

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The Paris correspondent of the *Chronicle* says: "The corn question has now become so serious that it has almost completely superseded the Turkish affair. To-day, business at the Bourse was almost at a stand-still; and everybody was waiting to see the effect of the measure adopted by the Government to supply the deficit. Of the ten millions of hectolitres ordered on the Government account, four millions have already been embarked, and will speedily arrive in the different French ports. Several of the railways are, by the terms of their concessions, bound to carry all corn bought by the Government at a very low rate of freight, and it is supposed that even those railways which have no such clause in their *cahiers des charges* will volunteer to carry the corn on this occasion on the same terms as the others. Indeed, some of them have already intimated their intention of carrying it gratis, as was done on a former occasion by the Rouen Railway under similar circumstances.

"The excitement in some of the provincial towns is increasing, and is becoming alarming. Two days ago seditious placards were found on the walls of the streets of Rheims, threatening the rich and the *accapareurs* with death and pillage.

"No steps have yet been taken by the Government to force the provincial bakers to keep down the price of bread. At Nantes the price is made 40 centimes the kilogramme; but at Lyons the bread of the first class is at 43 centimes, and at Strasbourg it is believed to be still higher."

There were riots at Bar le Duc on Friday and Saturday last. On Sunday tranquillity was restored. Similar riots, produced by the high price of corn, took place at Chateaugiron, near Rennes, and at Rancourt, in the Pyrenees.

ITALY.

RAVENNA, AUG. 27.—An attempt has been made to assassinate the Legate, but fortunately without success. The Gonfaloniere of Forlì has been threatened by the populace on account of the high price of bread. He has taken flight into Tuscany.

ROMAN STATES.

A letter from Rome of the 23rd, in the *Journal de Frankfurt*, gives some curious details relative to the mode of correspondence adopted by the revolutionists recently arrested in that city.

"Mazzini had chosen a fête day to make his attempt, as at Milan he selected the last day of the carnival. He conjectured that on the 15th the French soldiers would be scattered about among the wine-shops, celebrating with the white wine of Velletri the fête of their Emperor, while their officers would be doing the same with champagne at the French embassy. Such were the motives which led the democrats to the Roman shore. There had been a perfect understanding between those residing here and those abroad, and a regular correspondence was carried on between them. The letters seized speak of commerce, of love, and of fine arts, and are only intelligible to the chiefs of the confederacy. They had a sheet of pasteboard pierced with small openings at certain distances, and the chief in London had a similar one. Placing his pasteboard on a sheet of letter-paper, he writes the orders which he has to give. The pasteboard being removed, he fills up the numerous blanks in the letter with phrases which give a completely different and even innocent signification to what he had written. The chief of the Roman demagogues having received the letter, placed his sheet of pasteboard on it, and readily read the revolutionary order. By the same means he wrote his answer and sent it by the post. I am not aware how all this was discovered. What is certain is, that if Aurelio Saffi, our old triumvir, had not published in a German journal his thanks to the peasants who had so well concealed him before the 6th February, Monsignor Grassellini would never have thought of making any search, and if that search had not been made it would not have been known that the attempt had been fixed for the 15th. Being warned by that, the letters received by the post were closely watched, but nothing was at first discovered. It was, however, afterwards ascertained that the conspirators were to land, and it was then easy to arrest them."

A letter from Rome of the 24th ult., in the *Univers*, says:—

"The plot organized by the Mazzinians for Assumption-day is still the object of attention on the part of the Roman authorities, and some further arrests have taken place. We have heard it remarked—and we eagerly repeat it for the honor of England—that the English passports with which several of the refugees were provided, were forged ones, and that this fact has been fully proved by the Consul of that nation. It, however, still remains to be ascertained how from 20 to 30 persons could enter together into the port of Genoa, particularly persons of their character, without exciting the suspicions of the Piedmontese police. We are far from supposing any connivance on the part of the authorities of that country, but we must be permitted to accuse them of negligence. Something of the contents of the proclamation and the manifestoes has transpired.—Call to mind the style of the documents which continental Europe has received with alacrity from time to time from the revolutionary committees at London, and you will have an idea of the style of these infamous writings. The following sentiment may be found in every line:—'Italians! It has been said that you have no arms. This is a falsehood. There is no Italian without a poniard. This is your weapon. Plunge it without fear into the breasts of the enemies of the people, of your oppressors.'"

