

BRITISH AND FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

ENGLAND.

LEARNING IN THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH AND AMONG THE CATHOLICS.—At the late anniversary of the Jesuit College of St. Nicholas, Shoreham, Archdeacon Hare said that, in consequence of the various changes of society which had taken place since the Reformation, when the educational systems were remodelled, the middle classes, having grown up, in a manner, since that time, had been left out of account—had been neglected by the Church; by the nation. No institutions had been framed adapted for their education; they had been left almost wild; and, till about forty years ago, the education of the whole country was in a deplorable condition. Then the National Society undertook the education of the lower classes; but the middle classes were left to themselves. This he believed to have been one of the great causes of the spread of Dissent. The Church had neglected her duties, and therefore had failed in promoting her objects. "There is, unquestionably," says the Brighton Herald, "much truth in this picture. But what a reflection upon the Established Church, and especially its dignitaries, which has been in possession of many millions a year—which engrossed nearly all the grammar schools and collegiate foundations in the kingdom—which has been always eager to persecute any who differed from her creed—which had an Act of Parliament in its favor prohibiting any but those licensed by the Clergy of the Church from giving any educational instruction whatever—even to the poorest of the poor—which was instrumental in expelling the Roman Catholic teachers from the land of their forefathers, and which obtained a law to make it penal for any Englishman to send his child abroad to be educated, and made it death to a Catholic Priest to perform, and a heavy penal punishment for any one to attend, mass. We say this more in sorrow than in anger. The Clergy of the Established Church are very ready to twit the Dissenters with a want of learning, as they did the English Catholics in Charles I.'s reign. There must be now an end to all these farces. The Catholics were, at one period, unable to meet the Catholic Divines of the Church of England. Why? Because terrible laws had been passed to prevent Catholics from educating children; because no Catholic book was permitted to be as much as seen; because no Catholic of learning or talent could open his mouth without incurring the danger of martyrdom; because all Catholics were persecuted, maligned, misrepresented, and calumniated from the pulpit, the platform, by the press, in and out of Parliament, by all persons and in all places. No wonder that learning fell to a low ebb among the Catholics in England."

CHARITY OF PROTESTANT CLERGYMEN.—The Stamford Mercury states that when a Mrs. Wainer, of Melton Mowbray, who, it appears, has not led a very godly life, was on her death-bed, a few days since, she desired that some one should pray with her. The curate was sent for, but he commenced a fierce tirade against her respecting her past life, and positively refused to pray with the dying sinner. We presume it was because she was a sinner that he would not pray with her. Some pious neighbors gave the consolation which the clergyman refused. The woman died, and the clergyman of the place again took upon themselves to judge her; for one shut the gates of the church-yard entirely against her; the other refused the corpse entrance into the church, though he read the service over her. With reference to the above, the Examiner says:—"We say nothing of shutting the church doors. The rev. gentlemen might do with the body any unseemly things they pleased, or might think it decent to enact. But who is this disguised among the ministers of Jesus, who dares refuse to pray beside a dying woman because she was a sinner? The Pharisees, as Mr. Coles might do, objected to our Lord, that he had too much care for sinners! Only the Pharisees could not move Him to anger. Whether Mr. Coles be a high churchman or a low churchman, we know not. Most probably he preaches Philipps. But we know that he ought not to be a teacher in the church of Christ—he needs too greatly to be taught."

The Liverpool Times says that a silver tea-kettle was presented to Middle Lind by one of the charitable institutions of that city. The donors doubtless selected that particular utensil to enable them to accompany its presentation with that classic air, "Tenny put the kettle on!"

IRELAND.

LORD CLARENDON AN IMPORTER.—A somewhat unusual name appears in the list of importers in the unsparing Daily List this week, no less than that of the Viceroy himself. We copy the entry—"Ex Shannon steamer, from London.—H. E. the Lord Lieutenant.—4 butts, 1/2 hogheads; 2 quarter casks wine." However much this good supply of drinkables may argue against the probability of the speedy abolition of the office, it appears a fair and legitimate subject for comment, that Lord Clarendon patronises English wine merchants for his Dublin supply of wine. It cannot be denied that the article could be procured quite as good, and we venture to assert cheaper, from many respectable Dublin wine merchants; and we are further disposed to think that no inquiry was ever made. Were it the case of a single cask or two, such as might be supposed to be uncommon or rare kinds, it would not appear unusual; but a large supply, such as is here chronicled (about four hundred dozen), can only be accounted for by a desire to employ English tradesmen; and though we should be sorry indeed to find fault with any gentleman's direction of his domestic affairs, it is not unreasonable to look for a more patriotic example in the Viceroy of the country than his importing his wines and (on a former occasion) his tea from England, when there are direct importers of both articles here. It is within our knowledge that, on several occasions, superior lots of wine have been exported from this port to London for want of a home demand; and an accident such as the present cannot but be discouraging to those who have a grain of enterprise remaining. But Lord Clarendon is in this case; only fulfilling the old adage—"in vino veritas."—The Freeman.

