IMPORTANT NEWS FROM FRANCE.

PARIS, May 8.

Her Imperial Majesty, the Queen and Regent, has received the following news from the army:—

The battles of Weissenfields and of Lutzen are preludes of events the highest importance. The Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia, who had arrived at Dresden with all their forces, at the latter end of April, learning that the French had planted themselves before Thuringe, adopted the plan to give him battle on the plains of Lutzen, and made a movement to take their position; but were prevented by the rapid movements of the French army—yet they persisted in their projects, and resolved to attack the army in order to maintain the position they had taken. The position of the French army on the 2d of May at 9 o'clock in the morning, was as follows:—The left of the army was on the Elster. It was formed by the Vice Roy, having under his command the 5th and 11th corps.——The Centre was commanded by the Prince of Moscowa, at the village of Kaia. The Emperor, with the old and young guard, were at Lutzen.

The Duke of Raguse was in the defile of Poserna and formed the right with his three divisions.

In fine, Gen. Bertrand, commanding the 4th corps, marched to join the defile. The enemy made a movement and passed the Elster, over the bridges of Zewnkaw, Pegan and Zeitz. His Majesty, hoping to prevent that movement, and thinking he could attack only the 3d, ordered Gen. Lauriston, whose corps formed the extremity of the left, to repair to Leipsic, in the end to disconcert the projects of the enemy, and to place the French army in a situation for the event of the 3d in a position entirely different from what the enemy expected to find it; (and where it was effectively on the 2d,) and thus cause confusion and disorder in their columns.

At 9 o'clock in the morning, his Majesty hearing the cannonading near Leipsic, repaired thither at full gallop.—The enemy defended the little village of Listenau and the bridges in advance of Leipsic. His majesty waited only for the moment when these places should be carried, to put his whole army in movement in this direction to wheel upon Leipsic, pass over the right of the Elster, to take the enemy in flank; but at 10 o'clock the enemies' army moved towards Kaia, in many columns of great depth, which obscured the horizon.

The enemy presented forces which appeared immense. The Emperor immediately made his arrangements. The Vice Roy received orders to repair to the left of the Prince of Moscowa; but it took him 3 hours to execute this movement. The Prince of Moscowa took arms, and with his five divisions sustained the battle, which at the end of half an hour became terrible.—His Majesty himself, at the head of the guard, behind the centre of the army, sustained the right of the Prince of Moscowa. The Duke of Raguse with his 8 divisions occupied the extreme right. Gen. Bertrand had orders to repair to the rear of the enemies army, at the moment when the line was most warmly engaged. Fortune was pleased to crown with the most brilliant success all these dispositions.

The enemy, who appeared certain of success, marched to turn our right and to gain the road of Weissenfields; Gen. Compans, a General of the first merit, at the head of the first division of the Duke of Raguse, stopped all short. The Regt's. of Marines sustained many charges with *sang froid*, and covered the field of battle with the light cavalry of the enemy; but the grand efforts of the infantry, cavalry and artillery, were in the centre. Four of the five divisions of the Prince of Moscowa were already engaged. The village of Kaia was taken and retaken many times. This village remained in the power of the enemy. The count of Lobeau directed Gen. Ricard to re-take the village; it was re-taken. They occupied a line of two leagues covered with fire, with muskets and clouds of dust. The Prince of Moscowa, Gen. Souham, & Gen. Girard were every where facing the battle.——Wounded with many balls, Gen. Girard resolved to remain upon the field of battle.—He declared himself willing to die when commanding his troops, as the time had arrived for the French who had the heart, to conquer or perish.

Now we began to perceive at a distance, the dust and first fire of Gen. Bertrand—instantly the Vice Roy entered the line on the left, and the Duke of Teranto attacked the reserve of enemy, and charged upon the village where the enemy supported his right.—At this time the enemy redoubled his efforts upon the centre. The village of Kaia was carried again. Our centre was broken—some battalions disbanded themselves; but these valorous youths, at the sight of the Emperor, rallied crying *vive l'Empereur*.—His majesty, judging that the crisis had arrived which decides the gain or loss of battles, did not lose a moment. The Emperor ordered the Duke of Trevise to repair with 16 battalions of the *Young Guards*, to the village of Kaia, to overturn the enemy, and retake the village, and destroy every thing found there. At the same time his majesty ordered his aid de camp, Gen. Druot, (an officer of the greatest distinction) to collect a battery of 80 pieces, and to place them in advance of the old guard, which was disposed in echelon, as four redoubts to sustain the centre—all our cavalry were arranged in battle behind. Generals Dulauley, Druot, and Devaux, started full gallop, with their eighty pieces in a body. The fire became desperate. The enemy fled on all sides.

