

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

**THE FRENCH DYNASTY—STRANGE RUMOR.**—The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* says:—"A report is in general circulation here, which, however extraordinary it may appear at the first blush, will probably turn out to be correct. Every one knows that the Count de Morny is the uterine brother of the Emperor. It is now said, and, I may add, is believed in the best informed quarters, that the Emperor has resolved to declare the Count de Morny the legitimate son of King Louis of Holland and of Queen Hortense, and, consequently, his own brother. It is added that his Majesty will at the same time raise the Count to the rank of Imperial Highness, and declare him heir to the Empire.

France has given another indication that she is again preparing for a naval campaign. In all the ports of North Germany and of the Baltic the French Consuls, or others acting under their directions, are endeavoring to engage on liberal terms for employment in France or on board of French ships of war all ship carpenters and others connected with ship-building operations. In this species of enlistment, however, they have not been very successful. The demand for shipping at their own homes secures for them higher wages than usual, which keeps back those who have families, while younger men are restrained by their own Governments, who are not at any time inclined to part with artificers of this description, and who at present particularly avail themselves of their power to withhold their permission from those who have not yet fulfilled the requisite amount of military service, and are therefore not at liberty to leave their country without such authority and sanction.

**MARCH OF A FRENCH ARMY INTO AUSTRIA.**—The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says:—"I have repeatedly mentioned the fact of an expedition of a French army to the Austrian territory. It is now stated that such an army (its number is variously estimated) will forthwith proceed to the succor of that Power against the Russians. Some fix the amount at 100,000, some at 160,000, and the Imperial Guard, with the exception of one regiment. The 5th of February is the date fixed for the commencement.

**THE FRENCH IN THE CRIMEA.**—Marseilles, Jan. 28.—From the number of soldiers embarked here for the East during the last three months, it is calculated that the French force before Sebastopol must amount to 100,000 men.

**CONVERSION.**—The Count de Stolberg (grandson of the celebrated historian of that name, who was converted to the Catholic faith in 1808) has followed the example of his grandfather, and returned to the bosom of the Catholic Church a few days since, at Kaltern, Tyrol.—*Univers*, Jan. 23.

The *Univers* of the 30th ult., states that Mr. Robert Belaney, formerly member of the University of Cambridge and Anglican minister, entered about four months since l'Ecole des Carmes, to study theology and prepare for the priesthood.

ITALY.

The expedition from Piedmont will leave for the Crimea towards the end of February. General La Marmora, Minister of War, will command it in chief, the Mazzinian party are addressing revolutionary proclamations to the army.

These proclamations has unfortunately produced no effects whatever. On the contrary, they appear to have stimulated the soldiers to join the expedition, as the applications are most numerous; and even a considerable number of young men of the other States of Italy have arrived in Piedmont and have demanded to be allowed to proceed to the Crimea as volunteers.

A correspondent of the *Morning Post* a "Citizen of Turin" gives some important information respecting the actual condition of the Church in Piedmont, whose property the State is about to confiscate on the pretence that it is so great. The writer says:—"According to the account lately presented by the Sardinian Government to the Parliament, the whole yearly land-revenue of the religious orders in the State amounts only to £38,080. Can you think that this is two-thirds of the whole land-revenue of the Sardinian kingdom, as it was said in your leading article of the 18th inst.? This kingdom although comparatively small, is neither the principality of Monaco, nor the republic of San Marino.

"On the 11th ult., M. Dupine, Deputy of Savoy, observed to the Lower Chamber, that the extent of the landed property, belonging to the religious orders on the continent, is about 11,311 hectares; and that the whole of the continental territory of the State amounted to 5,121,311 hectares; consequently, only the 400th part of the whole territory is in the hands of the religious orders. About the same proportion may be safely affirmed to hold good in the Isle of Sardinia.

"Besides the landed revenue, they have from other sources a yearly revenue of about £33,230, and thus all together, £91,310; which, divided amongst more than 8,300 persons (about the number of all the religions, male and female), make an average of £10 13s. each per annum. Hence they are not over rich.

