

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

—PLOT AGAINST THE LIFE OF THE PRESIDENT.
—On the 24th of September an infernal machine was seized at Marseilles. It is composed of four large barrels, and two hundred and fifty ordinary barrels. The barrels contained 1,500 balls. The authors of the plot have been arrested, and all the ramifications of the plot are known. The affair is in the hands of justice.—*Moniteur*.

The *Moniteur* gives the following additional particulars:—

"For some time past the Minister of General Police was on the trace of a secret society, of which the object became every day more manifest. It had resolved to make an attempt on the life of the Prince President. The city of Marseilles was chosen for the execution of the plot. M. Silvain Blot, Inspector General of the Ministry of Police, followed with care the development and march of the affair. The construction of an infernal machine having been resolved upon, several of the conspirators set about the affair, and the machine was very speedily finished. It was composed of 250 musket barrels and four blunderbusses of a large bore, the whole divided into 28 groups, which, for greater security, were deposited in as many different places, until a suitable spot should have been found to put them together, ready for use. The conspirators then occupied themselves with choosing a place which naturally was to be in the line of the passage of the Prince President. They first fixed on a first floor in the house in the Rue d'Aix, where the machine was to be fitted up in the night preceding the arrival of the Prince at Marseilles. Some suspicions which arose in the minds of the conspirators made them, however, relinquish their first choice.

"A second place was chosen. Like the first it was on the passage of the Prince in the great road from Aix. The whole of a small house was taken, composed of a ground floor and a first floor, divided into two rooms with three windows in the front. The infernal machine was to have been placed on the first floor, and it was there that it was seized. At the moment when it was seized, and when the arrests took place, one of the conspirators was in the house; the others were taken either at their own houses or in different places where the police knew where to lay their hands upon them."

The Minister of Police has ordered the transportation to Cayenne of eleven liberated convicts who had broken their ban.

THE PRESIDENT'S TOUR IN THE SOUTH.—Louis Napoleon continues his triumphant progress through the South, from Lyons to Valence, from Valence to Avignon, from Avignon to Marseilles and Toulon. His reception has been everywhere most cordial and enthusiastic. Everywhere addresses are presented to him demanding the immediate restoration of the empire as the only guarantee of peace and order.

THE EMPIRE.—The correspondent of the *Times* writes as follows:—"The expectation of the approaching proclamation of the empire has now become general; indeed, ever since the *coup d'état* that event has been regarded as certain, and only as a question of time. The first official act towards that consummation will, it is believed in well-informed political circles, take place within about three weeks from the present date. It is expected that on the arrival of the President at Tours, where he is expected on the 15th of next month, a decree will be published in the *Moniteur* for the extraordinary convocation of the Senate, with the object of examining the addresses emanating from the departmental councils, and of either framing a report thereon, or passing a *senatus-consulte* inviting the President to assume the imperial dignity. The reasons on which that important resolution will be founded will not differ much from those alleged on similar occasions, the necessity for stability being among the principal. That any serious opposition will arise amongst the pensioned dignitaries who have to decide on so momentous a question no one supposes. A new plebiscite will be promulgated, and the nation appealed to, in perhaps a similar manner to that of the 2nd of December, to execute the determination of the Senate. The return of the President from his recent journey to Strasburg was, as you may remember, accompanied with a more than regal ceremonial. His return from his present tour will, we are assured, be of a still more imposing character. Though not crowned Emperor, and though not yet officially proclaimed as such, yet nothing will be wanting that could be displayed had the imperial crown been actually placed on his brows before the high altar of Notre Dame, and the pomp and ceremony that await his second entry into the capital will, probably surpass anything that has been witnessed for many years in Paris. Such, at least are the projects said to be in contemplation at this moment by the ruling powers."

It appears that Paris is to be called upon to give its sanction to the establishment of the empire. An announcement is made by some of the government papers of this morning that the Prefect of the Seine and the Minister of the Interior are making preparations to give Louis Napoleon, on his return to the capital, a reception worthy of the enthusiasm exhibited by the departments. It is also said that the Senate is preparing a demonstration for the return of the President. The plan proposed is that all the senators now in Paris and its neighborhood should go in a body to Tours to meet the President, and should accompany him to Paris; and most of them have already expressed their willingness to do so.—*Chronicle*.

The Archbishop of Tuam, the Bishop of Down and Connor, and the Bishop of Clonfert, arrived in Paris on Friday evening. The object of their visit

is connected with the Irish College in Paris. The French government, it appears, exercises only a protectorate over the funds of this establishment, and the Irish Bishops regulate the discipline and the *personnel* of the college. (We take this paragraph from the *Globe*. There is no truth in the statement that the Archbishop of Dublin is about visiting Paris.)—*Tablet*.

