

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE.

THE ADDRESS TO THE EMPEROR.—The following are the most salient points of the draught of the Address of the Corps Legislatif in reply to the Emperor's Speech:

We are happy to state that the relations of France with foreign Powers are a pacific character. We still entertain hopes of a reconciliation between Italy and the Papacy. This reconciliation is necessary for their interests, for the peace of Europe, and for the tranquillity of consciences. The September Convention, honestly carried out, will be a fresh guarantee of the Pope's temporal Sovereignty, the maintenance of which is indispensable to the independent exercise of the spiritual power. The country has received with satisfaction the assurance that our expedition to Mexico is drawing to a close.

The Address then alludes to the traditional sympathies existing between France and the United States, and says:—

The latter ought not to take umbrage at the presence of our troops in Mexico. To render their recall dependent upon any other than our own convenience would be to attack our rights and our honor, which your Majesty guards with a solicitude worthy of France and of the name of Napoleon.

The subsequent paragraphs of the Address refer to Algeria, to the law upon coalitions, to agriculture, and public instruction. The paragraph relating to the finances expresses satisfaction at the improvement which has taken place, and at the economy effected in the different departments of the public service.

The address concludes thus:—

The stability of our institutions, the bases of which repose upon the free and solemn right of voting, is by no means irreconcilable with the judicious progress of our liberties. This your Majesty has already proved. The experience of the past is a guarantee for the future.

The Patrie says:—

It is rumored that at a Cabinet Council recently held in Washington, Mr. Seward presented the draught of a despatch to the French Government, manifesting the most conciliatory intentions towards France, and intimating the readiness of the United States to proclaim their neutrality in Mexico, subject to certain conditions.

The *Constitutionnel* of Tuesday, publishes an article reflecting the sentiment with which, according to a recently published despatch of the Spanish Minister at Vienna, the Austrian Government had viewed the negotiations of Signor Vegezzi with the Holy See. The article also expresses indignation against the Spanish Ambassador for accusing France of endeavoring to profit by the speedy execution of the September Convention in order to obtain from the Pope humiliating concessions. It then proceeds to point out the dangerous and fanatical party who use this language have given the Pope no efficient assistance, but have only proffered rash counsels and perfidious insinuations; whereas France, even at the present time, is assisting the Papacy to find both men and money.

THE EMPEROR AND THE SENATE.—The deputation from the Senate appointed to present to the Emperor the address in reply to the speech from the throne had an audience of his Majesty on Sunday for that purpose.

Upon receiving the address the Emperor said:—This eloquent commentary upon my speech develops what I merely pointed out, and explains all that I wish to convey. You desire, as I do, stability, the rational and progressive development of our institutions, and the maintenance intact of the national honor and dignity. This accord is a force in the moral as well as in the physical world, and obeys general laws which cannot be violated without danger. It is not by daily disturbing the basis of an edifice that its completion (*couronnement*) is hastened. My Government is not stationary. It is advancing, and wishes to advance, but upon firm ground, capable of supporting power and liberty.

