

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The Liberte asserts that Marshal Canrobert... The London Daily News says that the rumour current in Paris that President MacMahon intended to propose Marshal Canrobert as Vice President, is semi-officially contradicted.

Paris has one odd tax, which has indirectly preserved her asphalt pavement from destruction. The municipality levies a graduated tax on wheel tires, which is heavy on the narrow ones and almost nothing on the very broad.

It is said that about fifteen thousand bunches of violets are sold per day in Paris. They are not so much favored as they were during the Empire, for the violet is looked upon as an Imperial flower.

M. du Terrail, the French novelist, having killed his hero in the last chapter of a popular novel, has found it profitable to resuscitate him and continue his story indefinitely.

It appears that the Versailles Government was not so severe with the captured Communists as has been largely supposed. In all 47,243 persons were brought up by name before the councils of war.

The Catholic associations of France, which had met at Rheims and Poitiers three months ago, have of late held a joint meeting at Lille, which was well attended.

These meetings enlighten Catholics in their work, and strengthen them in their good resolutions. Their main advantage is to prove to all those who constantly fall foul of us, that our aims and objects are thoroughly patriotic.

At a previous meeting, Father Marquigny had read a paper, in which he described the beneficial effects of some of the institutions of the middle ages, and on this account the Radical journals had called him all manner of names.

At last the seventy-five life members of the Senate have been elected. Eleven sittings did it require to complete this gigantic labor. The vast majority of the nominees are perfect uobodies, whose sole title to distinction consists in their Republican partisanship.

During the discussion on the budget for railways which took place in the German Reichstag the Government made a very important communication. Experiments made of late have shown that sleepers made of iron are far more profitable than those made of wood.

The Prussian Convention Law.—A Bavarian Liberal deputy to the Reichstag has, it seems, been asking Prince Bismarck at one of the Chancellor's receptions whether it is intended to press for the extension to the whole of the Empire of the Prussian laws suppressing convents and prohibiting religious processions.

There has just died at Cannes, at the south of France a chiffonier who has left a fortune of 400,000 francs (£16,000). The Journal des Debats, in relating the story, says that on the day of his death this prince of rag-gatherers sent for a notary, who promptly appeared at the bedside of the dying man, and, with the assistance of some witnesses present, was in the act of drawing up a will for the disposition of the rag-merchant's possessions.

came to a sudden stop, and expired without divulging the names of his intended heirs. In the course of last week the relatives of the dead man, all very poor working people in the lowest class of life, and in the absence of a will, the presumptive heirs to all his property, made their appearance at Cannes, when, at their request and in their presence, the authorities proceeded with the execution of an inventory of all the effects held by the late rag merchant.

SPAIN.

DANGEROUS.—LONDON, January 7.—The Gazette publishes a notification to masters of British vessels, warning them to keep away from the whole Spanish coast east of Bilbao, as Carlist batteries are stationed at intervals all along the shore, and will fire at anything that approaches.

The London correspondent of a county newspaper states that an envoy has arrived direct from the Carlist camp with the object of arranging for an increase supply of arms and ammunition from this country. "Nay," adds this correspondent, "would he be a little indifferent to a little recruiting if that could be conveniently arranged?"

As if Spain had not enough to do with Carlists and Cubans convenios and cabal, some of the Madrid papers are raising a scare over a coming insurrection in the Philippines, which, they aver, is being raised in London. The Conservative government connives at the schemes of the plotters; the editors of the Times, Hour, and Spectator attend meetings of the secret committee in the approved Iberian fashion (slouched hats, conspirators' cloaks, and daggers ready for use being among the adjuncts of the conclaves), and arms are to be supplied to the warring rebels under cover of the New Guinea Colonizing Expedition.

Details of victories over the adherents of Don Carlos, and threats of extinguishing the concealed government of the United States, must pall on the gossips of the Puerta del Sol. The monster gooseberry evidently does not flourish in the Peninsula! Spain keeps very quiet, so far, at any rate, as the war in the North is concerned. Navarre and the Basque provinces are fully as cold a country as Scotland, and whilst the rivers are frozen, and the hills covered all over with snow, the conveyance of troops and stores are impossible.

