

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

**THE ELECTION.**—The election commenced in all parts of France on Sunday morning, the 29th ult., and closed on Monday evening. It excited extremely little interest; the following are the deputies elected for the Seine:—Delalain, Devinck, Cavaignac, Lepelletier, Königswater, Veron. In the two other circumscriptions Carnot and Perret obtained the majority.

The following is an extract from M. Montalembert's address to the electors of Doubs:—

"Resolved, as heretofore, to combat all invasions of the revolutionary spirit, I shall give a loyal and worthy support to power in whatever it may undertake for the honor and prosperity of France. When my conscience shall compel me to oppose power, I shall do so only as I have done under preceding governments, with the intention to consolidate and enlighten it, by preserving it from those fruits which are a common danger to princes and to people."

Seven Candidates have been elected for Paris, viz.:—Messrs. Guyard Delalain, Devinck, Foucher Lepelletier, Lanquetin, Königswater, Veron (government candidates) and General Cavaignac.

The elections in the 4th and 5th circumscriptions will be recommenced. M. Levassasseur, government candidate, is named for Rouen.

In diplomatic circles here a considerable sensation has been created by a note addressed, on the 7th of February, by Prince Schwarzenberg, the Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs, to the representatives of that power at St. Petersburg and Berlin. In this despatch, Prince Schwarzenberg (who, as is well known, is a decided absolutist in his leanings, and who is, moreover, the minister of a Sovereign who, though young, is as completely absolute as the minister himself) stated that the object of the northern powers ought now to be put down all that remained of constitutional government on the continent of Europe; and that for this purpose they ought to insist on the representative form of government being abolished in all the states where it was still tolerated, and more especially in Piedmont and in Greece. He further declared that Louis Napoleon, by his *coup d'état* of the 2d of December, which, while it put an end to constitutional government, restored military government in France, had merited the applause of all the northern powers, and he suggested that they ought to concur in giving him their united and cordial support, even to the exclusion of both branches of the house of Bourbon, because none of the members of that illustrious house could re-ascend the throne without according representative government in some shape. The representatives of Austria at Berlin and St. Petersburg having been directed to communicate this despatch to the governments to which they were accredited did so, but the manner in which the communication was received by the two powers was very different. The Prussian government at once declared that it strongly disapproved of the suggestion of the Austrian government, and that as it looked upon a certain degree of constitutional freedom as necessary in the present state of Europe, it highly disapproved of the attempt of Louis Napoleon to establish a military despotism. The Russian Czar, who sets up as the arbiter of all that is done to Germany, gave a very characteristic answer to both powers. He recommended to the Austrian government not to be so enthusiastic in its admiration of Louis Napoleon, and to the Prussian government not to be so determined in its hostility to that personage, and thus the affair for the present rests.

Letters have been received from Brussels, stating that General Jomelli, one of the ablest of the engineer officers in the Russian service, has arrived in Belgium, for the purpose of superintending the extensive works and fortifications which are to be erected for the defence of Brussels. The raising of barracks at Antwerp for the accommodation of a large body of troops is going on with activity.

**THE FRENCH UNIVERSITY.**—If the reports in circulation be correct, Louis Napoleon is on the eve of attacking the French University. The whole of the present system of public instruction is to be suppressed. The College of France, and even the Faculty of Letters, is to be abolished; the Ministry of Public Instruction is to be done away with, and the whole of that department is to be made a simple division in the department of the Minister of the Interior. The effect of this radical measure will be the suppression of the permanent and supreme council of public instruction, under which the direction of the University was placed, and of which MM. Thiers, Molé, de Montalembert, de Falloux, de Vatimesnil, the Archbishop of Paris, &c., were members. If this measure be carried out, the whole of the colleges, or lycées, in Paris, will be placed under the surveillance of the Minister of the Interior, and those in the departments under the surveillance of the prefects. The communal colleges will be placed under the councils of the arrondissements, and the primary instructors (*instituteurs primaires*) will be made dependent on the councils of the communes. As respects the Ecclesiastical secondary establishments, they are to be placed exclusively under the surveillance of the Bishops—a concession by which Louis Napoleon hopes to gain the sympathies of the Church. The Abbé Daniel, Rector of Caen, is to be appointed one of the inspectors-general, who will be charged with the periodical inspection of all the lycées and other educational establishments (with the exception of the Ecclesiastical establishments) throughout France.

