

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

We hear that General della Marmora, sent by the Piedmontese Government to present the congratulations of Victor Emmanuel to the King of Prussia on his accession to the throne, is much dissatisfied with his reception at Berlin.

A telegram from Constantinople of the 29th of January, announces that the Turkish Government, being requested by Russia to require the prolongation of the French occupation in Syria, replied that it would insist on the faithful execution of the convention with France.

There is a great movement of troops at present throughout France, in consequence of the formation of depots for the army of reserve. Various detachments of troops have sailed from Marseilles to reinforce the French army at Rome, and others are to follow. The conscripts of the year 1860 have received orders to join their depots by the 1st of February. Accounts from the ports of Brest, Cherbourg, L'Orient, and Toulon state that large supplies of copper and iron have been received there for the use of the dockyards. Orders which were given at Rochefort to construct two steel-plated frigates have been transferred to Brest and Cherbourg. 900 seamen have arrived at Toulon to complete the crews of the ships of war in that harbour.

The *Moniteur* announces that a first warning has been given to the *Courrier du Dimanche*.

An explanation by Count Persigny, Minister of the Interior, gives the reasons of this decision. He says:—"I should betray the interests of the State in tolerating discussion on the principle of the Imperial Government, and still more so if that principle should be outraged."

M. Persigny adds, "I have learnt that M. Ganesco, author of the article in question and editor of the *Courrier du Dimanche*, is a foreigner. I am astonished that he should have come here to insult the institutions of France, and I have ordered the Prefect of Police to expel him from France."

The *Siecle* returns to the subject of the French clergy being established on a new basis without the Pope as their head, as proposed not long since in a pamphlet written on the subject, and entitled *La France sans Pape*. It looks on such a course as by no means improbable in the end, should the higher clergy not change their system of proceeding. "If the education of the clergy were modified in France," says the article—

"If they were brought up in a national manner, like the rest of the citizens of the country, they would renounce their Ultramontane tendencies, and become national, and then there would be no need to make a schism in order to obtain religious tranquillity in France; then, without the Pope or with the Pope, France would no longer be agitated by foreign passions; she would not be, religiously speaking, a dependency on any power; she would be herself. But will the Bishops ever consent to give up those religious seminaries for priests in which the minds of young men are moulded at will, in which priests are, perhaps, made according to the sacerdotal spirit, but in which citizens are not formed?—We do not think they will. It is said that the gods blind those whom they mean to destroy, and we greatly fear that one of these days the bishops will be called on to make greater sacrifices than that of their religious houses of education. Under the last Republic a speaker in the Chamber said, '*Messieurs, l'Empire est fait*.' We will not say under the Pope that a schism is accomplished, but one has already its writers, its pamphlets, and its public. If the clergy and the Papacy do not resign themselves to a satisfactory reform, the schism may soon have more than that."

Commenting upon the Emperor's speech at the opening of the Legislature the *Times* correspondent writes:—

I will not repeat the passages of the Speech in which the Emperor drew a sort of contrast between the present system and that which formerly existed. I will merely observe that the taste displayed in instituting any comparison between the two was, at the least, equivocal. Mrs. Malaprop observes that "comparisons are odorous," and many legislators at the present day, who sat in the Peer and Chamber of Deputies in Louis Philippe's time, would, if they dared, avow the same sentiment. What would M. Baroche, the professed avenger of popular wrongs, or M. Billault, for instance, say, if they who considered that neither the Orleans Monarchy nor the Republican regime was half liberal enough? These passages of the Speech passed in silence; apparently even the most callous "convert" was ashamed to applaud them.

In the passages relative to foreign policy the flattering words regarding the King of Naples excited a burst of applause. Rightly or wrongly, it is not the less a fact that the sort of eulogium of Francis II. received more general and spontaneous welcome than any other part of the Imperial Speech, except those which were taken as indicating non-intervention and the maintenance of peace.

The following, I presume, is meant for Prussia:—

"Can a compact and united nation, counting 40,000,000 souls, fear being dragged into struggles of which she would not approve the object, or be provoked by a menace of any kind?"

