Telegraphic News.

(BORDEANO AND CO.'S DESPATCHES.)

FRANCE.

VISIT OF M. THIERS TO HAVRE.

HAVRE, Sept. 15.

M. Thiers visited Havre yesterday, and was very heartily received. He stated, in reply to a civic address, that he had warm confidence in the reviving grandeur of France; and added that he would make every effort to develope freedom of commerce and contribute to the maintenance of peace.

The President subsequently visited the principal public establishments of the place, was saluted by the ships at anchor in the harbour, and returned to Trouville at night.

FRENCH REVENUE.

PARIS, Sept. 14.

The *Journal Officiel* announces that the revenue returns for the first half of the current year show an increase of 22,000,000frs. (£900,000 sterling) on the estimates of direct taxes, and a falling off of 88,000,000frs. (£3,520,000 sterling) on indirect taxes.

AUSTRIA.

THE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS.

VIENNA, Sept. 14.

The majority of the members of the Hungarian Delegation to the Imperial Government belong to the Moderate National party, who follow M. Deak.

The fall on the Vienna Bourse is attributable to the demand for money, and the low tone of other money markets.

AMERICA.

BALTIMORE, Sept. 13.

Five bankruptcies have been declared in Baltimore, involving an aggregate amount of 3,000,000 dols. (about £650,000).

(Reuter-Havas' Telegrams.)

SWITZERLAND.

THE AWARD.—REFUSAL OF SIR A. COCKBURN TO SIGN.

GENEVA, Sept. 14.

At the sitting of the Geneva arbitrators to-day, Count Sclopis, the Italian delegate, as President of the Tribunal, read its decision, concluding with an award of the payment by Great Britain to the United States of the sum of 15,500,000 dollars in gold (about £3,500,000 sterling).

The Lord Chief Justice of England (Sir A. Cockburn), the English member of the Commission, refused to sign the award, and laid before the Tribunal his reasons for refusing.

The English representatives will leave on Monday next, Sept. 16.

FRANCE.

M. THIERS AT HAVRE.

PARIS, Sept. 14.

On the occasion of M. Thiers' visit to Havre to-day, two English men-of-war came over specially from Spithead and fired a complimentary salute in his honour.

In conversation with the members of the Municipal Council of Havre, M. Thiers expressed his belief that external peace was certain, and he declared that he would endeavour to secure internal peace, and would continue to govern in the same spirit as heretofore.

AUSTRIA.

DEPARTURE OF THE EMPEROR FOR PESTH.

VIENNA, Sept. 14.

The Emperor of Austria left Vienna to-day for Pesth.

GREECE.

VISIT OF THE KING TO CORFU.

ATHENS, Sept. 14.

The King and Queen of Greece left to-day for Corfu, where they will spend the two remaining summer months.

Local.

—A considerable body of the troops in garrison marched out of the city to-day, with their bands playing, to Maslak, where a camp for military manœuvres during the autumn is in course of formation.

—A despatch from Bucharest of the 14th states that the two new Roumanian railway lines from Bucharest to Ditesi and also to Roman were opened to public traffic on that day.

—M. Slavicoff, editor of the Bulgarian paper, the *Makedonia*, whose sudden arrest and imprisonment, under Government orders, some weeks ago caused a feeling of painful surprise, and was the subject of much local comment at the time, was, we are glad to learn, liberated by direction of the Grand Vizier on Saturday last.

—We have reason to believe that the object of the mission of the Sultan's secretary, who left a few days ago in one of his Majesty's yachts for Alexandria, is to convey to the Khidive the firman lately obtained granting to his Highness the Imperial authorisation to negotiate such loans for Egypt as the state of the country may require.

—The special correspondent of the *Times* in Paris writes on the 5th inst. that M. Jules Ferry, the newly-appointed French Minister to Athens, was expected to bring back from Trouville, where he was then on a visit to M. Thiers, a plan of a suggested compromise on the subject of the Laurium mines, according to which the Greek Government is to give up all claims to the mines in consideration of a portion of the net profits which will be conceded by the concessionaires.

