

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

France last year sent 600,000,000 postage stamps, as against 21,231,665 in 1840, and 546,606,380 in 1869.

The Marshal-President of France has given the four splendid black horses sent him by the Emperor of Morocco to the national breeding studs.

General Chaganier is lying seriously ill at his residence at the Rue de Beaune, in Paris. The veteran is suffering severely from gout. The last 24 has been so violent that the doctors entertain but small hope of his recovery.

The French oyster plantations have proved wonderfully successful. Those at Morbihan, which in 1872 yielded only 8,928,000 oysters, last year brought up 21,236,800, and have produced this season 27,214,000.

A pantheon is to be built at Berlin, at a cost of three hundred thousand pounds, for the glorification of Prussian victories. The conquerors are copying the conquered.

The Catholic Committee of Paris has opened a special sitting to consider the proposed law on superior education. Each day Mass is offered up in Notre Dame de Victoires, for the success and guidance of its deliberations.

The Dziennik Ponianski, the organ of the Polish Nationalists, publishes a strong and fierce protest against the official use of the German language in the law and other civil courts of Prussian Poland. We regret to say that the protest will remain a dead letter.

Colonel Manos, on behalf of "pacific" Greece, has gone to Berlin to purchase 100,000 breechloaders. The German War Department has more than this number on hand, and will, doubtless, be happy to sell the chassapots captured from French troops during the late war.

MURKINS IN ROME.—On the 9th of June, the police arrested a young man named De Battisti for having robbed a man named Ralbaldi. The father of De Battisti, hearing of the arrest of his son went to the house of the father of Ralbaldi and stabbed him to death. Two policemen then appeared, and one of them named Panella was stabbed in the heart by Ralbaldi senior and fell dead. Ralbaldi junior is but seventeen years old.

Under the guidance of Prince Charles of Loewenstein, Baron Felix de Loe, the Prince of Issembourg (Falk II), the Count of Bisenzen, a new Catholic Association of Germany is to be founded. Precautions will be taken to keep its articles of association strictly within the law, and so constructed in its government as to be harmless even in the eyes of a Prussian Prosecutor-General. The former society suppressed by the Government numbered over 500,000 members.

THE SUBMARINE TUNNEL.—The preliminary works connected with the proposed tunnel between England and France have commenced at Sang-battle, near Calais. The sinking has already reached a depth of 50 yards, and the operations are being pushed on so vigorously that the men are kept busy night and day. It is necessary that the excavation must be carried to a depth of 120 yards below the bed of the sea, and powerful pumps are available to carry off the water as it accumulates in the shaft. If this essay be successfully made, the tunnel will be commenced definitely.

The population of Germany on the 1st of December last, as shown by the returns of census then taken, was 42,757,812, an increase since the first of December, 1871, of 1,670,020. The population of Prussia has risen from 24,641,539 to 25,723,754; that of Bavaria from 4,865,450 to 5,024,832; that of Saxony from 2,646,244 to 2,760,416, that of Wurtemberg from 1,818,539 to 1,850,531, and that of Hesse Darmstadt from 852,894 to 882,349. There has been a slight decrease in the population of the Principality of Waldeck, in the Duchy of Lauenburg, in Mecklenburg-Strelitz, in Alsace-Lorraine, and in Mecklenburg-Schwerin. The greatest increase is in the large towns.

SOVEREIGNS WHO DIED DURING THE PONTIFICATE OF Pius IX.—Among the Sovereigns who died since the elevation of Pius IX. to the Pontifical throne were 6 Emperors, namely, Nicholas I. of Russia; Napoleon III. of France; Maximilian, of Mexico; Ferdinand, of Austria; and Abdul-Medjid, and Abdul Aziz, of Turkey. The Kings were eighteen in number, namely, Louis Philippe, of France; Charles Albert, of Sardinia; Frederick William III. of Prussia; Louis I. and Maximilian II. of Bavaria; Leopold I. of Belgium; Ferdinand II. of Naples; Christian VIII. and Frederick VII. of Denmark; Ernest Augustus of Hanover; Otho, of Greece; William of Holland; Queen Maria, and Don Pedro V. of Portugal; Frederick Augustus and John Nepomucene of Saxony; Oscar I. and Charles XV. of Sweden; and William of Wurtemberg. During the same period died five Presidents of the United States, namely, James Knox Polk, Zachary Taylor, Millard Fillmore, Franklin Pierce, and Abraham Lincoln.

