definitive answer of the Spanish Government to the Notes of the continental Monarchs is one of defiance. Can any one believe that such a decision would induce the Allied Powers to abandon the practical application of the principle which they have so solemnly consecrated? Would they give to revolution so signal, so fatal a triumph, as to show that they dare not grapple with it, and that they themselves are powerful only when their arch enemy is weak? Would they, too, cover themselves, their councils, and their cause, with the ridicule of Europe?

Our opinion, therefore, remains unaltered, because the grounds upon which it was originally formed, remains unchanged. Events must determine whether we have viewed those grounds erroneously, or otherwise. They lie open to every man's observation as well as to our own. We have simply reasoned from facts and circumstances which were of public notoriety. If any one will undertake to prove, from the same facts and circumstances, that Spain may defy her enemies, and that her enemies may recede without loss of honor, and without danger to the great principles which they are united to assert, then we shall see cause to doubt the soundness of our opinion. If it shall ultimately happen, too, that the Revolutionists concede nothing, the Allies obtain nothing, yet the latter come out of the business as erect as they entered into it, then we shall not only make our recantation, but confess that the age of miracles is not past. There lies the real gist of the question; it is the single point upon which we have steadily fixed ourselves; and we shall continue to do so till the matter assumes some new aspect. We wish not for war, and it is well known our own Government is anxious for the maintenance of peace. But the policy of the British Cabinet is a consideration wholly distinct from the situation in which its Allies have placed themselves; and as its influence has manifestly not been sufficient to prevent the Sovereigns of Russia, Austria and Prussia, from issuing such a document as the circular in question, in which it seems England was no party, though she had her representative at Verona, it may be that it will fail in arresting the progress of whatever measures are contemplated as the result of that circular.

### EARTHQUAKE IN VALPARAISO.

BALTIMORE, MARCH 7.  
Extract of a letter dated Valparaiso, Nov. 25th, 1822.

"I have just escaped from one of the greatest dangers that I ever experienced. On the night of the 19th inst. we were visited by a terrible earthquake, which has laid this fine place in ruin, and shaken all Chili to its foundations." What few houses are still standing are so shattered, that they can no longer be tenanted. The inhabitants have all retired to the hills, and are living in tents. You cannot imagine the horrible condition of this place; there will no doubt be a famine, as provisions are now selling at the most exorbitant prices. About three hundred people have been taken out of the ruins, and every day two or three are found.

"I was sitting with some friends in my room, when the first thing I heard was the falling of the roof—and, on rushing forwards, I found it impossible to stand, the earth was in such violent agitation! I fortunately got into the street before the house fell—the next moment the earth was rent asunder, leaving a tremendous