—Mr. B. Brunswik's pamphlet, "*La Succession au Trone de Turquie,*" has just appeared in a second edition, and in a larger form. The additions to it consist of a series of chapters, entitled "*A bas les Masques,*" which deal in revelations of a more or less sensational character, bearing upon the under-currents of palace and official life. The second portion of the work is written, like the first, with considerable point and piquancy.

—The new omnibus service now plies all the way from the Rue Voivoda, in Galata, to Pancaldi, and will shortly be extended as far as the suburb of Ferikeui. The fare for the entire distance is now only 2 pias., and the omnibuses run from both extremities of the line all day long from 7 o'clock in the morning till 9 o'clock at night. During the daytime the departures are every ten minutes, but after dusk the affluence of passengers being much greater, the departures take place at intervals of five minutes.

—The Grand Vizier has written to Prince Milan, conveying to him the congratulations of the Sultan, and of the Imperial Divan, and his Highness's own personal congratulations on the attainment of his majority, and his accession to the government of Servia. The Prince has also received congratulations amongst others from the President of the French Republic and the Patriarch of Jerusalem. A notice appears in the official journal of Belgrade convoking the first Servian Parliament (Skuptchina), under Prince Milan's personal rule, to meet on the 6th of October at Kragujevatz.

—The Right Hon. Hugh Childers, M.P., now Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, lately Agent-General in London of the colony of Victoria, has handed to the Lord Mayor the sum of £850, transmitted from Melbourne by the last mail by the mayor of that city, and which had been collected there for the relief—irrespective of country, class, or creed—of the famine-stricken inhabitants of Persia. Another remittance of about £250 is on its way to England. Mr. Childers requested the Lord Mayor, as President of the Mansion-house Fund, to take charge of the money, and forward it to its proper destination.

—Essad Bey, Ottoman Consul-General at Pesth, at present on leave in the capital, has been appointed minister of the Porte at Athens. This post has remained vacant since the transfer of Photindes Bey to Rome, Photius Effendi, the secretary of legation, having acted as *chargé d'affaires*. Diplomatic relations between Turkey and Greece, somewhat diverted from their ordinary channel by the refusal of the Turkish Government to receive Mr. Tricoupi as Mr. Rangabé's successor in the spring of the year, have thus resumed their normal course, the Hellenic Kingdom being now represented in Constantinople by a minister, Mr. Simos, and the Porte represented at Athens in the person of its new minister, Essad Bey.

—The great heat of the past ten days, occasional oppressive southerly winds, and a highly electrical condition of the atmosphere, have led to the expectation of a storm for some time past, and the hope that it would bring with it a good downfall of rain to fill the empty water-cisterns and freshen the air. Yesterday afternoon a storm of thunder and lightning did, in effect, visit the metropolis and a radius of some miles around; the rain in some parts was very heavy, but it was uneven, and not of long duration. The most singular characteristic of this short storm, considering the heat of the weather, was that in Pera it was attended by an unusual fall of hail, the hailstones being of the purest ice and in many cases the size of small marbles. The storm, however, lasted for so short a time that it has not sensibly cooled the sultry atmosphere.

—We are happy to learn that the Government, in concert with the Régie administration, is taking measures to remove those causes of dissatisfaction which have, since the application of the new system, created a temporary irritation in the minds of the tobacco-consuming portion of the population. The public should bear in mind that the establishment of the Régie is neither more nor less than the institution of a new tobacco tax of nearly 40 piastres per oke, and that to adjust the incidence of this tax so as to distribute it most equitably over the different classes of consumers is the arduous task of the Régie administration, and one which can scarcely be perfected at the first essay. The introduction of a new and heavy tax is never a popular measure, but it is as irrational to lay to the charge of the Régie directors personally the inconvenience which has arisen in this case as it would be to reproach a provincial douanier with the evils arising from the 8 per cent. transit duty.

MONEY MARKET.

GALATA, September 16, Noon.

The slight improvement which was noticeable in the Galata market on Saturday afternoon has been lost this morning in consequence of the despatches of yesterday bringing the London quotation ½ lower. Five per Cents. opened at 57 17/40 and have subsequently shown a downward tendency. The scrip of the *Bons du Trésor* loan is a little firmer, and there is more enquiry for 1863 and 1865 stock, that of 1869 is comparatively neglected, and the quotation has receded 2 fr.

