

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE. FRANCE.

PARIS, MARCH 14.—It is reported that the so much talked of note for the Montevideo will be pacific instead of warlike. If I am asked whether I attach credit to the story I should say, quite as much as if I were told it would be warlike, because I am not quite sure that, as matters stand at this moment, the mysterious personage who inspires the Montevideo, and who guides the hand that pens those notes, knows exactly what he had best say.

Nevertheless, Piedmont cannot remain without great peril at the point she now is at. She cannot in vain have taken the lead in the Italian movement in order to draw back afterwards. It is absolutely necessary that she shall find means of giving satisfaction to the hopes she has excited, under pain of losing all influence in Italy, and of being herself outstripped by the passions which her present popularity only restrains.

Nothing can be clearer. The condition in which Piedmont is renders it impossible that she shall not declare war against Austria. Compare, however, this statement about the perilous condition of Piedmont with the famous note in the Montevideo only a week ago:—

"In the presence of inquietudes which are without foundation (mal fondees), as we like to believe, and which have agitated the public mind in Piedmont, the Emperor promised the King of Sardinia to defend him against any aggressive act on the part of Austria. He has promised nothing more, and it is known he will keep his word."

In truth, matters are in a bad condition. The Emperor evidently had not sufficiently taken into account the feelings of the French people, or did not understand the change effected for some time past in their character. He did not dream of the opposition that would be offered to the grand scheme of territorial aggrandizement for Piedmont by the blood and treasures of France. He did not make sure of his ground before he entered into these engagements. It is only now he sees that the sole result produced by the Minister of the Interior and the Prefects by his orders to get up a show of enthusiasm has been a still more decided opposition to the war from the people and their representatives. The people, on whom the burden of the war will fall, begin to ask, was it for these things that they named Prince Louis Napoleon Bonaparte Emperor?—Was it to repair the injury inflicted by the revolution, or to urge them to a wild chase after adventures? Was it to do battle for oppressed nationalities, and against their wishes and their wants embroil them with all Europe for a cause which is not theirs, with the barren assurance that he will only (to repeat the last words of the speech from the Throne) "render an account of his acts to God, to his conscience, and to posterity?" They naturally think that the present generation have some claim to His Majesty's consideration, and are quite as much interested in these matters as their posterity can be.

When these things are heard you may suppose that discontent is becoming general. I believe that M. Cavour's, or rather Victor Emmanuel's, position in Italy is critical indeed. The thousands of revolutionists of every colour and denomination, the free lances and soldiers of fortune that have gathered in Piedmont from every quarter at the signs of coming war, are likely, if they are baulked, to give the imprudent Minister and the ambitious King a good deal of trouble. How are they to be got rid of? For nearly three months past all the elements of industrial and commercial activity have been paralyzed on the continent, and in France more than anywhere else, and the future is still more clouded and cheerless? People ask each other, "Whither are we driven?" They only against whom we have been always told the coup d'etat of December was executed are full of exultation, and of hope which is not limited to triumphs over the Austrians. The zealous Conservative and the devoted Imperialist, who have ever undervalued Parliamentary government, now confess that even in the regime prevailing in France there appears some slight disadvantages. They say that, perhaps, it is not always for the happiness of mankind that absolute power should be centred in one individual, even though he be responsible to his "conscience and posterity." They think, and repeat, that a press not wholly gagged, a somewhat independent Tribune, and a fair expression of opinion are not the most terrible calamities for a country; that, with all the vicissitudes of 1848, public opinion made itself heard; and that, whatever absurdities or mis-statements filled the organs of that Government, the organs of public opinion could, without fear of punishment, be as absurd as they chose, and might even venture on the bolder step of checking the follies of rulers. They say that no head, however strong, is equal to the task of sense-carrier for 36 millions; and that, however philanthropic and beneficent to a nation be the projects of one mind, yet that it would not be fatal to its interests if that nation were honored by being now and then consulted upon them, if it were only to avoid the chance that one man communing with himself alone might take the satisfaction of his own tastes and his own desires for the aspirations of the people. These things are freely discussed in society—discussed among persons who but three short months ago would hardly have allowed you to hint at the existence of a flaw in the system they idolized. Such a symptom merits attention.—Among the partisans of peace and war here it is openly said that the object is merely to obtain the neutrality of the German people in the war undertaken to drive the Austrians out of Italy. But, suppose the Emperor to be successful, what guarantee have they that the French army, victorious in Italy, will not march on and invade Germany? We hear a great deal about the sagacity and moderation of the Emperor Napoleon, and up to a comparatively recent date few, perhaps, would call in question those high qualities;

