

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

THE SUCCESSION TO THE EMPIRE.—The *Moniteur* publishes the following decrees:—

"Napoleon, by the grace of God and the national will, Emperor of the French, to all present and to come, greeting:—

"Being, unwilling that the throne, erected by the grace of God and the national will, should be left vacant through default of a successor designated by us, we decree as follows:—

"Art. 1. In case of our leaving no direct heir, legitimate or adopted,

"Our well-beloved uncle, Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, and his descendants, direct and legitimate, the issue of his marriage with the Princess Catherine of Wurtemberg, from male to male, by order of primogeniture, to the perpetual exclusion of the females, are appointed to succeed us.

"Art. 2. The present decree, invested with the seal of the state, shall be carried to the Senate by our Minister of state, to be deposited in its archives.

"Given at the Palace of the Tuileries, this 18th day of December, 1852.

(Signed) "NAPOLEON
(Countersigned) "ACHILLE FOULD,
Minister of State."

SENATUS CONSULTUM.—Explaining and modifying the Constitution of January 14th, 1852.

"Art. 1. The Emperor has the right to grant pardons and accord amnesties.

"Art. 2. The Emperor presides, when he thinks proper, over the Senate and Council of State.

"Art. 5. The dispositions of the organic decree of the 22nd of March, 1852, may be modified by decrees of the Emperor.

"Art. 6. The members of the imperial family called eventually to the succession, and their descendants, are French princes. The eldest son of the Emperor takes the title of Prince Imperial.

"Art. 7. The French princes are members of the Senate and of the Council of State, when they shall have attained the full age of eighteen years. They can only sit there by the consent of the Emperor.

"Art. 8. The acts of the *Etat civil* of the imperial family are received by the Minister of State, and transmitted on an order of the Emperor to the Senate, which orders their inscription on the registers, and their deposit in the archives.

"Art. 9. The dotation of the crown and the civil list of the Emperor are regulated by a special *Senatus Consultum*.

"Art. 10. The number of Senators nominated directly by the Emperor cannot exceed 150.

"Art. 11. An annual dotation for life of 30,000*fr.* is appropriated to the dignity of Senator.

"Art. 12. The budget of expenses is presented to the Legislative Corps, with its administrative subdivisions, by chapters and by articles. It is voted by ministries. The distribution by chapters of the credit granted for each ministry is regulated by decree of the Emperor, pronounced in Council of State. Special decrees, pronounced in the same form, can authorise transfers from one chapter to another. The disposition is applicable to the budget of the year 1853.

"Art. 13. The *compte rendu*, ordered by Art. 42 of the Constitution, is submitted, before its publication, to a commission, composed of the President of the Legislative Corps and of the presidents of each bureau. In case of an equal division of opinions, the President of the Legislative Corps shall have the casting vote. The *procès-verbal* of the sitting read to the Assembly records merely the operations and the votes of the Legislative Corps.

"Art. 14. The deputies to the Legislative Corps receive an indemnity, which is fixed at 2,500*fr.* per month, during the continuance of each session.

"Art. 15. The general officers placed on the reserve may be members of the Legislative Body.

"Art. 16. The oath prescribed by Art. 14 of the Constitution is in the following terms:—"I swear obedience to the Constitution, and fidelity to the Emperor."

"Given at the Palace of the Senate this 23rd of December, 1852."

Abd-el-Kader sailed from Marseilles on the 21st ult., on board the steam frigate Labrador.

The Duke De Blacas lately arrived in Paris from Frohsdorf. It was believed that he would be the bearer of fresh instructions to the Legitimist party but such is not the case; the Count de Chambord and his immediate friends being under the impression that for the present sufficient has been done in that way. Previous to the Duke's departure the Count de Chambord received visits from several former representatives of his party.

PRUSSIA.

BERLIN, Dec. 24.—The Emperor of Austria left here last Tuesday, returning to Prague by way of Dresden, as he came. This visit seems to have made a most satisfactory and agreeable impression on all minds.

