

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS—The Deputies seem determined to make the most of the time left them to speak their minds freely, and to prove to the world that eight or nine years of enforced silence have not so thoroughly unmaned them as was supposed. Like Tan O'Shanter's "sulky, sullen dream," they have spent the time in "nursing their wrath to keep it warm." They were summoned by the Emperor to give their judgment on passing events frankly and fearlessly, and fearlessly, and many have responded to the call. The Catholic Deputy, M. Keller, has in the energy of his criticisms on the Imperial policy in Italy been equal to any of his party, if, indeed, he has not gone beyond them all; and the specimens which follow will show the temper of the Legislative Corps. As might be expected, he condemned the policy followed towards the Pope. "No," cried M. Keller, in Wednesday's debate,—

"If Pius IX. has committed a fault—and we shared it with him—it was in believing, against evidence itself, and against the assurances which were given to us, that the war would not be revolutionary, for it was the signal of revolution. He erred with us in believing that a Congress should see to the execution of the treaty of Zurich, for a certain pamphlet [*Le Pape et le Congrès*] and a certain well-known letter informed us that both the Congress and the treaty were but a chimæra. His fault was in believing that Piedmont would keep the frontier of the Marches, and that in any case France would not permit them to be invaded—for Piedmont invaded the Marches, and France did not oppose it. Yes, gentlemen, we ought from the very first to have listened to M. Pichon, whose fears have been realized. We should have listened to M. Jules Favre, all whose hopes have been fulfilled. [*Applause.*] We should have listened to Garibaldi himself, who is entitled to this admission from us, that he, at least, has never concealed his projects, and has never recoiled before the execution of the word he had once pledged. But we preferred believing what the Government said; and now that Pius IX. has been cheated and despised, now that the Catholics have been cheated and despoiled with him, they are reproached with not resigning themselves to the irreparable accidents which they should have avoided;—reproached with not rendering justice to the good intentions of the Government! Gentlemen, I say it with profound and sincere sorrow, what has the Government done to inspire the confidence the Catholics are accused of not having? Is it indeed in order to tranquillize them, or is it not, on the contrary, to prepare beforehand their complete abandonment, that our zealous officials, going beyond, I would fain believe, the wishes of the Government, have displayed against them such vigilance, such activity, such rigour, while at the same moment they were abandoning them to daily insults and to those anonymous pamphlets and articles written to order and published in privileged journals? Too whom was protection really given? To whom was liberty accorded when the attack employed a monopoly of impunity, when the defence was stifled by *avertissements*, by official suppressions, and by unofficial hints, the more menacing that they were secret? For whom, I ask, was liberty, while the *colat* of real events was given to certain incriminating publications, and while, on the other hand, the very printers were inspired with a terror more efficacious even than the sentence of the tribunals? And who were they who forced them, under threat of ruin, to modify or refuse all that displeased them? I said in commencing that it was with pain that I approached these facts; but it is evident that in France, as in Italy, there have been two weights and two measures; that *here* the right of discussion; that *there* the right of non-intervention, belonged to the enemies of the church. And we have too much reason to fear that the army which still remains at Rome is but the last illusion left to our anxiety—a proof of simple sympathy accorded to the person, and not to the authority, of the Sovereign Pontiff. And of what use are these bayonets which protect the Vatican if you have hundreds of pamphleteers sapping its foundations? Of what use is the physical force you display at Rome if you destroy the moral force of which it is well known that Rome is founded? Gentlemen, the Holy Father is at our mercy; we have but to make a sign. Well, then, I declare to you it would be more dignified to finish altogether with him than to allow a property to be torn from him a thousand times more precious than this garden which we are to keep up for him [*exclamations, and cries of 'Tres bien!*']—far better to finish with him than to encourage those who want to degrade before they overthrow him. [*From the same side of the Chamber cries of 'Tres bien, Tres bien.'*] It will be all in vain. Outrages and calumnies will make him still greater, and the weight of those outrages will recoil on those who labour to crush him. [*Loud cries of 'Tres bien! Interruption.'*]

