

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE

PARIS, April 28.—The Correctional Tribunal of Lyons was engaged during the whole of last week with the trial of 29 persons accused of belonging to secret societies, of propagating the tenets of those associations, and of being in possession of arms for use in contemplated insurrections. The affair has been much discussed by the French papers under the name of the Lyons Plot, and its instructions, or preliminary investigation, has extended over nearly half a year. From the opening speech of the Procureur of the Republic, it appeared that, towards the end of 1872, certain leading men of the International applied themselves to reorganize that association in France, in which country it had been severely stricken and weakened by the defeat of the Paris Commune, by the repressive law of the 24th of March, 1872, and also by intestine divisions, especially by rivalries between the schools of Marx and of Bakounine. In France, as in Southern Europe, in Belgium, and in Switzerland, the latter system was generally predominant. It consists in the creation of independent groups, organizing and administering themselves, and connected only by the bonds of a frequent correspondence. In France this system has the obvious advantage of facilitating concealment. All uniformity of organization and common rules for the mode of affiliation being abolished, the French groups were enabled to assume the most various forms, and thus escape the prohibitions and penalties of the law. Among the groups formed at Lyons were two, one at the Croix Rousse, and one at the Guillotiere, to which belonged most of the men who have just been condemned. Most of these were of the lowest class as regards morality and reputation, and several of them were proved to have earned their livelihood by infamous means, while others had been compromised in previous conspiracies and subversive attempts. A certain Beriasse was the principal founder of the Croix Rousse group, and four of his companions had shared in revolutionary movements subsequent to the 4th of September, 1870. The Guillotiere group was founded by one Dubois, a fortune-teller at fairs. Beriasse had been a smuggler of prohibited books from Switzerland into France, and, being well acquainted with the frontier country, had been in the habit of serving as guide to criminals flying from justice. He and a certain Perroncel were charged with the correspondence. The members of the society subscribed two sous a week, which were afterwards increased to five. One of the principal objects of these associations of malefactors was the distribution of the pamphlets of the International, bought in Geneva and smuggled into France. These were spread about in the workshops, and great pains were taken to secure their passage through as many hands as possible, in order to propagate the abominable doctrines they contained. Specimens of these were read upon the trial. They declared open war against all religion. One of them said:—"The world would be grateful to the man who should for ever deliver the human race from the cholera; it would have no indulgence for him who should seek to deliver it from the plague of religions, which have done infinitely more harm to mankind, and which are a disgraceful leprosy, clinging to reason and defacing it. God and property can only make tyrants and slaves, and that is why I declare war against both."

The titles of many of these pamphlets sufficiently bespeak their contents—*The Crimes of the Popes, par un Damié, The Knaveeries of Bishops and Priests, by an Apostate*, and others still more scandalous. Every institution that contributed to the support and protection of society was immediately a mark for the foulest abuse. The army could not escape attack:—"Be accursed, soldiers, infamous executioners, murderers of women! Shame upon the banditti! Curses upon you, assassins whose arms have caused so much blood and so many tears to flow!"

In a pamphlet entitled *Our Generals*, those officers and the bourgeoisie were alike condemned—the latter for seeking the protection of the former—and both were denounced as fit only for the scaffold. In another of these precious publications, called *Social Liquidation*, the following passage occurs:—"Massacres ought to be the sole thought and occupation of the working man, whose interest it is to rid himself completely of those who live by his labor. The enemy is easily discerned. You have only to look at his hands. Assassination is the indispensable instrument by which a beginning must be made. *Morte la bete, mort le venin*; for great evils, great remedies."

Another group or section was formed at St. Etienne. Gillet was the St. Etienne correspondent, and sometimes the subscriptions were insufficient to pay his postage. It was shown on the trial that letters from all countries were addressed to him under nine different names. In Switzerland, Bakounine, James Guillaume, and Pindy, all chiefs of the International, were his correspondents. At Barcelona he had one Camet, born at Lyons in 1850, and who, in 1869, was already an adept of the International, who had deserted from the army, and who had been a refugee in various countries.

One of the papers of the Association, the *Solidarity Revue* of the 14th of August, 1873, announced the meeting of a general congress of the International, to be held at a beer-house in Geneva on the 1st of September, the object being to organize universal anarchy. The clandestine print said:—"On a given day the immense machine of labour will stop; the mines will have no workmen, manufactories and workshops will be empty, railways cease to run; the streets are unlighted, the Post Office suspends its functions, the Government is without a telegraph, there is neither bread at the baker's nor meat at the butcher's; the whole people is in the street, and says, to its annihilated masters, 'I will recommence work only when property shall be transformed, when the instruments of labour shall be in my hand—in the hand of the toiler!'"

