

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The news of the bombardment of Jeddah, which was received in Paris, not from the Mediterranean, but from London, has produced a great and somewhat strange impression. The untoward event of the battle of Navarino is already in everybody's mouth as the fittest comparison. The Pays (government paper) says:—

"Now this is a serious affair, and we have some reason to feel astonished at it. In fact, it seems to us that it was understood between the governments of England and France, that the crime of Jeddah demanded an energetic retribution, but that it should be inflicted by both governments conjointly and simultaneously. The action was to be a common one; but, as usual, England had the means of retribution on her side, because she had the means of retribution on the spot. The punishment of the assassins of Jeddah would have been neither less energetic, nor less salutary, if it had been inflicted by, and in the name of the two allied nations."

The Constitutionnel contains another article on the resistance of Great Britain against the cutting of the isthmus of Suez, for which the time considering the impression made in France by the news from Jeddah, as expressed by the Pays, is so well chosen, that one may almost see a purpose in it.

Some difficulties, says the Patrie, have arisen between France and Switzerland on the subject of the settlement of the frontiers. The French and Swiss Commissioners have not been able to come to an understanding on the subject, and the Federal Council has proposed to the French government the nomination of an arbitrator.

The most interesting and important piece of French news is the remarkable speech which has been delivered by the Count de Persigny, late Ambassador to England, on the occasion of the opening of the session of the Council General of the Department of the Loire, of which he is President. The Count is well known to be an advocate of the English Alliance; and a perusal of his speech must prove that his friendship towards England was sincere and ardent. The Count sensibly remarks that—"What is true is that there is no interest, no serious question at issue between the two Governments that the simplest exercise of common sense cannot satisfactorily solve, and that thus it only rests with us to maintain an alliance so advantageous for the two peoples."

The Emperor at Rennes.—The Emperor made the following speech at the grand banquet given to him at Rennes:—"Gentlemen—I have visited Brittany as much from a sense of duty as from sympathy with its inhabitants. It was my duty to become acquainted with a part of France which I had not yet visited; and it was gratifying to my feelings to find myself in the midst of the Breton people, who are, before all, monarchical, Catholic, and martial. The departments of the west have frequently been represented as being animated with sentiments differing from those of the rest of the nation. The warm acclamations which have welcomed the Emperor and myself throughout the whole of my journey contradict such an assertion. If France is not completely homogeneous in her nature she is unanimous in her feelings. She desires a government sufficiently stable to remove all chance of fresh political convulsion; sufficiently enlightened to favour real progress and the development of the human mind; sufficiently equitable to welcome the assistance of all right-minded men, whatever may have been their previous political opinions; sufficiently conscientious to declare that it strongly protects the Catholic religion while at the same time accepts freedom of worship; in short, a government strong enough from its internal union to be respected as it ought to be in the councils of Europe. It is because I have everywhere seen the people flock towards me and encourage me by their demonstrations. Be assured, gentlemen, that the remembrance of our journey into Brittany will remain deeply engraven on the heart of the Emperor and on mine. We shall never forget the affecting solicitude which has been shown for the Prince Imperial both in towns and in the country, the people everywhere regarding our son as the pledge of their future welfare. I thank you, gentlemen, for having organised this meeting, which has given me an opportunity of expressing my ideas, and I conclude by giving a toast to Brittany, which is here so honorably represented. In order that its agriculture may soon develop itself, its means of communication be completed, its ports be improved, its manufacturers and commerce prosper, and that science and the arts may flourish in it, my support shall not be found wanting; but, while hastening its progress in the path of civilisation, may it preserve intact the noble sentiments which have distinguished it for so many centuries. May it preserve that simplicity of manners, that proverbial frankness, that fidelity to sworn faith, that perseverance in duty, and that submission to the will of God, which watches over the humble domestic hearth, as well as over the high destinies of empires. Such, gentlemen, are my wishes, and be you my worthy interpreters of them."

