

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The same uneasy feeling which pervaded every class of society towards the close of the year which preceded the Italian war, and which was abruptly expressed in the Emperor's address to the Austrian Ambassador during the celebrated *Levee* of New Year's Day, is now again discernible. That feeling may be exaggerated, but you meet with few people in society who do not declare their conviction that the peace of Europe will before long be again put in peril. We hear rumours of propositions being made to Austria for settlement of some difficult and long-standing questions in which she has deep interest. Whether these propositions refer to Herzegovina or to Venetia, they are described as not admissible, just as if they were meant to be so; and this, coupled with the recommendation said to be given to Piedmont to look well to her military organization, is felt like the shadow of coming events. It is now very clearly stated that "the Emperor of the French, for weighty and mighty motives of his own, in the interest of the Italian cause itself, will not allow the terrible question of Rome to be touched upon." I thank my stars I never gave it to the almost universal delusion about the Emperor's good intentions on that subject. Napoleon's weighty reasons for not withdrawing his troops from Rome are, and always were, purely personal. Rome was an instrument in his hands for thwarting the efforts of the Italians towards their unity, for opposing that unity for ever, or at least adjourning it till the Italians have either accepted his conditions or made themselves subservient to some of his hidden views. In the teeth of statesmen, newsmen, diplomatists, and reasoners of every description who held different expectations, who named the close of last February, or last March, of every month of the calendar, as the epoch determined upon for the removal of the Roman garrison, and who looked upon me as a maniac for my incredulity, I adhered to my own faith, and it is now only a meagre consolation to be told that I was right all along.

La Patrie publishes the following:— "A despatch from Rome announces that two new French regiments, from France, have taken up their quarters at Rome and in the neighborhood; they met with a warm reception from the inhabitants.

Monsignor Chigi, appointed Papal Nuncio to France, was to leave for Paris immediately. "The report that General Goyon will be appointed to a command in France is incorrect. — The General returns to his post at Rome.

A despatch from Brest dated Oct. 30, says— "The steam frigate *La Guerriere* has received her final instructions, and sails on the 4th or 5th of November for the Mexican coast."

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.—We take the following highly-interesting remarks upon this society, and its virtual suppression in France by the despotism of Louis Napoleon, from the Paris correspondent of the *Times*:—

"M. Persigny has not heard the last of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. He must have been surprised, if not afflicted, at finding that the condemnation of the circular which dissolves the directing body of that institution is not confined to the clerical and Ultramontane press. The *Liberal*, not the Revolutionary journals, have several of them as strongly as is permitted when discussing a Ministerial act, pronounced that measure to be uncalled-for and mischievous.— The word is not, of course, used, but it is clear they think it was arbitrary as well as ill-advised.

"The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is not, as might be supposed, a religious body, in the usual acceptance of the word. It is simply an association for charitable purposes. It was established, or, more correctly speaking, grew into existence, in 1833. Not long after the ravages of the cholera in Paris, ten or twelve philanthropic young men met together, and resolved to devote themselves to the relief of the most destitute denizens of the Quartier Latin. There is no Saint in the calendar more popular in France, and more justly popular, than St. Vincent de Paul; and the zeal in the cause of suffering humanity which has endeared his memory to professors of all creeds reminded these men that, if they invoked the name of a Saint as their patron, the celebrated son of the poor shepherd of the Landes was the most suitable they could select. It is probable that this small fraternity never anticipated the proportions which the society was soon to assume. The period was, indeed, most unpropitious for any such projects.— It was one at which the greatest exasperation was felt against the clergy, when the populace expressed that feeling by attacks on episcopal residences and charities in Paris; and, besides, it was only some months previous to the laws of 1834 against all associations. The beneficent object was not, however, abandoned; it was ardently persisted in; and we may presume that everyone understood and approved it, as, though neither the press nor the Government of that day looked with favor on Ultramontanes, or Legitimists, or religious institutions, no newspaper denounced the association and no Minister attempted to suppress it. The fraternity seemed to be regarded, amid the conflict of opinion, as simply benefactors of the poor and destitute, without reference to creed or politics, and no one thought of employing against it the weapons provided by the law against political conspirators. More than fifteen years passed away, and the association spread and flourished. Its rules scrupulously and rigorously excluded politics, and it carried them to such a point that, so far as I could learn it even refused to join in the petition movement in favor of liberty of teaching.