"If you would also like to know the yearly revenue that the secular Clergy draws from landed property and every other source, according to the statement presented by the government, it amounted to about £320,000. Add to this sum the before-said £91,310, and you have all the yearly revenue of the secular clergy and the religious orders in £411,310, which does not exceed the 70th part of only the yearly produce of the whole real property in the kingdom; and thus it cannot be said to interfere with the welfare of the State.

"In the same article, we are told that the religious orders in Piedmont enjoy many privileges incompatible with the national interest. But I challenge any one to produce any other privileges besides that of exemption from military services; which, however, has been considerably reduced, and which was granted even by the pagans to the ministers of their religion.

"You said also, that M. Rattazzi is right in the motives he adduced in behalf of his bill, for the suppression of convents and colleges of canons, because, he declares, that he does not interfere with their religious bonds. Well suppose that the English Government should propose a bill for a confiscation of the property of the clergy, under the plea that they do not interfere with their spiritual power or ecclesiastical offices, but only with their temporalities, which are an appendage of the State, would you approve such reasoning? I am sure you would not. Now this is exactly the case in Piedmont. If the bill pass, Rattazzi, supported by soldiery armed with the bayonet, will go and say to the religious families and colleges of canons—"I do not interfere with your vows and your psalmody; these are left under the jurisdiction of the Church; but away from your houses, your churches, and all your property; these are temporal things, over which the State has absolute dominion."

"I think that every sensible man must admit with me, that such conduct as this, whatever may the sophistry alleged in its defence, deserves only the name of an unjust spoliation."

**ROME.**—Count Robert di Pralormo, Representative of Piedmont to the Holy See, left Rome several weeks ago. It is said to be only a simple leave of absence, but the well-known opinion of this minister leads us to believe that this leave will end in his absolute dismissal, if the Piedmontese government is not stopped in the course it is pursuing. What Christian could, in fact, represent such a policy at the court of Rome, and make himself the organ and accomplice of such flagrant violations of the rights of the Church? What man of honor could appear to lend his hands to the spoliation which the Sardinian government proposes to its parliament? The Pope, in his Allocution of the 9th of December, spoke of the serious measures which were preparing in the counsels of the Holy See against the authors and accomplices of this sacrilegious usurpation. In the next Consistory these measures will probably be made public. When matters have come to this pass, our readers will not be surprised to hear that the Count di Pralormo is about to withdraw from a course of policy which is even more anti-Catholic than revolutionary.

The Roman Correspondent of the *Univers* writes that the Holy Father has appointed Cardinal Roberto Protector of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and at the works of charity connected therewith—an appointment which cannot fail to be very acceptable to the Society.

The Irish Bishops we hear, have asked and obtained, that St. Patrick might be honored as a Double by the whole Church; an honor granted without difficulty to any Saint, who holds the great title of an Apostle. Another Saint decorated with the same title and closely connected with England, St. Boniface, an Englishman, the Apostle of Germany has had a similar petition made for him by the Bishops of Mayence and the other Bishop of Germany and other places; with what success has not yet transpired.

SPAIN.

The situation of religion in Spain becomes every day more critical. The anti-Catholic papers abound with calumnies, and miserable repetitions of the infidel pamphlets which disgraced France in its worst days, but they bear an appearance of novelty in Spain. The spoliation of the Clergy is a most tempting proposal for the avarice of those in power; it offers to the treasury, now exhausted by corruption, a delusive resource which the unscrupulous partisans of Espartero will not be able to abstain from. It is announced that the project of confiscation is quite ready, and the official gazette will publish an outline of the project. But, to the honor of Spain be it said, the courageous zeal of the Catholic journalists is redoubled at the approach of danger; the Bishops have already remonstrated, and have prepared protestations as firm as they are moderate in tone, and the Holy See is about to display that calm resolution and invincible constancy which the Duke of Victory has reason to remember.—*L'Ami de la Religion*.

SWEDEN AND DENEMARK.