The Duke of Trevise carried without firing a gun, the village of Kaia, and drove the enemy at the point of the bayonet. The cavalry, artillery and infantry of the enemy fled. Gen. Bonner, commander of one of the divisions of the Duke of Raguse, received orders to make a movement on his left upon Kaia, to succour the centre.——He sustained many charges of the cavalry, in which the enemy experienced many losses.

In the mean time Gen. Count Bertrand advanced upon the line. It was in vain that the enemies cavalry wheeled into squares.

His march was not impeded—the Emperor ordered a change of the direction by wheeling on Kaia—all the right made a change of front, the right in advance.

The enemy fled—we pursued them three leagues and an half. We soon after arrived at the height that the Emperor Alexander, the King of Prussia, and the Brandebourg family occupied during the battle. An officer (a prisoner) whom we found there, informed us of this circumstance.

We have made many thousand prisoners. The number could not be greater, considering the inferiority of our cavalry and the desire the Emperor has shewn to spare it.

At the commencement of the battle, the Emperor said to the troops, "It is a battle of Egypt. A good Infantry sustained by Artillery; that should suffice."

Gen, Gourre chief d'etat Major of the Prince of Moscowa, was killed, a death worthy so good a soldier!——Our loss amounts to 10,000 killed or wounded; that of the enemy may be valued at 25 or 30,000. The Royal Guard of Prussia was destroyed. The Emperor of Russie's guards suffered considerably—The 2 divisions of 10 Regt's. of Russian Cuirassiers were crushed to pieces.

His majesty cannot bestow too much praise for the gotd will, courage and intrepidity of the army. Our young soldiers did not regard danger—they have, in this grand affair, recovered the nobleness of the French blood.

The etat Major General, in his account will make knewn the brilliant exploits which have illustrated this famous day——which, as a stroke of thunder has frustrated the chimerical hopes and all the calculations of the destruction and dismemberment of the Empire. The dark plots hatched by the Cabinet of St. James during the winter will be found in an instant destroyed——as the gordian knot by the sword of Alexander.

The Prince of Hesse Hombourg, was killed. The prisoners say that the young Prince Royal of Prussia was wounded, and that the Prince of Mecklenbourg Strelitz, was killed.

The infantry of the old guard, of which six battalions had only arrived, maintained the affair with the *sang froid*, which characterises it. They did not fire a gun——one half of the army were not engaged; for Lauristons four divisions occupied Leipsic—the Duke of Reggio's three divisions were two days journey from the field of battle. The Count of Bertrand, engaged with only one of his divisions, and that so lightly that he did not lose 50 men. His 2d & 3d divisions did not act.

The corps of cavalry of Gen. Sebastiani, with the Prince of Eckmulk's 3 divisions were at the lower Elbe. The allied army, 150 to 200,000 strong commanded by the two Sovereigns, having a great number of the Prussian Princes at its head, has been defeated and put to rout by less than half of the French army.

The field of battle presented an affecting spectacle—the young soldiers at the sight of the Emperor compromited their grief in crying Vive L'Empereur.—"For 20 years, said the Emperor, that I have commanded the French armies, I have not seen so much bravery and devotedness."

Europe would be tranquil if the Sovereigns and Ministers who direct their Cabinet could have been present on this field of battle. They would renounce the hope of making the Star of France retrograde——They would perceive that the Councillors for the dismemberment of France, are preparing for the ruin of their Sovereigns.

PARIS, May 10.

Her Majesty the Queen Empress and Regent has received the following news relating to the situation of the army the 5th inst. in the evening.

The Head Quarters of the Emperor were at Colditz, that of the Vice Roy at Harta, that of the Duke of Ragusa in the arrear of Colditz, that of Gen. Lauriston at Wurtren; of the Prince of Moscowa at Leipsic, of the Duke of Reggio at Altenbourg, and of Gen. Betrand at Rochlitz.

The Vice Roy arrived before Colditz the 5th, at 9 A. M. The brigade was cut up, together with the columns of infantry and cavalry, with the artillery which defended the passage.—The Vice Roy betook himself to a ford with a division, which is on the left, and crossed the River, and gained the village of *Komichau*, where he planted a battery consisting of 20 pieces of cannon; the enemy then evacuated the City of Colditz in the greatest disorder, in defiling under the *shot* of our 20 pieces of artillery.—The Vice Roy closely pursued the enemy, bearing the remains of the Prussian army, 20 or 25,000 strong, which took their rout partly on *Lussning* and part on Gersdorff. Having arrived at Gersdorff, the Prussian troops passed through a body of reserve, which occupied this position; being the Russian corps of Milloradowitch, composed of two divisions, forming about 8,000 men bearing arms; the Russian regt's. being but 2 battalions, of 4 companies each, & the companies containing but 150 men; and having but 100 men *then* under arms, this composing but 7 or 800 men to a reg't.; these 2 divisions of Milloradowitch arrived just as the battle was over, and was not in season to take a part in it.

