

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The Treaty relative to the cession of Savoy and Nice was signed at Turin before M. Thouvenel addressed his note of the 14th to the foreign Powers who signed the Final Act of Vienna.

A despatch, announcing that an anti-annexationist manifestation had taken place at Nice, has been received, the anti-annexationists desiring to form "a free city" if they cannot remain with Piedmont.

LYONS, MARCH 20.—The Salut Public states that the 2nd and 3rd Dragoons have received orders to be in readiness to leave between the 25th of March and the 5th of April.

The sole reason France puts forth for annexing Savoy is the strengthening her military frontier against the aggrandized kingdom of Northern Italy.

"Certainly, France will gain nothing by obtaining these provinces in spite of their expressed desire to belong to Switzerland. She will lose the consideration which she had won from Europe by her moderation and her respect for treaties.

I mentioned several days since that universal suffrage, which is transferring Central Italy to the Crown of Sardinia, would not be applied to Savoy. The reason of this difference is not sufficiently set forth by those who make it, nor is it clearly explained why a mere manifestation of municipalities, prepared months ago, or a simple treaty "conveying" Savoy to France, should be preferred.

While we are told that the people of Savoy will be at liberty to choose between annexation to France or to form an independent State, it is said that the plan of its future administration has been long since arranged, and the names of the future prefects of its departments are already spoken of, one of whom is a certain journalist who has contended, very strenuously for annexation.

The actions instituted against the Bishop of Orleans have terminated in the complete triumph of the latter. The Siecle is furious, and the Times Paris correspondent comments hereupon in a most edifying strain:—

"He who loses his suit has, according to the old maxim, the privilege of cursing his judges for four and twenty hours. Whether the Siecle consoles itself with this harmless pastime I cannot say; but few plaintiffs could lay a stronger claim to the privilege. Dazzled by the flashes of Berryer's declamation, thundered at by the right reverend defendant himself in full Court, and finally told by two-thirds of the Judges that there were no grounds for its action, are enough for one day. But he who, perhaps, feels as much as the Siecle, is the Minister of Public Instruction; that is, if it be true, as has been affirmed, and not contradicted, that he approved the prosecution and the letter which the aged niece of Bishop Rousseau addressed to the Procureur, demanding that Bishop Dupanloup should be prosecuted for his comments on the conduct of her uncle. The Minister abuses the privilege of blundering, and would do well to give up the practice altogether.

It certainly appeared strange to our notions that a newspaper, particularly one like the Siecle the ardent partisan of liberty of thought and speech, should institute a prosecution at law against the writer of a pamphlet who only defended the cause to which he was attached (whatever the abstract merits or demerits of that cause may be) against the structures of the Siecle. I set aside the priestly character of the defendant, for a Bishop enjoys no special immunity from the consequences of his acts; but one cannot help fearing that even the warmest supporters of freedom here have yet to learn all that constitutes it. It must not be forgotten that the publication of the episcopal letters on what is called the "Papal question" was interdicted to the press, and that a pamphlet comparatively limited in its publicity, might have been answered by the Siecle, whose circulation exceeds beyond comparison that of any other French newspaper, without summoning its literary adversary before a court of law.

The prosecution of M. Dupanloup for his comments on his predecessor is quite as strange. Bishop Dupanloup, as you are aware, wrote with much ardour in support of the temporal power of the Pope. From the archives, it is said, of one of the Ministerial offices were extracted the Pastoral Letters of his predecessors, and one was given from Bishop Rousseau, who administered the See till 1810, under the first Empire. It was communicated to the Government print, the Constitutionnel, in the columns of which it appeared, and the conduct of Bishop Rousseau was held up as a model for other members of the Episcopacy, and was particularly contrasted with that of Bishop Dupanloup. The dead Bishop was, in fact, evoked to bear testimony against the living one. No lover of fair play could refuse to Bishop Dupanloup the right to cross-examine this formidable witness, with a view to show what amount of credit he was entitled to. He did exercise that right, and no esprit de corps led him to cover with a veil what he looked upon as deformities in the portrait thus sketched of his predecessor. He followed the example set him by his opponents, and he, too, searched into archives, and produced documents on which he maintained that the authority by which he was called upon to regulate his conduct was no authority at all; and that Bishop Rousseau's own letters to the Minister of the first Napoleon showed that neither among ecclesiastics nor laymen could there be found more timidity, subserviency, or time serving. He proved from the words of the Bishop himself that he was a constant solicitor for Court favours and honors, and that even his addresses to his clergy were dictated by fear or by cupidity. His conclusion was that the predecessor in question was not the man to be set up as an example for a Bishop to follow. It was for his estimate on this model prelate of the Constitutionnel that one of the surviving relations of Bishop Rousseau brought the action for damages at the same time as the Siecle.