FLAX CULTURE IN THE SOUTH.—Now that the period is at hand for the pulling of the flax crop, we are gratified at being in a position to assert that those who have made a trial of the plant are sanguine in their expectations of complete success. On a land of cold and unpromising character, crops have been raised for which the growers have obtained in this county 10L an acre standing. We have been told, indeed, by one gentleman, that there can be no doubt whatever of his making, by his single crop this year, fifteen years' purchase of the highest rent which the land on which it has been raised would bring. But it is not merely the success of the experiments actually made that so delights us. Our chief gratification springs from discovering the great extent to which attention is now fixed upon the culture of the plant, and the conviction which we know to have sprung up, even amongst the most sceptical, that the best results must follow from its general adoption. We know that those who have grown it this year intend to devote a much larger breadth of land to it in the coming season, and we have heard several persons who were more than doubtful about trying it at all in the spring; state their determination to grow it pretty extensively next year. This proves how much the flax question has progressed. Mr. Dargan is about erecting a steeping apparatus, and all necessary machinery, on an extensive scale at Kildinan, where he and Mr. Roche, M.P., with some tenants of the latter gentleman, have raised, this season, upwards of a hundred acres of flax, and we believe will, in the coming one, go even more extensively to work. Indeed, every thing gives us assurance that the flax cause will rapidly progress, and that we should be proud of having given it our early and continuous advocacy.—Province of Munster.

ITALY.

The Univers has the following letter from Rome of the 14th ultimo:—"I am happy to be able to give you better news of the last financial combination. Although the exchange on paper still keeps up at about fourteen to fifteen per cent., public opinion appears to be disposed towards a change, which has been assisted by two circumstances. It appears that several large capitalists have felt disposed to purchase, for considerable amounts, the new bills of credit on the Treasury. The Prince Torlonia, for the sum of 80,000 crowns; Baron Grazioli, for 60,000; and several other rich parties for large sums. Should this be the case, and for the honor of the persons above named, I am inclined to believe it so, it will set an admirable example, which will not fail to find imitators. Letters from the provinces, principally from the commercial parts, also express good dispositions, and tend to revive confidence in the capital. The other circumstance, to which I have alluded, is the hope that the Government felt disposed to effect considerable amelioration."

Austria has recently recommended the Papal government to concede the consulta of finances, the consulta of state, the organisation of municipalities, the council of ministers, and the council of state. These counsels, backed by the Cardinal Testi and Macchi, have been given in vain.

According to a letter in the Constitutionnel several persons have been arrested at Rome for a supposed conspiracy to assassinate the Pope, on Assumption-day, by throwing crystal balls, filled with explosive substances, into his carriage, when on his way to the church.

FRANCE.

THE PROGRESS OF LOUIS NAPOLEON.

The Prince President continues his official tour, but not with the same success as at first. At Besancon, on the 18th, he was very coldly received. At a ball given to him at night in the Halle, the President was enveloped by a compact crowd, who hemmed him in on all sides. It was only after an obstinate struggle that Louis Napoleon was freed from the circle with which he was surrounded. The gendarmes on duty at the ball, to maintain order, were obliged to employ the greatest efforts to keep off the crowd, and General de Costellane was even forced to draw his sword. After emerging from the ball at the Halle, the President proceeded to the ball at the theatre, where he received a more cordial reception. At Thann, near Mulhausen, there was a very strong socialist demonstration. Five thousand workmen assembled to join in this. Among other cries were heard, "Vive le suffrage universel!" "Vive Cavagnac!" The other part of the population were cold, silent, and indifferent. The corps of pompiers and the artillery of the National Guard were remarkably vehement in their clamorous protests against the policy of the President's Government. The review in the spacious meadows outside Mulhausen was accompanied by similar democratic manifestations. At Colmar, the lieutenant-colonel, the major, and the greater part of the officers of the National Guard resigned, in order to mark their disapprobation of the President's policy. Along the roads throughout the Alsace, bands were organized to give the President a charivari as he passed. The greater part of these were youths armed with whistles. The Moderates attribute these concerts to the presence of M. Flocon, member of the Provisional Government, at Colmar, who gave the mot d'ordre to the Socialists of the department. At Mulhausen, a brawny fellow, armed with a cudgel, was arrested on the charge of deterring the well-disposed from crying, "Vive le President!" Another democratic bully, of the same type, was imprisoned at Colmar.