but confidence is grievously shaken when we hear those who are bound by duty, if not devotion, to the Imperial Government, declare, before all who care to listen to them, that they regard those promises and those assurances as illusory; and when the party who boast of high protection speak of tearing in fragments the treaties of 1815, remodelling the map of Europe, and that all the elements of revolutions will be employed in a general war! Who, they ask, has excited the ambitious hopes of Piedmont, which now summons to her standard the exalted patriots of every nation, and gives high command to Garibaldi, who fought against the French army on the walls of Rome in 1849? Is it likely that the Emperor of the French, after having beaten the Austrians—which is not a business to be despatched in a few months, I apprehend, as some flatter themselves—will be able, even if he wished it, to direct the tempest that success will have evoked? However disposed to use his victory with moderation, could he consistently with his personal interests refuse to satisfy the passions of a triumphant multitude, eager to wreak vengeance on Germany for the disasters of the French army in 1813-1814? What the feeling would be towards England I need not say. He would have no alternative but to follow on the perilous path on which he entered. I suppose his career to be successful; but, if disaster and defeat, instead of victory, attended his arms, what would be the consequence? The French people keenly feel the peril which menaces them and all Europe in the struggle in which they are invited to enter. It is with the full knowledge of the prospect before them that the good sense of the public scorns the very idea of war, in spite of all the efforts of those writers in the press, who boast of their participation in State secrets and of the inspirations they receive from high quarters. The notes in the Montevideo, they say, and I repeat it with regret, are only meant to delude Europe, to mask the real projects which the revolutionary party believe themselves authorized to disclose to all the world.—Paris Times Correspondent.

SOMETHING LIKE A CANARD.—The following extraordinary canard has been published in a supplement to a journal of Buenos Ayres:—"Paris destroyed; 750,000 victims. By the good ship the Petite Marselles, which has just arrived, we receive the disastrous news that a great part of the city of Paris has been blown up. This terrible catastrophe was caused by a large gang of infamous bandits, who, by means of mines, have blown into the air the capital of the civilized world! The Louvre is completely destroyed! All the prisoners of the Bastille (!) have perished beneath the ruins of that ancient edifice! The Barriers of St. Antoine, St. Honoré (!) and St. Denis, and the superb theatre of the Opera, are in ruins! The Emperor Napoleon and all his suite, who had arrived a few days before in the capital, have been buried beneath the ruins of the Louvre! The number of victims is estimated at 750,000, among whom are the first journalists of the French capital, and the notabilities of the empire! The details of the disaster fill us with dismay. Who can have been the authors of such a scene of destruction—of such a crime? In England it is said that they were members of secret societies, but some persons say they were bandits, as mentioned.—L'Express.

The Presse observes, in the course of an article on the rapid development of the French navy:—"This development of our navy, we cannot too often repeat, is not the presage of an immediate war, but is a prudent measure taken with regard to the future. War may not break out for a long time, but France must always be prepared; she must be able to maintain her flag inviolate on the ocean as on land; finally, her navy must be as efficient as her land force. This aim has been nearly attained. . . . During 14 years, that is, from 1858 to 1871, the State ought to consecrate a supplementary sum of 234,000,000 francs to naval works. 48,000,000 would suffice each year to meet the wear and tear, and the repair of the existing fleets, while new vessels would absorb from 15,000,000 to 17,000,000. Thanks to this outlay, a steam fleet of 150 war vessels would be created."