Now Bishop Rousseau died some fifty years ago; and it can hardly be denied that a writer may criticize the acts of one who prominently figured in the history of the period.

The official prosecutors were clearly unwilling to push matters to an extreme; for a heavy fine, if not the imprisonment of a bishop, might add to the complications of the "Roman question," which, like Peter Peebles long and tedious law suit, has much more than it can well bear as it is. The Tribunal, however, threw in a few severe remarks, by way of qualifying the acquittal it could not but pronounce. In one of the closing considerations of the Court there is an error which I cannot omit noticing. It says:—

"If the heirs of Bishop Rousseau have been hurt by the publication of documents relating to the private life of their relative, and which they thought safe from all publicity with the depositary where they confidently left them, and were troubled in their feelings in a haughty and ironical discussion by recollections which they considered placed under the guardianship of him who has so harshly revealed them," &c.

This is not correct. The documents published by Bishop Dupanloup did not relate to the private life of his predecessors, but to his public acts as a bishop; and, as such, they remain deposited in the archives of the diocese of Orleans, and may be used as materials by the historian just as the documents published by the Constitutionnel.—Times Corr.

Father Felix preached his third Conference at Notre Dame on Sunday last. The subject was Jesus Christ—the author of social progress; the model, the strength, and the protection of the family. He dwelt with much point upon the causes of the dissolution of respect and affection in the family, which he proclaimed to be the great evil of our days; and he represented Revolution as directing its insidious attacks against the sacred household hearth. To effect her purpose, she accommodates herself to all systems; at times she is republican, democratic, constitutional, despotic, as suits her purpose, but she is ever vigilant and corrupting. He declared that one of the worst characteristics of Revolution was the hostility which it exhibited to marriage—representing it to the young men of society as a servitude rather than a great tainistry—regulating it by the

cupidity of the father and the vanity of the mother, or avoiding it through the sensuality of one sex and the luxuriosness of the other." He said that, if the revolution progressed in its attacks upon marriage, as it threatened to do, it would be required to re-enact that law of Augustus which, in the great corruption of Roman profligacy, found it necessary to offer a reward to all bachelors that should marry; and he designated that class of young men as "les colibats de la volupte." If I were to attempt a further analysis, I should risk to misinterpret one of the most powerful and scathing discourses that has ever been pronounced, and I should fail to convey to your readers any idea of the impression produced upon his auditory. I am, however, able to give you in full this week that passage of his second conference in which he spoke of Ireland and Poland:—"If, indeed, it were required strongly to attest that incomparable strength which Jesus Christ gives to humanity when he has become incorporated in the family circle; and if it were necessary to render solemn testimony to the power of that ineradicable and immortal patriotism which fidelity to God thro' continuous generations does not fail to develop, I might invoke two great illustrations. I need only pronounce to you two names, celebrated at once by a love of their religion and of their country, which have resisted singly and together the triple ordeal of martyrdom, exile, and time—I need only name to you Ireland and Poland. Ireland and Poland, in whom steadfast faith could not be subdued by schismatical oppression; Ireland and Poland, out of whose hearts the dominion of the stranger has been impotent to eradicate their unconquerable patriotism; Ireland and Poland, sisters in religion and fidelity as in suffering and persecution; and both exhibited even yet to the world, that has been a witness to so much outrage and so much baseness, the miracle that Jesus can effect in the honor of those peoples—the influence of those nations and imperishable renown of their magnanimity." While the echo of this magnificent eulogy on the past history of Catholic Ireland yet tingles in our ears, it is painful to be obliged to transcribe the comments of a French Catholic journal upon the issue of the late contest for Cork county. L'Ami de la Religion writes:—"Mr. Deasy, the Attorney-General, has been re-elected for Cork County, thanks to the support of the Orange landlords. Grave consequences must result from this to the Catholics of Ireland. I doubt much how far it will be to their profit."—Cor. Tablet.