PARIS, Feb. 21.—The *Patrie* of this evening states that certain proposals, emanating from the Emperor Maximilian, render possible the return of 5,000 French troops from Mexico by the end of May next. When the Emperor Napoleon's speech, on opening his Chambers this year, was published in this country, it struck some persons as remarkable that in the passage relating to the Convention of September, 1864, the Emperor spoke of the 'Sovereignty of the Pope generally as a thing which it is indispensable to uphold and preserve, without specifying the temporal Sovereignty; and there were not wanting those who attributed to the absence of the adjective a designed evil purpose—a premeditated ambiguity by which the Emperor might hereafter extricate himself from a charge of perfidy towards the Holy See and the Catholic world, if he should allow the Italian revolutionists and infidels to seize upon Rome and expel the Pope. We did not read it in that light. We saw, and we said, that the Sovereignty of the Holy Father, which the Emperor declared it indispensable to maintain, could be only the temporal Sovereignty, for it did not depend upon him or upon the whole earth to maintain the spiritual power, which is not and has not been called a 'Sovereignty'—nor is it in the power of Victor Emmanuel, or the Italian revolutionists, or all the other adjuncts of the infernal powers, to destroy or to disturb, or weaken, the spiritual power of the Vicar of Jesus Christ. Arrogance is not one of the characteristics of the Emperor of the French, and it would have been arrogant beyond measure for him or any other mortal that ever ruled mortals to assume the privilege or the power of upholding the spiritual power of the Sovereign Pontiff. It, therefore, appeared to us quite clear that the Emperor's words applied to, and implied solely the temporal Sovereignty of the Holy Father; and any doubt upon this point that may have rested on the minds of others, must, we think, be removed by the terms used in the Address of the Corps Legislatif in reply to the Emperor's speech, in which the Deputies of the nation say that 'the September Convention, honestly carried out, will be a fresh guarantee of the Pope's temporal Sovereignty, the maintenance of which is indispensable to the independent exercise of the spiritual power.'—*Weekly Register*.

SPAIN.

It is semi-officially stated that the Cabinet will reply to General della Marmora's recent note on the Roman question, that Spain will respect the rights of Italy as much as those of the Pope, on behalf of which she will constantly act as becomes a Catholic Power.

Senor Bermudez Castro, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has forwarded to the Spanish minister at Florence a lengthy despatch, in reply to that of General della Marmora, on the Roman question. Senor Castro's despatch says, in conclusion:—

'Spain, faithful to her engagements, and strongly interested on behalf of Pontifical rights, is equally desirous of maintaining a good understanding with Italy.'

MADRID, Feb. 16.—The *Diario Espanol* says:—The questions that may be raised by the execution of the September Convention do not concern France and Italy alone. The Roman question affects Catholic interests, and the Catholic Powers cannot leave the settlement of this question to hazard or perfidy. They have the right, and it is their duty to seek to discover the causes of the political changes which may take place at Rome after the departure of the French, and even to oppose changes by every means in their power.

That there is in Spain a very large and influential party to whom the recognition by the Queen of the reign of spoliation and sacrilege in Italy is extremely disagreeable, is shown by the analysis of the division on the Address in the Senate, when 100

voted for, and 63 against the clause relating to Italy. In this small majority there were 4 Cabinet Ministers, 14 Councillors of State, 11 members of the Supreme Court, 1 of the Audience, 5 Officers of the Court, 6 military officers of high rank, and 1 Captain-General—in all, 42 officials. If these gentlemen had abstained from voting, and left the question to be decided by independent votes, the Government would have been left in a minority of 20 Bishops, who were absent, attended and voted as their feelings would have dictated. —*Weekly Register*.

ITALY.

PIEDMONT:—Florence, Feb. 21.—In to-day's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, Signor Minghetti made a speech in which he expressed his approval of the policy and financial proposals of the Ministry. He eulogized General Dalla Marmora's note to the Spanish Government, and ascribed to that Power a wish to change the nature of the September Convention. Alluding to the Roman question, Signor Minghetti said:—

'The Cabinet to which I belonged constantly refused to discuss the eventualities which might arise after the departure of the French troops from Rome. Italy has only honestly to fulfil the obligations imposed upon her by the September Convention.'

Respecting the future composition of the Pontifical army, Signor Minghetti said:—

'After the declaration recently made by the Imperial Government to the French Senate I think the Italian Cabinet should demand to be reassured against any intervention on the part of France in Rome. France should also be required to declare that the presence in the States of the Church of individual French subjects does not imply the presence of the French flag.'