"When the Government appealed to its assistance in favor of the victims of the inundations which have often desolated parts of France, it readily answered the appeal. Its members braved the terrors of the most deadly pestilence, and their devotedness during the visitation of the cholera rendered some of them worthy of the decoration of the Legion of Honor, to the general approbation of the public. The Republican Government of 1848 did not disdain its co-operation; and its funds, derived from voluntary subscriptions, were largely bestowed on the working classes whom the events of that year had thrown upon the street. If I do not mistake, the President of the Society received the Cross of Honor from the hands of General Cavaignac, himself for the services rendered during the terrible days of June.

"The labors of this charitable association must have been highly appreciated in other countries besides France, for similar societies in Germany, in Switzerland, in Spain, in Italy, in North and South America, sought to be in communication with it. Its existence was sanctioned by various foreign Governments and two great revolutions. The revolution itself, said Father Lacordaire, in his notice of the life of M. Ozanam, one of its founders, 'which has destroyed so many other institutions, respected this one. The pure perfume of charity had freed it from suspicion; its sincerity was believed in, because it was sincere.'

PARIS, Oct. 27, 1861.—I have to-day to offer you serious considerations. After having had the intention to take possession of Sardinia and Sicily, Napoleon now uses nearly the following language:—"Europe takes fright at my territorial acquisitions. Very well! Let it be reassured. I do not insist. I renounce all that it would be easy for me to claim; but, while renouncing the material advantages, I must have a moral compensation, an increase of influence. Allow me to place on the throne of Naples a King of my own family, Murat or Plon-plon, and I do not ask for an inch of ground in exchange for all I have done for Italy." What is particularly worthy of attention is that this game is not going on with Victor Emmanuel, but with Giuseppe Mazzini, who has completely taken up again Napoleon, finding much more security and affinity on that side than on the side of King Gaetano, whom he reproaches with being of ancient race, and in whom he fears a return prompted by the royal blood that flows in his veins. It is not so with the other Giuseppe. The Caprera solitary remains attached to Victor Emmanuel, but all the other revolutionists and ex-republicans of the Mazzinian school have rallied round Napoleon. As for Rome and the Pope, what are they to become in this combination? This is the secret of futurity, and probably the victim to be offered in holocaust to the discontent of Earl Russell and the "King of Italy." I have it, however, from a good source that Napoleon proposes to Pius IX. to restore to him the Legations, on condition that the Holy Father should accept, as his Vicar, his godson, the *budand Napoleon* (ie Napoleon en fleur). In that case France would preserve permanently a military station in the very heart of the Peninsula. It is to confer on such an eventuality that the *rapid Goyon* has been called to Paris, under the touching pretext of coming to fetch his spouse, who, up to the present time, has always travelled alone, like Madame de Persigny. This Vicariate of the Imperial baby does not seem to frighten the Vatican very much, because it is thought privately that when the empire falls the little Vicar will fall of himself. All that I relate to you is, I repeat, very seriously thought of. I do not answer for such plans not changing in a week, and still less for their being carried out. But I certify that they have, at the present hour, a certain consistency. "The best combination," said Napoleon the other day to the Abbe Lavigerie, "is that of Villafranca." "Why, sire," answered the new Auditor of the Rota, "will your Majesty not cause it to triumph?" Ah! that is easily said; but the Italians must be allowed to throw off their fire, and then be taken back at the moment of reaction. To complete the programme modified at Villafranca, the quadrilateral must be done away with, which is not so difficult as it is supposed, and I believe, for instance, that another war with Austria is very much wished for in the brain of the present French monarch. Only see how the officious press is braying against Vienna; and Klapka is not now in Paris for nothing. At Compiegne, the recognition of "the Kingdom of Italy" has not been spoken of for a moment; but I believe that William I. has been asked, and has consented, to be neutral in the approaching crisis. As the *Independence* has said it, Napoleon has had it intimated to the Italians to hold themselves in readiness for the 1st of March. Only, their preparations do not count for much. A few days before his death Cavour said to one of my friends that his army "was not worth a pipe." It has not been strengthened since. Della Rovere is a good Minister; but he has not more than 150,000 men in pay, which does not mean that he has as many bayonets. I have this statistic from a French officer who has just returned from Turin. The position of the Neapolitan provinces is as deplorable as ever. Victor Emmanuel does not dare to go there, and his lieutenants cannot stay in them. We are now promised that the *Brigandage* will be buried in the first snows of winter; but there rises at last, in Naples itself, a very strong opposition, at the head of which is the old Prince Cassaro, who sent back to Victor Emmanuel the ribbon of the Annunziata, and whose value is well known to Lord Palmerston. Within the last few days, I have had occasion to meet M. Solages Bodin, the French Consul at Naples. He says aloud that the Piedmontese will never be able to maintain their ground there, but that Francis II. has not any more chance on that account; that a new royalty should be created there. Evidently he means that of Murat, which I have always believed to be thought of. The support given to him by Freemasonry has its significance. This affair is more considerable than the newspapers dare to say. You may remember that the Grand Master's election was to take place on the 14th inst. On the 13th Plon-plon was returned from America and sure of being elected. After all, the *Steels* is going to be duped; and it was allowed to attack the Society of St. Vincent de Paul only to reach that of the Freemasons, very much differing from it in political and dangerous importance. But, meanwhile, we remain unjustly struck; and the silence of the General Council of the Conferences is not understood, accused as it is by the Minister, before the whole world, of being a secret, usurping, and even *blowing* committee. Is it going to remain under the blow of this odious accusation, and does it not feel that, not being able to make of this a personal affair to be settled by arms, it must make of it a legal question before the law-courts, and never stop till they have brought the culprits before every jurisdiction? To allow oneself to be so treated, is what has been made a

