

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

THE DEVASTATIONS OF WAR.—The London Times Paris correspondent writes as follows:—"There is no fear that the French will soon forget the war of 1870. The places of St. Cloud and the Chateau de Meudon are likely for years to come to remain in ruins, and many private buildings are still riddled and dismantled. Considerable portions of the town of St. Cloud have not yet been restored, and in the villages around Paris, especially those to the west and southwest, it is not uncommon to meet with farm-houses and cottages which no attempt has been made to rebuild. I passed the other day in a picturesque and infrequented lane, a farm situated on the area of the last desperate attempt of the besieged to break through the impenetrable ring which condemned them to starvation or surrender. Of the house nothing was left but the four walls, and the garden was a perfect wilderness, upon which was an unpretending memorial marking it as Fosse No. 1, in which the killed of a certain French regiment were interred in January, 1871. Besides it was a separate grave, which from the ornaments suspended over it, seemed to be the resting place of the owner or occupier of the farm. These deserted and tottering dwellings, once the scene of happiness and industry, indicate the severity of the losses sustained by private individuals, without the means of repairing the ravages of war. While, however, these traces of devastation arrest the attention of the rambler, the Frenchmen display a natural anxiety for more permanent and imposing memorials of those who fell in defence of their native soil. A monument was formerly inaugurated in the Cemetery of Courneuve to the memory of those who fell in the attack on Bourget, on the east of Paris, on the Christmas Eve of 1870, and a group of figures was cast in a foundry at Montreuil, which is to be erected at Marais-Tour, in honor of those who perished in the battles before Metz on the 16th and 18th of August, 1870.

MARTEAU, the Communist editor who urged the shooting of the Archbishop of Paris, has died in New Caledonia.

FRANCE is just in the acme of her recovering prosperity. Her exports for the first four months of the present year show an increase of 149,000,000 francs over the corresponding period in 1871, although specie exports are 9,000,000 less.

CONSTITUTIONAL BILLS.—PARIS, June 18.—The Bureau of the Left have resolved to offer no amendment to the Constitutional Bills as they come from the Committee of Thirty, and to take all possible steps to hasten the date of the final dissolution of the Assembly. The Left will move to-morrow that the Public Powers Bill be placed on the orders of the day.

The Debats gives an outline of the Press Bill as framed by M. Dufaure's Consultative Commission. It does not pretend to be more than a temporary measure allowing of the raising of the State of Siege before the election of Senators and Deputies. Punishments will be imposed on attacks upon the principle of the established Government or the authority of the President and the Chambers. These provisions are borrowed from the Laws of 1830 and 1848. The discussion of the Constitution with the view of revising the Constitutional Laws will be prohibited as long as the President does not avail himself of the option of demanding such a revision. Serious discussion, however, will not be impeded, and may be carried on in periodicals works having more than ten sheets of print. These clauses will protect the Constitutional Laws against constant controversy. Prefects will no longer have the right of forbidding the sale of a newspaper in the streets, and the Minister of the Interior will only be able to do so for a period not exceeding a month, and that alone in the case of a newspaper condemned by a legal tribunal within the previous 12 months. The principals and accessories in unauthorized colportage will be subject to punishments. The penalties for false news will be mitigated where the parties have acted in good faith. After weighing the advantages of special and mixed juries and of magisterial jurisdiction, the Commission decided that Press offences should be referred to common juries, who have given energetic verdicts in several Departments since the adoption of the Constitution.—The Courts, however, will have summary jurisdiction on offences against foreign Sovereigns. The Government, subject to responsibility to the Chambers, will have power to suppress any paper exciting to Civil War or endangering the domestic or external peace of the State; but this and the other provisions of the Bill will expire three months after the meeting of the new Chambers. The aim, it will be seen, of the measure is to prevent the opponents of the Constitution from discussing its immediate revision under cover of the clause relative to its contingent revision at a future time. This part of the Bill will, of course, be opposed by the Right.—The essence of the measure is that it places the State of Siege in the hands of the Civil administration instead of as now in those of the Military authorities.—Times.

SPAIN.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS.—BOMBARDMENT OF BILBAO THREATENED.—LONDON, June 18.—Advices from Santander represent that the political situation at Madrid causes increasing uneasiness. There is a rumor, which is not confirmed, that the Carlists are about to bombard Bilbao.

MADRID, June 17.—Senor Sagasta and his principal supporters have declared homage to King Alfonso.

A special despatch to the Times says Don Carlos has given his son the title of Prince of Asturias. He has also convoked Biscay Juntas to meet on the 27th instant, in order to contrast the attitude of the Carlists with that of the Alfonsists, whose government he says is afraid to summon the Cortes.

