

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

PARIS, Nov. 3, 1858.—After a rather prolonged silence, I resume my letters with the announcement that Count de Montalembert is on the eve of being brought to trial before the Court of Police Correctionnelle, for having, says the *Moniteur*, "compromised the overthrow of the Imperial Government—for having endeavoured to breed civil war between the citizens—for having dared to call in question the blessings of universal suffrage." A startling announcement, surely, when speaking of the noble Count, and for my part I am rather astonished that he should not be brought before the justice of his country, under the figure of twelve jurymen. But no! crimes of such a dark hue are far better disposed of in a court deciding usually on the fate of pick-pockets and vagrants.

—Rissus tenentis, amice

You will naturally inquire when and where the deed was perpetrated; in what secret chamber the plan was concocted, matured, and finally carried into execution. Montalembert, a conspirator, likened unto an Orsini, a Bernard. However, so it is—I am sorry to say—for he positively wrote a most eloquent article in the last number of the *Correspondant*. On what subject? "On the Indian debate in the British Parliament." It so happened that the Count, as he himself has felt, the want of breathing a little free air in a free country; so he crosses the Channel, just in time to attend the debates, and when once back to his own country thought proper to pen a few pages on the subject for the perusal of his friends, and the instruction of the French public, so generally ignorant of English affairs. Of course, those who are familiar with M. de Montalembert's predilections for our own country, and his little sympathy for the present Government of France, must be well aware that many a bitter sarcasm, many a galling reflection must have escaped from his powerful pen. As a literary production it stands paramount to all his previous writings; never did he attain to such perfection and maturity of talent—this is admitted by all parties.

But, however repugnant to the present system, may be the Count's reflections and general current of ideas, it would certainly have been far more politic to let them pass without comment or animadversion, as their effect upon the public would have blown over in the course of a few days. Indeed, one can hardly imagine that a friend of the Government could have advised such a measure as a prosecution of this kind against such a man! As it is, the trial will bring him more than ever before the eye of the country, and afford him a splendid opportunity of exposing his real views and feelings. And as if this were not enough, his counsels are to be Du faure and Berryer, the two most celebrated barristers in all France. If the prosecution results in an acquittal, the Government can but be laughed at; if not, through pressure upon the judges, the Count will, doubtless, gain popularity which he does not enjoy at present, on account of his leaning towards English ideas and institutions, which are by no means in favour of the majority of the French nation. Again, supposing Montalembert, to be sentenced to five years' imprisonment, which is the highest penalty in the case, one may ask if such a result will not do the Government more harm than good, as not a single man will really believe in the Count's culpability? That fact, indeed, can be the less believed, that everyone has still ringing in his ears the hue and cry set up by the whole pack of infidel papers and official scribbles about the Mortara affair. How is it that the French rulers should be so very lax and indifferent, when the whole Church (their pretended proteges) is violently attacked; but so keenly sensitive to the slightest observations upon its own system? The glaring inconsistency of the two cases must strike all thinking minds. — *Correspondent of Weekly Register.*

The *Daily News* was seized at the Paris Post Office, on Thursday, in consequence of its observations on the Montalembert prosecution.

Le *Correspondant* has, in the letter of a clever contributor, the following temperate and sensible remark in reference to the "Affaire Mortara":—"As for this Mortara business, which is making such a noise, and out of which the infidel revolutionary Press are forging a weapon of attack, I am sure that you will wait before you speak decidedly. At the present moment, the question is doubtless engaging the anxious thoughts of the Supreme Pontiff. Instead of allowing yourselves to be carried away by passionate partisanship, you will wait calmly and respectfully, in the assurance that when the Father of the Faithful shall have spoken, all will be made sensible that it was his earnest wish to reconcile his duty of Christian charity towards the son with the natural rights inherent in the father."