matter of reproach to the Bishops. All the timidity of the clergy will be well avenged, if the laymen allow themselves to be so rapped on the knuckles without a cry! It is sought not to compromise isolated conferences, not to deprive the poor of relief, &c.

The book of M. Guizot has had more success than I fancied. Its first edition was disposed of in two days.

PERE LACORDAIRE.—Pere Lacordaire, who was also a habitue of the Chateau de Lincourt, is sinking day by day. His malady defies the efforts of the most eminent French physicians, and has during the past week made a progress alarming to his friends. The disease has taken a nervous form, and the patient's sense of touch has become so fine as to be almost a torture to him. He has been obliged to throw aside on that account his coarse Dominican robes, and a sackcloth shirt, which it appears that he has worn for several years. But in spite of all his bodily sufferings, Lacordaire's intellect seems rather to increase than decrease in brightness. An acquaintance, who recently returned to town from seeing him, said to me, "He speaks much on the politics of the day; or rather, improvises discourses, when conversing with men of intelligence, that would electrify an audience, and that far surpasses, because more natural and illuminated, by an abnormal brilliancy of thought everything that he has ever said in public." This activity of mind is incessant; night and day two brethren of the Lacordaire order succeed each other in writing, while Lacordaire dictates; and his dictation lasts for nearly six hours every day. Each of these amanuenses are occupied in a revision of the father's correspondence, and the completion of some works that have been recently begun. The former contains letters to and from the Pope, the Emperor, the different members of the House of Austria, M. Guizot, Montalembert, Lamartine, and other celebrated and historical characters of the present day. But all these precious documents, for reasons best known to the dying priest, will not be published for a certain number of years, which he has, I understand, indicated to his executors.—Star.

ITALY.

According to letters from Turin, public men in that city are once more turning their attention towards Venetia. This not unexpected revulsion in public feeling is accounted for by the dead lock at Rome. I do not believe however, that Ricasoli is at all the man to precipitate matters in obedience to a mere fluctuation of the popular will. Nevertheless, great military preparations are making, and the Turin correspondent of the *Patrie*, who is generally trustworthy, gives details from which it appears that by next spring there will be 300,000 men under arms. As to Venice, the *Opinion* thinks fit very minutely to point out that to undertake anything against Venetia would be suicidal until after the kingdom has been completely re-organized. On the other hand, it cannot be denied that inaction is its dangers, and that every day beholds fresh internal enemies arise, who are likely, in the event of the present situation continuing, to give the Government some trouble.

