

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, May 14.—In to day's sitting of the Legislative Body the debate upon the interpellation relative to free trade was resumed.

M. de Forcade la Roquette, the Minister of Commerce, replying to the speech of M. Thiers, said:—It is advisable not to aggravate the difficulties of the present by denunciations of the past. On the other side of the Rhine there are also persons who endeavor to provoke national susceptibilities by saying that Prussia has gained, but Germany has lost, by the evacuation of Luxemburg and of Mantua. Let history be the judge of these events while we endeavor to ensure peace by conciliation. As regards political traditions, England herself, despite her traditional policy, allowed the Hanoverian dynasty to fall. It is not by sowing resentment that we can put a stop to commercial crisis. The Government and the Chamber will not be divided upon this question any more than upon any other. They were both elected by universal suffrage, and they will always devote themselves simultaneously—not to individual interests, as formerly, but to the general interests of the country.—The crisis is now disappearing, and France, which has just applauded the words of confidence uttered at Orleans, should see in those words the true definition of the present situation' (cheers).

Marshal Niel, the Minister of War, has addressed a letter to Marshal M'Mahon in reply to the latter's despatch of the 23rd April, relative to the pastoral letter of the Archbishop of Algiers. Marshal Niel says that the Emperor has by no means modified his opinions with regard to liberty of conscience, which his Majesty desires should be accorded in its fullest extent to the Mussulmans of Algeria. The Minister of War expresses approval of Marshal M'Mahon's despatch, and adds that it is necessary that when public and private charity come forward to give assistance to the starving population of Algeria, any supposition that the Government gives way to a desire for religious propagandism should be carefully avoided.

The *Moniteur del'Algerie* qualifies as ridiculous a report which has been current that the Archbishop has been exiled.

PARIS, May 31.—The Emperor Napoleon and the Empress Eugenie have visited Rouen. The Emperor made a speech in which he publicly returned his thanks and the thanks of the Empress to the Mayor of Rouen for the energetic and efficient measures of relief which had been provided by the municipal government for the poor of the city during the past severe winter, and expressed the hope that their sufferings were now ended. In his reply to an address from the Cardinal of Rouen, the Emperor declared, 'We will never sever our love of God from our love of country.' In the evening the Emperor and Empress returned to Paris.

The *Constitutionnel* of Saturday evening publishes an article defending the expenditure proposed in the estimates of the Ministry of War. The article, after showing that the effective force of 400,000 men is inferior to that of the North German Confederation, concludes thus:—'By the new military law the Emperor desired to create an institution which, while economizing the finances of the State, and lightening the burden of taxation, would enable France to play the part appertaining to her in Europe.'

General de Failly, in assuming the command at the Camp of Chalons, issued the following order of the day:—

'Gentlemen,—I am happy and proud to be called your commander. I already know a great number among you, and many are acquainted with me, at least by name. We are assembled together, not in an encampment of pleasure, but in one where work is to be done. That sufficiently says that we shall proceed to our manoeuvres without losing time. We shall omit matters of detail, and confine ourselves to evolutions on a large scale, such as are necessary in war. The improvements in the muskets having changed tactics, we shall modify—not the order of the manoeuvres, but their application to the new armaments. A war being always possible, our training ought to be earnest, genuine and uninterrupted. I repeat to you that I appreciate, as I am bound to do, the honor of being placed at your head.'

The order of the day just quoted appears to many people important, not so much because the general speaks of war as 'possible'—everything is possible—but because the possibility seems meant by him to become probable, from the fact of his 'omitting matters of detail,' and confining himself to 'evolutions on a large scale, such as are necessary in war.' The words of the general are hardly in accord with those which the Emperor uttered only a few days ago at Orleans. Had general Failly alluded to the state of political affairs in the Senate, of which he is a member, nobody would think them strange; but as the general commanding the camp of Chalons, his Order of the Day should relate to the instruction of his troops, and not take the form of a political address.—*Times Cor.*