Among other restrictions to be put upon the liberty of education, it is to be laid down that no school can be established without the authorisation of the government. The normal school of Paris, which is the establishment for the education of schoolmasters, is to be suppressed. It is thought that all the communal

schools will cease to exist, for it is resolved that they shall be at the sole expense of the communes themselves, and that they will receive no subvention, as at present, from the state. This measure will have the effect of enabling the Clergy to offer education on much cheaper terms than the lay establishments, which are to have no support from the government.

## SPAIN.

The Duke and Duchess of Montpensier were to leave, in the beginning of March, for Valencia, where they are to embark in a royal steamer for Italy. They will thence proceed to England on a visit to Queen Marie Amelie, and then return to Andalusia in the beginning of summer.

A "Te Deum" has been sung at Lisbon, in celebration of the Queen of Spain's recovery, at which the Queen of Portugal and all her family assisted. Queen Isabel has also received autograph letters from the Queen of England and the President of the French Republic, congratulating her on her recovery. In the letter from England Queen Victoria addresses Isabella as "My dear sister."

## ITALY.

**AFFAIRS OF ROME.**—Letters from Rome of the 15th February announce that the Consistory so long expected will be held on the 15th March. It is said that the promotions to the Cardinalate will be the following:—Mgr. Donnet, Archbishop of Bordeaux; Mgr. d'Andrea, Archbishop of Mytilene, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of the Council; Mgr. Lucciardi, Bishop of Sinigaglia, ex-Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of Bishops and Regulars; Mgr. Morichini, Archbishop of Nisibis, Prefect of the General Congregations of Hospitals. It is known that Mgr. Santucci, Secretary of the Congregation of Ecclesiastical Affairs Extraordinary, has already for several months been in receipt of the letter announcing his speedy promotion; but it appears that this promotion, with the consent of the venerable Prelate, will be deferred to another Consistory.

Mgr. Lucciardi will continue to reside at Sinigaglia, his Bishopric.

Mgr. Morichini, they say, is destined to the Archbishopric of Ferrara, which Cardinal Vanicelli-Casoni has long been anxious to resign from ill health.

By an edict of the Cardinal-Secretary of State, the deficit for the current year is covered by four imposts—the first, an increase of a sixth on the income tax, called *dativareale*; the second, a tax of 250 millions of *scudi*, distributed over all the communes of the states of the Church; the third, an augmentation of the tax on salt; and the fourth, a small tax on the consumption of sugar, coffee, tea, and other colonial products.

Cardinal Ant. Francesco Orioli, Prefect of the Holy Congregation of Bishops and Regulars, died on the 20th ult., after five days illness.

The *Monitore Toscano* quotes a letter from Rome, stating that on the 19th ultimo the police discovered fifteen explosive shells, capable of containing a pound of gunpowder each, and three daggers, in the house of a person named Luigi Jacopini. The daggers had evidently been buried somewhere, for they were rusty, and had particles of fresh earth sticking to them. The shells were intended to be thrown that very evening in the Corso at several persons, said to be obnoxious to the Republican party, among whom was Colonel Nardoni. Two persons, of the name of Bizzari and Taxi, have been arrested as accomplices. This Jacopini was implicated in the affair of the cannon which was discovered some time ago by the police in the quarter of Trastevere.