Senor Canovas del Castillo, who had made room for General Jovellar at the head of the ministry, some few months ago, has just resumed his old post, and this change will, if anything, complicate the relations of the government of Don Alfonso with the Holy See. It is well known that the premier is altogether identified with those modern ideas of humanitarianism and absolute religious equality which are no more fitted for Spain than bull-fights would be for England.

GERMANY.

CHURCH AND STATE.—LONDON, Jan. 6.—A Pall Mall Gazette special from Berlin says the semi-official journals have expressed that opinion that the Ultramontane opposition to the Government is abating. The Germania, the Ultramontane organ, declares that the assumption is unfounded. Submission to the State, in the sense demanded by Prussia, is contrary to the fundamental principles of the Church, and can never be accorded.

VON ARMIN.—LONDON, Jan. 7.—A special from Berlin says a report is current that the Courts will shortly publish a general denunciation against Count Henri Von Armin if he fails to return, and that he will be tried in contumaciam. A special from Berlin says medical certificates have been forwarded to the authorities stating that Count Von Armin is too ill to go to prison. This has been decided to be insufficient, and the Count will be immediately summoned to return and undergo the sentence.

A curious affair has just happened in Berlin. A man, with four children, hired a house in the outskirts of the city, and one morning they were all found dead in bed. It is believed they committed suicide.

During the discussion on the budget for railways which took place in the German Reichstag the Government made a very important communication. Experiments made of late have shown that sleepers made of iron are far more profitable than those made of wood, whilst they are not much more expensive. The representative of the Government declared that the Administration prefers iron to wood, and will use it in preference whenever the price of iron allows it.

The Prussian Convention Law.—A Bavarian Liberal deputy to the Reichstag has, it seems, been asking Prince Bismarck at one of the Chancellor's receptions whether it is intended to press for the extension to the whole of the Empire of the Prussian laws suppressing convents and prohibiting religious processions, stating, as his reason for putting the question, that the application of those measures to Bavaria would cause the greatest dissatisfaction among the Catholics of the liberal party, and would completely cripple the Government.

The Poles of Prussia are Catholics to a man. Alien rule has not yet produced the same effect among them as it has in Ireland; they not only cling to their faith, but to their native tongue too, and no amount of oppression can make them give it up. Posen and Western Prussia are generally looked upon as the Ireland of Prussia, but in Upper Silesia we meet with the same state of things as in the two other Provinces. Polish is not spoken there with the same amount of purity; nay, the inhabitants are actually nicknamed "Water Poles"; but yet there seems to be no symptom of any progress of Germanization, even among these, but quite the reverse. The Germania informs us that after Christmas two new Catholic and Polish organs are to be published, viz. the Pomoranec at Pulpin and the Przejaciel at Thorn. Successive Prussian governments have tried hard—and none harder than Bis-

marck—to exterminate the Polish language, in the wake of which they fondly hope the Catholic faith will likewise disappear. The result has thus far been that the people of the provinces named adhere both to the Catholic Church and to their native tongue with more zeal and fervour than ever.

The Protectionists of Germany have sustained a severe defeat. The most ardent among them were the iron-masters, who had also the best case; but the Parliament, after a debate of four hours, refused to entertain the petitions for retaining the duties on iron. Herr Delbruck, moreover, the officer who, when Prince Bismarck is absent, acts as the mouthpiece of the Imperial Government in the Reichsrath, declared that the Government neither could nor would forsake the course of customs policy they had hitherto pursued.

ITALY.

APPOINTMENT.—ROME, January 7.—Cardenas has been appointed Spanish Ambassador to the Vatican. SUPPRESSION OF SEMINARIES.—Signor Gadda, Prefect of Rome, has issued another circular, dated the 30th of November, in which he threatens to close all the institutes or colleges under control of ecclesiastics in which lay pupils are taught. The ecclesiastical colleges may remain, and may teach students intended for the ecclesiastical career, but if the heads of these colleges dare to admit a single lay pupil Signor Gadda will order the offending school or college to be shut up. This edict of the Prefect, if carried out, will press hardy on those clerical institutions which were mainly supported by the payments of lay pupils. Some of the most valuable colleges in Italy were thus supported. Priests were employed in teaching, with small stipends. The out-door lay pupils paid the other expenses. The Italian Government will have no schools except those under their own power, and they take no account of religious instruction. They wish to encourage secular instruction, and to compel parents to send their children to godless colleges and schools.