VI. VINDICATION OF NATIONAL HONOR.—The *Augsburg Gazette* affirms that the following extraordinary epistle has been addressed by Marshal Pelissier to General Cialdini:—"Sir, you state in your last proclamation that you have made a French General (Lamortiere, we presume) fly. Knowing you as I know you, I know you to be perfectly incapable of such a thing.—But your falsehood acquires so much the more gravity and absurdity if it applies itself to a general who is braver than I. I do not wish to finish this certification here, but I reserve to myself to do so with the tip of my boot if ever I meet you as in the Crimea. Pelissier to Cialdini."

The Paris *Charivari* contains a caricature by "Cham," representing the year 1861 as a baby in leading strings. A classical-looking

lady, with sword and buckler, whose name is "France," stoops with benignant interest, and says to its nurse, "1861 begins to speak, but rather indistinctly, I think." The nurse replies, "Wait a little—he will soon speak more freely." This is the first political caricature which has appeared in France since November 2nd, 1851.

THE PARTY CASE IN PARIS.—The *Universel* announces that a sermon to be followed by a collection on behalf of the victims of Lord Plunket's persecution at Partry, is to be preached in Paris, at the church of St. Roch, by the far-famed bishop of Orleans, Mgr. Dupanloup. The collection is to be made by the near relation of the Emperor, the Duchess of Hamilton, Madame La Murechia de MacMahon, the Duchess of Fitzjames, the Prince of Wittgenstein, and the elite of the Catholic aristocracy of Europe. The *Universel* adds, that it is understood to be the intention of the illustrious Prelate to "speak some home truths to Protestant England." Is there no chance that the English Government will do something to wash from our national reputation the stigma of the outrages of the unhappy and besotted man whom the whole civilised world is thus combining to denounce? Be this as it may, the martyrdom of the poor Catholics of Partry, as we said long ago, has not been in vain. It has raised up a spirit throughout Europe, and we trust, throughout the Catholic world—which will tell with great force both against the long persecution in Ireland, of which it is merely the latest instance, and against the odious and alien church which lies at the root of it. The immediate abolition of that detestable institution is the one practical measure to which all these events should excite us.—*Weekly Register*.

ITALY.

The *Times* correspondent thus discourses on Italian politics, and the prospects for the future of Rome:—

My letter from Turin, corroborate, moreover, what I said some few days back of the hope that peace, so far as it depends upon Piedmont and Garibaldi to maintain it, it will be maintained. Garibaldi, in spite of all appearances to the contrary, will be induced to abstain from creating any serious difficulty to the Sardinian Government. There is reason to hope that he will remain tranquil. Even the Hungarians appear disposed to wait, as they believe that Austria is rapidly declining, overwhelmed as she is by her financial burdens and her enormous deficit, which are perhaps the best security against aggression on her part.

The hardest roll, however, for Count Cavour is, neither the Bourbon at Gaeta, nor the quadrilateral between the Minicini and the Adige. The vital question is Rome.

The divergence of opinion between the sanguine men and the croakers in Italy is every day widening. The former bent on constructing every act of the Emperor Napoleon as a providential move in behalf of the Italian cause, do not hesitate to affirm that the liberal measures lately adopted in France, with a view to engage the Legislative body, have no other aim than to obtain from the House of Representatives a vote empowering the Emperor to abandon the obstinate Pope to his fate, by withdrawing the garrisons from Rome and Civita Vecchia. Mark well! the ink is scarcely dry on the paper whereon these worshippers of the great oracle of the Tuileries asserted that Italy, and especially Italian unity, had but one true and constant friend in France and that friend was the Emperor Napoleon; and they now flatter themselves that this same lover of their national cause is only anxious to elicit a vote, according to the Italian's own hearts, from an assembly in which Legitimists, Orleansists, Ultramontanes, and all the worst personalities of French jealousy, selfishness, bigotry, and arrogance, constitute, to say the least, the vast majority.

"What," say the croakers in return, "if Napoleon's drift were precisely the contrary? What if the Emperor of the French, and Protector of the Holy Places, had settled in his deep mind that it is good for the Grand Nation that he should have a footing in Italy no less than in Syria, and if he were bent on 'seeing himself compelled' by the countrymen of the romantic Montalembert and plausible Guizot, by the hot zeal of the High Catholic Church, to 'keep a Pope' for their benefit to that very centre of the Italian peninsula in which the emancipated subjects of Victor Emmanuel hope to be able shortly to crown their beloved Soldier-King as their Sovereign?"

