

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

The division in the National Assembly, when the Government measure for the repeal of the electoral law of May 31 was thrown out by a bare majority, instead of by a majority of 100 or 150, as we expected, seems to have thrown the so-called party of order into a real or affected panic. In his letter of Saturday, the Paris correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"I mentioned yesterday the fact of a certain number of representatives remaining the greater part of the night in the apartment of M. Baze, the questor of the Assembly, who is lodged in the palace itself. I have been informed, but could scarcely believe the fact, that it was a sort of panic that kept them there. I was slow to believe that men occasionally so bold, and even so reckless of consequences, should have been all at once paralysed by terror. Such, however, appears to have been the case. It is stated that when the result of the division was announced to M. Mole, that a gentleman was so overcome by his feelings as to have nearly fainted. The appearance of M. Thiers, if we may credit those who saw him at the moment, was pitiable; he was seen in the Salle des Conférences with his face livid, and his frame trembling all over. He earnestly urged General Changarnier not to quit the asylum offered to them all by M. Baze; and the general is said to have replied that he was not afraid to go home, as he had four or five men armed at his house.

The number that really accepted the refuge offered them by the questor is not accurately known, and the subject is too delicate to make inquiries about, or to hope for a satisfactory answer. Some fix it at only 20 or 28, others make it reach 100. The only thing certain is that the panic must be great indeed which prevented them from returning home, as hundreds of their colleagues did the same night. The questors, moreover, are said to have demanded that the guard of the Assembly should be reinforced. Whether the panic so exhibited was real or affected, it is difficult to say; but the cause assigned was the fear lest the President of the Republic might make a *coup d'état* after the result of the division was known; and that the first victims would be those who had put themselves most prominently forward. In the agony of suspense it is stated that entreaties were addressed to some of the Mountain, and appeals made to their self-love, or their humanity, to protect the members of the Assembly, for the sake of the Assembly itself, against the wrath of a vindictive despot.

The Montagnards are said to have laughed, and they went on their way. The directors of one or two journals, the most inexorable in their hostility to the Government and to the person of Louis Napoleon, were sent for, perhaps to furnish bulletins of the nocturnal battle of which the Assembly was momentarily expecting to be the scene. The said directors, whose civil courage is not to be doubted, obeyed the summons. Fortunately, no combat took place, and the night passed off without witnessing the anticipated massacre of the Innocents. Not a murmur was heard, except the rolling of the river; and the only sounds reported by the honorable members posted alternately on the summit of the building, like Sister Anne in the nursery tale, were the barking of stray dogs or the sobbing of the night wind among the trees of the quays. Some are said to have left at one o'clock in the morning; others to have lingered until near daybreak. Though this was certainly no laughing matter to the parties concerned, and, if the panic were real, the night must have been one of anguish, yet all Paris is to-day laughing at the story.

On Saturday, November 26, the President delivered in the Cirque National des Champs Elyse, crosses and medals to the successful French exhibitors in the London Exhibition, and delivered a speech on the occasion, which was likely to make him popular with the moderate republican party. The speech was the first he had uttered in which any mention was made of the Republic.

Cavaignac had declared that they would support the President as the only means of saving the Republic.

## THE COMMUNAL ELECTORAL BILL.

In the sitting of the Assembly on Thursday the debate on the Communal Electoral Bill was resumed. M. de Larcy proposed, in the name of the committee, an amendment reducing the term of domicile for citizens not born in the commune, nor having satisfied therein the law of recruitment, from three years to two. M. de Larochejacquelin moved a still further reduction to eighteen months. The latter term was rejected. The term of two years was combated with energy by M. Leon Faucher, as a concession on the part of the Conservative majority, which betokened its abasement, and as a desertion of the law of May 31.

M. Odillon Barrot conjured the Assembly to occupy itself less with extreme councils, and not to forget the country, thus placed between two opposite perils.

M. de Kerdren opposed the amendment on the same ground as M. Faucher.

Several voices called out for the expression of the government's opinion. But complete silence was observed by the bench of ministers.

The amendment in favor of two years was then put to the vote, and carried by 344 against 218.

The articles from 10 to 14 inclusively, which relate to the modes of attesting to domicile, were successively voted without raising any debate of importance.

