

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The *Herald's* special, dated Versailles, the 10th, says the fire into Paris from St. Cloud, Meudon, Chatillon, and Clamart commands a maximum range of 3-4 miles; the 24-pounders reaching Neuilly, Porte Maillot, Avenue Impératrice, Avenue Roi de Rome, Champ de Mars, Les Invalides, and Gardens of the Luxembourg, the Observatory, and down Porte Bicêtre. All beyond is safe, being above the range. There are no batteries on the southern, eastern, and northern sides that can yet touch Paris; but artillerymen state that they have followed shells with their glasses into Place de la Concorde. Five hundred fire shells were thrown into the Enciente last night. St. Jacques was reached and houses set on fire. A new battery has been established at Clamart, considerably in advance of the old position, and in the vicinity, within 1,200 yards of a French battery, and played with remarkable accuracy of fire. The shelling is necessarily at random and slow, the maximum being 10 shells an hour during the day. The fire from not more than five batteries touches Paris, and then only at a great elevation.

Rumours of peace are general at headquarters.

LONDON, Jan. 13.—The army under General Chanzy was completely defeated near Le Mans by the second German army commanded by Prince Frederick Charles and the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg. The Germans have occupied Le Mans, capturing large quantities of supplies and war material. The French are being pursued.

The *Times* has the following special despatch, Versailles, Jan. 12.—The bombardment was heavy up to this afternoon. Several fires are seen within the French lines. The Prussians are crowding in front of Clamart and Meudon.

A company of Bavarians were surprised near Clamart by a sortie.

The French have erected new batteries.

New York, Jan. 13.—Later despatches from Paris dated 9th and 10th have been received, confirming the destructive effect of the enemy's guns in the neighborhood of Luxembourg Gardens. The destruction of buildings in that neighborhood is everywhere visible, and the suburbs have been entirely destroyed by the enemy's fire. The southwest suburban part of the city is in ruins, and seems hopelessly given up to the range of the Prussian fire. The damage to the buildings in the neighborhood of St. Jacques is great. When the despatch left the bombardment was proceeding and the general impression was that neither life nor property in this vicinity is safe. The battery at Clamart is doing the Prussians good service, and a report already received that the accuracy of its aim was telling with great effect is confirmed. Shells undoubtedly reach the Place de la Concorde.

The *Tribune's* Paris correspondent says: Shells have fallen throughout Auteuil and through the Pantheon. The damage is slight. Another Blanquin insurrection was plotted, but it was suppressed.

The Berlin correspondent of the *London Times* writes that the idea of a general occupation of France by the German forces has been abandoned. Portions only of the French territory will be held. The French Government, he says, is no longer able to borrow money.

The *Tribune* correspondent at Versailles (9th) writes that the batteries have been advanced a thousand paces nearer to Issy and Vanves. The papers are very revolutionary. The mobile officers and soldiers are deserting. Noisy, Rosny, and Nogent are visibly weakened. Many powerful new German batteries will shortly open.

La Patrie suggests a return to assignats in France, in view of the difficult financial situation of the country.

The Court of Assizes of the Dordogne has condemned to death four individuals implicated in the murder of M. Alain de Money, who was burnt at Hauteveyre, last August. Sixteen other persons were sentenced to various periods of hard labor and imprisonment.

Correspondents represent that there is great mortality among children in Paris. They are dying by hundreds and thousands. One writer says that in the neighborhood of Pere-la-Chaise, Montmartre and Montparnasse one can hardly take fifty steps without meeting a tiny coffin, wrapped in a cloth of white wool. Many of these innocent little ones go to their last resting place unaccompanied, except by the two carriers; the father is at the ramparts, and the mother is standing outside the butcher's shop or at the municipal "cantine." Sometimes half a dozen relations or neighbors follow the procession of the humble victim, and this is what is heard said: "I saw it born in October last, and a fine, well made boy it was!" "What did it die of then?" "Of nothing. The mother had no milk; there are no more nurses, and the ewes are all sent to the slaughter; eh! try and rear a child in a besieged town!"—*N. Y. Mail*.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Jan. 6.—After the reception the King ordered the despatch of telegrams announcing his occupancy of the throne and the commencement of his monarchical power. At every public building and at the garrisons, all the troops were under arms. At a ball given for charitable purposes a few dancers were present, and it broke up early this morning. The militia were ordered to surrender their arms. The order was very arbitrary, and was issued two days ago. Had this not been complied with it is certain there would have been an insurrection. It was supposed by the militia and volunteers that the constitution guaranteed their right to bear arms, and the order is likely to produce trouble. Fears of an insurrection still agitate the people and all who can keep within doors.

ITALY.

PIEDMONT.—UNEASINESS OF THE ITALIANS.

