

The *Siecle* explains the situation, as follows: The government asks unqualified approval of the past and a *carte blanche* for the future.

Traces of the conspiracy have been discovered at Marseilles.

PARIS, 5.—The *Journal Official* contains a decree convoking the High Court of Justice for the trial of the parties arrested for participating in the plot for the assassination of the Emperor. Ollivier's report, preceding his decree, shows the existence of a revolutionary party, having for its end the establishment of a Democracy and social republic. Its weapons, he says, are misrepresentations and systematic outrage, calumny, ementes and the assassination of new liberties, which, far from appeasing, will only increase its frenzy, for it sees in them only facilities for increased organization and extensive influence. Its existence and purposes are scarcely concealed in its assemblies and in the columns of the journals which follow its fortunes. He exposes its designs, and declares himself in possession of evidence to prove a criminal attempt and conspiracy. He is forced to believe that energetic representation is the only means to re-establish social peace and respect for law. He says the revolutionists have sought to sweep away, by one crime, the reigning Sovereign and the Constitution before the eighth of May. Their plans, he asserts, have, for a long time been known, and it is our duty to publicly surrender them to justice. A letter from Valis, President of the international Society is published, asking united action in case of an outbreak. The confessions of Beverly show that he is in collusion with Florins in the plot to assassinate the Emperor.

The editor of the *Rappel* has been seized by the police.

PARIS.—The *Gaulois* says the Emperor has caused masses to be said in the Paris churches, for the success of the Plebiscite to-morrow.

Termina, who at a recent public meeting, urged the impeachment of the Emperor, has been sentenced to two years in prison and to a fine of ten thousand francs.

The *Journal Official* announces that the issues of the *Nationale*, *Siecle* and *Appel* were seized, on account of the publication therein of a false proclamation signed "Louis Bonaparte."

The issue of the *Rappel* was again seized to-day, on account of the violation of the press laws.

Arrests for conspiracy in the assassination plot continues. Six members of the international society of workmen were apprehended at St. Elire to-day. The rumors of an outbreak at Lyons are not confirmed. The radical journals in this city strongly advise the people to be calm and quiet to-morrow.

LONDON.—Commercial bulletins from Varzin announce that Bismarck is convalescent, and may be expected at Berlin on the 18th.

In the Commons, Ottway submitted another installment of the correspondence with the Greek government on the recent massacres.

Stanfield, Secretary of the Treasury, stated that the £7,000,000 paid for the telegraph lines was included in the sum total of the national debt, £801,000,000, on March 31st.

Mansell, Under Colonial Secretary, explained that the compromise of the Red River difficulty had been effected by the introducing into the Dominion Parliament, of a bill creating the Province of Manitoba. He stated that Canada would return all the publiclands of the provinces with the exception of 22,000 acres to secure its debt.

The Conversionists have asked the Crown for a revision of the Bible.

Mansell, the Under Colonial Secretary, announced, in the Commons to-night, the settlement of the Red River difficulty.

It is reported that Spain has suspended action on the new constitution of Porto Rico, and will consider no proposition for the sale of Cuba.

The Commons rejected the amendment to the Irish land bill, restricting compensation to out-going tenants, by a vote of 220 to 134.

In the Commons last evening, the Irish law bill was discussed in committee, until adjournment. Many amendments were introduced, debated and rejected. Palmer's amendment, restricting the application of the improvement clause to ten acres created, under this bill, provoked an unusually long and interesting discussion, at length, the amendment was rejected by 59 majority. The clause was then adopted. The committee rose, reported progress, and the House, at 2 o'clock, adjourned.

It is reported that Captain Cutting, of

the steamer *Idaho*, has committed suicide.

A despatch from the Governor General of Canada, confirming the settlement of the Red River trouble, was read by Earl Granville in the House of Lords.

The government offers a free passage to Canada to discharged dock yard laborers.

GLASGOW.—A cable dispatch says the steamer *India*, which has arrived here, spoke, April 30th, with the steamer *Siberia*, from Liverpool to New York, returning to Queenstown under sail, with a shaft broken. All aboard were well. She needed no assistance. Horace Curtis, a passenger, was transferred to the *India*. The *Siberia* was 121 miles west of Ireland.

OTTAWA.—The Governor General has received a dispatch from Earl Granville, stating that the Admiralty had been requested to send to Canadian waters, a force sufficient to protect Canadian fishermen and maintain order.

Sir John McDonald is ill, and has been unable to attend to business for some time.

The factory of Richard Lack, at Smith's Falls, has been destroyed by an explosion; a man named Lancaster was killed and another named Foster, badly injured.

THE SUPREME MOMENT.