AUSTRIA. VIENNA, MARCH 15.—Although the state of the Italian question has undergone no change, the impression that peace will not long be maintained is stronger than ever. Austria is fully prepared for war, but she will faithfully keep the promise given to the British Government not to act aggressively.—The armaments of Austria are of such magnitude that it is evident the Emperor Francis Joseph is firmly resolved to maintain his position in Italy intact. It is still generally believed that Lord Cowley's mission was successful, but I have received authentic information this morning that his Lordship had very little reason to congratulate himself on its result. The British Ambassador Extraordinary came here "to feel the pulse" of Austria, and to learn what concessions she was likely to make for the sake of peace, but not to urge her to any step which she might consider derogatory to her honor and dignity. The British Government wishes to bring about a rapprochement between France and Austria, and it is therefore probable that Lord Cowley has hinted at the advisability of making alterations in treaties which must necessarily excite the jealousy of Sardinia and France, but he certainly has not gone so far as to say that a change in them is absolutely necessary to the maintenance of peace. As has already been said, Austria may perhaps consent to repeal her military conventions with the Italian Duchies, if any other means can be found by the Powers for keeping down the revolutionary party; but she will not yield one jot or tittle of her reactionary claims on Tuscany and Modena unless literally forced to do so. Statesmen and diplomatists are of opinion that that secret treaty between Austria and Naples has ceased to be valid, "as it was violated by the King of Naples when he gave a constitution in 1848;" but it appears to me that the conclusion is not quite correct. The King of Naples was pledged not to introduce into his States a form of government which was not in keeping with that given by the Emperor to the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom." In April, 1848, the ex-Emperor gave a constitution to the Austrian empire, and consequently the form of Government in Naples and in the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom was the same.—The constitutional form of government has since been abolished in Austria and Naples, and it may reasonably be supposed that the two Sovereigns acted in concert in the matter. Would it not be more satisfactory to Europe at large if the secret treaty were officially declared to be null and void? If Lord Cowley should now return to Vienna he would find things greatly changed. While he was here the writers for the Vienna papers were as mild as doves, but during the last day or two they have been fierce as eagles. In the last number of the Oesterreichische Zeitung, which is the private property of the Minister of Finance, is an article

entitled "Austria will remain in Italy," which cannot fail to do mischief, as it is a direct attack on the Emperor Napoleon. After talking about the "juggling" (escamotage) practised by France, the Vienna publicist says,—"It is not the French nation which now disturbs the public peace. By a great sacrifice of blood and money for a long series of years France has acquired so many laurels that few of her sons covet fresh ones. The French wish to enjoy the blessings of peace, and to make intellectual and material conquests at home. At present it is the Government, at whose head is the elect of the people, and in whom all power is vested, which keeps Europe in a state of disquiet, and that in spite of the assurance, 'L'Empire c'est la paix.'"

It is my wish to avoid creating unnecessary alarm, but I feel bound to state that recent conversations with highly-placed military men have produced an impression on my mind that Austria would be greatly disappointed if the definitive settlement of the Italian question should be postponed. "We are now fully prepared for war," say the Viennese, "and, as it must ultimately come to a conflict, we are of opinion that the sooner the dance of death begins the better." As the very same language is used in the highest circles, there is reason to fear that the War Party will persuade the Emperor to take steps which will be advantageous neither to himself nor to his subjects. The Austrians firmly believe that they can depend on the active support of England and Prussia, and take offence if it is suggested that they may be deceiving themselves. A day or two since Prussia agreed to send a supply of provisions and ammunition into some of the federal fortresses, and to reinforce their garrisons, and consequently she is in good odour here. Those persons who best know the peculiarities of the Austrian Government are of opinion that if it should wage war successfully in Italy it will hold the reins of government with a heavier hand than ever.—Correspondent of Times.

The Austrian Government professes to be well satisfied with the policy of the Prussian Cabinet, but its reserved attitude gives great annoyance to the war party in this city, which is much more numerous and powerful than is generally supposed. The Emperor Francis Joseph is so irritated by the provoking behaviour of the Sardinians that he would probably inflict severe punishment on them if he could positively reckon on the active support of the whole of Germany in the event of a war with France. In the Ost-Deutsche Post of yesterday is a short article, in which it is positively affirmed that the Austrian note of the 5th of February was communicated to Prussia as soon as it was to the other German States. The last part of the article, which is evidently from an official source, runs as follows:—"The whole of Germany expresses the conviction that Prussia would consider an attack on the possession, rights and position of Austria and Italy as a wanton breach of the peace, and would make common cause with the other German Governments in opposing it. We share this opinion, as we do not doubt that when the time for action comes Prussia will act as becomes her. Whether there should or should not be a war in Italy, the banner of Austria and her co-partners will be at the service of Germany, should she require them. Her troops will be prepared to act with the other federal forces in defence of any of the frontiers of the common fatherland."