Roman correspondence in the *Univers*, under date the 24th August, contains the following:—

"Father Jolin de Britto, Missionary to Madura, and martyr of the Society of Jesus, was solemnly placed in the number of the blessed on Sunday, 21st August, at Saint Peter's of the Vatican, in the midst of the pomps of religion, and of the supplications of the Faithful. Born at Lisbon on the 1st March, 1647, he suffered martyrdom on the 4th February, 1693, at Madura, which he bathed with his sweat for nineteen years, and with his blood. When his mother, the pious and courageous Lady Beatrice de Britto, received the news of his death, instead of grieving for it, she made them adorn all the house, appearing herself in her richest garments, and she wished that in public and in private they should celebrate for several days, by the most brilliant fêtes that dear and glorious memory, thanking God for having made her the mother of a martyr. No doubt, but in Heaven that thrice happy mother took part in the fête of the 21st August.

RUSSIA.

It is said that the cholera is making great progress in Russia, especially in the southern provinces, where large bodies of troops are stationed. The disease made its appearance on various points of the frontier of Eastern Gallicia.

HOLLAND.

THE HAGUE, SEPT. 5.—The committee charged to report on the bill relative to the surveillance of the religious communities by the State presented its report to the First Chamber of the States General to-day. The discussion of the bill has been fixed for Wednesday next. Petitions against the law continue to pour in in great numbers; 117 were received to-day. It is almost needless to add that the greater number emanate from the Catholic party.

SPAIN.

M. Egana, Minister of the Interior has addressed a circular to the provincial governors, prohibiting the admission of the *Times* newspaper into Spain.

DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

BUCHAREST, AUG. 23.—The Russian troops are practising and manœuvring every day. No fresh troops have marched in for some time past, for the Principalities are already completely overrun with soldiers.

Fieldworks and fortifications are thrown up and constructed with a plan which has long since been prepared, and that they will remain even after the departure of the Russian army.

It is said that the two Hospodars have promised to support one another if, the crisis once over, the Sultan should attempt to punish them for their conduct.

It is stated that the great powers, with the exception of England, have asked the Porte to expell the Hungarian political refugees from Turkey.

The latest from the second edition of the *London Times* of Friday, says it is rumored in Paris on the authority of the Russian Embassy, that the Czar will refuse to accept the modifications emanating directly from the Porte.

INUTILITY OF QUARANTINE.—Sweden is very particular as to the enforcement of quarantine; nevertheless, the cholera is in Christiania and other parts of Norway, while Sweden is completely at its mercy. It has even boarded Swedish quarantine guard-ships, which had no communication with the shore. In a word, it now envelops Sweden as in a net, and is doing its work from Stockholm in the North to Ystad in the South, and from Gothenburg in the East to Carlscrona in the West. At Copenhagen, the virulence of the scourge was lessening.

THE CHINESE INSURRECTION.

The *Univers* publishes the following letter from M. Maresca, the Apostolic Administrator of Nankin, dated Shanghai, June 8:—