This debate and the division (says the *Times* correspondent) have given the *coup de grace* to the

electoral law of the 31st of May. It had been rudely assailed by the President's message, but the concession made by the committee with reference to the term of residence gave it the finishing stroke. Were any other proof wanting, we have the authority of M. Leon Faucher, the reporter of that law, who declared that if once the three years' residence were given up, the electoral law of the 31st of May no longer existed. The famous law of the 31st of May, proclaimed by the "party of order" as the *palladium* of society, denounced by the revolutionists, and regarded by many moderate men as a certain cause of civil war, is now not only dead in fact but officially so, and is interred by the hands of him who, after having been its reporter, took upon himself to pronounce its funeral oration. He had rocked the cradle of the unhealthy offspring of the "Burgesses," and he has followed it, as chief mourner, to its grave. The law was believed by some to be a snare, laid in the way of the President of the Republic, by others, and in all sincerity, to be a last effort for the salvation of society; its efficacy has never yet been tested on any important occasion. It was execrated by many, praised for a time by some, and is at length despatched at the hands of those who made it, and the deed is done but eight short days after the vote which was meant to ratify and consecrate it for ever. And, stranger than all, its fiercest enemies had little or no part in its destruction, the men of the Mountain having "abstained" from taking part in the votes. Under such circumstances it may be lamented that a spirit of conciliation was not manifested at the period of the President's message, and before the banner round which the adversaries rallied was thus torn to pieces by themselves.

## THE RESPONSIBILITY BILL.

It is expected that another battle, similar to that on the proposition of the Questors, will have to be fought on the law on the responsibility of the President and ministers when brought before the Assembly. The following is the first and most important article of the bill, as drawn up by the Council of State:—

## CHAP. I.—ON THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC.

"Art. 1.—The President of the Republic in the exercise of the government delegated to him, can only be accused in the following cases:—

"1. If he be guilty of a plot against the safety of the state of which the object may be to destroy or change the form of government, or to suspend the empire of the constitution and the laws. 2. If he be guilty of exciting to the violation of Art. 45 of the constitution. 3. If he be guilty of violation of the constitution, by taking in person the command of the armed force, by ceding a portion of the territory, by undertaking a war without the consent of the National Assembly; by according an amnesty without the intervention of the law; by exercising the right of grace in the case of a minister, or any other person condemned by the High Court of Justice, by quitting the territory of the Republic without being authorised by the law.

"2. In the cases mentioned in the preceding article, the President of the Republic is responsible, notwithstanding his acts may have received the signature of a minister.

"3. In the case of high treason, provided for by Art. 68 of the constitution, or if there be an attack or plot, the highest penalty fixed by the law for political offences shall be applied. In all other cases the punishment shall be banishment.

"4. Whoever executes or causes to be executed an order of the President of the Republic not countersigned by a minister, renders himself personally responsible for such execution, and may be punished by the same penalty as for high treason, if he be a functionary, or by the penalties set forth in Art. 258 of the Penal Code, if he be not a functionary, without prejudice in any case to the graver penalties which may be incurred."

## ITALY.

The Tiber has re-entered its banks, after having inundated a great part of the surrounding country and many portions of Rome. A few days of sunshine have, however, been succeeded by renewed storms, so that fresh disasters seem impending. The accounts from every part of the Peninsula are full of detailed accounts of the damage occasioned by the floods.

The Marquis de Sambuy, Sardinian Ambassador to the Court of Rome, in the place of the Marquis Spinola, arrived at Rome on Nov. 12th. Count Calabiana has left Naples *en congé*.

SARDINIA.—The Piedmontese parliament reassembled for the first time after the recess, on the 19th instant, President Pinelli in the chair. Signor Brofferio called upon the cabinet to appoint a day on which they might be able to answer certain questions of his:—1st, on the state of the relation of Piedmont with Rome; 2ndly, on certain recent innovations in public instruction. The ministers having declared their readiness to answer, the questions were fixed for the sitting of the following day. In the sitting of the 20th of the Chamber of Deputies at Turin, Signor Brofferio addressed the questions to the ministers, of which he had given notice the day before. But in order to save time, it was agreed that each question should be separately discussed. Signor Brofferio first attacked the government on the nomination of Signor Farini (whose book was translated by Mr. Gladstone) to the portfolio of Public Instruction, on the ground that he was not a Piedmontese, and on the late Papal Brief against the writings of Professor Nuytz. As to the first objection, Count Cavour took the defence of his colleague, who had occupied the post of Under Secretary of State at Rome, under the constitutional régime introduced by the Pope in 1848, and had, moreover, been sent as Envoy Extraordinary to the camp of Charles Albert.

