

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The French Government by no means sees the end of its difficulties, and perhaps its anxieties with respect to the Mexican affair were never more serious than at the present moment. It denies, and I believe with truth, that it has received protest or remonstrance from the United States' Government with respect to its interference in Mexico, and to its attempt to establish there an empire with a European Prince at its head. But, although nothing of this kind has as yet officially passed, there is reason for expecting that it will do so, perhaps at an early date, especially if the tide of success continues to set in favor of the Federals. The reasonable conviction is entertained in high quarters here, and is shared by the Mexicans themselves, that there will be little security for the territory, or duration of the new empire, unless a broad barrier can be interposed between it and the encroaching spirit of the North American federation. That barrier would be found in the establishment of the Southern Confederacy, which, having already a vast territory, far greater than it requires for its population, would readily enough recognize and guarantee the new Mexican State, especially if some inducement were offered to it by France. Had the French been able, as last year it was sanguinely anticipated would be the case, to bring matters in Mexico to their present point several months ago, when the Confederate arms were in the ascendancy and the Confederate cause looked bright and hopeful, the difficulty now existing would have been much diminished, and it is probable that the Emperor Napoleon, who, it is well known, now considers that it was a mistake to recognize the blockade of the Southern ports, would then have recognized the Southern Confederacy. But matters have changed since then, and there is no concealing the fact that the prospects of the Confederates have got much worse, and that a mere recognition, unaccompanied by the opening of the ports or some other material success, would not be of much use to them. The question, then, for the French Government has been giving them such assistance as would necessarily involve it in a war with the Northern Union, or allowing them to be overcome and so compromising the future of the Mexican State, which it is now in the act of establishing, and which it may, indeed, almost be said to have created out of social and political chaos. The objections to any step leading to a war with the United States are great and evident. Among the chief of them may be set down the difficulty and enormous expense of carrying on a conflict of such a character, the unpopularity in France of such a war, the cry that would be got up by the opposition against French troops being applied to the maintenance of slavery. This is the immediate evil; the other, although somewhat more remote and less positive, is evidently looked upon here as one most urgent to guard against. The Federal Government may as yet have taken no official step in the matter, but numerous private letters from America express the strong disapprobation there felt with the proceedings of France in Mexico, and the conviction that the Government of Washington reckons on not allowing the arrangements that have been made to remain long without very serious motives. The position the French Government finds itself in is delicate and difficult, and you may depend that the Mexican affair is at this moment the principal subject of its thought and anxiety. The affairs of Poland, as regards the present, completely fill the mind. With respect to the rumored alliance between France, Prussia and Austria, you will have seen that the Paris semi-official papers of the 28th inst. do not speak of any such alliance, however, and it has been the subject of a leading article in the "Morning Post" of the 27th inst. in which it is stated that the "alliance" has been attempted on the part of Austria, whether instigated or not, is not mentioned by either of the two other Powers. It is reported that the Emperor Napoleon has called the Tribunal of Commerce of Lyons to inquire into an insurance case involving the question of the Alabama prize, a pretence. The tribunal was that the Alabama has not been built in England, and nor incurred the expense of armaments.

CONFEDERATE VESSELS AT NANTES. - The "Paris de la Loire" publishes the following under the heading of "Mysteries of the Atlantic": Nantes has its maritime mysteries. There are now building in its yards two iron steamers, the appearance of which excites the more curiosity as their owners and their destination are completely unknown. The smallest of them cannot be built in secret for one reason. In yards which are accessible to every eye, and a full view of a large dimension cannot be hidden. The practice of one of our most successful and most profitable of our maritime trade is to build vessels of this kind in secret, and to have them ready for ordinary navigation. Everyone is so sure that they are intended, and as no one can answer the question positively, the fact remains open to conjecture. The fitness of their hulls is evident; they are almost flat, narrow, and with bows as sharp as the blade of a razor. Their length is 200 feet, and they have engines of 400 horse power, and are planned for twenty-two knots. The government speed will not be less than twenty knots an hour. The plan was furnished to the builders, who had only to follow it. The hull is in wood, but there is a quantity of iron work, which will give them very great strength. What causes considerable curiosity is the fact that they are to be delivered to a foreign owner in twenty days of the date. There are two similar vessels built in the yard of the Arsenal at Bordeaux. The other was given by a house in this place for one hundred, but no one knows for whom, and the builders are no wiser. These vessels cannot be intended for carrying freight, as the fitness of the hull makes them in no condition of their tonnage. According to some persons they belong to a company which intend them for the Cuba packet service, while others think that the preparations for armament are not consistent even with the conveyance of dispatches, and therefore consider them built for warlike purposes. The most generally credited version is that they may, when built, take their place among the Confederate fleet, of which the Suter was the pioneer. For our part, we give no opinion on the subject; we confine ourselves mere to reporting those of others.