CONVERSIONS.—Several persons of position in society have lately made abjuration of the errors of Protestantism and have been received into the Catholic Church. At Turin Mr. G. M. A. Hudson, was received on the 4th of June. He was born in London in 1855 of Protestant parents, and was educated by Calvinistic teachers in England, France and Switzerland. In the latter country he heard such attacks upon the Catholic faith that he was forced to examine for himself the doctrines of the Catholic Church, and the result was ardent desire to go to Italy and obtain fuller information. At Turin he was fortunate in finding Don Bosco, who gave him every assistance towards discovering the truth and on the 4th of June he was received into the Church of St. Maria Auxiliatrice in Turin.—Roman correspondent of London Tablet.

THE ITALIAN PROTECTED ANNEXTATIONS.—The Italian Government denies officially that any steps have been taken by it to prepare for war. Nevertheless, it is confidently asserted that orders have been given to recall all soldiers out on furlough, to provision the naval and military stores houses, and to prepare the army for immediate service. Several newspapers speak of great things in store for Italy, Trieste and the neighboring territory is to be taken from Austria, Malta from the English, Nice from France! But this is not enough. Italy must have Monaco, and Mentone, and the island of Corsica, Malta is an Italian island, and is to be the Italian port of the future! When Italy possesses Malta, she will be mistress of the Mediterranean, and possibly of the seas of the world. Many deputies now in the Italian Parliament have heretofore spoken of these annexations, which they considered would be effected either by diplomacy or by war.—A.

An appeal has been issued to Catholics all over the world in view of the episcopal jubilee of his Holiness. On the 3rd of June next year the great Pontiff will have completed his 60th year as a prelate, should God spare him so long to the Church. It is requested that in every nation, in every province, and in every town, there be suitable rejoicings and thanks to heaven for having spared the Holy Father. An Exposition will be opened at Rome in honor of the occasion, and there will soon be published a programme in order that the faithful in all climes may have an opportunity of joining in this manifestation of Catholic unity. It is desired also that there should be a pilgrimage to the basilica of St. Peter of the Liens, wherein the Pope was consecrated, for the purpose of supplicating heaven to put a period to the tribulations of the Church.

At the Cardinal of Imola was praying alone in his Cathedral. Suddenly a loud noise in the direction

of the sacristy roused him from his devotions. Quick as thought he finds himself standing over a man frightfully wounded, bleeding profusely, and stretched on the pavement. Three men had followed their victim, and were bent on finishing him. The Cardinal confronted them, bawling their daggers and their rage, and, holding before their eyes his cross, upbraided them for their violence, and bade them in the name of God quit this church. They quailed before him and obeyed. Meanwhile the holy Archbishop raised the wounded man upon his knees, supporting him with his arms. A medical man is sent for, he examines the wound and pronounces it to be mortal. The Cardinal, still holding him in his arms, hears his confession; the Viaticum is given, and the murdered man breathes his last on the heart of John Mastai Ferretti, who that same year was destined to become Pope. What a subject for a picture this would be, and what a worthy commemoration of that year which gave the Church, as her visible Head, the glorious Pius IX. The Swiss Protestants.—There are but faint signs of any mitigation of the Catholic troubles in the Canton of Berne. A French priest, the Abbe Bernard, cure of Fesseyville (Doubs), who had been condemned by the rural Rhdamanthus to a fine of fifty francs for teaching catechism to Catholic children at the Orphanage of Saignesleiger, has been relieved from that sentence on appeal to the superior police-court at Berne; and the Catholic population of the Jura has succeeded, after many struggles, in getting back their own priests, who are now at liberty to resume their pastoral ministrations. But Apostasy and infidelity are still in possession of the churches and Church property. The Catholic clergy are supported by voluntary contributions, and nearly all the primary schools are at present in the hands of the enemy. The other day M. Herzog, a Prussian, was elected a bishop of the "Old Catholic" sect at Oten. At a subsequent meeting of a "synod" it was proposed to "reform" the Church by the abolition of Latin Mass, priestly celibacy, sacramental confession, and so forth. In some places the new clergy have given great scandal by their delinquencies, and the Bernese Government has its hands full of "cases" of this kind, which are all it has to show in return for the large sums it has disbursed for the support of the seism. Several "Old Catholic" parishes are demanding the removal of their reformed pastors; while at Courfaivre the schismatics have locked their "Old Catholic" priest out of the parish church and will not allow him to officiate there no more. In fact, in the Canton of Berne, the movement is looked upon as a failure. In Geneva the persecution goes on with malice unabated.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