NUMBER OF PROTESTANTS.—In refutation of a statement in the London Times that there are 80,000 Protestants in Spain, the Espana Catolica publishes the following:—"The only centres of Protestantism since the revolution of 1869 have been Seville, Barcelona, Cordova and Madrid. At Seville the apostate priests who acted as pastors have disappeared, some by reason of their repentance and conversion, others through shame, and have betaken themselves to other occupations. At Barcelona "nobody would be aware of the existence of Protestants if it were not for one unfortunate man" at Cordova the only apostate priest, who for some time kept a school supported by foreign aid, has been obliged by public contempt to take himself off; and at Madrid the apostate priests who attracted public attention in 1869, have all disappeared in like manner with the exception of one. The agents of the English and Swiss Bible societies have done a great deal of harm in the scandal caused by their employment of married priests, but as to really making Protestants they have done nothing of the kind. It is in Madrid of course that they were likely to obtain by far the greatest success. There are four Protestant chapels, two in the centre and two on the outskirts of the city. The Espana Catolica has taken the trouble to have the attendants at the two central chapels counted; it appears that if all who went there were Protestants (many went in at the end of the service, probably out of curiosity) there were two hundred Protestants, in all that district; adding again as many more for the provinces, we have eight hundred for the whole of Spain, and the Espana Catolica is perfectly correct, that the total of Spanish Protestants does not exceed 1000.

publishes the following list of prosecutions in Germany that occurred in the fourteen days between the 6th and 21st days of April, chiefly for offences against the ecclesiastical and the Press Laws, and those affecting public meetings:—

Bernburg, April 6.—Twelve Social Democrats were sentenced for having taken part in a mass meeting against police orders.

Dorsten, April 8.—The editor of the Westphalian Courtyard was tried for breaking the Press Laws; arrested. Also two Franciscans were fined fifteen marks each for offences against the May Ecclesiastical Laws.

Sigmaringen, April 9.—The Monastery of Bueron was searched by gendarmes for Dr. Mow, whose arrest is ordered for breaking the Press Laws. He was not, however, found.

Mosbach, April 8.—Two priests were sentenced to three and a half months' imprisonment, and a third to four months.

Bernburg, April 10.—A meeting of working men was dissolved.

Munich, April 11.—The Shoemakers' Union was forbidden to hold a dance which they had arranged.

Cleves, April 12.—Four managers of provincial branches of the Mayence Catholic Society were tried together with the officers of two Catholic Clubs, for offences against the laws for regulating such institutions. Acquitted.

Waldenburg, April 14.—Two priests were fined 150 marks. Two more were acquitted.

Posen, April 14.—A priest named Rozanski, from Cora, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for an objectionable sermon.

Dantzic, April 14.—Five Catholic citizens had their houses searched.

Tauberbischofsheim, April 14.—Vicar Sauer was delivered up at the Government prison to undergo his sentence of six weeks.

Bochum, April 14.—The editor of the Westphalian Volkszeitung, J. Blum, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment for certain remarks about Prince Bismarck. Herr Blum, however, is missing.

Sulmierzyc, April 15.—The priest of this town was fined 15 marks. He refused to pay them. A distraint was levied, and the bailiff had to be protected against the infuriated villagers by police and gendarmes. The bailiff was a Catholic, and has since resigned office.

Peplin, April 15.—Vicar Goreski was arrested, and for disobedience of the May laws confined in the prison fortress at Stargard.

Papenburg, April 15.—The editor of the Popenburger Ems-Zeitung was fined 30 marks for having published, without permission, the text of the charge made against him in the affair of the Encyclical.

Coblentz, April 15.—A priest was tried for some expressions used in a sermon, and acquitted. The Government prosecutor demanded 3 months' imprisonment.

Manheim, April 15.—Three priests were sentenced to 4 months' each.

Treves, April 16.—Pastor Clason was condemned to 130 marks fine for offences against the May Laws, and further, 156 marks, for "publicly insulting" 7 gendarmes.

Frankfort-on-the-Maine, April 17.—Editor of the Volksfreund received one month's imprisonment for an objectionable article.

Berlin, April 17.—The responsible editor of the Germania, Herr Thieme, was charged with insulting the Emperor and the Ministry, and exciting to disobedience. Herr Thieme was arrested and imprisoned, but the trial has not yet begun.

Meppen, April 17.—The editor of the Catholic Volks-Bote was acquitted after being tried for "resistance" in publishing the Pope's Easter Salutation.

Manheim, April 17.—The appeal of Dr. Kubel against a fine of 300 marks was overruled.