The Crown Princess of Sweden and Norway was, on the 14th ult., brought to bed of a son, who has received the names of Karl Oskar Wilhelm-Frederik.

ROME.

A letter from Rome of the 20th December, in the *Univers* says:—

"The first foreign regiment in the service of the Holy See has received a flag from the Holy Father; it was presented to it after a solemn consecration by the Bishop of Macerata, in which place the depot of the regiment now is. This corps is destined to be the commencement of the Pontifical army. It is still far from complete, and the journals have frequently exaggerated the importance of the enlistments made abroad, principally in Switzerland, for the

composition thereof. Enlistments continue to be made, and the dispositions of the recruits appear to be excellent. Many of them have already served for several years, and offer all desirable guarantees as regards instruction and military discipline.

The *Cologne Gazette* has the following from Vienna, dated the 23d:—

"The Court of Rome has recently addressed to all the European Powers a circular, in which it invites them to take a warm interest in the state of things in the Herzegovine and Bosnia, where the Christians are constantly exposed to the persecutions of the Turks."

PIEDMONT.

DECEMBER 21.—In the Senate yesterday, on a discussion on the several articles of the proposed law of marriage, an amendment was proposed on the first article by Senator d'Azeglio to the following effect:—

"That, for citizens who profess the religion of the State, the contract of marriage shall have no civil (binding) effect, unless afterwards sanctioned by the religion ceremony," which was carried by a majority of one in a house of 77; 39 for, 38 against.

The letter of the Archbishop is published to-day, and is very voluminous, treating of the sanctity of the marriage ceremony from the commencement of the world, when it was instituted by the Creator himself, and from which time to the present day it has ever been considered purely a religious ceremony, whether under the patriarchs, the Levites, or the apostolical and evangelical succession. From this his Grace concludes that it is a question quite beyond the sphere of human legislation to say what constitutes the legality of a marriage, and predicts the most horrible consequences in case men should persist in their perverse ways, and finishes with a set of rules for the guidance of the clergy. This is countersigned by nine bishops and a vicar-general, and the document, on the whole, bears a strong likeness to the letter from the Pope to his Majesty of Sardinia.

The letter is as follows:—

"1. No civil law can ever be considered to innovate change, or annul anything sanctioned, ordered, or defined by the Church, and especially by the Holy Council of Trent, in so far as marriage, its celebration, obligations, impediments, motives, and dispensation, and manner of obtaining them, or ecclesiastical judgments on matrimonial cases are concerned. 2. Any of our diocesans professing, defending, or teaching, with respect to the sacrament of marriage, doctrines contrary to those of the Holy Catholic Church, especially as defined in the Holy Council of Trent, and in the dogmatic constitution *Auctorem fidei*, shall be considered as having separated from the communion of the Church, and incurred all the penalties fulminated by the said constitution against heresy and its followers. 3. Any of our diocesans contracting marriage, otherwise than prescribed by our Holy Mother Church, shall incur the highest degree of excommunication. 4. Hence all those guilty of the offences named under the above second and third heads shall be considered deprived of the right of participating in the sacraments, whether in the course of their lives or on their death-bed, unless they have previously retracted their errors, repaired the evils resulting from them, and had their marriage legitimated according to the prescriptions of the Church, or separated from the woman whom the Church can only consider as a concubine. 5. Also, any person guilty of the above offences, without having previously reconciled himself with God and the Church, shall be deprived of ecclesiastical burial. 6. The children born of a union contracted otherwise than according to the rites of our Holy Mother Church shall, as the fruits of a real concubinage, be considered illegitimate for all the effects and purposes which according to the enactments of the holy canons, can only arise from marriages validly contracted.

"November 18."

RUSSIA.

The *Posen Gazette* confirms the report that masses of Russian troops were to be concentrated on the frontier of Posen. Two corps *d'armée* are already in movement. One will have its headquarters at Kalish, but that of the other is not mentioned.

GREECE.

