

which cross it. The water rose an immense height, but no damage was done.

Placards are posted up in the agricultural districts of England, cautioning intending immigrants to the United States, on the authority of Consul Archibald, of New York, that 40,000 persons are ready to return to England.

The steamer *Atrato*, after repairing and passing inspection, left on Easter Monday with 400 emigrants for Canterbury and Otago. Several of the emigrants who left the first time refused to proceed in her, and returned to their homes, after enjoying the trip for several days, and free rations.

A terrible explosion has occurred in the mine of the Duke of Enfield. It caused the death of 53 persons, and injured 20 others.

Joseph Arch is to arrange an extensive emigration of farm laborers from England to America.

The steamship *Faraday* has begun to load with the new Atlantic cable, which will be laid direct to the United States.

Two railway accidents have occurred inland, resulting in the death and injury of 20 persons.

Gladstone, in reviewing the Budget, said he regarded the removal of a penny from the Income Tax as an important step towards the abolition of taxes.

A Bill abolishing sugar duties has finally passed the House of Commons.

A special meeting of the committee relative to the Agricultural Laborers' Union granted £1,000 for the relief of the locked-out laborers, 4,000 of whom are now on the Union funds. A London letter says that in the Eastern counties of England there is a bitter conflict between the farmers and the laborers: the latter have joined the Union. In Warwickshire they demanded an extra 1s. a week; this was refused the laborers, consequently they struck on one or two farms. The farmers generally retaliated by locking out all the Union men, and declaring that henceforth they will employ only non-unionists. The landlords supported the farmers, and threaten to eject those who do not hold aloof from relation with unionists.

The Parliamentary vote to defray expenses of the Ashantee expedition amounts to £900,000.

A new movement is on foot in London for a Parliament of working men; an organisation is formed, and committee appointed.

A Bill has been introduced into Parliament, at the instigation of the Early Closing Association for closing all shops at 8 p.m.

Mr Kenealy has been excluded from the mess of Oxford Circuit for want of etiquette in the Tichborne case. This deprives him of professional status, no junior being allowed to engage with him. In a letter to the Press, Kenealy indignantly denies the charges made against him, and says he dissents from the verdict of the jury. He believes the claimant still to be Tichborne, and that the real Arthur Orton will be in England before 12 months, and acknowledged as such, and the defendant released.

The report of the Eastern Extension Australia and China Telegraph Company shows the year's profits to be £156,975. A dividend equal to 6½ per cent. was declared, and £39,950 carried to the reserve fund.

The British steamship *Queen Elizabeth*, from Calcutta for England, became a wreck at Punta Arenas, in Spain. Twenty-three lives were lost, including H. J. Allardice, missionary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, wife, and three children.

CONTINENTAL.

PARIS, April 18.

Sixty millions were voted for the repair of the French fortifications.

With reference to the escape of Rochefort and his companions, the Paris 'Sour' says the escape of the French convicts has already led to an exchange of notes between the Cabinets at Versailles and St. James's. According to the information of the the English Government, it was a French vessel fitted by friends of the prisoners, having on board a crew of 25 men, who were quite determined to fight if necessary. Seventeen convicts were to be carried off, but when the moment arrived only five were ready, the others being engaged at work assigned to them. The English authorities declare that the captain fraudulently hoisted the British flag, but the French believe they can prove that the vessel was equipped and prepared in a British port, and that the British Government should be held responsible. Upon reaching Sydney, Rochefort telegraphed for 25,000*fr.* to M. Adain, formerly Prefect of the Paris Police, and guardian of his children. After satisfying himself that this was not an attempt at a hoax, Adain forwarded the money, part of which was supplied by two newspapers, viz., 'Republique Francaise' and the 'Rapport.' M. Victor Hugo also contributed 6,300*fr.*

Four hundred thousand francs have been subscribed for the relief of the laboring classes in Paris. This distress grows wider daily.

Two batches of Lothringen priests (37 in all) have been tried at the Court at Metz for reading from the pulpit the pastoral of the Bishop of Nancy, commanding the faithful to pray to the Blessed Virgin to intercede for the speedy reunion of the annexed provinces to France. Of the first batch, eleven ecclesiastics were condemned to a fortnight's imprisonment; three to a week's confinement; and the remainder were acquitted.

The official report relative to the Central Asian affairs, says that after the Turcomans had been punished for robbery, tranquility was perfectly re-established. Tribute was collected, although with great difficulty. Usbecks on the left bank of the Aune Daria have since declared themselves most grateful to the Russians who have liberated the Khivese from the oppression of the Samudens.

Large numbers of Roman noblemen attended the Vatican on the 23rd March to pay homage to the Pope as a counter demonstration to celebrate the King's ascension. His Holiness made an energetic speech, praising the unalterable devotion of the Roman nobility, who had given the world an example of faithfulness in adversity. A con-

siderable meeting of Romans was held at Loggia de Raffaello. They saluted the Pope with frantic cheers.