The *Droit Commun* cites the following incident, during the stay of the President at Bourges:—"The parish priest of Hourichemont, the senior member of the clergy of Bourges, now in his hundredth year; but who has preserved the use of nearly all his faculties, had caused himself to be carried to the Archbishopric, where seated in an arm-chair, he attracted the notice of the Prince, who addressed him with much kindness. The venerable clergyman said to him:—'Monseigneur, Three of my parishioners are at Lambessa, in Algeria. Three families claim them with tears and supplications. Although deluded, they are my children, for it was I who initiated them to the religion of Jesus Christ by holy baptism. They are my children, for I presided at the most important rites of their life, and I now come to implore their pardon from your Highness, too happy if, at the close of my existence, I can render that service to men whose protector and father I still consider myself, notwithstanding their fault.' He then handed a petition to the Prince, who accepted it, saying—'Monsieur le Curé, you may be certain that your demand shall be taken into serious consideration, and that orders shall be given in consequence.' Several other families of political offenders also implored and obtained their pardon. Amongst them is a lady, a mother of a family, well known for her excellent sentiments, at whose request the President granted her husband leave to return to his home.

Monseigneur Jean-Antoine-Doumer, Bishop of Indianapolis, has arrived in Paris from the United States.

CONVERSION OF BOU MAZA.—It is expected that the public profession of the Catholic Faith will very shortly be made by Bou Maza, the distinguished Arab chief and friend of Abd-el-Kader. Bou Maza has been for some time engaged in a course of religious instruction.

SPAIN.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 18th ult. published an article on the death of the Duke of Wellington, in which it is said that Spain should participate in the sorrow of England; and that in the duke the English army has lost its greatest glory, and the Spanish army a distinguished general.

Some very disagreeable proceedings have taken place at Gibraltar, where British rights have been most outrageously infringed upon by Spanish guardacostas, who in two instances have seized and carried off British vessels from Quarantine at the time.—These doings, it must be observed, are within the port of Gibraltar, one of the two, moreover, being the natural consequences of Senor Bravo Murillo's late decree, by which the whole value of the property taken from smugglers becomes the prize of the capturer, and under this additional stimulus the Spanish preventive service have gone to lengths which amount to downright piracy. The vessels taken were carried over to Algeiras, plundered of all their effects, and the sailors on board them unmercifully beaten into the bargain. Sir R. Gardiner, of course, demanded the restoration, and due compensation from General Lavina, the Spanish authority at the Campo de Gibraltar. The Spanish general considered the affair as one that ought to be decided by a Spanish tribunal, which Sir R. Gardiner, however, would by no means admit, and having sent an account of the proceedings to Madrid, the matter was immediately taken up in the most active manner by our charge d'affaires (Mr. Otway), who is now in communication with the Spanish government on the subject.—*Times*.

A MAN-WOLF.—The *Clamor Publico* of Madrid has the following from Corunna, dated the 5th:—"There has just been denounced to the tribunal of this city a man-wolf, who, upon his own confession, has been in the habit of going into the forest and killing and eating men, women, and children. He was captured in Castille. He has declared to the examining magistrate that he had two accomplices belonging to Valencia, and that they carried on a traffic with Portugal for the fat of their victims. This horrible monster added, that he had killed and eaten his mother and his sister.

ITALY.

The *Moniteur* publishes the following from Rome:—"The Holy Father has convoked the members of the Consulta of State for the 20th of October next, thus accomplishing the last promises of the *motu proprio* of the 15th of September, 1849. Conformably with the decree of institution the members of the Consulta have been chosen out of a triple list, supplied by the Provincial Councils, who themselves derived their origin from the municipalities. The Consulta is composed of the most honorable names, and its members will be able to give wise and enlightened advice relative to the affairs of the country. The Holy See has, moreover, published the estimates of the present year, the receipts of which amount to nearly 60,000,000*fr.*, and the expenditure to 69,300,000*fr.* Including the reserve fund of 50,000*fr.*, the deficit will be 10,000,000*fr.*, or one-sixth of the revenue. The receipts divided by the number of inhabitants give 19*fr.* 65*cs.* per head. The capitation in France is far higher. The Roman population it will be seen are among the least taxed in Europe. The direct contribution, which is the most burthensome, represents only one-fourth of the revenue. The indirect taxes are improving. As for the expenditures, they are circumscribed within the most equitable limits. Thus the civil list of the Holy father, the keeping up of his palaces and of the museums, the pay of his Noble Guards, and of the Swiss Guards, the costs of the