A Florence letter in the *Moniteur* says:—

'The Minister of Public Worship has just caused to be distributed amongst the members of the Chamber the statistical documents in support of the bill for transferring ecclesiastical property to the State. According to the estimates furnished, the total of the revenue of the property in question amounts to 67,444,656 fr. That sum the Ministerial bill proposes to convert into an equal sum of Five per Cent. Rente, which would form, after deducting certain charges, the endowment of a special fund applicable to public worship. From its life annuities would be granted as follows:—To friars and nuns of non-mendicant orders, a sum of 600fr. for those of past 60; 480fr. for those between 40 and 60; and 360fr. for those less than 40. To friars and nuns of mendicant orders, 250 fr. without distinction of age. To lay sisters of the mendicant orders, 240 fr. indiscriminately; to those of the non-mendicant orders, 104 fr. for those beyond 60, and 96 fr. for those below that age. In virtue of the service of the above-named pensions, all establishments and houses are suppressed which belong to religious bodies and communities, whether regular or secular, and to asylums for retirement implying life in common, and offering an ecclesiastical character.' The same bill suppresses cathedral or collegiate chapters, abbeys, the emoluments of which are not connected with any charge of souls, and in general all those ecclesiastical institutions which in Italy bear so deep a stamp of feudal tradition. As to the bishoprics, the present number of which reaches the very high figure of 235, some of them having scarcely an annual revenue of 200fr., whilst others have more than 100,000fr., the bill retains 69, which are to receive an annual income varying from 12,000fr. to 24,000fr. But the number thus reduced would still be greater by 10 than that of the provinces; the Government having thought it fitting to respect certain sees, which, although not well suited for the present centres of administration, are not the less recommended, either for their historical origin or for the importance of the centres of population in which they are established. The persons holding bishoprics, abbeys, or canons to be suppressed are to receive a life annuity equal to the present produce of their see, benefice, or prebend. As to priests, the position of whom is very unequal in Italy, and in certain provinces most wretched, they are to obtain from the fund a minimum allowance per annum of 800fr.'

The Florence correspondent of the *Times*, writes: There has been a rumour current, which does not however, appear to be well-founded, that Signor Rattazzi is to go as Minister to London, vice d'Azeglio, for whose reported recent various causes are assigned. What appears pretty certain is that had the Ministerial crisis at the end of last year terminated, as at one moment was thought not unlikely, in the formation of a Rattazzi Cabinet, Marquis Pepoli would have been named Italian Minister on London. Considering that he was the chief negotiator of the September Convention—the only important piece of diplomatic business that has been done at Paris since the death of Cavour—the Paris Legation would probably have been assigned to him had not his connexion with the Imperial family been considered in some respects an obstacle. It is sometimes felt here that it would be advantageous to Italy to be represented at Paris by a diplomatist whose qualities gave him greater weight than can be derived from the smiles of a Court circle. Pending his reappointment to diplomatic or other functions, Pepoli has just been chosen Syndic of his native city of Bologna.

The public journals support the project of the *Gazzetta del Popolo*, of Turin, for the payment of this national debt by public subscription. The latter paper publishes daily a list of subscriptions received for that purpose.

Advices from Messina state that, at the second election of a deputy, which was necessary, since the first was without result, Mazzini obtained 311 and Bottari 169 votes.

Negotiations are going on daily between the Italian Legation and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs with reference to the transfer of the Roman debt. So far as France and Italy are concerned this portion of the Convention will be carried out in time. —*Post*.

A rather sharp diplomatic controversy is in progress between the Spanish and Florentine Governments respecting the reasons assigned by the former to the Spanish Cortes for the recognition of the Kingdom of Italy as a *fait accompli*. The Government of Queen Isabella has stated that besides the commercial objects it had in view, it was chiefly prompted to take that step by considerations connected with the maintenance of the Temporal of the Holy Father. While Spain refused to recognise the new order of things in Italy, she was prevented by her own act from interfering diplomatically on behalf of the temporal rights of the Holy See in the event of any aggressive movements against Rome by the revolutionary Government, after the withdrawal of the French troops, whereas now she has the right to do so should the occasion arise. To this *expose* of the motives of the Cabinet of Madrid, the Florentine Government have taken exception, maintaining that by the Franco-Piedmontese Convention, the Roman question is kept exclusively within the cognizance and control of the parties to that document—a position which Spain rejects, and which, if Spain rejects, and which, if we be not very much misinformed, the Imperial Government is by no means anxious to uphold. If the revolutionary Government of Florence will faithfully fulfil the obligations it has undertaken by signing the Convention of September 1864—that is, if it will not only keep its own foul hands off the remnant of the Pope's dominions, but prevent its allies and accomplices—the Mazzinians and Garibaldians, from filibustering across the frontier—then there will be no occasion for Dis-Alpine interference of any sort; but if the independence and peace of the Roman territory should be at one moment by the revolutionists, whether royal or plebeian, after the departure of the French troops, it would not surprise us in that event to see both Austria and Spain interfere as great Catholic Powers, with the

