

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The seizure in Belgium of an infernal machine has led to the arrest of several French political refugees. The *Blatte Belge* says—

“Several arrests, which seem connected with politics, have just been effected at Brussels. M. Victor Considérant, well known as the head of the phalansterian doctrine, has been locked up at the Palais Carmes, accused, it is said, of having purchased arms for the purpose of organising a plot against the Government. An arrest which surprises us still more is that of M. Van der Elst, who fills a high post on the staff of the railway. It is related of this latter that the police seized at his office a package sent to him from Liege by a French political refugee, and in which it is said an infernal machine and a revolving pistol were found. We have to add that M. Considérant declares that he purchased the arms with a view of sending them to Texas, where it is positive that he has organised a phalansterium; and M. Van der Elst, on his side, affirms that he received the package only to oblige the refugee who sent it, and who informed him that it contained soap. On the other hand, says the *Indépendance*, we are assured that the person who sent the case to M. Van der Elst is not a French refugee. But, besides M. Considérant, there is another French refugee arrested, as well as the person who sent the package, containing not an infernal machine, but about half a score of small bombs of a particular kind. The manufacturer of these bombs has also been arrested.”

PARIS, AUG. 20.—The official returns of the cholera in Paris are become very satisfactory. There are hardly any new cases, and the medical journals say that it is rapidly disappearing.

The columns of the *Moniteur*, contain an Imperial decree, exemplifying with no ordinary force the mutability of all human affairs. Most readers will be aware that the Emperor Napoleon I. gave directions by his will for the distribution of a large sum of money among those who had fought the battles of France under his command. Circumstances prevented for a considerable period the operation of this bequest, but it has at length been put in the way of accomplishment by the present Emperor of the French, and in the official journal of Tuesday last appeared the necessary ordinances for the purpose. Now, whatever may have been the speculations of Napoleon I. on this point, we may very safely conclude that he never anticipated the fulfilment of his wishes more than 30 years after his decease, through the agency of a Napoleon III., seated, by the Grace of God and the will of the people, on the throne which he himself had filled. But another feature of this incident is more remarkable still. At the very moment when, by virtue of unexpected events, this Imperial legacy to the wounded of Waterloo is at last made recoverable, the comrades and successors of these very soldiers are fighting shoulder to shoulder with the men who were then their enemies. The will of the great Napoleon has only taken effect at a period when all the ideas and combinations of his age have been utterly superseded—when a French empire has been recognized as symbolical, not of war, but of peace, when Frenchmen and Englishmen are the truest of allies, and when an antagonism which shallow politicians used to call eternal has been exchanged for a friendship based on that most substantial of all grounds, the common convictions of the two nations.—*London Times*.

NURSES FOR THE FRENCH SOLDIERS.—The Minister of War, says the *Moniteur*, has made an appeal to the Sisters of Saint Vincent de Paul to go and attend to the soldiers in the hospitals of the army of the East. The application has been listened to, as twenty-five of these holy women are about to embark at Marseilles in the next mail-packet, and twenty-five others will follow soon after. The worthy superiors has intimated that most probably she will be able to extend the number to 100.

Some grains of wheat which had been taken from an Egyptian sarcophagus, were lately sown by a member of the Agricultural Society of Compiègne. The stems which have risen from this seed are as large as a reed, the leaves are more than an inch in breadth, and the ears have each a hundred grains of very large size, “so that,” adds the correspondent of the *Académie des Sciences*, “the seeds have multiplied 2,000 fold.”

SPAIN.

The new ministry in Spain have ordered that all arms taken by individuals shall be given up to the junta, which has produced much discontent, and some arrests have taken place in consequence. O'Donnell, for the purpose of obtaining popularity, urges the disbanding of the army. Queen Christina is still at the palace. The ministry remains divided, and the republicans and anarchists grew so turbulent, that the Dictator threatened to leave them to themselves, and return to Logrono. The Queen's favorite has escaped to France. The Queen Mother is still in Madrid; but her husband, Munoz, is, we understand, in Paris. There is considerable clamor against the declaration of Espartero and his colleagues that the question of dynasty shall not be discussed by the constituent Cortes. A report has prevailed—we know not whether true or false—that the Patriarch of the Indies and the King Consort's Confessor have been exiled. Barcelona has been reduced to something like order; and in the rest of the Peninsula great quiet prevails.—*Catholic Standard*.