Alluding to the subsidy proposed for the Pope M. Keller said:—

"What has passed? When the Governments proposed to the Sovereign Pontiff subsidies which his spiritual independence and our liberty of conscience permitted him with difficulty to accept, the Holy Father declared that he preferred gifts proceeding, as in other times, from the first fruits, from the generosity of the clergy and the faithful. Know, then, that at this moment there is not a poor parish priest throughout the country who out of his modest income does not present his first fruits to the Holy Father. [*Bravo.*] And as for the faithful laity—why, they have gone further back than the 15th century, they have done something still more barbarous,—they have actually re-established the Peter's Pence; and at this moment there is not a poor Christian family who out of their daily bread do not lay by something for their spiritual father, plundered and unfortunate. [*Cries of 'Bravo,' 'Tres bien!'*]"

This, you will admit, is plain speaking; but it is nothing to the following passage, where M. Keller described what he believed to be the real motive for the war in Italy. "Is it," he asked:—

"Before Piedmont that France has recoiled? Is there not behind that petty State a hidden force, a crafty and perfidious Power, whose instrument Piedmont has been, and by which France has been baffled in all her good intentions? Don't be alarmed, gentlemen, it is not of England that I am going to speak. [*A laugh.*] I agree with the President of the Council of State that England is a great nation, and that she perfectly well knows how to conduct her affairs; but I have yet to learn that she is charged with conducting ours. [*Bravo, bravo.*] The secret Power of which I speak exists, and I am sure that you have all guessed it. That Power exists, I repeat, and its programme may be seen whole and entire in the *Moniteur*, in a document once celebrated, but too soon forgotten; and I ask for your permission to place this passage before your eyes [*cries of 'Hear, hear!'*].—In order to maintain the present balance of Europe, Italy must be made independent, or the bonds in which Austria keeps her in servitude must be drawn tighter. Do I ask, with a view to her deliverance, that French blood shall be shed for the Italians? No. I do not go so far as that. Italy only asks that France shall not intervene against her. She asks that France shall not permit Germany to support Austria in the struggle which, perhaps, will soon begin.—Now, this is precisely what your Majesty can do if you wish. Let your Majesty bear in mind that, so long as Italy is not independent, the tranquillity of Europe and that of your Majesty are but a chimæra." Who, I ask of you [*continued M. Keller,*] is the party who speaks this perfidious and haughty language? Who is he who summons France, in the name of her own safety, to allow the work of 1848 to be completed in Italy? Gentlemen, that party is the Italian revolution, patronized by England, and incarnate in the person of Felix Orsini! When that attempt was made—the most execrable of attempts—you remember the energy with which the first celebrated pamphlet marked out to the indignation of the whole world those mysterious associations that had made murder a doctrine; that had sent round assassins with their travelling papers, and wanted, under the tolerance of British hospitality, the effects of their machinations—You remember the ardour of the French army, and of all the great bodies of the State, ready to rush on England and drag the criminals from her soil. Unable to reach them, they wanted at least to find their accomplices. You then went so far as to enact laws of public safety, on which I offer no opinion, but which should at least make you more indulgent towards similar measures in other countries."

The effect produced on the Chamber by the allusion to Orsini, and the reading of the letter which, on the very eve of his execution, he addressed to the Emperor, was intense. The Deputies were greatly moved, and some looked dismayed at the boldness with which M. Keller charged the French Government [for his allusion meant nothing more nor less] with declaring war on Austria merely to execute the will of Orsini. On the great speech of Prince Napoleon in the Senate M. Keller said:—

"It is time to disavow this unfortunate language, to which a Ministerial despatch has given a serious and deplorable importance; this language, proceeding from so high a source, which has found so many and such powerful echoes; this language, which recalls to our minds the very worst days of the past, and which responds to the logic of events as well as to the tumult of revolutionary passions which are fermenting throughout the world. Yes, gentlemen, it is time to disavow this language. You have called upon us to say out all we think; I have just told you all I think. This is the time not to desire war, but to secure peace. It is the moment to look the Revolution full in the face, and to tell it, 'Thou shalt go no further.' What I express to you are not the thoughts of an adversary; they are those of a man sincerely devoted to those things which he implores you not to put asunder, because on this union depend the peace and grandeur of nations,—the thoughts of a man devoted to his country, to the Government, and to his conscience."

The speaker resumed his seat amid enthusiastic applause and repeated cries of "Bravo;" and a number of deputies went over and warmly congratulated him.