What then? The only argument upon which all expectation of the consent of the Emperor to the establishment of their national unity, and of his readiness to withdraw from the Papal chair the propping bayonets is based lies merely in the declaration a thousand times repeated that, for his own part, Napoleon III. is partial to an Italian confederacy, and that he *never* will withdraw his troops from the eternal city. "His never," his admirers think, "is but a lady's never. Whenever he says 'yes,' you must at once understand 'no'; you must always take the meaning of his words to be the contrary of what he sounds. He is perpetually lying, eternally deceiving the Northern Powers, cheating his own people, and imposing on his 'perfidious' ally England, merely for the benefit of his beloved Italians. The presence of his fleet before Gaeta is a flagrant proof of his everlasting benevolence. By taking his position in those waters Admiral de Tressalt kept off the Spanish, Austrian and Russian fleets. By breaking his own principle of non-intervention, Napoleon prevented a breach of that principle on the part of more dangerous neighbors. He has given Cialdini leisure time to complete his works, he has afforded Persano an opportunity to collect his naval forces and turn even Neapolitan ships and sailors to good purpose."

In the opinion of many thinkers and writers about me, in short, the Emperor can do no wrong. So long as he lives and reigns," they say, "things are sure to turn out all smooth in the end. Under his auspices Lombardy was rescued, the Duchies, Tuscany, and Romagna, then the Marches, Umbria, and the Two Sicilies have been annexed. What matters more words? Look to the deeds; see what he has done, or allowed to be done in your behalf from Jan. 1859, to Jan. 1861."

"It is all very well," say the others, "but what about the Roman question? What if, in reply to his Sibylline Imperial speech or message, the House of Representatives returns an address to the effect that '*La Papauté ne perira pas*?' The generous article of the *Siecle* is not likely to find an echo in many hearts assembled in the Hall of French Deputies."

What if some silly speech about the duties of the eldest daughter of the Church towards the Holy Father were to lead to a resolution that France should draw a line round the diminished territory of the Papal dominions, and intimate to Italian revolution, 'So far, and no farther.' What if France were to stick to *fait accompli*, and compelling the Pope to resign himself to the loss of all that is gone, should give him a substantial security that he should retain all that he yet holds, and should guarantee the inviolability of Rome and St. Peter's Patrimony?—What if the Emperor were by his Parliament invited to come upon these terms to a compromise with all the Catholic Powers, and hold a Congress, and establish a compact and holy covenant, of which he bid the Italian King and Government, and nation, to become a party—the Pope to remain at Rome, as absolute, independent Sovereign, under the joint protection of all the Catholic States, with his city kept in awe by a mixed French, Spanish, German, and even Italian garrison, and with a treasury to which Italy with all her Catholic sisters should contribute her mite?

To the boding mind of many intelligent Italians something like this appears likely to turn out the upshot of all deliberation on the Roman question by the French House of Representatives as at pre-

sent constituted; and was it for this purpose that the mouths of the said Representatives were to be unmuzzled? Was it, indeed, impossible for the Emperor Napoleon to keep their lips sealed a little longer, till he had settled single-handed that fatal Roman question which his own wavering and duplicity has drawn to such unconscionable lengths, and which he has so wilyly complicated and muddled?

If I say, the prophets of evil prove to have taken the most correct view of the future—if Napoleon in a few weeks, backed by a strong vote of his own Chamber, and by an agreement with all the Catholic Powers in Europe, were to lay before Count Cavour the necessity of accommodating himself to the unavoidable, and to become a party to the covenant above alluded to, what could the clever, shifty statesman say or do? The Italians are strongly wedded to the idea of the complete emancipation of their country; they are raving after Rome for their capital; they are frantic against the abuse of priestly government, inexorable on the point of the temporal power of the Pope. So long as a priest reigns in Rome, so long as an Italian potentate relies for support either on French or on any other foreign aid, the work of national emancipation is naught, the intellectual and moral emancipation of the Italian mind is a chimera. Italy had till 1848 two main evils to contend with—Austria, which killed the body, the Pope, which destroyed the soul. The latter was in reality the greater evil, though the former appeared the mightier and more irresistible. Little good will it be for the Italians to have rescued Milan, Florence, and Naples from Austria and her lieutenants, if France insists on forcing the Pope upon them. An Italian can hardly be a true patriot and put up with a sovereign Pontiff.