As soon as the 36th division had rejoined the 35th, the Vice Roy gave orders to the Duke of Teranta to form the 2 divisions in 3 columns and to dislodge the enemy:—The attack was warm and spirited, our braves rushed on the Russians, pierced their columns & drove them on Harta. In this battle we had from 5 to 600 wounded and have taken 1000 prisoners, the enemy has lost on this day 3000 men. Gen. Betrand, has arrived at Rochlitz, having taken some convoys of the wounded and sick and their baggages, and has made some prisoners: More than 1200 carriages of the wounded have passed by this route. The King of Prussia and Emperor Alexander slept in Rochlitz.

An Adjutant of the 17th division who was taken prisoner at the battle of the 2d has made his escape, and relates that the enemy have met with great loss and retreated in the greatest disorder. That during the battle, the Russians and Prussians kept their colors in reserve; this was done to prevent our taking them—that they had taken 102 prisoners, of which 4 were officers. That these prisoners were conducted in the rear under the guard of the detachment left to guard the Standards: That the Prussians had treated their prisoners brutally—that two prisoners not being able to march, by extreme fatigue, were sabred. That the astonishment of the Prussians and Russians, finding an army so numerous and also so well disciplined, and equipt with all, was overawed—*between* them there was misunderstanding—and that they accused each other respectively of their loss—General Court Lauriston, of Wurtren, is on his march on the great road to Dresden. The Prince of Moskowa has gone to the Elbe to *relieve* General Tileman who commands at Torgau, and to take position of that point, and to relieve Wintenberg; it appears that this last place made fine defence & repulsed several attacks which have cost the enemy very dear. The prisoners says that the Emperor Alexander seeing the battle lost, rode through the Russian line to animate the soldiers in saying, courage! God is on our side! They add also that the Prussian Gen. Bluchar is wounded, and that there are five Prussian Gens. of Division and Brigade are wounded.

Extract of a letter, dated Lobstead May 4th.

At 2 o'clock P. M. the retreat commenced in great disorder—there passed at the same time more than 360 carriages provisions.—The carriages are gone to Borna, Frobourg and Pening. The directors (Link) believes there has passed in all about 60,000 men, of which a part of them had defiled in Wreda and Leipsick. Towards noon, the King of Prussia repassed alone to Lobstead, on his way towards Borna, a Prussian Colonel assures that the Regiment of Cavalry have not returned in all but 12 men.

BORNA same date, says, there has been a continual passing of Carriages, Artillery, Munitions, baggage and Wounded. We have enumerated 300 of the carriages. The wounded officers say that several regiments remain without officers.

The corps of Gen. Yorck has left Berlin to the number of 24 or 25,000 men These troops have effected their retreat by Borna; they have considerably suffered and appeared entirely discouraged. The Prussians report their total loss on the 2d from 25 to 30,000 men—they say no one can hold out when the French Voltigeurs commence their fire.

A general consternation has taken place in the confederated armies. It is proportioned to the extraordinary degree of confidence that the Russians and Prussians had before the catastrophe of the 2d. For fifteen days previous there was nothing talked of but to drive the French upon the Rhine, and there to dictate to them the conditions of peace—a great personage even said that if the Emperor Napoleon did not accept the conditions offered, the confederated army should enter France & dictate peace at Paris.

It appears they are ignorant entirely of what has been going on in France; they suppose there exists a general dissatisfaction and that the Emperor has no longer an army—they now hold a very different language—the battle of Lutzen has dissipated all their hopes.—The Prussians have not yet got over the astonishment and a general sorrow seems to pervade them—The officers and soldiers complain bitterly of the councils which have led to this great disaster.

PARIS, MAY 12.

Her Majesty the Empress, Queen and Regent has received the following news of the situation of the army, on the 6th, at eve.

The head quarters of his majesty the emperor and king was at Waldheim; that of the vice-roy at Ertsdorf; that of Gen. Lauriston at Orchaltz; that of the prince of Moskowa between Leipsic and Torgau; that of count Berstrand, at Mettweyda; and that of the duke of Reggio, at Penig.

PARIS, May 15.