Accounts from Florence assure us that the Italian Government is in confusion from internal dissensions. The Liberal press was continuing to protest loudly against the seizure on account of the publication of the Encyclical. There was also serious uneasiness felt as to the light in which the great Powers would view the Roman aggression. One of the *Italianissimo* papers expresses the position of affairs:—"The senseless policy of the position of affairs:—"The senseless policy of our infatuated Government has rendered our relations with Foreign Powers very difficult. We can state that the representatives of those Powers are complaining loudly, and have uttered severe reproaches, not unmingled with threats, against Italy in reference to the affairs of Rome, and to the embarrassments which recent events there have caused to their respective Governments. It is a fact that an agitation has sprung up amongst the Catholic populations which is causing serious embarrassment to the Governments of Great Britain, Germany, and Russia. Those Governments are making severe and cutting reflections on the conduct of General Lamarmora, and on the mistakes which he has made. Difficulties arising out of Roman affairs accumulate hourly, and the question of the transfer of the Capital may have to encounter startling and unlooked-for eventualities." In addition to the foregoing it appears, from accounts that reach us, to be a fact that the fear of Prussia is beginning to gain ground at Florence. At first people used to smile incredulously if any one asserted that Prussia would protect the Pope's rights. But now it has been repeated so often that, if not believed, the report at least no longer moves to laughter. The following testy paragraph appeared in the *Perseveranza* of the 5th December: "We hear that Prussia is insisting upon the Italian Government banishing certain French officers who have escaped from Germany and taken refuge here. It seems very clear to us that the Italian Government is not Germany's jailor, and that it lies under no obligation to accede to this demand, or to hinder in any way the free movements of these officers." What is the meaning of this? It seems to cover an angry suspicion that Prussia would not be sorry to pick a quarrel.—*Tablet*.

A remarkable letter of Mazzini has appeared in the *Unita Italiana* of the 3rd of December. It is a reply to an address of some Italian democrats who lately met at Faenza, and invited him to "abandon the idea of any festa until their country was redeemed from its present disgrace." "So long," he exclaims, "as the country is broken, dismembered, open upon its line of frontier to possible enemies, in Nice, in the Trentino, in Istria—so long as morally it is given up as a prey to an ever-spreading corruption, which invades it from above and paralyzes all its creative forces in regard to the future—so long as religiously it is constrained to prostrate itself in Rome before an absurd dualism, which declares that the body of Italy belongs to the King, the soul of Italy to the Pope—so long as economically it staggers upon the edge of the abyss of bankruptcy, and militarily lies discredited by defeats on land and sea—banquets, anniversary celebrations, medals, festival inscriptions, and demonstrations are inopportune, frivolous, indecorous."

ROME.—The *Osservatore* publicly gives the lie to a promise the Republican prints had put forth, saying that before long many of the salons of the Roman nobility would be open for the usual evening parties, and adds that, "at a weekly conversation at the house of one of the most noted of the Roman aristocracy (that of Prince Doria) only six ladies made their appearance; all the rest, who are wont to move in such circles, were conspicuous by their absence."

Of all the employes in the Finance Department at Rome only nine consented to take the oath of allegiance to Victor Emmanuel, demanding from them under pain of dismissal.

The following Circular has been addressed by Cardinal Antonelli, to the Pontifical Nuncios:—

"The Vatican, Nov. 25, 1870.

"The sequestration of those journals which were the first in Florence, Turin, and Rome to publish the Encyclical of the Holy Father furnishes a further proof of the loyalty with which the Government of Florence intends to maintain the promises made and the assurances given to the Catholic world when that Government deprived the Holy Father of the rest of his dominions, and to show more than ever what kind of independence and liberty is granted to the Roman Pontiff in the exercise of his spiritual power.

"This unjustifiable and arbitrary proceeding affords the most convincing proof that the Supreme Head of the Church cannot be subject to any extraneous power, and that the state of things brought about by the usurping Government is intolerable, if it be really desirable that the voice of the Teacher of Nations should be diffused over the world. And thus it is that the fears entertained when it became necessary to proceed to the publication of this Pontifical act, and the precautions taken that it should evade the vigilance of the Italian authorities until it should be in the hands of the Episcopate, find a complete justification in the action of the Government. From this also may be judged what fate would be reserved for the Supreme Pontiff if he should, finding himself in opposition to the lay Powers, be compelled to condemn their acts. Signor Visconti-Venosta boasted of having allowed the publication of the Brief suspending the meetings of the Council, a Brief then rendered necessary by the political position of Rome, and the great wisdom of which has since been demonstrated. Let Signor Visconti-Venosta henceforth keep silence, and spare the Catholics the necessity of reminding him that the permission was given because the Pontifical act was most welcome to his Government, which could ill tolerate the re-

union of the Bishops and the benefit that the Church derived from it.