A case bearing on the Mortara affair has just occurred in France. Gugenheim, who was condemned to hard labour for life participation in the Caen murder, which made so much noise a short time ago, had several illegitimate children, and the woman who bore them to him having also been condemned to a certain period of hard labour, the children were sent for safety to the hospice of Caen. Both Gugenheim and the woman are Jews, and they brought up their children in their own faith; the children, however, were, after due preparation by the sisters attached to the establishment, baptised. M. Isidore, Grand Rabbi of Paris, lately claimed the children, in order to have them educated as Jews; but the religious authorities of the hospice strongly objected to give them up. The Perfect of the Calvados referred the matter to the Minister of the Interior, and the Minister, in the name of the Government, has just sent a peremptory order that the children shall be handed over to the Grand Rabbi. — *Times Correspondent.*

A gentleman, whose official connexion with agricultural improvements in Ireland entitles his opinion to respect, has lately made a tour in France, with the view of ascertaining the real cause of the depression of agriculture, and the destitution of the labouring classes. He states that it was sad to see the misapplication of time

and labour in many places, and the way in which the resources of so fine a country were neglected or abused. In the darkest days of Connaught farming he declares he never saw anything worse than in boasted Normandy, and some of the most favoured districts of the south and west. Small fields and impenetrable hedge-rows—scouring and exhausting crops, and little or no manure to supply the deficiency. Ploughs that might have been used by the early Druids, tugged along by a motley crew of dispirited cows, horses, and oxen, with a poor, industrious, well-disposed donkey in the van, who probably does half the work, and who certainly gets all the beating;—cattle not half fed either in winter or summer;—poor milch cows, and bony-looking oxen creeping along on the dry hard road with waggon-loads of sand or timber, not half what a single Scotch cart would carry;—pigs as they probably were in the days of Dagobert, long-legged, big-eared, with bodies flat as pancakes, every point about them turned the wrong way; curved backs that might serve as a model for the arch of a bridge; noses that would do as good work, if properly directed, as half the ploughs in the country; and on the whole the animals look as if they were quite sick of the world. The sheep, too, would be regarded with pity by any one who ever saw a flock of Leicesters ruminating in a clover field;—wiry, weedy, unhealthy looking things, with tails that crack like a whip, bones that look as if they were already picked, and hopping about on the roadside in search of a stray mouthful.

According to the views of my informant the efforts lately made by the French Government to improve the breeds of cattle in France, and encourage improved husbandry in the provinces, have been productive of little benefit, so far as he could judge. The introduction of costly cattle for breed, and cumbersome implements for work, has failed to produce the anticipated results, for the fact is, the people were not yet prepared for their use, or in a position to turn them to account, for what can men do who are tied up by prejudices or absurd customs, and always looking to Government to help them? He noticed the want of cordiality and union between the three classes—the proprietor, the farmer or occupier, and the laborer—which must impede substantial improvements. Except on the banks of some large rivers he saw few country gentlemen's dwelling-houses, little beyond detached villages and small plots of ground, scattered here and there, and marked by all the vice of the subdivision system. He pronounces it impossible for these struggling occupiers to till their patches of land with advantage, or derive any benefit from modern improvements. The evil is pressing, and the remedy must be prompt and decisive. — *Cor. Times.*

