

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The Republican party in France are more confident than ever, and it is now certain that their Constitution will not be legally revised. The question has been opened in the Committees of the Assembly, where a preliminary discussion takes place in each section upon the election of a Member to act on the General Committee, to which propositions of importance are referred. The result of these discussions, in which several leading Members of the Assembly took part, was far less favorable to the proposed revision than had been expected by the Left; out of the fifteen Members of the Committee, nine are in favor of the proposal and six against it, the former having been elected by 311 votes, and the latter by 273. There is, then, an immense difference between these numbers, which do not exceed, or even reach, the ordinary limits of the majority, and the extraordinary majority of three-fourths required by the law. If the division in the Assembly itself on the general debate bear any analogy to this preliminary and miscellaneous division in the Committees, it is clear that all hope of a legal revision must be abandoned, and the proposal will be rejected in such a manner as to give little encouragement to renew it. This inference is strengthened by the character of many of the Members who, for very different reasons, spoke against the revision; and here we advert especially, not to the Republican party, whose opposition was foreseen, but to the defections and divisions of many persons of great influence who were supposed to be rather favorable than hostile to M. de Broglie's proposition. M. de Remusat expressed with great force and at considerable length the danger of plunging into a torrent of uncertainties by adopting a measure to which every party assigned a different meaning, and which might lead to consequences the most opposite to those contemplated by its authors. M. Barthelemy St. Hilaire opposed the revision on behalf of the moderate Republicans; because, though they desire the amelioration of the Republic to secure its permanence, in the present temper of the country the revision of the Constitution means its entire subversion. M. de Tocqueville, though not absolutely opposed to the proposition, votes for it conditionally and with the utmost hesitation and alarm, foreseeing that such a discussion as the revision must occasion would divide all the combined forces of the majority, revive topics on which they can never agree, and consequently facilitate the ascendancy of the Democratic party. M. Piscatory spoke with great decision against the revision, and he was followed by M. de Falloux, who betrayed the utmost jealousy and hostility towards the President of the Republic. M. Lamartine would vote for the revision if the electoral law was abolished. M. Odillon Barrot would have the Constitution revised if a legal majority could be obtained, but not otherwise. The Committee is composed as follows:—for the total revision, MM. Moulin, de Corcelles, and probably M. Berryer, 3—for the partial revision, MM. de Broglie, de Montalembert, Dufour, and de Melun, 4—doubtful, MM. Odillon Barrot and de Tocqueville, 2—against all revision, MM. Jules Favre, de Mornay, General Cavaignac, Colonel Charas, Charmaule, and Baze, 6—total, 15. Mr. Creton has deposited on the table of the National Assembly a proposition to the following effect:—

"Article 1. The Assembly expresses the wish that, at the expiration of the Legislative, a Constituent Assembly shall be convoked, for the purpose of proceeding to the total revision of the Constitution of 1848.

"Article 2. While expressing the wish for total revision, the Legislative Assembly means that the powers of the Assembly of Revision should be unlimited, and that this Assembly shall establish definitively the basis of the Government and of the administration of the country. Consequently the National Constituent Assembly shall, in the first place, be called upon to decide between the Republic and the Monarchy.

"Article 3. In case the Republic be confirmed, the Assembly shall decide if the Legislative power is to be delegated to two Assemblies, and if the Chief of the Executive power ought not to be elected by the two Assemblies united.

"Article 4. In case of the Monarchy being adopted, the Assembly shall draw up and promulgate a Constitutional Charter, the maintenance of which shall have to be sworn to by the Chief of the State at his accession to the throne. The Assembly shall, in the plenitude of the power delegated to it by the French people, proceed to the nomination of the person to be invested with the monarchical power, to transmit it by descent."

Thus, for the revision of the present system, the Assembly has before it four different propositions—that of the Duke of Broglie, for the simple revision of the Constitution, without specifying any particular articles; that of M. Payer, for a change by which the President would profit, and which is constitutional; that of M. Larabit, with the same object, but not constitutional; and the preceding proposition, which would be for the benefit of the Orleans family.

CONFLICT BETWEEN AUSTRIAN TROOPS AND THE PEOPLE OF ALTONA.

