

THE PROTESTANT AND EVANGELICAL WITNESS.

Secular Department.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

From the St. John N. B. Church Times. The Sardinian Parliament was opened at Turin on the 21st inst. In spite of the Papal communication, which every one laughs at, about 270 deputies and as many senators were present on the occasion.

The streets of Turin were elegantly decorated with numerous banners, pennons, festoons of flowers, and similar ornaments. The appearance of the king was of the most enthusiastic character; his speech was noble and dignified, and it has justly raised the hopes of the Italian patriots.

No pen could describe the thrill of enthusiasm which ran through the audience when Victor Emmanuel, in firm, distinct, and ringing tones pronounced the words, "Firm as my forefathers in the catholic dogmas and in the respect for the chief of the religion, if the ecclesiastical authority employs spiritual weapons for temporal purposes, in the security of my conscience and in the traditions of my ancestors, I shall find the strength to maintain intact the civil liberty and my authority, of both of which only one account to God and to my people." This, and the end of the speech, in which the King said that Italy must henceforth be for the Italians, were the two passages which were most applauded by the audience.

The annexation of the Romagna to Sardinia has fearfully disturbed the digestive organs of the Irish Ultramontanes. The Vatican suggests that all Christian domes should combine in a crusade against "that vicious Monarch," that "sacriligious robber, Victor Emmanuel," who has taken possession of the property "which belongs to the Church of God and to the Catholics of the world."

THE POPES BULL has been published in a semi-official journal of Turin. In a few introductory lines, it is stated that papalcy is its sole object.

The annexation of Savoy to France is still the subject of discussion and of continued diplomatic correspondence. England protests and protests warmly, but she will not go to prevent it. In a very able despatch written by Lord John Russell, in reply to M. Thouvenot, the timely pretences which have been put forward by France in justification of the annexation of Savoy are effectually disposed of, and he concludes as follows:—

Her Majesty's Government would beg to submit that no case has been made out to justify this cession (of Savoy) on the ground of necessary defence for France, and that this cession would most unjustly, and in violation of treaty engagements, materially weaken a defensive arrangement which united Europe has provided as a security for the neutrality and integrity of Switzerland. Great Britain has no direct interest of her own in this matter, and it is from no unfriendly feeling towards France that her remonstrances on this subject have proceeded. Her Majesty's Government, indeed, are deeply impressed with the conviction that any territorial advantage which France might gain by the proposed annexation would be far more than counterbalanced by the distrust which it would inspire the other States and Powers of Europe.

The Times condemns in strong terms the policy of France, but at the same time scolds the idea that war should arise between the two nations. It says:—

That the Northern provinces of Savoy are avowed to this annexation is now sufficiently proved; that Switzerland and England have been equally ready to support the part of the continent of Europe during the closing years of the last and the early years of the present century are still fresh in the memory of mankind; their renewal would, indeed, be a deplorable misfortune, and it cannot be surprising that the attention of nations and of their rulers should be directed, with anxious solicitude, to events which have a bearing both on the interests of the present and on the destinies of the future.

Switzerland is greatly agitated on the subject of the annexation; she is making urgent representations to the great powers, and taking as far as she is able such precautionary measures as may protect her against possible contingencies. The understanding between the Federal Assembly and the Federal Council is complete; and all the authorities appear to be acting together for the common cause with equal cordiality and discretion. Lord John Russell stated in the House of Commons that Switzerland had asked for a Congress of the great powers in order that the whole subject might be fully and deliberately considered; and it was rumored, that besides England, whose assent has been officially announced, Austria, Prussia, and Russia had returned to this request affirmative replies. Since then, however, it has been stated, apparently on good authority, that the "three Northern Courts" have declined to deal with the question otherwise than in "the usual diplomatic way," under the impression that, by consenting to go into a Congress, to consider the claims of Switzerland with respect to the neutralization of one part of the surrendered territory, they would in fact be tacitly recognizing the legality of taxing the whole.

British and For. American News.

United States.

A THIRTY-SEVEN BOAT MEN—FROM THE BRITAIN.—In August, 1858, a party of young men, mostly lumbermen, started from St. Anthony's Falls, Minn., for the Falls of St. Anthony, Minn., in a small boat, with a cargo of lumber.

The light of the fire was so bright, that at Richmond, Ontario, six miles distant, a newspaper could be read by it, in the street. The illumination was discovered twenty miles beyond Hamilton.

Some very remarkable mineral discoveries have been made in Lower Canada. A local paper says:—

The richest and most extraordinary copper mine in the world, is now opening at Aston. The Paris-Bureau of Assays, which has analyzed the ore, says that it is the richest mine of Europe and perhaps the richest in the world.

Mr. Cooper moved in amendment that it pass this day third month. The House agreed—Messrs. Cooper, Whelan, Cole and Kelly—4.

Resolved, therefore, that if the Government were desirous in promising to re-enact the Bill of last session, they should have the time to do so, as its principles and details had been fully discussed and agreed to; but having failed to do so, it should not be re-introduced until the Legislature of next year.

Resolved, That as the Legislative Council has not been re-elected, this House do not deem it expedient to re-introduce the Bill of last session, but to leave the subject to be considered by the next Legislature.

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HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The Bill to incorporate Craggan's drainage and irrigation company, was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Longworth moved that the Education Bill be read a third time.

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The Protestant.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1860.

Latest European News.

The English Mail arrived at Halifax on Thursday last, and we received here yesterday morning the Liverpool dates as of the 21st ult. The following are the most important items of European intelligence.

The fight for what is called the "Championship of England," came off on Tuesday, the 17th ult. Though the hour appointed was 4 o'clock in the morning, it is said some thousands were present, chiefly of the "upper classes," and amongst them were to be found "members of the aristocracy, the gentry, the nobility, the painters, and even clergymen."

When the business of the day was over, satisfactory as it appears to have been, it was not without its interest. The fight was a grand one, and the result was a triumph for the English champion, according to report, was every way inferior to his American antagonist, Heenan, in physique, in height, in weight, in length of arm; his only superiority consisted in the fact that he was a native of the island, and was admitted, in an encounter of this kind, to be superior to his opponent.

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