Count Cavour spoke highly of the literary productions of his colleague, and vindicated the conduct of the government in making such a choice. Signor Farini then ascended the tribune, and spoke in defence of certain measures he had taken with respect to the universities, and which had been attacked by Brofferio. As to the matter of the Papal Brief, Signor DeForesta, Minister of Justice, declared that the government would oppose any discussion on the Brief, that being a document officially unknown to the government, and having no legal existence in the kingdom so long as it was not declared executory in the kingdom. The remaining questions of less general interest were adjourned to the following sitting.

## SPAIN.

At the solicitation of Lord Howden, the English Minister at Madrid, the government of her Catholic Majesty have granted a free pardon to twenty-three misguided English subjects who were induced, by assurances (the falsehood of which was admitted by so many of the unhappy victims themselves,) to take part in the expedition of General Lopez. "I know from undoubted authority," says the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, "that nothing could be more humane, or more kind, than the treatment those deluded men have met with from Capt.-General Concha."

## AUSTRIA.

The Hungarian, Count Potoki, has been arrested by the Military authorities of Rendsburg. He had arrived from London by way of Paris, under a false name. In his possession were found proclamations inciting the soldiers to revolt, and printed copies of Kossuth's last speeches in England.

Haynau was recently nearly burned to death at his residence in Hungary,—an incendiary having set his house on fire.

## PRUSSIA.

Lieut. Pim, in company with a Cabinet messenger, arrived at Berlin, en route for Siberia, on Sunday, Nov. 23. He was introduced by Baron Humboldt to the King, who gave him letters to the Emperor of Russia, who will no doubt cause him to receive assistance in the search for the long lost Sir John Franklin.

## HANOVER.

The body of the late King was to lie in state till the 26th. The Lein Strasse before the palace is closed by a black barrier, but the passage for foot passengers is not stopped. A crowd of spectators passes daily through the throne room, in which the body lies. The hall is decorated with scarlet and gold, the daylight is excluded, and the apartment lit by the gigantic chandelier and numerous branches along the walls. The officers of the staff stand around the couch, on which the royal remains repose, in a semi-circle. The body is clothed, and will be interred in the King's uniform of an English field-marshal.

It has caused some surprise in Hanover that the patent of accession issued by the new King styles the new monarch George V., as George IV. [III.] of England was the first King of Hanover; the first, second, and third of the name were only Electors. According to the style adopted in Prussia in similar circumstances, the Electors of Brandenburg are not included in the lists of Kings of Prussia, though of the same name as their successors. The present Sovereigns are reckoned only from the first monarch, Frederick I., 1701. The Electors of Hanover were at the same time Kings of Hanover, but it was not expected that the order of succession of the English Sovereigns would be continued as to names in Hanover. The Berlin journals, in announcing the death of the late King, styled the present monarch George II., following the Prussian precedent.

## THE SANDWICH ISLANDS AND THEIR MISSIONARIES.

(To the Editor of the New York Freeman's Journal.)

At the present time, when the affairs of the Sandwich Islands occupy such a considerable portion of public attention, both in this country and in Europe, I deem it not amiss to bring forward a few observations, made in a personal visit thereto in the years 1850 and '51. As many persons, and among others the President of the United States, have thought fit to eulogise the missionaries for the moral influence which they have diffused through those islands, and to descant on the monstrous exertions which they have made to lead the inhabitants into the paths of religion and civilisation, I venture to break from the universal chorus, and give my views of the matter—after which I would ask you to "look on this picture and on that."

My first visit to the islands was in April, 1850, and then it was that I commenced my observations. Without bringing forward any statistics, I presume everybody is acquainted with the immense amount annually contributed by the different Protestant denominations in the United States, for the nominal support of those missions, and for the purpose of supplying them with tracts, bibles, testaments, &c., which they innocently suppose to be applied to their legitimate uses, and, consequently, as innocently continue to contribute thereto,—therefore I will at once proceed to detail the true facts of the case; premising, at the same time, that, without individualising any, my remarks are applicable to all the missionaries stationed "in those distant seas."