The fiftieth anniversary of the episcopal consecration of Pius IX. will occur on May 21st, 1877. Christian men are already beginning to turn their thoughts towards the consideration of how they may best celebrate this wonderful event. Of course it may happen that Pius IX. may not be left among the people of God to celebrate "les noces d'or de son sacre"—but yet the Holy Father has displayed throughout the whole of his career such an especial providence on the part of God, that, as a rule, what would be rash expectation in every other case, becomes a matter of easy ordinary fact whenever Pius IX. is concerned. We may believe all kinds of wonders in connection with the pontificate of him who has reached "the years of Peter," and has passed them. The reply of Mgr. Nardi to "Mr. Gladstone and the Italian Ultramontanes" is considered in Italy as having settled the question altogether, and Mr. Gladstone along with it. Let us hope that the ex-prime minister has done for good and all with subjects upon which he is not by any means well informed.

Signor Galliera, Genoa, proposes to devote no less a sum than 20,000,000 lire, or £800,000 of his own fortune to the improvement of the docks of Genoa, and what after such a gift seems comparatively a small matter—£200,000 towards building dwellings for the poor. In the second method of employing his patriotic benevolence he has been anticipated by the frustees of Mr. Peabody; but in the first and more imposing dedication of his vast means he is strictly original, at least as far as modern times are concerned. We must go back to the best days of Italian enterprise and public spirit to find anything like a parallel to his munificence.

In 1874 Italy had 42,920 schools, 1,872,381 scholars, and 45,596 teachers. The average pay of the teachers was \$85 a year.

AUSTRIA.

IN READINESS.—LONDON, January 8.—The Vienna correspondent of the Standard reports that all men in Vienna who are liable to serve in case of war have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to join their respective corps on 18 hours' notice.

TURKEY.

The Standard's Vienna correspondent telegraphs that before Nisic and Duga were re-occupied by the Turks, the insurgents suffered a defeat which was the severest since the beginning of the war. Six hundred were killed and many wounded. The insurgent commander, Poulovich, who is accused of treason, fled to Cetinje. Nisic is provisionally until May. The Times Press states that Count Andrassy has informed the representatives of England, France and Italy that the publication of the Austrian note regarding Turkey would be inopportune until it has received the adhesion of the Powers. The Times Paris correspondent reiterates the statement that France had adhered to the Austrian note on Turkey. The Bulletin Francais says that private telegrams received in Berlin assert that France and the other Powers have adhered to the proposal of Austria. The Globe insists that the Montenegro loan is an accomplished fact, and asserts that ten thousand rifles and sixty cannon are to be delivered from America by March. It adds that, in consequence of the threatening attitude of Turkey, three thousand Montenegrin guards have been armed with breech-loaders and sent to the frontier. A Vienna despatch to the Daily News says it is reported that the Montenegro Minister of War intends to purchase rifles in Vienna. A telegram from Serbia states that manufactories of arms are very active. The Roumanian Government is hastening the completion of its armament by contracts with foreign firms. Raouf Pasha has been appointed Governor-General of the Island of Crete. All Pasha, formerly Ambassador at Paris, has been appointed Governor-General of the Herzegovina. The Standard's Vienna correspondent telegraphs that a body of 2,800 insurgents tried to surprise Mostar, but was defeated and almost totally destroyed. The answer of Italy to Count Andrassy's note on Turkey has arrived at Vienna. The Cologne Gazette says Italy has accepted the Austrian note, and England asks for a week to consider it, which time expires on the 12th.

THE SCHEME OF REFORMS FOR TURKEY.—The details of the plan accepted by the three Northern Powers are not as yet made public, but its main feature is supposed to be the establishment of a kind of supervision by the Powers over the dealings of the Porte with its Austrian subjects. The first Turkish plan, which professed to give the Bosnians and Herzegovinians a kind of Constitutional Government, would obviously have been illusory, as the officials would never have been got to carry it out, and the complete equality of the Turks and Christians under the immediate rule of the Sultan is a virtual impossibility. The difficulty can only be solved in one of these ways—autonomy, annexation or protectorate; and it is the last which has been adopted, as it would seem, by the Imperial Powers. They are to have a right of interference before the Porte adopts any important measure of government—an arrangement which, if carried into effect, will of course be to all intents and purposes, the end of Turkish dominion in Europe. But some of the Sultan's Ministers are so anxious to avoid this result that they have recommended that the reforms