Baron Ricasoli, the Protestant Prime Minister of Piedmont, finding that France will not allow him to redeem his insolent pledge of entering Rome before this present month of November, it seems, intent on effecting his evil purpose in the evil way alluded to in last week's summary. A "schism without heresy" is the trump card with which he hopes to win the game. If Passaglia can only get a minority of the Italian Bishops and Priests to join him in the attempt to depose the Pope, the fools think that the business is done. What matters it that the conspirators would assuredly be suspended from the celebration of Mass and the administration of the Sacraments in the first instance, and excommunicated for daring to officiate afterwards? The people kept in ignorance of the Pontifical action, would continue to receive the ministrations of their old pastors; and no change being made in the Ritual, the schism would be quietly effected. Then how easy the transition to heresy and obedience to a papistic Anti-Pope! Such is the scheme as sketched by the Turin correspondent of the *Times*, who is doubtless in the full confidence of the plotters. But Passaglia admits that the Italian Cardinals and Bishops, upon whose sympathy he counted, have declared against him, and his hopes now rest, as his friend the correspondent aforesaid informs us, upon the Cardinal Primate of Hungary and the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon! We apprehend that these eminent Prelates will feel very little obliged by the compliment (?) paid them by the degraded Jesuit and missionary of mischief. But suppose all things to happen as the schemers wish—what then? Will schism and crime open to them the gates of the Eternal City? *Quos Deus vult perdere, prius dementat!* In Bedlam a madder idea was never cherished, nor a wilder project conceived.—*Weekly Register*.

The *Opinion* of Turin relates, on the 17th ult., that in the Diocese of Pistoja, Mgr. Carli was denounced to the tribunals for "illegitimate exercise of jurisdiction," because he administered the Sacrament of Confirmation, and conferred Holy Orders, without the Royal Exequatur. This is the way the Church is free in a free State.

PIEDMONT'S DEBT.—The *Armonia* of the 18th ult., states that before 1848, the public funds of Piedmont were at 120 and 125 per cent. Those of Naples, before the Piedmontese invasion, were at 114 per cent. They are now at 70½ for Naples, and 59½ for Piedmont! Only a loss of 55 (1) per cent.

ROME.—It appears by the following letter that the name of the *Pere Passaglia* has been erased from the list of Professors of the Roman University:—

"Roman University, Oct. 20, 1861.
"Very Rev. Sir,—Independently of the public voice and of the periodical press, which attribute to your reverence a pamphlet condemned by the Sacred Congregation of the Index by a decree of the 9th inst., approved by their Eminences, the Cardinal Archbishop of the Roman University has acquired the certainty of your being the author by a letter which you addressed to him in his quality of Prefect of the Sacred Congregation. Thus convinced by special reasons of his competency, by the evidence of some aggravating circumstances relative to the fact of the condemnation, and by the duties imposed on him in consequence, he has notified to me a superior order to efface your name from the list of Professors of the Roman University, and has enjoined me to apprise you, for your government, of this measure.

"The object of the present communication is the accomplishment of the duty prescribed to me, and I take advantage of the circumstance to pray you to accept, &c., of the very devoted and very humble servant of your reverence.

"P. E. MURA, Rector of the Roman University."
The *Executor of Locustelli*.—The *Ami de la Religion* publishes a letter from the Marquis de la Rochejaquelein, who had before communicated to that journal the contradiction of the Duke de Gramont to the assertion that Locustelli had not killed the Pontifical gardeme. On the present occasion the honorable senator invokes the testimony of General de Goyon, just arrived in Paris. The Marquis states that, having paid a visit to the general, he naturally talked of that affair. "The General," says M. de la Rochejaquelein, "repeated to me, with the same feeling of disgust, what had been told me by the ambassador. He even told me the names of the two French gardemes and the three soldiers of the line, on whose evidences Locustelli, whom they arrested at the very moment he committed the crime, was condemned. The young soldier who wounded him with his bayonet was obliged to make use of that weapon to save himself from a thrust of a poniard which Locustelli aimed at him, after killing Velluti."

NAPLES, October 26, 1861.—General Chaidini departs decidedly on Monday for Genoa, leaving behind him the saddest recollections, and taking with him the maledictions of thousands upon thousands of families which have to deplore the death of father,

son, and brother, whom he has allowed to be inhumanly shot in the deplorable struggle, which despoils our country, and which, very far from lessening, he has only rendered more ferocious, implacable, and prolonged.