cordial concurrence of France for the defence of the Temporal Sovereignty of the Holy Father. —*Weekly Register*.

ROME.—THE POPE AND VICTOR EMANUEL.—We read in the *Moniteur* that the Holy Father has addressed a letter of condolence to King Victor Emmanuel on the death of his son Otto. His Holiness announces that he had performed a Mass for the repose of the soul of the deceased Prince.

Cardinal Antonelli has addressed a despatch to the Papal representatives abroad, wherein he communicates the views of the Roman Government upon the manner in which the political, military, and financial position of the Holy See will be effected by the execution of the September Convention.

THE PAPAL VOLUNTEERS.—On the 14th instant the Pope received in the Vatican 104 volunteers who had landed on the 3rd; 96 of them hailed from Holland and Belgium. They entered the ante-chambers with their rosaries in their hands, that they might get them blessed. The Pope addressed them in a short but impressive speech; he expressed his pleasure at witnessing such marks of devotion; he exhorted them to continue to be good and pious Christians, and to endure patiently the difficulties and hardships of military life. Then he gave a silver medal and a kind word to each, and dismissed them with his blessing. It is difficult for one who was not an eyewitness of this touching scene, to form a correct idea of the enthusiasm of these valiant volunteers. On quitting the Vatican they entered St. Peter's to pay their homage at the tomb of the Prince of Apostles. Then they went straight to confession and it was an affecting sight to behold this group of Zouaves kneeling round the confessional, and praying with fervour and self-possession. On the 10th instant the train from Civita-Vecchia brought about 150 fresh volunteers most of whom were from Belgium or Holland.

PAPAL ARMY OF THE FUTURE.—A correspondent writing from Paris to the *Catholica*, says, M. le Maréchal Randon has bestowed particular attention upon the recruiting service for the Pontifical army. The appeal has been made to the French regiments and to the foreign legion alike, but we are assured that very few of the latter will be accepted. 'I will offer none to the Pope,' said M. Randon, 'but sturdy, tried men, whose conduct has always been irreproachable, and who can, on every ground, honorably take their places in a Catholic army. As for the officers, it is not enough that they be Catholics in name, they must be hearty and practical ones. He will have no difficulty in selecting, for both privates and officers are volunteering in great numbers. The strength of the movement has created some little surprise in official quarters. It is not yet known who will command the French battalion, although the officer has been already chosen, for the ministry have stated that he will, to a certainty, be well received at Rome. Marshal Randon (though a Protestant) has always shown himself friendly to the rights of the Holy See. If his instructions are followed, as I believe they will be, the French battalion will do credit to the Pontifical banner.'

The Paris correspondent (Feb. 18) of the *Morning Herald* writing on the above subject says:—'The Papal army now forming under French auspices is to number 12,000 men, all told. The men are to be chiefly Frenchmen and Belgians—the officers are to be nearly all French; the commander is to be the late Colonel of the French 59th Foot; Count D'Argy is to be the commander in chief. The corps is to be organized and disciplined on the French system, and the French and Italian Governments are to guarantee their pay.'

THE PONTIFICAL ARMY.—Count D'Argy, who has been fixed upon, by the common consent of France and the Roman Government, to command the French Pontifical Legion, commanded the 53rd regiment of infantry of the line, then in garrison at Paris. Towards the end of 1865 he retired from the army, being entitled to do so on the score of age. He was present at the siege of Rome, in the Crimea, and in Italy; and in 1859 he was made a Commander of the Legion of Honor. He will shortly leave for Antibes, where the Pontifical Legion is forming. It will leave for Rome in April, after Easter. No sooner had the colonels of Infantry made the Minister of War's circular known to their officers than so many applications poured in, that in three days the required number was made up. —*Bien Public*.