A conflict has taken place between the Austrian garrison of Altona and the inhabitants of St. Pauli and others who were there for the purpose of amusement during the Whitsun holidays. It appears that one of the Austrian soldiers behaved with great rudeness to a civilian of Altona, and when the latter expostulated, he drew his bayonet, and attacked him on the spot. The altercation and the menaces of the Austrian caused a mob to assemble round the disputants. Words were followed by blows, the Austrian

soldier was supported by his comrades, and the affray rose to such a height that it attracted the attention of the Austrian commander of the main guard of Altona. A detachment of soldiers, under the command of a subaltern, was ordered to disperse the populace; who, it ought to be stated, were on the Hamburg territory. On the advance of the troops, the people received them with a volley of stones, and compelled them to retreat. Another detachment of troops was immediately pushed forward, and the soldiers fired in such a manner as to alarm and not to hurt the frantic people. This ineffectual fire, served, however, still further to exasperate the people, and the military fired in real earnest. A volley was poured into the dense mass, which spread death and destruction, and the troops proceeded to clear the dancing booths and other places of amusement, at the point of the bayonet; driving men, women, and children before them, and compelling them to leap out of the windows, and, at the peril of their lives, to jump down from the balconies. During this affray, chairs, benches, fire-irons, and other articles of furniture, were hurled at the troops, and by the means of these missiles they wounded several officers of the Austrian commander's staff. The populace were, however, compelled to disperse, leaving behind eight of their number killed and eighteen wounded.

A brigade of Austrian troops has been quartered in the suburb of St. Pauli, and field guns ready charged and primed are in the public square to prevent another outbreak in that locality. The exasperation of the inhabitants of Hamburg and Altona exceeds all bounds.

INDIA.

By telegraphic advices from Trieste, of the 5th instant, we learn of the arrival, at Suez, of the Indian Mail.

India was tranquil, but the western frontiers of the Punjab were still threatened by the robber bands of the mountains in that locality. Ample reinforcements had, however, been sent to the irregular troops which guard the mountain passes. The deficiency in the assets of the North West Bank is estimated at £80,000.

THE WAR AT THE CAPE.

We gather from the last accounts from the Cape that the British commander has lost no ground; and, although the reinforcements despatched from this country had not been brought into action at the departure of the last mail, Sir Harry Smith had successfully resumed the offensive, and inflicted severe loss on the enemy in more than one engagement. It will be remembered that his forces were collected in two main divisions, one commanded by the Governor himself at King William's town, and the other by Major-General Somerset, at Fort Hare. The intention of Sir Harry was to concert operations with General Somerset, and to move with both these columns upon the Amatola Mountains, the stronghold of Sandilli and his followers. For this purpose, he was awaiting the succors announced from the seat of Government, and it was his opinion that the advance could be made towards the close of March. On the 23rd of April, this definitive campaign had not commenced, but the intervening transactions are of such a character as to suggest satisfactory explanations of the delay.

While Sir Harry and General Somerset were expecting their turns within the walls of their respective forts, the Caffres were swarming over the open country, attacking detached posts of isolated escorts, tampering with the well-affected tribes, corrupting the Hottentot levies, and zealously doing the work of Sandilli, who kept a considerable force together in the heart of the Amatolas. In most of these attempts the savages were defeated, communications were kept open between all the British garrisons, and the Governor adopted a scheme of action which put the Caffres again upon the defensive. From each of his posts he sent out patrols, which scoured the country in specified directions, destroyed the crops, captured the cattle, and dispersed the enemy with greater or less loss whenever they ventured to make a stand. It is with the details of these several operations that the last despatches are chiefly concerned, and no room now remains for doubting the superiority of the British as regards any regular encounter. In no one instance have the savages offered a successful resistance; large quantities of cattle have been taken, and our casualties, notwithstanding the severity of the service, have borne no proportion to the losses inflicted on the Caffres. On the other hand, Kreilli, a chief of great power and influence, who had resolutely withstood temptation at the outset of the insurrection, has now declared his adhesion to the declining fortunes of Sandilli. The latest tidings of this chief, whose country lies beyond the Kei, represented him as contributing substantial assurances of his good-will towards us, and yet we are now informed that he has not only taken arms himself, but has exerted the whole weight of his authority in attempts to pervert the allegiance of others. Some disclosures at King William's Town, show that the conspiracy among the Hottentots is much deeper and more wide-spread than many were led to believe. It is said that the Cape Corps has supplied Sandilli with large quantities of ammunition, and that on examination of the carbines of the disbanded men, all, with one or two exceptions, were found loaded with blank cartridge. This may account for the little execution done by these men, and "may afford" says the *Graham's Town Journal*, "a clue to the loss of Adjutant Gordon and the gallant men of the 91st at an early period of the war."

AUSTRALIA.