The meaning of the last two sentences is, that the Austrian Government has ordered its representative at the Bund to inform the Military Commission that it is prepared to place three complete corps d'armes at the disposal of the German Diet.

PRUSSIA

The Minister for Foreign Affairs gave a description of the present state of political affairs. The following is an abstract of his speech:—"The Prussian Government does not for one moment doubt that it will be able, in concert with England, to procure due respect to existing treaties. England and Prussia are in this favourable position, that they are able to place themselves with impartiality between the two antagonistic Powers, Austria and France. Up to the present time there has been only moderate hopes of success, but the grounds for hope have increased during the last few days.

The Ministerial speech lays peculiar stress upon Prussia's mission in Germany, and says that the future will prove Prussia still to be the Prussia of former times.

ITALY.

SARDINIA.—The step just taken of summoning to their colours the men on leave of absence—or, in other words, of calling out the contingents—will, I am by very competent persons informed, more than double the forces at present in Austrian Italy. Regiments now little more than 2,500 strong will be raised to nearly 6,000 bayonets; so that if there were lately 75,000 or 80,000 men in Lombardo-Venetia, they will presently be 160,000, or thereabouts. A military friend, who has just arrived from Lombardy, tells me that the preparations there are prodigious, that the country swarms with troops, whose movements are frequent, and that fortification is going on upon all sides. When we think of the impoverished state of Austria's treasury, and of the vast expense she is going to, it is difficult to doubt that she means to fight, and that at no distant period. My informant, who contemplated her cohorts with a critical and discerning eye, is of opinion that against a Franco-Piedmontese army in the open field they must inevitably and speedily be routed. He bases this view on the vast proportion of very young soldiers he remarked. He argues, not without some appearance of reason, that, in default of enthusiasm, the Austrian soldier doubly needs long and thorough discipline; and he does not share the general opinion that the Imperial army has greatly improved in efficiency since 1848-9. Not having seen it at the latter period, I am unable to establish a comparison, but what I saw of the Austrian troops in January last and also on previous visits to Lombardy, gave me a better opinion of them than is entertained by my friend.

Of the disposition of the people of Sardinia, the same authority says:—

"You may perhaps not be satisfied that such is the case, but you will find it useless to reason with people who are blinded by passion and steeled by selfishness. What is it to them that an European war should occur, that hundreds of thousands should be maimed and slain, and millions of families impoverished, whole countries plunged into difficulty and distress, and the moral and material progress of Europe incalculably retarded, so long as the strife and misery are to lead, as they hope, to the vindication of Italian nationality? They assume as certain the success of all their plans, the prompt and unerring realization of the bright vision their ardent but unpractical imaginations have conjured up. They see, in their day dreams, Austria quickly driven forth from Italy by the combined arms of France and Piedmont, aid d by the devotion of volunteers from all parts of the peninsula; they see the Pope expelled, or stripped of all temporal authority, the King of Naples deposed, a strong kingdom established in Northern Italy under the illustrious and constitutional sceptre of King Victor Emmanuel, a powerful federation speedily formed of all the Italian States, and Italians of all countries, who have never yet been able to agree, dwelling together in unity and harmony, a perfect happy family. And they also see (not the least surprising portion of their visionary fabric) despotism, France, flushed with rapid and complete victory, modestly and disinterestedly retiring within her boundaries, holding herself amply compensated for her toils and sacrifices by the laurels she has won, by the establishment of the constitutional kingdom of Northern Italy, and by the reward of a self-approving conscience. How long a time is to be consumed in bringing about this prodigious consummation is not exactly stated, but to hear people talk, to

judge by their depreciation of the Austrians and confidence in themselves (especially when backed by a French army) one would imagine that a campaign is all that is required. So impatient and unreasonable is your true Italian patriot, that he will brook no delay when he deems the power in his hands. As I lately heard remarked by one who knows him well, he plants his stick at night, and pulls it up in the morning to see if it has taken root. When unfavorable facts are presented to him, he either will not see them, or meets them with stubborn denial."