The recent debates in the House of Commons suggest to the writer of a long article in M. de Girardin's paper, *La Liberte*, the following remarks on Mr. Disraeli:—

'Mr. Disraeli is one faculty without which no one can be a great advocate, nor a sensation preacher in the pulpit, and still less an influential speaker in Parliament. He possesses the theatrical art in a high, even in an excessive degree. His political existence is a drama, in which he has constantly played the Davus and the Mascarella, who contrive the intrigue of the piece by mystifying old men and amusing young ones.—He has in perfection the gift of invective and personality. His speeches have never been anything but oratorical pamphlets; and in his campaign against Sir Robert Peel he had become a sort of Parliamentary Junius. But the office of a great Minister differs completely from that of a great orator who proceeds only by sarcasm and violence. That of a statesman is to administer the affairs of the country, and not to

declaim high sounding periods, or shoot darts tipped with satire. Sarcasm ends with nothing, and resolves nothing. It is not rhetoric that governs the world. The art of government is one thing; the science of government another; and a man may be very skilful in leading a party and understand nothing of what interests the wellbeing and the grandeur of a nation. It is not with epigrams and insults that one directs public affairs. Imagine E. Veillot (of the *Univers*), whose undeniable talents no one admires more than we do, Minister of State. This is exactly the impression which Mr. Disraeli's position in the government produces in England. He has never said or done in course of his long political career a single thing which could lead one to suppose that he had ideas or convictions on any point whatever. He has been three times Chancellor of the Exchequer without having effected any useful measure or promoted progress. The whole of his political life may be summed up in the famous words of M. de Desmousseaux de Givry—'nothing, nothing, nothing!'

The Paris correspondent of the *Star* is responsible for the subjoined:—

'The *Courier du Pas de Calais* gives the following detailed account of an audience granted by the Emperor to M. Cotel, civil engineer, and promoter of the project of a tunnel railway across the Channel. According to this authority nothing could have been more encouraging than his Majesty's reception. The Emperor was informed on every point of the question, and made several inquiries which elicited long explanations. When he had listened to all M. Boutel had to say, his Majesty requested him to draw up a detailed report on the means of construction with plans, the cost of each portion of the work, the time that it will probably require to execute it, and the probable profits of the enterprise, concluding by the words, 'Je l'examinerai moi meme, et nous vous appuierons' (I will myself study it, and we will second you). 'This project,' added his Majesty, 'is far more practical than all the other tunnels and all the other means which have been proposed, none of which inspire me with the slightest confidence.' The Emperor listened with patient attention, and the peculiar kindness of manner which invariably captivate all who have had personal intercourse with him. His penetrating glance struck M. Boutel as piercing, yet most kind in expression. The largest plan was laid upon the floor. As M. Boutel rose to take leave, the Prince Imperial naturally could not resist his boy nature, and jumped over it. General Frossard was absent, and his father smiled as General Fave, who had presented M. Boutel, remarked 'Monsieur, you are the first who have crossed the bridge.' The Emperor repeated the words, 'We shall second you. (*Nous vous appuierons.*) Thus this stupendous idea, even in all human probability be carried out, even as the cutting of the Isthmus of Suez may be said to be almost realised in spite of the sneers and ridicule cast on the project. The Emperor's reign will undeniably be marked in history as that in which more gigantic enterprises have been accomplished than in any preceding period in the history of France.'

RELIGIOUS FEELING IN FRANCE.—The Paris correspondent of the *Post* says that since 1843 the Jesuits have numerically increased in France, and the priests have now much influence over the people, or rather what is called the educated classes. The streets of Paris and the environs of the city show that a change has taken place in the religious sentiment of the people. 'There was a time when you seldom met with priests in a conspicuous robe, and never with the members of monastic orders. They may now be constantly met with on the Boulevard in the railway and in society—Capuchins, Jesuits of various degrees, priests with three-cornered hats, such as are worn at Rome, and conspicuously robed. Ecclesiastics are not so timid, reserved and unobtrusive, as they were before the foundation of the empire. They now thread society with the confidence of Austrian or Spanish churchmen. The churches are more attended than of old, and Rome has once more crept into the schools of France.'