AUSTRIA.

"Austria, considering the annexation of Central Italy to Piedmont as a flagrant violation of the Treaty of Zurich, which formally reserved the rights of the deposed Princes, has resolved to adjourn the renewal of official relations with the Court of Turin. In consequence of this resolve, Baron de Brenner, who was to fulfil the function of representative of Austria at Turin, has returned to his former post at Athens."

"The French Ambassador, the Marquis de Moustier, informed the Austrian Government, a few days ago, of the approaching evacuation of Lombardy by the French troops, Austria, in accordance with the principles contained in Count Rechberg's despatch of the 17th of February, would continue to observe non-intervention in the affairs of Central Italy."

"The Austrian Government has despatched its reply direct to Paris. The Austrian note says that since the interview at Villafranca the Emperor Francis Joseph has made too many sacrifices for the maintenance of peace to be able to recommence a struggle which would soon become an European war. But, although maintaining a merely observant attitude, Austria feels, nevertheless, that she must draw the attention of France to the secret intrigues of Sardinian agents in Venice, as well as to the continued provocations of the Piedmontese Ministry and she repeats most distinctly that the Emperor Francis Joseph will not hesitate to make the greatest sacrifices in defence of his rights over Venetia."

During the last few days negotiations relative to Savoy have been going on between England, Prussia, Russia, and France. Prussia proposed to the other Powers to send to Paris an identical note, containing a protest against the annexation of Savoy. The reply given to the proposition by the British and Russian Governments has not transpired, but it is reported that Austria will not protest against the annexation of Savoy because the other Powers tacitly consent to the incorporation of the Italian Duchies by Sardinia. The fact is, that this Government is very wary with Prussia for declining to guarantee the Italian possessions of Austria on this side of the Mincio, and with England for encouraging King Victor Emmanuel to annex the whole of Central Italy. As the Austrian public did not trouble itself about politics before the year 1848 it is ignorant of the fact that Victor Emmanuel II. is now doing to the House of Hapsburg-Lorraine exactly what the Austrian Government formerly tried to do to the Carignan branch of the House of Savoy.—King Victor Emmanuel I. had but one child, a daughter, who was married to the Austrian Archduke Francis of Modena. The Austrian Government endeavored to prevail on the old king to disregard the Salic Law, which is valid in Sardinia, and to make his daughter's husband the heir to his crown, but the English and French Governments were averse from the project, and strongly advised the Sardinian monarch not to do such a wrong to his lawful heir, Charles Albert of Carignan. When Charles Felix, the brother of Victor Emmanuel I., ascended the throne, the Imperial Cabinet would have returned to the charge, but the Sardinian Monarch was much attached to Charles Albert, and he was, besides, very desirous to get rid of the Austrian army of occupation, which, however, remained until towards the end of the year 1823. In official circles it is related that the Neapolitan army will at once enter the Papal States, if the Sardinians take possession of the Romagna. It is said that the French troops will immediately quit Rome and retire to Civita Vecchia if the Papal Government should pronounce the sentence of excommunication against the King of Sardinia. Prodigious exertions are now made in Austria to raise recruits for Rome and Naples, but special orders have been given that all such levies be carefully avoided.

PRUSSIA.

A letter from Berlin, in the Boersenhalle, says:—"Our Cabinet has forwarded to Paris, relative to the Savoy question, a declaration which explains, while waiting for those of the other great Powers, its objections on the subject of the incorporation of Savoy and of Nice. The observations made in this document refer partly to principles, partly to material facts."

"As regards principles, Prussia points out how dangerous appear to it the application of theories 'of natural frontiers,' 'universal suffrage,' &c. As regards the fact itself, Prussia declares openly that the cession of the slopes of the Alps to the France seriously weakens the security of the frontiers of Switzerland and of Germany."

"Naturally, this communication, which is isolated and not supported by any other Power, is couched in very moderate terms; it cannot be looked upon as a protest against the annexation."

A letter from Berlin of the 17th ult., says:—"The French despatch which undertakes to explain the necessity for the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France arrived here yesterday, and has been communicated by the French Envoy, M. de la Tour d'Auvergne, to the Government."