Yet, supposing Napoleon and his French representatives to pronounce their *fat* on behalf of the Papacy, what remedy presents itself to the Italian people or their prudent, clear-sighted ruler? Resistance to France is not a matter to be seriously contemplated. The Italians have hitherto repeatedly and successfully outwitted the Imperial autocrat, because by his double dealing he often caught himself in his own meshes, and they found it their interest to take him at his own words, and to affect to believe the sincerity of his declarations; but in one instance, at least, he broke from his own toils, and insisted on that pound of flesh of Savoy and Nice with the obnoxious of a Shylock, and would take no denials. No, no; you can walk round him, but you cannot attack him in front. If Napoleon deems it fit to say, "Let there be a Pope, a Pope-King, and in Rome," it will be vain for the Italians to attempt to gain any ground.

The Italians cannot go to war with France, even to rid of the Pope. It is considered to be good policy to be off with the old love before you are on with the new. It would be a no less safe course not to engage with a new foe till you have settled with the old one. Could a solution be found to the vexed question of Venice, the Italians could say one word about Rome even in the town of France and her Catholic allies. The time may come, at some distant period, when Italy may tear herself free from France's leading strings, and put an end to the indignities to which she has now to submit. But, for the present, she is equally threatened from the East and West; and she needs to exert her utmost ingenuity and give fresh and incessant proofs of wisdom and endurance, that the recent revolution may not turn out for her a mere falling from the fryingpan into the fire.

The correspondent of the London *Tablet* gives us some insight into the valorous deeds of the Sardinians. These "brave soldiers of liberty" are, it would seem, the vilest of brigands and cut-throats.

Matters in Ascoli are not going on so comfortably for the revolution as its friends could desire. Pinelli has been several times discredited by the "brigands" within the last fortnight, but he has taken bloody revenge for his reverses on sundry unfortunate villages that he found deserted by their able-bodied inhabitants. Even the Piedmontese journals allow that, in one village, he caused to be shot the Curate, and three other persons (who were the only souls left), "because the people in this part are 'brigands' to a man." From other sources we learn that his troops have sacked and partly burnt Castel Troscio, Lisciano S. Vito, and Villa Rosara, utterly destroying another place named Mozzana, and massacring the inhabitants, without regard to sex or age, because he experienced some resistance there. His progress was soon stopped by the "brigands," and he was twice forced to retire to Ascoli with considerable loss. These atrocities, as may be supposed, excite the utmost horror and alarm throughout the Marches.

The *Giornale di Roma* of the 24th inst., gives full particulars of a shocking outrage perpetrated by Piedmontese troops in another direction, on the 22d. In the afternoon of that day about one thousand Piedmontese soldiers, with cavalry and artillery, made an irruption into the province of Grosseto, and surrounded the monastery of Casamari. At the news of their coming all the inmates had fled, save ten lay brothers and one priest, who, finding they were in search of "reactionaries" supposed to be concealed in the monastery, assured the soldiers there were none there. The officers threatened them with instant death if they did not quit the place. Thereupon the monks, who were all unarmed, and took them for refuge into the church, near the altar of the Blessed Sacrament. When, however, they were about to go with torches to remove the Host, the church itself was entered by the soldiers, who threatened to shoot all who did not leave on the instant. All dispersed but the priest, who managed to get into the convent, where he found that, in such brief time, they had broken down the doors of all the cells, smashed the furniture, and stolen whatever was portable.

They retired in the night, carrying off not only the things just referred to, but also the candles, and prayers, from the Church; and respecting even that which held the consecrated bread.

As a wind-up, they set fire to the Dispensary, which supplies medicines to the poor people of the surrounding country, to the mill, and the hay loft. Fortunately, the conflagration was extinguished, after the departure of the soldiers, of that grand Monastery, so interesting for its association, artistic and religious, would be now a pile of smoking ruins. And all this was done by the regular troops of Piedmont, in search of *brigands*.

If Gaeta falls into the hands of the Sardinians, we may then hear that the doctrine and policy of non-intervention has done its work; for Sardinia will not be able to keep in subjection the Southern States. The King of the Two Sicilies may not think it his duty to abandon his territories, and if that should be so, it is probable that Sardinia will call upon its allies for help to expel the monarch from the Abruzzi, and to convert his unwilling subjects beneath the iron yoke of the foreigner. There is nothing in the conduct of England or of France that would authorize anybody to believe that a foreign intervention will not be made on behalf of Sardinia, should the King of the Two Sicilies fall at Gaeta and betake himself to the mountains. It will, then, be attempted to throw upon him the odium of further resistance, with the usual hypocrisy of the liberal party, but to no purpose. The true shielders of innocent blood are the Sardinians and their allies, who, without provocation or colorable excuse, invaded a territory of the King, and laid waste a kingdom through the detestable lust of dominion.—*London Tablet*.