ITALY.

The partisans of Mazzini in Genoa are annoyed at the manly declaration of Garibaldi with regard to the revolt in Parma.

The Piedmontese Government is following rapidly in the footsteps of the sacrilegious robbers who in-

vented the English Protestant Reformation. An arrogant and insolent deportment towards the Holy See—arrest and imprisonment of Bishops—suppression of convents—expulsion of Religious—confiscation of ecclesiastical property—substitution of secular for canon law—diversion of monastic funds to temporal uses; these are the fruits of the “reforming” spirit in the kingdom of Sardinia.

On the 12th of August, Signor Rattazzi expelled the Chartreux from their convent at Collegno. The circumstances under which this outrage was perpetrated give a peculiar baseness to the deed. In 1852 the Lunatic Asylum at Turin being overcrowded, the Chartreux charitably offered the use of part of their convent to ease the pressure on the Asylum. Now, again, the increase in lunacy—a very natural consequence of the revolutionary mania that prevails in that part of Italy—has rendered the Asylum too small for the exigency of the moment; and the Government, instead of hiring a house, as would be done in England in such an emergency, have laid violent hands on the convent of the Chartreux, and taken forcible possession of the property of the Religious.

When the Religious remonstrated against the threatened spoliation, they were offered the alternative of a residence elsewhere, or pensions for their lives; as if it were lawful for them, or consistent with their duty, to barter away what did not belong to them personally, and to surrender property which belonged to their Order, and was founded by the piety of other days.

Influenced, however, by far higher motives, the Chartreux refused to be consenting parties to the proposed robbery; and when the myriads of Radical despotism came to expel them by force from their own house and property, they encountered the tyranny with the following calm and dignified protest:—

“On the 10th of the current month of August, while the undersigned Fathers of the Certosa of Collegno attended, according to their regulations, to the occupations of the institution itself, their superior being absent, the armed force invaded their house. After having surprised the porter, the fathers were violently expelled (one of whom had been ill for a month, been bled three times, and had an application of leeches), without giving them time to remove their own furniture, and even shutting the church, although they had not finished transporting the sacred vestments, while some of the invaders and other strangers (who could not certainly belong to the pious population of Collegno, who, on the contrary, showed themselves much afflicted by such violence) introduced themselves into the convent and robbed it of articles of value, and among other things of wine and viands. The Fathers of the Certosa of Collegno had been requested some days previously to cede their house, but, not being able to accede to such a demand without having an order from their superiors, they asked for, and obtained, as was most reasonable, the time necessary for making the proposed interpellation. But suddenly driven out, and presently received by a pious person, without whose charity they would have found themselves in the middle of the public road, after having protested in words against this act of spoliation, while waiting the orders of their superiors, they now protest afresh in writing, both before generous Piedmont and before Catholic Piedmont, that such duplicity may be recalled. They protest, in the name of property, guaranteed by the law, and violated by a despotic act, of which it is denied throughout to give them communication; they protest in the name of the inviolability of domicile highly offended; in the name of the liberty of association, recognized by the Piedmontese Constitution; in the name of religion, impiously insulted with violation of the cloisters and the canons; in the name of honesty, which renders sacred a word given and a promise made; and, finally, in the name of the laws of humanity, trampled on without regard.”

This Protest served only to whet the fury of the revolutionary and latitudinarian Ministers of the Sardinian Crown, and the expelled monks were forced to retire to Luperga. It was not enough, however, to plunder their property, they must be also robbed of their good name; and, accordingly, the havoc committed in the convent by the agents of the Government, who destroyed a great deal of property, was, with refined and devilish malice, attributed to the Religious.

