

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE

The French Senate met on Monday, 22nd Dec., and held an extraordinary sitting. The order of the day consisted of, 1st, the admission of new Senators; 2nd, the communication of a project of *Senatus Consultum*.

The *Debats* publishes the text of the project: Article 1. The budget of expenses is presented to the Legislative Body, with its divisions into sections, chapters, and articles. The budget of each Ministry is voted by section, conformably to the order annexed to the present *Senatus Consultum*. The division by chapters of the credits granted for each Ministerial department is regulated by a decree of the Emperor rendered in a Council of State. Special decrees rendered in the same form may authorize the transfer (*virement*) of one chapter to another in the budget of each Ministerial department.

Art. 2. No supplementary or extraordinary credits can be granted except by virtue of a law. Nothing is done against the enactments of the existing laws, inasmuch as they concern the expenses of the budget's closed still due, the expenses of departments, communes, local expenses, and the funds subscribed (*fonds de concours*) for the expenses of the public interests.

Art. 3. Articles 11 and 12 of the *Senatus Consultum* of the 25th December, 1852, are modified in so much as they may be contrary to the present *Senatus Consultum*.

THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF A FRENCH DISARMAMENT.—The *Times* correspondent says:—"Public attention has been directed to an article in the *Patrie*, headed 'On the impossibility of disarming,' which endeavours to prove that in the present state of Europe none of the great Powers can disarm, and that the present state of armed peace which has lasted for nearly half a century, and which does not cost Europe less than two milliards a year, must continue. The article might have passed unnoticed, as there is nothing new in the arguments used by the writer, but that the signature is that known to be adopted by M. de Lagueronniere, who has admitted that he inspires the *Patrie*, and everybody knows whence he derives his inspirations.

What the writer conceives might be done is explained in the following passage:—

"Only one thing is possible, legitimate, and in conformity with the necessities of the moment and with patriotism, and that is, without injuring the marvellous organisation of the army, which has received the double consecration of victory and of time, to reduce by administrative measures the charges of the War Budget, and to maintain the military power of France, while satisfying the wishes of families, the requirements of agricultural labour, and making a prudent economy in the finances of the State. Furloughs may be made more numerous, and for longer periods. But the forces of France must not be diminished. Such in our opinion, is the programme of M. Fould, and it is all that is permitted by a policy which justly preoccupies itself with the material interests of the country, but which is resolved to maintain the real conditions of our influence and grandeur."

As long as the French army amounts to 600,000 men; as long as no bounds are placed to the feverish activity which reigns in the arsenals for the last two years, the Budget will always be more and more overcharged. But a disarmament is not to the taste of the revolutionary party; and the *Siecle*, the real Sovereign of France at present, exclaims, "Before disarming, the Roman, Venetian, Polish, Hungarian, Danubian, and Eastern questions must be completely settled." At this rate, our fourth and fifth generations will not see this disarmament, which will be for present and future generations, what the mirage of the desert is for travellers. I am sorry to say that the Government is conforming to the wishes of the *Siecle*.—*Cor. of Weekly Register*.

In speculating on the future course of Napoleon III., there is one consideration that should never be omitted. It is the only reliable foundation. His policy upon the whole must incline in favor of the Revolution; for it is the Revolution which supports him, and he is its representative. At times, and when occasion serves, he may make an attempt either to propitiate the goodwill, or to deprecate the wrath of the Church or the Legitimists, or the Orléanists—of the Bishops, the Noblesse, or the Bourgeoisie. But his moral strength in France rests on the *Democratie disciplinée*, as his material strength rests on the army. On the whole, we shall find that the *Siecle* is a truer exponent of the Imperial policy than any other journal, because the *Siecle* expresses the feelings of the anti-Catholic and anti-Christian Revolution—Tax the rich, and pay wages to the poor.

We are still to wait for the revelation of the exact scheme of the Emperor and M. Fould to extricate the State from its financial difficulties. But the semi-official Press undertakes to show that a reduction in the outlay on military and naval preparations is not to be thought of.—*London Tablet*.