It was generally reported here some days ago that Sweden had cast in her lot with the Western Powers. This may have had its origin in the circumstance that the Swedish Government having resolved to assemble their whole army in military array towards the end of March. Persons who have the best means of information believe that Sweden does not contemplate any such movement, but that this step is taken merely for the purpose of evincing their continued adherence to the armed neutrality treaty entered into with Denmark last year; and it is not at all improbable, when the new Danish Ministry are permitted to attend either to matters of detail or to affairs of external policy, that a similar demonstration will be made throughout the various provinces of this kingdom. Neither country is inclined to go to war either for or against Russia, and they certainly will best consult the interests of their people by maintaining the position they occupied last year.

RUSSIA.

**THE RUSSIAN ARMY OF THE BALTIC.**—According to letters from Revel, of the 15th ult., it appears that the future army of the Baltic, the assembling of which was decreed on the 10th ult., by the Emperor, is to be much more considerable than was supposed when the ukase was issued. General Siewers, commander of the first corps of army of infantry, having

also under his orders, that of the Baltic, and whose headquarters are established at Mittau, will also have under his command an army of at least 100,000 men, destined to operate, in case of need, in the provinces of Lithuania, Courland, and along the coast of Finland, between Libau and Revel.

**THE NEXT BALTIC CAMPAIGN.**—It is well known that the Czar is making extraordinary exertions to render more efficient his Baltic fleet, by supplying the most recent improvements in gunnery, weight of metal, &c. Russian naval men say, that should the allies again appear in the Baltic they will risk a naval action. This information is supplied from reliable sources.—*Post Correspondent*.

AUSTRALIA.

Trade is very dull. Land jobbing has received a check. In spite of the attractions of the goldfields, wool has increased, 22,598,688lb., having been exported against 21,965,104lb. last year. Gold is said to have been found in Van Diemen's Land. The estimates of revenue and expenditure have been laid on the table of the Council—they have taken the public breath away. They exhibit the following totals:—

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Expenditure ... ..       | £4,801,292 |
| Estimated revenue ... .. | 3,015,683  |
| Deficiency ... ..        | £1,785,609 |

And this for a country having 283,000 people at the highest estimate!

*Clerical Converts to the Catholic Faith since the publication of last year's Battersby's Directory.*

- Rev. George James Hill, Rector of Salford, near Bath.
- Rev. T. N. Morton, late Curate of Devizes.
- Rev. W. H. Scott, Brasenose College, Oxford, son of Sir John Scott, of Barr, Staffordshire.
- Rev. Mr. Hamilton, M.A. of Balliol College, Oxford, late Curate of Christ Church, Kent Road, London.
- Rev. T. A. Pope, Rector of St. Matthias, Stoke Newington.
- Rev. John George MacLeod, M.A., late Curate of St. Matthias, Stoke Newington.
- Rev. Wm. Ferguson, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, since deceased.—R.I.P.
- Rev. Wm. Hayes Neligan, of County Court (1853).
- Rev. F. A. Baker, of Baltimore, now with the Redemptorists at Baltimore.
- Very Rev. Robert Wilberforce, late Vicar of Burton, near Bridlington, Yorkshire, and Aichleauon of the East Riding, second son of the celebrated W. Wilberforce, Esq. He is known to the public as being the author of "The Five Empires" and the "History of Erastianism," as also of a treatise on the "Incarnation," as well as some recent publications, particularly his last work on the "Royal Supremacy."

Count John Leopold Ferdinand Casimer de la Feld, a Count of the Holy Roman or Ancient Germanic Empire, son-in-law of the Earl of Limerick; formerly Rector of Torrington, in Sussex, and Canon of St. Cuthbert's Stall, in the Royal Chapter of Middleham.

Rev. Miles Parsons Houghton, at St. Mary's Rugby.

LAY CONVERTS.