Since then a similar outrage has been committed against the Sisters of the Monastery of the Holy Cross at Turin. In this case, the miscreant Rattazzi was even more insolent and brutal than in the case of the Chartreux. When the Sisters intimated that they could not quit their convent, according to their vows, without the authorisation of the Holy See, the brutal ruffian replied that he would soon solve their difficulty; for, if they did not go voluntarily, and with a good grace, he would have them removed by force. And he kept his word. The convent was beset by two troops of gens d'armes, who demanded admittance. This was refused. The valiant heroes then summoned the Sisters to surrender in two hours, at the end of which time they were assured the place would be taken by assault. Two hours rolled over, and still the besieged showed no sign of capitulation. Some carabineers were then called up, and an attempt made to force the great gate of the convent. It resisted the pressure, however; and the aid of the military, with scaling ladders was put into requisition. A breach in the wall was attempted, but the force applied was insufficient. At length, the great gate was forced, and the Sisters fled to the chapel for refuge; but when it is known that the wretches whom the Minister employed to execute his atrocious orders on the occasion were those who formed the Republican Guard in 1848, it will be easily conceived that the altar of God afforded no sanctuary to His devoted virgins.—Brute force overcame the passive resistance of the servants of Jesus Christ, and right had to succumb to might.

Nor is this the last of these nefarious attacks upon

the Church by the Piedmontese Government. We learn that the Dominicans, the Capuchins, and the Barnabite Monks are menaced with similar spoliation and indignity.—*Catholic Standard*.

GERMANY.

The capture of Bomarsund has had a favorable effect at Vienna. The moment the news arrived the order was given to the Austrian corps that had long been collected in menacing attitude on the boundaries of Wallachia and Moldavia, to march into the Principalities, in virtue of the treaty with Turkey and the new convention with the Western Powers.

SWITZERLAND.

PROTESTANT MISSIONS.—The Mormons are still busy in the Bernese Oberland, at Interlaken, and other places. Their chief agent there is a native carpenter, who has been a member of the society of the “Selected on the Salt Sea,” at Copenhagen. At his house was found the Mormons' book, a sort of Bible, with adulterated stories and prophecies from the Old Testament, and the names of false prophets, such as Moroni, Ulli, &c. This man is the same that conducted a christening in the moonshine, in consequence of which a woman went mad. Another apostle is journeying about Switzerland, trying to make converts.

THE BALTIC.

PROBABLE ATTACK ON RIGA.—There is a report that, after the capture of Bomarsund the allied fleets will attack Riga. This report is thought to be confirmed by a letter addressed by Captain Heathcote, commanding the Archer, to Mr. Hartslet, the English Consul at Memel, requesting him to inform “the foreign Consul at Riga, that all foreign neutral ships were required to leave the port in ballast by the 10th at farthest, and that after that day they would be liable to capture as lawful prize of war.” The defences of Riga are not strong. The town is contiguous to the provinces of Courland and Livonia, and it is thought not impossible that General Baraguay d'Hilliers, by way of making a diversion, may march into the interior of the country.

THE PRIZE.—The Aland Islands form an archbishop's see of about eighty inhabited islands, and a vast number of rocks and islets, in the province of Abo, in the gulf of Bothnia, at the entrance, between latitude 59 deg. 55 min. and 60 deg. 32 min. N., and longitude 19 deg. and 21 min. E. The population is 15,000, and they are all of Swedish descent. Rye, barley, potatoes, and flax are raised sufficient for the population. The manufactures are wool and sailcloth for home use. The exports are salt, beef, butter, cheese, hides, cured fish, and firewood. The imports are salt, colonial produce, and manufactured goods. These islands, taken from Sweden in 1809, are of great political and military importance to Russia, and contain several fortified ports, generally the station of a part of the Baltic fleet. Near them Peter the Great gained his first naval battle over the Swedes in 1714. The chief island, Aland, has an area of 28 square miles, a population of 9,000, and a good harbor (Bomarsund) on its west side.