FRANCE AND AMERICA. - The Paris correspondent of the Standard writes, Sept. 9: The step taken by President Davis, in calling out an army of blacks, has produced a most favorable impression in France. The "Presse" describes it as "the greatest victory ever won by the South." The "France" expresses itself to a similar effect, and the dismay it has produced among the Northern clique may be judged of by the intensity of their efforts to represent it as portending the end of the struggle. This, however, is quite in keeping with Northern views on other subjects. The Northern idea of neutrality is, that the Federals should be able to procure arms, ammunition, and all the implements of war in neutral states, but the extension of the privilege to the Confederates is a breach of neutrality. They are fortunate, however, in the fact of there being a Palmerston-Russell Ministry at the head of affairs in England whose pusillanimity prevents them from correcting these Yankee notions on international law. The papers say that Count de Montebello, formerly Consul-General at New York, will shortly proceed to Mexico as French Minister resident. The Mexican Minister in Paris will be, it is expected, Senor Hidalgo, who has been secretary to Mexican Legations in Madrid and Paris, and who is one of the members of the deputation charged to offer the Mexican Crown to the Archduke Maximilian. La France, touching upon the declaration of the Journal de St. Petersburg, says: - "If the party of resistance in St. Petersburg has definitively carried the day, it is to be lamented that Russia has not known how to seize the happy opportunity offered to escape the dangerous position created by her policy with regard to Poland." The "Siecle" publishes an article upon the Polish question signed by the editor, M. Havu, stating that the declaration of the Journal de St. Petersburg shows that Russia is not more accommodating at present than in July. The "Siecle" thinks it impossible that France, England, and Austria should tolerate the present position of affairs. They will be forced to take one part or another, and say plainly yes or no. If England and Austria should decline to sanction an ultimatum in reply to the unmeaning notes in which Russia scoffs at their remonstrances, the other powers will be ready to go hand-in-hand with France for the deliverance of Poland. The Memorial Diplomatique publishes the following: - "We believe that all that can be stated with certainty respecting the intentions of Russia towards Poland is reduced to this. It is decided in principle that a constitution and provincial institutions will be given to every portion of Russia. This determination has been communicated to the great Powers. No definitive steps have as yet been taken. The Marquis Wielopolski and a person of high rank (who has recently been on a mission to Paris) have been called to St. Petersburg, to co-operate in drawing up the project of the new constitution." THE NAVAL FORCE OF FRANCE. - The naval force of France consists of 94 iron-plate screw vessels, carrying 1,143 guns; 187 screw vessels, not iron-plate, carrying 5,602 guns; 86 paddle-wheel steamers, carrying 534 guns; and 111 sailing vessels, carrying 2,480 guns; that is, 473 ships, carrying 9,718 guns. The naval force of Russia consists of the Baltic fleet, numbering 9 ships of the line, 14 frigates, 6 corvettes, 28 steamers, and 5 transports; of the Black Sea fleet, numbering 42 war steamers; of the Armored of the Caspian Sea, numbering 2 steamers and 10 transports; of the White Sea fleet, numbering 5 steamers, and of the Lake Aral fleet, numbering 2 steamers; or 147 ships of war. - Express.

Among the passengers on board the steamer Sabel which, as we have already mentioned, was recently lost on the coast of Catalonia, were six Sisters of Charity. When assistance came to the vessel they were requested to go into the first boat, but with an admirable spirit of abnegation and Christian charity they refused, saying, "First save the other women, children, and every one else; we shall be the last to quit the vessel." - Guardian.

VIENNA. - The large increase of these replies in France, observed of late years, has become serious enough to induce the Government to suggest to the councils-general of departments the propriety of voting a sum of money for their destruction. - Express.