The funeral of the Rev. Pere Lacordaire took place at Soreze on Thursday, and the same day a funeral service for the repose of his soul was celebrated at 9 in the morning at the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris. A considerable number of persons of all ranks and conditions attended. The French Academy was represented by its officers. The church was fitted up in the most simple manner, and the pulpit from which the brilliant orator so frequently charmed his audience, was covered with crape. There was no funeral sermon delivered. One of the Vicars-General officiated in the presence of the Cardinal Archbishop of Paris.—*Times Cor.*

The Americans in Paris are making preparations to migrate homewards. They seem to dread that the British Government will lay an embargo on the American bottoms in English ports. They loudly assert that the demands of the British Government are preposterous, and that the North will spend its last man and its last dollar before giving up the Southern Commissioners. The Southerners, who are numerous here, are in

epitaphs, and do not hesitate to proclaim that the outrage of the Commander of the "San Jacinto" will do more to forward the triumph of the cause, than any amount of victories that Beauregard, or Johnston, might achieve. A Party feeling runs very high between the Northerners and Southerners in Paris, and it is not without interest to watch their demeanour towards each other at public places, where they are performed thrown in contact with each other. They avoid speaking, but look bowie-knives and revolvers at each other.

The Parisian press in general admire the indignation which is felt in England for the insult offered to the British flag. The sympathy of France is evidently with Britain in this question.

The *Debats* says:—"The promptitude which the English law officers of the Crown have shown in giving their decision is a fact the significance and importance of which will not escape one's notice. Whatever may be the opinion adopted on this subject, whether the decision of these official lawyers be approved or disapproved, still the act committed by officers of the Federal navy is deeply to be regretted, for at the same that it furnishes a complaint at the least specious to the adversaries of the cause which is represented by the Government of Washington in its struggle with the Southern States, it will have for effect to weaken the just sympathies which that cause (which is for us, the good one) has met with and merits retain in Europe. However this may be, the public emotion has reached its height on the other side the Channel, and the organs of the press are nearly unanimous in loudly calling for reparation for the outrage committed on the British flag. Whatever the *Times* and even the *Morning Post*—which now appears to disavow the hopes which it before expressed as regarded a satisfactory arrangement—may say, we hesitate to think that the government of President Lincoln could have wished to involve itself in a war with England at a moment when all its efforts barely suffice to maintain the struggle in which it is engaged with the South. If President Lincoln had really given positive orders to the Commander of the San Jacinto to arrest the Southern Commissioners on board the packet, as the *Times* and *Morning Post* appear to think, we do not hesitate to affirm, with the English journals, that it will have committed an act of madness and complete suicide. Until fresh intelligence we shall, therefore, persist in thinking that the general emotion excited in public opinion on the other side of the Channel is at least premature.

La Presse says:—"England offers at the present moment one of those spectacles which are the glory of a free people. Whatever opinion may be entertained respecting this affair of the Trent, it is impossible not to admire the public spirit which has manifested itself from one end of England to the other, and which, so to say, vibrates a chord of indignation in every English heart. This public spirit, a mixture of national pride and an inviolable attachment to the glory and interests of the country, display itself in every place—in newspapers, in public meetings, at the theatres, in the public squares. There is always something grand and instructive in the agitation of this people, which is passionately devoted to commerce, but at the same time jealous of its rights and the honor of its flag, and which, wherever it assembles or labors, expresses in a thousand ways, the incomparable energy of its feelings. The interest which must always be attached to so noble a spectacle is doubled to-day in consequence of the violent act which has produced this general explosion of indignation. The English people are averse to war, as more than any other country in the world, they are engaged in great commercial enterprises. England will only go to war as a last extremity; but we know how little sacrifice will cost to her patriotism. In this respect experience is at hand to inform us, and moreover, we have only to read the English daily papers received this morning."

