

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

DEPARTURE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES FROM PARIS.—Count Biul and Baron de Manteuffel took leave of the Emperor of the French on Thursday and on Friday they left Paris—the Count for Vienna, the Baron for Berlin.

The *Independence Belge* states positively that more discussions upon the Italian question have taken place in the conferences. At the last sitting, Russia and Austria maintained that every sovereign has the right to call in the aid of another power, and to retain that aid as long as she chooses, without consulting the wishes of other states. England and Piedmont maintained a contrary opinion, and so lively was the debate that Lord Clarendon, it is asserted, allowed an expression to escape him, when speaking of Austrian policy, which is not likely to find a place in the *procès verbal*. He described it as "an infernal policy."

The belief (says the *Daily News*) which we expressed on a previous occasion, that Count Cavour had not presented a formal memorial on the affairs of Italy to the assembled members of the conferences, proves to have been well founded. The count merely placed in the hands of the English and French plenipotentiaries a minute, which was read at one of the meetings. Conference has taken no action upon that minute; in fact, conference can and will do nothing in the matter.

The *Times* correspondent, writing on the 25th ult.:—"The desire of the French Government to conclude peace, the limited term of the armistice, and the absolute necessity of adopting a resolution before its expiration, compelled the Plenipotentiaries to leave several questions unexamined or unsettled, contrary, perhaps, to their intentions when they first assembled in congress. Not the least important of these questions is that of the Danubian Principalities, which, besides its intrinsic merits, preserves a paramount interest, having been the immediate cause of the war. Lord Clarendon will, no doubt, explain fully to Parliament the reason of this incompleteness, as well as the intention of the allied Governments with respect to the present and future condition of those provinces."

In addition to a French naval expedition which is fitting out to demand satisfaction from the Queen of Madagascar for injuries done to Frenchmen, there is a rumor (says the *Daily News*) of a smaller French flotilla being in preparation for opening communications with and seeking redress from the President of Paraguay, for acts of oppression inflicted on French immigrants.

The *Moniteur* says:—"All the despatches received from the army in the East agree in pointing out a very great improvement in the health of the army, and it may be hoped that the epidemic which during this long winter has committed ravages among our troops in the Crimea and in our hospitals at Constantinople will soon entirely disappear."

Despite these reassuring accounts, the Government has taken precautionary measures to avoid the return of our soldiers to France being a source of apprehension to the population. With this object in view, camps have been established not far from Hyères, in isolated localities, such as the islands of Porquerolles, of St. Marguerite, and Cavalaire. The troops will make a long or short sojourn, as the case may be; in these camps, and will not enter France until it shall have been ascertained beyond a doubt that there are no germs of malady among them.

BAPTISM OF THE IMPERIAL PRINCE.—A correspondence from Rome in the *Univers* states that the baptism of the Imperial Prince will take place on the 21st of June (the anniversary of the coronation of the present Pope), but it would appear from the following paragraph in the *Constitutionnel* that the 9th of June is to be the day:—"The baptism of the Prince Imperial (fixed, as already stated, for the 9th of June) will take place before the close of the session, so that the whole of the great bodies of the state will be able to be present at it. The six French Cardinals and a number of Bishops are to be summoned to Paris to receive the Cardinal from the court of Rome who is to be charged to represent the Pope as godfather to the Prince Imperial."

AUSTRIA.

The following is a letter of the *Times* correspondent, dated 20th ult.:—"Whatever pains may be taken to conceal the fact, it is certain that Austria is disappointed and chagrined at the result of the Paris Conferences. The policy by which that Empire has attained extension is familiar to the world in a Latin distich. That policy has been successful; but it is of a kind which is more characteristic of petty timid States than of a great Power whose daring ambition is half redeemed by the boldness of its conceptions and its acts. Austria has not varied for the last three years, and when the President of the Vienna Cabinet came to take his seat in the Congress, it was no doubt in the full confidence of reaping the fruits of a system which was not wholly treacherous, nor entirely loyal, but which, ever hesitating between friend and foe, kept nervously faithful to its own interests, as the needle, sensitive to the slightest breath, still turns, as it trembles to the Pole."