The popularity of the King of Sardinia is grounded on the hostility of the Cavour Ministry to the Church—its confiscation of Church property and its measures against the clergy. And the attacks which we constantly hear and read on the King of Naples are always interspersed and seasoned with sneers at the Catholic religion. The Protestant world have never forgiven him for affording hospitality to the Holy Father at Gaeta, nor for his attachment to the Catholic religion. If he confiscated Church property, and insulted the Holy See, he would be at once popular in England. Under these circumstances, it would be cowardly in those Catholics whose position requires from them a public expression of opinion to shrink from answering calumnies against a Government which is unpopular here because it is Catholic. For this reason I have felt it to be my duty to defend the King of Naples from unjust attacks. I say nothing of Mr. Gladstone, who was worked upon by dishonest men; but I never will remain silent when I find men making political capital by abusing Catholic Governments, because I know that those Governments are abused merely because they are Catholic. I make these observations now because the arrival of Poerio and his friends seems to me to require them for the guidance of my Catholic fellow-countrymen. Those men will probably enjoy an ovation. They will duly appear at public meetings, dinners, and other celebrations. They will be exhibited, not only as victims of the harshness of the Neapolitan Government, but as examples of all the tyranny and cruelty which Protestants commonly attribute to the Catholic Church. Let Catholics declare that, though the Church is not in any way responsible for the acts of the Neapolitan Government, yet they will set their faces against any attempt to abuse the Church, or agitate against the Church, by raising a cry against the King of Naples because he is a dutiful son of the Holy See and a man of pure and high religious character. And for the same reasons they ought to receive with distrust the statements of those refugees, which will be merely ex-parte and without proof. Whatever those men may say will be greedily swallowed by the Protestant public. John Bull ought, surely, to hesitate before he condemns a man unheard. He ought to give to the King of Naples—a man blameless as a husband, a father, and a member of society—the benefit of that presumption which the law of England shield even the man against whom an indictment has been found by a grand inquest at the assizes. But John Bull will believe without proof anything that is said against a Catholic Prince who protects the Catholic Church! It is for Catholics to assert truth and justice honestly, and to meet boldly the agitation which these refugees will raise. Let them say that the whole question is a question of fact; that it involves, if fairly considered, nothing in any way affecting the Catholic religion; but that they are not prepared to submit to an attack made on the Catholic religion by means of unproved accusations against a Catholic Sovereign promoted by his bitterest enemies.—Cor. Tablet.

When the French Government gave assurances to Lord Malinesbury that they would give no assistance to Piedmont, except in case of aggression on the part of Austria, people smiled at Turin and in Paris at the simplicity that would receive it without restriction. Of course Piedmont is doing her best, and will continue to do so, to provoke aggression. That Austria, knowing as she does the plan concocted between Paris and Turin, to tear Lombardy from her, should prepare armaments is by no means extraordinary. Armaments on one side produce armaments on the other, and irritation begets irritation, until a collision becomes inevitable. Ambition and bad faith will ever be obstacles to negotiation.

ROME.—M. Veullot, the Editor of the Univers, takes his departure this week, charged, it is said, with much valuable information, ecclesiastical and political. We shall be curious to observe how far his opinions on Imperial policy have been modified by the survey of his subject from this elevation. The fate of his relative, the Count M., will have no terrors for him, if editorial duty demand a career of danger.

The brooding storm in France continues to agitate the waters here. We hear of additional quarters for troops being demanded, and the Carmelite Convent and the Teresian nuns are ordered to surrender those cells for barracks. People naturally inquire why those huge palaces of a pauperized nobility be not preferred, as the foreign legions are here to do the work of a degenerate aristocracy, who fiddle when Rome's on fire. Surveilling their past conduct and present apathy, one recalls O'Connell's favourite quotation as not inapplicable them. "Slaves! nay, the bondsmen even of slaves,—and callous to crime." As suggestive of preparation, it is said that a staff of eighty bakers came in last week; and that twenty thousand troops are available from Algeria, and expect a campaign in Italy. Military exercises and reviews are unceasing and not attractive, except to British critics, who smile at defective shots, ungainly exhibitions on horseback, and general irregularity of movement in infantry.—Cor. Tablet.