Reichenbach, April 17.—A priest named Blumel was condemned to fourteen days or 60 marks for breaking the May Laws.

Habelschwert, April 17.—The plates used for the pictures in Gebirgsboten were seized.

Buhl (Baden), April 17.—Vicar Freund was imprisoned here for four weeks.

Hildesheim, April 18.—Father Sievers was forbidden to reside in this district any longer.

Ueberlingen, April 18.—By a decision of the "Kreger Verein" any member being present at an Ultramontane meeting should be expelled.

Hanover, April 19.—An issue of Pastor Uelzen's paper, Kirchen Blat, was confiscated.

Mannheim, April 20.—Dr. Raible had been sentenced in Freiburg to a fine of 4000 marks, or ten months. He appealed to a higher Court, who today found 90 marks, or 12 days sufficient.

Frankfort-on-the-Maine, April 20.—A servant girl, 19 years old, was sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment for "insulting" the Emperor.

Breslau, April 20.—Dr. Hager, editor of the Silesian Volkszeitung, received the following punishments:—1. For publishing the Encyclical, one month; 2. For writing disrespectfully of a measure laid before the Chamber of Deputies, 14 days; 3. For an article concerning the position of Catholics in reference to new Church Laws, 14 days; for insulting Bismarck, one month. Also, Dr. Helke, of the same paper, for insulting Prince Bismarck, one month.

Frankfort-on-the-Maine, April 21.—The responsible editor of the Frankfurter Zeitung, Herr O. Hoerth, was examined on the charge of insulting the State officials in an article concerning the late raid of the police, who seized the business books of the paper at the publishing office.

Amberg, April 21.—A workman on the railway was tried for "insulting" the Emperor, and acquitted.

Nuremberg, April 21.—The Burgomaster, Beck, was fined and superceded in his office, for refusing to turn the pastor, who had been ordered by the Government to leave, out of the vicarage.

Dantzic, April 21.—Up to the present date more than forty families have received domiciliary visits of the police.

THE PRINCE-BISHOP OF BRESLAU.—It is very difficult to trace out any reliable account of the real facts connected with the journey of the Prince Bishop to Johannesburg. He was summoned to appear before the Court of Appeal at Breslau on 5th of May. He did not appear. An anonymous letter in the Schlesische Zeitung of 10th of May states that the Court telegraphed to Berlin, inquiring whether they should order his arrest. An order came from Berlin directing that the Bishop should be arrested very early on Friday, the 7th, and "removed" to a place of security. Some person, a member of the centre party, becoming aware of this order, communicated it to a Count B-m [Ballestrem?], at Breslau, on the morning of the Assension. The Schles. Volkszeitung gives an account of the escape. The Bishop, accompanied by Count Ballestrem and a servant, drove to the Railway station of Rottsurben, which is about ten miles out of Breslau. Here he took the train and proceeded to Munsterberg, a station about fifteen miles from the Austrian frontier. Here he was met by the equipage of Count Chamare, which conveyed him in safety by Patschku to his Castle of Johannesburg. So quietly and cleverly was the whole business managed that even the coachman was ignorant of the illustrious personage he was driving. The anonymous letter, above mentioned, concludes thus:—"In consequence of the warning of his intended arrest the Prince Bishop and Secret Delegate of the Province of Posen was placed in security, and will be able from Johannesburg to exercise both his important offices, untroubled by the Prussian police." Assuming this anonymous statement to be true, it is easy to account for the ex-communication of Klok promulgated at Klotz, of Kubeckzack the intruder at Xions, and of other proceedings. Two things suggest that the Government suspects at least that Dr. Forester is the "Secret Delegate." First, the summons to the Prince-Bishop to appear before

the tribunal at Birbaum, the chief town of the district in which Kaehne and Kwicz lie, in order to give information concerning the excommunication of Klok. The second is the announcement that at the request of the Gosen public prosecutor the priests in custody in that district, for refusing to give information concerning the Secret Delegate, have been set at liberty, the change in the situation with respect to the Delegate rendering their evidence no longer necessary. That the Government has been grievously disappointed by the escape of Dr. Forester is too plain to need proof. The Allgemeine Zeitung of Augsburg dwells with a malicious complacency on the announcement made at first by the Government paper the Schlesische Zeitung that the Bishop would not govern the Prussian portions of the Diocese from Johannesburg, and would let his clergy remain at peace with the Government. What a rude awakening to find that this peaceably inclined prelate had been all this time acting as the ecclesiastical administrator of Gnesen and Posen! Nay, if the anonymous letter is to be trusted, he is Delegate for the Province of Posen; so that he can administer all the many dioceses subject to that Metropolitan See, should the persecution deprive them of their regular pastors. People must have forgotten what Dr. Forester was thirty years ago, when they could have supposed he would play into Bismarck's hands, or stain the spotless Pallium which has been just conferred upon him by the Pope as a singular honour.