RELIGIOUS DISTURBANCES IN FRANCE.—Anticlerical riots have taken place in France. In one instance the cure was dragged off by the mob; the church became a scene of tumult. The disturbances have arisen from an idea that the priests are seeking to re-establish tithes and other charges connected with the maintenance of the Papacy.

THE PRESS IN FRANCE.—The Correctional Tribunal of Lille has condemned an editor to pay a fine of 200f. for re-publishing an article which is held to be 'an excitement to hatred of the Government.'

The Minister of Justice has addressed a circular to the Procurators-General, recommending them to apply the new Law on the Press as mildly as possible, and not to be too strict in their vigilance over the journals.

THE CROPS IN FRANCE.—The accounts of the harvest in France are most satisfactory. Under the influence of the alternation of rain and sunshine the wheat looks well, and the fields, which seemed bare ten days ago, now show a beautiful green covering. Round Paris and in the centre of France the ground has now received sufficient moisture, and only wants heat; but drought is still complained of in the Var, Bouches du Rhone, and Ardeche. Advices from the vine-bearing districts are also most favorable.

A SAFE COUNTRY.—In the *Moniteur del'Algerie* of the 6th of May, Marshal M'Mahon writes:—'There is no country in Europe in which life is more respected or safer than it now is in Algeria.' To support this assertion the Marshal adduces certain statistics which go to show that among the civil European population of Algeria—about 100,000 in number—there have during the last seven months been only 17 murders and only five persons eaten. A critic in the *Figaro* computes that, as there are in France 38,000,000 souls, a singular proportion of crime would show 14,400 murders a year, a state of things which, he observes, 'nous ferait regretter l'ancienne Foret de Bondy,' where assassi-

nation used to be the rule, and escape from it the exception.

ITALY.

PIEDMONT.—The government, for the moment, seems to be more intent upon restoring order in its finances than on acquiring fresh territory. We hear no more at present of Garibaldi's raids on the Papal States.

A Turin paper says it is greatly remarked that M. de Kisseleff, the Russian ambassador, abstained from visiting Prince Napoleon, and that Madame de Kisseleff, nee Ruspoli, and an Italian lady, having asked leave to call upon the Princess Clothilde, was told that her Highness was not well enough to receive her. Ever since Prince Napoleon's speech in the Senate in favor of Poland all Russian agents have had orders to cut him.

ROME.—Rome, May 15.—Cardinal Andrea died suddenly last night from apoplexy.

Rome, May 19.—The Pope attended in person to day the funeral of Cardinal Andrea, and took part in the service. He pronounced the benediction over the body of the late Cardinal.

A great crowd had assembled to witness the ceremony.

Numerous recruits for the Papal army have arrived from Spain.

THE DEFENDERS OF THE CHURCH.—The Roman correspondent of the *Morning Post* writes:—'The enthusiasm for the Pope's cause, which brought so many young men of good family to enlist as private soldiers in his army at the period of the Garibaldi invasion, still continues among the same classes as well in our own country as in those of the continent and in the New World. The corps of dragoons is now the favourite one for rich or titled volunteers, as they purchase their own horses and equipments, and instead of receiving pay, maintain themselves, their chargers and their orderly servants. I was in society the other evening with the Mexican Prince Iurbide, who wore the simple uniform of a private dragoon—several cadets of noble Roman houses, including that of Borghese, are private in the dragoons and artillery, and the representative of one of the oldest Catholic families in Yorkshire, who will have £15,000 a year when he comes of age, has recently enlisted for five years in the regiment of dragoons as a private. An Austrian colonel and knight of the order of Malta, who got a Prussian bullet in his chest at the battle of Sadowa—Count Eberssen—came to Rome lately with a similar intention; but, going to visit Naples before entering the Pope's army, the ball, which had never been extracted, shifted its position, and, approaching vital parts, produced death before the brave colonel could come back to show his devotion to the cause of the Church.'