La Patrie says:—"The Councilors of the Crown of England have decided justly that the act committed by the San Jacinto is a violation of international law. In our opinion they were perfectly right. We will say no more. It appears to us that it is impossible that the great maritime nation should remain indifferent upon a question which concerns all their rights and interests. It is clear that such a precedent cannot be admitted by any one. Yet some journals hesitate in expressing their disapprobation, and ask if the law on blockade cannot be interpreted in favor of the brutal aggression of the navy of the Northern States of America. To these hesitations we reply distinctly by the two following questions which we address to public common sense:—If the envoys of the South were fugitives, leaving their country for any reason whatever, would not the flag of England be a sufficient protection to them? Could England or France allow the grand principle of hospitality to be violated, which prevails in every spot where their flags are displayed? An English ship in the open sea, like a French ship, is national territory; such is the admitted principle. Can exceptions for contraband of war or help to armed men be invoked in the present case? Second question:—If the Americans had the right to carry off by force the envoys of the South between St. Thomas, a Danish possession, have they not the same right forcibly to seize the envoys of the South in the Channel between Dover and Calais? It is by absurdity that absurdity must be met. England has, therefore, the incontestable right of making herself respected, and we will applaud everything that is done to shield that law of nations which is too much disregarded."

La Patrie has another article on the above question. After recapitulating the facts, La Patrie comes to the important point—*Quell sera maintenant l'attitude de la France?* (How is France to act?)

In our opinion, says La Patrie, it is difficult for her to remain indifferent in presence of a violation of international law which concerns all maritime nations. We believe that very likely the Northern States will refuse to accede to the demands made by England; in that case we may presume that war will be immediately declared, and the first act of hostility will be the recognition of the Southern States.

We are convinced that the war between the two countries will be an interminable one, but, on the other hand, we cannot remain idle spectators of a struggle between North American and England.—It is quite clear that it is not our duty to avenge the wrongs of England, but the recognition of the South by that Power, which would imply a final separation from the U. States, could not be regarded as an isolated act, and would impose upon France the necessity of assuming a decisive attitude in this question. The result would be that two great maritime Powers of Europe might be (pourrait étre) drawn into a common action with the same identical political object; and that being the case, as we have observed before, President Lincoln, by provoking an act of brutality, may perhaps have acted with foresight by

preparing a separation which he can neither propose nor accept.

THE ITALIAN CABINET.—The Italian Cabinet is beset with troubles, and difficulties, which its best friends suppose it will not be able to overcome without important modifications in its present constitution.

If I were sure of my ability to convey to you all the importance of the present political situation, I would freely say that I never wrote a letter better worth your reading than this one. I am just beginning. There is here just now a perfect Babel of parties; there would be little harm in people not understanding one another, if only there were any who thoroughly understood themselves. There is such a stir, such a commotion among public men under the Turin postices I never remember to have witnessed, even when the desires of the country hung on the cast of a die on the battlefields of Solferino or Castelfidardo. The noise is not great, indeed, for people converse in ominous whispers; but the animation of these Southern countenances is very striking. You can read in every brow that matters of great moment are at stake, and no one knows what to-morrow may bring.—*Times Cor.*

Rome.—The *Times* correspondent writes:—

A Turin letter in the *Constitutionnel* says:—"Much has been said about the discord which exists between General Cialdini and the Ministry; the facts of the case are these: King Victor Emmanuel, feeling surprised that the Ministers did not propose some great recompense for the services which the general had rendered to Naples, announced to the Council his intention of giving him the Grand Collar of the Annunziata, which is the highest distinction that could be conferred being equivalent to the English Garter. The Ministry were unanimous in respectfully expressing their disapprobation of such an act, and even went so far as to make it a cabinet question. General Cialdini heard a few days after of what had taken place, and immediately resigned the command of the 4th corps d'armee. The resignation was accepted, but he will hold himself in readiness to return, in the event of a change of Ministry or of Italy requiring his services."

TURIN, Dec. 2.—Garibaldi has unexpectedly arrived at Genoa.

In to-day's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies Signor Ferrari said that, by the documents which had been communicated to the Chamber, the Ministry had not solved the Roman Question. They say (he continued) that Rome is necessary to Italy, but is in the hands of the French; but they dare not draw the conclusion. Signor Ferrari urged the Ministry to follow the example of Piedmont after the battle of Novara, when, retaining her arms, she made her provinces so prosperous that other Italian provinces desired to be annexed to her.

The health of Pope Pius IX is said to be excellent, notwithstanding the frequent reports spread about in the newspapers to the contrary. There is in Rome a more than a usual stir among French, Belgian, Spanish, and Irish reactionists.

The Papal Government has addressed a circular to the Bishop of Maritimo ordering them to afford every assistance to all Bourbonnites entering that province.