"The insurgents arrived on the 9th of March before the walls of the town of Nankin, and established their camp in 28 divisions. They dug mines under the walls, and filled them with gunpowder, and on the 19th partially blew them up, together with the eastern gate. Immediately after a signal was given, and they rushed—come to the breach and others to the wall—with an impetuosity which alarmed the defenders. In their first attack they made themselves masters of the town. The mandarins, who were not able to escape, were seized and put to death. On the 20th of March the insurgents spread through the town, and carried everywhere terror and death. A venerable old man, chief of the Christians, was killed in his house, with his eldest son; his second son was grievously wounded, the third was carried off captive, and the youngest ran away. On the same day four other Christians fell in the *adèle*. On the 21st of March the family Tsen, the wealthiest and most distinguished among the Christians, were driven from their house, which the insurgents required for their chiefs; and 31 members of this family were confined in a neighboring house, and were there burnt to death. Two young men belonging to the same family, aged 17 and 18, who were absent when their relatives were burnt, have just arrived at Shanghai, having begged their way a distance of from 70 to 80 leagues. Five other members of the same family were also absent at the execution of the 31, but it is not known where they have gone, nor what has become of them. All that belonged to the Christian community of Nankin—church, ornaments, money, and papers—were deposited with the family Tsen, and consequently all are entirely lost. The same day several persons entered the chapel of the town where the Christians were assembled, and recited the prayers of the Holy Week. They forbade prayers on the knees, and wanted the Christians to recite, seated, the new prayer of Tien Fou. The Christians replied that they were Catholics, and did not know any other religion. It was notified to them that if within three days they did not decide on obeying, they would all be decapitated. On the 24th of March some wretches entered the chapel, and attempted to do violence to some young Christian women, but they were soon obliged to leave, and since then there have been no attacks of the kind. In the afternoon a new summons was made to adore Tien-

Fou; a new refusal was given by the Christians, and new menages followed. On the 25th of March the Christians were adoring the cross, according to the custom on Good Friday. The insurgents entered all at once, crying and menacing; they broke the crucifix, overthrew the altar, and then wished to have their prayer recited, at the time presenting the Christians with books in which it is written. A catechist took a religious book, the 'Explanation of the Commands of God,' and presented it one of the chiefs. He hastily examined it, and returned it, saying, 'Your religion is a good one—ours is not to be compared to it; but the new Emperor has given his orders, and you must obey them or die.' After summonses, which were repeated in vain, the soldiers seized the Christians, and tied their hands behind their backs. The women and children exhorted the men to suffer with a good heart for their faith; they were bound and ill-treated in their turn. All being thus bound, the men were told that they would be conveyed before the tribunal of the Emperor to hear their sentence; the women and children followed them, and all went gaily. When they arrived at the tribunal they were kept for some time in outer rooms, and then some officers presented themselves and told them, on the part of the Emperor, that, as they would not obey, they were all condemned to death, and were to be executed at the western gate. They were sent off to the place of execution; but at the door of the tribunal an old man, who was unable to walk, was beheaded. The others arrived together at the designated place; they were about 100 in number. New demands were made upon them to do as they had been desired, but they constantly replied 'We are Christians!' Many threats were made, but no one was executed. Towards the evening all were brought back to the town and conveyed to a great store, which was formerly the church of Nankin. They there passed the night with their hands bound, and some were attached to columns. One succeeded in unbinding himself and escaping. The day after new threats were made, and some blows were given. On Easter day all expected to die. Some officers entered the place, and asked if they would recite the prayer. Some said, 'You should kill them all, for they will not obey;' but another answered, 'No; for in that case they would have what they desire, while we should be guilty of sin!' However, all the Christians remained firm and yielded nothing. Some women especially, and even some children cried, 'Kill us all, that we may be martyrs and go to Heaven!' Some of the soldiers, despairing of being able to subdue the courage of the women, and no doubt not having orders to kill them, opened the door of the storehouse and forced them to leave with their children. They all went to the chapel, where they have since remained with the children; they are between seventy and eighty in number. The men remained in the store with their hands more tightly bound than on the first day. On the 25th of March some young men, fatigued with suffering, and dreading new torments, persuaded themselves that they might recite the famous prayer, because it contained nothing contrary to the dogmas of our holy religion. After having protested that they intended to remain Catholics, twenty-two recited the prayer, and were immediately unbound; but the others declared that they would rather die than recite it, before they knew that it was good, and some of them, in consequence, were cruelly beaten. Since then those who wavered have felt greatly humiliated, and regret that they did not imitate the firmness of their brethren and the courage of the women and children. While the women and children remained in the chapel, without a single man to assist or protect them, the men were ordered to serve the insurgents either as soldiers or laborers. Ten of them, who were taken to fight against Tsen-Kiang, took advantage of an obscure night to leave their ranks and run away. They have come here to recount to us what they have witnessed. It was on the 14th of April that they succeeded in escaping. Since their departure from Nankin they have heard say that the insurgents have sent a good many women and children out of the town. The bridge of the great canal is said to have given way beneath the crowd, and more than a thousand persons are said to have been drowned. We are not aware whether any Christians left on that occasion. We have also received news from Yang-Tcheu. On the 1st of April the rebels entered the town, without meeting any resistance. However, they committed the same horrors as at Nankin, and the Christians were not spared. They took the officers of the chapel, bound them, and carried them off with their families. They wanted all of them to recite the prayer of Tien-Fou. Thereupon two catechists stepped forward and clearly explained our dogmas and our usages. As a punishment for this, it was ordered that 300 blows should be given to one and 500 to the other. It is not yet known if they have been able to survive this cruel flagellation, and other bad treatment to which they were subjected. On the whole, out of 600 Christians in Nankin, Yang-Tcheu, and Tsen-Kiang 50 have been slain or burnt to death, and several have been bound and beaten. Most of them have lost all they had, and remain captives, exposed to all sorts of dangers for the soul of the body."