Young though he is, Camet was a leading spirit in these deliberations, and drew up a programme.

The programme, headed "Committee of Revolutionary Action of the Working Men," was printed and distributed. Article 1 ran as follows:—"Considering that all past Governments have, to this day have been nothing but lies and hypocrisies, and that any central power can only defer the emancipation of labour and of labourers, we declare Lyons a free and self-governing Commune."

This remarkable proclamation then decreed the dissolution of every sort of police, the abolition of all existing codes, laws, and decrees, as well as of magistrates. Courts of Assize, correctional tribunals, &c., were all to be replaced by a popular tribunal. Direct and indirect taxation was to be done away with, and was to be replaced by a property tax. Public worship and a standing army were of course put an end to.

Meanwhile the Assembly had met; the expected project of a Monarchical restoration was not brought forward; the Government seemed resolute and the army staunch. The conspirators did not see the opportunity they had expected; they were rather cowed, and they hesitated to act. The police were on their trail and they knew it, but they delayed too long to seek safety in flight. "General" Camet, however thought it prudent to change his head quarters from Lyons to St. Etienne. On his way to the station, escorted by three aides-de-camp a hand was placed on his shoulder as he passed, across the Place Bellecour. Probably the capture was too sudden to allow of his making use of a loaded six-shooter and a dagger knife, which were found upon his person. He and his friend Gillet had been sentenced to five years' imprisonment, which may be thought rather a light punishment for criminals who intended to commit all the crimes they were proved to contemplate. Their companions escaped with minor penalties—small fines and from three to six months' imprisonment.

SPAIN. BAYONNE, May 12.—The Carlists claim a victory in the recent engagement between the Royalists under Don Alfonso, and the Republicans. They say 350 Republicans were killed and wounded, and 300 taken prisoners.

MADRID, May 15.—General Concha is pushing forward to occupy the passes between Biscay and the Guipuzcoa Valley. Many inhabitants are leaving Bilbao. Don Carlos is at Tolosa with the main body of his forces. The political situation in Madrid continues critical.

BAYONNE, May 16.—General Elio has retreated from the position of chief of the staff of Don Carlos, and has been succeeded by Gen. Dorregaray.

MAY 15.—A letter to the *Times*, from Paris says it is the impression here that the New Spanish Ministry will shortly exhibit Alfonsist tendencies. A large proportion of the better classes of Spaniards look forward to the entronement of the Prince of Asturias, as offering the best chance for the prosperity of Spain, despite the strong doubts existing whether he possesses the qualities fitting him for the duties of Sovereign.

ITALY. There is abundant evidence to show that crimes against life and property are increasing in Italy instead of diminishing. Just before the Easter recess, a Deputy of the Italian Lower House of Parliament, named Spina, called the attention of the Chamber to the subject of the alarming increase of crime. His speech, as reported in the *Official Acts of the Chamber*, conveys a very forcible picture of the insecurity for life and property now prevalent throughout various Italian provinces. He says:—"The continuous increase of offences in Italy is a truth, and that if such increase is not every where uniform and equal, it is yet exceedingly alarming." He then quotes official figures, certified by the approval of the Minister Lanza, and asserts the existence "within the provinces of a secret army of ruffians which escapes the pursuit of justice, and which in November, 1872, reached to the enormous number of 82,000 robbers, who laughed at the police as at a useless scarecrow." Signor Spina considers that the number of convicted criminals has largely increased since 1872, and mentions as one cause of the present wretched condition of society "the unjust acquittals of culprits in the courts of assize." The magistracy and police are alike incompetent to grapple with the evil, and therefore, "it is no wonder"—such is the assertion of Signor Spina—"that in some of the most unfortunate of the provinces the condition of public security is most deplorable."

THE MARRIAGE BILL.—The Bishops of the Province of Genoa have forwarded a protest to the Italian Parliament against the proposed Bill making it imperative to celebrate the civil marriage before the ecclesiastical one. The Bishops point out the injustice of abolishing the ancient rights of the Church regarding matrimony among Christians, rights which were not created or conferred by the State, but which arise from the divine character of the Sacrament of Marriage in the Catholic Church. They assert it is a hardship to attach penalties to the celebration of the Sacraments, and an interference with the independence of the Church and with civil liberty. This protest bears the signature of the Archbishop of Genoa; the Bishops of Ventimiglia, Savona and Noli; Luni-Sarzana and Brugnato, Albenga, and Bobbio, and the Vicar-Capitular of ortona.