"It is thought that, without joining in the formal protest of Switzerland, Prussia and Austria will support the claims of Switzerland in this sense, that all the districts which are neutralized shall remain so. It is also supposed that a joint measure of non-recognition will be taken by England and Prussia."

SWITZERLAND.

The Journal de Geneve publishes the following article:—

"Every day which brings us nearer to the solution of the Savoy question increases the anxiety of those who are directly interested in it. When we behold even powerful England herself, who formerly took the lead in the settlement of the affairs of Europe, reduced to wishes and hopes, and engaged in a Parliamentary debate without issue, it will be understood that Switzerland is deeply moved at the solution of a question which may involve her very existence. If the strong are anxious; if the statesmen of Great Britain are at their wits' end; if they behold with great apprehension the addition of a few hundred thousand souls to 36,000,000 inhabitants; if the nation which might contemplate France mistress of the whole continent without feeling itself less safe in its own island, with its hundreds of men-of-war and the largest Empire in the world,—if England is troubled by this new development of the French Empire, how must Switzerland feel—that little country, whose existence, is above all things, a question of European equilibrium and of a balance of interests and forces? Where is our future, where our peace, where our security, if rights are trodden under foot, if force justifies aggression, if a given word no longer holds good? What is to be done, how are we to act, on what are we to rely under such circumstances? Have we not every reason to be alarmed? No Swiss can calmly look upon a situation which would place one half of the valley of the Lemman under French occupation, and it is under circumstances like the present that the free citizens of a free country feel more than ever the necessity of giving each other mutual support, and that they feel proud in feeling they can trust the authorities elected by the nation. No. However uncertain the future may be, Switzerland will remain true to herself, and will never despair of her cause, and we say it with high satisfaction, the Federal Council has shown itself hitherto equal to its task. The note (protest) of M. Kern in an additional proof its wisdom and of its intelligence. We shall place confidence in the pledged word of Napoleon III. The interests of the Swiss Confederation, guaranteed by the permanent union of North Savoy with Switzerland,—that is what was promised to the representative of England and of Switzerland at Paris, and the official assurance of it was notified to the Federal Council. We shall not cease to recall this to mind, supported by official documents and by the wishes of the populations of Chablais, Faucigny, and the Genevois."

ITALY.

Victor Emmanuel accepts, a despatch says, annexation of the Romagna, in spite of the formidable opposition of the Emperor Napoleon III.

The Patrie says:—"50,000 men are about to be levied in Tuscany, and 25,000 men in the Emilia provinces, which will increase the Sardinian army to nearly 300,000 men. It is asserted that Piedmont will contract a loan of 150,000,000."

The Nord publishes the chief portions of the reply of the Papal Government to the despatch of M. de Thouvenel respecting the Romagna. The document (says the Nord) is too long to give in extenso, but we extract those passages which make known the resolutions of the Court of Rome and its secret hopes.

Cardinal Antonelli commences by denying the motives attributed as the cause of the rising in the Romagna. What proves, he says, that the Romagnoles were not dissatisfied is that the other provinces of the Church did not revolt. Piedmont is at the bottom of it all.

The Cardinal then continues as follows:—"But every one sees that this has nothing to do with the means best calculated to restore the patrimony of the Church in all its integrity to the Holy Father, according to the declarations made at that period."

"Relative to that supreme object, the past offers many reminiscences, which may facilitate the means; the present consists of a refusal of efficacious help. Difficulties are thrown in the way of any one attempting it; detrimental delays are occasioned; advice is given to men who are by no means conciliatorily inclined; reforms are proposed which the Holy Father has first to weigh before God, finally, advice is given to abdicate in part what cannot in any manner be done."

"If it was still possible some months back to entertain the illusion of the possibility of pacifying the different States of Italy by means of reforms and concessions; such an illusion can no longer be entertained, since those parties have publicly declared, as in the pretended memorandum of the Government of Bologna, and as one of the chief authors of the revolt has done in a recent pamphlet, that no reform can satisfy them except the full and absolute destruction of the temporal power of the Church. Is it possible, with men so inclined, to come to an arrangement by means of reforms?"