The king of Saxony, who took the route to Prague, in order to be nearer this capital, will return to Dresden in the course of to-morrow. The Emperor has sent in escort of 500 men of his guard, with his aid de-camp, Gen. Flahnat, in order to receive and accompany his Saxon Majesty.

2000 of the enemy's cavalry have been intercepted by the Elbe; also a great quantity of baggage, & many light troops and Cossacs; they are said to have fled for refuge into Bohemia.

May 14.

The Empress Regent has ordered a *Te Deum* to be sung, for the victory at *Lutzen*.

One of the accounts to the Empress states our loss at Colditz, the 5th May, at from 5 to 600—the enemy 2000.

May 15.

Her Majesty the Empress, &c. has received news from the army to the 10th at night.

THIRD BATTLE.

On the 9th, the head bridge director, Lassalle, began to replace the rafts for a bridge at Prielnitz, and formed a go and come, (un va et vient)—300 voltiguers passed over to the right bank, protected by 20 pieces of cannon. At 10 the enemy advanced; the cannonade began, and three battalions were destroyed by our grape. The Emperor hastened to the spot. We had established a battery to the amount of 80 pieces; & our Trailleurs sheltered themselves in a hallow, in the form of a *tete de pont*.—After having from 12 to 15 pieces of cannon dismounted and losing from 15 to 1800 men, the enemy discovered their folly, and marched off. We worked all night at the bridge, but the Elbe rose, and the bridge could not be finished that night.

On the 10th May, the Emperor sent Carpenter's division into the new town, by the bridge of Dresden; & the bridge being finished, the whole army is passing the Elbe.—The enemy is retreating on the Oder. Marshal Ney (Prince of Moskwa) is at Wittenburg; gen. Lauriston, at Torgau. Four corps d'armee will pass the bridge at Dresden tomorrow. The guards are around Dresden. One division is at Altenburg.

The King of Saxony goes to Dresden, his capital, to morrow, escorted by 500 men—2000 of the enemy's cavalry have been cut off from the Elbe, with a great quantity of baggage, light troops, and Cossacks, and appear to be marching on Bohemia.

May 17.

The Empress Regent has received the following accounts respecting the situation of the armies to the night of the 11th:

The Viceroy has advanced with the 11th corps to Bischoffswerda; General Bertrand, with the 4th to Konigsbruck; the Duke of Ragusa, with the 6th, to Reichenbrach; the Duke of Reggio to Dresden, where both the old and the new troops do garrison duty.

The Prince of Moskwa entered Torgau the morning of the 10th, and has taken a position on the right bank, within a day's march of the town. Gen. Lauriston arrived there the same day with his corps in the afternoon.

The Duke of Belluno, with the 2d corps, is directed to march upon Wittenburg, as are also the cavalry under Sebasliani.

The corps of cavalry commanded by General La Tour Manpourg, marched over the bridge of Dresden, at three in the afternoon of the 11th.

Her Imperial Majesty has also received the subjoined accounts respecting the situation of the Army, to the night of the 12th:

At six o'clock of the morning of the 12th, the Imperial Guard were under arms, and placed in the battle array on the road of Pirna, as far as the Gross Garchen. The Emperor then passed it in review. The King of Saxony, who had laid the over night at Seiditz arrived this day at noon. The two Sovereigns decended from their horses, embraced, and afterwards entered Dresden at the head of the imperial Guard. They were received with the acclamations of the people; the sight was really interesting.

NEW YORK, JULY 12.

LATEST FROM FRANCE.

Yesterday afternoon arrived at this port the sch'r. Whig, Penrice, in 44 days from Bordeaux, with a valuable cargo. By this arrival the Editors of the Mercantile Advertiser have received a file of Paris papers to the 21st May, from which the following articles were translated.

We learn verbally, by this arrival, it was reported in Bordeaux, that negociations were opened between the Emperors Alexander and Napoleon, for a Peace; and that great rejoicings had taken place in Bordeaux, in consequence of the signal victories achieved by the French over the Allied Army.

Situation of the French army, on the morning of the 14th of May—Translated fom the Journal of Paris, of the 21st of May

The army of the Elbe has been dissolved, and the two armies of the Elbe and of the Maine, are now united.

The Duke of Bellino was, on the evening of the 13th, at Wittemberg.

The Prince of Moscowa left Torgua for Luken.

Count Lauriston marched from Torgua upon Dobrilugk.

Count Bertrand was at Koenigsbruck.