Advices from Melbourne, Port Philip, have been received to the 15th of February. Very destructive fires had occurred in the neighborhood of the Barabool-hills and Moorabool valley, and besides the loss of general property, the crops were entirely swept

away. The result was that all descriptions of grain and fodder had rapidly advanced in price, and that no certain quotations could be given. The fire was supposed to have originated near the Dog-rocks at Bates-ford, where some charcoal-burners had been carrying on operations. The stock, crops, and property of about thirty farmers were estimated to have been sacrificed, and in some cases loss of life had also followed. The wife and four children of a settler named MacLelland, residing on the banks of Diamond-creek, had been burnt to death, and several other persons were missing. Subscriptions had been opened at Geelong for the sufferers, and in the course of a few days about £1,120 was collected. The excitement occasioned by the anti-transportation movement was on the increase, and the Australian League, who are seeking to raise £20,000, to promote the wishes of their constituency, continued to work in the most vigorous manner.

THE LAW IS BROKEN—THANKS BE TO GOD.

(From the Tablet.)

Mr. Walpole's auspicious and our prophecy have both had their verification no longer ago than last Sunday. To say the truth, Mr. Walpole's apprehensions have been fulfilled a little sooner than the date which he himself specified. He is like a man who has hardly got out of his mouth the words which express his alarm, that we shall have a few drops of rain before night, when he finds himself wet to the skin with torrents and a deluge. Mr. Walpole faintly himself anticipated the possibility of another Bull in the course of the autumn. But the words are hardly uttered, and spring not yet ended—the season being very backward in all rural products, *except Bulls*—when the Pope treats Mr. Walpole and his friends to the first of what, before any of us see autumn, will, no doubt, be a pretty long series. And all this while John Bull's omnipotent Parliament is legislating against Bulls!

A professor of history has just published a volume on the fifteen great and conspicuous battles which have decided the fate of the world at the turning points of its history, from Marathon down to Waterloo. We wish much that some other professor of history would prepare a companion volume on the fifteen—or whatever other number may be more in accordance with fact—most conspicuous batches of Fools who, by their proceedings at notable periods of the history of the world, have exalted the Ridiculous to the Sublime. What intermediate incidents could be selected of sufficient dignity and folly to bear a part in this great gallery of Fools, it might be hard to say. But as the professor aforesaid places on his title-page the first and last of the series—Marathon and Waterloo—and reserves for those who open his pages a full disclosure of the intermediate battles, so (until the book be written) we may fairly content ourselves with the first and last of our series—to wit—the venerable sages of antiquity who fitted out an expedition against the East Wind, and the yet more portentous blockheads of our own day, who spend a session of Parliament legislating against Papal Bulls, and Popish Bishops.

But we must keep back no longer the fulfilment of Mr. Walpole's sinister augury. When he hears of breaches of the law in Ireland, what county presents itself to the mind of every Englishman, and what word instinctively passes over his tongue? Alas! we must say it—the county and the word are both Tipperary. Tipperary, famous, whether deservedly or not, for agrarian outrages; and our English readers, therefore, will feel no surprise when we tell them, that in the county of Tipperary, in the town of Nenagh, in the chapel or church of that town, on last Sunday, at ten o'clock in the morning of that day, or an hour thereafter, a Roman Bull was publicly let loose upon the people, to gore, toss, and trample them, the Archbishop of the province, four Suffragan Bishops, a Bishop Elect, and more Clergy than we can conveniently count, being present on the occasion, and by voice and gesture, encouraging the untamed animal to do his worst or his best among the unprotected bystanders.

In plain prose, a new Bishop with a territorial title was consecrated on Sunday, and the whole thing was done in the most open and audacious manner, under the authority of the Holy See, and with not the smallest reservation of the rights of the Crown of England nor any—the faintest—allusion to her Most Gracious Majesty, nor even to the Prince Consort. Where all this horrid violation of the law will end it is not easy to foretell—possibly they will cease not much before the East Wind is extinguished; but in the mean time there they are; they are as troublesome to a Whig Minister as is the East Wind to a rheumatic-sexagenarian, and it is our business to record them for the edification and instruction of those whom they concern.

The Lord Archbishop having taken his seat on the platform of the altar, with mitre and crosier, and in a magnificent suit of pontificals,

The Lord Bishop of Limerick, as Senior Assistant, approaching the altar, said—

"Most Reverend Father, our Holy Mother the Catholic Church demands of you to advance this Priest, now present, to the office of a Bishop."

Archbishop—Have you the Apostolic mandate?

Bishop—We have.

Archbishop—Let it be read.

Here the Very Rev. Dr. Blake took the Bull from the hands of the elect, and read the document throughout.

Archbishop—Thanks be to God!

The *juramentum*, or oath, is then administered to the elect, who swears to fidelity in spirituals to the Holy See, and to the performance of the duties of his sacred office.

