

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The friends of Louis Napoleon are actively engaged in preparing petitions for a revision of the Constitution. The General Committee for the Revision of the Constitution, which has its seat in Paris, has just sent off to the departments 4,000 copies of the petition which it has adopted. On the other hand, General Cavaignac and Ledru Rollin are bidding for the sweet voices of the people. The *Presse*, strange to say, adopts the General as its candidate.

M. Leon Faucher has been interfering in elections again. Such a despatch as the following—sent to the Prefect of the Landes, previous to the election of a representative for the department,—seems to Englishmen a gross abuse of the Ministerial position:—

Paris, May 9, 11½ A.M.

"In presence of the manoeuvres which the extreme Opposition direct against the law of May 31, 1850, you ought to declare, and to make known, by your sub-prefects, that, in the opinion of the Government, the electors, friends of order, cannot, in consulting the interests of the country, give their votes except to a candidate who is very decided on defending and maintaining the electoral law of May 31. P.S.—The party of order unanimously support General Durieu, the only one of the candidates who has declared that he will maintain the law of May 31."

After the election, M. Girardin will endeavor to induce the Assembly once more to repeal its censure on the unpopular Minister.—M. Odillon Barrot declares himself strongly in favor of the repeal of the electoral law of the 31st of May, as the only means of getting over the elections of 1852 without bloodshed. The *Constitutionnel* takes the same view.—Letters from Lyons announce that, at the municipal elections of the Guilloitière, not less than thirty-three Reds have been named, and only three Conservatives.

SPAIN.

The elections for the province of Madrid have been purely Ministerial; and those in the other parts of the country are also favorable to the Government. The Democratic section have abstained from voting. The public functionaries adopted all sorts of illegalities in order to secure the triumph of the Government candidates at the elections which will take place after to-morrow. Threats of every description are made use of towards the electors in small towns, villages, and rural parishes.

The interesting position of Queen Isabella is no longer doubted. It is said that her Majesty formally declared to her three physicians that henceforth she intended to conform to all their wishes, and directed them to prescribe for her a regimen. "In that manner," added the Queen, "all the merit, as well as the responsibility, shall belong to you."

THE REVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL.

Lisbon was in an excited state when the last accounts left. Saldanha was anxiously expected from Oporto, where he had been weather bound. The King had resigned the command-in-chief of the army; Saldanha will probably be placed at its head, he having declined to form part of the Cabinet. He was expected to abdicate as soon as he reached Lisbon.

The English steam-frigate "Dauntless" has been sent to Oporto, to urge the Duke's immediate departure for Lisbon on board that vessel, or by the Portuguese steamers which had been sent as transports for 2,000 or 3,000 of his Oporto troops.—The ultra-Liberals spread reports of the intended capture of the Duke's forces by the foreign vessels-of-war in the Tagus, as soon as they put to sea. An express had been sent to Oporto to induce him to take his troops by land, which would cause a delay calculated to promote the views of such political factions as are interested in promoting a more serious complication of Portuguese affairs. To hush such reports, the four English frigates which had gone down the Tagus with orders for a cruise were signaled to return to their anchorage. On the 8th, all the squadron, except the "Dauntless" and "Encounter," at Oporto, was left in the Tagus.

The Duke exercises in the North full dictatorial powers, his promotions and nominations of new administrative authorities are a natural consequence of his present position.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

A meeting is very shortly to take place between the Emperors of Russia and Austria and the King of Prussia, either at Warsaw or Olmutz.—Prussia has proposed a more acceptable commercial union to the Austrian Government.

It is fixed that the sittings of the Diet at Frankfort are to open on the 12th, without waiting for the present formal close of the Dresden Conferences.

The Prussian Chambers closed on the 9th inst. M. Radé, the Finance Minister, has demanded his dismissal. An official notice, signed by the Prime Minister, Baron Manteuffel, announces that the inauguration of Professor Rauch's monument to Frederick the Great will take place on the 31st inst., and that a committee, under the presidency of Dr. Von Olfers, general director of the Royal Museums, has been appointed to superintend arrangements.

ENGLAND.

THE HANGMAN AND THE SCHOOLMASTER.