Pontifical court, the salaries of the members of the Sacred College, of the Nuncios and Roman corps diplomatique, do not exceed annually the sum of 3,300,000*fr.* The public debt amounts to about 21,000,000*fr.*—that is nearly one-third of the expenses. The army costs 10,000,000*fr.*, and 2,300,000*fr.* are appropriated to public works. The budget of public instruction is only 50,000*fr.* The latter, it is true, is nearly everywhere gratuitous, and the costs attending it are defrayed by old foundations. The only chapter of the budget which may seem excessive is that of pensions; it amounts to 5,000,000*fr.* On the whole it appears from this sketch of the financial situation of the Roman dominions that there is a chance of the receipts and expenditure being in future balanced, notwithstanding the disorder and embarrassments with which it had to contend during the revolutionary crisis. The system of publicity and examination adopted by the Pontifical government will, no doubt, contribute to produce that fortunate result."

The *Journal of the Two Sicilies* states that a great number of individuals sentenced to death, to the galleys, and imprisonment for political and common offences, had either been pardoned, or had their penalties commuted by the King of Naples.

GERMANY.

PRUSSIA.—The Bishops of the Ecclesiastical provinces of Cologne have presented to the King of Prussia a collective address, in which they protest against the anti-Catholic measures of late months, and specify the following points:—

1. The obligation to submit the Ecclesiastical budgets to the Minister of Public Worship for the subsidies of the government.
2. The prohibition to have missions among the mixed populations.
3. The prohibition of frequenting the Germanic College in Rome.
4. The prohibition of Foreign Jesuits sojourning in the kingdom.
5. The prohibition of giving places to Priests who have studied in Jesuit places of education.

The Bishops of the eastern part of Prussia are about to take the same step.

There is talk also of a meeting of all the professors of the theological faculty at Bonn, to protest against a circular of the Ecclesiastical Council of Berlin, by which it was attempted to stimulate the zeal of the Protestant Clergy, and invoke the aid of the government against the Catholic missions and the Jesuits.—*Univers*.

IONIAN ISLES.

MUTINY IN THE 30TH AND 41ST REGIMENTS, AND MILITARY EXECUTION.—CORFU, SEPT. 16.—The 30th Regiment, stationed at Cephalonia, and the 41st, stationed at Zante, have been infected by the gold fever, and a sort of plot has been formed among the men to strike their officers with the express purpose of being transported for a term of years, and thus obtaining their discharge from the service, and a free passage to Australia. No less than eight of these cases occurred in one month, and the men were brought here to be tried by a garrison court-martial. All the men were found guilty, and, of course, according to military law, condemned to death. Seven, however, were let off with transportation, but the general in command, General Conyers, thinking that an example must be made in order to check a crime which would be encouraged rather than checked if all were transported, ordered the sentence of death to be executed in one case. It was passed on Friday, and on Monday morning the prisoner was shot in the fort of Vido. A company from each regiment attended. The man marched on to the ground, following his coffin, and the Chaplain reading the burial service. Twelve men were told off from the 49th Regiment, and they had to select a musket each from a stack of twelve, ten of which only were loaded with ball, so that no man could be certain if he were the executioner. The sentence of the court-martial was read over to the man. He then knelt down only eight paces in front of his twelve comrades, and threw open his jacket; the words "ready, present, fire," were given, and he fell dead, with one ball through his head and others in his chest. Much interest had been exerted for him, as, although only a private, his father is a captain in the army.—*Daily News*.

AUSTRALIA.

THE GOLD REGIONS.—The following very remarkable statement is taken from the City, or Commercial Article of the *Times*, a source that will not readily be suspected of exaggeration:—

"The statement with regard to the production of gold at the Mount Alexander mines in the colony of Victoria, is sufficient to account for the non-arrival of vessels from that quarter. When it appears that the amounts brought in to be sent by escort to Melbourne for the weeks ending respectively the 11th, 18th, and 25th of June were 80,000, 91,000 and 105,000 ounces, making an average of 92,000 ounces per week, or about £370,000 sterling, it may be supposed that the attraction must be such as almost to preclude the possibility of crews being retained by any precautions, however stringent. A striking fact in connection with the present information is, that the yield appears to have increased with enormous rapidity week by week, so that it is impossible to conjecture, unless some sudden and unlooked for check should be experienced, what will be the limit of the supply when the number of adventurers shall be swollen, as it will be in the course of a short time, by the emigrants daily arriving not only from Europe, but also from the adjoining colonies, and even from Canada and the United States. Indeed the totals now given appear so astounding, showing as they do, from the Mount Alexander mines alone, a rate of production little short of £20,000,000 per annum, that they suggest