I have quoted these passages of M. Keller's speech to show that oratory is not yet forgotten in France, and that there may yet be found men of all parties bold enough to speak their minds when the occasion presents itself. That a powerful effect was produced by M. Keller is evident from the complaints of M. Billault on the "increasing violence of the attacks" on the Government. This was denied, and M. Billault's assertion, that it was best proved by the applause M. Keller's speech met with "from the Right," was met with indignant denials. One deputy, the Viscount Anatole Lemercier, declared that the Minister's language was unpardonable, and asked that he should be called to order; while M. Emile Ollivier, a Democratic member, told the Minister that there was no such thing as Right or Left in the Chamber, and insisted that all the members of the House should be treated with the same respect.

On the whole, whether we regard the speech of M. Keller, the defence of M. Billault, or the remarks of M. Talieffor on universal suffrage, the debate of Wednesday is well worthy of attention. The Prefect of the Loiret has addressed the following circular to the functionaries under his orders, commanding them not in future to visit the Bishop of Orleans:—

"Sir—I have the honor of calling confidentially your attention to the nature of the relations of public functionaries with the chief of the diocese of this department. To every one who, in the observation of facts, is inspired with real devotedness to the Emperor, the attitude of the Bishop of Orleans appears with the clearest evidence as marked with political hostility, leaving no place for illusions which may arise from the complexity of the questions in which that prelate has thought right to intervene.—If religious discussions were simply in question, every one knows with what entire liberty of publicity they are surrounded, and with what independence of appreciation every one may regard them. But when, placing himself in the field of political passions, a bishop offers a rallying point to the enemies of the Government to which he owes his seat and all the prerogatives attached thereto, the sentiment of duty prevails with us over every other consideration, and dictates a new attitude. I know, Sir, that most functionaries have already thus understood their line of conduct in presence of the proceedings and the irritation of the bishop; but I know also that some persons, having had relations with the prelate, hesitate to separate from him. If this be the case, it belongs to us to remind them that the Emperor's Government counts on their exclusive

devotedness, and cannot in the present case admit such hesitations up to the moment at which the Bishop of Orleans, putting an end to his hostility, shall permit us to resume relations of which his acts alone have caused the rupture. I beg of you, Sir, as far as you are concerned, to see to the execution of the present despatch, and to acknowledge the receipt of it.

"LE PROVOST DE LAUNAY."
The *Journal des Debats* makes the following remarks on the above document:—

"What happy being the Parisians are! They live in a city where urbanity reigns above kings, as well as above simple prelates; where Caesar sometimes invites Catullus, and where Catullus, all friend of Pompey though he be, does not refuse to go and dine with Caesar. They have never heard this charitable and terrible advice whispered in their ears, 'You are a functionary. Do not appear so frequently at the house of M. X.—, who is the opponent of the Mayor, and consequently the private enemy of the Emperor.' They cannot suspect by how many ingenious efforts, during the last ten years, the functionaries of all ranks have had inculcated on them that friendship for the bishops which the Prefect of the Loiret commands them to break. We have frequently heard related by one of our colleagues on the press, formerly professor at Poitiers, that his University misfortunes commenced from the day when, in his modesty, he did not think himself capable of composing Latin verses brilliant enough in honor of that same prelate, M. Pie, who now is dead. But then the Bishops celebrated the virtues of the Prefects, and the Prefects, with their good friends, the inspectors of the Academy, ordered, in spite of Minerva, the praises of the bishops to be sung. Will State functions appear very enviable to private individuals if it will be necessary, in order to remain invested with them, to render an account even of their most innocent friendships? And will the credit of the holders of public authority be much increased when it shall be seen that, at a mere gesture, their affections mechanically turn from one side to another, with the same regularity that a file of infantry turns to the left after marching for some time to the right.—There is in our habits and in our social relations an admirable facility, obtained by three centuries of politeness, which our civil discords have not been able to destroy, and which will, we are assured, resist all prefectorial circulars. It is, however, enough to shock the good taste of the public to see that the first magistrature of a department should have endeavored to attack it."

We (*Weekly Register*) have received, from a quarter which ensures its entire authenticity, the following not unamusing narrative:—

"Immediately after the publication of the late Pastoral of Mgr. the Bishop of Poitiers, the Emperor, at the demand of the Minister of Public Worship, ordered that the Bishop should be brought before him.