The share market is stationary and without animation, the only change being a further fractional advance in Société Générales. Tramways and all other denominations are steady but no inquiry.

At a recent meeting of the members of the upper and lower Syndicate of the Italo-Oriental Bank, it was resolved that a project for the dissolution of those two bodies, to be followed by that of the Company itself, should be submitted to a general meeting of shareholders to be held on 28th inst., when a plan for the reconstitution of the company, introducing new valuable local elements, will likewise be considered.

The traffic receipts of the Tramway Company for the first fortnight of the current month have averaged P.223,000 daily. The omnibus traffic is developing satisfactorily, and the through fares have been judiciously reduced from P.4 to P.2 the whole journey.

The *Times*, of 10th inst.: says:—

Advancements has been addressed by the Imperial Ottoman Bank to Messrs. R. Raphael and Sons, the contractors for the last Turkish Loan, giving a *resumé* of the facts which have been so long in dispute regarding the sundries for the Loans of 1858 and 1862. It purports to show that there has been no failure of duty on the part of the Turkish Government, such changes as have been made from the original stipulations having been merely for the purpose of substituting clear and practicable arrangements for some that had been found impracticable. The Ottoman Bank desires that these representations should be submitted to the Committee of the Stock-Exchange, and adds that should any further information be considered necessary, it will be furnished by the Imperial Ottoman Bank. The question is evidently one to be dealt with in a friendly and not in a pedantic spirit, so that while the principle of protection for the bondholders is fully maintained there should be no danger of existing complications being aggravated by an unyielding adherence to technicalities.

THE KADIKEUI REGATTA.

This event came off successfully on Saturday in the picturesque bay lying between Moda headland and Phanar Baghtchè. The day was all that could have been wished, and the varied features of the programme, and we may add of the ladies who mustered in great force, rendered the gathering peculiarly attractive. H.H. the Prince Abbas-Effendi, Fazyl, nephew of the Khedive, was early on the spot, and the sports shortly after commenced, and were kept up with unflagging interest until the end. The accommodation for visitors was good, and the refreshment tent was well supplied with creature comforts.

Among the visitors we remarked the Russian and Austrian Ambassadors and the Italian Minister. Great credit is due to the Committee whose efforts rendered this impromptu fête a perfect success.

THE NARROW GUAGE.

A correspondent who is evidently conversant with his subject furnishes the following details connected with the "Fairlie" system of railway construction and working. Our readers will remember that the adoption of this system in Turkey has been strongly recommended by those interested in its extension, and no less strongly opposed by many eminent engineers and economists whose faith clings to the already tested utility of the standard Continental guage:

The "Fairlie" system of railway working is that by which lines of the lightest construction and very narrow guage may accomplish work, if not to deemed within the means only of lines of ponderous construction and broad guage, by which the established lines of standard guage may either partly diminish expenses, or, without additional cost, well-nigh double their carrying capacity. The characteristics of Mr. Fairlie's system are to be seen in the Festiog Railway—one of 14 miles between Festiog and Portmadoc, in Wales—which is pronounced by no less an authority than Captain Tyler, the Inspector of Railways, to be the most instructive line in Great Britain, and destined by its success to give a new impulse to railway engineering. The whole expense of constructing and reconstructing this line, including tunnels, one of them 700 yards in length, will be about £8,000 a mile, the company's inclined planes and the quays at Portmadoc—in all, 14 miles—has been £75,000, or at the rate of £6,357 a mile. The returns have been 30 per cent. on its original capital of £36,000, but as in the course of years £50,000 has been taken out of revenue, spent in improvements, and, therefore, treated as so much additional capital, had not the dividend paid upon this total amount of capital—£86,000—been about 12½ per cent., and the line is still improving.

Compare this result with those of the existing lines in Turkey. The Ottoman (Smyrna to Aidin), 82 miles, built at a cost of £1,784,000, or £21,756 per mile; the Varna, 140 miles, at a cost of £2,158,975, or £15,421 a mile; and the Smyrna and Cassaba, 61 miles, £800,000, or £13,115 a mile.