The concluding words of the Emperor were followed by a burst of acclamation. The Presse, which used to be a warm advocate of the English alliance, is indignant at having been accused, by certain London papers, of having changed its views upon that subject, and of doing all in its power to stir up the embers of ancient antagonism between the two nations. It denies that it is inimical to England, and professes its admiration of the British nation's strong and virile qualities, of its power of labour, the boldness of its conceptions, its vigorous initiative, and of the liberty of its institutions. It desires the sincere and effective alliance of France and England, on condition that it should be on a footing of equality and of reciprocal concessions, and that it should not be like the famous alliance of the man and the horse, with France playing the part of the horse. The Presse then enumerates its recent grounds of complaint against England. It says:—"She found us good to take Sebastopol (unassisted of course, for by this time various French journalists have perfectly persuaded themselves that the entire glory of the Crimean campaign is to be ascribed to their arms); she then greatly appreciated the services of our fleets and armies; but, peace signed, by what concession did she recognise this co-operation? She deserted our alliance for that of Austria; she sacrificed to her new friend the union of the Princes, which she had herself demanded; she opposed, at Constantinople, the cutting of the isthmus of Suez, required in the interest of the whole world; in profound peace she takes possession of the island of Perim, in order to find herself in a position to command the Red Sea when the day shall arrive on which she can no longer prevent its being opened. She had as Ambassador at Constantinople a declared enemy of France, haughty, whimsical, passionate, combining in supreme perfection all the faults of the English character, crowned by an avowed hatred of our country. While the blood of our soldiers flowed at Inkermann to save the English army, Lord Stratford, at Constantinople, worked against us, and now, after an absence of some months, he is sent back to Turkey to continue the same manœuvre. Honestly speaking, is that the conduct of an ally or of an enemy? . . . If England thinks she has need of the alliance, let her change her tone and conduct; the time has passed when Lord Melbourne could threaten, in open Parliament, to sweep our fleets from the Mediterranean. Since then, France has risen and

England has descended. Other relations and other conduct are required." The Univers contains the following observations on the influence of the Clergy in France:—"There is no body in France either so respected, so united, so enlightened, or if we except the army, so numerous as the incomparable body of the Clergy. By the people, whence they issue, the Clergy effect gigantic works; they have everywhere built churches, convents, hospitals, and schools, and fed, impoverished as they are, more than half the poor of the country. They preach, they write, and they teach; and it is the nation itself, and not an act of usurpation, which, after a long and violent struggle, has given them a place in public instruction. All the influence possessed by this body has been acquired through public opinion. Some political men do not remark this; they confine their attention to certain journals and academicians, and do not reflect that the actual state of the Catholic religion is a certain sign that public opinion, in harmony with events, has shaken off the Yoke of Voltairianism. The speech pronounced by the Emperor at Rennes gives these politicians a proper lesson, and loudly points out to them where lies the future welfare of France and of the world."

The Revue des Deux Mondes makes the following strong reflections on the tribe of pamphleteers which has sprung up lately in Paris:—"We cannot express sufficient contempt for those pamphleteers who speculate on old prejudices, and who choose the very moment when the two governments so solemnly protest in favour of the alliance to deceive public opinion in the two countries, to excite reciprocal mistrust, and to inspire doubts in the sincerity of the great acts of which we have just been witnesses. The proceedings of the authors of the pamphlets to which we allude are as revolting as their calculations are disgraceful. They transform pretended conversations at St. Helena into a sort of political Koran; they profane the name of their prophet by attributing to him all kinds of absurd and apocryphal divagations, on the faith of domestics who passed themselves off to the world as his posthumous secretaries. They seek to stupefy France by an absurd glorification of herself, which would lead us, if we were to tolerate it, to the infatuation which has led the Turks and the Chinese to persuade themselves that they are the first people in the world. Under favour of these gasconades they preach to France a sort of Islamism against England. The government has many singular and compromising friends. For want of sufficient liberty of the press, men of business, so prompt to take alarm, foreigners who are ignorant of the origin of these wretched inspirations, regard these shameful pamphlets in a serious light. The latter would not issue from their obscurity, and would not even give the government a trouble of a disavowal, were the currents of serious opinion left with open confidence to their natural movement. It is said that a vessel is about to be built at Cherbourg to be called *Vaisseau-bellier* (battering-ram), a sort of man-of-war, of which the first idea belongs to the Emperor, and which is intended to act by its mass and its speed; and an expectation is expressed that the introduction of this new element into naval warfare will completely change its character."