**PIEDMONT.**—From letters in the *Univers*, dated Turin, Feb. 23rd, we derive the following information as to political and ecclesiastical affairs in Piedmont:—

At that date various ministerial modifications were spoken of as certain. The Minister of Justice, M. de Foresta, was to retire and be replaced by M. Galvagno, who would leave the Ministry of the Interior to M. Pernati, late intendant at Annecy and Chambéry, and actually fulfilling the same functions at Turin. Before his entrance into the ministry, M. de Foresta passed for a man incapable of betraying the Church, and it was considered certain that he had only accepted the portfolio on condition that the ministry would seek to conclude a concordat. His retreat induces the belief that the concordat is definitively abandoned. It is added that his colleagues insist in the project of the secularisation of marriage, and that M. de Foresta did not choose to charge himself with presenting this anti-Christian law to the Chambers. The acts of M. de Foresta have not always answered the good opinion which the Catholics had of him; but if his retreat has had such motives, it redeems many of his faults.

Piedmont is, at this moment, going through its revolution of '89. In that unhappy country, it is the government which is in full revolution; it is that which every day drives the nation towards the abyss. Advocates and talkers are everywhere supreme. At the Chamber of Deputies the most celebrated orators lose time in making plays upon words, in exchanging personalities, and in exclaiming against the enemies outside, who, in truth, are better friends to Piedmont than the deputies themselves. It is known with what difficulty the ministry have succeeded in causing to be added to the law on the press an additional article relative to offences committed against foreign sovereigns. M. de Cavour, who is the soul of this ministry, had to struggle at once against the left, who opposed every restriction against liberty, and against the most sound part of the right, represented by the courageous M. Menabrea, who considered the addition proposed as insufficient, because it could only serve to defend foreign courts, without in any way protecting religion, which is every day outraged by the demagogic press. What did the ministry do? They lavished promises on the Left to seduce them, and sarcasms

on the Right to terrify them. The manoeuvre had full success, and the law was voted by a majority of one hundred votes against forty-four. But at present the question is to pay the Left the price of its support, and M. de Cavour dismisses M. de Foresta, and calls M. Galvagno to the ministry to propose the law on civil marriage.

## SWITZERLAND.

Every day increases the anxiety which prevails respecting the affairs of Switzerland. The claim made by the French Government for the extrusion of a few political refugees from Switzerland, is merely the pretext for ulterior designs. M. Berart, the Inspector-General of Lyons, continues at Paris, and is in constant communication with Louis Napoleon. From the concentration of troops in the south-east of France, there is little doubt but that some serious military movements are contemplated. An armed intervention with the occupation of Geneva and Vaud by the French, and of Ticino by the Austrians, is evidently meditated, if not resolved upon.

## RUSSIA.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* contains an account of an expedition made into Circassia by Major-General Prince Bariatsky. The Russian commander had eleven battalions of infantry and four squadrons of horse, besides 650 Cossacks and twenty-four guns. The attack was made in Grand Tchetchina, near Antour, on the 6th of January. The bravery of the Russian troops, it appears, was of the most distinguished character. Schamyl, at the head of his valiant troops, charging again and again sword in hand, was completely routed. After destroying great stores of maize and hay, the expeditionary corps returned, having had only one man killed and twenty-four wounded. This severe chastisement of Schamyl, it was hoped, would break his influence with the rebels, and scatter terror through the mountains.

## INDIA.

We learn from Bombay, under date of the 3d of February (by electric telegraph from Trieste), that a second Burmese war had commenced.

The new Viceroy arrived at Rangoon on the 4th of January. He had refused to receive any deputations from the British commander, had forbidden communication between the shore and the vessels, insulted the British flag, and erected batteries and stockades below the town to prevent the departure of any of the vessels lying there. The Commodore proclaimed a blockade of the mouths of the Irawaddy.

On the 9th the Viceroy wrote to the Commodore to allow the passage of the river; he had set fire to the batteries mentioned.

The Pyroscaphes, Fox, and Hermes were attacked by the batteries in passing. They replied to the fire, destroyed the fortifications, and killed nearly three hundred persons.

## DEFENCE OF THE COUNTRY.

From the *London Times* of February 27.