PERSECUTION OF CATHOLICS.

(From the Dublin Weekly Telegraph.)

At the moment that Christendom is threatened with a new and formidable invasion and barbarian schismatics, heresies and infidelity are putting forth their utmost energies in various countries, to persecute the bishops, clergy, and adherents of the Catholic Church. We have not space to-day to enter into the details of this wide-spread persecution; but we cannot refrain from noticing the various places in which the abominable and hellish work is carried on. England, abounding in such domestic crimes as infanticide, poisonings, and wife-murders, has subscribed its gold, to send forth one hundred wandering missionaries of mischief amongst the unoffending Irish Catholics. Protestant Holland, instigated to a persecution of the Catholics by the Russian Emperor, and countenanced in that persecution by Protestant England, is passing at this moment a law, which combines within its enactments all the insulting provisions of the Ecclesiastical Titles Act, with all the legal vexation and annoyance to clergymen, which was embodied in the Pagan proclamation of Disraeli and Derby. Protestant Prussia has, by a decree of its tippling Protestant King, insulted the Catholic officers of the army, by threatening them with dismissal, if they comply with the marriage laws of their Church. The Catholic bishops of the Upper Rhenish provinces are placed under ban by their contemptible Protestant princes.

Sardinia—once Catholic Sardinia, but now beset by Voltarianism—not only refuses tribute to the Pope—a tribute due by solemn treaty—but it is seeking, and urged to do so by England, to Protestantise its institutions, and is daily falling deeper into the slough of heresy. In Switzerland the Catholic Church is enduring a flagrant persecution. In Lausanne, for instance, the diocesan seminary established for the education of young clergymen has been closed—the students compelled to seek for instruction in France, Savoy, and Italy—while the funds of the seminary are taken possession of by the State, and are appropriated to the use of some plundering Protestant or infidel. The same spoliation is practised upon the funds of the bishopric, the exiled Bishop Marilley not being allowed one single sou of his own revenues, since he was so unjustly and barbarously exiled from the Canton:—

The number of priests (observes the *Gazette de Lyon*) diminishes each year in the Canton de Fribourg; and the persecution the clergy endure contributes in no slight degree to their premature demise. The deaths of the priests of late years are far beyond the average of former times; and for the ten priests that die per annum, there are not four ordinations each year since 1848. Add to this the expulsion of the *Jesuits* and *Liguorians*, who assisted so much in the pastoral administration of each district; conjoin with these banishments the suppression of convents and monasteries, and the interdiction to the noviciate of the Capuchin fathers; and you can form something like an accurate idea of the miserable situation of the diocese of Fribourg.