suggested by the Northern Powers should be rejected; and that the foreign Governments should be referred to those which the Turkish Government itself proposes to introduce. And in order to provide a justification for this course, the Imperial firman which was promulgated on Tuesday introduces even more radical forms than those likely to be demanded by the Powers. We shall not know just yet the exact nature of the scheme agreed upon by Russia, Austria and Germany, for it has been decided to communicate it to the other Powers for their acceptance before it is laid before the Sultan. In the meanwhile, Count Zichy, the Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople, has asked the Grand Vizier to suspend hostilities in the Herzegovina and open negotiations with the insurgents. The rumour that the Porte had sent a note to the Vatican complaining of the conduct of the Catholics in the provinces which are the scene of the insurrection, and requesting the Holy See to interfere, is at first sight somewhat puzzling. We know that the Catholics of Herzegovina, following their Bishop have all along held aloof from the movement, and have suffered not a little at the hands of the insurgents, who, being Greek schismatics, hate them most cordially. It is not, therefore, to any complicity of theirs in the insurrection that the alleged remonstrance could refer. But it is just possible that it may be based on other circumstances in another quarter. In Bosnia there is a considerable agitation in favour of the annexation of that province to Austria, and it is reported, and seems probable enough, that the Bosnian Catholics, whose pastors are Franciscans from the Diocese of Sirmium or Diakowar in Croatia, are by no means averse to the idea. It is quite conceivable, therefore, that the Porte might ask the Holy See to use its influence to detach the Bosnian Catholics from this movement, which, according to the Frankfurter Zeitung, has become very popular in the higher Court circles in Vienna—so popular that Count Andrassy, who is much opposed to it, is thought to be preparing for retirement from his office of Imperial Chancellor on the pretext of ill-health. But the whole story wants confirmation. The Emperor of Russia has again come forward to reassure the world about the maintenance of European peace. At the annual banquet of the Knights of the Military Order of St. George, in proposing the health of the Emperors of Germany and Austria, as Knights of the Order, the Emperor Alexander declared himself "happy to state that the intimate alliance between our three Empires and our three armies, founded by our august predecessors for the defence of our common cause, still remains intact at the present moment, when it has no other aim than the maintenance of the tranquillity and the peace of Europe." This utterance is remarkable as indicating a desire to hang the present alliances between the three Powers on to that which united them in resistance to the first Napoleon. The words "still remain intact" are rather bold, considering the estrangement of Russia and Austria since the Crimean War, and with the memories of Sadova and the Treaty of Prague still fresh. The latter events, at all events, are a little too important to be represented as a mere episode in a constant alliance. But the Emperor's object was probably to give a more durable appearance to the existing understanding, and the declaration that this understanding has no other aim than the maintenance of tranquillity and peace, is, so far as it goes, eminently satisfactory. But unfortunately such assurances are worth next to nothing should circumstances be ever so little changed. The pacific intentions of statesmen must be taken to mean that they do not want to go to war unless they have an object to gain, and that at the present moment they have none.—Tablet.

BRAZIL.

The most rabid enemies of the Catholic Church the Freemasons, have tried once more to play some of their "fantastic tricks" in Brazil, but this time the attempt has signally failed. The Bishops of Olinda and Para, whom the secular courts of the empire had presumed to deprive of their liberty, were released some little time ago, and it may be as well to quote a passage from the letter of the home secretary, Senhor Jose Benito de Cunha Figuerado, accompanying the order addressed to that effect to the governor of the province of Para:—"Let bygones be bygones, and peace and harmony be re-established between Church and State. Your excellency is therefore to enter upon communications with the ecclesiastical authorities, and to act with that discretion and prudence this delicate matter calls for, so that similar inconveniences may not have to be deplored in future."