the possibility of some mistake in the figures; and as they rest upon an extract from a single letter, they may, perhaps be accepted with some reserve. All the collateral information at hand, however, tends to confirm the probability of their correctness. The communications from Sydney mention the increase of excitement which had been caused there by the last arrivals from Victoria, and the fresh impulse which had been given to the general population of New South Wales to desert their own mines, in order to share the more extraordinary wealth of their neighbors. It will also be seen, by a reference to the accounts received in London from Victoria on the 31st of August last, that the gold entrusted to the escort for the week ending the 28th of May was larger than had ever before been known, the total being nearly 38,000 ounces, and the supposition is consequently strengthened that with the advance of the rainy season and the augmentation in the supply of water, the gatherings would increase in an unprecedented ratio. Under these circumstances, the next advices will be looked for with the greatest interest; and if they should establish the circumstances now mentioned, they will produce amongst merchants and shipowners a stronger impression than anything that has yet been communicated."

INFANTICIDE IN ENGLAND.

(From the London Morning Chronicle.)

In our recent remarks on the frequency of infanticide, we have thought it superfluous to enlarge on the heinousness of the crime itself, which may well be left to every one's natural human sense of its enormity. But there is one consequence of the dangerous impunity at present accorded to child murder which has not been taken notice of, except by one of our cities, by whom both the fact itself and its practical significance have been alike distorted and misapplied. We have been reminded that our own catalogue proves that the commission of infanticide is not confined to single women, and thence it is inferred that extreme poverty—the only source of temptation common both to married and to unmarried mothers—is, after all, the most usual motive for the crime. But it is not difficult to detect another cause for its prevalence. Infanticide may become a social habit; and what is commenced before wedlock may be continued afterwards. When a wife sees that her unmarried neighbors can destroy their children with impunity, she is apt to imitate a practice which receives a virtual license from the law; and until infanticide is stopped in the case of illegitimate children, we may expect it to increase in the families of married couples. If, then, we are asked to account for the commission of child murder by married women, we unhesitatingly attribute it to the comparative safety with which the crime is perpetrated by the unmarried.

Some explicit avowal, therefore, is needed on the part of the law, that infanticide must and shall be checked. An example must be made—and an example of a serious and intelligible character. It is said that, in one of the recent Dorsetshire cases, common cause was made by the girls of the country. They attended the trial in large numbers; and we are informed that, on the acquittal of the prisoner, a general expression of delight was perceptible in court, and that they left the assize town boasting "that they might now do what they liked." We are, then, it seems, with all our boasted civilisation, relapsing into a barbarous state of society. Infanticide has crossed the line, and has passed from un-married life. Even the sanctity of the matrimonial relation is no effectual check to a crime which is alike easy of commission and difficult of detection; and unless we are prepared to see child murder gradually creep on from class to class in society, we must make up our minds to strong and uncompromising assertion of law and justice.

For there can be no question that the crime will advance. Infanticide in married life, among the wives of farm laborers, is one step—infanticide in artisan and tradesman class will be the next. For, after all, poverty and the difficulty of providing for a family are only relative to the respective wants and habits of different classes. A child is an incubance to a poor unmarried woman, and so, instead of working to support it, she murders it,—and, as experience shows, with safety. The class above takes the hint; for the fact is, every child is, in some sense, an incubance to its parents—it costs money, and adds to the struggle of life. When, therefore, Fanny the lace girl murders her infant, and is *omnium plausum* acquitted, the poor hedger's wife in the next cottage ponders over the fact; and—the maternal instinct being just as strong, or as weak, in the wedded as in the unwedded mother—it is not the mere fact of her being a wife that will prevent her from following her neighbor's example. This is the terrible rationale of the increase of the crime. If Fanny, the lace girl, had been hung, the hedger's child would have a chance of living. And where is the evil to stop? Who will say that a large family is not relatively as great a burden to the poor shopkeeper or to the poor clerk, as to the seamstress or the day laborer? In other words, from what class of society can we exclude the moral possibility of infanticide, so long as jurics affect to consider it no sin, or a very venial one, in an unmarried female? Of the indirect, yet most fatal, effects produced upon public morals by the impunity at present accorded to infanticide, we do not wish to speak further. We will only hint at its connection with a kindred crime, of the increase of which we happen to possess the most horrifying proofs—we mean the multiplication of attempts, too often successful ones, to procure abortion. And these, we fear, are by no means restricted to unmarried women.

These are most painful subjects to write upon; but