In Norway, the first railways were built by Mr. Robert Stephenson about 1854, on a 4 ft. 8½ in. guage, and at a cost of more than £11,000 a mile. It was clear, however, that the traffic to be obtained could never pay for such an outlay, and Norway was in the position in which Turkey stands to-day—she had to choose between cheap railways or none. Naturally she chose the former alternative, and her Government engineer, Mr. Carl Pihl, devoted himself to the construction of the least expensive lines possible upon the standard guage. In this he succeeded so far as to reduce the cost to £6,350 a mile, including stations and rolling-stock, but no workshops. This was a great advance; but again the same alternative stood before the Government, and this time Mr. Pihl resolved upon the radical reform which has rendered railway extension possible through districts where distances are great and traffic small. He resolved upon adopting the narrow-guage, and succeeded in cutting down the cost per mile for one line to £3,142, for another to £3,600, and for a third to £4,600, including rolling-stock, stations, and workshops, and taking the lines through most difficult country, over which a large amount of rock-cutting, tunnelling, and bridging occurred, some of the viaducts being of great length and over 70 ft. in height.

More recent evidence bearing directly upon this point of economy is afforded by the engineers of the Denver and Rio Grande 3 ft. guage railway, running from Denver, in Colorado, to the city of Mexico—1,750 miles in length—and now being rapidly built. Except in the mountain districts, this line is being completed for 14,000 dollars per mile, including stations, engine and carriage buildings, works, ops, and snow sheds; whilst the Kansas Pacific road, 4 ft. 8½ in. guage, laid out by the same engineers, and built by the same contractors, through exactly similar country, cost 22,000 dollars per mile, showing a saving of 8,000 dollars per mile, or more than 30 per cent.

The system has now been adopted in Russia, Sweden, Norway, Australia, India, New Zealand, and South America; but it is particularly in the United States of America where the narrow-guage has taken deep root and is throwing out vigorous branches all over the Union. In almost every state and territory, from the eastern to the western seaboard, narrow-guage railways are being projected or commenced, and engineers are readily finding the capital for their undertakings which would have been impossible if a more costly system had been adopted. The moderate capital is always advanced with confidence for the completion of any sound scheme which shall not be burdened with an excessive outlay that swamps all possible immediate return.

If the Fairlie narrow-guage system were adopted in Turkey, there would be less difficulty in obtaining the capital required to build her railways.

*THIRTY YEARS IN THE HAREM.**

It would perhaps have conveyed a juster idea of the scope of this book were its double title to have been reversed. It is firstly and above all an autobiography: the author has a story to tell, and her principal object in writing has been to give it to the world; and yet, as her story does in point of fact comprise thirty years of harem life it cannot by any possible stretch be said that the sixty-and-odd-penny-rounding title is a chief which she, or probably her publishers, have chosen for it, is a misnomer. To the general reader, indeed, the main attraction of the volume will doubtless consist in the glimpse which it incidentally affords of the *per excellence*—"forbidden" ground—such is the literal meaning of *Harem*. The book can make no pretensions to literary merit: it is written in a gossipy and often slipshod style, in much the same words that we might suppose to have dropped from the lady's own lips as a *tableau* in the course of a confidential chat with an inquisitive English lady visitor. This *sans gêne* and apparent unconsciousness of addressing an aggregate public engages our faith in the unstudied truth of the details thus given of life behind the *purdé*, and it is confirmed by the absence of any apparent intention either to decry or to depraise, of set purpose, the great Oriental institution. A perusal of the work must impress the reader with a fact which often suggests itself to the Frank resident here, how far from being the mere cypher that western notions assign to it, is the rôle of the weaker sex in Turkey. The secret springs of many current events are none the less powerful that they are unseen. In truth it may be said that the weight of female influence in the making and marring of public men, and the conduct of public affairs is far greater in this country than in christendom Christendom. The most signal instance of this kind of influence which Melek Hanoum claims to have laid the foundation of the fortunes of her late eminent husband, her acumen tact, and indomitable will, understood, we may add, by over-nice scruple—are abundantly evident throughout.