BELGIUM. The correspondent of the Morning Post writes: - Since the recent session of the Catholic Congress at Malines, there has been manifested an immense amount of activity amongst the leading members of the two great parties that are striving for political pre-eminence in Belgium. Those parties are what is called the Conservative or Catholic party on the one hand, and the Liberal party on the other. The principle organ of the latter party, who are the "ins," is the Independence Belge; that of the Conservative party, who are the "outs," is the Journal de Bruxelles and a force paper war has been raging for some time in the columns of these two prints, as champions of their respective parties. The battle is waxing hotter and more exciting as the 10th of September approaches, the day appointed for the election of a representative for Tournai in the Chambers, in the room of M. Dupret who had retired. The candidates in the field are M. Rozier, the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the chief of the Government on the one side, and M. Louis Demerutier, brother to M. B. Demerutier, member for Louvain, and the great Ultramontane leader in the Chambers on the other. This contest is the first great political battle of the recent Catholic Congress at Malines, and it is pregnant with the most serious consequences as regards the political future of Belgium. There is no doubt that the Catholic party have been acquiring considerable strength in Belgium within the last year or two, both in the Chamber of Representatives and the municipal institutions of the country; whereas the Liberals have been gradually losing ground. The coming election at Tournai may then be looked upon as involving the continuance in office of a Liberal Ministry or the ascendancy once more of a Catholic or Ultramontane party. The greatest interest is felt in the result.

ITALY. - Why are our revolutionists in such affliction at the departure of Sir James Hudson, who for thirteen years has represented England at Turin? Why does the Morning Post call him a departure a national calamity - that is to say, a calamity to revolutionary Italy? Why do Italians, by a name which may more accurately be called unique than rare, give a subscription in honor of an ambassador recalled by his own Government? Why does our representative at London humbly himself and us so far as to entreat of Lord Russell that he would for pity spare Sir James Hudson at Turin, as if his departure would be the origin of every evil to Italy? The diplomatic annals (Blue Books) which the Cabinet of St. James's presented to Parliament and the Notes which Sir J. Hudson wrote, fully answer these questions, and explain the reason of all this. Whatever ambassador may come to Turin, whether viewed as English or as Protestant, he will not be able to equal Sir James Hudson in affection towards the revolution, and in the good faith, loyalty, sincerity, and truth, throughout of the reports sent to his own Government. Our people truly tell us that Mr. Elliott, the successor of Sir James, is the son of Lord Minto, a relation of Lord Russell, and distinguished towards the overthrow of the throne of the King of Naples, at whose court he represented England. In August, 1859, Sir James Hudson, writing to Lord John Russell, stated that if the Duchess of Parma returns to her territories, he had "reason to believe that there would be a repetition of the assassinations of 1854." When Garibaldi and the Marches were involved in the manner that all remember, Sir James Hudson wrote an apology for the invasion to the effect that the inhabitants desired it. The invasion took place, however, without any such approach to a justification, and Sir James, who had applauded the intention, applauded the execution of the plan. When the people were shot down by hundreds, when the country was laid waste, when Naples and Sicily were stained with blood and placed in a state of siege, Sir James did not condescend to give a word of pity to the inhabitants. So far from any such feeling was he that he wrote to his Government, describing the happiness of the Italians, and stating that as for Rome, a French gendarme there mounted guard in a desert. Weep, friends of revolution, and be sad, for such an English Ambassador as Sir James Hudson you will not meet again. Nature having made him, broke the die. - Liberator, of Turin.

The surrender of the five brigades taken from the Annis steamer has been granted. It is believed that the Italian Government will comply with the wish of France that no execution should take place. Turin, Sept. 10. - The Stampa of to-day publishes a letter from the Roman Penitentiary Court to the Italian Bishops, demanding a formal recantation from the Priests who profess principles contrary to those of the Roman Curia, under pain of heavy ecclesiastical punishment. Rome. - The Italian journals, and especially those of the advanced party, are unanimous in their lament over the alliance between France and Austria, which is looked on as the sure precursor of a new settlement on a Federal basis of the Italian question at no distant period and a return to the provisions, at least in a modified form, of the treaty of Zurich, without which understanding it is surmised by the party of action Austria would scarcely have accepted the crown of Mexico for the Archduke Maximilian. Another symptom of the anti-revolutionary tendencies of Germany is the exclusion of the corps diplomatique from the banquet - an exclusion which was caused by the refusal of several of the German princes to sit at the same table with the Italian Minister, whose government has less chances than ever of being recognized by the House of Hapsburg. An autograph letter of Franz Josef has been received by the Pope, stating that the Emperor hoped shortly to be empowered to render more efficient support than he had yet been able to afford to the rights of the Holy See; and a letter from a military friend in Venice, received to-day, confirms entirely the impression entertained by all circles in the Austrian dominions of Northern Italy, that in self-defence a stand, and a very vigorous one, will shortly be necessary on the Venetian frontier. The late demonstration at Ancona almost amounts to a cause belli, and in case the facts may not come before you in another place, I venture to record them. About ten days since Kossuth ordered a medal, struck by the revolutionary committee and commemorative of the rebellion in Hungary in 1848, to be distributed to the Hungarian legion in the Italian service now quartered at Ancona. This was done, and not only this, but the Piedmontese general of division assisted openly at the ceremony, and gave the "Decores" of the military honors. It would be a parallel fact if John Mitchell ordered a medal commemorative of Billingsgate to be distributed to the partners of his rebellion in Paris, and that Marshal Niel or MacMahon assisted, and filed their divisions in salute before Irish heroes. Austria has as yet taken no official notice; but she is biding her time in the probable explanation, and in the army the exasperation is intense. A crisis is, without doubt, hurrying on; and the removal of Sir James Hudson may probably be explained by the foreknowledge of its advent. It is less humiliating to withdraw Sir James Hudson before events have so far hastened matters that it would be a patent necessity, pledged as he is to the maintenance in its integrity of the present regime.