Several of the Paris journals publish intelligence that the Turks have captured Saitchar, and that the Serbian general Tchernayeff is hemmed in between two Turkish armies marching from Widdin and Sophia. Intelligence received at Semlin states that the position of the Serbian General Antich, near Novi Bazar, is threatened. Official despatches announce that the Turks have withdrawn from the right bank of the river Drina. The Serbian army of the Timok has occupied several villages and reconnoitred the country to Widdin, to which place the Turks have retreated. The population of the district of Widdin have risen and joined the Morava division of the Serbian army. The Servians under General Benjan fought a superior force of Turks seven hours on the 7th inst. at Kruschevaz. The Turkish loss was considerable; the Servians lost slightly. They captured some flags, a quantity of arms, and occupied several villages. The Porte has sent the following despatch to its representatives abroad:—"In an engagement of five hours duration at Sabaskadi, in the district of Balgradzick, the Servians numbering 2,000, were beaten and pursued to the Serbian territory. The Turks capturing a quantity of war ammunition. After an engagement of two hours' duration at Sobine, in Bosnia, the Servians were driven into Austria." The Standard's correspondent telegraphs:—"Troops, guns, and stores of all kinds continue to be sent to the seat of war. The feeling against the Servians is very strong, and the fanatical passions of the Turks are now so thoroughly roused that the Servians, if beaten, must expect to receive no mercy. The Servians, too, are bringing all their troops to Gen. Tchernayeff's army. The city of Belgrade is almost depopulated, and is completely drained of troops. The oldest men of the reserves and the youngest of the recruits have already been called out to aid in the defence of the frontier against the public enemy. The Times' Berlin special has the following:—"At the Reichstadt interview Count Andrássy offered to mediate between Russia and England. Count Andrássy seems to have had reason to hope that Germany would cooperate in the mediation. Russia having given no definite answer, the situation remains unchanged, in the negotiations preceding the above offer Count Andrássy said he was unable to consent to any territorial change in Turkey unless approved by the other Powers. He was, however, willing to maintain existing arrangements and support the Berlin memorandum.

Turkish advices received at Ragusa, state that an engagement had occurred at Podgovița between two battalions of Turkish regulars, assisted by volunteers, and 7,000 Montenegrins. The latter were driven from their fortifications, losing 400 killed and 400 wounded, including 30 officers. The Turkish only lost 36. Reuter's Telegram Company has a Scutari despatch, however, stating that firing was audible throughout Monday. The Turks in the neighborhood of Podgovița endeavored to reopen the road to Medun. The attempt apparently failed. There was fighting throughout the day at Kernitz, on the west of Lake Scutari. The Turks suffered considerable loss. Many of the wounded are arriving at Scutari. A Turkish gunboat was bombarded Novocelo, which was previously captured by the Servians. Some houses were ignited. It is officially stated that the Servians have captured Little Sewonic. The defenders, consisting of three battalions of regulars and large forces of Bash Bazouks, lost 200 killed and many wounded.

Lord Derby on Friday received a deputation on the Eastern question, consisting of 40 members of Parliament and 571 gentlemen from all parts of the Kingdom. Jno. Bright presented a memorial in favor of strict neutrality, except when it may be possible to interpose and by friendly offices to mitigate the horrors, and to hasten the close of the war. Lord Derby, in reply to Bright, acknowledged the importance of the deputation, and spoke in sympathy with its objects. He said that although he might not endorse the exact expression of the memorial, he agreed absolutely and entirely in its object. He had refused to adhere to the Berlin memorial because it was a compromise between powers who were desirous of acting together, yet not quite agreeing. He did not think, therefore, that a compromise would ultimately work. He felt sure the Porte would not accept it, nor even the insurgents. The rendezvous of the fleet in Besika Bay was not England's initiative, but that of all the ambassadors at Constantinople, who wanted to be armed against eventualities, and against the massacre of British and other subjects, so far as human foresight could discern. A general war was most unlikely to result from the present conflict. France and Italy, for financial and other reasons, did not desire war. Germany had no direct interest in the question. England will not make war, and Austria, though peculiarly placed, would not break the peace for reasons of self-interest. A powerful party in Russia sympathized with Slavonia, and desired the erection of a Slavonic empire under