Our readers will observe with pleasure that a certain discretion is exercised in the choice of French soldiers, whether officers or privates, for the Pontifical army. Only such volunteers will be accepted, according to M. le Maréchal Randon's statement as are considered fit for the work that they will have to do. This system of careful selection is doubtless an element of success, and although we are not aware that a similar course has been adopted in Holland, Belgium, and elsewhere, the military organization of continental nations affords some guarantee that every volunteer will know at least something of his duty. More pugnacity and self-devotion can never supply the place of training and discipline; and we sincerely hope that this important fact will be borne in mind by those on whom the task may devolve of organizing the next Irish Pontifical brigade.

DEPARTURE OF FRENCH TROOPS FROM ROME.—The second contingent of the French garrison will quit Rome shortly, and the final evacuation is fixed for September, 1866. —*French Paper*.

CONVOCACTION.—The Pontifical Government has been undecided whether to fix the Convocation at Rome for the month of June, 1866, or for the 20th of June, 1867, in order to celebrate the eighteen hundred anniversary of the death of St. Peter. In fact, historians are not agreed upon the exact date of that event, some placing it in the year 66, others the year 67, A.D. We learn from a Roman letter to the *Gazette Officielle de Venise* that the general Convocation of Bishops throughout the world will not be held till the year 1867. On that occasion the Holy Father will canonize several saints and martyrs.

THE POPE AND BARON MEYENDORFF.—According to intelligence sent from Rome to the *Correspondence Generale* it appears that diplomatic relations between the Holy See and the representative of Russia are at an end. The Baron is not to leave Rome, but is to remain as a private individual and as *charge d'affaires* as to matters that have nothing to do with politics and diplomacy. A courier extraordinary brought of Rome the despatches which contained this order of the Russian Government, and it was communicated to the Holy See by his Nuncio at Vienna.

DR. PUSEY.—A letter from Rome in *Le Bien Public* says:—'Several members of our English colony believe that Dr. Pusey, yielding to the advice of some of the French bishops, has determined to undertake a journey to Rome.'

AUSTRIA.

It is asserted in letters from Paris, that Austria and Italy are about to conclude an arrangement for the improvement of their mutual consular and commercial relations. Austria, without recognizing the Kingdom of Italy, will consent to extend the provisions of the Austro-Sardinian Treaty of Commerce of 1853 to all merchandise arriving in Austria from any part of the Italian Kingdom.

The *Wanderer* confirms the report that Prussia intends entering into negotiations with Austria in order to arrive at a definitive settlement of the question of the Duchies.

It is stated that the recruiting to fill up the Austrian corps in Mexico will commence next day.

The Emperor of Austria is said to be willing to furnish the Emperor Maximilian with any troops he may require, provided they be incorporated with the Mexican army, and that all the expenses be defrayed by Mexico.

The work of reconciliation between the Emperor of Austria and his Hungarian subjects, is going on