The *Gazette de Vienna* publishes a lengthy article upon the present attitude of Austria in the Italian question. This journal asserts, with emphasis, that the measures which Austria has taken in the Duchy of Parma had previously been approved of by France, and that the two powers, having common interests to preserve, have also a perfect understanding upon all points, and are determined to prevent the ambition of Piedmont, and the efforts of the national party, from disturbing the cause of law and order in the Italian peninsula. "England," says the Austrian journal, "which omitted to send her vessels to pro-

tect the fabulous constitution of Sicily, although she had guaranteed it, will take care also not to despatch one single steamer to the coasts of Italy to feed the *verve* of the London press. Under these circumstances, the guarantee against emissaries and *colporteurs* of subversive ideas, which Austria has established on the frontier of Parma, will neither affect the treasury of our empire nor increase its army."

ITALY.

The newspapers remark that at Turin no rejoicings have hailed the return of peace. Victor Emmanuel is at least so far sincere. It would have been like the rejoicings of a disappointed wrecker at the safe arrival in harbor of a rich vessel which had narrowly escaped the rocks. Count Cavour is in London, and reported to be in communication with the most extreme of the friends of revolution.—*Weekly Register*

FRUITS OF M. CAVOUR'S TEACHINGS.—The criminal statistics of the Sardinian States present a frightful increase in the more savage and deadly crimes; though, indeed, with our own London and English murder and poison lists before us, we can scarcely throw a stone at our neighbors. While Cavour was supposed to be declaiming against the Papal States and their misgovernment, the prisons of Turin held eight individuals condemned for deliberate assassination, and two others had been just executed; two others have been condemned for the same horrible crime, committed in one case on a lady, in the other on a priest. A short time ago a retired officer in Sassan, for a disappointment in marriage, murdered his fiancée, her father, her mother, her uncle, her aunt, and even the house servant. He was allowed to escape by some informality in his sentence. We have before us lists of such crimes, enough to crowd our columns. The Sardinians are visibly progressing certainly.—*Northern Times*.

At Genoa a report is current that a conference will be held, ere long, at Rome, to determine the future arrangements for Italy. According to this story, the ambassadors residing at Rome will take part in the conference, and England, not having a minister there, will be represented by Lord Normanby, who resides at Florence. A conference of a similar character was held in Rome in 1831.

A letter from Rome of the 13th April says:—"If the temporal affairs of the Holy See are not in a flourishing condition, the same cannot be said of its spiritual affairs. An improvement has taken place in its relations with Spain, Naples, and Russia. Those with Austria never were more friendly. The Holy See has received from some Greek patriarchs adhesions to the book of the theologian Psiriottis, entitled *The Eastern Church*, and a reconciliation is consequently expected. It will be one of the great results of the memorable war terminated by the Congress of Paris. The Czar renounces the projects of Peter the Great upon Constantinople, and is about to direct particular attention to the Asiatic side of his empire, where he may do whatever he pleases. The Greeks of Turkey and of Hellenia, relying no longer on the autocrat, may have listened to the suggestions of the emissaries of Rome, and taken into serious consideration the doctrines of the theologian of Scio, who desires their reunion with the Holy See. As respects the relations of Rome with Russia, it is certain that M. Kisseleff will arrive here with a project of concordat, now preparing in the Ministry of Public Worship at St. Petersburg. Ten Catholic episcopal sees are to be re-established in Poland and in Russia.—In the Ministry of Public Worship there is to be a special office for Catholic affairs, the director of which is to be in correspondence with the Secretary's Office of the Holy See. Strange to say, Rome experiences greater difficulties in coming to a good understanding with the King of Naples. The latter, like the Czar, wishes to be Pope, but only in the island of Sicily, and not in the provinces at this side of the Straits. The journal *Civiltà Cattolica*, the organ of the Jesuits, has been readmitted into the kingdom of Naples, where the animosity is no longer what it was three years ago, when the Neapolitan manifested the intention of seizing on the Papal principalities of Irenento and Ponte Corvo, which are enclosed within the kingdom of Naples. The Emperor of Austria is expected in the course of the summer, and the Quirinal Palace is being sumptuously fitted up for his reception. It is also considered probable that the Emperor of Russia will undertake a journey to the west of Europe after his coronation and come to Italy for his mother, the widow of the Czar Nicholas, who is ordered to the South for the benefit of her health."