ALSACE AND LORRAINE.—STRASBOURG, June 18.—The Governor of Alsace and Lorraine to-day opened the session of the Provincial Committee. He declared that the beneficial influence of the Committee was increased more thoroughly now than the principle was adhered to that the interests of the province were indissolubly bound to those of the German Empire.

The Frozen Ship—A Legend of the Polar Seas.

One serene evening in the middle of August, 1775, Captain Warrens, the master of the Greenland whaler-ship, found himself becalmed among an immense number of icebergs, in about 77 degrees of north latitude. On one side, and within a mile of his vessel, these were of immense height and closely wedged together, and a succession of snow-covered peaks appeared behind each other as far as the eye could reach, showing that the ocean was completely blocked up in that quarter, and that it had probably been so for a long period of time. Captain Warrens did not feel altogether satisfied with his situation; there being no wind, he could not move one way or the other, and he therefore kept a strict watch, knowing that he would be safe as long as the icebergs kept in their respective places.

About midnight the wind rose to a gale, accompanied by a thick shower of snow, while a succession of tremendous thundering, grinding and crashing noises, gave fearful evidence that the ice was in motion. The vessel received violent shocks every moment; for the haziness of the atmosphere prevented those on board from discovering in what direction the open water lay, or if there actually was any at all on either side of them. The night was spent in tacking as often as any cause of danger happened to present itself, and in the morning the storm abated and Captain Warrens found, to his great joy, that the ship had not sustained any serious injury. He remarked with surprise that the accumulated icebergs, which had on the preceding evening formed an impenetrable barrier, had been separated and carried by the wind, and that in one place a canal or open sea wound its course among them as far as the eye could discern.

It was two miles beyond the entrance to this canal that a ship made its appearance about noon. The sun shone brightly at the time, and a gentle breeze blew from the north. At first some intervening icebergs prevented Captain Warrens from distinctly seeing anything but her masts; but he was struck with the strange manner in which her sails were disposed, and with the dismantled aspect of her yards and rigging. She continued to go before the wind for a few furlongs, and then grounding upon the low icebergs, remained motionless.

Captain Warrens's curiosity was so much excited that he immediately leaped into his boat with several seamen, and rowed towards her. On approaching he observed that her hull was miserably weather-beaten, and not a soul appeared on the deck, which was covered with snow to a considerable depth. He hailed her crew several times, but no answer was returned. Previous to stepping on board an open port-hole near the chains caught his eye, and, on looking into it, he perceived a man reclining back in a chair, with writing materials on a table before him; but the feebleness of the light made everything indistinct. The party went upon deck, and having removed the hatchway, which they found closed, they descended to the cabin.

They first came to the apartment which Captain Warrens viewed through the port-hole. A tremor seized him as he entered it. Its inmate retained his former position, and seemed to be insensible to strangers. He was found to be a corpse, and a green damp mould had covered his cheeks and forehead, and veiled his open eye-balls. He had a pen in his hand, and a log-book lay on the table before him, the last sentence in whose unfinished page ran thus:—"Nov. 14, 1762. We have now been enclosed in the ice seventeen days. The fire went out yesterday, and our master has been ever since trying to kindle it again without success. His wife died this morning. There is no relief."

Captain Warrens and his seamen hurried from the spot without uttering a word. On entering the principal cabin the first object that attracted their attention was the dead body of a female reclining on a bed, in an attitude of deep interest and attention. Her countenance retained the freshness of life, and a contraction of the limbs showed that her form was inanimate. Seated on the floor was the corpse of an apparently young man, holding a steel in one hand and a flint in the other, as if in the act of striking fire upon some tinder which lay beside him. In the forepart of the vessel several sailors were found lying dead in their berths; and the body of a boy was crouched at the bottom of the gangway stairs. Neither provision nor fuel could be discovered anywhere; but Capt. Warrens was prevented, from examining the vessel as minutely as he wished to have done. He therefore carried away the log-book already mentioned, and returned to his own ship, and steered to the southward immediately, deeply impressed with the awful example which he had just witnessed of the danger of navigating the Polar seas in high northern latitudes.

On returning to England he made various inquiries respecting vessels that had disappeared in an unknown way, and, by comparing the results of those with the information which was afforded by the written documents in his possession, he ascertained the name and history of the imprisoned ship and unfortunate master, and found that she had been frozen thirteen years previous to the time of his discovering her among the ice.