'Notwithstanding his very diminished resources in consequence of the spoliation of his territory, the Holy Father has now, as before, the general administration of the whole Church to maintain, the former establishments of congregations of cardinals, the former tribunals, &c., &c., with their large staffs of presidents, secretaries, and other officials. Add to these expenses the maintenance of the troops that he is obliged to keep on foot, in consequence of the manner in which his present possessions are threatened with invasion by the neighboring Italian Kingdom, as well as by the openly hostile revolutionary party.—The entire of his present diminished patrimony, with the exception of the sea coast, is all surrounded by his enemies, that with their borders of banditti can freely choose place and time for invasion and devastation. This obliges the Holy Father for the safety of his present poor subjects, as far as he can secure it, to keep up an army far too numerous in proportion to his diminished possessions and his vastly contracted ordinary resources. For these troops, besides clothes, equipments, &c., it has been necessary, and is still necessary, to provide a new description of arms, rendered indispensable in present circumstances. Add again to all this the fortifications that have been necessarily erected in various positions round the city of Rome, to enable it to hold out when attacked, at least for a time, against its enemies. Just at present, indeed things are quiet here, and so would they remain if the people of Rome were left to themselves; but, as you may perceive, there is no calculating on the duration of the present calm. Rather, it is certain, I should say, that it cannot endure very long as our worthy neighbours are determined, according to their own repeated public declarations in their chambers that they must have Rome. The revolutionary party, on the other hand, with the infamous Garibaldi at their head, loudly proclaim that it must be theirs. Thus the Holy Father and his friends, should they even escape the fangs of the wolves, would soon be destined to become a prey to the tigers. Each party are but biding their time and opportunity, as they do not cease to proclaim—the delay increases and inflames their ravening fury, and the aged Pontiff must at each moment be prepared to resist. Thanks be to God! amidst all his trials and sources of anxiety, the Holy Father all this year has enjoyed excellent health, much better than some two years past.'—*Letter from Rome.*

According to the reply of Pius IX. to the bishops, the great Church Council is to take place on the anniversary of the promulgation of the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8; but, as it is estimated that the preparatory work to be done will take at least seven or eight months, it is not probable the Council will be convoked before December 8th, 1870.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor of Austria, asserts that he had to make his choice of two alternatives, the signing of the recent laws hostile to the Concordat, or the abdication of the Throne of the Hapsburgs, and he chose the former. This explanation is intended to soften the resentment of Pope, for the violation of the Concordat.

PRUSSIA.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes as follows, from Frankfurt:—

'The majority of the Zoll Parliament have shown practical sense in discarding the proposed address to the King urging the necessity of a closer union between South and North. The proposal was made by those ill advised friends of Prussia who cling to abstract theories, which cannot lead for the present to any practical result. As long as no war threatens from France, or no hint is given on her part that

she will resist by arms any ulterior step towards German unity, the abstract controversy whether such a union is desirable or not must result in nothing. Count Bismarck is too much a man of words. Most unwillingly France has been made to submit to the great changes which, to the detriment of her supremacy, have taken place in Germany, and it would be sheer folly to provoke a war for an object not desired by either party. It is highly necessary for the Confederation to continue its work of amalgamation without being disturbed in any way, and the South having secured safety against foreign aggression and commercial union by her treaties, has no inducement whatever to sacrifice its liberty to the stringent military regulations of the Northern Confederation. It is a pity that the party leaders cannot perceive what everybody else is convinced of, that Count Bismarck plays them off as so many trump cards, one against the other, at one time beating the ultra-conservatives by the assistance of the liberals; at another checkmating the latter by the votes of the conservatives. The union between South and North will come in due time, in case of emergency; but certainly not while an overwhelming majority in the South is adverse to it for very good reasons. Still it is remarkable that the promoters of the address were those deputies from the South returned by such districts, on the left bank of the Rhine, as are the most opposed to French aggression.

RUSSIA.