Another letter from Rome says:—"It appears to be decided on that it will be Cardinal Patrizzi who will proceed to Paris for the baptism of the Prince Imperial. His Eminence will, it is said, be accompanied by two Archbishops. The Pope will send a handsome dress for the baptism in a splendid box, which is now being manufactured for the occasion. He also sends a fine reliquary, and will add to the golden rose intended for the Empress, and which is generally sent alone, a magnificent gold cup enriched with precious stones."

Soon after the conversion of Mr. Oldham, a Novena was made at the Gesù, for the conversion of the Protestants in Rome. The first or second day, an American gentleman made his abjuration; before the end of the Novena two Germans did likewise; and the week after, several Englishmen were received into the Church. I heard of one or two every day for a week. In consequence of this great and speedy result of the Novena, another was instituted as a thanksgiving, in the church of St. Lorenzo, in Lucina, at the altar of the Heart of Mary. There was a Mass at half-past seven, and a Mass, Prayers, and Benediction at eleven. I remember that the good Bishop of Southwark used to say when he was thanked for any of his many acts of kindness, "Thanks are a mode for asking for more." His

Master no doubt will receive them in the same way, and give us more and more souls for our thanksgiving.—*Cor. of Weekly Register*.

THE HOLY SEE AND PIEDMONT.—A Paris letter, in the *Armonia* of Turin, contains some details relative to the probable reconciliation of Piedmont with the Court of Rome, which, however, must be received with reserve. It says:—

"Be certain of this, that a high personage sent for Count de Cavour, and said to him: 'Now that peace is concluded, Piedmont ought to think of effecting a reconciliation with the Holy See.' He then insisted on the scandal of a prolonged rupture of the kind now existing; spoke of the religious character of the house of Savoy; and dwelt on the necessity of dynasties remaining faithful to their tradition. Count de Cavour promised that Piedmont would open fresh negotiations with Rome provided France would act mediating power. A communication was immediately opened with Cardinal Antonelli in that sense, and that high dignity replied by one of those letters which give a high idea of the good sense and straightforward dealing of the writer."

The correspondent from Paris says that he has been able to obtain an analysis of the Cardinal's reply, which was to the following effect:—

"It commences by thanking France for the solicitude which she manifested, and then proceeds to make a distinction between the two kinds of mediations generally seen in political affairs. The first enters into the very groundwork of the matters in dispute, weighs the reasons for and against, decides which party is right, and recommends the arrangements which ought to be decided on. The second kind consists simply in employing one's good offices, but without presuming to decide the questions in dispute. That being laid down, it was evident that the Holy See, in its difference with Piedmont, could not accept a mediation of the first description. The dispute did not regard political, but Ecclesiastical questions involving the doctrine and discipline of the Church. But on such questions the Holy See was the only competent judge. As to the second kind of mediation, the Holy See would see with joy France employing her good offices; but it was with Piedmont that she would have to act, since it was that power which up to the present time had thrown obstacles in the way of a prompt and equitable arrangement. The Holy See had always manifested the most conciliatory dispositions, as was clearly proved by the series of documents published by the Secretary of State's office, and which had up to the present time remained without a word of reply."