There are certain persons in this country who should have been Indian Fakias in place of members of a civilized community. They tell us to sit still and have our throats cut quietly without raising a finger in self-defence. The invaders may come when we expect it least. No, they can't come—they shan't come—they wouldn't think of coming. Why should any foreign power dream of attacking the uncompromising friends of peace? Place a slip of territory in the immediate neighborhood of four warlike Powers, people it with Vicars of Wakefield, and let it contain the treasures of the world. Of course no one would dream of attacking such a country. All the inhabitants need to do by way of precaution would be to widen the brim of their hats, starch their cravats thoroughly, and cut away the collars of their coats. Such measures as these are the only national defences worthy of the name. If the impressive spectacle of thirty million of Quakers, attired in such peaceful guise, should fail to strike awe into the breasts of a rude soldiery, fresh from the sands of Africa, the mountains of the Caucasian range, or the marshy plains of Hungary, the Rev. Jeddiah Poundest would not fail us in the hour of need. That Convincing divine would think it his duty to betake himself to the Kentish shingle and bring the invaders to a sense of their perilous situation. He would tell them they must at once return to the place from whence they came, because the inhabitants of the country which they were about to attack were entirely opposed to the spirit and practice of war, and consequently they could not, under any circumstances, imbue their hands in the blood of their fellow creatures.—For our own part, we cannot altogether get rid of a profane suspicion that ere the second period of the Jeddiah had reached its climax a *Chasseur de Vincennes* would have covered the benevolent orator with his Minié rifle. Gentlemen of this class are singularly obtuse to a course of ethics. If they have not shrunk from the massacre of their own countrymen at the mere bidding of a political adventurer, we much fear that foreigners need look for little mercy at their hands. There is one thing which will stop war, and one only, unless the traditions of history are to be cast aside as unworthy of regard. Let ambitious and unprincipled men foresee their own destruction as the necessary result of an attack upon an unoffending neighbor, and the attack will never be made. What reason have we for supposing now, in the middle of the nineteenth century, that the Millennium has already begun? Did this desirable epoch commence with February, 1848, when the first shot was fired at the guard in the Rue des Capucines? Were the Millennium forays even in Paris in the early days of December last?—or previously in Hungary, or Lombardy, or Hesse Cassel? Exeter-hall had its own way the other day at Lagos, but was its proselytism conducted upon the principle of spouting and prayer? Did the Commodore endeavor to convert King Kosoko by remonstrances or rockets—by sighs or Shrapnel shells? If we cast but the most cursory glance at the present moment upon the condition of Europe, from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, from the Atlantic to the steppes of Asia, we see nothing before us but one vast camp. Whether the hostile armaments may ever come into collision is not for us to predict. There is, however, one point, on which we can speak with certainty. Whenever a nation is unprepared, there the thunder-will light.

These observations are suggested to us by a report of the proceedings of a public meeting held on Tuesday evening at the London Tavern, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament against the Militia Bill. Be it understood that we are not for the moment writing as advocates of this or that form of a militia, or comparing the advantages of a militia against the enrolment of additional regular force. All these matters shall be discussed in due time. For the moment we would but point out to public attention the sentiments expressed by men professing themselves to be Englishmen with hair on their chins. We presume they have, like the rest of us, wives and young children, sick and aged parents to protect, and a country to defend. They would hand the sacred trust over to the first battalion of ruffians who might take a fancy to invade our shores without striking one blow in self-defence. If we are to take these canting gentry at their word, there would be no need of 10,000 or 15,000 men to make good a march upon London. A regiment would suffice. The friends of peace would step forth to strew their road with olive boughs and offer them perpetual cups of *café au lait* as they walked along. Our only chance is that their hearts would be touched ere they had reached the Brighton or Southampton terminus in London. They might perhaps be induced to attend an Oratorio at Exeter-hall, and return the next day by the way they came—sadder, and, we hope, better men. There is one thing that must strike the most unobservant about this miserable cant. If we are to make abnegation of any endeavors at self-protection against foreign invaders why not extend the principle to the common domestic burglar or petty-larcener? Why retain the police? Is there any pickpocket whose heart would not be touched at so strictly pacific a policy? Perhaps the thunder, too, might be induced to spare our sleepers if we did but remove the lightening conductors. If our friend Poundest were to enter the tiger's den at the Zoological Gardens, that ill-used animal would instantly show his sense of the reliance placed upon his honor by licking the rev. gentleman's shoe-buckle. All this might happen, no doubt, but we are not bold enough to snap our fingers at the traditions of three thousand years. We should be curious to know what material difference there is between the feelings and views of a French drummer-boy at the present day, A.D. 1852, and those of the Telamonian Ajax when he went out, B.C. 1153, to do battle against Troy?