SWITZERLAND. A correspondent writes as follows:—"You are aware that under the late government of the canton of Fribourg, styling itself liberal (of course with other people's money), the female convents of the canton were forbidden to receive any novices, with the intention of suppressing these institutions without making the *clat* that was produced by the sudden and complete suppression of the religious communities in Argovia. This plan would certainly have had a deadly effect upon these pious houses, where prayers are offered for the sinner and for their very persecutors, and where virtue has sought an inviolable asylum in order to escape the temptations of the world. But happily a protecting providence set to nought the dark designs of a vile coalition, and restored to the people of Fribourg its former beloved leaders. Mr. Charles and his followers have regained their ascendancy in the leading assembly of the canton, and the Bishop of Fribourg, who had been exiled from his Diocese by an incompetent authority, made again his triumphant entry into the town where Father Gerard has been before him, the father and instructor of the children and the glory of his country. Under the restored Conservative (or Catholic) Government, the acts of its predecessor were naturally annulled, and the three convents in the town of Fribourg, and those at Estavager and Romont have now already received numerous novices and are in a very promising situation. I cannot refrain on this occasion, from quoting the words of a contemporary, who said:—"The prayers and good works of the convents are the conductors which often prevent the lightning of God's wrath from falling upon those that do not pray." Some of the leading journals of Switzerland have, like the amiable *Times*, vented their gall on Catholicism in this country, and taken particular offence at the 'obstinacy' of the Bishop of St. Gall, who dared to resist the secular authority when it tried to take the administration of ecclesiastical property into its hands, beginning by selling part of the estates and employing the proceeds to the augmentation of the salaries of public teachers; this bears, of course, no resemblance to the shoemaker that stole the leather to make shoes for the poor. Now imagine a venerable Prelate, with scanty, silvery locks, crowning a countenance radiating with mildness and inspiring love and respect to young and old, Catholic and Protestant. I say, imagine this faithful shepherd of his flock being charged with obstinacy! Why, you might as well call the Bishop of Oxford a St. John and charge him with loving his flock better than himself! But the reverend Prelate has had amidst his troubles also some consolation, and a very gratifying one was the presentation, last week, of an address from the Chapter of Regensberg, in Zurich, to testify their devotion, whilst highly admiring and commending his honourable conduct on the above named occasion."

AUSTRIA. It is expected at Vienna that an amnesty will be granted in celebration of the birth of a son to the Emperor. The Cologne Gazette says:—"During the late military manœuvres at the Camp of Neunkirchen, near Vienna, an incident took place, the motives of which have not yet been cleared up. The Hungarian Regiment Don Miguel fired ball cartridges at a German Regiment drawn up in front of it, killing three men and seriously wounding eight others. A private letter of the 14th ult. gives some explanation of this affair:—"It appears that in an order of the day lately published, General Degenfeld praised the good conduct of a regiment of infantry of Bohemia at the expense of another regiment composed of Italians and Hungarians. The latter are said to have been much enraged at this circumstance, and did not hesitate to revenge what they call an insult offered to their corps and to their nationality. For want of balls, they loaded their muskets with stones; the result was, as stated, that several men of the other regiment were killed and a greater number severely wounded."