"Yesterday was the anniversary of the execution of the infamous Monti and Tognetti, found guilty of having mined and blown up the Serristori Barracks, in which 27 persons perished, victims of their ferocity. It was by the special mercy of Providence that an entire battalion of Zouaves, who had gone out on duty in the city, were not buried in the ruins. This deed, worthy of a horde of savages, and which, as a homage to civilization, it would be seemly to bury in oblivion, it was desired instead to celebrate with public demonstrations.

"With this object the Circolo Popolare (People's Club) issued and posted up in the streets a manifesto, in which the people were invited to meet in force, and proceed to the exhumation of the two corpses, and to transport them solemnly from San Giovanni Decollato to San Lorenzo al Campo Vaccino, and an open subscription was announced to collect the offerings destined to erect a monument in their honour. It is owing only to the urgent remonstrances of the Brethren of the Holy Confraternity of San Giovanni, and of other respectable citizens, who invoked the intervention of the troops, that a demonstration of this shameful character was not made. It is sufficient to mention these facts to show the degree of moral civilization to which it is intended to lead the people. And we must be permitted to ask those who dare to maintain that the personal liberty of the Pontiff is in no way clogged, if the Supreme Teacher of the principles of justice, if the Sovereign of this Rome, could with impunity go about among those who decree honours and rejoice over and laud to the skies all who have been, and all who still are, his most rabid enemies.

"The French Revolution of the last century, its horrors and its orgies, are only to be compared with what goes on in this miserable city since the entrance of the Italian troops.

"With expressions, &c.,

"G. ANTONELLI."

GERMANY.

The new levy of 150,000 men is creating some discontent in Germany, but the call is nevertheless duly responded to.

ITALY AND THE TEMPORAL POWER.

Pius IX. has already lived through one of the longest and most glorious Pontificates in the annals of the Catholic Church. He began by giving an impulse to improvement and social renovation of every kind, which set a movement on foot which he was not allowed to guide, but which for a time, under the direction of the same implacable enemies of religion and civilization who are now using the Italian Government for their own purposes, swept away his throne, and forced him into exile. He has made his presence in the Chair of St. Peter felt in every portion of the globe by the hierarchies which he has established and the missions he has founded. He has gladdened the hearts of Catholics everywhere by the long-desired definition of the Immaculate Conception, by the number of saints and beatified servants of God whom he has added to the calendar, and by the frequent assemblage around his Apostolical throne of the Bishops of all the world. Lately he has added one more to the long list of the great Councils of the Church, and has secured by infallible definitions truths which had for some time been questioned or carped at in a manner which showed the possible growth of a dangerous heresy or rebellion. In all these ways Pius IX. has singularly endeared himself to Catholic hearts, and has gathered to himself a veneration and regard which are seldom paid even to Roman Pontiffs. But he has never been greater, never more venerable, never dearer to the Church, never we may venture to say, more truly her benefactor and her Father than now, when he is suffering, at the end of his days, in solitude, spoliation, and captivity for the sake of her independence. When the history of our days comes to be written, it will have to record the gratitude with which the Church honors his name perhaps even more on this last account than for any other of the great benefits which under providence she has received from him. In his solitude and captivity he is convincing the world by his sufferings of the cause for which they are endured, at the same time that they plead for it in heaven and draw to it more than ever the devotion of Christians on earth. So his name will be associated with this, as with other subjects of vital importance to religion—but in a different way. For some he will have labored and prayed successfully, as to others he will show the prudence of the wise ruler or the divination of the seer who lives in the lofty and serene atmosphere of faith above the world. For this, from the beginning of his long Pontificate, as it seems to the very end, he will have suffered. There are martyrs on the roll of the Church's glorious names who are so called because they have been persecuted, imprisoned, outraged, ill-treated, all but worn to death for the cause of truth, though their blood has not been shed, though they have lived to see the chastisement of their persecutors, and have at last died in peace. In this sense, at least, we may venture to say that Pius IX., who may be honored as the Doctor of the Immaculate Conception and as the Pontiff who convened the great Vatican Council, will be celebrated in after-ages as the Confessor and the Martyr of the Temporal Power and the Civil Independence of the Church.—*The Month*.

YOUNG MORTARA.

Few Catholics will have forgotten the Mortara case, which some years ago excited so much angry feeling against the Holy Father, and seemed for a while to brighten a little even the leaden intellects of Exeter Hall.

The child of Jewish parents, this boy at the point of death was baptized by a Catholic nurse, and thus obtained a right to all the privileges

of Christianity. He unexpectedly recovered, and was removed by the authorities from the house of his parents, so that during the years of his helplessness he might be secured from the danger of perversion.