The letter then goes on to say:—

"The moderation of this answer was highly pleasing to France, and Count de Cavour himself was obliged to admit its perfect propriety. It is consequently in the sense mentioned by the Cardinal that will take place the mediation of France between Piedmont and Rome. In other terms, France will act on the cabinet of Turin to induce it to open negotiations with good faith and with the sincere desire to bring them to a successful issue. One of the first points will be to persuade Piedmont to recognize that Concordats are obligatory. It would be ridiculous, in fact, to negotiate a new Concordat, if Piedmont should persist in maintaining that Concordats do not bind the governments which sign them. Those who are not short-sighted see that an accord between Piedmont and the Holy See cannot be effected either with the present ministry or with the Chamber of Deputies now sitting at Turin."

RUSSIA.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of the 15th of April, publishes a despatch from General Luders, to the effect that since the declaration of peace the greatest friendship exists between the Russian and French soldiers in the Crimea.

The *Commercial Gazette* of St. Petersburg publishes the following letter, addressed by 12 English merchants of the port of St. Petersburg, to the Minister of Finances:—

"On the very first apprehension of the eventuality of a rupture between Russia and Great Britain, your Excellency deigned in the name of the late Emperor Nicholas, of glorious memory, generously to declare to the English merchants, that, even in case of war, their persons and property would remain inviolable."

"In consequence of the magnanimous views of the Russian Government British subjects domiciled in the Empire have, throughout the whole of the war, enjoyed not only perfect personal security and inviolability of their property, but also all the rights of export and import trade."

"To-day in the midst of the general rejoicing at the conclusion of peace, and the re-establishment of friendly relations between the Powers who were at war, we feel it a sacred duty to address to your Excellency the very humble prayer of placing at the feet of His Imperial Majesty the sentiments of our most profound and most respectful gratitude for the protection granted to us, and under which we have not ceased, during the war, to enjoy in Russia the same security and welfare as Russian subjects."

The Minister of Finance had the honor of communicating this letter to His Imperial Majesty, who deigned graciously to accept the expression of the sentiments it contained.

From the following recent anecdote we shall acquire a somewhat higher opinion than has been hitherto entertained of the Emperor's intellectual qualifications, and a confirmation of all that has been reported of his justice and discriminating goodness. It appears that at a dinner party in St. Petersburg there had been a number of remarks made, and expressions used unfavorable to the Emperor, his measures, and more particularly to the peace. A complete report of all that took place, the name of the host, the names of his 15 guests, and the expressions used, was forwarded to the Empress Mother in an

anonymous letter. The Emperor, on receiving this document, from his mother, had the giver of the party sent for, and told him what he had heard of him and his friends, and asked for the names of all the guests assembled at his table on the occasion in question. This list of names included 16 guests, and that name among them that had not been found among the 15 named in the denunciation was, of course, that of the anonymous writer. This latter, a colonel in the Guards, was sent for, and the Emperor addressed him as follows:—

"You seem to have an inclination, as well as some talent, for service in the police force or the Gendarmerie; if you like to enter it you can; but the Guards is not the place for you. If, on the other hand, you prefer to leave the service altogether, you shall find your *carré* ready for you."

The giver of the party, however, came off with only a few words of reproof and warning from the Emperor.—*Times Correspondent*.

THE BRITISH ARMY.

(From *Times special Correspondent*.)

Camp before Sebastopol, April 11.