December 1.—General Goyon arrived here, and was received by the Pope.

NAPLES.—We take the following account of the state of feeling in Naples and of the condition of that unfortunate country under Piedmontese rule, from a speech delivered in the Parliament of Turin by Signor Ricciardi, and reported by the correspondent of the *Times*.—"After this preamble, or 'apologue,' as he preferred to term it, Ricciardi proceeded to enumerate the scourges with which Naples is afflicted: 'Malcontent is general. The country people are beggared by brigandage. The artisans lack work and have the dearth of provisions to contend with. Commercial men are ruined by the stagnation in trade, consequent upon the lowered tariff. The ex-Bourbon officers and the Garibaldians are so badly off that it is a perfect wonder they do not join the brigands. Artists and cultivators of liberal professions, be continued, 'are in misery. The Neapolitan employes, or placemen, complain that they are liable, at a moment's notice, to be removed from one province into another; to leave Naples for Turin is perfectly terrific to them, for they look upon Piedmont as the Poles do on Siberia. (Interruption.) I have run over most provinces, and do you know how people live there? Why, no one dares to leave home, fearing to fall into the hands of the brigands. Those who fall into such hands, and have to ransom themselves, dare not complain, lest their harvests be burnt, their cattle slaughtered. The war tax, the orator goes on, 'will work a very favorable impression among such a population. It must be put off to a better opportunity, otherwise when spring comes, and with it war, you will have to garrison Naples with 50,000 men, and these will be so many combatants taken from the national ranks.'"

The *Times* correspondent admits that the loyalists are getting the upper hand. says:—

We have sad news of the Neapolitan brigandage. Yet the evil has, perhaps, reached that climax when it will work out its own remedy.

THE TRUTH ABOUT NAPLES. To the Editor of the London Tablet.

Capua, Nov. 16, 1861.

Dear Sir,—Your excellent remarks on the necessity of stating and re-stating facts, however opposed to popular theories, encourage me, even at the risk of being held as that worst of human infirmities—a bore—to offer to the attention of your numerous readers a few further details of the present condition of this unfortunate country. No words can do justice to it, and the only gleam of consolation is, that it is too bad to last. A popular Government can only claim to find a just basis in the will and affection of the masses, and any one who will take the trouble to come here and judge for themselves may easily discover on which side these are enlisted.

One phase of popular feeling I find considerably developed lately is the indignation and disgust of the moderate party, not only with the Piedmontese despotism, but against the Mazzinian faction here, by whose unscrupulous falsehoods, and delusive promises of a secure and Liberal Administration, they were alone induced to tolerate the occupation of their cities by Victor Emmanuel. Now, this feeling is especially marked; and the other day when there was a sharp encounter at Maddaloni, and from the roll of the musketry, heard in Capua, it was thought the Royalists were marching on the town, the people were heard crying,—"They are coming, at last! and now we will have vengeance for the way we have been deceived!" And so much in earnest were they, that the Republicans became alarmed, and numbers locked themselves up in their cellars till their courage revived. "Only let the King return," I heard many say, "and he may leave us the task of punishing his enemies." I was informed by an Ecclesiastic of good position in Capua, himself a Liberal and in no way favorable to the reaction, that the most extraordinary frauds are frequently practised to deceive the people as to the number of brigands taken. As a matter of fact, but few fall into the hands of military now that the bands are stronger and better organized; but as the policy of the Government is to strike terror into the people, and to impress them with the belief that none who join the reaction escape, they have resorted to lies to the novel and ingenious device of paying a number of contadini to submit to be arrested, marched handcuffed through Capua, and lodged in the prison, whence, after the force has done its work, they are sent back. This would seem nearly incredible did it not rest on the authority of one of their own party, a person who has no possible interest in deception, and whose resident position affords him an intimate knowledge of local facts. A very short time ago, an imposing cortege of this kind made its appearance in Capua,

consisting of a carriage, escorted by a number of armed clerks; and other pacific officials, more accustomed to wield the lath than the shield, in the service of their country, and who loudly announced to a wondering populace, unaccustomed to such hazardous patriotism on their part, that they were conveying to prison no less a person than the Chief of the Abruzzi, the dreaded Chiavone. Of course the people followed in crowds to the prison, anxious to see the leader whose name has been the rallying cry of the reaction since last December; but when the prisoner descended, unlooked for by the projected *coup de theatre*, he was recognised and claimed by an ex-soldier of Ferdinand in the crowd; who greatly spoiled the effect by crying, "Chiavone!—what a falsehood—that is not Chiavone, but so and so," naming his friend, greatly to the indignation of the people, who vented their anger in a storm of hisses.