(From the Weekly News.)

Our entertaining little favorite, Mr. Dickens's *Household Words*, prints a number of letters addressed to the High Sheriff of Suffolk, by persons who were desirous to perform Calcraft's work, on the occasion of the hanging of Maria Clarke, at Ipswich. The article is headed "The Finishing Schoolmaster," by which is meant, the Hangman; and when Cal-

craft's expected inability to be present at the execution is recorded, it is said that "the great finishing Schoolmaster was pre-engaged to lecture that morning to other pupils in another part of the country." The letters, however, are certified to be exact copies from the originals, and they will give the reader abundance of material for reflection. The first is in the form of a polite note, and has an air of genteel commonplace—like an invitation, or an answer to one:—

"Mr. _____ residing at Southwark will accept the office unavoidably declined by Calcraft on Wednesday next viz to execute Maria Clarke a speedy answer will oblige stating terms say not less than £20."

"To the High Sheriff of Suffolk."

The second has a Pecksniffian morality in it:—

"20 April.

"Sir—This day I was Reading the newspaper When I saw the advertise for A hangman for that unfortunate Woman if there is not A person come forced and that you cannot Get no one by the time I Will come as A substitute to finish that which the law require Yours respect fully for the Governor of the ipsWich Goal Suffolk."

The third speaks of "Mr. Calcraft," craves secrecy, and states that the writer is in "desperate circumstances."

In the fourth, the writer modestly recommends himself as a self-reliant, trustworthy person:—

"April th 21/51

"Sir—having understood you Want a Man on Wednesday Morning to Perform the Office of hangman I beg most respectfully To Offer Myself to your Notice feeling Confident I Am Able to undertake it. From your obedient Servant,

No Street Square White Chappel."

The fifth is written in a business-like manner, and names sixty pounds as a fair remuneration.

The sixth is also workman-like:—

"Deal. April 21/51

"Honoured Sir—Understanding that you cannot get a man to take the job of hanging the Woman on Wednesday next I will volunteer to do the business if the terms are liberal and suit me I remain your respected servant."

In the seventh, the writer says he is a married man, and that his height is 5 feet 5, and his age 32 years.

The writer of the eighth offers himself as a substitute, "being able and competent to fulfil his place on this occasion upon the same terms as Calcraft if you think proper to engage me."

The ninth expects the name to be kept a secret, and if the offer be accepted, "I shall assume the name of Patrick Keley of Kildare Ireland."

The tenth is honored with the acquaintance of Calcraft, and even aspires to succeed him:—

"April 19th 1851.

"Gentlemen—Seeing a paragraph in the paper of this day that you are in want of an executioner in the place of Calcraft I have taken the liberty to inform you that you can have me the writer of this note I have been for some time after the birth and am well acquainted with Calcraft and I wonder he did not mention my name when you despatched a messenger to him I made application at horse-monger-lane for the last job there but Calcraft attended himself Gentlemen if you should think fit to nominate me for the job, you will find me a fit and proper person to fulfill it An Answer to this application will oblige Your most Humble Servant

"And will meet with immediate attention

"Gentle—Should this meet your approbation you will oblige by sending me instructions when and how to come down You will be kind enough to communicate this to the High Sheriff as soon as convenient.

"To the Governor of Ipswich Gaol"

The connection of "the sad office," in the eleventh, with "the amount," almost makes us suspect that the writer is a "mute":—

"Cockermouth Apl 21 1851

"Sir—having seen in the paper that Calcraft cannot come up. I will undertake the sad Office if well remunerated and as time is short please to say the amount and I will come by return of Post you may depend on me Yours."

This is the twelfth and last:—

"Wigan April 20 1851.

"Sir—Having seen in the Newspaper that you was in want of a Man to officiate in the place of Calcraft at the execution of Maria Clarke if you will pay my expences from Wigan & Back and 5 pounds for the Job Please to send my expences from Wigan to Ipswich & direct to the _____ & he will let me know "Your obedient Servant."