The Duke of Tarento, with the eleventh corps, was encamped at Bichofswerda and Bantzen. He had vigorously pursued the enemy on the 11th and 12th. Gen. Milorodowitch, was an after guard of 20,000 men, and 40 pieces of cannon on the 12th, wished to hold the positions of Fischbach, of Capellenburg, and of Bischofswerda, which caused three successive battles, in which our troops conducted themselves with the greatest intrepidity.—The division Charpentier, distinguished itself in the attack on the right. The enemy was turned in the positions, and foiled at every point; one of his columns cut off. We made 1600 men killed and wounded. The artillery of the 11th corps, made a discharge of 2000 shot in the combat.

The wreck of the Prussian army commanded by the King in person, which had passed at Meissin, directed their course by Kœnigsbruck, to Bantzen, to join the Russian army.

The corps of the Duke of Reggio, passed the bridge of Dresden yesterday at noon.

The Emperor has reviewed the corps of cavalry and of "*beaux cuirassiers*" of Gen Latour Maubourg.

It is said the Russians have advised the Prussians to burn Berlin and Potsdam, and to lay waste all Prussia. They have begun already to set the example, and have burnt the little city Bischofswerda. The King of Saxony dined the 13th with the Emperor. The 2nd division of the young guard, commanded by gen Banois, is expected to morrow at Dresden.

On Sunday, the 23d, the empress will go in State to the Metropolitan Church, where will be sung Te Deum, in consequence of the victory gained by the Emperor and King, over the Russian and Prussian army in the plain of Lutzen. At 6 in the morning a discharge of artillery will announce the ceremony. In the evening the Thuilleries and Public Edifices will be illuminated.

DRESDEN, May 12.

It is believed the Russians are retiring to the Oder. It is probable the French army will be soon on the Vistula.

PRAYNE, May 8.

We were many days in doubt of the result of the sanguinary conflict in the environs of Leipsic. yesterday evening we heard that the allied armies were in full retreat, and that they had evacuated Dresden. We are ignorant of the cause of such retreat. The account published by the Russians at Dresden, mentions advantages gained, on manifest contradiction, to the precipitate retreat of the allied armies, a retreat which exposes to great danger the cities of Hamburgh and Berlin. Many private letters state the losses of the Prussians in the battle of the 2d to be immense.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, July 10.

Mr. John G. Jackson, (of Va.) offered a resolution on Saturday for amending the constitution of the U. S.

"*Resolved*, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, two thirds of both houses concurring, that the following articles be proposed as amendments to the constitution of the U. S. each of which, when ratified by three fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid to all intents & purposes, as part of the said constitution.

1. Congress shall have power to lay a tax or duty on articles exported from any state.

2. Congress shall have power to make roads in any state, with the consent of the state within which the same shall be made.

3. Congress shall have power to make canals in any state, with the consent of the state within which the same shall be made.

4. Congress shall have power to establish a national bank, with branches thereof in any state or territory of the United States."

The bill imposing a carriage tax passed the house by ayes and noes, 99 to 52.

Mr. Benson, from the joint committee, reported the business necessary to be done before the close of the present session, which chiefly related to revenue and army bills, and the bill prohibiting exportation under the protection of a foreign license.

Monday July 12.

On motion of Mr. Bibb, the House again resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the several tax bills.

After a sitting of two or three hours, the committee rose & reported the progress they had made.

MR. WEBSTER'S CALL.

A message was received from the President of the United States, through Mr. Graham, transmitting a report of the Secretary of State in reply to the resolution calling for certain information in relation to French affairs.

Tuesday, July 13.

Mr. Calhoun, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, made the following

REPORT.

The committee of Foreign Relations, to whom was referred the President's message of the 12th inst. and the accompanying documents.

REPORT,

That they have examined the message and documents with all the attention their importance demands. Your committee will not indulge themselves in making the various observations which the interesting subjects brought under their consideration naturally suggest. The delay incident to such a course, connected with the lateness of the session and the advanced season of the year, forbid so wide a range; but they cannot abstain from remarking that, while the message and documents furnish strong additional proof of the justice and necessity of the war, they also present powerful motives for the steady and vigorous prosecution of it, as the surest means of a safe and honorable peace. It can now no longer be doubted, that it was the pressure of our measures, combined with the determination of Congress to redress our wrongs by arms and not the repeal of the French decrees, that broke down the orders in council of 1807 and 1809; that dangerous system of monopoly by which we were, as to our commerce, in fact re-colonised. Let us then persevere, and under a just Providence we doubt not of final success. The reward is worthy of the cost & privation. It is no less than the lasting peace and independence of ourselves and our posterity.

There is another view of the subject your committee are compelled to present to the House. It is due to justice to consider the message & documents in relation to the conduct of the executive.—They are aware that on ordinary occasions it is not proper for this House to express sentiments of approbation or censure on the conduct of the President. submit with deference, that as t'