

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

THE CHINESE WAR.

ATTACK BY THE CHINESE ON ENGLISH STEAMERS—CAPTURE OF THE THISTLE—DESTRUCTION OF CANTON.

Despatches from Hong Kong state that on the 15th of January a numerous fleet of Chinese war vessels attacked the English steamers lying off Canton. The attack failed; but the Chinese retired in good order.

The passenger steamer *Thistle* had been taken by the Chinese—a party of assassins, disguised, having embarked as passengers, and murdered her crew of eleven men and boys. The vessel was plundered, and has since been recovered.

Admiral Seymour has disembarked troops who have burned down almost all the suburbs of Canton. The rebel fleet at Whampoa has joined the Imperialists.

The Chinese made an unsuccessful attempt to retake *Tau-Totum Fort*.

The government of Hong Kong has increased the police force, and taken precautionary measures against incendiarism.

THE PERSIAN WAR.

Intelligence from Bushire to the 17th of January states that the troops were still unmolested by the enemy.

An attack had been made by detachments of cavalry and horse artillery on a depot of Persian stores and ammunition, twenty-two miles from the camp, and the object attained without loss.

INDIA.

A despatch of reinforcements to Persia had commenced. Government has opened a new five per cent. loan for three crores. The Bank of Bengal has raised its discount to 11 per cent. on private bills.

RUSSIA AND THE CIRCASSIANS.

Intelligence has been received from Odessa of the operations of two expeditions against the Circassians, of which the one on the right, under the command of General Kozlovski, completely failed; while the other, under the orders of General Phillipson, Ataman of the Cossacks of the Black Sea, and directed against the soul (chief village of a tribe) Eueme, was successful.

TURKEY.

Admiral Lyons has officially announced his approaching departure. A second landing of British troops is said to have taken place at Balfruck, on the Caspian Sea.—Ammunition has also, it is said, been sent to Teheren by the Russians. Russia, in accord with Persia, is, it is reported, about to establish a railway from Tiflis to Teheran. Rifaat Pasha is dead. He has left a fortune of twenty-five millions of piastres. The Milan journals declare that Austria will maintain her opposition to the union of the Principalities. Russia has obtained the power of constructing a line of railway from Mochediser to Teheran.

BEUF GRAS PROCESSION IN PARIS.

The *Beuf Gras* Procession went to the Tuileries on Tuesday, according to custom. As soon as it had arrived under the balcony of the Pavilion de l'Horloge, the Emperor ordered every one of the gates of the courtyard to be thrown open to the public, and the crowd of spectators in the Carrousel rushed up to the palace doors. The Emperor and Empress appeared in the balcony, and M. Adeline, the breaker of the *Beuf*

Gras of the day, and M. Meech, the butcher of the Rue Canton, the purchaser of the beast, had the honor of being presented to their Majesties. The weather, although a little colder than it had been, was still most beautiful, and the carnival folk enjoyed themselves immensely. The anniversary of 1818 (Feb. 24) is completely emerged and forgotten in Mardi Gras. The republican sections had some idea of making a political demonstration at the Place de la Bastille, but they found it impossible to struggle with the holiday feeling, and abandoned the attempt. A few obscure meetings outside the barriers formed the only commemoration of this once great anniversary.

TORTURE IN CHINA.

We find the correspondence lately printed the following statement addressed by M. Livois, Procureur-General of the French Missions in China, to Sir John Bowring, under date Hong Kong, July 12, 1856:—"I have just learned that M. Chapdelaine, a French missionary of our society, was put to death on the 29th of last February by the mandarin of Si-hu, a place situated to the west of Quang-si, near the frontiers of Yunnan. Arrested on the 24th of February, he was brought before the tribunal; the mandarin began by ordering 100 blows on the face to be inflicted on him with a leather shoe sole. He then made him lie down, and he was beaten with 300 strokes on a cane. As during this double torture M. Chapdelaine uttered no complaint nor groan, the mandarin, attributing this long-suffering to the influence of some charm, caused the throat of a dog to be cut, and sprinkled the poor sufferer with its blood, in order to dissipate the magic. Next day the mandarin, learning that Chapdelaine was yet able to walk, he ordered him to be beaten until his strength should be exhausted; when it was announced the victim could no longer move they put upon him a sort of apparatus with springs that crushed him as in a press. In this condition he was hung up. Lastly, when on the point of death, he was decapitated. His head was hung upon a tree, but the children pelting it with stones, it fell down, and was devoured by the dogs and pigs. The body was, some say, interred; others affirm it was thrown into the sewer; but previous to this it was opened, and the executioners tore out the heart, cut it into pieces, and cooked it with fat; they then ate it. Two converts were decapitated with their pastor for having refused to renounce their religion. Fourteen or fifteen more were in prison."