THE RECEPTION AT STRASBURG.—Louis Napoleon arrived at Strasburg, on Wednesday, Aug. 21. He was received with regal splendor, triumphal arches, incessant bell-ringing, thunder of artillery, guards of honor, and an illumination that was some-

thing wonderful. The following is the description given by the Times correspondent:—"Louis Napoleon rode a most beautiful horse, which had been presented by the authorities. It was most brilliantly caparisoned. Its saddle was of the most exquisite light blue velvet, delicately wrought; the holsters were of the same material, and each bore in the centre of a cluster of flowers, all worked in silver, the letter 'N.' The housings were also of the same rich stuff and color, and on each of the four corners was the same somewhat Imperial cypher, also encircled with flowers and embroidered in silver. It wanted but the Imperial Crown to complete the effect."

As the President came opposite to the Hotel de Paris, he looked up to the balcony of the first floor, and taking off his plumed hat, bowed to the very saddle-boy to the Grand Duchess of Baden, who had arrived in order to witness her nephew's entry into Strasburg. The President rode on in the same quasi-Royal state to the Prefecture. He was followed in carriages by his orderly officers, secretary, aides-de-camp, and physician. At a banquet given in the course of the day by the authorities, he said, when his health was proposed—Placed by the almost unanimous vote of France at the head of a Government legally restricted, but immense from the moral influence of its origin, have I been seduced by the idea or the advice to attack a constitution which, every body knows, was framed in a great degree against me? (Yes, that is true! Bravos.) No; I respected, I will respect the sovereignty of the people, even when its expression may be falsified or hostile. ("Very well! very well!") If I have thus acted, it is because the title I desire, the most as that of an honest man. (Deep sensation and approbation.) He dined in the evening at the Prefecture, in company with the Grand Duchess and her attendants.

The acclamation, indeed, does not seem to have been very enthusiastic, but the correspondent says:—"There can be no doubt that the democratic feeling is strong in the capital of the Bas-Rhin." There may also be a strong partiality for a Republican form of Government amongst its population. But whether Strasburg be Democratic, Republican, or even Socialist, it is certain that in no city could greater honor be paid even to a crowned head than has been to the President of the Republic. I do not allude to the personal partialities of the population, but to the external show of rejoicing and welcome of which this city is the theatre. A stranger entering Strasburg last night, about nine o'clock, and witnessing—as he must have witnessed—in mute amazement the spectacle that greeted him, might have imagined that some great victory had been won, which alike served the interests and exalted the glory of the nation: or that some being was within the walls of this renowned fortress who was the idol of the people.

At nine o'clock the fireworks began on the banks of the canal. A hissing noise was heard, and in a few seconds one magnificent rocket shot with the speed of lightning into the sky; and then another and another in quick succession, and again many at the same time. The brilliancy they gave out turned the darkness into day-light; and when they burst, the quarter of the heavens which received them became all at once like a forest of fire. Hissing serpents darted their fiery length across the heavens in all directions, Bengal fires, blue, green, and red lights, and wheels and machinery imitating the telegraph in full movement, all whirled and gushed and tossed till half the sky over Strasburg seemed turned to flame. About half-past ten o'clock, a light, which was observed on the very summit of the spire of the Munster, became larger and brighter, and in a few seconds, a burst of pure dazzling light broke over the city, and a vision of beauty arose upon it which far surpassed all it had as yet beheld. You are aware that the spire of the Cathedral of Strasburg is the highest in the world, rising 474 feet above the pavement, 25 feet higher than the great pyramid of Egypt, and 140 feet higher than St. Paul's. This wonderful structure is one piece of airy open-work, and the stonework is so completely apart, the pillars supporting it all the way up so thin, and the fretwork so delicate, and yet so distinct, that the eye can see through it as through the finest lace. With its tracery so elaborate, rising in a network of detached arcades and tiny pillars, it looks like a rich open screen, or marble woven into the most graceful forms, to cover the gigantic mass beneath it. In a few seconds, from the bursting of the ball of light that had hitherto been stationary at the very point of this masterpiece of art, the whole of the interior grew gradually into a haze of radiance, and then blazed out into one sheet of flame that assumed successively every color of the rainbow. The rich crimson blaze was the most brilliant that can be imagined; and when it assumed the more intense glow of flame, you might fancy that it was some volcano whose sides, unable to restrain the terrible element that raged within it, had suddenly burst, and you beheld through the interstices the billows of fire in all their fury. The shafts, the pillars, the arches, the tracery, the whole of the ornaments of the spire were as plainly visible in all their detail as if you were standing close to them; and in the interior you beheld moving about human figures, who appeared to glide along a plain of light, which, when played on by the night air, reflected at each moment a new variety of glory. This wonderful display lasted until about eleven o'clock, when, after one last gush of light from beneath the cross on the very top of the spire, and another still more brilliant glow from the interior, the whole sunk into darkness."

Louis Napoleon was at Besancon on Monday, and at Colmar on Tuesday. At the latter place the crowd were rather insolent, and General Castellane was obliged to threaten the interference of the military.