ITALY. A Turin letter of August 18th, quoted by the Correspondence Bullier, professing to speak from a "certain and most official source" says that the King of Naples, at the Council of Ministers held to consider the case of the Cagliari, is reported, with what truth it would be difficult to say—to have delivered the following speech:—"We must give way to England in every thing that flatters the pride and egotism of that nation.—This is all that her government requires. As to every thing else, the English government will assist us in resisting pretensions which might be our destruction. The Anglo-French alliance, such as it exists at present, is a great see-saw machine, and is

our security.—An intimate understanding between France and England would be fatal to us, but I shall not be afraid of that till I see England disarm her fleets, or France decree the demolition of Ocherbourg. On the other hand, a war between France and England would be chaos; we cannot wish to see it; and I cannot believe it possible in the time of Alexander the reformer, and almost the disciple of Gobden (this sentence delivered with a smile).—Such are my views. I wish you to act accordingly, and then I am convinced that we shall have nothing to fear either from the 'Mysteries of Paris,' or the 'Vecchie e Nuove Speranze d'Italia.'" The last sentence alludes to the titles of recent works by C. Babo and N. Tommaso.

Independents of Turin of the 1st says:—"Some journals have cast a doubt on the probability of a reconciliation between Naples on the one hand, and France and England on the other. As regards England, we persist in believing that an arrangement has taken place."

The arch-conspirator Mazzini is at his old trade again—that of raising funds from his dupes in order to bring about another insurrectionary movement in Italy, from which, of course, he will take care to be absent. As a contemporary remarks, hard fighting he leaves to his disciples—it is sufficient that he directs their movements from a place of safety, and distribute the money which his too credulous dupes entrust to him, as he thinks fit. "It being the duty," he says, "and interest of all to take care that our action triumphs, we want means. We are engaged at this moment in collecting them. Our brethren of other nations ought to assist us in this. In subscribing to our insurrectional fund they will subscribe to the success of the battle for all." The fellow should be punished for obtaining money under false pretences."

TURKEY. The Times correspondent writes:—"I understand that the Turkish Government has complained to the English Ambassador at Constantinople of the bombardment of Jeddah, at a moment when it was known that Ismael Pasha was on his way thither with full powers to punish the guilty. This complaint was to be expected, and will generally be considered well founded. The English Government should lose no time in justifying its conduct, if it can. I also hear that the Divan has addressed a circular to the governors of all the provinces of the Empire, desiring them to make known to the Mahomedans that the report spread of the approaching destruction of Mecca by the Western Powers is totally unfounded. This mischievous rumor has, it appears, obtained wide credence in the East, and, as may be supposed, tends greatly to keep alive the flame of fanaticism that has lately burst forth."