On the 20th of November the following was signed and sealed in London, by the representatives of Great Britain, France, Russia, Bavaria, and Greece:—

"Art. 1. The Bavarian Princes, to whom devolves the Greek throne on the decease of King Otho, without direct and legitimate heirs, can only ascend that throne when they have accepted the 40th article of the Greek Constitution, which runs:—"Every successor to the Greek throne must profess the religion of the Orthodox Church."

SWEDEN.

INTOLERANCE OF SWEDISH LEGISLATION.—The Copenhagen correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* writes as follows, under date Dec. 17th. We give his remarks without any alteration, notwithstanding the nickname which he applies to Catholics. Doubtless the gentlemen so deeply interested in the Madiai case find it convenient to pass over facts like these in silence:—

"The shameful and degrading intolerance of the Swedish legislation is at least impartially applied. Within the last ten years a Romanist, representing the older Churches; a Baptist, representing the dissenting sects; and now a poor, almost shirtless, 'philosopher,' representing the Freethinkers of our time, have been driven into eternal banishment from their country, for daring to believe other dogmas than those taught and fixed by the Swedish Police-Church. During the same period many thousands of the more religious among the peasantry have gone into voluntary banishment to America and other countries, in search of that liberty of conscience and

religious worship which is denied them at home. The last case mentioned, that of the Freethinker, has just been decided, and his Swedish Majesty has graciously refused any extension of his right to pardon or modify, while he daily pardons cases of infanticide, murder, and other crimes. This system cannot continue. It begins to attract the notice and indignation of the Swedish press and public, and its days are numbered. But we implore the friends of Christianity and humanity in Sweden to redouble their efforts. While they are wishing and hoping the Faith of Christ is suffering in every part of their noble country, and their rights as freemen are grossly trampled upon. The system is a glaring instance of tyranny and imposture. While open expression of honest belief leads to this brutality, 'our men of science (says the Swedish *Aftonblad* of Dec. 8th, in an excellent article on this subject), our rationalists, our materialists, nay, even our Atheists, need only throw the Priestly costume over their shoulders, and avoid too openly denying or ridiculing the doctrines which they have sworn to defend—to step at once from the occupations of daily life to the very highest places in our Evangelical Church, without any kind of preparation, and without any call from that congregation which they undertake to govern.' While this wholly system flourishes in Sweden, liberty of conscience for all is enjoyed in Norway and Denmark, and these lands exhibit a proud example of religious conviction and religious faith, side by side with political right and humanising order."

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

MURDER OF MR. G. JAMES BY REBEL HOTTENTOTS.—WINTENBERG, Nov. 7.—A most cruel murder was perpetrated by Hottentot bandits near Post Relief, yesterday evening. The dogs of our highly esteemed neighbor, Mr. George James, gave the alarm between eight and nine o'clock yesterday evening, exciting suspicion that persons were prowling about the premises. On the herd going out to ascertain the cause, he was immediately shot dead. Mr. James went out instantly on hearing the shot, and must have been seized by the bandits, as he was heard pleading with them for mercy. This was not shown him, as his remains were found this morning with five gunshot wounds in his body, and his head blown to atoms. The murderers then attempted to fire the building in four places, but desisted on Mrs. James offering to let them in if they would only spare her life. About 30 Hottentots and 2 Kafirs, under command of the notorious Speelman Kievet, then rushed into the premises, and commenced helping themselves to whatever they fancied in the store. This wholesale pillage was not put a stop to by Speelman (who is well known to Mrs. James and her family) until he had first helped himself. The rest were then allowed their turn, and the sentries were relieved outside, in order that they might secure their share of the booty. They insisted on having ammunition, and a gun was uplifted to beat out Mrs. James's brains, on her refusing to produce what they demanded. They eventually got about 60 rounds, abundance of blankets, clothing, bread, and meat, besides every hoof on the premises, consisting of four valuable horses and about 90 head of cattle.

GREAT BRITAIN.

