

A duel with swords took place on Saturday on the Spanish frontier between La Nour, New Bonapartist member for Ribrac, and his opponent at the election, Achille Simon, republican. The former was wounded.

Mr. Jules Ferry, Admiral Ju reguiberri, and Varroy oppose general amnesty.

Northern Afghanistan is far more unquiet than last week, owing to letters circulated far and wide by Abdurrahman Khan. Several of these which were intercepted by the British, are addressed to all leading men, exhorting them to assemble and await his orders. There is nothing absolutely hostile to the English in the letters but they are evidently understood by the people in the sense that unless the British government is prepared to grant Abdurrahman all he desires, he will head hostilities against the English troops.

The press commission has issued the following: Abdurrahman Khan appears to be hesitating and temporizing about entering into the agreement proposed by the British for assuming the government of Northern Afghanistan. The British do not care to enter into formal negotiations with him, though they are willing to support him in restoring order and establishing his authority if he meets them on a friendly basis. His troops are ill-paid and in a bad state, though his influence among the tribes is increasing.

The rebellion in Upper Burmah seems to have entirely ceased.

News from Bokharut is to the effect that Russian troops from Samarcand and Khokhand were going eastwards towards Kaskgar, and that the Chinese had attacked the Russian outposts on the Kuldja frontier, and that much uneasiness exists in Russian Turkistan.

Statistics from the commerce of Calcutta show that for the last few years a proportion of the whole trade absorbed by England has been slowly decreasing, while that of America and China has been increasing. Representations have been made at the Mandalay ministry in regard to a delegation of British trading steamers on the Irawaddy River.

Ayoub Khan's threatened attack on Candahar has failed because of a mutiny and want of supplies.

While the Spanish war ship *Cuba* from Espanola, was entering the harbor of Santiago de Cuba, yesterday, her boiler exploded, killing twenty persons and wounding 113, of which 84 were troops being transported.

The Council of Ministers have submitted to the Sultan the result of their deliberations upon the Ambassadors' note in reference to the Berlin Conference.

It is expected that the Russian ambassador will this week demand of the Porte the execution of the assassin of Col. Commeroff.

"How came these holes in your elbows?" said the widow Smith to the irrepressible small boy. "Oh, mother, I hid behind the sofa when little Jack Horner was saying to our Jule that he'd take her even if you had to be thrown in; and he didn't know I was there, and so I held in and laughed in my sleeves till I bust 'em."

Fine Weather for One.—Sheridan once declined to take a walk with a troublesome female admirer, on the plea that the weather would not permit, and being caught by the lady as he was sneaking out for a stroll, countered her remark that the weather seemed to have cleared up, with the bold asseveration, "Yes, madam, enough for one, but not enough for two."—*Chambers' Journal*.

Warlike talk is still indulged in between China and Russia. It may be interesting to some to know the military strength of the great European Power. The Russian army comprises 908 generals, 31,414 officers, and 883,425 men. The reserves number 742,144 men, and the Cossack troops 1,972 officers and 51,359 men, with 105,946 men on furlough.

The pachymeter, an instrument lately patented in Vienna, accurately determines the thickness of paper to the one-thousandth part of an inch. Another Austrian invention is the daymeter, a small pendulum which indicates in pounds just the amount of force which is necessary to break a strip of paper stretched between two points by means of a screw, until it can no longer bear the tension.

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