And here it may not perhaps be out of place to say a word or two about this same Chiavone's antecedents, which have been curiously and intentionally misrepresented. He is not, and never was, a brigand, in the usual sense of the term, and as many even of your readers no doubt figure to themselves a hero of the Fra Diavolo stamp, peaked hat, velvet jacket, and long rifle all complete as per stage direction, I fear I shall dispel many an illusion when I say that he is by birth merely a peasant proprietor of Sora—what we should call a small farmer; that he entered the army of the late King, and having served his time retired with a good conduct pension, and was on his return to his native district made ranger of the Royal woods, near Sora. Here he led an honest and peaceable life till the revolution broke out, when he sold most of his property to buy arms for the King's service, and having raised his own and the neighboring villages, found himself in a few weeks the recognized head of the present reaction. He was soon attacked by the Piedmontese, who, after several encounters, in which they had considerably the worst of it, took Sora, burnt his house and farm, and committed dreadful outrages on his family; and, since then he has "taken the hill-side," as they say in the North, and has held the passes of the Abruzzi with desperate and unflinching bravery against the invading force, hunted from one town to another by the soldiery as if he were a wild beast, and knowing that for him if taken, there was no mercy, and only sustained by a sentiment of disinterested loyalty, for which we may look in vain for a parallel since the war of La Vendée.

THE POPE AND THE ROBBER KING. (From the Hull Advertiser.)

A strange story reaches us from Italy. It is stated that the Pope, claiming to be the inheritor of the oldest Throne in Europe, has summoned the King of Sardinia, whom his Holiness persists in styling the Duke of Savoy, to yield up the city of Turin, and the whole of the territory south of the Alps forming the ancient Kingdom of Piedmont, as a fief of the Papacy; and henceforth to restrict himself to those pursuits and enjoyments which are more in consonance with his tastes and habits than the wielding of a Royal Sceptre. This summons to the King to abandon his Royal dignity, is said to be expressed in the most courtly terms, and to abound in phrases eulcative of the utmost personal good will. Cardinal Antonelli, on the part of the Pope, assures the King that if he will only quietly agree to descend from his Throne, and voluntarily abandon all claim to the sovereignty of his States, the Holy Father will grant him a pension on the Civil List adequate to the maintenance of his personal rank and dignity—recognize the rank of his ministers, and servants—and allow him to communicate as Duke of Savoy with as many foreign Potentates as he pleases. Baron Ricasoli has not yet returned any definite answer to these friendly offers, and many persons think that if declined by the infatuated King, his Majesty will be driven out of Turin by the Pope's troops, and then there will be none to pity him! But, it may be asked by some old-fashioned people, what right has the Pope to meddle with the King of Sardinia? Not much, certainly; but still rather more than the King, has to meddle with the Pope. As Sovereign of Rome for upwards of a thousand years, the Pope has certainly the first claim to the Imperial and Royal Sovereignty of Italy. But, bless us! we have told the story the wrong way. It is the King of Sardinia, and not the Pope, who has given the Roman Sovereign notice to abdicate in his favour. It is the Royal hostler of Turin—so partial to fat women and strong beer—who has taken it into his head that he is the proper successor of the ancient Caesars! It is Baron Ricasoli, and not Cardinal Antonelli, who has made a revelation of the magnanimous offer of the King, to the Italian Parliament just assembled at Turin! Many a penitents' adventurer will rejoice if the Royal Savoyard's claim to the Roman throne be made good in the face, and with the consent of the other Sovereigns of Europe. It will be the establishment of a new principle in the appropriation of property—one which, as regards the estates of some of our aristocracy, is likely to find as many admirers in England as elsewhere. The bare proposal is an outrage upon the public morality of Europe, and no honest Government could regard it in any other light. We are sure, whatever Lord Russell may intimate as the feeling of the British Cabinet in his correspondence with the English Minister at Turin, that by Her Majesty the Queen, the proposal of the King of Sardinia to the Pope is regarded with all the abhorrence which robbery and sacrilege is capable of inspiring in the mind of a high-spirited, just, and virtuous Monarch.