THE FRENCH TARIFF.—The Diana of the Ephesians shows her spirit down to the very question of spoons and forks. Instead of the precious metals being welcomed, gold and silver plate find the door as good as closed against them. French silversmiths are delighted to have your family plate excluded by a barrier of 25 per cent., unless you like to have it broken up and refashioned by them, in which case you get in at a cheaper rate. This, and the tariff on scientific instruments, defeats itself rather than benefits the Government. An optical instrument is a combination of metal and glass, whose value consists in the skill of that combination; disappointed, it is valueless and unintelligible to ordinary beholders and manipulators. Once well fitted together, it can be unsewed again into bits of brass and bits of glass, whose use is unknown to those not in the secret. And so, morsels are smuggled in, one at a time, till the forbidden help to knowledge is reconstructed. That is how the law works in numerous instances. The same of plate. There is an immense deal of foreign plate in France daily displayed on dinner tables, which entered without submitting to the fine of 25 per cent. I have even partaken, with relish, of repasts that were served and eaten by the help of these surreptitious utensils. A Government is only fulfilling its duty when it teaches its children to walk alone and to lean on as few foreign crutches as possible, but there is a difference between encouraging home-made machinery and giving way to a perfect machinophobia. French-made machinery, sent to the Great Exhibition at London, has had great difficulty in getting back home again, and has even had to pay duty for the privilege of landing on its own coast. The very name of a machine puts the whole army of *douaniers* into feverish excitement. Of this weakness "X" had a laughable proof on the occasion of his importing, for the use of his family, a homely utensil which, unluckily for him, had received the sounding title of American Washing Machine. The pretensions word machine condemned it at once. Ambition was its ruin. But, poor thing, it was a very humble attempt at machinery. It was nothing but a tub lined with zinc, containing a few loose wooden balls, and having attached to it a simple lever with a cast iron ball at the end. For this unpretending vessel the same duty was demanded as for the most complicated machine possible to be constructed, and all because it had been raised by the maker to the style and dignity of a washing machine, thus levying a duty of 35s on a thing which cost only 50s in England, and so priced as a patent article. If free from the patent it could be built for 20s. Let us cull a few final flowers from the tariff, and tie them together as a parting bouquet. Salt pork pays from 33s. to 36s. 30c. the 100 kilos.; fresh butchers' meat, 19s. 80c. The taxes on skins are so intricate that I give up the task of unravelling them; ditto for all sorts of fur and peltry. Dyed wools, of any kind, pay more than 300s. the 100 kilos. Quills pay 10s.; cut pens, 240s. for the same weight; feathers for beds, 60s.; feathers for adornment, from 100s. to 400s. Fish oil, spermaceti, and whalebone pay an infinitesimal duty if caught by the French, a considerable duty if caught by the stranger. At the head of the substances proper for medicine and perfumery stand—what? Vipers, which are taxed 10s. per 100 in number, or 1d a piece for the charming creatures. Musks pay 100s. the single kilo.; civet, 123s.; muskrats' tails, 25s. if coming by French ships; otherwise, more. — *Among these articles we find dried he-goats'*

blood, bezoars, castoreum, the eyes of crayfish, the bones of stags' hearts, and the feet of the elk; the last, probably, intended to be used as an antidote to epileptic fits. Sponge ranges from 60s. to upwards of 212s. the kilos. 5s. is the gentle tax on the same weight of the scales of the bleak, for making false pearls. Mother-of-pearl oscillates between 5s. and 70s.; wolves' teeth between 5s. and 54s. On these there is an export duty of 25c. — *Dickens's Household Words.*

## PRUSSIA.

The Prince Regent of Prussia has inaugurated his career by the dismissal of the Ministry and the appointment of a new Cabinet, under the presidency of the Prince Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen. The new President is known as the father of the young Queen of Portugal. He resigned his principality some years ago in favor of the King of Prussia, the head of the house of Hohenzollern, receiving in return, from His Prussian Majesty, the title of "Highness," and the prerogatives of a junior Prince of the Royal Family of Prussia. What the policy of the new Government is to be remains to be unfolded. — *Weekly Register.*

## PORTUGAL.

The pusillanimous policy adopted and counselled by the English Government, that Portugal should accede to the French claims as quickly and promptly as possible, has been fully carried. The condemned slave Charles-Georges was this morning restored to the honor of Napoleon's tricoloured flag, and his steamer of war *Requin* is at the hour I write getting up steam to tow her with her captain, Rouxel, out of the Tagus, and to-morrow the other French ships, *Donawert*, *Austerlitz*, and *Coligny*, also relieve the *Tagus* from their presence, leaving at anchor the British ships of war *Victor Emmanuel* and *Racoon*, which were so promptly sent out from Portsmouth by Lord Malmesbury to witness his disgraceful policy in this humiliating affair.

The Portuguese public and the press evince most unequivocally the feeling indicated in my letter of Saturday, that the national honor of England and her good faith in the suppression of the slave trade have suffered more than her ally, Portugal, a feeling which is equally common to the British residents in this capital.

Portuguese of all classes were on the quays this morning, pointing to the French flag hoisted by the *Charles-Georges*, declaring that their cruisers must be withdrawn from the coast of Africa, and that Portugal could not afford to continue to pay her thousands yearly for the suppression of the slave trade if her honest efforts were not only to be rendered nugatory but a source of humiliation and injustice, whatever the English people may think proper to do with the millions they yearly contribute to such a sham.