It is a remarkable provision of Nature that iron, which is the most abundant material yielded by the earth, is also the strongest of all known substances. Made into the best steel, a rod one fourth of an inch in diameter will sustain 9,000 pounds before breaking; made into soft steel, a rod of the same dimensions will sustain 7,000 pounds; into iron wire, 6,000; wrought-iron, 4,000; inferior bar-iron, 2,000; and cast-iron, 1,000 to 3,000. A bar of copper wire of the same size will sustain 3,000 pounds; of silver, 4,000; gold, 2,500; tin, 300; cast zinc, 160; cast lead, 50; and milled lead, 200. Of wood, a bar of box and locust of equal size will sustain 1,200 pounds; of oak, 1,000; of pine, 800; of spruce, 600; of fir, 500; of cedar, 400; of poplar, 300; of chestnut and maple, 650; and of hickory, 400. Wood which will bear a heavy weight a minute or two will break with two-thirds the force acting a long time. A rod of iron is about ten times as strong as hempcord. A rope an inch in diameter will bear about 2½ tons, but in practice it is not safe to subject it to a strain of more than about a ton. Decrease the rope in diameter one-half, and its strength will decrease three-fourths. Thus a rope half an inch in diameter will sustain on-fourth as much as a rope an inch in diameter.

NEWFOUNDLAND DOG AND SHARK.—A short time since an enormous shark which had been caught by a fisherman off the railway wharf, Geelong, West Australia, managed to escape. It returned, however, to its old quarters a few days after, and was recaptured. On being measured, its dimensions were found to be as follows:—12ft. in length; 6ft. in girth, and its weight was 11cwt. It was exhibited for some days, attracting numerous visitors, and on being opened a Newfoundland dog was found in its spacious stomach.

PIKE, TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN YEARS OLD.—In the year 1497, a pike was caught in standing water, at Heilbronn on the Neckar, which had a copper ring round its head bearing the following superscription in Greek:—"I am the first fish that was launched into this pond and was thrown in by Frederick II. Emperor of the Romans, on the 5th October, 1250." It appeared therefore that the fish was two hundred and sixty seven years old when thus caught and it weighed three hundred and fifty pounds. An exact representation of which exists to this day upon one of the gates of Heilbronn.

INTELLECTUAL CULTURE.—A cultivated mind may be said to have infinite stores of innocent gratification. Everything may be made interesting to it, by becoming a subject of thought or inquiry. Books, regarded merely as a gratification, are worth more than all the luxuries on earth. A taste for literature secures cheerful occupation for the unemployed and languid hours of life; and how many persons, in these hours, for want of innocent resources, are now impelled to coarse pleasures? How many young men can be found in this city, who, unaccustomed to find a companion in a book, and strangers to intellectual activity, are almost driven, in the long, dull evenings of winter, to haunts of intemperance and bad society.—The Pen and Plover.

A Welsh Calvinistic minister, well known in his day as "Sammy Brezee," was called upon to preach, amongst others, at one of those periodical gatherings popular amongst the Welsh, which are, as it were, feasts or sermons—two, three, or even four preachers succeeding each other in the pulpit—perhaps in Welsh or English alternately. The young man who immediately preceded Sammy had taken as his text, "He that believeth not shall be damned;" but "begged pardon" of his audience for the strong language he was using. Sammy got up after him and read the same text. "Brethren," said he in his honest Welsh-English, "Our young friend has been very fine to-night, and very polite. I am not very bold, and I am not polite; but I will preach a little bit of gospel to you, 'He that believeth not shall be damned,' and I begs no pardons."

THE EMPEROR AND THE PARROT.—Leo, son of the Emperor Basilus Macedo, was accused by Theodorus Sandalareus, of having a design upon the life of his father, and was thereupon cast into prison, from which he was freed through the instrumentality of a parrot. The Emperor, upon a certain occasion, entertained some of the greatest nobles of his court. They were all seated, when a parrot which was hung up in the hall (in a mournful tone) cried out, "Alas! alas! poor Prince Leo." It is very probable that he had frequently heard courtiers passing, bewailing the Prince's hard fortune in those terms. He frequently repeated these words, which at last so affected the courtiers that they could not eat. The Emperor observed it, and entreated them to make a hearty repast; when one of them when one of them with tears in his eyes, said, "How should we eat, sire, when we are thus reproached by this bird for want of duty to your family? The brute is mindful of its Lord, and we that have reason, have neglected to supplicate your Majesty in behalf of the prince, whom we all believe to be innocent, and to suffer under calamity." The Emperor moved by these words commanded a guard to fetch Leo out of prison, admitted him to his presence, and restored him first to his favour, and then to his former dignities.

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