favourably. The Hungarians in both branches of the Diet seem to be influenced by a calm temper and a generous patriotic spirit; and the Emperor meets them in a kindred mood there is, we are greatly pleased to perceive, a fair prospect of a cordial reconciliation. The feud has been most unfortunate for both parties. It weakened Austria greatly, and inflicted immense injury upon Hungary. Both parties appear to have gathered wisdom from a bitter experience, and we trust that by such mutual forbearance and concessions as the occasion imperatively calls for, a permanent peace, may be established. The moderate Hungarians are ready to admit that foreign affairs, the civil list, the national debt, commerce, and the customs, are matters common to the whole empire; but insist that all other matters must be exclusively managed, so far as Hungary is concerned, by a Hungarian and Legislative Assembly. Perfect unity of taxation they hold to be out of the question; but Hungary must pay a certain quota towards the general expenses of the empire. The affairs common to all the countries composing the empire, to be managed by a Reichsrath composed of an equal number of deputies from the countries belonging to the Hungarian Crown, and from the hereditary provinces of the empire. This, we may observe, is pretty nearly the arrangement sanctioned by the Emperor himself when the Reichsrath, now in a state of suspended animation, was formed; for the members allotted to Hungary, Croatia, and Transylvania, constituted nearly a moiety of the whole House of Representatives. The maintenance of the old arrangement which put the command of the whole army into the hands of the Emperor, is recognised on all sides; but the Hungarians of all shades claim that the Hungarian recruits shall be voted by the Hungarian Legislative Assembly. There was no dissent from the declaration of Count Barta in the Lower Chamber of the Diet the other day, that 'the policy of isolation is fraught with danger. Surrounded as Hungary is by hostile elements, a close constitutional tie between Austria and herself is the safest guarantee for the maintenance of her (Hungary's) constitutional liberties and autonomy.' —*Weekly Register*.

POLAND.

In the *Times* Berlin correspondence we read:—'The Russian Government, finding it impossible to sell the tenth part of the thousands of estates taken, or to be taken, from Polish proprietors in the Lithuanian and Ruthenian provinces, have now begun portioning them out among deserving officials of the victorious nationality. The new proprietors are, however, to pay nominal price in instalments, distributed over a period of 20 years. The number of Polish proprietors in the said provinces is still estimated at about 25,000; but as the Russian Government are determined to expel all who will not adopt the Russian faith and tongue, their number daily decreases. It is by no means necessary to be implicated in the revolution for a man to receive notice to give up the inheritance of his ancestors at a price that would impoverish him were it paid down at once, but leaves him a beggar when meted out in instalments. The expropriation of a whole race now going on in those distant parts is an event which has not a parallel in European history since the migrations of tribes marking the early annals of this continent.'

RUSSIA.

The Lieutenant of the Emperor in Warsaw has promulgated, by order of his Sovereign, a series of provisional decrees respecting the kingdom of Poland, the principal objects of which are as follow:—The speedy and complete restoration of a normal state of things in Poland; the gradual suppression of the exceptional system and military government instituted in 1863; and the immediate re-establishment of the administrative authorities in the provinces of the kingdom, which will be divided into eight governments, according to the ancient circumscription of voivodships. The military chiefs will be maintained provisionally in their several districts, but they will be henceforth subordinate to the civil authorities.

The attitude taken up by Baron Meyendorff, the Russian Ambassador at Rome (says Reuter) has been fully approved of by his Emperor. His excellency is said to have had an interview with Cardinal Antonelli, at which he announced that the Czar, understanding his representative was no longer received with due civility at the Vatican, at once broke off all diplomatic relations with his Holiness and with drew his ambassador. Baron Meyendorff added that he should remain in Rome for a few days to arrange the affairs of the Legation, and then took his leave. Some surprise is felt that the Minister did not send the Russian Ambassador his passports upon this abrupt notification, but an idea is current that negotiation may yet be attempted. The Russian arms are still displayed at the Roudanoff Palace, although Baron Meyendorff has given notice of the withdrawal of the embassy to the other foreign representatives. Whether the affairs of the legation will be entrusted to the charge of a friendly Power, or a Russian Consul still remain, is not yet known.

The same authority informs us that an official despatch has been forwarded by Prince Gortschakoff to Cardinal Antonelli announcing to the Papal Government that Russia has no intention of disavowing Baron Meyendorff. Diplomatic relations are therefore completely broken off between Russia and the Holy See.

The *Journal de St. Peterbourg* publishes an article upon the Imperial decree ordering the partial suppression of military rule in Poland. The article says:—'It depends upon the Poles themselves to hasten to complete restoration of a normal state of affairs, and to destroy the last traces of a painful past.'