The death of Gottschalk while at the piano, in the act of performing his famous composition, "La Morte," is by no means the first circumstance of its kind related in dramatic and musical history. We recall immediately Moliere and his "Malade Imaginaire." The chief personage in the comedy is a sick man, which part was played by the author himself. It was the fourth night of the run. Moliere, weak and ailing, went on for the character, and got through it until the scene in which his "business" was to fall as if dead. This he did so well that the audience, as well as the persons in the play were deceived. But, alas! it was no acting, for the poor dramatist was dead in truth. So says Bayle's account; but in another book there is a statement that Moliere was attacked in the scene where he speaks of rhubarb and senna—passing himself off for a physician—the blood gushing from his mouth and nostrils, and his limbs quivering with convulsion. He was taken home, and his sufferings ceased forever two hours afterward. In biographical history there are some names especially interesting to readers of all tastes. One of these is poor Wilmot, the Earl of Rochester, of whom poor Hawthorne spoke tenderly in his English travels; and another Captain Farquhar died during the run of his "Beaux Stratagem"—perhaps his very best work.

"Look on them kindly," said he in his letter to Wilkes, speaking of his two little children, soon to be fatherless, "for the sake of him who was to the last hour of his life thine."

With Hughes it was more singular still. He died in an hour after he received the account of the success of his "Siege of Damascus."

Moody, the tragedian, fell a corpse in the very middle of his performance of *Claudius*, in Shakespeare's "Measure for Measure." He had been very melancholy for some time, on account of the loss of some member of his family, and on the evening of the play was more than once seen to retire to his dressing-room and weep. But his impersonation was much better than it had ever been before—so much so, indeed, that his fellow-actors remarked it. At last—in the scene where Isabella bids him prepare for execution, and he answers in those beautiful lines beginning, "Ay, but to die and go we know not where"—he suddenly became faint and fell to the stage. The audience for a moment imagined it was a new point, and applauded accordingly. But the truth was very soon made manifest. Claudio's heart had burst with grief! Somewhat similar was the death of John Palmer, for whom Sheridan may be said to have written "The School for Scandal." The bill of the night was "The Stranger." Palmer, who had been, like Moody, beset with melancholy for some time before, played the gloomy Count in the early acts with unusual effect. After uttering the line, "There is another and a better world," with most touching pathos, he suddenly paused, closed his eyes, and leaned upon the Francis of the night, Mr. Whitfield. He had spoken his last words upon earth. Edmund Kean's last appearance was in "Othello," of which occasion Barry Cornwall and Mr. Hawkins have given very touching accounts. It seems that all had gone well until the third act;

gleams of the old fire had flashed forth and electrified the houses in the early days, and many hoped to see the tragedian yet recover and play many times again. But when he came to those grand lines—

"Oh now, fower,
Farewell the tranquil mind! farewell content!"

he paused. Then peal forth in tones solemn and sweet as the wailing of an organ—tones so full of love, so wild with vain regret—that ternal adieu to happiness, in which we have the heaving of a breaking heart the despairing lament of a lost soul. He proceeded slowly, slowly, until the music of the last cadence became like a breath—"Othello's occupation's gone!" It was over! The house rose frantically. "Speak to them, Charles," whispered the actor to his son; "I am dying!" And so he was. Yet another strange anecdote may be related of this fatal coincidence in death: in American actress, whose name we have forgotten, was performing the part of Mrs. Sheppard, in the drama of "Jack Sheppard." In one scene her business was to stab herself. "Now," said she laughingly to some one in the wing just before entering the scene, "I will go on and be killed and ten go home." Thoughtless jest! She scarcely stepped forward three feet before a heavy weight fell from the flies and crushed her instantly. In the cases of Moody and Palmer it is probable that their spirits, already in a state of deep despondency, were seriously affected in the parts they were performing. Actors of strong nervous temperament very often lose their identity in this manner, so much so as to give way to violent fits of weeping in the very middle of their most demonstrative part and thus render themselves unable to give the effect that a violent passage requires.

The supreme moment, when acting is most needed, very often proves the moment that nature herself is supreme, and the part is lost in the natural life that even the strongest nerve must yield to.

WASHINGTON—GLIMPSES OF HIS HABITS AND OPINIONS.

An original letter, just published for the first time, gives some interesting glimpses of the habits and opinions of the Father of his Country. While the federal city was building the legislature of Pennsylvania voted the president a house, hoping, perhaps, to keep the seat of government in Philadelphia. The house, formerly occupied as the University of Pennsylvania, was accordingly built for that purpose. But as soon as General Washington saw its dimensions, and a good while before it was finished, he let it be known that he would not occupy it—that he certainly should not go to the expense of purchasing suitable furniture for such a dwelling, and hired instead a modest but comfortable residence.