DR. CAHILL IN LONDON.—The whole metropolis is literally alive to his fame; every Priest is anxious to obtain his services; and the greatest anxiety is manifested by all classes even to obtain a glimpse of his person. We are not saying too much when we declare that Dr. Cahill has acquired in London, in one week, a fame among all parties which might be the well-earned result of several years. And we do think that the Church ought to be justly proud that one of her Priests has wrong from all parties, at the very seat of criticism and learning, the universal testimony of superior knowledge and rare and highly cultivated talents. The presence of Dr. Cahill in London is worth a thousand pamphlets on Ireland's Priesthood; one evening spent in listening to him, either in the scientific lecture-room or in the pulpit, will afford an argument against bigotry and misrepresentation too strong to be resisted. When the Irish University will have been completed, a few men like him occupying its professorial chairs will raise its character to an eminence beyond competition, and place it on a footing with any other university, not only in Great Britain but equal in celebrity to any literary establishment in Europe.—*Catholic Standard*.

THE HURRICANE IN LONDON.—The most fearful hurricane that has taken place during the present winter burst over the metropolis and surrounding country for many miles round, causing considerable damage and much consternation amongst the inhabitants after the enjoyment of the festivities of Christmas. The hurricane commenced in slow but stern tempests of wind from the S.S.W., as early as between six and seven o'clock last evening, and before nine o'clock it had increased to a perfect gale, the wind at times veering from W.S.W., which increased with partial rain until between two and three o'clock, when the gale assumed the form of a perfect hurricane, accompanied with heavy rain shaking the houses to the foundation and causing no inconsiderable terror to the inmates. The neighborhood of Wandsworth, Clapham, Brixton, Camberwell, and Walworth, and from all accounts, the eastern and western suburbs equally felt the storm.

THE PROTESTANT ASSOCIATION.—We paid a visit to the Thirteenth Annual Meeting of this Society—a combination of foolish and wicked men leagued together for the purpose of promulgating the grossest falsehoods that men can possibly urge against their fellow Catholic citizens. It will be gratifying to Catholics to know that the society meets with little support from the people of Manchester; for their reports state that they are £9 in debt, which is due to a *working man*; this debt being incurred in resisting the "Papal Aggression." The great calumniator, Hugh Stowell, in his address, said he regarded the administration of Lord Aberdeen with alarm, more especially as Mr. Gladstone and Sir James Graham were amongst them, for matters were going very much in favor of Popery in this country. These men had all spoken against the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, and would no doubt now

make further concession. They would give up Protestantism to "the Pope's brass band." Popery was rising in Europe greater than before the Reformation. The Protestants could expect no support from the merchants of Manchester; they were too fond of mammon to care about religion. If they had plenty of trade they would as soon Popery be established in England as the Protestantism. They would never have returned such men as Gibson and Bright to Parliament, if they had been true to the Church and the Bible. Protestants must depend not upon what was called "the mob," but what he (Canon Stowell) would term "the strength of England." They would have some Irish missionary clergymen in Manchester, and they would shake the Romish Church as they had done in Cork and elsewhere. The gesticulation of the Canon was very indicative of an after-dinner speech. Several other "no Popery" speeches were made, one reverend gentleman suggesting that it would be necessary to stop Popery under the martial cry of Wellington—"Up guards and at them,"—but whether this peaceful gentleman meant after the Stockport fashion, we could not comprehend. The notorious Rev. J. H. Maguire, S.C.L., incumbent of St. Luke's, Charlton-road, stated, amongst other things, that he wished he had a book to read to the meeting, but which he had lent to "that excellent man, Mr. Newdegate," in which he could have shown them the price list on change, for allowing any Papist to commit any crime that he may wish to commit, and absolving him from any sins committed. This horrible lie was received as truth by the infatuated audience. This man had previously opened the meeting with prayer. For the sake of religion and humanity, we may be thankful that little countenance is given to these wretched men.—*Catholic Standard*.