The Carlist General, Saballo, commanding Guipuzcoa, had issued a proclamation decreeing the punishment of death to all persons furnishing food to the cities of San Sebastian, Reutira, and Irun. A despatch from Pedro Abanta says that an army of 5,000 Republican troops are marching on Valmazedra, a town 22 miles from Bilboa.

The particulars of the elections in Switzerland indicate that the Plebisite on the revision of the Federal Constitution resulted in a majority of 100,000 in favor of the revision.

The German Tribunal at Saverne has condemned and imposed a heavy fine on the Bishop of Nancy, for his charge to the clergy issued last July.

Three millions of reals intended for the Carlists have been seized in Santander.

A rumour is current that the Carlists have asked Marshal Serrano for an amnesty.

Senor Castelar has written a letter, in which he declares himself in favor of a Federal Republic.

The French steamer *Amerique* has been wrecked near Brest. The chief officer was drowned, but the remainder of the crew and 130 passengers were saved. Subscriptions are being made in all parts of the State. 80,000*dol.* were soon subscribed in New York.

The French steamer *Amerique*, sunk near Island of Ushant; 26 miles from Brest. The passengers and crew were rescued by English, Norwegian, and Italian vessels. One of the latter arrived at Brest with the crew. The *Amerique* was not a new vessel. She was formerly the *Eugene L'Imperatrice*, one of the finest steamships of the line. The loss of this fine ship, following so close on the loss of the *Europa*, created great excitement in New York. The *Amerique* was somewhat smaller than the *Ville du Havre*, but similar in build.

HONOLULU.

Honolulu advices state that the King returned from a tour through the Islands, during which he sought to make himself intimately acquainted with the condition of the people. He was everywhere cordially received.

The session of the Legislative Assembly was opened by the King. In his speech, which was highly spoken of by the Press, he urges the desirability of economising public expenditure, of immigration, of free labor, of the scheme for irrigation, water supply, and encouraging steam communication with Australia.

A submarine cable between America and Honolulu is projected by American capitalists.

AMERICAN NEWS.

Between 15,000 and 20,000 people have been driven from their homes by the breaking of a levee on the banks of the Mississippi. In Louisiana, a large breadth of the best cotton lands overflowed, and the crops ruined or greatly damaged. From Cape Girardeau to Red River there are seven or eight million acres of bottom land, ranking as the most productive cotton land in the world, under water. The product of this fertile tract in a good season is worth 400,000,000*dol.* or 500,000,000*dol.* By last accounts several thousand people occupying these alluvial lands are not only driven out, but were in a starving condition. New Orleans telegrams state that most gloomy reports continue to be received of inundation in various points. The whole of the Amite Valley is submerged. Houses, barns, implements, and animals are washed away. The inhabitants fled to the high land, where they remain in a destitute condition. Letters from the Red River country say—"We are entirely overflowed. All bankrupt. Have no provisions; no money; many starving. The water over country still rising. The cattle not drowned are dying for want of food. Sheep and hogs drowned by the hundred."

SAN FRANCISCO, April 27.

The Bandit Vaisehez, for whose head a reward of 15,000*dol.* was offered, is again ravaging the southern counties of California. He seized the *Ranchero San Gabriel* at his mission near Los Angeles, and compelled him to write a cheque for 500*dol.*

There has been an epidemic of crime at San Francisco. Six violent deaths took place in one week. A murderer committed suicide beside the body of his victim, and another nearly similar case occurred a few days after; but the coroner or jury disbelieved the statement of the survivor, and found him guilty of the murder of his comrade.

President Grant vetoed the Senate Currency Bill. The President's message on the Navigator Islands will soon be printed. The report of the Commissioner Sternbergen attracted considerable attention. The conflict of claim to the Governorship of Arkansas causes great anxiety. Brooks and Baxter, the rival claimants, have each raised an army. The Federal troops were called on to restore quiet.

RIO JANEIRO.

The mail steamer arrived reports a rupture between the Argentine Republic and the Government of Montevideo, because of Zermiento arbitrarily closing the River Paraguay against a Banda Oriental vessel. A settlement of the difficulty is hoped for.

Venezuela advices state that Governor Pulgar, of Maracibo, fled from the Province to Kingston, on account of a revolt against despotism.

The news has reached Panama of the loss of the Chilean coasting-steamship *Tacha*, with 19 persons. The loss of life is attributed to a panic which seized the crew, two of whom made off with the only boat.

The friends of Stokes, the murderer of James Fisk, intend applying for his pardon.

The new gas works at Nelson, constructed under, and formed by the Provincial Government, which prevented a private company from taking up the work, have proved a failure. All the three retorts having gone wrong, the supply for the time is stopped.