THE SCREENING OF VIOLENCE.—Signor Petrucci della Gatta, in a letter written from Naples to the *Unione* of Milan, avows that the charges brought against the late King Ferdinand of cruelty practised upon Borgia, Poerio, and other political prisoners, were substantially false, or, at least, grossly exaggerated. "When we were agitating Europe," says Petrucci, "and stirring it up against the Bourbons

of Naples, we wanted to personify the opposition to that horrid dynasty, we wanted to present every morning to the *credulous readers* of free Europe, a living, palpitating victim, whom that ignominious Ferdinand devoured at every meal. Then we invented Poerio. Poerio was a man of talent, a gentleman, a baron; he bore an illustrious name; he had been a Minister of Ferdinand's, and his accomplice in one of the juggling of 1848. Poerio had been a deputy, and was Alexander's brother; he seemed to us just the man to set up as the antithesis to Ferdinand—and the miracle was done. The French and English press sharpened the appetite of that distinguished philanthropist and statesman, Mr. Gladstone, who rushed off to Naples to see this new sort of 'man in the iron mask.' He saw him. He was moved to pity. And Gladstone did as we did—magnified the victim to make the oppressor more odious; and exaggerated his punishment in order to stir up public opinion to greater indignation. And Poerio—that Poerio who to-day has his spoon in everybody's soup—was created from top to bottom."

GALLERIA IN PARLIAMENT.—The notorious Antonio Gallenga, who received from Mazzini a dagger and a thousand francs to kill Charles Albert, was obliged, in order to withdraw himself from the public indignation, to resign his seat as a deputy. Now, other times, other customs! Antonio Gallenga not only presents himself anew as a candidate to the constituency of Cuneo, but he is honored with a special recommendation from the Minister Mamiani. We must say that Gallenga's presence in the Chamber is a sign which shows the quality of the new Italian Parliament. But the list of candidates published by the newspapers proves that Gallenga is a babe in innocence compared with some of his colleagues.—*Armonia*.

AUSTRIA.

The following note has been addressed by the Austrian Government to Count Brasser de Saint Simon, Prussian Minister in Turin:—

"Monsieur le Comte, by your despatch dated the 10th of this month your Excellency was so kind as to forward to us a note of Count de Cavour, bearing date of the 8th of this month, stating two instances in which some vessels belonging to the Royal Navy of Sardinia—the frigate *San Michele* and the gunboat *Confianza*, as they sought shelter from a stormy sea, the former in the Gulf of Palermo, the latter at the port of Messina—had taken reason to complain that the Imperial authorities had behaved towards them in a manner contrary to maritime usages such as are generally observed in times of peace."

"We have been compelled on a previous occasion by our despatch of July 22d last to observe to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in Sardinia that we could not admit that the violent state of things brought about by the Piedmontese Government was of such a nature that we might apply in their behalf, without distinction, the rules of international right based on a regular and legitimate situation, and that consequently all arguments drawn from such a supposition necessarily revolved in a vicious circle."

"Now, it is matter of public notoriety that since that epoch again the same Royal Navy, always in times of peace, and without any previous declaration of war, has perpetrated veritable acts of warfare on the coasts of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, and in the ports of the State of the Holy See."

"In the presence of similar deeds, and seeing the preparations which are openly made in countries placed *de facto* under the domination of Sardinia for some maritime expeditions directed against the coasts of Austria, the Imperial Government deem themselves thoroughly justified in their orders issued to their maritime organs (authorities) to adopt with respect to Sardinian men-of-war approaching the Austrian coasts some exceptional measures of precaution. The Imperial authorities have, in fact, the order to intimate to the said vessels the prohibition to enter Austrian ports, and to prevent all communication between the crews of such vessels and the inhabitants of the coast. Exception was, nevertheless, expressly made in cases of pressing necessity for unavoidable shelter against storms."