"For the discharge of this delicate mission choice was made among the highest agents of the 'haute police' of the man who is esteemed at the most adroit, the best-looking, and the most refined. He left Paris over-night, arrived in the morning at Poitiers, and immediately presented himself at the Bishop's Palace. The stranger's striking appearance and manner obtained for him an immediate audience. 'Monsieur,' said the unknown visitor, 'I come to present to your Greatness my most respectful homage.' 'Sir,' replied the Bishop, 'I receive it with thanks.' 'How is your Greatness's health?' 'Quite well, Sir, I thank you.' 'Very bad weather for several hours past.' 'That is the drawback upon this season. May I ask what it is to which I am indebted for the honor of your visit?' 'Monsieur, I am charged to accompany you to Paris.' 'To Paris, Sir? but I have no intention of going there, and moreover, with many thanks for your obliging offer, I usually travel by myself.' 'But, Monsieur, I regret to see that your Greatness misunderstands me. I am sent by the Government.' 'That, Sir, is another affair. Say, then, that you have it in charge to conduct me to Paris.' 'Unhappily, Monsieur, so it is. Excuse me for discharging a duty so unpleasant.' 'And before whom am I called?' 'To the cabinet of the Minister, and before his Majesty the Emperor.' 'Well, Sir, I am quite ready to follow you. Will you permit me to make my slight preparations for the journey?' 'Oh, Monsieur, take whatever time you please.' 'I shall not need more than five minutes. The train is just starting, and we shall easily catch it.' 'Not at all, Sir, I always like better to do things in open day. In a few minutes I shall be at your service.' Accordingly, Monsieur withdrew, and in a few minutes a footman opened the door of the room and two choristers made their appearance, one bearing the large candlestick, the other the Pasceuil. After them walked Monsieur the Bishop of Poitiers, robed in his most splendid Pontificals, his train sweeping behind him, his mitre on his head, his cross in his hand.—'Sir, I am at your command, let us go down and set off.' 'But, Monsieur,' said the agent with some hesitation, 'Does your Greatness propose to travel in this equipage?' 'Unquestionably, Sir. You are come to bring the Bishop of Poitiers. I present myself in my official character as a Bishop.' 'But, Monsieur, for so long a journey there is no need of these robes.' 'How, Sir, no need? To present myself before the Emperor and His Imperial Majesty's Minister, I am bound to wear my official robe and my richest. Therefore, Sir, let us go down, or the train will start without us.' 'Oh! Monsieur, your Greatness will at least employ a carriage to pass through the city, thus attired.' 'Pardon me, Sir, it is always my habit to walk on foot in Poitiers, and my friends will be charmed to learn the honor which the Emperor has done me in causing me to be summoned by a man like yourself.' 'Monsieur, it is impossible.' 'Come, Sir, rejoined the Bishop, 'we are losing time, and I have many engagements.' 'At least, Monsieur, permit me to go and confer with the Prefect, and in half an hour I shall know what course to take.' 'As you please, Sir.'

The envoy of the Government, after a conference with the Prefect, communicated to Paris what had happened at Poitiers, and received by the same telegraphic despatch the following prompt reply:—'Leave the Bishop alone, and come back to Paris.' The Prefect of one of the departments in Brittany has issued a notice stating that engagements in the Pontifical army constitute an infraction of the law, and that the law shall be strictly applied in such cases.

The Emperor Napoleon is said to have complained that his previous Home Minister had filled the chamber with *Vendeans*.

The *Moniteur* confirms the statement that the French occupation of Syria would be prolonged some three months beyond the term originally covenanted between France and Porte. The Plenipotentiaries met again yesterday, and determined that the occupation should last till the 5th of June next. The protocol was signed by the French, Austrian, English, Prussian, Russian, and Turkish Plenipotentiaries, who will meet again on Tuesday to affix their signatures to a convention to that effect.

The *Presse* announces that General Trochu, who distinguished himself in the Crimea, where he was wounded, is about to take the command of the French troops in Rome. General Trochu at present commands a division of the Imperial Guard.

An example of the strange working of the French conscription law was given at the drawing of conscripts a few days since at Issoire, in the Puy de Dome. The confusion arose from the name Marie being common to both sexes in France. A girl named Marie was inscribed on the registry 20 years since as a male, and a summons was served on her to draw for the conscription. Her mother attended for her, and though she gave irrefutable proofs that the Marie summoned was a female, and not a male, the municipal officer declared that he was bound by

law, and that the mother must draw for the daughter. The mother placed her hand into the urn and fortunately drew a high number, which put an end to any further difficulty.