INDIA AND CHINA. CONCLUSION OF A TREATY OF PEACE WITH CHINA.—The Monitor of the 22nd contains the following important despatch from the French ambassador at St. Petersburg:—"St. Petersburg, Aug. 20. 'The French Ambassador to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. A courier who left Peking on the 27th of June, overland, has brought the news to Prince Gortschakoff that a treaty has been concluded between China and Russia identical in its general basis with those concluded between China and the other Powers. The ports are open, the free exercise of the Christian religion allowed, the establishment of consuls admitted, as also the sending (en cas de besoin) of diplomatic agents to Peking, if necessary, (en cas de besoin). 'France and England have, moreover, obtained considerable pecuniary indemnity. 'DUC DE MONTBELLIO. (French Ambassador at St. Petersburg.) A HOT WEATHER CAMPAIGN IN INDIA.—The following is an extract from a letter dated Banda, June 27, from an officer of a cavalry regiment attached to the division of General Whitlock, forming a part of the Central India Army:—"I wrote to R— the end of last month, and told him we expected to march, and so we did on June 2nd, but not towards Calpee, but to a place called Terroan, about 50 miles from hence, where the Rajah had collected a very large body of men and refused to disband them. The first day we were in tents we had six men brought to hospital insensible from the heat, and one of them died that evening; he was a fine strong man, quite well in the morning and in my troop.—So, as we marched at 12 o'clock that night, I buried him at 11 o'clock in a hastily dug grave under a tree; the others, with men of the other regiments to the number of 27, were sent back to Banda that night, and this is the way Englishmen are being sown all about the country, for there is scarcely a camp ground of any column or regiment at this season that is not marked by mounds of earth under detached trees. The 43rd have lost more than 40 men and three officers since they left Bangalore without hearing a shot fired, but the horses panic, the lance flag waves, and the steel sparkles in the sun, and the bands play as cheerfully as ever, as the regiments file on their ground in the morning, though they are all getting considerably smaller than they were. I wonder the infantry get on at all, but numbers of them fall out, and a long string of doolies follows the columns, headed by exhausted men. We had no fight after all; when we got near the rebels all bolted, leaving a very large treasure and more than 30 guns. The Rajah came in and gave himself up, and will be tried for his life. We found his palace in good order, and I went into the treasure-vaults and saw bags containing 320,000 rupees and 280,000 in gold. His jewels are estimated at £200,000. We halted several days there, and came back slowly with 120 carts laden with treasure, and, as they are sure to condemn the owner, it will be a good haul for the Government. Fancy our joy when yesterday a thunderstorm was followed by heavy rain. The ground is moist this morning, and the blasting hot winds are, we hope, gone for this year. Our tents are open again, which is a great comfort, as a nearly dark tent, which you cannot see out of, heated to 100, is not a pleasant place from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and outside the air has been so hot that we put our handkerchiefs to our faces and run if we want to go from tent to tent. We have received some mess stores, which we were very glad of, as all our wine, beer, &c., was finished long ago. Generally most of our things are coming to grief. I am glad to say those in authority have had the sense to let us wear white linen jackets, instead of our cloth ones, which were unbearable. What a contrast these bare brown plains, with the dust whirling over them in clouds, are to England, which just now must be looking very beautiful. I begin to think India a delusion and a snare, and tropical luxuriant imagination, as I have been 18 months in the country, and, except at Ceylon, could not have gathered a nosegay of wild flowers. The peep I have had of the hills was certainly fine."

A despatch from Malta, dated the 29th August, says Sir Hope Grant left Lucrena on the 20th July, to relieve Maun Singh. The Rajpoot rebels, after plundering Tonk, had fled towards Chamboul, pursued by Colonel H. Roberts. The following despatch was received at the India House:—"The fugitive rebels from Gwalior, after making a demonstration against Bondoe on the 19th July, attempted to cross over to Bandos, but failed; and on the 13th were menacing Beebore and Bughore. The Neomah had prepared to move out on the 1st Aug., for the purpose of co-operating with Holmes' column, which was last heard of at Bondoe. The rebels are in considerable force, their number being estimated at 4,000 or 5,000 fighting men, with 5 guns. The leaders are Tonka, Topee, Yedil and others. A small force, under Major Burns, from Ahmednagar, had been pushed forward to Tinouen, with instructions to march on Kheirwar, if necessary."

The Times confesses some surprise at the news from China, but sees no reason for serious doubts of its authenticity. The Times satirically remarks that Manchester must mourn in 'black cloth and ashes,' for she will find herself a gainer by the inquiry, her representatives denounced. It will be a most embarrassing thing to have prosperity forced upon her against all her principles. Every bale of thick calico that departs for Shanghai will be a weight upon her conscience; every ship freighted with cotton goods for the China seas should carry her colours half-mast high, and be unloaded with a protest of deep remorse of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce."