BRISTOL.—The following clever and well-merited sarcasm appears in the *Bristol Gazette*, in reference to a ridiculous report in the local papers, which Protestants were found weak enough to believe. The editor of the *Bristol Times* quotes this letter, and subjoins an article which shows that the Protestants are far too brazen-faced to blush at their own folly or knavery, even after so smart a castigation:—"To the Editor of the *Bristol Gazette*—Sir—The account which was given in the *Bristol Times*, and *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal* of last week, of the ceremonies in the Catholic Church at Clifton, on Palm Sunday, must have amazed many persons. It is stated that Dr. Hendren, the Roman Catholic Bishop, was led round the church mounted on a donkey, under a canopy supported by four of the recent lay-converts, now residing in this place. We feel great delight in being able, through the medium of your paper, to bear witness to the above statement; but at the same time we are very anxious that the public should be put in full possession of the whole particulars of the solemnities, now that a portion of it has, to our great surprise, been divulged; for, as you are doubtless aware, these ceremonies of the Catholic Church are always performed with closed doors, and in the presence only, so far as may be secured, of the initiated. And indeed, we cannot conceive how the editors of the papers obtained their information. At the procession so described, the Bishop dis-

mounted, and the donkey was led, in much state, into the vestry; then, having been first skinned alive, the donkey was sacrificed in the manner usual and customary on Palm Sunday, and the carcass eaten by the Bishop and clergy, assisted and waited upon by the distinguished lay-converts who had held the canopy. The skin of the donkey will be sent down to the office of the *Bristol Times*, for the especial use of the editor; and we have not the least doubt that he will exhibit himself in it weekly for the next twelve months. We remain, Sir, your very obedient servants, THE PARTIES WHO SUPPLIED THE DONKEY. Clifton, 28th April, 1851."

DR. CAHILL IN LIVERPOOL.—There appeared in the *Standard* here on Tuesday, two letters purporting to have been addressed to the Rev. Dr. Cahill, by the Rev. J. B. Lowe, Incumbent of St. Jude's, and successor there of the Rev. Hugh O'Neill, a worthy successor, as the event shows. The Rev. Mr. Lowe invited Dr. Cahill to an oral controversy, which Dr. Cahill, very much to the approval of all parties here, declined. To the suggestion of a written controversy he did not object. Thereupon the Rev. Mr. Lowe sent his letter to the *Standard*, never intimating to Dr. Cahill that he was about to do so, and he accompanied it by a second, which the letter conveys had been sent to Dr. Cahill on Sunday, but which, in point of fact, was never sent to Dr. Cahill at all! In this letter he intimates—among other allegations equally true—that Dr. Cahill did not deny that he had preached such doctrines as that the blood of the Virgin Mary was shed upon the cross, and that she shared in the atonement then made in virtue of her participation in our Saviour's sufferings. Dr. Cahill denies in a letter to the *Courier* to-day that he ever received or saw such a letter, and he denies that he ever preached such doctrines. And in this predicament Mr. Lowe has placed himself.

DEATH OF MR. VALENTINE SMITH.—Mr. Valentine Smith, a merchant of considerable standing, died in this town on the morning of Thursday last, under circumstances which deserve some notice. This unhappy gentleman was at the recent Protestant meeting here, and was called on to propose a resolution. He commenced his speech in a self-possessed and unexcited manner, and was urging the necessity of severe legislation against Cardinal Wiseman and the Catholics, when (as we mentioned in the report of the meeting given in the *Tablet*) his utterance grew thick, his mouth twitched, he staggered forward and fell heavily. The bystanders raised him immediately, and he appeared to revive rapidly. He was taken from the meeting to his house, but he sunk day by day until the morning of the 10th, when his spirit passed away. It is an awful event, and one much canvassed here—pray Heaven it be instruction also. What has served to point this occurrence more than anything connected immediately with it, than an individual named Green, who had taken a prominent part in the Birkenhead meeting, a doctor or chemist, by profession, and it is said a pervert from the Catholic faith, died suddenly on his way home from that meeting.—*London Correspondent of Tablet*.