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, writing on the 20th, says:—"The preparations for war, which were suspended a short time ago, have been resumed with fresh vigour. Tents, ambulances, and baggage waggons are being manufactured in great quantities; and the government establishments for the manufacture of caps and rifle bullets are working night and day. The government are also buying up mules and horses in large number, both in France and Germany. All this tends to confirm the belief entertained in military quarters of a summer and autumn campaign."

ITALY.
After a well-sustained fire, which lasted four days, Civitella del Tronto has surrendered to General Mezzocapo.

In today's (20th March) sitting of the Chamber of Deputies Count Cavour announced that the whole Ministry had tendered its resignation, and stated that he had advised the King to form a Ministry according to the new elements of the kingdom. It was, he said, the intention of Government to deprive the Councilors of Lieutenantcy at Naples of their political character, and to reform the organization of the Council by placing it under the Central Government, which would be responsible for all its acts.

In consequence of the resignation of the Ministry the interpellation of Signor Massari, announced for to-day, was not discussed, and some other questions of which notice had been given were postponed.

The Chamber of Deputies stands adjourned until a new Ministry has been formed.

In the Senate the Minister Fantl presented a project of law granting a life annuity of 10,000*l.* to General Cialdini, as an acknowledgment of the services he had rendered to the country.

The *Opinion* believes that the Ministerial crisis will result in a modification, and not in an entire change, of the Ministry. Count Cavour will be entrusted with the formation of the new Ministry.

The *Civiltà Cattolica* gives the following account of atrocities committed by the Sardinian troops:—

We have already given an account of the inhuman wickedness which the towns and villages of the province of Ascoli have suffered from hands of the regular Italian troops. On the 31st of January Gen. Pinelli moved towards the mountainous places in which those called reactionists had sought shelter, and all along the bestial soldiery burned all the churches and oratories, after having first sacked and robbed them without any regard to the sacred treasures. The poor mountaineers, although badly armed, fought with that desperate obstinacy which arises from knowing that it has nothing to expect from a cruel enemy. In less than three days fourteen villages were entirely destroyed and burnt by the hand of the conquerors, who first spent their fury on the churches. From the village of Giustiniano to Carapecci we have particular accounts of the rapine and sacrilege committed by them, in which they joined to the ribaldry of the assassin the mockery of selling by public auction the sacred vessels, the priestly ornaments and the treasures of the Alta at the lowest price. These expeditions are praised by liberal journals as 'acts of vigour,' and thus the *Constitutionnel* and the *Debats* commend them, with their Italian confederates the *Opinion* and the *Nazione*. The last registers with sentiments of complacency the 'lead of booty in animals and stuff taken from the brigands,' and the shooting of prisoners, and the glory of the artillery, "which was worked effectually" against the rebels.

Rome.—The *Times* correspondent writes:—"The Romans continue to declare the departure of the French imminent, and to fix the day it is to commence, which recedes as time wears on. Quite lately it was asserted positively that by the 18th March they would be in motion, but it is now postponed until after Easter. These poor people are very eager and sanguine, and have had their hopes raised high by Prince Napoleon's speech. In a Consistory held on the 13th March, the Pope, in reply to those who have asserted that the Papacy is incompatible with civilization, said that, on the contrary, the present Papacy had always contributed to the diffusion of real civilization. The Pope declared that he was only opposed to that pretended modern civilization which persecutes the Church, imprisons her cardinals, bishops, and priests, suppresses religious orders, despoils the Church, and tramples justice under foot. He deplored that the Concordat had been violated in the kingdom of Naples. The Pope declared that he would spontaneously have granted concessions, and would have accepted those which have been advised by the Catholic Sovereigns, but that he could not receive the counsels and unjust demands of a usurping Government. In conclusion, the Holy Father deplored the subversion of all authority, and promised forgiveness to all who had been misled. He confided, he said, the cause of the Church to God, the avenger of justice and right."