Persecution of the Catholics is not, however, at this moment confined to Europe. America joins in the unholy warfare against the Church. The vagabonds and miscreants of Europe have their hundred of missionaries in the United States—led on by the married priest, Gavazzi, and Lord Campbell's client, Achilli—who are, by the most scandalous falsehoods, seeking to excite a hatred of Catholicity; whilst the Congress of New Grenada has been engaged in passing laws which combine the spoliation and the iniquity of Henry VIII., Edward VI., and Elizabeth, with the same anti-Christian hatred of the holy order of the *Jesuits*, that must ever render the recollection of the first revolutionary Assemblies of France detestable. The pretence of the New Grenada Congress for passing its infamous anti-Catholic laws is "complete religious liberty;" but the following comment of the *Univers* will show how barefaced is the hypocrisy of those infidel law-makers:—

"The eighth article of the law dooms the *Jesuits* to exile, add perpetuates that exile. It interdicts the members of that religious order from participating in the benefit of a law which opens the frontiers of the Republic to every other form of worship. Henceforth a Mormon will have the right to preach polygamy at Bogota; Unitarian, to proclaim that our Saviour, is not god; a *Spiritualist* can, with the devil's help, give forth marvellous manifestations to prove that the Bible is but a tissue of impostures; a Baptist may tell the people that there is no validity in the baptism they have received; all the varieties of protestantism will be free to abuse, to denounce, and to vilify the Holy See; but the *Jesuits*, and the *Jesuits* alone, and none but the *Jesuits*, are excluded from the lists of controversy, and prohibited from defending the interests of their Lord and master. It is the very acme of absurdity and iniquity.

Thus is Catholicity persecuted, thus is it doomed to suffer; but the words, once uttered, remain as true as when they were first spoken of the Church built upon the rock—"The gates of hell shall never prevail against it."—*Weekly Telegraph*.

COMMERCIAL PROSPECTS.

(From the Edinburgh Advertiser.)

So far as the harvest has yet gone, the crops have been found deficient in bulk when compared with the very heavy crops of recent years. The recent unfavorable weather has rendered the harvest a later and consequently more precarious one than was even anticipated; the grain has been a good deal damaged in the stacks; and prices, which were supposed to have reached an undue height a month ago, are still going up.

We do not think the present high range of prices at all unwarranted by the facts of the case; and, excessive as they now are, it is but too probable that they will reach a rate even higher yet in the course of the ensuing winter. Our home crops are deficient; and if we look to those foreign quarters from whence we have obtained our supplies in former years, we shall find several impediments to which our operations have not hitherto been subjected. First of all, the crops on the continent are quite as deficient as our own. A worse harvest has not fallen all over Europe for many a long year. We early learned, from a distinguished agricultural authority who had been travelling in France, that the appearance of the crops in that country indicated a coming deficiency. In course of time, the reports of the provincial prefects transmitted the intelligence to head-quarters, and the French Government at once set to work to protect the country as much as possible against the risk of famine. Nothing is more likely to endanger a Government like that of France than the popular discontent produced by a scarcity of provisions: and so, while a tranquillising announcement was made in the *Moniteur* about a month ago, to the effect that no scarcity was to be apprehended, decrees were simultaneously promulgated, throwing open the French ports to foreign corn, and the grain-merchants of France began to import largely from other countries. Orders to purchase wheat and flour on French account were received in London and Liverpool by every post; and not content to confine her operations to England alone, we soon found France outbidding us in the ports of the Baltic and Black Sea. So great indeed is the scarcity in France, that rather than allow the price of bread to rise any higher, the Government has interposed, and actually forbidden any further rise, promising to indemnify the bakers for the loss thus occasioned to them. Incredible as a coming scarcity, English merchants have been as eager to sell, as French merchants have been to buy; and whilst France has taken every precaution to guard against scarcity, we have been gradually allowing our stocks to be diminished. "What we had previously bought on the Continent," says the *Marie-Louise Express*, "we have freely re-sold; and with the prospect before us of requiring larger imports than in any previous season for years past, the facilities of obtaining supplies have been greatly narrowed. Such is our present position; there is no exaggeration; the facts are patent to all."

Other continental countries besides France, have