"As to succour asked for in the name of the laws of humanity, the Imperial Government, faithful to their unchanging principles, will never refuse it in any circumstance whatsoever."

PRUSSIA.

A letter from Berlin, dated 2nd Feb., says:—"A note in the *Prussian Moniteur* of this evening, respecting the credits granted by the King to General de Marmora, avows that the latter came accompanied here as Ambassador Extraordinary. It is said that General de Marmora repeatedly declared that Sardinia had no intention of attacking Venice, and that, in the present moment he has not made any military preparations from which it would appear that General de Marmora was not charged with any military mission in the sense of the Ambassador. The reception given at Berlin to the Ambassador of the King of Sardinia, charged with condolences and congratulations for the King, has nevertheless and important significance. General della Marmora, accompanied by the resident Sardinian Envoy, M. de Lannay, paid his farewell visits to-day."

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 2.—The Danish Diet has been closed. The King in his reply to the President's speech, said:—"Should they come near us, my people will defend themselves if I call upon them to do so. The semi-official *Berlingske Tidende*, in publishing the speech, makes the following remarks:—Should German troops enter Holstein without being called upon to do so by our Sovereign, and contrary to his wish, a violation of territory would then take place, and the Federal Diet would, in fact, have declared war against Denmark. War at the present moment would be inconvenient for Germany, and is, consequently, convenient for Denmark. A state of armed peace exhausts the strength of a country, and weakens popular enthusiasm, without which small people cannot make war. By a blockade we can now damage the commerce of Germany, and ruin the Prussian ports for a long period. The conflict, must, therefore, now terminate, either by war or negotiation."

RUSSIA.

The following letter has been received from Cronow, dated the 25th of January:—

"It is announced that the number of troops collected in the kingdom of Poland is increasing daily. Besides the 1st and 2d corps d'armee, which have taken up their winter quarters in this kingdom, the 3d corps is on its march for the same purpose. It must be observed, however, that these three corps d'armee do not exceed 60,000 men, effective of the battalions and the squadrons have been so much reduced. A Russian corps d'armee, which was formerly composed of 50,000 men, now consists of only 20,000. The 4th and 5th corps d'armee are quartered for the winter in Bessarabia and Podolia. The effective of these two corps is not more than 40,000 men. By this arrangement an army of 100,000 men can be immediately advanced to any point on the

Austrian frontier, or on the Danubian provinces, which may become the theatre of events dangerous to the security of the Russian Empire. It is announced from all parts of Russia that an enormous quantity of snow has fallen. In some places all communication between the villages has been intercepted by mountains of snow. An immense number of horses and horned cattle, and even some men have perished. In the neighborhood of the town of Huanau 26 dead bodies have just been dug out of the snow."

RUSSIAN VIEWS OF THE CHINESE WAR.—An article in the *Northern Bee* contains the following observations on the result of the late Chinese war:—"It is astonishing that the Allies made such moderate demands when treating for peace with the brother of the Emperor. The Chinese did not expect such generosity from their enemies, whose prisoners they treated in such a barbarous manner, and have therefore good reason to chuckle at being let off so cheaply, for there have been times when the capital has fallen into the hands of enemies who plundered both the Government and the inhabitants without compunction. China has now only a comparatively small indemnity to pay for the war expenses, as compared with what they had to pay to England in 1842, when the contribution amounted to 45,000,000 of rubles. The moderation of the victors this time remains a mystery, and the question naturally presents itself, would the Chinese have been let off so cheaply had they had to do with the English alone? In this affair we can but admire the far-sighted policy of France. When England commenced hostilities with China, under a very thin pretext, and the Emperor Napoleon might easily have shown his sympathy for the rebellion of the natives in India, which required the withdrawal of the troops destined for China and their immediate employment in quelling the dangerous mutiny of the Sepoys, France offered England her assistance and co-operation in punishing the Chinese. At that time it was frequently said that England was employing France to get the chestnuts out of the fire, but it is now clear that those persons took a very short sighted view of the affairs of the East, for England would still have been in time to chastise China after having first put down the rebellion in India; and in making war on China with their own resources solely, they would have dictated the terms of peace according to their own interests. After the capture of Peking, they wanted to go to work in their own fashion, and place the head of the insurgents on the throne of China; but the French were of a different opinion, and their English allies did not further insist on it, but yielded the point. It cannot be denied that France has obtained a great moral preponderance in the East, and the eyes of all the countries situated on the Pacific and Southern Oceans are now turned towards that generous nation which declined to take part in the demands of their avaricious and interested allies. If the Chinese empire be preserved to the present reigning dynasty they will not forget the important service that France rendered them in the moment of danger. This manoeuvre of the Emperor Napoleon was worthy of his superior genius, for by it he has outwitted the calculations of routine which have hitherto governed the relations between Europe and the East. France will now enjoy all the advantages that England and India obtain by the treaty, with, moreover, the great moral influence of being considered the protector of the Catholics in the East. The superior aptitude of the Catholics for proselytism is well known. The Protestant religion does not ingratiate itself so much to the tastes and character of the Orientals, and therefore, England cannot expect to compete successfully with the Church of Rome in this field. This is the reason why France has already obtained a much firmer footing in China than England has or ever will have in India."