THE HONG-KONG MISSION. To the Editor of the Dublin Telegraph.

DEAR SIR.—May I request the insertion in your widely-circulated journal of the subjoined notice of the condition of the Hong-Kong Mission, which appears in the *Hong-Kong Daily Press*, a Protestant journal.

The Very Rev. Father Raimondi, Vice-President of the Apostolic Missions of Cochinchina, is at present in Dublin. He comes to Ireland at the suggestion and by the authority of the Cardinal Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda, hoping, by making known to the public the spiritual wants of his Mission—those especially which affect the English-speaking portion of her congregations, and more particularly, still, the Irish Catholic soldiers—to interest the charitable people of this country in their behalf. The principal wants of the Mission are a sufficient number of religious, well-instructed, and devoted to the duty of teaching, and an adequate supply of good books, Catholic periodical, &c., for the use of the schools and reading rooms of the Catholic soldiers. To meet these wants, Father Raimondi relies confidently on the well-known Charity of the Catholics of Ireland. He would also be glad to receive and entertain proposals from young men desirous of dedicating themselves to the ministry of the altar in the British colony at Hong-Kong, who while receiving their ecclesiastical education in the College of the Congregation of which F. Raimondi is a member, would devote themselves to the work of instruction in the junior schools under the superintendance of the Mission. Reference is respectfully made, by permission, to His Grace the Archbishop. Contributions of books or money for the Mission will be thankfully received, and all necessary information supplied to persons applying with the sanction of their respective parish priests, by Very Rev. A. O'Farrell, Honorary Secretary of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith, the Rev. Dr. Murray, Secretary to His Grace the Archbishop, and by your obedient servant, L. OASOR FORDS.

St. Andrew's, Westland-row, Dublin, 28th Nov, 1861.

We have often called the attention of our readers to the lamentable state of education in this colony.

All the schemes which have hitherto been attempted appear to us to have entirely lacked common practical sense, and have resulted in utter failure accordingly. English education has been given to Chinese youths with no other object than we could see but to qualify them for the purposes of for hire, in the schools for the children of Europeans, tuition in the Chinese language has been entirely eschewed, although many boys are desirous to learn, and the Chinese teachers can be had in quantity for a mere trifle. At St. Paul's College there appears to be a great number of Chinese boys who have made considerable progress in English, and who would doubtless do well if those interested in their welfare sought to "place" them in some respectable trade whereby they might obtain the means to obtain work for their livelihood. Otherwise we consider all they have learnt will turn out a curse and not a blessing.

In this respect we certainly are under the conviction that the conduct of Protestant Missionaries in the colony has been and still is reprehensible. They are well aware of the lamentable consequences of their acts as we are, but instead of attempting to remedy the defect, they are too conceited to admit it. There is as much devotion in all the Protestant Missionaries we know of in the South of China as there is in a bookjack. Their shameless indifference to their unscrupulous *laches*, is really incredible to those who have not witnessed it. We have tried time and again to arouse them to a sense of their duties, but it seems to us that they are dead to the voice of truth and are content to eat the bread of idleness so long as they possess the power to deceive the patrons who maintain them. We not only judge by the fruits produced, but by the seed we see sown.

Even the conduct of the bishop in this respect is reprehensible. If his health is too infirm to admit of his fulfilling his duties, let him resign his holy functions into the hands of some one who can perform them. How a Prelate whose diocese is so peculiarly situated is allowed to fly about the world as he does; advocating the propagation of Christianity in China at Exeter Hall—supporting at Sydney the admission of the Chinese into Australia—raising his voice at San Francisco against drunkenness and immorality—assenting to be lent on half the religious political platforms of the United States—or again writing a guinea book upon Japan—is really more than we can imagine. For the last three years we feel sure he has not done two months work in his diocese. He draws his stipend in consideration of the performances of specified duties; those duties he neglects for other vocations which are more lucrative or agreeable, and we will defy him to reconcile his conduct to common honesty by saying nothing about his duties as a bishop.