THE BURNING OF THE BRITISH FACTORIES AT CANTON.—A private letter from a gentleman, who has been for some time at Canton, and who was an eye witness of the burning of the British Factories in that city, says:—"During the fire that unfortunately burnt us out of the factories, the whole of the foreign as well as our own goods being consumed, I could not have believed it possible that so much injury could have been done in so few hours. The Chinese hoped to drive us out; but a short reflection upon our position, and the triumph it would have proved to the Canton people, determined the British Commander to hold that part of the garden in front of the burnt factories on which the remaining buildings stand, consisting of the church, and the boat or club house. Our forces are therefore entrenching themselves to resist any attempts to disturb them, and have their flag hoisted on the church tower. The '*Niger*' is close abreast of the position, and covers it with her guns. They therefore feel that they are strong enough to resist all attempts to dis-

lodge us. Our communications continue as they have always been, open with Hong Kong; and our ships are stationed in various parts of the Canton river. Yesterday, being Christmas-day, we had service in the factory church. It was reported that the Chinese intended an attack on us, but, except a small alarm, nothing took place.—We are, as you may imagine, always on the look out. In the Factory branch of the river, between certain points, our forces do not allow a Chinese boat to move. They have a boom constructed and laid across the entrance of the main branch of the river, to keep off fire-rafts, with which they strive to burn our ships. We still hold the several forts necessary to command the city and its approaches, and hope, with patient vigilance, to wait instructions from home, which cannot be received before the end of February or beginning of March."

THE REIGN OF TERROR IN NAPLES.—STOCKING PROOFS OF TORTURE.—Domestic visits continue. But the visit which has produced the greatest astonishment in public is that paid to the Prince de C—, whose attachment to the Bourbons had never before been called in question. The Prince has, it appears, a housekeeper who has lived with him for a long time. The housekeeper had a child who is now about 16 or 17 years of age, and who is supposed, rightly or wrongly, to be the natural son of the Prince. Antonio Salvi, the lad in question, had been recommended by the Prince to the superintendent of the Royal stables; and, as he was an admirable horseman, as well as a remarkably handsome youth, he employed him as an outrider. It appears that one day Antonio was in the stables at Caserta, and took a piece of *amadou*, or prepared tinder, and rubbed it against the wall in order to light his cigar. At the slight crackling noise it made, the servant who was on guard at the stable door entered, and seeing a sort of match which is not much used here, as well as the embarrassment of the youth, as the lighting a match is an infraction of the regulations, he at once concluded that Antonio Salvi intended to set fire to the stable. At the cry of the servants the other attendants ran up. Antonio was laid hold of, and at once considered and treated as a Mazzinian of the worst class.—He was beaten, and had his clothes torn, and was then dragged off to the Commissary of Police, who began his examination by boxing him on the face, and nearly knocking him down. He told the truth of the affair, and showed the cigar which he still held in his hand. He was asked where he got the prepared tinder; he replied he had got a piece from one of the grooms of the Comte d'Aguilar, the King's brother.—The groom was at once sent for, and interrogated in his turn. This man, frightened at the danger to himself, denied that he had ever given any to Antonio. The consequence was that the youth was at once set down as an incendiary. He was sent forthwith to Naples, thrown into the horrible charnel-house of Santa Maria Apparente, and put to the torture. His mother heard of the affair, and the Prince de C— lost no time in making inquiry about it, and tried to get the unfortunate young man out of the scrape. Instead of rendering him assistance, the house of the Prince himself was visited on the suspicion that he also was an accomplice. In the meantime Antonio was beaten with a *nerf de beuf*, and his body presented one huge wound. This horrible punishment could not wring from him any other avowal than the one he already gave, and he is incapable of inventing any. Of