Russian guidance and influence. But that party was not in power. The war was a sincere lover of peace, and Russia had other reasons than her finances and the extent of her Asian conquests for not wishing war. The understanding reached at Reichtstadt was on the basis of absolute non-interference during the conflict, not excluding efforts in favor of peace, but if any steps should be taken, they would be in concert with all the powers. England, endeavoring to keep the conflict within its present limits, and to impress that view on others. Lord Derby said he had no doubt of England's success, and continued, "All we desire is to see fair play. If Turkey is to decay we cannot help it. We have guaranteed Turkey against murder, but not against suicide or sudden death. If the opportunity of mediation offers, which opportunity may now be at hand, we shall avail of it." Lord Derby afterwards received a deputation of the Christian League, on the same subject, which was introduced by M. Motley, and Earl Russell's memorial was read. Lord Derby severely criticised their object, though in the main he sympathized with their object. In regard to atrocities, he said doubtless both sides committed them.—The Turks were defeated yesterday at Klek, with a loss of 150 killed and 15 prisoners. The Turks were also obliged to abandon their entrenched positions before Saitchar.—The following news to Constantinople is official: "The Serbian division which entered Turkey by way of Yenevaz was dispersed on the 12th inst. Seventy Christian families, who fled from the neighborhood of Metrowiza with the Serbian troops surrendered after the defeat of the latter and were restored to their homes.—The Turks attacked the Serbian camp at Sontchanitcha near Novi Bazar. The Servians were defeated and fled.—The Servians and Bulgarians who appeared near Widdin were defeated and fled to Serbia. Losses considerable.—The examination of the authentic text of General Tchernayeff's recent proclamation shows that he did not promise Russian aid if Serbia was defeated. The Standard's Vienna special says Ministerial papers state that Austria neither favors nor opposes the desires of Bosnia Catholics for the annexation of Bosnia to Austria. The Daily News' Vienna special says the Roumanian Foreign Minister has informed a Parliamentary Commission that his government is unwilling to act on its own responsibility, relative to the passage of volunteers through Roumania. The commission seems inclined to prohibit the passage in accordance with representations from Turkey.—The Times' Vienna despatch says there are dissensions amongst the Serbian leaders. Each desires to have his own way but all are against General Tchernayeff as a foreigner.—The Daily News' special from Belgrade, dated 13th inst., says the Serbian Drina Army yesterday completed its entrenchments, whereby the route by which the Turks received their supplies is broken off.—A special to Pesh says that, on Wednesday, Col. Bey, with three battalions, attacked the Servians 15 miles hence, and drove them to Lower Timok with great loss.

SCRAP BOOK.

Counsellor Bushe, being on one occasion asked which of Power's company of actors he most admired, maliciously replied, "The prompter, sir; for I heard the most and saw the least of him."

Shelley styles his new poem "Prometheus Unbound," and 'tis like to remain so while Time circles round. For surely an age would be spent in the finding A reader so weak as to pay for the binding.

Lord E.—who wore a huge pair of whiskers, meeting Mr. O'Connell in Dublin, the latter said, "When do you mean to place your whiskers on the peace establishment?" When you place your tongue on the civil list," was the witty rejoinder.

An officer and a lawyer talking of a disastrous battle, the former was lamenting the number of brave soldiers who fell on the occasion, when the lawyer observed, that "those who lived by the sword must expect to die by the sword." "By a similar rule," retorted the officer, "those who live by the law must expect to die by the law."

A Deserved Reproof.—Vigee, taking the portrait of a lady, perceived that when he was working at her mouth she was twisting her features in order to render it smaller, and putting her lips into the most extreme contraction. "Do not trouble yourself so much, madame," exclaimed the painter, "for, if you choose, I will draw you without any mouth at all."

Henry Erskine, on receiving his appointment to succeed Mr. Dundas as Justice of Scotland, exclaimed that he must order his silk gown. "Never mind," said Dundas, "for the short time you will want it, you had better borrow mine." "No," replied the wit, "how short a time soever I may need it, heaven forbid that I should commence my career by adopting the abandoned habits of my predecessor."

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