The whole of the periodical press unanimously rises against the measure which reduces our capital to nothing more than a mere provincial town. It loudly says that, if there were another universal vote, everybody would agree to march against Turin to attack, in their very den, the Alpine wolves who devour us, and impose on them our supremacy, our laws, and our civilisation, so superior to theirs.

We are assured that Victor Emmanuel and three of his chief Ministers are about to come, and spend some time at Naples, to contribute more efficaciously to erase our ancient monarchy, by substituting for it Piedmontese military occupation. They have already been preceded by a reinforcement of three hundred Carabinieri (constabulary), who arrived yesterday in Naples; while two hundred more were embarking at Genoa, to go to Palermo.

During these last two months, two thousand one hundred and forty persons have been arrested for political causes, in the city of Naples alone. Out of this number, the half (about a thousand), have been declared innocent and set at liberty, after a rigorous and very harsh imprisonment. As for the others, they are still arbitrarily kept in prison, where they are crowded with thousands of other prisoners, who are expecting in vain, for months, and even for a year, when it may please our rulers to decide their fate. Among the latter, I may quote the Duke of Cajaniello, Commandatore Mirabelli, and a crowd of other notable persons. This is shown from a Report published by the Attorney-General himself, who is, however a Piedmontese.

In the provinces, the number of arrests is, at least, treble in proportion, on account of the events of the reaction and war, so that, according to the most moderate approximate calculations, the number of prisoners in the fourteen provinces, amounts to forty two thousand, at least! How many families are in mourning, desolation, and misery; how many innocent men sacrificed! how many martyred! Two hundred thousand soldiers disbanded, and their families a prey to persecution; priests and religious driven from their homes; churches sacked; magistrates, who issue sentences of death, themselves exposed to terror; all the other functionaries and clerks of Ministerial offices, and of the several administration, sent away and reduced thus, with their families, to starvation; the noble and wealthy, the most honourable and esteemed for their virtues and benevolence, condemned to exile; such is the picture in short of our miserable position; without speaking of the destruction of a monarchy ten centuries old, and the sad position prepared for the largest city in Europe, after London and Paris; the capital of a State of ten millions of inhabitants, now reduced to the position of an obscure provincial town. In this regard the *Nomads*, which cannot be suspected of revolutionary sentiments, exclaims, "Piedmontism, like a real social gangrene, has taken amongst us a terrible development, and now presents alarming proportions. Everywhere Neapolitan agents are replaced by Piedmontese. We are, it is said, a people corrupt and avaricious." Only virtuous Piedmontese are to be found everywhere. Piedmontese in the arsenal; Piedmontese in the railways; Piedmontese in the telegraph offices. Would you believe it? Nurses have been sent from Piedmont to the founding hospital. The milk of our women is too Neapolitan, and transmits thence, to their sucklings, too much respect for right, justice, and humanity.

THE EX-QUEEN OF NAPLES.—A correspondent of the *Morning Post* gives the following contradiction of some statements recently published with respect to this remarkable lady. The writer observes that the statements referred to were forwarded to a friend living in habits of intimacy with the family, who was asked for a simple affirmation, or a simple contradiction, according to the real state of circumstances. The facts asserted were, that the ex-Queen wore a man's dress, swore, as a man might do, carried pistols with which she shot the cats of the Quirinal, and was oppressed with the vanity arising from a laurel crown presented to her as the heroine of Gaeta. The answer was as follows:—"Via delte"—Sept. 14.—Dear—According to your wish I will describe the Queen to you from personal observation. The 4th of October will be her 20th birthday. Young and full of life, she has a gay and gracious manner with all the world. She is so far English as to be an excellent horsewoman—too good a one, it is said, for a Queen. She loves freedom from restraint and the enjoyment of her active disposition, and does not play the part of a dethroned Queen with the dolorous melancholy prescribed by public opinion. This is her fault. She is very tired of Rome, which is natural enough, considering her position and the season of the year; but she rejoices in the society of her sister, the Countess di Trani. They go out together every day, and have often been to Ciria Vecchia for sea bathing, and there they dress in a *costume adaptil*—namely a black petticoat and white jacket, and a collar cut in the fashion of a sailor's. But never was the Queen clothed in man's attire, never did she carry a pistol about her, never did she in all her life kill a cat, and as to that of the cardinal, it still peacefully enjoys itself in the precincts of the Quirinal. The Queen cares very little about her laurel crown, nor is it even in her possession; and in her own family she is the object of the tenderest affection to her sisters-in-law, young girls whose refined and modest natures find all they desire in her society. I send you three photographs of her Majesty, one of them taken in the pretty dress with the sailor's collar, which can alone have given occasion to those who malign her to say that she puts on man's clothes. Adieu."