With regard to the moral influence which is credited to their exertions, I confess my utter inability to discover it, and cannot find even a peg to hang their claims on. This influence must be confined to their immediate family circles, certainly it is not among the native population, as any one will affirm, who has ever witnessed the total absence of virtue among them, and of their utter disregard for the

most common rules of civilised life. True, they have learned to chant a few Methodist hymns in their native language, and a portion of them have learned the rudiments of education; but in opposition to these, see the immense majority who live in a state of utter barbarism—so much so, that it is only because they are compelled, and not from any instilled principle of propriety, that they conform themselves to robe in any other than nature's vestings. It is sad to see the licentiousness which universally prevails amongst them, and no false delicacy shall prevail on me to veil the truth. As a single instance of the "moral influence" exerted, I will briefly allude to that cursed vice of prostitution, and though, in touching upon it, I feel that I tread on delicate ground, yet truth demands a hearing. Now, the *ladis* (those laws being framed by, and subject to the action of the missionaries) denounce the system, and punish the women with a fine of thirty dollars, or imprisonment for one hundred and twenty days; and yet, in the face of those very laws, in the town of Honolulu, not more than seventy-five houses can be found which are not brothels! and these are, for the most part, the dwellings of resident foreigners. And why? methinks I hear you ask. Why, simply because those moral engines abate their power, so far as to hood-wink the crime, for the sake of the golden stream which it pours into their coffers. True, they inflict the punishment provided by the law; but by permitting, in the very prisons, the same abominable traffic, they enable the delinquents to pay their fines, and thus emerge to "run their races over again."

Another instance of moral influence is to be obtained in their singing. While with one breath they chant the sublime "I'm bound for the land of Canaan," (translated, of course, into their jargon,) with another they labor through the notes of the "Hoolah-hoolah," a sort of monotonous song, replete with everything that is licentious in word and action! Customs like these prevail with them from the cradle to the grave; and yet we are called upon to return thanks for the moral influences, of which these are the only discernible effects.

What a picture is here presented for the contemplation of those who are accustomed from year to year, to pay tribute for the support of men who, amid the fragrance of orange groves, and surrounded by all the luxuries of oriental life, forget that souls are to be redeemed, and that to them is entrusted the redemption of the benighted ones from the dark shades of idolatry. Even were they redeemed, their condition would be but little better, in a Catholic point of view—yet this does not exonerate them from their obligations, so long as they receive funds for the purpose, and appropriate them—to what? The answer is already given.

It is hardly consistent with the true spirit of missionaries to choose always for their abode "a land of milk and honey," where everything which nature and art has furnished for the comfort of man is at hand, where they can live in princely mansions, and have willing slaves to do their bidding. No, the true preacher of the Gospel will penetrate with equal willingness into the wilderness, cope with the savages, undergo privation, hunger and fatigue; in short, he will do as the Redeemer did, and have, as his only reward in this life, the happiness of restoring man to his God, and in the next a crown of eternal glory.—Only in one instance, among the many islands of the Pacific which I visited, have I seen this, and that was in the case of a poor French Catholic missionary in one of the Feejee Islands, where he had lived, its sole white inhabitant for 14 years, in continual danger of his life, and having for his only temple a rude bamboo hut, reared by his own hands.

The influence which they could exert, did they wish, may be discerned in the fact that they make the natives do all their work, and pay tithes, in fruits and provisions, for their support. I have actually seen the wives and daughters of missionaries drawn in sedan chairs through the streets and fields, up hill and over dale, by the poor natives,—while others held parasols over them to protect their delicate features from the bronzing effects of the broiling sun,—as if that same sun were not as scorching to the poor creatures as to them. If the wish of saving souls is their only object in crossing the seas, why not also go a little farther, and preach the gospel to the thousands of inhabitants of the Arctic regions, now wandering in the ways of sin and darkness? The facilities for passage to and from there are unbounded—why not avail themselves of them? Simply because their creature comforts would not be promoted by the change—and charity, they say, "begins at home." It would not do to preach amid ice and snow, where comforts are but few and danger rife;—the love of God freezes in their hearts at the mere thought, and they recoil from the idea of substituting the chilling North, for the balmy breath of the Equator. "Oh! consistency, thou art a jewel!"

This is merely a prelude to a series of articles on these subjects which, with your permission, I intend to publish—therefore I draw the present to a close.

JAMES SULLIVAN.

New York, Dec. 10, 1851.

## DIET OF THE HUNGARIANS.

An intelligent correspondent of the *Independent*, giving an account of his observations in Hungary, speaks of the uniformly strong and athletic appearance of the inhabitants. He goes on to speak of their habits of eating, as follows:—

I took considerable pains in Hungary to notice the diet and habits of eating of the people, as connected with this remarkable vigor of the race, hoping some useful hints might be derived for America on the subject. This seemed more desirable, as there is no country of Europe so resembling our own, or at least the Middle States of our own, in climate. The same extremes of heat and cold; the same sudden, violent changes of temperature; the same clear, stimulating atmosphere, which mark the American climate, and