## BROTHER JONATHAN ON OUR NATIONAL DEFENCES.

(From the *Buffalo Stockdologer*.)

That beef-eating old coon, John Bull, is like to be in a fix. He had better look out for squalls. He has had fair warning. Shakespeare says there's a divinity that shapes our ends. That's how nature made the tail of the rattle-snake. He lets you know he's a coming your way, the rattle-snake does. He gives you notice to clear, if he bites you after it's your own fault. Just so with John Bull. If he's cotched napping, he'll have nobody to blame but his own self. Nature is uniform. She hoists danger signals wherever there's danger. You may read 'em if you've a mind to attend to 'em, which you had best have. Here's the French flag a flying at this moment with the Bonaparte Eagle upon it, larger than life. That's a danger signal to John Bull. It means the Empire over again. It's a sign that Louis Napoleon intends to play old Scratch *da capo*. Well, what will John Bull do if he is wise? In the first place, he will be civil anyhow you can fix it, he will loose money by quarrelling. What next?—always supposing he's wise? Well, everybody best knows his own concerns. If he's a goney, what he'll do is as plain as a speck of white on a nigger. He'll continue to arm his troops with muskets that shoot any way but point blank. He will persevere in mounting his dragons upon old horses. He will persist in building ships that won't sail, and steamers that won't act; in virtually starving them with meat in a state of decomposition; in underpaying his sailors, and doing everything that lies in his power to drive all the best hands out of his navy. And he'll take particular care to leave the coasts undefended in every spot likely to give an opening to Louis Napoleon in case that possum should ever feel inclined to try a *coup de France* on the British nation. He will believe such an outrage impossible. He will let himself be talked over by his easy friends who persuade him not to think of such a thing. Oh yes! he'll trust that a loafer who only upsets the constitution of his own country, will stick at violating the law of nations. He'll rely on Louis Napoleon's honor, and his own good luck; he'll shut his eyes and stop his ears against every warning; he'll act like one of his own partridges that puts its head in a hole, and there stands, thinking itself in safety, because it sees no peril, till presently down comes a poacher, and quietly puts a pinch of salt on its tail.

## THE MORTMAIN COMMITTEE.

(From the *Tablet*.)

As the Mortmain Committee of last session threatens again the Catholic Church, we do not think it altogether unnecessary to revert to that question. The subject of Mortmain had been agitated before by Lord J. Manners, with a view of bringing out the latent charity of his fellow-Anglicans. Last year, however, two men seized upon the subject, because they saw in it a weapon which they wished themselves to handle. They may have been disappointed, but the spirit which moved them is visible at every step. These individuals are Mr. Headlam and Mr. Chisholm Anstey; and the special purport of their proceedings was a blow at the Catholic Church. This is natural, and we must admit that we are not surprised—Mr. Headlam is a Protestant and Mr. Anstey was a Catholic.

The object of this Committee is to rob, if possible, all the missions in England, and to confiscate the property which the Bishops possess. The principle of the law of Mortmain is derived from a man, whom the modern world is disposed to pay more honor to than he deserved when he was alive. Cardinal Langton is to have a statue in the new Palace of Westminster, but his contemporaries, and those who knew him best, would have taken, and did take, other means to mark their sense of his political life. We are indebted to him for the law of Mortmain, as it stood before the reign of George II., and it was then directed against the monasteries. The Prime of that day and the secular barons agreed together to deprive the monastic houses of the power of acquiring land, and for that purpose inserted a clause in the great charter. In the course of time the Bishops found that the law could be directed against themselves, and that the monasteries did not grow poorer. It was found possible to