PORTUGAL.

In spite of episcopal prohibitions, a Mass has been celebrated in this city to-day for the repose of the soul of Cavour. The celebration took place in "The City Church," or rather Chapel of St. Antonio, over which it appears the "Camara Municipal" hold sole control. This demonstration has assumed so respectable, indeed, I may say awful, a character, as hardly to bear allusion in your columns; and by mentioning its attendant circumstances, I only show that those who are seeking the emancipation of Italy, as they call it, are actuated by the same motives, and are conspicuous by the same characteristics wherever they may be found, and that this mockery of the most solemn of all religious services may be placed side by side with the Garibaldian procession at Naples, its banner, and sacrilegious inscription. The projectors of this demonstration have been anxious to invest it with an air of respectability, and with this object they endeavored to find a Priest to officiate on this occasion; but to the credit of the Clergy of this country, not one was found who could be induced, even by the offer of £50 to turn the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass into an opportunity for the assembly of infidels, as well as scoffers, at that most sublime oblation. It was known in Lisbon on the previous night, that no Celibate had been obtained, yet it was also confidently known the Mass would be celebrated, for it happens unfortunately that here, as well as elsewhere, there are to be found those who, like Judas, are willing to betray their Lord into the hands of his enemies. I grieve to say it, the Celebrant, Deacon, and Sub-Deacon, as well as Master of Ceremonies and the Preacher, were all suspended Priests; and if I were to detail what are notoriously the grounds of their suspension; and which are in no way connected with this affair, or indeed with anything that can be called political, I should make the matter seem ten times worse. I need not allude to those who formed the congregation, except to say that during the political oration (for sermons it was not the frequent mention of the name of Garibaldi called forth repeated vivas and cheers, which subdued through the walls of the sacred edifice, dedicated to the people's favorite patron, St. Antonio of Lisbon.—Correspondent of the *Weekly Register*.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Government has issued the following denial to the statement that Pesth was in open insurrection.

"The French press, on the faith of an apocryphal telegram, are pre-occupied with serious disturbances which we said to have stained the city of Pesth with blood. These accounts are unfounded. Some attempts were made to excite disorder, but they failed before the good sense of the inhabitants. The armed force, as a measure of prudence, were sent for but they did not meet with the slightest resistance. Thus, fall to the ground of themselves the malevolent insinuations, which for a guilty object, it has been endeavored to obtain credit for. There has been no riot, and the troops did not use their arms, nor were the people fired on by cannon loaded with grape. There has, consequently, been neither killed nor wounded, and order has not ceased to reign in the capital of Hungary."

RUSSIA AND POLAND.

A letter from Warsaw of the 23rd ult. says.— "The repressive measures are still carried out with severity, every day fresh arrests are made, and secret denunciations are very common. The only place of worship that was attended on Sunday last was the Evangelical Church, at which about 100 Germans were present.

We should not be surprised if in a short time intelligence from Russia were to become the most interesting and exciting part of our impression. We have not with regard to that vast country anything like the amount of information that we could desire and such information as we have is by no means easy to understand. But in several of the more important features of the case we can hardly be mistaken. Things are moving on gradually, but decidedly, towards a very tremendous crisis. On the accession of the Emperor Nicholas, in 1825, Europe was astonished by the sudden outbreak of a revolution, speedily quenched in the blood of its promoters. They learn for the first time that beneath the apparently unruined surface of Russian society elements were fermenting the existence of which, though only betrayed by a premature explosion, might one day make themselves known in a more formidable manner. The insurrection of Poland in 1831 called forth a slight internal convulsion in the interior of Russia, which died away and was heard of no more. The great personal ascendancy which the Emperor Nicholas attained over his subjects, his firm and unyielding character, the severity of his punishments, the influence that he wielded in the affairs of Europe, the hopes of foreign aggrandizement which he continually kept before the eyes of the nation in the direction of Turkey, of Persia, and of India, and his great success as a legislator in reducing the laws of Russia to a single code, all contributed to raise him in the eyes of his subjects to a position which seemed more than human, and to humble in the dust before him all those feelings and impulses towards human liberty and happiness which though crushed in one generation, are sure to revive in another. Yet even in the reign of the stern and absolute Nicholas there was growing up in the East of his dominions what will be found to be the first germ of Russian liberty. It arose out of the very depths of slavery and misery.