PARDON OF ONE OF THE BIRKENHEAD CATHOLICS.—One of the prisoners, Peter Fitzsimons, found guilty as the last Chester assizes of riot at Birkenhead, was, on Monday, discharged from custody, Mr. Justice Williams, who tried the prisoner, having certified to Sir George Grey that the conviction was against evidence. At the trial, on the part of the prosecution, it was sworn by three Liverpool police officers, Grimley, Kelly, and Cox, that the prisoner Fitzsimons was present, taking part in the riot, and fighting with him four minutes. On the part of the prisoner it was clearly proved that, at the time the riot took place, he was at his work beyond the Copperworks-bridge, at Seacombe, and never at the meeting. So clear was the evidence that, notwithstanding the finding of the jury, Mr. Justice Williams has, unsolicited, certified that the conviction was wrong, and procured Mr. Fitzsimons' discharge from custody. It is painful to think that this innocent man had to undergo the unmerited punishment of being arrested in the dead of the night, dragged through the streets in broad day in irons, accompanied by the unnecessary parade of a number of special constables, and subjected to five months' imprisonment. Surely the law of the land gives a man redress for such unmerited suffering. If so, we trust some kind-hearted individual will be found to see justice done to this poor man.—Pool, he was only a Papist.

The Bishop of Exeter and Dr. Pusey have lately been made the subjects of special prayers at the Catholic chapel, Stonehouse, as well as other chapels. Their accession to Rome is doubtless calculated upon as an event not far off.—*Plymouth Herald*.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.—The compartments allotted to Spain have a sort of proud simplicity unconsciously characteristic, for on one side we see in a glass case a few Toledo blades, and in a similar one on the other the celebrated Andalusian veil, its black lace thrown over a dress of bright orange silk. The Toledo sword-case contains some weapons of unexampled beauty and fineness of temper, some of them being so flexible as to form complete circles when thrust home into their sheaths. Spain has, moreover, one of the grandest things in the exhibition. It is a superb piece of work in brass, in silver, in gold, and precious stones, called in the catalogue the "custodia (or monstrance) in which the Host is exposed to the veneration of the faithful during the rite of Benediction) made for the cathedral of Lima, and valued at 28,000*l*. It is, at its massive base, more than two feet square, and it is more than five feet high. The pedestal presents several sacred subjects in relief. At the four projecting corners, as many angels, choicely cast in chaste silver, kneel adoring. From the midst of them rises the pillar, in polished brass, covered with beautiful Ecclesiastical decorations. Then it expands, and figures in chased silver of Moses, of David, of St. Peter and St. Paul, and of the Virgin, support a beautiful entablature. Nearer the top, similar figures of the four Evangelists support the continuation of the pillar, which rises further until it spreads into a blazing circle of divergent rays of glory, resplendent with gold and silver,

sparkling with stars of light, radiant with rubies, emeralds, and diamonds, and surmounted with a cross chiefly composed of gems.

The only Irishmen selected to be assistant Jurors in judging the merits of articles at the Crystal Exhibition are Mr. Thomas Hutton, Summer Hill, Dublin; Mr. John M'Master of Banbridge, and Mr. Robert Lindsay, Belfast.

THE FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE CHESHIRE JUNCTION RAILWAY.—The jury have returned a verdict of Accidental Death, accompanying the verdict with observations imputing great blame to the executive committee, and a charge of imprudence and indiscretion against the officers. No increase whatever was made in the locomotive powers of the company for the greatly increased traffic along the line from Chester to Manchester, during the Chester race week; there was no authorised superintendent of the traffic department along that line appointed, and no precautionary arrangements were adopted for the safety of the public in reference to the Sutton tunnel, where the collision took place. The jury find that during the day there was the greatest irregularity in the despatch and arrival of the trains from Manchester to Chester; and are of opinion that the management of the railway is imperfect and inefficient, endangering the safety of the public. In conclusion, the jury recommend that, in order to guard against the recurrence of a similar accident, there should be an authorised servant of the company stationed at each end of the Sutton tunnel, so as to signal to the trains, and thereby prevent two trains from being in the tunnel on the same line at one time. They consider also that the carriages having to pass through a tunnel of such a length should be furnished with lights; and they also call attention to the shortness of the interval allowed for trains following each other on the same line, from the terminus and intermediate stations. The locomotive superintendent thought the "Druid," the first engine, weighed twenty tons when it started, and has continued under this mistake until Captain Luffan, the Government Inspector, brought his belief to the test of a weighing machine, and showed that it was but fifteen tons in weight. On Tuesday, a special train on the Great Northern Railway left London with 250 passengers, to witness the race between the Flying Dutchman and Voltigeur at York. Prefixed to it were two engines, each twenty tons in weight; so that, against 600 people on the Chester Cup day, drawn by a fifteen tons engine, forty tons were employed to take 250 passengers to York; "and in this contrast," remarks the *Daily News*, "is to be seen the difference between good and bad, safe and unsafe management."