- Lord Ralph Kerr,
- Lord Walter Kerr,
- Lord John Kerr,
- Hon. Frederick Cavendish,
- Thomas Hughes, Esq., of Manchester.
- Paul R. Shordiche, Esq., of Ickenham Hall, Middlesex.
- Runard Adams, Esq., of Yealampton (in 1853).
- E. Paul Gossett, Esq., of Boston, United States.
- Henry Nunez Heyshaw, Esq., South Brook House, Southton.
- Wm. Adams, Esq., of Centry.

**ADULTERATION OF FOOD.**—Upon the authority of a report of a committee of the House of Commons, published some time since, when the consumption of tea did not reach anything like its present amount, we are justified in stating that, if tea annually sold in this country, an amount varying from four to six millions of pounds is nothing more than a mixture of sloe and ash leaves. The manufacture has not diminished with the lapse of time, and we believe that it is pursued at present with as much secrecy and success as ever. The process of transmutation is carried on upon a large scale, and executed with much scientific skill. The leaves are first boiled, and then baked upon an iron plate, and when properly dried they are rubbed with the hand to produce the curl which belongs to the genuine tea. When died black by a strong decoction of logwood, the transformation is complete.—But the substitution is often provided by a far easier method, namely, by collecting the tea leaves which have already done their morning and evening duty, and submitting them to the above process of drying and curling until they are once again ready for use.—The police magistrates have frequently had to notice and to punish frauds of this description, and a large class of persons exist who make their livelihood by going round to the different large hotels, coffee houses, and clubs of the metropolis, and buying the refuse tea leaves for a trifle, which they then prepare according to the prescribed manner, and sell to the dishonest tea dealers, a class with which London actually swarms, under various titles and denominations resonant of the genuine tea districts. The tradesmen buy this refuse for a few pence per pound, and mix it largely with the cheaper teas which they sell. The worst of it is, that no test can discover this adulteration, or detect the infamous cheat, excepting the want of flavor and strength; and as the poorer classes are generally the persons imposed upon, they cannot be expected to exercise much discrimination in the matter. The dishonesty of adulterating tea is not, however, confined to this country: It often undergoes a strange process of transmutation before it reaches the hands of the English dealer. The Chinese are not at all behind us in practices of dishonesty, and the genuine and fraudulent tea-trades flourish in China with almost equal vigor. The people of that country have long enjoyed an unenviable pre-eminence for their success in ingenious deceptions. Recent travellers have confirmed the well known testimony of Sir Francis Davis, in reference to the extensive exportation of adulterated teas by the natives. He speaks of a regular manufactory for the production of spurious green teas, which

with the most daring effrontery, has been erected exactly opposite the European factories at Canton, on the other side of the river. He naturally found some difficulty in procuring admission within its precincts, but his object was at length effected through the influence of a Hong Kong merchant, and the scene is thus described:—"In the first place, large quantities of black tea which had been damaged by the floods of the previous autumn, were seen drying in baskets placed over ho. pans of charcoal. The dried leaves were then transferred, in portions of a few pounds each, to a number of cast iron pans, which are placed over furnaces. They were next stirred rapidly round with the hand by a workman, who had previously added a small quantity of turmeric, which imparted a yellowish tinge to the mixture. In order to convert this into a green hue, the color so much desired, some lumps of Prussian blue and gypsum, were added in such proportions as reduced the dark blue to a light shade, of which a small teaspoonful was added to the yellowish leaves. These were then stirred before the fire until the tea had taken the 'fine bloom' color of hyson, with very much the same scent. The transformed leaves were then picked, sifted chopped small, and supplied to the merchants as excellent young hyson."—Bread, as an object of extensive adulteration, has long acquired an unhappy notoriety. The manufacture of the adulterating material forms in itself an article of trade of no inconsiderable amount, and it is retailed to the bakers under the slang title of stuff, or whites. It is manufactured with much chemical ingenuity, and is granulated to make it resemble salt, with which it is largely mixed, to escape detection by the proper authorities. There is, of course, a heavy penalty, against its sale and use, but it is difficult to penetrate to the recesses where it is employed, or to detect it under the ingenuities by which it is concealed. All praise to the custom-house regulations of England, this is the happy spot where the adulteration of wine has attained the acme of perfection. When port is required to be manufactured, two separate processes are deliberately and systematically gone through; first, the wine itself is made, and then the bottles are prepared into which the liquor is to be transferred. When the mixture itself is deficient in the fragrant peculiar to the grape, a bouquet is contributed by means of sweet scented herbs, by orris-root, elder flowers, or laurel water. A vinous odor is sometimes imparted by small quantities of the liquid known as "the oil of wine." The pleasant juice of the sloe imparts a port-like roughness to the compound, and saw-dust or oak bark effect the same purpose. A fruity taste is given by a tincture of raisins, and the rich ruby color has probably once flowed in the vessels of the sandalwood tree. But the bottles have to be crusted. This is done by tincture of catechu and sulphate of lime. The corks are steeped in a decoction of Brazil wood. And the very casks are prepared with a layer of cream of tartar, which is formed at the bottom in glittering crystals. Thus, a pipe of port which was young in the morning is made to fall into extreme old age in the course of the afternoon. These are no exaggerations, and the following has been given as the chemical analysis of a bottle of cheap port wine, though for obvious reasons we suppress the quantities: Spirits of wine, cider, sugar, alum, tartaric acid, and a decoction of logwood. In most instances, when the wine is not manufactured in this country, the consumer is victimized by a three-fold adulteration. The exporter adulterates, the importer adulterates, and, finally, the retail-dealer adulterates.—*News of the World*.