The biography before us is known in its main features to most of our Levant readers. The author, of Levantine Catholic parentage, was, she herself confessed, of wild and restless disposition. Her early wild life asserted itself in a manner to whose fine qualities she does every justice, soon led to a severance. Proceeding to Europe she met the future Grand Vizier, then military attaché to the Turkish Legation in Paris. An offer of marriage followed, which after much hesitation she accepted; for although, she observes, "the seclusion of the harem was an awful prospect"..."Kibrizly Pasha gained my affections. She records with particuoale vanity the admiration created by her appearance in Oriental attire at a *bal costumé* at the Tuileries, where, although already affianced to a Turkish gentleman, court etiquette obliged her to accept an invitation to dance with the Duke of Orleans. Soon after their return to the East her husband suffered one of those reverses of fortune so common to Turkish official life, and was reduced to a state bordering on destitution, when the wife, full of resources, contrived to turn the tide of ill-luck and to set her husband, as we have said, on the way to the high advancement which he speedily attained. The Pasha first made his way up the usual ladder of promotion to successive provincial governorships. His lady does not pretend to have held herself above the standard of the world she lived in, for it is with the most perfect unreserve and a certain humorous appreciation of what the Western world would think of it, that she describes the active part she took as wife of a provincial Pasha in the accessory process of fashioning the next."

If our author thus frankly lays before us her venial peccadilloes, none the less does she indignantly repel the charge of complicity in a more serious and tragical affair which became at once the great catastrophe of her life, converting what appears to have been a hitherto happy married life into a series of contentions and adversities varied only in their form and lasting over twenty years. Into the merits of this question, however, we cannot enter. We will merely state that Malek Hanoum contrived that her persecutors and adversaries should not have it all their own way, and that the rest of her memoirs is made up of a succession of bolshmants, escapes, and renewed strife; ending however in a final flight to Europe in 1866, along with her daughter Atiké. This young lady, it appears, had been carefully guarded from all intercourse with her mother, being made to believe she was dead; brought up as a Turkish *hanoum pure et simple* without an atom of Western culture, she was given in marriage to the son of her step-mother. Her own parent, however, succeeded at last in establishing communications with her and in associating Atiké Hanoum with her own cause. Hence new complications; and, after a second escape from their joint exile at Koniah, learning at Constantinople that they were doomed to seclusion in the fortress of Demitoka, a dungeon of the worst repute, the daughter, who had previously repelled with abhorrence a proposal to that effect from her mother, was now the first to urge as their only resource—a flight to Gheuor Keraguisan. The account of their transformation from Hanoums into Frank ladies, and their escape in that disguise to the French steamer in port closes the volume.

But we must hasten to present our readers with some extracts bearing on the more general subject. The following remarks are full of truth: they show how different a thing is harem-life in different classes of society. The passage, written with unusual care, is about the only one in the book which rises to general views, and may be taken as a summary of the author's experience of the system.

Family life is, in reality, unknown among the Turks. The law of the Koran, which divides mankind into two distinct classes—men and women—does not admit of the existence of a family in which each members can be considered as a part of some harmonious whole. In Mussulman society the men have separate dens, habits, and interests; whilst, on the other hand, the women have others which belong exclusively to them. Two persons who pretend to form a part of one and the same family, have, in reality, nothing common amongst themselves,—neither apartments, nor goods, nor furniture, nor friends, nor even the same hours for taking rest. The selamlik (the apartments of the men) and the haren are, in consequence, two separate establishments, placed side by side, where each one does what pleases him or herself,—the men on one side, the women on the other. The authority of the head of the family, when he is in a position to exercise it, is only in the only connection and bond of union between these two halves of the same household.