PROTESTANT CONTROVERSIALISTS IN ROME.—After the departure of Mgr. Capel, the Protestant agents in Rome got up some meetings and lectures with a view of answering the arguments of the Catholic preacher. Gavazzi was employed to deliver a course of sermons and to take part in Biblical conferences, and used a bitterness and coarseness of language in his harangues which offended many of the Protestants. He termed Pius IX. the reptile of the Tisara—*reptile ircoornato*. The managers of the Scotch Presbyterian Church outside the Porta del Popolo were much annoyed by this offensive style of preaching. One of the Elders wrote to the *British* explaining that the Committee, when granting the use of their Church to the Italian Bible Society, stipulated that no violent language should be employed against any individual.

GERMANY. TIMES ITEMS FROM GERMANY.—The *Volkzeitung* of Cologne, says that Archbishop Melchers has been fined 200 thalers, or two months' imprisonment for having appointed a priest to a charge of souls; and that the Prince-bishop of Olmutz has been fined 600 thalers, or four months' imprisonment for a similar offence. In two cases; and the *Gazette of Cologne* tells us that Wojciechowski, Vicar-General of Gnosien, has been arrested and carried to Bromberg on an unknown charge.

During the last few days there have again been numerous convictions of bishops and priests under the Ecclesiastical Laws. The most noteworthy are those of the Prince Archbishop of Olmutz, who was in contumaciam sentenced by the District Court of Ratibor to pay a fine of 600 thalers or to undergo six months' imprisonment for having unlawfully appointed two priests in the Prussian part of his diocese, and of Bishop von der Marwitz of Culm, who was sentenced by the District Court of Stargard to pay a fine of 600 thalers or undergo four months' imprisonment for a similar offence.

EASTERN GAZETTE.—The Berlin correspondent of the *Univers*, in recording the persecution in Germany, says that a round hundred of parish priests of Posen, have celebrated Easter in prison, for alleged violations of the Falck laws.—The same writer says

that the President of Westphalia has had the *naivete* to invite the Bishop of Paderborn to reinstate a certain Abbe Monnikes, (who is excommunicated) in his function under pain of a fine of 500 thalers. Monnikes, the President added, had been declared innocent by the new "religious" court of Berlin. The Bishop of Paderborn (Mgr. Martin) made the following pithy reply:—"I do not recognize the competence of the ecclesiastical court, and I do not contribute to the execution of its decrees." See, adds the correspondent, what it is to write briefly and to write well.

PROV.—The Abbe Florencoeur, who edits the Catholic paper of Katisbon informs his subscribers that he is just about to retire to prison for three months, having been condemned for insult to the Emperor and to Bismarck. "Condemned," he says, "according to law; and not so very severely!" The ironical tone of the condemned editor gives sufficient promise of his future career when he is again liberated. The Abbe adds that during the last five years, he has passed eighteen months' in prison either in Germany or Austria!

The financial results of the year 1873 have been laid before the Prussian Parliament, and show a surplus of 21 millions of thalers over the expenditure. The Alesation Deputies, who had withdrawn from the Reichstag, have decided, after a long deliberation, upon resuming their places in that Assembly. Count Arnim, the late German Ambassador in Paris, has written a letter to Dr. Dollinger, which has since been published, expressing disapproval of some recent ecclesiastical measures adopted by the German Government. This difference of views is expected to preclude the Count from assuming the post to which he had been nominated as Ambassador at Constantinople.—*Times*.

The first legislative assembly of New York was convened by a Catholic governor (Col. Dongas), and their first act was the "Charter of Liberty," passed Oct. 30, 1833, which among other things, declared that "no person or persons which profess faith in God by Jesus Christ shall at any time be in any way molested, punished, disquieted, or called in question for any difference of opinion or matter of religious concernment, who do not actually disturb the peace of the province; but that all and every such person or persons may, from time to time, and at all times, have and fully enjoy his or their judgments or consciences in matters of religion throughout the province—they behaving themselves peaceably and quietly, and not using this liberty to licentiousness, nor to the civil injury or outward disturbance of others."

ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSECRATION OF HIS GRACE THE MOST REV. ARCHBISHOP OF NEW ORLEANS.—Friday, the 1st of May, was the anniversary of the consecration of the Most Rev. Archbishop. On that day his Grace officiated pontifically in the Cathedral. The ceremony commenced at 9 o'clock. The Reverend clergy assisted in great numbers at the Mass. A large congregation of the laity crowded the church.

It is well known that Texas is the most extensive grazing State in the Union. One breeder of cattle there boasts that he will have twenty-five thousand calves to brand this season. He branded sixty-five thousand last year, and seventy thousand the year preceding. A great many calves are produced in other parts of the country, but it is doubtful whether any other single individual has more interest in the common weal than the prosperous Texan aforesaid.