Shame or economy—the two things are all but identical in Russian administration, is compelling the Emperor to relax the exceptional system of Government carried out in Poland since 1863. The military governors are, it is stated, to be abolished, their places being supplied by officials drawn from the civilian class. Whether the change is considered merely in the light of an experiment or a permanent reform there are as yet no means of ascertaining. It is intended, at all events, to impress the Poles with a profound notion of the clemency and magnanimity of the Czar who, being strong, can condescend on his personal impulse, to be generous. No steps, meanwhile, have been taken towards restoring the citizens driven into exile by the events of the late insurrection, to their homes. The laws which exacted banishment as the minimum penalty remain in full force; and the severity of these 'ordinances' can be well judged from the number of outcasts by whom London, Paris, and the American cities are thronged at the present moment. There are substantial reasons for doubting that the effort to substitute a pure Russian for a pure Polish landocracy in the Western provinces, will prove on abortive and unprofitable scheme. Even on the condition which the St. Petersburg authorities consider essential to its thorough development one generation must pass away and others take its place before the desired change can become possible. Of course the Czar can afford to wait; and, admitting that he can, there is no exaggeration in saying that Poland will be able to imitate his patience.

The last rumored interference of Russia is to the effect that troops are to be despatched to the Galician frontier in expectation of a war between Prussia and Austria. The benefit anticipated from this movement is not clear, but there is no sounding the depths of Russian farsightedness. We have assurances that the contemplated collision is all but impossible. Prussia is willing to sell the right she has acquired in the Duchies for a pecuniary consideration, and negotiations having for their object a settlement upon this basis are pending. Austria and her neighbor may now and then indulge in personal pique and recriminations without serious harm to their respective interests. They had better beware, however, when peace and order in Muscovite uniform appear upon their frontiers. —*Tablat*.

UNITED STATES.

THE PLENARY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE.—The Baltimore *Catholic Mirror* states: that the most Rev. Archbishop Spaulding has received letters from Rome appointing him Apostolical Delegate, with authority to convene a Plenary Council of all the Archbishops and Bishops in the United States during the present year, and to preside over the same. We learn also that the Council will probably not be assembled till early in the fall—in September or October next. Our people will look forward with much interest to this great meeting of Bishops—numbering forty-four—which will surpass in grandeur any council of the kind hitherto convened in this country.

SIGNIFICANT INCIDENT.—A Torontonian just returned from Buffalo relates a significant incident which occurred in a manufacturing establishment in that city a few days ago. Of about one hundred hands employed in the factory some seventy were Roman Catholics. A Fenian emissary entered the factory and solicited the names of all who were ready to march with the Fenians on Canada; but to his surprise he found only one solitary man to consent. As soon as the fellow had given his name his employer turned sharply round on him, and in an angry tone said:—'You don't scamp, leave my shop this moment or I'll kick you out. I want no man about me who would rather go to commit robberies and murders in Canada than earn an honest living at his trade.' It is said that the man left without asking any questions, or applying for a certificate of character. —*Transcript*.

A SWINDLER LOSES HIS GAINS.—During the past year a man named Jason H. Tuttle has been sending out circulars from Broad Brookville, N. J., agreeing to furnish prizes of silver watches and other articles of jewelry on payment of sums ranging from \$2 to \$7.50. Recently he became alarmed and fled to Canada. Reaching Detroit he forwarded his trunk by the American Express Company to Toronto, to the address of R. J. Walker. In due time Tuttle appeared at Toronto and claimed the trunk. A custom-house officer proposed searching it before giving it up to Tuttle, who represented himself as R. J. Walker. Tuttle said there was nothing in the trunk but manuscripts, and protested against the inspection of his private papers. This, it is supposed, excited the curiosity of the officer, who had a sharp eye on the Fenians and the trunk was forthwith opened. The officer was surprised however, to find three thousand letters, all addressed to Jason H. Tuttle Broad Brookville, N. J. Several hundred of these letters were opened and all were found to contain money, in sums varying from two to seven dollars and a half each letter, making a total of twelve thousand dollars. The Custom-house officer thought the matter worthy of investigation, though it had a financial rather than a belligerent aspect. The officer's superiors were called in, and they referred the matter to the United States Consul. The Consul communicated with the authorities in Washington and the governor of New Jersey. Before answers to these letters were received, however, Tuttle left Toronto and came to New York, when he demanded his trunk or its value from the American Express Company. It is supposed that the trunk and its contents will be sent to Washington, and the letters returned to the persons who sent them to Tuttle. —*Boston Paper*.