The fact is that Protestant Missionary labour in the South of China is a grand swindle, and the sooner it is exposed and denounced the better. In this part of the Empire, Christianity among the natives has turned into ashes, whilst further North it has generated into blasphemous. And these Missionaries, who seem to be as well thought of as their brethren, who come forward and actually advocate both the ashes and the blasphemy as the true types of our religion, make their deluded patrons believe it too.

UNITED STATES

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—The impression is forcing itself into a conviction that neither General McClellan nor any other general will convert the mass of men under arms about here into a well-disciplined army according to the European standard or the notions of the most easily satisfied military critics. There is something radically deficient—a sentiment wanting, without which respect for the officer and obedience on the part of the man cannot be developed into a system of uniform action in all times and under all circumstances. It would take years to infuse a substitute for the feeling which produces such results in the European mind and facilitates the change from the man to the soldier so readily. There is a change, and it affects the man's intellect as well as his body, and you can recognise it in the precision and vigorous materialism of the one as much as in the upright carriage, regulated pace, and even the expression of eye in the other. The recruit there begins his career by respecting his officer; here the recruit is scarcely ever taught or learned. The newly enlisted citizen talks to his superior in an easy off-hand way, and it is sometime before the poor fellow is cured of his little civilities in regard to his Captain's health in the morning, or can be induced to refrain when he meets his Colonel from making kind inquiries after his general's welfare. The accounts of courts martial which one reads, their irregularities, the nature of the offences tried, and matters of the sort, give an idea of what the regular officers have to do. I have seen processions of men with their arms tied behind their backs, marching through the streets of Washington, of whom no one sees any account in the papers. No one can tell what their offence is, or where the mutiny occurred. There is one now—12 or 14 artillerymen fastened by ropes together, and marching under a guard down Pennsylvania-avenue. Then one hears such strange-sounding language between officer and private. "Captain, will you come in and take a drink?" "And so the boys have made you lieutenant; well, I'm really glad to hear it." The other day an officer dismounted close to my door, and gave his horse to his orderly. He had a lieutenant-colonel's shoulder-strap. "Be back here in an hour," said he; "I shall be here in that time." "Oh! that be—," rejoined the orderly, (Our men swore horribly in Flanders!) "how can you expect to go there and be back in an hour?—'saint possible." The Colonel seemed struck by the force of the remark, and said, "Well, an hour and a-half." "Why don't you esalute your officer?" quoth a friend of mine to a passing private. The man drew himself up, and did so in a sort of way, but as he moved off he said in an apologetic tone, "You see, Meajor, I don't know the faces of all the chaps yet." If the army be turned into regulars, and strictly drilled and handled, two or three years will, no doubt, eradicate the spirit of equality in military matters; but the task is difficult, for the defect to be remedied is nearly innate.

THE CITY OF CHARLESTON NEARLY DESTROYED.—We have intelligence from Charleston that a fire broke out in that city on the evening of the 11th inst., by which nearly (according to accounts) the whole of that place had been laid in ashes. The fire commenced in a sash factory at the foot of Hazel street, and communicated to the opposite of that street, by which Cameron & Co's. machine shops were next in a blaze. Under the impulse thus given and a stiff breeze with a small supply of water, the conflagration assumed a formidable character, nearly equaling the most extensive conflagration on the American continent. The business portion of the city appears to have been almost entirely swept away, including the Institute and St. Andrew's Hall, the Theatre, the Catholic Cathedral, and the Circular Church, and last, though not least, the *Mercury* and *Courier* offices. The fire companies being composed of men who are engaged on military duty elsewhere, the fire engines were worked by negroes, who broke and rendered useless the two best ones. Thousands of houseless persons were huddled in the streets, and supplies for their relief were being sent from the surrounding country. The most important announcement in connection with this conflagration is that it was reported to be intended as only some in the horrible tragedy of a slave insurrection—the fire being the work of a negro, a free negro it is stated. The plot is said to have been disclosed by the body-servant of a military officer, and the discoveries which had followed had created the greatest consternation.

The number of inmates in the Killarney workhouse on last Saturday was stated to be 359, shewing an increase of 92 on the last two years.