Pyrenees, have expressed the same desire, and demanded, moreover, the prolongation of the power of the President of the Republic during ten years.

We read in the Ami that the perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, which takes place on the 30th of every month in the chapel of the martyrs at the Convent of the Carmes, has attracted, as usual, a pious multitude. At the conclusion of a discourse, Mgr. Verolles, Bishop of Mantchoura, gave solemn benediction in the chapel opened to the public by the zeal of the Abbe Crille, [we believe the Irish ecclesiastic who enriched French literature by the beautiful life of Archbishop Afire, reviewed some time ago in the Tablet.]

GERMANY.

PEACE CONGRESS AT FRANKFORT.

The first meeting of the Peace Congress was held on Thursday, 22nd instant, at Frankfort, in the celebrated St. Paul's Church. St. Paul's Church is an immense circular building, which had been used for the sitting of the first reformed German Parliament. The business of the Congress commenced at ten o'clock, a. m., M. Jaub, ex-minister of Darmstadt, being unanimously elected President.

AUSTRIA AND DENMARK.

The following is a translation of the protocol agreed upon at the Foreign-office, on the 23rd of August, 1850, by the Plenipotentiaries of Austria, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Russia, Sweden and Norway. The Charge d'Affaires of Austria has announced that he has been authorised by his Court to adhere in its name to the principles enunciated in the preamble and Article 1 of the Protocol of the 2nd of August, 1850, as also to the declarations contained in the Articles 2 and 4; it being always understood that the stipulations of the above mentioned Protocol shall not prejudice the rights of the Germanic Confederation.

The Minister of Denmark, while he accepts with satisfaction the adhesion thus given by the Court of Austria to the Protocol of the 2nd of August, thinks it his duty to recall to recollection that it is well understood that the Federal rights of Germany, above mentioned, can only regard the Duchy of Holstein and that of Lauenburg as forming part of the Germanic Confederation.

The Representatives of France, of Great Britain, of Russia, and of Sweden and Norway, while they unanimously render justice to the sentiments which have determined the Court of Austria to adhere to the principles established by the Protocol of August 2, in the general interest of peace and of the equilibrium of Europe, have taken note of the above mentioned declarations.

KOLLER—D. REVENTLOW—E. DROUVIN DE LIEUYS—PALMERSTON—BRUNNOW—J. T. REHAUSEN.

AUSTRIA.

The differences with Prussia seem for the moment settled. The hope of constitutional Government grows fainter every day in Austria, few believing that the ministers intend again to summon the parliament. A fearful act of military violence has been perpetrated at Pesth. On the 18th, which was the birth-day of the Emperor, the Austrian national anthem was given by the orchestra of the city. Many civilians who were present expressed their disapprobation by hissing.

THE WAR IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.

The intelligence from the seat of war is still of a negative kind. There is not even an indication of any movement, and though the wish for action of the mass of the Holstein army gives rise to surmises and speculations, they are of little value; no immediate operations of any extent are anticipated; if diplomacy is not more actively engaged with the question than the armies, it is at a total stand still. A statement has appeared in several German journals, purporting to be official, to the effect that a memorial has been sent to the Statthalterchaft of Schleswig-Holstein, in which the latter is recommended to conclude a peace with Denmark, seeing that the only power or powers in Germany from which the duchies are justified in expecting assistance are from their eternal and foreign complications, prevented from interfering. The terms which this memorial is said to recommend, are that the duchies should concede their incorporation with Denmark, retaining, however, their full administrative independence in all but foreign and naval affairs. The Constitutionelle Zeitung of the 23rd inst., states that Baron Schleinitz, the Prussian Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has given a peremptory refusal to a note from Lord Palmerston, who admonished him to induce the Holsteiners to submit to the claims of the King of Denmark.

General Willisen has published a statement in which he estimates the total loss on his side, at the battle of Idstedt, including missing and dead, amounted to 2,798, and prisoners at 1,459.

SPAIN.

To-morrow (Sunday) is the day fixed upon for the official commencement of the elections. It is very generally believed that the progress of the government party will not return as many members to parliament as it did in 1848. The Government continues taking measures for the defence of Cuba. It is evident, by the extent of the warlike preparations there, that something more serious than a piratical descent from the United States is apprehended. A treaty is going on for the purchase of four steamers of 500 horse-power each, which are to be commanded by officers of the navy. They are destined to keep up a postal communication between Cuba and Spain, and will be armed as men-of-war.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Cape of Good Hope papers to the 16th of June have come to hand. The elections were progressing in a favorable manner. The eastern province settlers were asking for a separate Government. A great increase in the trade of Table Bay is exemplified by the statistics of shipping. The discovery of a guano deposit at Dassen Island had attracted attention.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

Hobart Town and Launceston journals are to hand to the 20th of April. The convict ship Neptune, with the exiles rejected by the Cape settlers, had arrived at