

The Intelligencer,

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WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

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MONDAY, MARCH 30th, 1861.

PAID IN ADVANCE.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Interesting INTELLIGENCE received from New York, by the ship Liberty, 33 days from Liverpool, bringing London papers to 9th February inclusive.

PETERSBURG, Dec. 18.
The Convention of Armed Neutrality, was signed here the day before yesterday by the Russian, Swedish, and Danish ministers. Next day it was signed by the minister of Prussia, as an acceding party.

LONDON, January 23.
A few Paris papers, we understand, have reached town, which state that twelve hundred Jacobins ordered for transportation have been arrested on suspicion of being affiliated to the Consular Government.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

KING'S SPEECH.

LONDON, February 3.

This afternoon, the King was in the usual state to the house of peers, where, being seated on the throne, and the commons being sent for and come, his majesty was pleased to open the business of the session of the parliament of this united kingdom, with a most gracious speech, of which the following is a literal copy.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"At a crisis so important to the interests of my people, I derive great satisfaction from being enabled, for the first time, to avail myself of the advice and assistance of the parliament of my united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

"The memorable year, distinguished by the accomplishment of a measure calculated to augment and consolidate the strength and resources of the empire, and to ensure more cloisely the interests and affections of my subjects, will, I trust, be equally marked with that vigour, energy and firmness, which the circumstances of our present situation peculiarly require.

"The unfortunate course of events on the continent and the consequences which must be expected to result from it, cannot fail to be matter of anxiety and concern to all who have a just feeling for the security and independence of Europe.

"Your attention as well as your regard must be excited by the conduct of those powers whose attention, at such a period, appears to be more engaged in endeavours to weaken the naval force of the British empire, which has hitherto opposed powerful an obstacle to the inordinate ambition of France, than in concerting the means of mutual defence against their common menacing danger.

"The representations which I directed to be made to the court of Petersburg, in consequence of the outrages committed against the ships, property and persons of my subjects, have been treated, with the utmost disregard; and the proceedings of which I complained have been aggravated by subsequent acts of injustice and violence.

"Under these circumstances a convention has been concluded by that court with a view of Copenhagen and Stockholm, the object of which, as avowed by one of the contracting parties, is to renew their former engagements for establishing by force a mode of maritime law, inconsistent with the rights and hostile to the interests of this country.

"In this situation, I could not hesitate as to the conduct which it became me to adopt. I have taken the earliest measures to avert the aggressions of this hostile confederacy, and to support those principles which are essential to the maintenance of our naval strength, and which are grounded on the justice of public law, long established and recognized in Europe.

"I have, at the same time, given full assurances as manifest my disposition to treat my sacred relations with those

powers, whenever it can be done consistently with the honor of my crown, and with a just regard to the safety of my subjects. You will, I am persuaded, concur with me on your part, that should not the most vigorous and effectual support in my determination to maintain to the utmost against every attack, the naval rights and the interests of my empire.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons."

"I have directed the ministers for the several branches of the public service to be held before you as liberally as I am permitted by the continued necessity of adding to the burdens of my people, I am persuaded you will feel with me the importance of exerting effectual means for the relief of provisions which are indispensably requisite for the honor and safety of the country.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,"

"I am confident that your deliberation will be uniformly directed to the great object of improving the benefits of that happy union, which, by the blessing of Providence, has been effected, and of promoting, in every measure that can contribute to the happiness of my people, the great end of all my wishes, you may be assured of my cordial concurrence.

"You will, I doubt not, refuse the enquiries which were so indignantly professed in the 11th session of Parliament, as to the possibility of any measure to be taken from the pressure of the present high price of provisions; and of preventing, as far as it can be done by human foresight, the recurrence of similar difficulties. In their endeavors, and in every measure that can contribute to the happiness of my people, the great end of all my wishes, you may be assured of my cordial concurrence.

"You may rely on my availing myself of the earliest opportunity which shall offer of proposing terminating the present contract on grounds consistent with our security and honor, and with the maintenance of the essential rights on which our naval strength must always principally depend.

"It will afford me the truest and most heart-felt satisfaction, whenever the disposition of our enemies shall enable me thus to relieve the subjects of my United Kingdom from the burthen of any such contract, and suggest those advantages which result from our internal situation, and which even under all the difficulties of war, have carried to so great an extent the agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and revenue of the country."

Feb. 4.