The Ministerial papers have not ventured to give the exposition of the Portuguese Government as published in its official organ, the *Diario do Governo*, which arrived here on Saturday. The *Journal des Debats* gives it in *extenso*, and on a second perusal of the document, even in a French translation, I can conceive nothing more dignified than the conduct of Portugal in this discreditable affair. You will have remarked the offer of the Portuguese Cabinet to leave the decision of the whole affair to a third power, "to be chosen by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French." Those who affirm that it was merely to give "moral support" to the French Minister at Lisbon that the French men-of-war were sent I refer to the passage in the *Exposé* which states that "the French Admiral Lavaud, commander of the French forces in the Tagus, was left there with the mission to solve the pending question;" and I refer those who still persist, either wilfully or through ignorance, in affirming that the surrender of the *Charles-Georges* was voluntary, to the last paragraphs of the official exposition. I admit that in my statements I have committed an error. I said that a delay of 48 hours was granted to the Portuguese Cabinet to comply with what it justly terms the "preemptory exactions" of the French Minister. I now find that it was only half that time. They who have disputed my accuracy may take the benefit of the error, if they think fit.

*Glignani's Messenger* also gives the article from the *Diario do Governo*. The *Messenger* having volunteered a note by way of correction to one of your articles, and heading in its impression of this day a transcript from one of your contemporaries with the not very flattering and untrue description of "Misrepresentation of *The Times*," one may now be allowed to ask its opinion on the explanation of the Portuguese Government, which it publishes in its own columns.

The truth of the matter is, the Imperial Government has been placed in a position so undignified by the indiscretion of M. Walewski, that it does not well know how to get out of the difficulty. Had the Emperor been in Paris when the matter was first agitated, there is reason to believe that his Minister would not have been permitted to act with such *etourderie*, to use the gentlest term. It would not at all surprise me if the French Minister at Lisbon found himself in a scrape by following too strictly the orders of his chief. — *Cor. Times.*

The *Daily News* states that the Portuguese Government has addressed the following note to the French Minister:—"1. The Portuguese Government, being unable to resist the violence of France, will deliver up the vessel. 2. The French Government having rejected the arbitration of a third Power on the question of right, the Portuguese Government also rejects arbitration on the question of indemnity. 3. Let the French Government present the claim for the indemnity, and it will be promptly paid." The popular feeling at Lisbon was very strong against the non-interference of England. Meanwhile fresh difficulties have occurred. Letters from the Isle of Renion, dated Sept. 25th, state that a vessel from that place had been plundered on the African coast. Almost all the crew, and the captain, have been massacred. The vessel *Alfred*, which had left Renion for Gormora, had been seized by the Portuguese at Obo, and taken to Mozambique. It was afterwards given back to the French owner, but only after having experienced great losses.

## INDIA.

The Telegrams from India report further successes of our troops. Several gallant affairs had taken place in various parts of Oude, all of which proved disastrous to the enemy, and but of slight loss to us. Lord Clyde had not commenced his campaign, which is expected to be of considerable magnitude, but it is surmised that his task would not be so difficult as had been supposed. The rebels, although in great force, have probably drawn upon themselves the animosity of many of their countrymen on account of the merciless manner in which they ravage the country and oppress the inhabitants, wherever the British troops are not posted. Some revelations have been made by the *Times* correspondent with regard to a fearful mortality amongst our troops at Dumdum. It is hoped that it will impress upon the authorities the great necessity of a stricter attention to the health of our troops, and prevent the overcrowding of military stations, particularly in India—so frequently the cause of excessive mortality. — *Weekly Register.*

The *Times* correspondent writes as follows:—"Pending the proclamation, the chief topic is the mutiny at Mooltan. Your Bombay correspondent will have informed you a week since of the last defeat of Tantia Topee by General Michell, but he may not have heard all the details of the destruction of the mutinous regiments at Mooltan. Two regiments there stationed—the 62d and 69th—were among the first disarmed in the Punjab. The 69th was known to be rotten to the core, but the 62d has till within these last few weeks committed no act calculated to excite suspicion. Accordingly it was not ordered to be disbanded while discharging the 69th. The order was accordingly sent out to the men and re-