"Despite all this, the Holy Father has not turned a deaf ear to the proposals of reforms submitted to him by the French Government. He even eagerly welcomed them, he only made one condition—that those reforms should not be contrary to his conscience and to the real welfare of his subjects."

M. Thouvenel cannot be ignorant of the negotiations which took place at Rome, between the Pontifical Government and the French Ambassador, and he must be aware of the result. The Imperial Government was satisfied with it. This is evident, first from a declaration made by Count Walewski relative to the subject; then, in his despatch numbered 1,867 dated the 13th of October of last year; and finally by the eagerness shown a few months since by the same Government to behold the said reforms immediately promulgated. The reasons, however, which induced the Holy Father to postpone such a step until the insurgent provinces had returned to order cannot escape any one."

"To have acted otherwise would not have been conformable either to the dignity of the Sovereign Pontiff nor suitable to achieve the object in view. On the one hand it would have appeared as if the concessions were made under pressure, and not voluntarily; on the other hand, there was the danger that the reforms might have been disdainfully received. In either case authority would have suffered."

"The French Government understood the strength of this reasoning; consequently, through the said Count Walewski, it made known unto us at that time that it would cease to urge them, as new imperious conjunctures might advise a different course—a prevision which has not been realized. Moreover, the publication of those reforms was not the means to reduce the insurgents of the Romagna to obedience. In their pretended memorandum they stated what they wanted."

But, if the Holy Father can consent that reforms may be spoken of, it is impossible for him to listen to a partial abdication. Motives of a far different bearing than terrestrial interests forbid it. Now, nothing less than a partial abdication is suggested in the letter forwarded from Desenzano under date of the 14th of July of last year. The principal portion of that letter is given textually in the despatch of the Minister of Foreign Affairs; this seems to denote a renewal of the proposition, or, at least, to make it believed that if the revolt is not suppressed in the Romagna the cause is to be attributed to the refusal to adhere to that proposition. Now, your Excellency will easily understand that a separate administration, with an elective council, with no other dependence upon the Sovereign Pontiff except the nomination by him of a lay governor and the payment of a tribute, would be equivalent to absolute abdication. There would remain, it is true, a certain subreignty, but that now-a-days means nothing."

In all Europe there is nothing which, in moral grandeur, equals the attitude of the Sovereign Pontiff. Austria has been defeated; Prussia has been disgraced; England has been befooled; the Pope alone has made no blunder, has betrayed no duty,

has compromised no principle: He is the one representative of right against might; he is the one instance in these days of a reliance upon truth, and justice, and God, against force, and cunning, and greediness.—Tablet.

NAPIES.—Letters from the frontier announce increased agitation. A popular manifestation has taken place at Atri. Banners were displayed bearing the words "Victor Emmanuel for ever!" The police checked the revolt. Eighty individuals who were compromised fled over the frontier.

Speaking of the Neapolitan exiles, the Times correspondent says:—

The greatest wonders, however, are yet to be told. Both these open-hearted Neapolitan diplomats had a private audience of the Pope, and pleaded in behalf of these unfortunate exiles from their country. His Holiness did not hesitate a moment to signify his good pleasure that as many of these exiles as chose to reside quietly in Rome should be suffered to live there unmolested, and some of them have, in consequence, actually taken up their quarters in the Eternal City; but, under the inspiration of this fresh instance of the King's outrageous policy, the Pontiff reviewed in no mild terms the whole conduct of the Neapolitan Government, both under the old and the New Sovereign, and expressed his inflexible opinions to the effect that the Bourbons of the Two Sicilies were "really too bad—a disgrace to the kingdom which they trade all the world over, bent on doing their worst to bring discredit upon the whole family of crowned heads, and to pull down the edifice of Royalty about their own ears and those of their neighbours." "Why said the Holy Father, warning me up as he spoke, why cannot your King, if he won't heed my words, at least follow my example? See! Here am I, attacked on all sides, with three of my best provinces wrenched from me, with a Royal Vicar pained upon me—here am I, at the head of a riotous people, of a mutinous soldiery, forsaken by friends, scoffed at by enemies, urged to part with temporal power (that is to execute myself), threatened with schism, persecuted with rebellion, summoned before congresses, forbidden to hold councils, my subjects turning up their noses at my cigars, spurning my lottery tickets, giving the go-by to my taxgatherers—yet do I not bear with it all? Do I not pray for my enemies? Do I not endure the kiss of my false friends? Why should not your King show mercy to these misguided men: why should he not bless them that curse him, and do good to them that hate him?" &c.