The president ate Indian cakes for breakfast, after the Virginia fashion, although buckwheat cakes were generally on the table. Washington's dining parties were entertained in a very handsome style. His weekly dining day, for company, was Thursday, and his dining hour was always 4 o'clock in the afternoon. His rule was to allow five minutes for the variation of clocks and watches, and then go to the table, be present or absent whoever might. He kept his own clock in the hall, just within the outward door, and always exactly regulated. When lagging members of Congress came in, as they often did, after the guests had sat down to dinner, the president's only apology was: "Gentlemen (or sir), we are too punctual for you. I have a cook who never asks whether the company has come, but whether the hour has come." He was always dressed in a suit of black, his hair powdered, and tied in a black queue behind, with a very elegant dress sword, which he wore with inimitable grace. Mrs. Washington often, but not always dined with the company, sat at the head of the table, and if, as was occasionally the case, there were other ladies present, they sat each side of her. The President sat half way from the head to the foot of the table, and on that side he would place Mrs. Washington, though distant from him, on his right hand. He always, unless a clergyman were present, asked a blessing in a standing posture. If a clergyman was present he was requested both to ask a blessing and to return thanks after dinner.

At Columbus, Ohio, they have mule races, in which the slowest wins, each man driving another man's mule.

A REMARKABLE INVENTION.—The New York correspondent of the Boston *Journal* writes: "The question whether electricity will ever be a substitute for steam seems likely to be settled. An invention looking towards that issue, has been introduced to a practical illustration. For some months there has been a model machine running in this vicinity propelled by electricity. The work that it performs astonishes all that behold it. In one of our colleges there is a magnet weighing a thousand pounds. Three hundred cups are necessary to operate it. In this new invention a magnet of forty pounds and nine cups more than double the power of the large magnet. Lathes, planing machines and other mechanical arrangements are driven by the power. To run an engine of twenty horse power by this invention would require a space of only three feet long, two feet wide, and two feet high. The cost per day would be thirty-five cents. On a steamship no coal would be required, and the space used for cargo. The stubborn resistance of electricity to mechanical use heretofore has, it is believed, been overcome. A continuous battery has been secured and other difficulties removed, principally through the coil of the magnet. If the invention works as well on the large scale as it does on the machinery to which it is now applied, steamships will soon ply the ocean under the new propelling power. A machine of great capacity is being constructed, and will soon be on exhibition in New York. The whole thing, mighty enough to carry a Cunarder to Liverpool, can be secured in a small trunk. I need scarcely add that this marvelous invention is the work of a Massachusetts boy."

FLIES ON ANIMALS.—The following is given as a preventative of horses or neat or other stock being teased by flies: Take two or three small handfuls of walnut leaves, upon which pour two or three quarts of cold water; let it infuse one night, and pour the whole next morning into a kettle and let it boil for a quarter of an hour. When cold it will be fit for use. No more is required than to moisten a sponge, and before the horse goes out of the stable, let those parts which are most irritable be smeared over with the liquor, viz.: between and upon the ears, the neck, the flanks, etc. Not only the gentleman or lady who rides out for pleasure, will derive pleasure from the walnut leaves thus prepared, but the coachman, the wagoner, and all others who use horses during the hot months.

DRUNKENNESS IN THE OLD TIME.—A law to prevent drunkenness by prohibiting the public promiscuous sale of intoxicating drinks was by no means original in the State of Maine. The vice is as old as our race. Our ultimate ancestors, the Vikings, drank fire-water upon earth, and quaffed mead in Paradise; our more recent progenitors in Great Britain drank gin and grovelled. A gin shop in Southwark, London, one hundred and thirty years ago, had this alluring sign: "Drunk for a penny; dead drunk for tuppence; clean straw for nothing." What more could man, the image of his Maker, ask? People often died of drunkenness in the taverns; and there was a temperance party, even then, that demanded a prohibitory law, and they succeeded in carrying a bill through Parliament to tax so heavy that it became too costly for the poor, and which prohibited the sale of drams. Sir Robert Walpole, whose boozing orgies, at Houghton are not unknown, finally acquiesced in the law.—*Harper's Magazine*.

It has been related that the Emerald Isle has produced a physician who, being called to examine a man who had been killed by a neighbor, said, oracularly, "This person was so ill that, if he had not been murdered, he would have died half an hour before," an orator who becoming very angry at an Englishman cried, "I will punch your impenetrable head, and let the brains out of your empty skull;" an editor, who wrote of the wrongs of his native isle, "Her cup of misery has been of ages overflowing, and is not yet full;" and a discriminating historian, who stated that, in the first place, Ireland was divided into four kingdoms, then it was divided into three kingdoms, next into two kingdoms, and finally it was divided into one.

Everything we add to our knowledge adds to our means of usefulness.

Kindness, justice and forbearance toward others begets love towards us.