It would be difficult for us to exaggerate the cry of rage which arose from every part of Protestant and infidel Europe at this act of the Government of Pius IX. It was even made a case for diplomatic interference. The Pontiff was denounced as a remorseless child stealer, as the destroyer of the happiness of the domestic hearth, as the ruthless violator of the most sacred laws of our common nature. The bereaved parents were described as wandering from place to place, and finding no rest, bewailing their loss and calling upon Heaven to avenge them on their pitiless despoiler.

Need we say that as usual, it was a mere clever stroke of Protestant business—a sensational scene, got up by the British Reformation Society to elicit the tears, and (what was more to the point) the bank notes of wealthy soft-hearted old dowagers?

It is the law of the Roman States, that Jews are forbidden to have Christian servants; this law is for the express purpose of preventing the possibility of the Jewish children being tampered with. Mortara, the father, broke this law at his own peril, and had to stand the consequences. To all who believe in the immortality of the soul and in the obligations of Christianity, it is evident, that a child once baptized cannot be left in Jewish hands; cannot, in a word, have its eternal interests imperilled to humour any amount of sentimentality.

But again, was it true that the parents of young Mortara felt and acted as was so poetically described by more than some half dozen of our English journals? Not in the least. More than this, not one of the 80,000 Bolognese, in the midst of whom this happened, expressed the slightest interest in the affair. Our readers will of course also understand that the parents of the child could always see him, and that all the pathetic passages about paternal and maternal love, &c., were very pretty, but perfectly untrue.

Why do we allude to this case at the present moment? Simply on account of the audacity of that press which is sworn to falsify everything that is even remotely connected with the Church and its Supreme Head.

The *Miglioramento* is one of the revolutionary journals of Rome, and therefore, as may be supposed, is utterly reckless of the claims of truth and honor and decency. In a late number it renewed all the old calumny about him whom it plaintively calls "the child Mortara."

Now it happens that the object of its compassion, though once a boy, has been growing older every day, and at present is in his 21st year. He is also a canon of the Lateran Chapter, and is, in fact, as much a man as the editor of the *Miglioramento* himself. The other day this "child Mortara" published a protestation against the calumnious assertions of the revolutionary journal. Let our readers judge for themselves on which side is to be found truth and honesty, after they have heard the indignant language of this "victim of priestly tyranny."

I have, says the Canon Mortara, the right to defend myself, for I am of age. I have a right to say that the Catholic Church has been faithful to her divine mission in my regard. Liberty is the word which the "liberators" of Italy have ever on their lips, but it is evident it is only liberty for themselves and not for others. I have chosen of my own free will the religious state, and my father has written to me in these terms, "I do not oppose the determination you have taken, and I hope you will be contented and happy." Your so-called Italian philanthropists are in reality cursed with hearts harder than stone. You cannot understand my love for my family, especially for my dear parents. But they know it well, and will never deny it. I affirm that they who have watched over my education at Rome have always inculcated this filial love as the command of God. They have encouraged my correspondence with my parents, they have always received them with the greatest kindness; they have left us alone together, in fine, they have interfered in no way between us. I, therefore, the author of the present article, declare that if in the future any other journal shall repeat the falsehoods printed by the *Miglioramento*, I shall be ready with a reply to confound the calumniator.

D. PIS MORTARA.

BRUSSELS, Nov. 1870. If it were possible for an Italian editor to blush or to be ashamed we might have some hopes that this simple but powerful protest would succeed as a good lesson with the men who at the present moment are busy destroying faith and morality throughout the States.

As for the bigots at home we put it to them, what have they to say with regard to this their most sensational piece, "The Mortara tragedy?"—*London Universe*, Dec. 10.

In times past the *Alexandre Organ* has been considered the *deus ex machina* of read instruments; competition has been thought impossible since the Messrs. Alexandre received the first premium, a gold medal, at the last Paris Exposition. But we have the best reason to believe that in quality of tone the *Alexandre Organ* is superior.

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No disease is more agonizing than Rheumatism: none more difficult to relieve; yet a case which, for thirty years, had baffled the Faculty, had, it appears, been completely cured.—The particulars are given, with expressions of astonishment at the result, in many of the west-run journals. They state that John Roche, of Cleveland, Ohio, aged fifty-six years, had, for the greater part of his life, endured tortments of the most terrible description. His limbs had been racked and contorted by pain and muscular contractions, until his knee-joints were of the size of a man's head, and his fingers knotted and drawn up like a scrofulous tendency in the blood was indicated by blotches and pustules on various parts of his body. In this dire condition he began to use Bristol's Sugar Coated Pills, in conjunction with that great antidote to the virus of scrofula, Bristol's Sarsaparilla. Eleven vials of the Pills, and eight bottles of the Sarsaparilla, relieved him from every vestige of pain; and he is now well, cheerful, and able to attend to his business.

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