ADDRESS OF THE NATIONAL CLUB.—The Committee of the National Club have issued an address on the "Progress of foreign Popery, as affecting English safety." Amongst the points connected with "foreign Popery" to which the address calls attention, is the fact that in France the absolute autocrat of the French nation is the close ally of the Pope. He has restored him to his "seven hills." He guards him with French armies. The new French Emperor and the Priest party in France are identified; so that the French army and the French Roman Priesthood are united under one head. The conclusion at which the address arrives, upon the facts set forth in it, is, that a great struggle is impending between the principle of Popery and the principle of Protestant truth, which will be fought in and by this country; whereupon the twofold question is asked, "how we are preparing," and "how we ought to be preparing," for that struggle.—*John Bull*.

A return has recently been issued by the Board of Trade of the declared values of British and Irish produce and manufactures exported from the United Kingdom in the year 1851, specifying the amount to each country and colony. From this document the following list has been compiled, showing the order in which the various communities of the world rank as our customers. Our own possessions, in conjunction with the United States, continue to take nearly one half of the entire total; and as regards the former, there has again been a considerable increase, the amount being £19,517,039 against £18,628,899, in 1850. This increase is chiefly noticeable in the case of Canada and the other North American Provinces, but as regards Australia and the West Indies the augmentation is likewise considerable. India shows a slight falling-off. Among the foreign countries to which our exports have declined as compared with 1850, are France and Algeria, Russia, Belgium, Sardinia, Turkey, Syria, Denmark, Hayti, and New Grenada. Buenos Ayres likewise presents a great decrease, which has been only partially counterbalanced by an increase to the Republic of Uruguay. In the exports to the United States there has been a slight decline; but there was an increase of 25 per cent in the preceding year, and it is satisfactory that this should have been nearly maintained. Among the countries most prominently on the favorable side are Brazil, China, Peru, Egypt, the foreign West Indies, (Cuba, &c.) Italy and Spain; Nicaragua, also, and the other republics comprised under the head of Central America, again furnish remarkable indications of the rapidity with which commerce is destined to grow in those regions. The returns for 1850 exhibited in their case and increase of 115 per cent, and there is now a further addition of nearly 30 per cent. The Republic of Ecuador, also, has advanced from £33,289 to £54,099. Our aggregate exports to all parts of the world for the years 1849, 1850, and 1851, have been £63,596,025, £71,367,885, and £74,448,722.—*Times*.

WAR WITH FRANCE.—But supposing that the Emperor Napoleon III. should not await the proposed augmentation to our armament? We will not dwell on this possibility. The state of the public mind is not inaptly interpreted by the *Times*. Never was so craven an announcement as that in which the other morning we were told that these additions—so long prayed for by the British Army Despatch—were to be made, if we consider its apologetic argument and wording. Why, in the name of all that was great in England, should she be called upon to state her reasons for augmenting her Army or her Navy, her Artillery or her Marines? What! while France bristles with bayonets, and works night and day in dock-yards, closed only to British inspection, are we with bated breath to explain wherefore we are about to add a handful of men here or there, or equip as many guns in all as have lately been seen at a single French review? Alas! to what abyss of moral degradation have we fallen. In what battles have we been worsted as so beaten as to crouch thus at the feet of the nephew of him whom we chained to the rock of St. Helena? What a spectacle to see this mumbling old lion asking for leave to scale his teeth and pare his claws! We say that article in the *Times* is equal to a defeat in a pitched battle in point of moral effect.—Great Heaven! It seems we are afraid to arm ourselves, for fear of giving offence to armed France.—To such a point have we come, that we assure our fierce neighbors of our pacific intentions, in this wretched and contemptible manner. Why do we arm at all, but that the danger is imminent? Why do we apologise, but that our defencelessness is so complete? England begs France, whose single reviews double all the soldiers we have in the united empire, and to take it amiss, if she add a few men and guns to her tiny force, and put a few screws into her ill-built tubs of vessels!—*British Army Despatch*.

DECOYING GIRLS TO FRANCE.—Mr. Featherstonehaugh, the British Consul at Havre, has sent the following communication to the Mayor of Southampton:—"British Consulate, Havre, December 22nd, 1852—