Two, if not three, illegal acts were done on this

memorable occasion, and with how many participants! First, the reading, publishing, and acting under, or by virtue of, the authority of the Apostolic Mandate, or Bull; secondly, the consecrating of a Bishop to a territorial title; thirdly, the administering an illegal oath. And then, setting aside the technical character of these three, or three hundred, misdemeanors—think, reflect, meditate, on the essential character of the act that was done. We hardly know how adequately to describe it—except, indeed, in the very words of the Pontifical, from which the whole function is taken.

The main pretensions set forth in that Pontifical—and claimed, therefore, in the proceedings of Sunday—is that the Consecrators on the one hand, and the Consecrated on the other, undertook the one to communicate, the other to receive gifts, functions, honors, which are subject neither to the Queen's supremacy, nor to the authority of Parliament, and which are derived immediately from a Foreign Potentate, with whom Downing-street has no diplomatic relations—the Sovereign of the Roman States.

First, consider the exhortations given to the Elect Bishop, and then the oath he takes.

When the oil is poured upon his head, as upon the head of Aaron, he is exhorted "not to place light for darkness, nor darkness for light; not to call good evil, nor evil good"—a direct instruction not to follow in any of his steps the blind leadings of Whiggery, and not to call Lord John Russell good.

When the staff of the Pastoral authority is placed in his hands, he is told to "rage piously in the correction of vices," and to exercise his superintending office "in the tranquility of severity." Not a word do we read here of the duty which the Prime Minister has discovered and dragged to light in Piedmont, of exempting the vices of State functionaries from his pious rage, or mitigating his severity towards those who are high in rank.

On the contrary, when he receives the mitre, his ears are saluted with these words—"We place, O Lord, on the head of this Bishop and athlete, the helmet of defence and salvation, so that with resplendent face and armed head, as with the horns of the two Testaments, he may be terrible to the Adversaries of the Truth"—Prime Ministers and others—and, that with the help of Thy Grace, he may stoutly and strongly withstand these Adversaries of the Truth"—In Downing-street and elsewhere.

So that we have here a clear case of divided allegiance; and the functions of the new Bishop are very clearly and treasonably laid down for him beforehand. But then we have to consider the oath Dr. Vaughan took last Sunday. The form of it lies before us; and when we bear in mind some of Lord Russell's speeches, and some of the Pope's doings, the bearing of this oath does a little alarm us.

To be sure, when Lord John Russell speaks about Anglican education, he declares, that "the more important half of it," is religion. But when he speaks about the Synod of Thurles, he protests that education is a purely temporal matter, with which the Catholic Bishops have no right to meddle. On the exquisite sincerity of one or other of these two declarations, we need say nothing; but when we reflect that, on the one hand, the Prime Minister, amidst the cheers of the House, declares education to be beyond the competence of Bishops, and that, on the other hand, the Pope is in the habit of sending over Rescripts, on the subject of education, we shudder at the oath, illegal in form, and treasonable in substance, to which Dr. Vaughan, in common with every other Bishop, has recklessly committed himself. Here are the very words:—

"The rules or laws of the Holy Fathers, the Apostolic Decrees, Ordinations, or Dispositions, Reservations, Provisions and Mandates, I will observe with all my strength, and will make it be observed by others."

This is a perfectly horrid oath to any really right-minded person. A "Mandate" comes from a foreign potentate to Dr. Vaughan or Dr. Slattery, ordering them to break the statute law of this realm, by consecrating to a territorial title, and what do these Most Rev. Prelates thereupon? Why, not only do they break the law in obedience to this command, issued to them by a mere Alien, but they themselves swear, and they make others swear, that they will always break the statute, and be guilty of a great variety of misdemeanours, whenever this mere alien orders them so to do.

Then, think of it, what sort of Decrees and Mandates is the Pope in the habit of issuing? Why, amongst others, Decrees and Mandates against Acts of Parliament and Godless Colleges. What does Dr. Vaughan swear—that has every Bishop sworn—in reference to these matters. "I will, with all my strength, observe the Decrees and Mandates, and Rescripts which condemn the Godless Colleges, and I will make others observe them."

The only comical part of the ceremony of Sunday, if any part of so grave a matter should be called comical, and if we may use the phrase without offence, is the ejaculation of the venerable Archbishop, just before administering the oath. It is true, the ejaculation is merely the response duly set down for his Grace in the Rubric, but it sounds oddly under the circumstances.

The scene ran thus:—Four Bishops actual and the Bishop elect, are sitting with their faces to the altar, and to the Archbishop, when the Senior-Assistant, in the name of the Church, requires the Archbishop to consecrate the Bishop Elect.

What reply does the Archbishop make to this reasonable request? He replies by a misdemeanour. He says—"Have you the Apostolic Mandate?" In a court of law any prudent witness would have declined to answer such a question, on the principle that he was not bound to criminate himself. But the senior Bishop waives all such difficulties, and boldly