The account given of a modification in the conditions of the evacuation of Rome is confirmed; and it is said that, in accordance with the wishes of His Holiness, the French troops are to prolong their stay in the Roman States.

The Pope has announced before the Consistory that he did not claim the fulfilment of the demand for the evacuation of the Papal States. His only intention was to prevent a collision of the two Catholic Empires of his own dominions. The Pope also said that he had intrusted his destiny to Providence, and that orders have been given for public prayers for the maintenance of peace.

The readers of the Tablet may probably have experienced surprise that no intimation of Miss Cavendish's conversion was conveyed at the period of the event, in anticipation of the offensive pamphlet since put into circulation by the Protestant party. I abstained from all reference to it out of delicacy to parties concerned, as well as through motives of personal repugnance to the public exhibition of a conversion; but by inquiry from those on the spot it will be readily ascertained that the published statement of the case is most unjust.—It is not true that the young lady was the victim of a conspiracy. She had been engaged for many months in the study of her adopted faith. It is not true that she effected her object without previous appeal to her parents—nor was the ceremony of initiation covertly conducted as described; but especially it is false that prevarication was resorted to by the inmates of the convent, when interrogated as to the circumstances of their participation. I am requested to state this on their behalf; and evidence to attest the actual conversation and occurrences exists, and is available. A French ecclesiastic chanced to become a party to the scene created by the violence of Admiral C. and his friends, when the very extreme terms of thieves and liars were enforced with a clenched fist thrust into the face of the lady who was doomed to confront them! This unmanly exhibition was meritedly denounced by the priest present as unbefitting a gentleman, in these words—"Monsieur, vous agissez comme bourgeois, sans education." A menace was thrown out at the time to these ladies, and subsequently repeated in society, that the affair should go forth to the world; and thus you have it in all home and some foreign journals, redolent of falsehood in every statement. Monsignore Talbot must have smiled to find himself proclaimed by the Herald newspaper as disapproving of the proceedings

on the part of the Catholics concerned. Of one thing we know that he disapproved—and not without distinct expression of his opinion to the parties concerned—namely, of the cruel confinement to her room of the poor persecuted daughter, who, up to the moment that we write, has been debarred the exercise of religious duties, and is cut off from all intercourse with her sisters, it is alleged, for fear of contamination. Monsignore Talbot, in person, has reconvened with the parents, as have other friends, but in vain; and Miss Cavendish is called upon to emulate in heroism the deeds of early sufferers in the Church, as we believe, but to conform her in the faith. She claims our sympathy and may need our prayers.—Cor. of London Tablet.

RUSSIA.

I see a great deal in your columns and elsewhere about the honors paid and amity testified to the Grand Duke Constantine at Malta. Of course, these are mere matters of form and courtesy, and are not to be taken as the indication of a belief, on the part of Englishmen and their Government, that Russia is pursuing a foreign policy which can possibly be agreeable to Great Britain. Depend upon my positive assurance, that Russia has greatly contributed to spur Sardinia on the war path, and that the Grand Duke Constantine has been a prime agent and mover in the incitement. He has been mixed up, there is strong reason to believe, in the whole of the intrigues that have been for some time going on, including the affair of the marriage. I told you, some time ago, of reports of incognito visits paid by him to Turin, which I was, however, unable to confirm.—Circumstances that have since come to my knowledge induce me to think that those reports were probably well founded. This, however, is a mere detail, but rely upon it that he has made and meddled to a great extent in the political affairs of Sardinia. He seems an exceedingly active and stirring person, and well suited to further the designs of the Russian Government. What these may be can be but matter of conjecture. It is no easy matter to fathom the secret plans of a Power which is "aye fair and late," and to decide whether it has been actuated falsely by its old grudge against Austria or by a desire to embark the Sovereigns of France and Piedmont in a course which it hopes may ultimately lead to the ruin of both. The Emperor of the French and the King of Sardinia would do well to remember that, wide though they may believe the chasm to be that separates Russia from Austria, it would take no great deal to narrow it almost to nothing. Two men chiefly keep it from closing. Remove Counts Buol and Gortschakoff, and how long a time would be needed for the gulf to contract into a mere fissure, such as circumstances and mutual interest might close in a day?—Correspondent of Times.