THE TREATY WITH CHINA.—The next mail will in all probability settle the question as to the authenticity of the intelligence, as circumstantially put forward the other day by the *Monitor*, relative to the reported treaty with China, and its general provisions. We see no reason whatever to doubt this statement in the organ of the French Government notwithstanding that the news reached Paris via St. Petersburg and, travelling by some mysterious means across the north of Asia, had the start of the China Mail and the electric telegraph. Moreover, these tidings of our diplomatic success have been accepted here as substantially true, although they have failed to produce any sensible effect either on the public securities or the markets for Chinese produce. When the actual amount of the concessions exacted by Lord Elgin, and of the promised indemnity, are known, the effect will, of course be different. In contemplating the fine opening presented to our future trade with China as the result of this war, we cannot forbear congratulating ourselves that we have, from the outbreak of hostilities, maintained the necessity for a resort to force as the only means of placing our commercial relations with China on a proper footing. This opinion was not hazarded; it was founded on a knowledge of the Chinese, added to a careful consideration of the history of our trade connection with that people, from the treaty of Nankin to the affair of the lorcha. Whether that event would, in any other country or with any other people, have rendered a resort to hostilities on our part justifiable, may well be doubted; but there is no doubt whatever that it furnished a fitting opportunity for striking the blow so long and so vainly deferred, and that, in the events which have followed, the British Government has had the support and sympathy of all the Maritime Powers. The gold discoveries in British Columbia, taken in connection with the opening of the trade with China, present a prospect of immense commercial activity. The intercourse between the new colony and China must be rapid and extensive. The latter country may be expected to contribute that supply of labour which poured into California until the American Government saw fit to interdict it. As British Columbia and Vancouver rise in wealth, importance and stability, the trade with China, as a matter of course, increase with the rapid growth of those colonies. Here will be employment for a fleet of merchantmen, with dates from the gold findings on the Fraser and Thompson Rivers, and the close of the Chinese war. Of the valuable results of this war no power is better convinced than that power which has watched its progress with unabated interest—we mean Russia. If we are rightly informed, her telegraphic system will shortly connect Peking with St. Petersburg, and she possesses a splendid river on the confines of China, furnished with harbours in abundance for her future trade. In short, the opening of the ports of China is an event which may affect the commerce of the civilized world to an extent which is morally impossible accurately to shadow forth or predict."

NAPOLEON III.—More than ten years have now elapsed since Louis Philippe, the Citizen King, was ignominiously driven from the throne and soil of France, amidst the insulting scoffs of the majority of Frenchmen. During his reign the Church was precluded from the enjoyment of its political rights, and by various petty annoyances hindered from spreading its salutary influence amongst the working classes. On the other hand, the secret societies had extended their ramifications throughout the country with the obvious design of one day entangling the whole of France within their toils. The Church, notwithstanding the important positions it had regained since the restoration of religion by Napoleon I., had as yet but partially succeeded in eradicating the spirit of impiety diffused amongst the masses by the French revolution, and in restoring the dominion of order and subordination amongst a populace so long led astray by the deceitful promises of *liberte, egalite, and fraternite*. French society thus stood tottering upon the bank of self-destruction, from which it was momentarily saved by the sword of Cavaignac and the heroic devotion of Archbishop Affre, during the sanguinary days of June, 1848.—France then needed a master mind capable of curbing the audacity of the demagogues and of forcing back the destructive torrent of political phreny within its normal channel. That master mind France found in the person of one whom John Bull then through his organ, the *Times* denominated a fool, afterwards a tyrant—but whom he is now compelled to admire as the greatest of living monarchs—Napoleon III. There is something so extraordinary in the history of this remarkable man something so providential in each incident of his chequered career that we cannot resist giving way to the conviction, that he has been exalted by Providence to lend force and stability to the interests of public order in Europe, by subduing the fury of revolution and curbing the haughty insolence of England in her dealings with the Continent. At the same time we frankly admit that we are far from regarding him as St. Louis, or his regime as the model of a good government. Still, taking into account the periodical devastations of Red Republicanism in France, and the intensity of the fearful passions that but slumber in the heart of the French nation, we believe him to be the *homme de circonstance*—the man best fitted for the crisis, and best calculated to repress the anti-Christian democracy that has so long aggravated the moral disorders of our Gallic neighbors. These few remarks suggested by the festivities of Cherbourg, are made for the purpose of putting our readers on their guard against the invidious fabrications regarding Napoleon III., and his Government so frequently trumped up by his political enemies, and so industriously put into circulation both by "our own correspondents" on the Continent and in "our leaders" at home. The Emperor of the French has the misfortune of numbering amongst his adversaries some of the most distinguished statesmen and writers of France, and even one or two of those who are the most able and uncompromising defenders of the Church; but his most inveterate enemies are the unscrupulous tools and adepts of Mazzini and Orsini. Hitherto, in spite of the writings of the former, and in defiance of the bombs and daggers of the latter, he has held the imperial sceptre with a firm hand through seven eventful years, nor can we detect on the political horizon any ominous cloud that would foreshadow his approaching downfall. We think he has nothing to fear except the dagger of the lurking assassin, whose blows, if not warded off by the Providence that has hitherto watched over his fortunes, might bring about a social desolation unparalleled even in days of Robespierre. We are, however, convinced that he has not yet fulfilled his destiny, and that he will be further spared to complete the services required at his hands. After raising France to a preponderating position in the councils of Europe, he has given the Church ample pledges of the sincerity of its attachment to religion; and on every occasion he has comforted himself towards Pius IX. as it behoved the eldest born of the Church to act towards the noble warriors of France enjoy all the consolations religion can afford, and its brave mariners ride the ocean under the protection of the *Stella maris*; to whose invisible influence the first of the French Marshals was not ashamed to attribute the taking of Sebastopol. The Conference of Pere Ventura, preached during

