

## FOREIGN NEWS.

## HAMBURGH.

The great commercial city near Ham-burgh—Frankfort-on-the-Main—has, by her last important act, made good a wrong done long ago to many of our citizens. The total emancipation of the Jews is now a fact in that city. The Israelites there had enjoyed it formerly, but in 1850, or some time later, the rights of citizenship were taken from them—it was the contribution the Jews had to pay to that period of reaction. When the results of the voting for the repeal of the old law were known, the fact was published in the *Amtsblatt*. A single article says enough in a few words: "The Jewish citizens of this town and the adjoining communities enjoy again equal rights with the Christian citizens."

## SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Assembly elected M. Schenk, of Berne, by a large majority, as President of the Swiss Conference for 1865, and M. Knusel, of Lucerne, as Vice-President.

Foreign correspondence refer with satisfaction to the fact that the French government has lately concluded a treaty with Switzerland which contains a clause of great importance, as it strikes at the root of a prejudice which Republicanism, as it exists in Switzerland, has as yet failed to destroy. This clause stipulates that French citizens resident in Switzerland, be they Jews, Catholics, or Protestants shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges enjoyed by citizens of the country. Up to the present time, Jews have not only been prevented from taking part in the counsels of the government in Switzerland, but have not been permitted to hold real estate. Of course, in admitting French Jews to a perfect equality with Swiss citizens, the *Diet* sees itself forced to revise the old laws, and to free its own Jewish citizens from the restrictions which have so long oppressed them. The Paris correspondent of the *Methodist* says: "The 'free city' of Frankfort has preceded Switzerland in this progressive movement, the authorities having, on the 4th of October, passed a law—by a vote of 764 to 161—by which the Jews were declared the equals of Christians. The importance of this revolution may be understood when we reflect that for years this disinherited caste have reigned masters of the money market, have owned superb villas, and have worshipped in the most splendid synagogues, and yet have been rigorously interdicted from holding any official position, and in certain quarters of the city, where, as in Switzerland, forbidden to hold property. The promulgation of the law by which they are declared the equals of their Christian fellow-citizens, was celebrated with great pomp in all the synagogues."

## HOLSTEIN.

The Hanoverian and Saxon troops are to be immediately withdrawn from Holstein, a very summary demand for their removal having been sent to Hanover and Dresden, by the Prussian Government, supported by Austria.

## GERMANY.

Accounts from Mecklenburg, Germany, state that an emigration en masse is going on from the duchy to America, and that the landholders are looking forward with dismay to the moment when they will have no hands to cultivate their estates.

## IRELAND.

The newspapers in the west of Ireland lament that the country is still being drained of its population, and is fast becoming a great pasture for the rearing of fat cattle to supply the English markets.

## AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Lower House finally voted an address to the throne.

## INDIA.

Bombay mails, Nov. 14, have been received. The British forces will enter Rhoatan about the middle of December. A large increase in cotton crops of the northwest provinces is expected. A violent gale on the east coast caused great inundations. Thousands of lives are reported lost.

## PRUSSIA.

Germany and Duchies Prussian troops, who have returned from the seat of the late war, entered Berlin on the 7th, with the King at their head, were received with great enthusiasm.

The city was gaily decorated and illuminated in the evening. The King of Denmark had arrived at Kolding. Several thousand inhabitants of Schleswig wanted to proceed there to render homage, but were forbidden by the authorities. Several arrests were made. The *Dagblatt* announces that the King had

received a deputation of five thousand Schleswigers.

## RUSSIA.

An imperial ukase has been issued for a new lottery loan of a hundred million roubles at five per cent. The bonds are redeemable during sixty years by semi-annual drawings. The proceeds of the loan are to increase the capital of the national bank and promote national industry.

## TURKEY.

Disturbances are reported in Albania. Six hundred Albanians took up arms and massacred numerous Turkish officials. The Turkish troops were proceeding to the scene of insurrection. It was feared the movement would extend. A convention has been signed between the Porte and Persia for the Indian telegraph line via Panauhian pending the completion of the line to Duanich.

## ITALY.

The Italian Senate has passed the bill for the transfer of the capital to Florence by 134 to 47 votes.

During debate on convention in the Senate on the 6th, General Cialdini said no compromise possible between Austria and Italy, and General Della Marmora said he shared with the views expressed by Cialdini. Signora Pellavieino was in favor of going to Rome and of making war in Venetia. The debate is still pending.

## FRANCE.

The weekly returns of the Bank of France exhibit an increase of cash on hand of nearly twenty-eight millions of francs.

The Bank of France on the 8th inst. reduced its rate of discount from six to five per cent.

M. Mocquard, private secretary to the Emperor, died on the 9th inst.

The French Court of Correctional Appeal had confirmed previous judgment in the case of the thirteen deputies convicted of holding illegal meetings.