CHINA.

THE REPORTED MURDER OF MR. ADKINS AT PEKING.—There is an almost incredible report abroad, not contradicted, that Mr. Adkins, her Majesty's representative at Peking, was decapitated on the withdrawal of the allied troops. This is by no means an improbable contingency, considering the animus which must exist among the higher powers at Peking, notwithstanding the apparently favorable change which is said to have come over the countenance of Prince Kung—on which sunshine lately took the place of the cloud which overshadowed it at the signing of the treaty—and the late interchange of friendly visits between that imperial personage and the allied ambassadors. It will be remembered that when the allied army lay before Peking, Sankolinsin was said to be not very far off, at the head of 50,000 Tartar troops, denominated the flower of the Celestial army, which had not yet been at hands with the Allies. The "Chinese hero" would, in all probability, be biding his time, watching the course of events. It most probably was he that counselled that apparently friendly demeanour lately assumed by Prince Kung towards the allied ambassadors, so different from that which distinguished him at the ratification of the treaty and the signing of the convention, inspiring him and his imperial brother with the hope of his (Sankolinsin's) powerful assistance at the proper moment. The allied ambassadors, having finished negotiations to their own satisfaction, take their departure with their formidable body guard, leaving behind one devoted man to make arrangements for Mr. Bruce's residence at the capital. Chinese vanity interprets the retirement of the army from Peking into a retreat. Now is the time to blot out the disgrace and humiliation forced upon them by the hated invaders. We can imagine the fierce eagerness with which the placards announcing the ratification of the treaty are torn from the wall, at the suggestion of Sankolinsin, who assures the authorities of his protection. The detested foe are scattered far and wide. The solitary 3000 men at Tien-tsin are deemed an easy prey to the Tartar sword. Why, then, should they suffer the presence of the only one of the hated race remaining amongst them? When we reflect upon the conduct of the Chinese, of the treatment of the men whose remains now rest in the Russian cemetery, in the face of an unconquerable army marching towards the capital, may we not be prepared to hear of any treachery by the government or its myrmidons, on one left thus unprotected, when that army had turned its back upon the scene of its peaceful triumph, but whence it had not departed without leaving the mark of its vengeance.—*London and China Telegraph*.

THE COTTON CONSCIENCE OF ENGLAND.—We copy from the *Morning News* the following translation of an excellent article in a Paris newspaper, *Le Monde*:—"The secession of South Carolina and those which must inevitably follow it are seriously embarrassing to England, who find herself at issue between her interest on the one side and her conscience on the other. There is not, probably, more inquietude at Washington than there is in London, as to the consequences of this rupture of the American Union; and the *Times*, which declared the rupture impossible in its number of the 26th of November last, is now at the head of the journals which find the greatest likelihood of danger in the matter. 'What are we to do?' asks the grave *Saturday Review*. 'Here we are in a terrible dilemma. Shall we listen to our sentiments of humanity or to our sentiments of patriotism? In other words, shall we listen to our duty or to our interest?' The *Times* gives itself to such interrogations, as also does the *Saturday Review*; so does the *John Bull*, so does the *Examiner* so does the *Morning Post*; and all the English press follow suit, and the answer is not yet given. They study the case of conscience, they strive to bring interest and duty into accordance, they endeavor to blind themselves to the consequences of a disunion, they hope for reconciliation, &c.; in one word, they hesitate—that is to say, they will give ear rather to interest than to duty, to the good of England rather than to the voice of humanity. It can be said, be-