the Lent of 1857 at the Tuilleries, and published the 'other day at Paris,' serve to show, with what frankness, a humble Monk could disclose to his imperial auditor the complex duties of a Christian King.—We are not sufficiently prepossessed in Louis Napoleon's favour to imagine that he has done all the good and prevented all the evil in his power. No man is perfect; and we believe that no small share of the imperfection common to man may be found blended up in his character. Still he has accomplished a great deal—may more than could have been reasonably anticipated. In consideration of this we, Catholics, taking a deep interest in everything that concerns our brethren throughout Christendom, are grateful for the past and confident for the future.—We, therefore, cordially coincide with the *Univers* on this head, sincerely persuaded that the imperial dynasty of France, judged by its deserts for the past and by its promises for the future, merits a loyal confidence and co-operation, which, without being slavish, may serve to afford it the vigour and consolidation it so much requires, and render it beneficial to the interests of religion and the cause of humanity.—*Irish Sun*.

JOURNAL OF A DEFEATED CANDIDATE.—Thursday.—Received the nomination for an office in the city councils. Surprised and indignant, remonstrated with committees. Was told that must place myself in the hands of my friends.—Eventually did so. Friday.—Immense posters on a brick pile opposite my house; my name in two feet letters. Great anguish on part of my wife and family, who believe that every officer of the city government must, according to law, be indicted and tried at the end of his term. Friends meeting me in the street, say that there is a rumor about town that I am up for office, which rumor ought to be publicly contradicted. Other friends offer ironical congratulations, and leave me in doubt whether the office is unfit for me, or if for the office. Old gentleman says he won't believe it; for he knew my father, and he was a very respectable man. Saturday.—Man on stoop of my house, with a big stick and terrier. Broad-shouldered, stoutly person, with a sanguinary eye. Came to advise me to beware of a class of ruffians that go round, election times, extorting money from candidates. Offers his service to attend the polls. Customary he says to pay in advance. I refer him to my committee. He whistles to his dog. Engage him at five dollars, cash down. We part with expressions of mutual esteem. Going in, find six men smoking in my parlor.—Delegates from a target excursion. Customary, they say, for candidates to give prizes on these occasions. Refer them to my committee. Captain very polite; tells me he will give time to think about it, and will come on Sunday with the whole gang; to let me see what a fine-looking set of fellows they are. Result, ten dollars for a prize. Evening.—Excited person calls for a subscription for a banner. Refer him to my committee. Threatens personal violence and swears awfully. Subscribe for banner. Man comes with a wooden leg; wants a new one. Three more bannermen. Clergyman for a subscription to a deserving charity. Seventeen men to tend polls. More cripples. Delegation want their fire-engines painted. Man without arms, to pass bills. Women for subscription for coffin. Children all crying up stairs. My wife in hysterics. General terror and confusion. Midnight.—Torchlight procession; kettle drums; serenade; make a speech; rotten egg hits me in the eye; general fight; spanners, bricksbats, clubs, banners, torches and fists. Wednesday.—Walk up defeated. Tell all my friends that I don't care for myself, but feel sorry for the city. My wife goes home to her mother; the children are sent where they cannot be under my influence. No home, no friends, no wife, and no mouy.