The French steamer *Ardeche* had arrived at Lisbon with one regiment of French expeditionary army from Mexico.

[From the City of Mexico Official Gazette, Nov. 23.]

## MEXICO.

## MINISTRY OF THE TREASURY.

Mexico, November 28, 1864.

Some proposals having been made to this department in regard to establishing lines of mail steamers which would run between points on the Gulf and in the Pacific, carrying the mails that there may be between one and the other; and, in order to obtain all the advantages of the best service, the present order invites all persons who may wish to run the line for the ports of the Gulf of Mexico, to present to this department proposals to the 28th of the next month, in sealed envelopes, which will be opened on the following day, that the most favorable may be dealt with. The said proposals will be regulated by the following basis:

1. The line or company will be Mexican, and in a contrary case its members will give up, in all that relates to this business, any rights that they as foreigners may have.

2. The vessels of the line will carry the Mexican flag, nationalizing themselves conformably to the laws.

3. The vessels will be steamers, and of the necessary capacity, well found and manned.

4. They will have to make two trips monthly, going and coming.

5. The Gulf will have to run along the coast between Matamoras and Campeachy, touching at all the ports open to the inland trade, and also to those of the coast.

6. In each steamer there will journey free of board and other expenses, an agent duly accredited by the government to take charge of the mails.

7. The vessels of the line, as well as the goods that they carry will be subject to the ordinance of the maritime customs of the 31st of January, 1856, and its dispositions in all that relates to commercial traffic.

8. When it will be necessary to send troops or munitions from one point to another only the half of the usual rates will be paid to the company. There will be the same allowance made to the agents or employees of the government.

9. The company will give security to the government and to the amount that this order will determine for establishing of the line within a period to be fixed hereafter.

By order of the Sub-Secretary,

J. DE SOTO CARRILLO.

Chief of the Third Section.

—The total fall of rain for the season at Sacramento, is 13,909 inches.

[From Correspondence of the London "Times."]  
THE FASCINATIONS AND ULTIMATE EFFECTS OF ABSINTHE.

PARIS, September 16, 1864.

Most English, on their first visit to Paris, have had their attention attracted and their curiosity excited by a mysterious operation which is to be seen daily, and almost hourly, but especially between 10 and 11 in the forenoon and between 4 and 6 of an afternoon, at any of the gay and numerous *cafes* on the crowded Boulevards. The waiter places before his customers a goblet and a decanter of water; into the former he pours from a black bottle about a liqueur glass of dark green fluid, and then retires. The person thus supplied thereupon grasps the decanter, and proceeds to *faire son absinthe*. Slowly, drop by drop, and in small splashes, he lets the water fall into the tumbler. In this wise mingled the mixture becomes cloudy, from clear that the liquor was, and lighter and lighter in tint, until by the time the goblet is full its contents are a pale whitish green and opaque drink, which the consumer gradually sips off.

This is the Frenchman's whet, his appetizing draught before his dinner, or his knife-and-fork breakfast. The Italians have their vermouth, the Dutch and Germans their *boonkamp* and biters, the Scandinavians have a variety of pre-prandial stimulants, one of which will be recommended to you, if you go to Denmark, as having been a favorite cordial with his late Majesty Frederick VII. of jovial memory; in Turkey you are recommended raki, which opalizes the water poured upon it, and is unlikely to prove very beneficial to the coats of the human stomach; the Frenchman has his *absinthe*, the most fascinating and agreeable, and probably also the most injurious of all these drams before meals. In England absinthe is fortunately little known, and still less used; doubtless it is to be found at the Leicester Square hotels, and in cases of foreign resort; also, here and there, in the liquor-case of persons curious in strong drinks, but I suspect that the greater part of all that enters England goes down the throats of French and Swiss and other foreigners there resident. In parts of Switzerland, and especially near the Jura, where it is produced in large quantities, great abuse is made of it. The French military are much addicted to it, and the consumption of it by the army in Africa is said to be prodigious. Besides giving appetite it has a peculiarly cheering, exhilarating effect; it is very cordial in that sense of the word, but at the same time it is the greatest enemy a man can put into his mouth to destroy his stomach and steal away his brains; so, at least, many doctors have assured the world, and none more gravely, or with more appearance than his warnings are the result of careful research than Dr. Emile Decaisne.