The Louisiana sufferers need immediate relief.—One hundred and fifty thousand people are in want. Boston has just sent a second \$10,000. New York has begun to contribute liberally. The Government is sending rations and clothing. Some of the Southern cities even are forwarding relief; and Savannah has given two thousand dollars, and is collecting more.

Boston claims to have a diamond ring which once belonged to Sir Isaac Newton. That is nothing, St. Louis has the lead pencil with which Noah checked off the animals that went into the ark.—*St. Louis Democrat*.

What is Chicago going to do about this? Can't she produce the ladder that Eve used when she plucked the fatal apple.

MYSTERIOUS INFLUENCES.—Persons sometimes feel remarkably well—the appetite is vigorous, eating is a joy, digestion vigorous, exhilaration of spirits which altogether throw sleep sound, with an alacrity of body and a charm over life that makes us pleased with everybody and everything. Next week, tomorrow, in ten hours, a marvellous change comes over the spirit of the dream; the sunshine has gone, clouds portend, darkness covers the face of the great deep, and the whole man, body and soul, wilts away like a flower without water in midsummer. When the weather is cool and clear and bracing the atmosphere is full of electricity; when it is sultry and moist, and without sunshine, it holds but a small amount of electricity, comparatively speaking, and we have to give up what little we have, moisture being a good conductor; thus, giving up, instead of receiving more, as we would from the pure air, the change is too great, and the whole man languishes. Many become uneasy under these circumstances; "they cannot account for it," they imagine that evils is impending, and resort at once to tonics and stimulants. The tonics only increase the appetite, without imparting any additional power to work up the additional food, thus giving the system more work to do than less. Stimulants seem to give more strength; they work up the circulation, it is only temporarily, and unless a new supply is soon taken, the system runs further down than it would have done without the stimulant; hence it is in a worse condition than if none had been taken. The better course would be to rest, take nothing but cooling fruits, and berries, and melons, and some acid drink when thirsty, adding, if desired, some cold bread and butter; the very next morning will bring a welcome change.—*Hall's Journal of Health*.

IS FRIDAY AN UNLUCKY DAY?—An exchange answers the above question in the following satisfactory manner:—"On Friday, August 21, 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed on his great voyage of discovery. On Friday, October 12, 1492, he first discovered land. On Friday, January 4, 1493, he sailed on his return to Spain, which if he had not reached in safety, the happy result would never have been known which led to the settlement of this vast continent. On Friday, March 15, 1493, he arrived at Palos, in safety. On Friday, November 22, 1493, he arrived at Hispaniola, on his second voyage to America. On Friday, January 13, 1494, he, though unknown to himself, discovered the Continent of America. On Friday, March 5, 1496, Henry VIII. of England gave to John Cabot his commission, which led to the discovery of North America. This is the first American State paper in England. On Friday, September 7, 1565, Melendez founded St. Augustine, the oldest town in the United States by more than forty years. On Friday, February 22, George Washington, the father of American freedom, was born. On Friday, June 16, Bunker Hill was seized and fortified. On Friday, October 7, 1777, the surrender of Saratoga was made, which had such power and influence in inducing France to declare for our cause. On Friday, September 22, 1780, the treason of Arnold was laid bare, which saved us from destruction. On Friday, October 19, 1781, the surrender at Yorktown, the crowning glory of the American arms, occurred. On Friday, July 7, 1776, the motion in Congress was made by John Adams, seconded by Richard Henry Lee, that the United States Colonies were, and of right ought to be, free and independent. Thus, by numerous examples, we see that, however it may be with foreign

nations, Americans need never dread to begin on Friday any undertaking, however momentous it may be.—*Irish American*.

DOGS IN BOOTS.—In the regions of eternal snow and ice, where the only beast of burden is the dog, the cold is sometimes so intense that sharp icicles form between the claws of the canine sledge-travellers. This causes a serious obstacle to the speedy progression of the dogs, and would in a few days render them unfit for their laborious duties, as the icicles grow larger and larger as they go on, until the poor creatures are quite unable to stand. The older dogs will every now and then stop to bite off the icicles from their feet. Not so with the novice. He trudges wearily along; every step he takes adds to his torture, and after a time every imprint of his foot in the snow bears a red stain from his stiffened and bleeding paws. At such times the dog boot is called into requisition by the driver, principally for policy's sake, but occasionally, let us hope, out of humanity. The dog boot is generally made of raw hide, and is simply shaped like a small bag or pocket. This is drawn over the foot of the animal, and made secure by tying it around the ankle with a leathern string. Thus protected, and if the surface of the snow is pretty level, these wonderful Esquimaux dogs will travel at the rate of forty-five miles a day for many days in succession.

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