Apart from the minister's designating the persecution of the Church as an "inconvenience" it must be admitted that his letter showed a conciliatory spirit, which was all gall and wormwood to the Freemasons. A poster was consequently put up all over Para summoning a public meeting to express the disapproval of the steps taken by the government. The place appointed was the Rue de Sta. Anna, and the demonstration was, in the words of the promoters, "to smash the Jesuits to atoms." But, lo! when the proceedings began, it was found that no more than twenty "Brethren" had put in an appearance, and so the whole affair had to be given up as a bad job. The enthusiastic reception of the released bishops by their diocesan forms the most striking contrast to this abortive attempt at an anti-Catholic manifestation.

FURTHER AMERICAN NEWS.

Judge Myrack, of San Francisco, has admitted to probate a will in pencil on two pages of memorandum book, to which the testatrix has attached no signature, holding that the facts of its being written in such book was presumptive evidence of its being a draft of a will intended to be executed in a more regular form.

The most Rev. Bishop Loughlin has appointed Rev. James J. McMeel to the pastoral charge of the congregation of St. Ann's Church, corner of Gold and Front streets, Brooklyn, to succeed Rev. Father Gleason.

The Washington Capital says:—"Let Congress pass into law an act holding the school fund intact, and authorize the President to deposit the said fund with such an institution as the late Jay Cook & Co., or the late Henry Clews, Government agent in Europe, and we will answer for it that no sect or sectarian organization will ever get a cent of said school fund. Why the thing is as easy as lying."

POPULATION OF NEW YORK.—The revised official statement of the population of New York State gives a total in 1875, of 4,705,208, against an aggregate of 4,382,759, in 1870. The population of New York City is put down at 1,046,038, instead of 942,272, in 1870. It likewise has 231,209 voters, divided as follows: native, 89,907; naturalized, 141,302. In 1865, the proportion was as follows: Native, 51,500; naturalized, 77,475. In the entire State the natives muster 743,082 voters, to 395,248 naturalized. In 1875, there were 583,594 natives, and 239,832 naturalized voters.

PROPOSED CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION ON THE PACIFIC COAST.—San Francisco is the natural and only centre of a group of rising States and Territories. We could get up an exposition, perhaps, that would be as attractive to them as the one at Philadelphia will be to the communities on the other side of the Continent. Let there be a Pacific as well as an Atlantic Centennial. We can invite Japan, China, Australia, the Sandwich Islands and the South American Republic to unite with us. If we do so, we shall have San Francisco thronged during the summer. There will be a jam and a crush, instead of footfalls echoing in the comparatively silent streets. The fame of our city will be sufficient to attract a multitude.—San Francisco Bulletin.

The New York Tribune tells the political parties what they must do to win the "Presidential" campaign. Democrats cannot elect the next President without New York. Republicans can. Those two facts supply the key of the next election. The Democrats must nominate a candidate, and frame a platform, and put their party into a position that can secure New York. Otherwise they are whipped before the fight begins. But the Republicans can still make a desperate struggle, with the possibility of success, even though through the probabilities in this State should be against them.

The Chicago Tribune gives the following approximation of the trade of the city in 1875. It includes only the first selling price, second sales not being counted, though made by jobbers.—Produce trade, \$332,328,000; wholesale (as above), \$293,900,000; manufactures (product), \$117,000,000; total, \$743,228,000. Deduct from this for manufactures included in wholesale about \$46,228,000; total business, \$697,000,000; total in 1874, \$639,000,000. These figures give a decrease of 9 per cent in the sales of produce, and an increase of 7 per cent in wholesale trade and manufactures. The increase of the whole over 1874 is 2.8 per cent.

BISHOP IRELAND.—The Right Rev. John Ireland was consecrated Bishop of Marone, in partibus, and coadjutor Bishop of Saint Paul, Minn., at St. Paul, on the 31st ult., Bishop Grace of St. Paul, officiating at the ceremony. Bishop Ireland is a native of the county Kilkenny, Ireland, where he was born in November, 1838. He is well known throughout this country as an eloquent and zealous advocate of temperance, and was till recently, for several terms First Vice President of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America.—Irish American.

Father Henn'ssey of St. Patrick's, in charge of one of the largest Catholic parochial schools in Jersey City, having six hundred pupils, has formally offered to turn over the school to the control of the Public School Board, with the use of the building, fuel, and rent free, provided the present teachers be retained at salaries fifty per cent. less than those paid to Public School teachers, and offering to himself to serve as principal gratis if allowed to do so. He agrees that his teachers shall submit to examination prescribed by the school laws, but his proposition reserves in the hands of the Church authorities the right to name all the teachers to fill all vacancies in the said school; otherwise the School Board to have full control.—The priest also offers to furnish text books gratis, if his own selections are adopted. The matter was referred to a committee of five.