This separate system, upon which Mussulman family life is based, acted upon by the paramount law of selfinterest, gives rise to a tangle of intrigues which escape the eye of an attentive observer. It becomes evident that the degree of separation which exists in Turkish households between the men and the women can be measured by the greater or less amount of affluence in which the family lives. A poor man who can only afford two rooms for himself and his family, he is compelled to study room my, and on this account he, like a good father of a family, eats, drinks, and sleeps with his wife and children. The well-to-do middle class men establishes his household after a much more or less noble fashion, and begins by drawing a more palpable line of demarcation between himself and his harem. Two or three rooms are completely divided off from the remainder of the house; these form the selamlik—the apartment for men and place of reception; the remainder of the house constitutes the harem, the forbidden ground. If we now go to the rich—to the Pashas with three tails—or to the minister with a portfolio, we shall find his palace installed in grand style, and the separation between men and women more complete. The selamlik of a grandee comprises an entirely separate building, and the harem has the proportions of a colossal palace, with iron gates, grated windows, and a garden surrounded by high walls. The men and women who make up these two divisions of the household remain completely isolated from each other, and have no means of communication except through the eunuch, or through the female Christian servants who are admitted to the harem. The Pasha, his sons, and near relations, who alone have the privilege of free entry into the harem, can only enter it by a sort of bridge, enclosed with iron grating—a kind of secret passage, which is traversed under the escort and charge of a eunuch".

In the earlier part of the book is a characteristic account of a youthful escapade of the author during a Ramazan night in company with a Circassian lady, named Nazib Hanoum, the adopted daughter of the Sultan's sister, whose subsequent history as will be seen, was sufficiently remarkable:

She was of a spirited and playful disposition; and, I may venture to say, speaking for both, we were a good match. Turning to me, she said, "If you are willing, my dear, let us go and dress ourselves up like men (for women are not allowed to enter the mosques) and we "will go together to St. Sophia, to see the festival which "is held to-night." Putting on male apparel, and carrying small lanterns, we went to the mosque." On entering it we were soon easily dazzled; the columns were decked from top to bottom with festoons of coloured glass; the Sultan's band was performing; and the crowd was so dense that it was almost impossible to get in. After remaining for some time pressed like the celebrants themselves we wished to retire. Presently, we heard two young men behind us call out "Beyler! beyler!" that is to say "gentlemen! gentlemen! don't go so fast; come with us to a café, and take some refreshment." At these words, supposing that they had discovered our stratagem, we quickened our pace, without replying. When we returned home we were worn out with fatigue, Nazib Hanoum stayed that night with me. In the morning she left, inviting me to visit her at the palace on the following day. I went, accordingly, and she showed me over the ladies' apartments and those of the Sultan. The divan in her chamber was of redvelvet, embroidered with pearls. Afterwards she made me seat myself in an immense room, and then Ibrahim Sultan, sister of Sultan Mahmoud, came in with her suite and joined us. She was accompanied by several young ladies, one half of whom were dressed in male attire, and took her seat on a large gilded chair. Some of them began to dance, and the princess invited me to follow their example. I was dressed like the other, in a magnificent costume, and mingled with the other young women. Nazib Hanoum, who had introduced me, accompanied us, in the most enchanting style, on a kind of guitar. Then there was a sort of "Ball" given in my honour, which lasted until when his sister invited us to remain, saying, "His Highness will be much "pleased to see you thus." Mahmoud looked at us for some time and then offered his hand to Nazib Hanoum, my chaperon, and took several turns round the room with her, quickened by the joyous animated manner. Returning to Ibrahim Sultan he told her that it would greatly oblige him if she would give him that young lady. She refused, saying that, if she gave him what he asked, he would begin to think nothing of three or four days, and then she would have to pass the rest of her life in a corner of the palace. . . .