A MARVELLOUS STORY.—We find the marvelous story in an Eastern paper that on Sunday night last some body snatched at Norwalk Conn., dug up the body of a young lady who had been buried that afternoon, and succeeded beyond their anticipations. She had been buried while in a cataleptic fit, and upon being exposed to the night air, animation was restored. The resurrectionists fled, and she walked home. Her parents refused to admit her, believing her to be a ghost. She then went to the house of a young man to whom she was engaged. He took her in, and on Monday morning they were married.

CIVILIZING THE FREEDMEN.—The local of the *Mobile Register* is responsible for the following instance of how the Negro-Bureau is christianizing and reforming the poor negroes:—

It appears that a negro couple had been living together for some years as man and wife but 'wid-out de circumstance of the law.' They disagreed, separated, and the weaker vessel laid her case before 'de Bureau,' where the charges were heard, and Sambo and his Dinah was sentenced to be married.

In order to be sure that the sentence was properly executed, the couple were placed under a military guard, and marched off to Squire Starr's office. Arriving there, the officer of the guard remarked, 'Squire here's a couple for you to marry.'

'All right,' replied the Justice; 'just step in the back room.'

The couple and the officer followed him to the room in the rear of the front office, and after explaining the duties and obligations of married life, the squire requested them to join hands.

Bride—'I i'at gwine to do it. I doesn't want to hab nuffin to do wid dat nigger.'

Groom—'I i'at 'ticular 'bout marrin' wid de gal. I i'et lubbed de wench.'

This protest opened the squire's eyes like 'two full moons in the harvest.' He asked what was the meaning of it, when the representative of the Bureau informed the Justice that they were ordered by the Freedmen's Court to be married, and he came up to see the sentence executed.

With this understanding Justice Starr told the 'happy couple,' to join hands, which they did after much persuasion, and the following scene ensued:—

Justice—'Do you take this man to be your wedded husband, to love, honor, obey, &c.'

Bride—'No I doesn't—not much I doesn't—I wouldn't hab a four acre lot full ob sich trash.'

Freedmen's Bureau—'Yea we do, Equire. We take him—go on with the ceremony.'

Justice—'And do you take this wcmn to be your wedded wife, to love, cherish, &c.'

Groom—'I tole ye dat I i'at 'ticular. I i'at hankerin arter de 'crow.' I kin lib without de ole gal.'

Freedmen's Bureau—'Certainly we take her—of course we do—suits us to a single allecpe. Hurry up the cakra.'

Justice—'Then I pronounce you all man and wife, and may the Lord have mercy on your souls.'

MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER.—It may be fairly doubted whether

'The many tinted flowers that shed
Their perfumed leaves on Eden's bed.'

lent a purer fragrance to the atmosphere, than fills the dressing-room or boudoir in which a flacon of this odoriferous toilet water has been opened. As compared with the fleeting scent of ordinary 'essences' its perfume may be called imperishable, while it is the only article of its kind, which vividly recalls the perfume of unguaranteed aromatic flowers. The volume of rich aroma diffused by a few drops upon the handkerchief is wonderful, and as a means of relieving faintness and headache and of perfuming the breath and the person, when used diluted as a mouth-wash or a cosmetic, it has no equal among imported toilet waters.

See that the names of Murray & Lanman are upon every wrapper, label, and bottle, without this note is genuine. 1866

Agents for Montreal:—Devins & Bolton, Lamplough & Campbell, Davidson & Co., J. Campbell & Co., J. Gardner, J. A. Hart, Picault & Son, H. R. Gray, J. Goulden, R. S. Latham, and all Dealers in Medicine.