PRUSSIAN PREPARATIONS ON THE BALTIC COAST.—The garrison of Swinemunde has been reinforced by a part of the 9th Regiment. Reinforcements of artillery have been ordered to Dantzie, Pillau, Stralsund, and Kolberg, Penemunde, and Stralsund, are to be immediately placed in a state of defence.—*Aachener Zeitung*, August 16.

SEAT OF WAR IN THE EAST.

THE RUSSIAN RETREAT.—On the 5th of August the Russians began to evacuate Jassy. The troops were expected to leave about the end of August. The headquarters of General Von Osten-Sacken will be transferred from Jassy to Mohiley, in Bessarabia.—The works on the fortifications on the line of the Sereth are stopped. The St. Petersburg journals maintain complete silence respecting the retrograde movement of the invading army. They are naturally embarrassed how to explain to the Russian public the conversion of offensive, into defensive operations.—Prince Paskiewitch has arrived at Warsaw, and is about to take the command of the army.

From Varna we learn that the cholera is making fearful havoc among the Allied armies—the English having lost about 700, and the French not less than 7,000—two thousand of whom perished in the dreary marshes of the Dobrukscha; and even a moderate estimate anticipates that the total mortality will amount to 15,000 men.

The correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, writing from Varna on the 6th, says:—

“The British Army numbers at present 31,700 men, including the sick and invalided. I do not think that more than 29,000 men could be brought under arms, estimating each division at 5,500 men. The French could not muster so many men fit for service in proportion. Their divisions, which are nominally composed of 12,000 men, cannot at the present moment be considered considered stronger than 9,000 or 10,000. Inclusive of cavalry and artillery, they do not therefore dispose of more than 45,000 men.

“Varna must be the very opposite of Arcadia. We have been shown a veritable letter fall of curses on the place, black as ink could write them. It is from a cavalry man, and if we believe his tale—indeed we cannot doubt it—the sufferings of the garrison of Troy were nothing to the privations and annoyances of her Majesty's horse, foot, and dragoons in the service of the descendants of the Prophet. To enumerate:—Scarcity of provisions—sometimes none at all—all bad; no porter, broiling sun, sore eyes, fever, cholera, no rest, dirty Turks, impudent, overbearing Frenchmen, snakes, toads, locusts, and lizards. Let some of our youthful gallants, ambitious of a military life, just imagine their sensations under such circumstances, and fancy their mental suffering, if, after waiting until the bullock, which had been yoked all day to the cart, was killed, quartered, and cooked for their supper, they had the mortification of seeing an impudent lizard snap up his “beef” steak, and make away with it. We wish this letter was lithographed and circulated as widely as possible; it might, at least, help to increase the bounty.”—*Nation*.

THE ATTACK UPON THE CRIMEA.—It was reported on the Paris Bourse on Tuesday that the expedition for the Crimea sailed on the 14th from Varna.

VARNA, August 4.—The preparations for a landing in the Crimea are being carried on upon a vast scale. Seven Turkish line-of-battle-ships are anchored in the roads off Varna, two British men-of-war and two French, a great number of Steamers, and about 120 transport ships. According to every appearance, it will only require eight days more to complete this Herculean enterprise. The decisive blow will, therefore, in all probability, be struck towards the middle of August—about the 15th. Among the material about to be embarked, I remarked an immense number of fascines and gabions. That clearly shows that a regular siege is intended by land against the fortifications, which on that side protect the port and fortress; and that not only the destruction of the fleet is contemplated, but also the occupation of the Peninsula.

40,000 Russian troops are said to be encamped round Sebastopol.

In Asia the Russian Army under General Butoff, is said to have obtained a decisive victory over the Turks—three thousand of the latter being left dead upon the field, and twenty-three thousand taken into captivity. Coming from a Russian source, this rumor is very probably exaggerated, though it is also likely to be substantially true.

THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE.—Three important state-papers have just been published—a letter from Lord Clarendon to the British Ambassador at Vienna, the reply of the Earl of Westmoreland, and a note from the Austrian Minister, Count Buol. The gist of these documents is thus summarized by the *Times*:—“The substance of these notes is, that after repeated confidential conversations in Vienna, Paris, and London, the three Courts are of opinion that the existence of the Ottoman Porte cannot be connected with the general equilibrium of Europe, and the relations of Russia and the Porte cannot be established on solid and durable bases.”

“1. Unless the Russian Protectorate of the Principalities of Wallachia, Moldavia, and Servia, be discontinued, and the privileges secured to those provinces by the Sultan placed under the collective guarantee of Europe.

“2. Unless the navigation of the Danube, at its mouth, be freed from all obstacles.

“3. Unless the treaty of the 13th of July, 1841, be revised in the interest of the balance of power of Europe.

“4. Unless the Russian claim to the official protectorate of the Christian subjects of the Porte be given up.

The British and French governments declare, as beligerents, that they are decided not to discuss or take into consideration any proposition from the cabinet of Saint Petersburg which shall not imply on its part a full and entire adherence to these principles; and the Austrian Cabinet, taking cognizance of this declaration, accepts for itself the engagement not to treat except upon these bases; all parties reserving to themselves a free deliberation on such further conditions or guarantees as the continuation of hostilities with France and England or the commencement of hostilities with Austria may render necessary.”

THE CZAR'S REPLY.—Letters have been received from Berlin to the effect that on the previous day Prince Gortschakoff had received the answer of the Russian Cabinet to the propositions of the other Powers. It is said that Russia does not absolutely reject, but even recognizes them as capable of being made the basis of new negotiations, after certain modifications in reference to the common protectorate of the Principalities and the preservation in their integrity of the privileges of the Greek Christians.

CLOUDS IN THE WEST.—The proposed sale of the Island of Sitka by the Czar, to the United States, is now formally announced by the American journals—and of course so desirable a project is hailed with enthusiasm throughout the Union. Dr. Cotman, an American gentleman, who had been residing at St. Petersburg for several months, has arrived in Washington invested with full powers to treat upon the subject—the Czar being completely indifferent about the terms, in his eagerness to arrange an *entente cordiale* with the Great Republic. It is amusing to conceive the enormous trouble which Nicholas has taken to convince the Yankee Doctor of his American sympathies—not sparing the character even of his own subjects when it stood in the way of a compliment likely to tell:—“There are,” said he, “but two governments in the world—those of Russia and America; and, although I have the greatest regard for the latter, yet I know it would be impracticable in my country. The republican form of government is best suited,” he added, “for the people of the United States, because they are enlightened and intelligent; but with Russia it is entirely different, and the government she has is the only one that is suited to her condition.” Fancy an enlightened American swallowing this clumsy parody of Napoleon's celebrated prediction—“In fifty years Europe shall be Republican or Cossack!” Of course, continues the Doctor, “In speaking of our relations with Spain, he says he considers that Cuba is ours by the right of her geographical position, and that, as she commands the entrance to the gulf, we should take her, whether the Spanish Government is willing or not.”—*Nation*.

THE GOVERNOR OF CHANDERNAGORE.—It is said that among the passengers by the steamer which brought out Lord Harris was a gentleman, who somehow, came to be taken or mistaken for the new governor of Chandernagore. By virtue of this supposition everybody showed him every attention, and all who had not altogether forgotten their French grammar made it a point to hold a conversation, as opportunity offered with him. He was generally esteemed as an intelligent, affable, and in every way agreeable fellow-passenger. This attention and this esteem he enjoyed not only from the company on board generally, but in a marked degree from the greatest man among them—to wit, Lord Harris. At table he usually sat on his lordship's right, and engaged the lion's share of his lordship's conversation. Well at length the voyage was at an end, and the Governor of Madras and the supposed Governor of Chandernagore were obliged to part, as the best friends must, sooner or later. Lord Harris landed at Madras, and our Frenchman came on to Calcutta.—Here he went ashore and was received at Government-house, but only to take charge of viceregal cuisine. In short, the supposed Governor of Chandernagore proved to be Lord Dalhousie's French cook!—*Bengal Harbinger*.