When bedtime arrived Nazib showed me to her chamber, where a bed had been prepared for me beside her own. I had scarcely lain down when I heard a knocking at the door. A young woman had come to ascertain whether she had found any letter. Opening a little wicket formed in the lattice of the window, she drew in a string to which was attached a letter. She forthwith burst into tears when she read the contents of the letter, which she fastened to the string and let down. Calling the treasurer she said to her in great glee "it is the little rascal whom "we have met so often that has written to me. I have "replied that I shall be happy to see him at the ball to-"morrow evening, during the promenade, in the principal "passage of the bazar." On the morrow Nazib Hanoum took the princess's earrings, and I accompanied her, white two pretty little slaves dressed like men were following us on horseback. We saw a young gentleman in male apparel, who threw into the carriage some flowers, and a note. The young Circassian alighted, furtively spoke a few words to him, and contrived to hand him a letter unobserved. This person was a Greek merchant of the bazar, of whom Zizyh was enamoured. He was in no way remarkable for good looks, and as to money he was a mere pauper, an adventurer who was seeking to make his fortune by marrying one of the court ladies. It must be said that Nazib was playing a dangerous game, for, in selecting a Christian for a lover, she ran the risk of being thrown into the Bosphorus in a sack weighted with shot. Some time afterwards the news was spread that she had taken flight . . . . She took with her some diamonds and other valuables, which she had put in the marriage-trousseau presented to her by Ibrahim Sultan who had intended shortly to give her in marriage . . . It was only after a considerable interval that they learned she was married at Galata to the lover who had carried her off. After her marriage with the Greek, Nazib-Hanoum had to endure many vicissitudes. Her husband made away with all her treasures and ended his career in bankruptcy. The poor woman was left a widow with twelve children. Finding it impossible to give them support her little family, Nazib decided on seeking refuge among her former masters, and returned to Constantinople, an old woman and in rags. The Turks, instead of reproaching her for her conduct, received her kindly, and they furnished her with the means of subsistence to the present day."

With this trait of a magnanimity which is not foreign to the nature of the Turk and can be displayed even where his most deeply rooted prejudices have been outraged, we take our leave of the book.

**Thirty years in the Harem: or the Autobiography of Melek-Hanoum, wife of H. H. Kibrizly Mehmed Pasha.*—London, Chapman and Hall, 1872.

GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.

Under the significant title "The Order of Battle," the *Wanderer* of Vienna has published a letter from Frankfort, dated August 27, the contents of which are rather startling. The Vienna paper guarantees the authenticity of its correspondent's information, and the correspondent himself professes to have derived it from an excellent source. Prussian diplomatists are accustomed, according to this writer, to be very frank in what they say when they fancy themselves among friends, and they have been talking with free and easy cynicism lately about Austrian innocence and good-nature. They count upon these qualities for the means of dividing the Empire of two very troublesome antagonists—German Particularism and Ultramontanism. "Thanks," they say, "to the House of Austria, we are about to disarm these reptiles and extract their venomous teeth." "By means of the House of Austria,"—I cite their very words"—says the *Wanderer's* correspondent—"we shall bring the old seat of the Empire upon our heritage." Prussian politicians are thus represented as cherishing the confident expectation of being able to use the Czar and the Emperor of Austria as instruments for the overthrow of the most dangerous foes of Germany. When at Gastein last year Count Beust was almost induced to concert measures of common policy with Prince Bismarck, there were four main objects which the latter hoped to accomplish. 1st. To alienate from Austria the sympathies of the South German populations. 2nd. To weaken Austria by a religious schism. 3rd. To keep Italy firmly bound to Prussia. And 4th. When Austria was finally involved in a quarrel with Rome to make peace separately with the Catholic clergy of North and South Germany and German Austria. It is notorious that the first three objects have been held steadily in view; and as to the fourth, we are told secret negotiations were actually begun by Prussia with the leaders of Central and South-Western German Ultramontanism. The price demanded by Prussia was to be the abandonment by the Catholic population of the flag of the Southern States, and the enrolment of the Catholic clergy of German Austria under the Hohenzollern banner. Several members of the Catholic party (the correspondent says) were sufficiently moonlighted to lend themselves to this intrigue and enter into the Clerico-Bismarckian league. However, there has since been an important modification of the situation, and that not to the advantage of Bismarck. Prince Bismarck's attempts to win over Austria to accept common measures against the Ultramontanists, the effort to excite established division in Würtemberg, and the hope of the success of Old Catholicism in Bavaria, have all proved abortive. King Ludwig has disavowed Old Catholicism, and is more Ultramontanist than ever; and in the meantime the measures adopted by the Emperor against the Jesuits have everywhere convinced Catholics that the Empire is the enemy of the Church. In South Germany the people prefer remaining Catholics, to becoming a mere province of the young Protestant Empire. The German Catholic clergy are no longer willing to lend themselves to the Chancellor's schemes, and all hope of assistance from the Catholic clergy of Austria must be given up. There is nothing for it, then, but to beat a retreat. Thanks to Bismarck's impatience, Austria has escaped a grave danger, and although the politicians of Berlin still count on gaining something by working upon Francis Joseph, it is scarcely probable the latter will fall into their snares. Prince Gortschakoff is also fully aware of the designs and plots of Prussian policy, and is not likely to allow the Czar Alexander to be made a tool of Prince Bismarck. The only chance of Prussia gaining anything from the meeting of the Emperors lies in its being able to prevent the *rapprochement* of Russia and Austria from taking full effect. But as Austria has been warned, she may not possibly be frightened even by the bugbear of Panslavism from the only alliance which is consistent with her strength and independence.