People high in office here think that the French will not quit Rome; that they will do their utmost to compound between Cavour and the Holy Father, but that the firmness of the latter will defeat all their schemes and tricks, and fasten the Emperor on the horn of the dread dilemma, either of disappointing his allies, or seeing the Pope abandon Rome, and so cut off all reason and plea for the French occupation of the city. What his Majesty will do, when fairly driven to choose between these alternatives it is hard to foresee; the very prospect of this catastrophe is the cause of all the ugly facts which M. de la Guéronnière, M. Pietri, and all the school, are pulling at the Holy Father. But it is all to no purpose; for the Pope appears now to be immovable, his *non popurimus*, that old terror of all light-conscience gentlemen, is final.

The following statements from that most able Catholic paper, the *Turin Armonia*, will give you an idea of the freedom which the press enjoys under the Cavour administration. For publishing a letter of the Marquis Larochjaquelin, which had appeared in all the Paris papers, regarding the Italian question, the editor of the *Armonia* was condemned on the 6th March to two years' imprisonment and three thousand francs' fine. On the same day, the same sentence was pronounced on another paper, the *Piemonte*, for an article on the King's speech at the opening of the Chambers. This is the third punishment of the kind inflicted on the *Piemonte* within four months. A third newspaper, the *Campanille*, has been fined four times within that period, with terms of imprisonment amounting to nearly three years in all. The *Armonia* good humouredly says that it reckons ten thousand francs every year in its budget for fines and expenses of prosecutions, and that that sum is always under the mark. So much for Piedmontese liberty.

The Papal Lottery has met with far greater success than was anticipated; the number of tickets disposed of up to this time is six hundred and seven thousand, and they hope to carry it to a million.—The Roman Journal has announced officially that the Peter-pence have brought into the Treasury two million and a half of dollars; about five hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling. The financial difficulty is perhaps the most pressing of the Holy Father's troubles; and no one seems to wish to look forward to July, when the half-yearly dividend on the Roman Government Stock will again fall due, which may amount to half a million sterling.

The Zouaves in the service of the Pope, and the few Irish with them, are at present stationed at Anagni, no very great distance from the Neapolitan frontier; the French, however, are between them and the Sardinians barring the way, for the present, to the latter.

An immense concourse of faithful subjects of the Pope attended on Friday last at St. Peter's to show their respect to the Holy Father, who visits St. Peter's on every Friday in Lent. A sonnet to the Roman people was posted up, animating them to

fidelity to the Holy See, and styling Victor Emmanuel "the Robber-King." [*Re Ladronne.—Roman Cor. of Dublin Telegraph.*]

AUSTRIA.

The *Oesterreichische Zeitung* says:—"The Emperor has, in the Conference of Hungarian magnates convened here, declared that he will respect the rights of the Hungarian nation to the fullest extent, but that he will never tolerate any infringement of the rights of the Crown."

"The Diet will assemble first at Buda, and afterwards at Pesth. The coronation of the Emperor as King of Hungary will take place in the garrison church of Buda."

The news from Bosnia is of an alarming character. The whole Herzegovina is in a state of revolution, being supported by the Montenegrins. The fighting has become general. Several Turkish villages on the frontier have been reduced to ashes.

In consequence of the loss of the fortress of Ferrara, one part of Venetia is exposed to invasion, and the Austrian engineers prove that they are aware of the fact by beginning to fortify Padua. A glance at any map of Italy will show that the road from Bologna to Padua is now almost open. There is a *tele-ferro-via* at Lugoscura, which is said to have been strengthened since the close of the war, but it would hardly prove a very serious impediment to an advancing army.

POLAND.

The following letter, containing some information on the movement in Poland, is dated St. Petersburg, the 4th inst.:—"No newspaper here has dared to refer to the events which have occurred in Warsaw. The visits of the foreign diplomatic agents to Prince Gortschakoff have become more frequent. The Commander-in-Chief of the Gendarmes and the head of the secret police have frequent interviews with the Emperor. The Ministers are likewise frequently summoned to attend the Czar. He has commanded that M. Karitzki, the secretary of the Government at Warsaw, shall come to St. Petersburg. Several Polish students here asked permission to return to their own country, but their request was refused. Orders have been given to the commander of the 1st corps *d'armee* to march into Poland. Our young officers are dreaming of a campaign, for it is generally expected that an insurrection will break out, like the one in 1830. The Government officials repeat that the present difficulties arise from the too great toleration granted to the Poles. They assert that toleration in Poland can only be maintained by ruling with a rod of iron. Such is likewise the opinion of the Councillor of State, Dolgorouki. In fact, it is difficult to believe that the Government will restore the self-government of Poland. The object of Russia is to advance into Germany, and with that view the Government has constructed a quadrilateral of fortresses between the Vistula, the Narwé, the Bug, and the Weprz. The fortresses are Modlin, four leagues from Warsaw. Liteskoi, Zaneuse and Demblin, without counting the citadel of Alexander, at Warsaw. It is one of the strongest military positions in the world, after that of Venetia, and the Emperor of Russia will not abandon it, for he menaces thence the Austrian and Prussian provinces. This position, moreover, cost Russia too much money, so that the Emperor has no serious intention of replacing Poland in the position she held previous to the insurrection of 1830."