The preparations for the speedy evacuation of the Crimea are pressed on with rapidity and energy. Each division collects about 4,000 shot a day, and they are carried to Balaklava as fast as the means at our disposal—railway and land transport—will permit. It is stated that 6,000 Sardinians will be the first to leave, and the Guards will probably be the first English troops to quit the scene of their suffering, of their endurance, and of their glory. Alas! how many will lie here till the Judgment day! Who can tell how many have perished whose lives might have been spared—how many an unknown grave might have been untenanted—how many a life wasted which ought to have been saved to the country, to friends, to an honored old age! These questions may never be answered, least of all are they likely to be answered in Chelsea Hospital, where the very banners would fall with leaden weight upon the heads of those who would speak the truth that is in them. It is for the country to see that such queries shall not again lie in the mouths, even of the ignorant civilian. Heaven lets loose all its plagues on those who delight in war, and on those who shed men's blood, even in the holiest cause. The pestilence by day and night, the deadly fever, the cholera, dysentery; the incompetence, and stupidity, and apathy of chieftains; the strategical errors of great captains; culpable inactivity and fatal audacity,—all these follow in the train of victorious armies, and kill more than the bullet or the sword. The triumphant General is struck, as it were, by palsy in the midst of his ovation, and the applauding shouts of his soldiers are turned into revilings and execrations ere the pageant has run its course. But war has its rules. The bloody profession by which liberty is achieved or crushed—by which States are saved or annihilated, has certain fixed principles for its guidance, and the homœopathic practitioner in the art, or the quack, the charlatan, or the noble amateur, will soon be detected and overwhelmed in the horrors of ruin and defeat. Perhaps on no occasion has the neglect of the course of regular practice been so severely punished, even although in the end the object has been gained, than in the siege of Sebastopol. It is the first instance on record in which such a place has been taken by the mere fire of artillery; for it is admitted by the Russians that even if the assault on the Malakoff had been repelled they must have abandoned a place exposed in every nook and chink and cranny, to such a fire that the very heavens seemed to rain shot and shell upon them. We lost an army in establishing that fire, and we have not—(notwithstanding the honored words of Lord Palmerston, every soldier here feels what I say is the truth)—we have not added to our reputation—nay, we have not sustained it—in attacks of the 18th June and of the 8th September. And will it be said that because the particulars of those conflicts have been made known to the world, and because the daring, the devotion, the gallantry, the heroism of our officers and men have been displayed before its eyes, that the English nation has lost its military prestige? Would it have been possible, think you, to have concealed and slurred over our failures? Would it have been better to have let the story be told in Russian despatches, in French *Moniteurs*, in English *Gazettes*? No; the very dead on Calicut's hill would be wronged as they lay mute in their bloody shrouds, and calumny and falsehood would insult that warrior race, which is not the less Roman that it has known a Trebia and a Thrasymene. We all feel well that it was no fault of our officers or men that we did not take the Redan, and we can point to the trenches piled deep with our gallant allies before the Redan of Careening Bay and the Central Bastion, and to the Malakoff won without the loss of 200 men, and invoke the goddess Fortune! Alas, she does not always favor the daring; she leaves them sometimes lifeless at the bloodstained embrasure, before the shattered traverse, in the deadly ditch, and she demands, as hostages for the bestowal of her favors, skill and prudence, as well as audacity and courage.

Every statement made by the Russian officers in conversation concur in this, that we might have taken Sebastopol in September, 1854; that they were not only prepared to abandon the city to its fate, but that they regarded it as untenable and incapable of defence, and had some doubts of their position in the Crimea itself till our inaction gave Menschikoff courage, and gave him hopes of an honorable defence, which might enable him to hold us in check, or to expose us to the attack of overwhelming masses. They admit that their great error was the assumption of a simple defensive attitude after the battle of Inkermann, and they now feel that they ought to have renewed the attack upon our enfeebled army notwithstanding the terrible loss they suffered in that memorable action. It may be mere military fanfaronade on their part to put forward such an assertion, but one and all the Russians declare that they could have retaken the Malakoff under the fire of their ships, but that it had been clearly demonstrated since the fire opened on September 5th, that it would be impossible to hold the south side under the increasing weight and proximity of the bombardment. "It was a veritable butchery, which demoralized our men so far as to make them doubt the chances of continuing the struggle. We lost 3,000 men a day. No part of the city was safe, except the actual bomb-proofs in the batteries. We were content to have beaten the English at the Redan, to have