ceived in ominous silence. According to the only probable account yet received the Sepoys took the order to be indication of kindness so inconceivable that it must conceal some treachery. They resolved, it is said, that they were to be destroyed, and that the order to discharge them in detail was intended to facilitate that process. To prevent the execution of the plan they determined to escape. Escape without horses was, however, nearly impossible, and the only horses obtainable were those belonging to the European Artillery. The Artillery stables, therefore, were the point of attack, and the two regiments, joined by the native Artillerymen (disarmed), marched by wings on the European Artillerymen. They had no muskets and but few swords, but the mass had exterminated formidable clubs out of the side posts of their besteads. A few reached the stables, where they killed four Europeans, but were speedily driven off by a gallant young fellow, a lieutenant, who flung himself among them sword in hand. The remainder were beaten back by the Artillerymen according to the printed accounts, with their side arms. This, however, I am informed is a mistake. An officer, Captain Green, I think, had received information of the movement, and got out his guns so rapidly as to be able to pour case into the mutineers at fifty yards. At all events, 300 were killed on the spot, and the remainder, about 1,100, broke and fled. The Bombay Fusiliers came up a few minutes afterwards, and their Adjutant, Lieutenant Mules, who was riding in advance, was seized by a few Sepoys, torn from his horse, and brained on the spot. The Sepoys then divided, part flying towards the Sutlej, the boats upon which river had, however, been seized, and part towards Lahore. The former party again divided, one portion making for an island in the Gheera, and another for the Cheenab. They were all arrested or slain. The second division was pursued by a native gentleman, Gholam Mustafa Khan, aided by his tanistry and the police. The Sepoys fought desperately, and compelled a retreat, but Mustafa Khan advanced again, and every Sepoy was killed. By this time the country was up. Punjab officials know how to ride, the country folk hate the Hindostanee soldiery with a most healthy hatred, and by the 15th inst., the entire force, both the regiments and the Artillery, had been 'accounted for.' All who had not been shot, or drowned, or hanged, had been taken prisoners. The intelligence made the Sepoys at Meer Meer 'restless,' but the watch kept there is most vigilant, and though there are rumors of a rising, they are not authenticated. The catastrophe will put a stop to the rearing mania which for a few days threatened to place some 15,000 traitors under arms in the northern stations. The truth, that the fighting classes to a man detest the British, and that those who remained faithful only waited their opportunity, begins at last to be admitted. The 69th Native Infantry, one of the 'best disposed' of the disbanded, is now on its march from Peshawar, to Umballah, and Sir J. Lawrence has, I perceive, ordered all the police en route to keep their arms in readiness for action. The discharges are proceeding rapidly, 40 men a day crossing the frontier under the surveillance of the police. Beyond that point they subside into the population, and if they join the marauders can do little harm. Four or five thousand more or less of them do not make the difference of an European Regiment.

From Oude and Shahabad we have nothing of importance. The rains check all movements, and both parties appear to await weather a little more favourable for locomotion. The field force ordered by Lord Clyde to clear Shahabad has not yet collected, and the rebels are taking advantage of the pause to fortify themselves in Jagespore. According to native report they number 15,000 men; but native spies make little distinction between camp followers and fighting men. They may amount to that number, as small parties steal down from Oude to join them, but the reports do not prove the fact. Active operations will scarcely recommence till the 15th of October, the usual termination of the rains. In Southern Oude, again, the rebels driven from Sultanpore have concentrated themselves on Ametha, a little place known chiefly as the residence of the Moulvie who gave so much trouble about three years ago in Oude. They are estimated at 50,000, but if they number half that strength of fighting men they are stronger than I believe them to be. They are completely hemmed in, having two great rivers to the north and south, Brigadier Grant on the east, and Lucknow, which they dare not approach, on the west. Unless some daring march release them, they must be speedily destroyed.

## PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES AND THEIR LABORS IN INDIA.

MADRAS, SEPT. 33.—Missionary matters are now arrived at a crisis in Madras. It remains to be seen how long and how far the patience of our loyal and much enduring population of 700,000 will be tried by the spirit of unscrupulous proselytism. A system of kidnapping children has long prevailed among the missionaries here. The dodge is to entice the child by the offer of novelties and niceties in the shape of food and dress; to keep up a secret intercourse with it, until it has been worked upon to declare its anxiety to cast off the "errors of heathenism," then, and not until then, to communicate with the parents of the child; and then to assume that the "child," having "chosen for itself," should be allowed an asylum in the Mission House. At the Wesleyan mission in the Tayapetta suburb of Madras, all this was enacted a short time ago. The father, with some of his friends, appeared to claim his child; the missionaries, declaring that the child was a "free agent and of age," refused to give him up; a riot commenced by the exasperated relatives of the child which resulted in their trial and imprisonment, and the utmost commotion was, in consequence, excited throughout the Presidency. The affair was most disgraceful. The motives of the Indian missionaries are probably of a mixed kind. No doubt there is a great deal of zeal for Christianity but there is an equal amount for the leaves and fishes. These reverend gentlemen, after all, are but mortal. They must be fed like us vulgar secular folk. They have generally large families, for it is a proverb that missionaries breed like rabbits. Their quivers are mostly full. But, if the Mission House shows a scant array of proselytes, it has a chance of being shut up, the quiver full of little arrows, the bow and its string, being flung upon the world. Hence, the reverend gentleman in the mission line hunt up for converts, as a gamekeeper does for hares. They parade them about dressed in spotless white "simplex mundities" in their boggies. It is their supreme delight to be seen driving their converts by the bandstand. This is especially the case, under the regime of our sanctified Governor. — *Dangerous the peace.* But as it does not, the force should not be suffered to proceed. For what is the object of this "right of asylum" assumed by alleging that it is to protect the child, who, if he went home would be ill-treated by his friends. But what an allegation! It is certain that if the child dare not encounter prosecution for the sake of his adopted religion he is not worth protecting. The strength of mind to resist the agony of bereaved parents is not very beautiful in a child which is afraid of a little rating, and perhaps a whipping. But to possess themselves of such a child, who at best is a most imperfect Christian, who is a convert, as well as one who forgets to "honor his father and mother," missionaries do not scruple to set a whole population in a blaze. They appeal for the support of Government, and the Government accord them its police. Disgraceful sufferings occur; and the probable result in each case is conversion to the child—transportation to the parent. But this is nothing in comparison to the general prejudicial effect. The tale is told with all the exaggeration of which heated imaginations are capable; it flies from mouth to mouth, from hundreds to thousands, from thousands to millions. It undoes in a day the work of the steadfast policy of fifty years. Men, whose districts have remained in undisturbed loyalty for generations, observe troublous symptoms rising in all directions around them.

This is the result of supporting and countenancing an ill-bred, ill-educated, ill-conditioned set of missionaries, who dread that the bellies of themselves and their children will be as empty as their mission houses, unless efforts are made to fill the latter with proselytes. So it is they go, "sans peur sans reproche."

But our admirable chief justice, Sir C. Rawlinson, has, for a time, managed to throw cold water upon the enthusiasm of these reverend gentlemen. A most monstrous case, the other day, was brought up in our Supreme Court. One Pachary Chitty had a son, whom he sent to be educated at the first native educational institution at Madras. While the boy was at this institution, he fell in with the agents of the missionaries, who induced him to attend at one of their places for teaching Christianity. The boy continued his intercourse with the missionaries for upwards of five months. This was kept an entire secret from his parents. At the end of the period, the father learned from the missionaries that his son was at their mission house, and was about to embrace Christianity. The poor man who knew that this involved loss of caste, which is dreaded by the Hindus even more than death, immediately sent to the mission, and entreated his son to return home with him. The boy backed up by the presence of the ministers and a number of little converts, refused to go. The father then requested to be allowed a private interview with the boy. This the missionary denied, exclaiming, "You worship mud and stones [a falsehood as gross as ever told of a Hindoo]; your son has come to the right path; I shall not give him up to you." On this the father went away, telling the missionary, Braidwood, that he would resort for justice to the Supreme Court. Then the missionaries, after playing the farce of offering to this child of 13 years old a liberty of choice, i.e., whether he would remain with them or go home to his father, had recourse to what they expected would settle the matter. They gave him some supper, and thereby made him an out-caste. But this plot did not succeed. The father moved in the Supreme Court a writ of *habeas corpus* to bring up the body of his son, alleging that the boy was a minor, not being 14 years old; and Sir C. Rawlinson ordered the lad to be restored to his parent. The most disgraceful portion of the case was the false affirmation of the missionaries that the lad was 16 years of age. They have not the least evidence to bear them out on this point, while the boy had not the appearance of being even the age stated by the father. All that they could allege was that the child had told him, that when he was dangerous, ill, three years ago, he had heard his mother say he was 12. The learned judge displayed much emotion and indignation, reproaching the disingenuous conduct of the missionaries, and their secret system of operations, in the warmest terms. "It would do no good," said he, "to the religion to which they belonged and publicly professed—this taking advantage of an inclination of a run-away school boy to throw off the parental control." It would not, indeed!