SINGULAR ROBBERY OF GOLD.—One of the three boxes of gold dust missed while on the way from Southampton to London by the South Western Railway, was found on the bank of the railway, near the Winchester Station. A reward of £250 has been offered for the restoration of the two missing boxes. The police have ascertained that two men quitted Southampton on Thursday night by the mail train for London with two weighty bags in their possession; they evinced considerable anxiety about the bags, and requested to have them in the same carriage with them, and there is good reason to believe that they then had the two boxes in their possession. The train arrived at the Waterloo station at half-past four o'clock on the morning of Friday, and a cab, one of the number privileged by the company, driven by a man named Pichey, was called off the stand for them, and the two bags were placed by the porter therein. They ordered the cabman to drive with all possible speed to the terminus of the Eastern Counties Railway at Shore-ditch, but stopped the cab at the Railway coffee house opposite to it, where they alighted, and having given him 4*s*. as his fare, he was discharged. They then entered the coffee house, where they had breakfast, and it has been ascertained that they then called another cab, and drove off with the bags towards the Minories. This cab has also been traced. The place at the Winchester station where the box was found, was watched, and a man who came to the spot during Friday afternoon, was arrested, and remains in custody.

THE PARLIAMENT AND THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The *Times* will have it that the Great Exhibition and the Parliament cannot go on together. If Mr. Disraeli would just now attract notice, "he must take his stand amongst the agricultural implements, Messrs. Cobden and Bright amidst the piece goods."

CHILD-MURDER.—The body of a fine male infant, about four days old, was found a few days ago close to the ornamental garden adjoining the mansion of Earl Spencer, in the Green-park. It had on a clean white baby's night-gown, with the letter "S" marked at the back, and a white lawn night-cap, with a lace border. The surgeon found the vessels at the base of the brain gorged with blood. The injury was the effect either of a heavy fall or a severe blow inflicted by some heavy instrument, with a flat surface, on the frontal bone. The deceased had been dead about 24 hours. At the inquest, the coroner observed that he hoped the police would endeavor to trace the parent, as cases of child-murder were alarmingly frequent. He believed, from circumstances that have come under his knowledge, that there was a connivance by persons who assisted in disposing of new-born infants. A short time ago, it was stated in that room that a little girl was stopped in the street, with an infant she was carrying in a basket. "She was questioned about it, when she admitted that she was going to take it to a woman at Chelsea, who would dispose of it in some way. He did know in what way that affair ended." Verdict, "Wilful murder against some person or persons unknown."

PARRICIDE AT WESTMINSTER.—An inquest was held yesterday evening, before Mr. Bedford, at the Westminster Hospital, on view of the body of Richard Judd, aged 65, who expired at that establishment on Saturday morning, from the effects of desperate injuries about the head. The evidence of the several witnesses given at the Westminster police-court on Monday, and on the previous examination of the accused (Frederick Judd, the son of the deceased), having been repeated, the jury, after two hours' deliberation, returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against Frederick Judd."

One of the Bristol laborers thought the census return a good opportunity for making known his troubles to her Majesty. His entry was as follows:—"John Rubbins, Pauper, late Coal Miner, is house and living in St. Peters, and he is blind and Deaf in one ear and creaple and I hope that her Majesty will take my case in hand as I am starving only I do get Stayles and Combe in the street I am living in No 9 Merchant Cort, Merchant Street, as I am a member of St Peters Church and do hold the Christian Faith and believe in the Lord."