MATRIMONIAL DISPENSATIONS.—The question is sometimes asked by Catholics, "Is it not better to marry a cousin than to marry a Protestant?" We answer that it is still better to do neither the one nor the other. Both are evils and it is hard to tell which is the greater of the two. It is not a valid argument in marrying cousins, that under certain circumstances it is less dangerous to the faith and morals of the parents and children than it would be to marry Protestants. Both are wrong, because both are prohibited by the Church of God, whose voice we are solemnly commanded to hear, under the penalty of being reckoned with heathens and publicans. For a good Catholic, this is quite enough. He is safe in hearing the Church and complying with her laws. Can he flatter himself into the belief that he will be blessed by God in his marriage when he enters into it by trampling upon the laws of God's holy Church? We think not. True, he may have obtained a dispensation; but, though it removes the prohibition, and renders the marriage lawful, it does not always diminish, and it seldom removes the danger which is consequent upon such unions. Such dispensations are generally granted by the Church with great reluctance, they are sometimes wrung by moral force from the Bishop who grants them, not because he approves such marriages, but simply to prevent greater evils. It is far safer and far better to follow, with a simple and upright heart, the laws of the Church, and not, by seeking dispensations, to endeavor to bend the Church to your own unmodified and ill-governed will. Dispensations should be asked only under circumstances of great importance and urgency, and even then they should be asked with meekness and a determination to abide by the decision of the Church whether favorable or unfavorable. This is the true Catholic spirit, and we would be delighted to see more of it among Catholics.—*Louisville Guardian*.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH CABLE.—The casual conducting wire is a strand, made up of seven wires of the purest copper, of the gauge known in the trade as No. 22. The strand itself is about the sixteenth of an inch in diameter, and is formed of one straightly drawn wire, with six others twisted round it; this was accomplished by the central wire being dragged from a drum, through a hole in a horizontal table, while the table itself revolved rapidly under the impulse of steam, carrying near its circumference six reels or drums, each armed with copper wire. Every drum revolved upon its own horizontal axis, and so delivered its wire as it turned. This twisted form of conducting wire was first adopted for the rope laid across the St. Lawrence in 1856, and was employed with a view to the reduction to the lowest possible amount of the chance of continuity being destroyed in the circuit. It is improbable, in the highest degree, that a fracture could be accidentally produced at precisely the same spot in more than one of the wires of this twisted strand. All the seven wires might be broken at different parts of the strand, even some hundreds of times, and yet its capacity for the transmission of the electric current not be destroyed or reduced in any inconvenient degree. The copper used in the formation of these wires is assayed from time to time during the manufacture, to insure absolute homogeneity and purity.—The strand itself, when subject to strain, will stretch twenty per cent. of its length without giving way, and, indeed, without having its electricity-conducting power much modified or impaired.

That was a strikingly intelligent person who called upon a sign-painter to have a Sunday School procession banner painted, and said: "We're going to have a terrier time with our Fourth of July Sunday School celebration, and our folks want a banner." "Well, naturally enough responded the painter, you ought to have one. What do you want to have painted on it?" "Wal, I dun't know, I ort to hev a text o' skipter painted onto it for a motto, hadn't we?" "Yes; that's a very good idea; what shall it be?" "Wal, I thought this would be about as good as any: 'Be sure you're right, then go ahead!'—Proverb."