Such is the substance of the long communication of the *Wanderer's* correspondent. That paper confines its comments to the expression of a hope that the warnings addressed to "our dear country" may not prove in vain.

ROUMANIA AND THE IMPERIAL CONCLAVE.

Letters from Roumania, writes the Berlin correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, evince considerable disquietude of spirit among the "nationalists" of that Principality concerning the possible results of the Imperial meeting. It is not unnatural that the Roumans should feel anxious for the durability of their independence when their great neighbours come together to "make matters pleasant" On the present occasion, however, they may rest assured that Dacia has nothing to fear from the gathering of the Eagles. That the Czar should consent to meet the Emperor-King in a spirit of reconciliation is in itself a guarantee that Russia contemplates no immediate opening up of the much-vexed Eastern question. Moreover, Prince Charles Hohenzollern's position is strengthened by Francis Joseph's visit to Berlin. It may fairly be presumed that Roumania will be mentioned during the Imperial conference; but I have excellent reason for believing that their Majesties intend, one and all, to keep things as they are, at least for the present, on the left bank of the Lower Danube. It might injure an evil day for the descendants of Trojan's legionaries were they to attempt to force their government, or rather Charles of Hohenzollern with as little ceremony as they observed towards John Alexander Couza—not the worst Hospodar that ever ruled over them. His Prussian Highness is strongly backed up, and the mere fact that he is a Hohenzollern will contribute materially to keeping the Principalities out of mischief and trouble. That the "Preventive Alliance" means peace in every direction I am profoundly convinced. Such is the impression I entertained concerning it in the highest financial and political circles here and in Vienna.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN THE UNITED STATES.

Adverting to the State of Maine elections, the result of which as communicated by telegraph we announced on Thursday, the *Daily Telegraph* remarks:

President Grant's prospects of re-election brighten as the contest advances. His adversary, Horace Greeley, has detached no supporters of note from the Republican side, except Mr. Sumner, whose advocacy is weakened by long personal hostility to Grant, and neutralised, as regards the negro vote, by the un-compromising language of Garrison and other coloured Abolitionists. The election at Vermont, where the Republicans have secured a great success, with a gain of 5,000 votes over last year, shows the strong current of opinion in the North; while at Louisville the "straight-out" Democrats are advancing in a manner obviously fatal to Greeley's chances by winning from the followers of Jefferson Davis a whole wing of discontented electors. They have declared the Democratic party betrayed at Baltimore, and they have named candidates of their own for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency. Mr. O'Conor, nominated for the first, has, it is true, positively declined to "run," and the malcontents must choose another representative; but it is evident that this movement ruins the chief hope of the Greeleyites which was that the Southern and the Copperhead parties would unite "like one man" to beat Grant, and would forgive Greeley for his abolitionist antecedents, in the hope of "favours to come." It is very significant that of the two candidates, Mr. O'Conor, the chosen man of Louisville, opposes Greeley even more earnestly than Grant; this shows how little chance there is of carrying the Irish and Democratic vote by the proceedings at Baltimore; and generally the aspect of affairs grows more and more decidedly favourable to the re-election of the present President.

THE "INTERNATIONAL" IN SECRET SESSION.

The special correspondent of the *Daily News* comments as follows upon the meeting of the delegates of the celebrated revolutionary and Socialistic International Society, which is still in session at the Hague:

If an intimate acquaintance with a certain imperial kind of Parliamentary tactics, and the display of considerable ability in their use, confer upon men a title to govern society, the leaders of the Workmen's International Association have already made good their claim to the position. Since the opening yesterday morning of