LORD ELGIN IN JAPAN.—The following interesting letters have been forwarded to *Times* for publication:—

"Aug. 13.—"We arrived at Nagasaki upon the 3d inst. It is one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen, the land high and precipitous, some of the hills rising to 1,500 feet, covered with fine trees and vegetation of all kinds, the most common tree being not unlike a magnificent Scotch fir. The outer harbour is formed partly by islands, partly by the main land, the islands rising perpendicularly out of the sea. From the outer there is no appearance of the inner harbour, till you are almost at the head of the former, when the inner suddenly opens to the view round some wooded islets, the town of Nagasaki lying at the further end, built in a valley formed by two hills, up the sides of which a few temples and houses have crept. Nagasaki is the port at which the Dutch have been for 200 years, on a small island connected with the town by a small bridge; the island is only about 400 yards long by 300 broad, and, till within the last few years, the Dutch were kept rigorously to it, never being allowed in the town or country. Everywhere foreigners are received with the greatest civility by the people. There are two Emperors of Japan, one the spiritual, the other the working one. The former lives at Miako, and is the descendant of the old race who were turned off the throne by the ancestors of the reigning Emperor. The spiritual Emperor has nothing to do with governing the country, and is partly looked up to as a heavenly being, one condition of which is that everything he wears or uses is destroyed each night, and new clothes supplied the next morning. It is to prevent any one using the sanctified garments. The reigning Emperor lives here, and is elected, but in what manner I am not sure, but I believe by the Princes. It appears a mere nominal election, for the son regularly succeeds the father, and has done so since his ancestor usurped the throne. I believe the descent of the spiritual Emperor can be traced, names and dates, with many of the branches of his family, for 2,500 years. The country is held by Princes, who owe feudal duty to the reigning Emperor, who obliges them to reside for six months in the year at Jeddo, with their families; during the other six months he allows them to visit their estates, but keeps their families hostages in Jeddo. This restrains them, and the practice is intended to prevent the Princes from obtaining too much influence over the people. It is difficult to discover what the military system of the empire is, but that it must have the power of bringing an immense number of men into the field is beyond doubt—they have numerous and well-appointed batteries."

"Nagasaki, and everything Japanese, bears a striking contrast to everything Chinese. You cannot be five minutes in Japan without seeing it is a progressive nation—the country towns, houses, and people, all show this. The streets are wide and paved in the centre, houses open throughout on the ground floor, with matting, formed in frames, sitting neatly all over the rooms. On this they sit, sleep, and eat, and everything is kept scrupulously clean. Behind each house is a small garden, with a few green shrubs, and occasionally a fine tree. Cleanliness seems one great characteristic of the Japanese; they are constantly washing in the most open manner. To our great surprise, as we wandered the first day through the streets, we saw two or three ladies quietly sitting in tubs in front of their doors washing themselves with the utmost unconcern, traffic and the business through the street going on past them. We understood afterwards it was a general custom. The Japanese are eager for knowledge. There was a people more ready to adapt themselves to the changes and progress of the world than they are. It is curious that while some of their customs are what we would deem rather barbarous, and while they are ignorant of many common things, while they still rip themselves up, and show their horses with straw because ignorant of any other method, they have jumped to a knowledge of certain branches of science which it has taken nations in Europe hundreds of years to attain. At Nagasaki they can turn out of their yard an engine for a railway or steamer; Japanese captains and engineers command their men of war, of which there are steamers; they understand the electric telegraph; they make thermometers and barometers, theodolites, and, I believe, aerolites. Their spy-glasses and microscopes are good, and very cheap. They have a large glass manufactory which turns out glass little inferior to our own. They have a short line of railway somewhere in the interior, given by the Americans. Many of them speak Dutch, some English, all anxious to learn; everything is done by themselves, and when it is considered that it is not much more than ten years ago since they made this start the advance they have made in that short time is perfectly wonderful."

"A yacht having been sent by the Queen to be given to the Emperor of Japan, we left Nagasaki with her for that place, our squadron consisting, besides her, only of the Retribution and a gunboat. After her, only of the Retribution and a gunboat. After five days, three of which were spent in a very heavy