The new Emperor inaugurated a new era of peace and of comparative liberty. He has permitted a discussion of public affairs in the Russian Press which would not have been tolerated for an instant under the reign of his father. He has relaxed commercial restriction, he has striven hard to connect his dominions by railroads and electric telegraphs, and, above all, he has laboured indefatigably to restore 12,000,000, of his subjects to that liberty which they enjoyed till the close of the 16th century. No one can doubt the excellence of his intentions, but it may be permitted to question the wisdom of his counsels. The emancipation at once of a whole nation of serfs, he it managed with ever so much skill and prudence, must imply a great political, economical, and social revolution. It is not easy to divine what are the exact prospects of the Russian aristocracy, whose lands have hitherto derived their value mainly from the number of souls or serfs which are settled on them. They can hardly cultivate those vast domains by hired labour; they can hardly in a country so thinly peopled expect to find tenants possessed of the requisite skill and capital. Whatever their opinion may be as to the justice of emancipation, they must feel discontented as to the present, a most harassing uncertainty as to the future. On the serfs themselves the effect of so violent a change is equally dangerous and uncertain. The notions of labour and slavery are associated together in their minds, and the moment they are delivered from the one they are likely enough to emancipate themselves from the other. We have heard of insurrections against the provisional state of things which is to intervene between slavery and freedom, and of executions on a scale which in any other European country would stir to their very depths the fiercest passions of the people. It is difficult to pass from a system of complete repression to a state of modified and temperate liberty. The slave knows no medium between stern coercion and unbridled licence. This state of things has been further complicated by the revival of a spirit of nationality in Poland, partly caused by the greater mildness of the Government whose hand has long been so heavy on this prostrate nation, and partly by that spirit of the revival and union of nationalities which has given birth to the great Italian revolution. For the first time in their annals the Russian have felt and avowed pity and sympathy for Poland. They have learnt by sad experience that to rivet the fetters of others is no alleviation of their own bondage; they feel possibly something like the Roman people, whose reward for conquering the world was to be the first among the slaves they had made; and now, to add to this, has come in rapid succession the ill-advised closing of the University of St. Petersburg, the several demonstrations made by the students, and, as we learn by the last telegrams, a conflict between the students and the military, in which blood was drawn, and serious wounds were given.

PROVIDENTIALLY DIRECTED.—Devoutly inclined persons frequently imagine that the suggestions of their own human nature are the intuitions and directions of God. They love to be guided by Him, and they love to think that their pleasant desires and purposes are inspired by him, and thus they easily deceive themselves. An amusing instance of this took place at a certain conference. Among the attendants was a beautiful, intelligent-looking young lady, who drew the admiring gaze of many eyes, particularly eyes masculine, always on the look-out for pretty faces. During the intermission, at noon, a spruce young minister stepped up to the presiding elder, and said, with an air of secrecy:— "Did you observe the young lady who sat by the first pillar on your left?" "Yes," said the elder; "what of her?" "Why," said the young man, "I feel impressed that the Lord desires me to take that lady for my wife. I think that she will make a companion and help-mate in the work of the ministry." The elder had nothing to object. But in a few minutes a second youthful candidate for ministerial efforts and honors, and for the name of husband, came confidently to make known to the elder a like impression in regard to the young lady. "You had better wait awhile. It is not best to be hasty in determining the source of such impressions," said the prudent elder. And he had well said, for hardly were the steps of the second youth cold at his side ere a third approached with the same story; and while the worthy confidant yet marvelled, a fourth drew near with the question— "Did you notice the fine, noble looking woman sitting near your left hand?" "Yes, cried the swelling elder. "Well, sir," went on the fourth victim of that one