LONDON, May 31.—A despatch from Bombay reports that the Russians in Central Asia have defeated the Bokharians in a pitched battle in which the Emir of Bokhara was killed, and that the victorious Russians subsequently captured the capital of Bokhara by storm.

The *Post*, in the course of a leading article, strongly sympathizing with the Poles in consequence of the new and intolerable burdens with which Russia has loaded and is still loading them, says:—

'The Commission of Public Instruction was first abolished (by Russia); then the Commission of Finance, the Council of State, the Council of General Administration have all fallen in turn, as being calculated to foster the idea that something still remained of the country in which they once existed; and now the final blow has been struck, and by the ukase we have mentioned—by the mere stroke of the Czar's pen, that is to say—the very last traces of Polish nationality are utterly blotted out from the face of the earth. This astounding State document declares it to be 'the will of the Emperor' that a 'complete fusion of the Kingdom of Poland with the other portions of the empire should be effected, and by its first article discloses the construction put upon the phrase by taking the whole Government out of the administrations which have hitherto wielded it, and handing it over absolutely and entirely to the Minister of the Interior at St. Petersburg. It was bad enough before when these administrations were constrained to act in the sense indicated by the Central Government, but at least they were able to moderate and to adapt their measures as the time and the place demanded. Now, however, the exigencies of time and place are no more to be regarded at all, and the crushing power of despotism is to be increased sevenfold by being transmitted direct from the fountain-head. Nor is this all; for in the regulations appended to, and explanatory of, the ukase, a blow is dealt at Polish nationality which will be felt heavily. It is laid down that all correspondences and official communications in every branch of the country are to be conducted no longer in Polish, but in the Russian language; and that it may be made quite clear that the object is to root out entirely the tongue of the country, it is provided that Russian shall be used exclusively in all in all colleges throughout Poland as the one language of instruction, and that even the private schools which teach the mother tongue shall be closed for ever at the end of the present year. This has been well called an imposition of dead silence upon the whole country, and might be thought to make the case as desperate as it could possibly be; but there is yet another rigor to be mentioned, for it is suspected that even when institutions and language are gone, religion might still bind the people of Russia to break. Therefore the Roman Catholic faith, which is that of four fifths of the population, is said to be considered as a 'foreign religion,' and is only to be barely tolerated by the side of the Greek Church, for which, as the religion of the State, all the advantages and benefits of an establishment are to be reversed—establishing on a larger scale, and with infinitely harder conditions, the state of things we ourselves are now abolishing in Ireland; and to show that the Government is not going to content itself with even nominal plunder, a ukase was published in Warsaw on the 3rd of the present month distributing among the members of the 'Constitution Committee' who are charged with the complete carrying out of the scheme, a first instalment of the lands to be Russified. M. Soloviev, for instance gets four villages. Prince Tcherkesky eight; while M. Nicolas Mitouline, the principal man on the committee, is gratified with no less than twenty-two—a very substantial mark of the approval with which their imperial master views their work.

It is useless to try to add anything to this tale of iniquity, and those who followed it may well think that the case of Poland is now utterly hopeless. Yet the Poles themselves do not think so, and Prince L. Czartoryski, in an admirable and exhaustive address delivered a few days since to the Polish Historical Society in London, gave very good reasons for the hopes which are once more springing up in their breasts. 'The alliance of the three Powers,' he says, 'which have partitioned our country—an alliance cemented by crime, and designated as 'Holy' by a strange irony of fate, and which encompassed us by a circle of iron—has been broken. Austria, reconciled to us in the West, opens of her own initiative a breach in the impregnable fortress which confined us and already we feel the beneficial influence of a freer atmosphere.' The Prince goes on to show that although Germany still holds on always in Polish matters to the 'hybrid alliance' with Russia, she does it to her own damage, and reminds her of the conduct that the latter has already held towards the German provinces which have fallen under her power.

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CIRCULAR.

MONTEAL, May, 1867.

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He trusts that from his long experience in buying the above goods when in the grocery trade, as well as from his extensive connections in the country, he will thus be enabled to offer inducements to the public unsurpassed by any house of the kind in Canada.

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