

FRANCE. Sinister rumors have been going the round of political circles for several days or weeks past, about the intentions of France towards Belgium, and it is affirmed that defensive preparations are actively going on in Belgium and apprehension seems to be spreading there.

The prosecution against the persons who attempted the democratic rising at Chalons on the 6th March commenced yesterday. Fourteen of the prisoners are charged with acts of rebellion and belonging to secret societies, holding meetings by night, and carrying prohibited arms.

DEATH OF THE DUCHESS OF ORLEANS.—We regret to announce the death of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Orleans, who expired on Tuesday morning, shortly after five o'clock, at her residence at Richmond, to the inexpressible grief of her sons, the Count de Paris and the Duke of Chartres, and other members of the exiled royal family of France.

The following is from the Times Paris correspondent, dated 20th ult.:—"All hope of saving M. de Pene, the unfortunate person who was wounded in the late duel by the Sub-Lieutenant Hyene, is abandoned."

FEMALE CRIMINALS IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.—A French statistician of considerable eminence, M. Moreau de Jennes, has sent a thesis to the political and moral sections of the Academie des Sciences, having great interest for English people, and we regret to say, a melancholy one.

ITALY. Letters from Central Italy and some parts of Lombardy, state that various governments are making preparations against an apprehended "Mazzini" rising. Incendiary proclamations are circulated through the country, and it is said that Mazzini himself had appeared at several points to encourage his partisans.

TURKEY. The most alarming reports are current in well-informed circles in Paris of a general rising of the Christians all throughout European Turkey. The Greek troops are deserting en masse to form guerrilla troops within the Turkish territory.

FRANCE. M. Proudhon—the famous Proudhon of the "Propriete c'est Vol"—has sent a petition to the Senate, praying for the "suppression of the Catholic Church," on the grounds put forth in his late work.

A very shocking duel has been fought in the Bois de Vesnays, near St. Germain. M. Henry de Pene, a well-known literary man, who for some time wrote the feuilleton in the Nord of Brussels, which was signed "Nemo," and who has lately written in the Paris Figaro (the Legitimist Charivari) under the same signature, made some playful remarks in a recent article about the sub-lieutenants of the army, and said, among other things, that, owing to some new orders concerning their uniform, they would no longer tear ladies' dresses with their spurs.

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