Mr. Pitt has given notice of the opening of the budget very early this year. It is to be brought forward this day fortnight. The amount of the loan wanted is said to be 21 millions. This intelligence produced some effect upon the funds yesterday. The three per cents, which opened at 35 7/8 fell to 35 1/2, removed a little towards the close of the market, and left off at 35 3/4. This morning they opened at 34 3/8, and at one o'clock were at 36. Rumour states, how truly we do not pretend to say, that the following are among the new taxes to be proposed:—an additional tax on horses kept for pleasure; on servants under a certain number; on carriages; and additional duties on wines and teas. A reduction of the drawback allowed on the exportation of sugar is also spoken of.

At the corn exchange this day the sales were remarkably dull, and wheat if any thing, was rather lower. Flour continuing at 50s.

Feb. 5.

Paris papers to the 31st ult. inclusive arrived yesterday. They contain an account of the signing of the articles of a treaty between Austria and France. The treaty, however, is not to be published, till the end of the present month, when the engagement between Britain and Austria is to be published. The delay is said to be a piece of civility on the part of the Emperor to this country.

Upon the northern confederacy no fresh information is afforded, and no new light

thrown. The attention of the French government seems to be particularly directed to the projects in agitation against Portugal.

The French papers also notice some particular orders given for the formation of an army of observation in the neighbourhood of Bourdeaux, which is certainly defined for the invasion of Portugal, if that government does not submit to all the hard conditions which the French government may think fit to impose upon it. The French funds continue to rise; that at 56; nearly the same price as that which the English 3 per cents were selling yesterday.

Notwithstanding Mr. Pitt's strenuous exertions in the cabinet for the emancipation of the Irish Catholics, it seems to be the general opinion that he will be obliged to give up the measure; others in the cabinet, who think differently on the subject, having, it is said, sufficient influence to thwart him. Will the continue minister in such circumstances.

February 7.

Orders have been sent from the Admiralty, to be received at Plymouth, for all the ships of the royal navy to be immediately got ready to put to sea.

Sailing of a French Squadron.

Dispatches were yesterday morning received at the Admiralty, containing advice of the French squadron, which had sailed from Brest having on the 26th ult. been seen off Cape Finisterre. His Majesty's Ship Juno, of 26 guns, fell in with the enemy on the above day, in lat. 46, 10, long. 8, 0, at which I am, all the ships were much disabled in their flight from a gale of wind which was then blowing up. The favourable light of dawn on the 26th; in lat. 47, 20, long. 10, and immediately fired her shots for Lisbon. On the same night, or early on the following morning, his Majesty's ship La Concordia, of 16 guns, fell in with the enemy, as mentioned in yesterday's Courier.

February 9.

The rumours which have been for some days in circulation, and which have much agitated the public mind, appear to be well founded.—We have before stated, that disagreements had taken place in the cabinet, upon the subject of Emancipation.—These disagreements have produced a change of administration, and Mr. Pitt, Mr. Dundas, Lord Grenville, Earl Spencer, and Mr. Windham, have actually resigned.—It is the opinion that is circulated, that some of the cabinet ministers thought that the subject of Catholic Emancipation should be alluded to; others were of a different opinion. It was finally settled that no reference should be made to the subject. Mr. Pitt and his friends, together with Lord Castlereagh, were strenuously of opinion that all restraints with respect to religious opinions should be done away, and it was known that some of the persons who supported the union, supported it under the idea that such a measure would be among the first boon granted by the Imperial Parliament.

The liberal party and Lord Castlereagh differed totally in opinion with Mr. Pitt and his friends. They thought that the measure proposed would endanger the establishments of the church, and it was intimated that it would be a violation of his Majesty's coronation oath, which is as follows:—

"I promise to the utmost of my power, to maintain the laws of God, the true profession of the gospel, and the Protestant reformed religion, which laws I and I will preserve unto the bishops and clergy of this realm, and to the churches committed to their charge, all such rights and privileges as by law do or shall appertain unto them or any of them."

How the measure of Catholic Emancipation can be supposed to be a violation of the coronation oath, we are at a loss to judge. Be this it may, the opposers of the measure succeeded, and Mr. Pitt and his friends resolve to retire. When they got in their resignations, they accompanied them with an assurance that they would continue to discharge the duties of their respective stations until, by His Majesty could call to his councils men in whom he had confidence, and who had not the same feelings of this particular question of Catholic emancipation.

The motion that stood for Thursday last was postponed at Mr. Pitt's desire, under pretext of a touch of the gout; and upon that day the dissolution of Mr. Pitt's Ministry took place. Mr. Pitt, Mr. Dundas, Earl Spencer, Lord Grenville and Mr. Windham, resigned.

The following are removed to be the arrangements which are to take place in consequence of Mr. Pitt's resignation:—The Earl of Clarendon is to be first lord of the treasury, and Chancellor of the exchequer.

The Earl of Clare and Lord Hobart, secretaries of state.

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