On the 16th March, Prince Gortschakoff issued the following proclamation to the inhabitants of Warsaw:—

"To put an end to the attempts of those evil-minded persons who try to get up demonstrations in the streets, no matter of what nature they may be, it is again made known by these presents that all manifestations are illegal and dangerous to public tranquillity, and that consequently all assemblies in the squares or streets with a view to manifestations or processions whatsoever which are not ordered by the ecclesiastical authorities are strictly forbidden. Inhabitants of Warsaw, listen to my warnings, and do not compel me to employ painful means to put down disorder by armed force. The police authorities are charged at the same time to communicate this present warning to all householders, so that they may inform their inmates of the same, in order that no one can pretend to be ignorant of it."

AUSTRALIA.

The time being at hand when the Australian rush is likely to recommence, we deem it our duty to state what we have heard from a gentleman just returned from that colony. Our inquiry was on the part of two young gentlemen, who are well qualified for an agricultural life, and both able and willing to rough it anywhere, if they can only see a reasonable hope of succeeding in the end. They have no capital to purchase land already cleared and fenced; but would start as pioneers to hew out a road to independence for themselves.

Notwithstanding those moderate views and determined self-denial which they imply, the advice of our friend is, that they should abandon the speculation. All the land which is accessible by roads, rivers, or bridle-tracks, is pre-occupied by stock-raisers and squatters. New-comers must go far into the wilderness, and remain there, cut off from all practicable intercourse with civilization. Should they succeed in bringing their allotments into cultivation (a thing scarcely possible to isolated individual labour), they could not convey their produce to a market, nor, without the utmost labour, repair to the nearest villages or stations either for purposes of social and religious intercourse, or for such supplies of household requisites and clothing as are continually indispensable for the support of all but utterly savage life.

Sure to find matters thus, our young adventurers, finding their modest means quickly exhausted, and to be thrown upon the labor market for bread; and if they have been led by the flourishing rates of wages and rations, which are periodically exhibited by the Colonial press, to look to that as a hopeful resource to fall back upon, they would find themselves miserably disappointed. Thousands of able-bodied men are now in a state of absolute destitution in Australia; many and many a young man, well educated and tenderly reared, went out in full confidence of realizing wealth and independence, would most gladly exchange his present friendless position, at the other side of the globe, for that of the menial servants of his father's house. But they are unhappy *descripti glebe*, nailed to the soil for want of means to return; and the demoralisation which, worse even than starvation and despair, is ravaging that class of emigrants beyond all others, has been described by our informant as most fearful and harrowing to think of.

Why then, it will be asked, do we read of those high wages of forty, sixty, eighty pounds a-year, with rations, for shepherds, carpenters and ploughmen? Thereby hangs a tale of villany, for which, if true as reported to us, the local government should be held in no slight degree responsible. For such statements, if they were false, ought to be officially exposed and contradicted, instead of being circulated through the press of the United Kingdom without a word of caution or remonstrance.

Our friend alleges that the squatters of the interior, for the most part a reckless and unprincipled class of men, send out those false statements in order to bring numbers of fresh hands to the colony, out of whom they may have as many able-bodied men as they choose to select for a bare subsistence; and seeing that it is the interest of the colony to extend its cultivated territory at any expense, however great, of human suffering, the local authorities lend themselves readily to the deception. It is so that our adventurous laboring population are enticed by large promises and "kidnapped."

If our informant were not a respectable person, who has no interest whatever in misrepresenting the case, we would not put forward this statement. But believing every word that he has stated to us, we