THE DOOM OF THE PLEDGE-BREAKERS.—The Irish electors of Dundee have performed an act of retribution which commend them to the gratitude of their fellow-countrymen at home and in Great Britain. They have furnished the first instance in which a British M. P., who has violated his pledges on the Home Rule question, has been met face to face and publicly condemned. In performing this praiseworthy act—which is sure to meet with general approval and imitation—they have alike raised the spirit of their friends, and struck a signal blow at treachery and falsehood. No one can longer doubt that the Confederation is a power, that its influence can be made felt, and traitors to its principles punished throughout Great Britain. Today Mr. Yeaman knows that his seat is not worth an hour's purchase after the dissolution of the present parliament, and his fate we are quite sure, has made a score of others "shake in their shoes." The Irishmen of Dundee have declared that they will hold no parley with traitors—and their example will be followed throughout Great Britain, wherever a pledge-breaker presents himself before the public. Success may not be in every case as signal as in Dundee—but though the Irish people may not be numerically powerful enough to carry a vote of censure against the packed parliament of their betrayers, they can, in every instance, record their public protest against their conduct, and will be sure to board in their memories the merits of the delinquents till the hour comes for their revenge at the ballot box.—United Irishman.

XANTIPPE.

It seems that the memory of this woman, like that of her renowned husband, is likely to be kept alive to the end of time. She is said to have possessed a very irritable temper, and her name has become a synonym of "wixen" or "scold." It is more than possible, however, that the judgment passed upon her by mankind has been too severe. A more charitable disposition would undoubtedly have discovered in her, many good qualities, and have attributed her failings more to physical infirmities than to moral obliquity. The party most intimately acquainted with her, and therefore best able to form a correct opinion, gives her credit for many domestic virtues. It now well known that many of the diseases to which women are subject, have a direct tendency to render them irritable, peevish, cross, morose, unreasonable, so that they chafe and fret over all those little ills and annoyances that a person in health would bear with composure. It is fair to infer that most of the tantrums of Xantippe were due to these causes alone; and could Socrates, as he returned from the Senate, the Gymnasium, or the Athenaeum, have stopped at Peste & Mortar's Drug Store and carried home a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, now and then, no doubt he might have evaded many a "curtain lecture" allayed many a "domestic broil," made it much pleasanter for the children, and more enjoyable for himself, and rescued his wife's name from the unenviable, world-wide, and eternal notoriety it has attained. Thousands of women bless the day on which Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription was first made known to them. A single bottle often gives delicate and suffering women more relief than months of treatment from their family physician. In all those derangements causing backache, dragging-down sensations, nervous and general debility, it is a sovereign remedy. Its soothing and healing properties render it of the utmost value to ladies suffering from internal fever, congestion, inflammation, or ulceration, and its strengthening effects tend to correct displacements of internal parts, the result of weakness of natural supports. It is sold by all druggists.

HEART DISEASE.

HALIFAX, Feb. 10th, 1872. MR. JAMES I. FELLOWS.—Dear Sir: In order that some other sufferer may be benefited, you are at liberty to give this letter publicity. In the winter of 1860 I was taken ill with Disease of the Heart, accompanied by violent palpitation, and from that time gradually became weaker, notwithstanding continued professional attendance, up to a few weeks ago, when your Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites was recommended to me. The use of it during a very short time "enabled me" to resume my usual work, and now I am as well, fat and hearty as I could wish to be. Yours very truly, W. FRANK COCHRAN.

The heart being a great muscular organ, requires vigorous nervous force to sustain it. As follows Hypophosphites restores the nervous element, it will always strengthen the heart weakened through loss of this element. THE INVENTOR. It is Strong Testimony to the popularity and usefulness of the Cocaine; that it has had a host of imitators. Consumers will do well to observe that the full name, "Burnett's Cocaine," is printed on the wrapper, and is blown in the glass. Our legal success in dealing with infringers upon our name and rights will protect the public; if only a little care is used. This tribute of imitation is paid to all meritorious and successful preparations.