In a recent sitting of the Academy Dr. Decaisne communicated to it an elaborate memoir under the title of *Ehude Medicale sur les Buveurs d' Absinthe*, of which a summary, with extracts, has just been published. He declares that he has studied the question of alcoholic drinks under all its aspects, and he proposes to give successively the results of his observations. He begins with absinthe because its consumption has of late years increased to an enormous extent in France, not only in Paris and its environs, but in provincial towns; and even in the winehouses and dram-shops of many country villages and hamlets it competes successfully with brandy. There are two sorts of absinthe, the common and the Swiss—the former prepared with alcohol of 60, 70, and 72 degrees. Formerly the consumption of the first was to that of the second as 15 to 5; now the contrary is the case, and 20 quarts of the Swiss are consumed for every five of the common absinthe. The former is made by infusing in alcohol of 60 or 70 degrees of wormwood, both major and minor (*semmites d'absinthe*, from which the liquor takes its name,) angelica root, *calamus aromaticus*, aniseed, dittany seeds, and common majoram. Some distillers, however, vary the recipe and use fennel, mint and balm. The above are the legitimate ingredients, all of the class of stimulant plants, and the concentration of the degree of the alcohol is generally very high. Unwholesome and positively noxious as the compound is, it is often rendered more so by the skill of the adulterator. Indigo, tincture of turmeric, juice of hyssop and nettles, are called to his aid to improve the color and appearance of the pernicious draught. The effect of absinthe is to produce a superabundant activity of the brain, a cerebral excitement which at first is agreeable.

"The intoxication it causes," says Dr. Decaisne, "comes on rapidly; the head swims, and the effect produced is nearly the same as that of poisoning by a narcotic, which certainly does not occur with an equal dose of brandy. With the absinthe drinker, as with the brandy drinker, the excitement the liquor produces diminishes daily in intensity. Each day he is obliged to augment the dose in order to screw himself up to the right pitch. This is what all the drinkers I have examined have told me."

The diseases brought on by drinking brandy are produced much more rapidly by the use of absinthe, the effects of which, however, differ a good deal according to the manner of preparation of the liquor itself, and to the mode in which it is mingled with water. "One of the greatest dangers of absinthe," says Dr. Decaisne, "consists in the adulteration it is made to undergo in order to sell it at a low price. Some distillers do not scruple to admit that they employ sulphate of copper. As regards the mixing with water, if the water be poured in at once, as into wine, and not dropped in gradually, the mixture, instead of being whitish and opaque, is green and almost transparent, and thus prepared its action upon the brain is much less rapid, although it does not on that account lose most of its intoxicating power, as some writers on the subject have affirmed."

Dr. Decaisne has applied himself to the study of what he calls acute and chronic absinthism, the state to which it brings persons who drink it exclusively; he has seen and observed more than 150 such patients, and he has stated to the Academy 10 of these cases, declaring that if they suffice to prove that absinthe ought to be prohibited he shall have been largely recompensed for the difficulty and disgust attendant on such a study. And this is the principal of the conclusions with which he sums up his subject. He has convinced himself and he hopes to convince those who have power to check the practice, that absinthe, even of good quality and in moderate doses, (say one glass or two per day) is never exempt from danger, and sooner or later invariably produces disorders in the human economy, and particularly in the digestive functions. He considers the extent to which it is now consumed in France to be a crying evil, demanding the intervention of Government. He declares that the pale green demon has invaded all classes of society—the idler and the workman, the soldier and his officer; all professions, those who work with the brain and those who work with the hand, swallow it with frenzied eagerness. He insists upon the necessity of banishing it completely from public consumption.

## CINCINNATI AND OTHER CITIES.—

The assessment of the real and personal property of Cincinnati having just been reported for 1864, we make the following comparison with other cities:

CITIES.	Total property.	Population.	Wealth per head.
Cincinnati.....	\$113,395,348	190,000	\$597
St. Louis.....	63,059,078	175,000	360
Boston.....	332,449,800	195,000	1,705
New York.....	635,694,940	900,000	705
Portland Me.....	26,952,939	28,000	963
Cambridge Mass.....	23,271,500	28,000	831
Springfield Mass.....	11,407,920	18,000	634
Dayton, O.....	10,315,310	22,500	459
St. Paul, Minn.....	4,478,113	15,000	344

Thus we find considerable difference in the proportion of wealth to the population of various cities. Counting five persons to the family, Cincinnati gives \$2,985, while Boston gives \$8,525 and New York \$3,352 to each family. The per capita ratio in St. Louis is \$360, which is about \$450 lower than it would have been had not slavery involved that city in the effects of the rebellion. The ratio in St. Paul is high enough, considering the youth of the city.

It is true that the official assessments do not always give the true difference in the wealth of the several States and cities, because in some the assessment amounts to more nearly the real value than others. But the above is according to the reported facts. The population of the above cities is estimated for the present year.

It is proper to remark, however, that the present population of these cities is larger than the above figures; but they give the permanent population that represents the wealth on the assessment rolls. There are at least 1,000,000 of people in New York, 100,000 of whom are the floating population that will be off after the war shall close. There are 20,000 to 25,000 of the same class in Cincinnati, who should not be counted in such a table as the real population. So of other cities.—[Cincinnati Gazette.]

—The tides at Humboldt Bay have been higher than ever known before