**PERTH.**—In our contemporary, the *Constitutional*, of the 24th Jan. we find that the Catholic pastor of Perth has in his last lecture given a home thrust to the Bible Society of the Fair City. The Biblical speech which the Solicitor General delivered, on resigning the presidency of the Society, and for which he was so well taken to ask by Mr. McCorry, was rewarded by a vote of thanks from the officials. In communicating to the secretary his acknowledgements for "the very gratifying resolution of the Perthshire Bible Society's committee," Mr. Craufurd, now Lord Ardmillan, *very innocently*, we must say, expresses his surprise, in a long letter, that his speech should have received such severe chastisement at the hands of the Catholic priest. This really is amusing. Protestant lawyers as well as Protestant parsons think that they should ever be allowed to say what they please against the ancient church, and none of her defenders should parry the assault! Let this be as it may, it is not very likely, after the check which he has received, that Mr. Craufurd will be in a hurry to deliver himself of another speech about the Protestant "circulation of the Word—the pure Word, the whole Word of God." We copy the following from the *Perthshire Constitutional*:—

"We understand that the letter which appeared in our last issue, from the Solicitor General (now Lord Ardmillan) having reference to the speech which he delivered at a meeting of the Bible Society, was reviewed by the Rev. J. S. McCorry during the course of his lecture on Sunday evening. The rev. gentleman said, that as Lord Ardmillan had stated, in very courteous terms, that he had 'neither leisure nor inclination to engage in controversy,' he hoped that the office-bearers of the Society would take upon themselves the responsibility of trying to prove that they were circulating the pure and the whole Word of God."

Now, this is a very respectful invitation; and if the Bible Society should fight shy of it, no doubt it will seem that there is a screw loose in their organisation!—*Glasgow Free Press*.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. McGee left New York for Ireland on the 7th inst, in the steamer Pacific.

**THE GRAND KNOW-NOTHING COUNCIL.**—This body, which held a meeting on Tuesday in the Methodist church, in North Russell street, Boston, continued its session until two o'clock yesterday morning, and, judging from the condition in which they left the church, and adjoining premises, they had a stormy time, and a shower of peanuts, plugs of tobacco, and filthy water fell. The interior of the church was left in an extremely filthy condition, as were also the entrance to residences immediately adjacent. We very much doubt whether a caucus chamber or a town-hall in the most rural districts ever presented so disgusting a sight as did the place where the nocturnal deliberations of this Grand Know-nothing Council was held. We understand that considerable dissatisfaction is expressed by persons connected with the Society, that the house of God should be desecrated in being turned into a caucus chamber or lodging house.—*Boston Chronicle*.