INDIA.

Speaking of Protestant policy in India, the Times correspondent says frankly:—"We have always run into excess in our dealings with the natives. The Company, weak in their commencement, seem to have thought that they held their position in India upon much the same terms as the Dutch held their footing in Japan—by means of trading on the Cross. Practically, they worshipped those ugly Indian deities more servilely than their own votaries did. Their only anxiety was to induce the natives to show them what they should honor, what they should salute, what they should respect, and they honored, saluted, and respected accordingly. Of course, they were provided with plenty of objects of veneration, and the British naturally presented himself as the first and highest claimant to respect."

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Army Estimates for the ensuing year amount to the large sum of £12,668,960. The discussion upon the affairs of Portugal and France proved only what we said last week. France was wrong and Portugal right. Lord Malinesbury saw this, and shuffled and evaded till Portugal had to give way to force. Why, it may be asked, was this a disgrace to England any more than to Austria or the United States? Obviously because England has sent up to be "a first class European power," and has bound itself to defend Portugal. Nothing can be more absurd or inconsistent than to make such pretensions, and then allow the French fleet to outnumber our own. The real duty of a British Government is to reverse both parts of this insane policy.—To refuse to intermix itself with continental politics, or to guarantee continental states, and to maintain a navy sufficient to complete the isolation which is among the best gifts we have received from nature.—Weekly Register.

The Times contains a letter from the Emperor Napoleon, dated from the Tuilleries, March 1st, and addressed to his friend Sir F. B. Head. Sir Francis had forwarded to the Emperor his three letters to the Times and now publishes the reply. The Emperor complains of being "misunderstood and misjudged," and says "he cannot tell why the public mind in England should be so excited against France. If" (says the Emperor) "I chose to act in this manner, it would be impossible for me afterwards to restrain the passions which I should have let loose."

A CROUVIAN PRAYER FOR THE PRINCE OF WALES.—The Rev. E. L. Ward, rector of Blonworth, Hereford, Hunts, announces, through the columns of a Protestant contemporary, that he is using a special form of prayer on behalf of the Prince of Wales, to shield him from the influences which are supposed to surround him at Rome. Mr. Ward says:—"Feeling deeply the extreme imprudence, of which Lord Derby has been guilty, in permitting the Prince of Wales to visit and reside for a time at Rome (for I consider such a step fraught with peril to the cause of Protestant truth), I have adopted a suggestion which I found in the last number of the 'Protestant Magazine,' and have made this visit of his Royal Highness to Rome a subject of prayer in my church for the last three Sundays, in the following manner, before the Litany and before the collect for the Royal family in the afternoon service:—"The prayers of this congregation are earnestly desired for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, that it may please Almighty God of His great mercy to preserve him from the dangers to which he will be exposed during his residence at Rome, the headquarters of Popish error superstition and idolatry!"—Morning Star.

TEMPERANCE BY BRUTE FORCE.—We copy the following sensible remarks on the new agitation in England for an act of parliament to make intoxication compulsory, from the London Saturday Review:—"No doubt much of the popularity of the Maine Liquor Law, and of the attempts to put down moral offences by mere statute and police machinery, is to be attributed to this character of middle-class English thought. There is throughout a misconception of the province of government, because there is an imperfect conception of personal duty. The argument is this:—Drunkenness is a great evil—it creates all sorts of domestic and personal misery and poverty; what's the use of a government if it cannot put an end to this evil? It can put an end to it by prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors—therefore a prohibitory law against intoxicating liquors is the right thing. It is useless to argue that all prohibitory laws imply and encourage a lax and feeble state of the individual conscience; for this is exactly the moral state of imperfectly educated minds, and such minds are not likely to realize, still less to admit, their own moral incapacity. Few people can really form opinions, because few people are really capable of thought. It is a trouble, and therefore an affront, to make a man see difficulties—thought is a difficulty—welcome, then, everything which saves the trouble. A prohibition of drunkenness seems to save trouble—it is a short cut, a convenient solution, and therefore it is triump. The Maine Liquor Law boasts as its chief triumph, that at Rochford, Massachusetts, two hundred women entered a liquor shop by force