Such, if you make allowance for trifling inaccuracies inseparable from verbal report and translation, were the Pope's words as quoted by the Neapolitan diplomatists to their fellow citizens, and by these latter repeated to myself.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

In the last engagement, the Spaniards had 250 killed and wounded. The Moors numbered 16,000, and the action lasted seven hours. There was another severe fight on the 7th when the Spaniards were victorious. Tangier is expected to be attacked in a few days. The whole Spanish fleet had left Gibraltar for Tetuan.

SEPARATE SCHOOL ACT.

An Act to amend "An Act respecting Separate Schools" in Upper Canada in so far as the same relates to Roman Catholic Separate Schools.

Her Majesty, &c., enacts as follows: I. Section numbered eighteen of chapter sixty-five of the Consolidated Statutes of Upper Canada is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof the following shall be substituted:—

"Any number of persons, not less than five, being heads of families, and freeholders or householders, resident within any School Section of any Township, Village or Town, or within any ward of any City, or Town, and being Roman Catholics, may convene a public meeting of persons desiring to establish a Separate School for Roman Catholics, in such School Section or ward, for the election of Trustees for the management of the same."

II. Section number twenty of the said Act is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof the following shall be substituted:—

Notice of the holding of such meeting, and of such election of Trustees, shall be given by one of the Trustees so elected, to the Reeve or head of the Municipality, or to the Chairman of the Board of Common School Trustees, in the Township, Village, Town, or City in which such School is about to be established, designating by their names, professions, and residences, the persons elected in the manner aforesaid, as Trustees for the management thereof.

III. Section number twenty-three of the said Act is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof the following shall be substituted:—

"Where such notice has been given of the election of Trustees in more than one ward of any city or town, or in more than one school section in any municipality adjoining or contiguous to each other, the Trustees therein may, if they think fit, form a union for the establishment of separate schools in such parts of said cities or towns, or in such sections of the municipality as they think fit; and from the day in which the notice announcing such union shall be published in any public newspaper, issued in such city, town, village or municipality, or in the city, town, village or municipality nearest thereto, the Trustees of the several wards in such city or town, and the Trustees of such sections in any municipality, shall form a body corporate, under the title of 'The Board of Trustees of the Roman Catholic United Separate Schools, for the city (or town) of' in the county of 'or 'The Board of Trustees of the Roman Catholic United Separate Schools, for the United Sections, numbers (as the case may be,) in the township of' in the county of '"

IV. Section numbered twenty-two of the said Act is hereby repealed, and in lieu thereof the following shall be substituted:—

"Every person paying rates, whether as proprietor or tenant, who, on or before the first day of February in any year, gives, or who on or before the first day of February of the present year, has given to the Clerk of the municipality, notice that he is a Roman Catholic, and a supporter of a Separate School situated in the said municipality, or in a municipality contiguous thereto, shall be exempted from the payment of all rates imposed for the support of common schools, and of common school libraries, or for the purchase of land or erection of buildings for common school purposes, within the new municipality, for the now current year, and every subsequent year thereafter, while he continues a supporter of a Separate School.—And such notice shall not be required to be renewed annually; and it shall be the duty of the Trustees of every separate school to transmit to the Clerk of the municipality, on or before the first day of June in each year, a correct list of the names of all persons supporting the separate schools under their management."

V. Section number thirty-four of the said Act is hereby repealed, and the following shall be substituted in lieu thereof:—

"The Trustees of each such Separate School, shall, on or before the thirtieth day of June, and thirty-first day of December of each year, transmit to the Chief Superintendent of Education for Upper Canada, a correct Return of the names of the children attending such School, together with the average attendance during the six next preceding months, or during the number of months which have elapsed since the establishment thereof, and the number of months it has been so kept open, and the Chief Superintendent shall, thereupon, determine the proportion which the Trustees of such Separate School are entitled to receive out of such Legislative grant, and shall pay over the amount thereof to such Trustees; and provided always, that should the said Return be proved, to the satisfaction of the Chief