The Italian papers consider it a complete defeat for the advanced party, and a confession that if the statu quo is to be maintained it can only be by a complete modification of policy on the part of Piedmont. The army is now composed of such heterogeneous elements that it is no longer the same force that conquered at Solferino and Magenta. The incorporation of the Neapolitan troops is an omnipresent danger to the Government. In the south they will join the reaction or refuse to act. In the North the first boom of the Austrian cannon on the Po will be the signal for a desertion en masse, as general Neapolitan officers assured my friend before mentioned. The Lombard and Roman troops are, on the other hand, in the power, body and soul, of the secret societies, and the talented old Sevastopol copy writer offered by the Bourne de Sieves, the Berthouze Sambucetti, Catholic in faith and Royalist in tradition, are now transferred en masse to France. The noblesse of Piedmont hate the revolution, and keep aloof from public life, as may easily be seen by taking up a list of employes and Cabinet Ministers. Popoli, Minghetti, Blancpain, Torrens, and Bissolati - these are the names we have heard the most of in late public transactions, and the strength of Piedmont has diminished in proportion to her announcements. The race of the North are a brave, intelligent and active people; but out of their own circle they have no talent for organization, and the most marvellous enthusiasm of taste, feeling, and habits to the Southern population - devoid of adaptability, the first quality necessary to a kingdom extending itself to half-a-dozen other states its superiority, in civilization, arts, literature, and traditions, and misunderstanding all arguments save one - brute force.

KINGDOM OF NAPLES. - The King of Naples. - A letter from Rome has the following: "It has been said that King Francis II, yielding at length to certain urgent entreaties, was on the point of leaving Rome. I hear, on the contrary, that the King and Queen are having repairs made in the Palazzo Reale, which circumstance indicates a prolongation of stay there. Apartments are also being prepared for the Queen-Dowager, who is to return here with the two youngest of the four sons she took with her to the chateau of Welburg. The two others have returned the Austrian army, one in the Franco-Joseph service, and the other in the artillery. Several Neapolitan officers particularly of the navy, and some soldiers forming part of the suite of the Queen-Dowager, are also desirous of joining the Austrian service. Her Majesty is now on a visit to her daughter, the Archduchess Annunziata, wife of the Archduke Charles-Louis." From Naples there is little variation in the chronicle. The troops were kept under arms the whole of the 15th to prevent a demonstration hostile to France, as happened last year, owing to which precipitation the day passed quietly. On the 8th an encounter took place in the Terra di Savora, at Miglion, in which 8 reactionaries were killed. On the 6th there were skirmishes with a favourable result for the Royalists, at Castel Grande, Bisacate. The land of Crocchio, now numbered 290 men, well armed and mounted, is scouring the province of Bari. From Palermo we have six murders, three in broad daylight, and close to the town. Of the last forty there are 1,500 refractory conscripts in the one province of Palermo, 300 at Monreale, 1,500 at Trapani, and 700 at Girgenti. The mist of Naples is now suspended, and hundreds of workmen thereby deprived of bread. This is all the hardware, according to the Monitor, the bronze money now current is coined in Switzerland for the Turin mint. The subscriptions for the survivors and wounded at Pietrarsica are very general; and the amount of the contributions is a sufficient testimony of the universal feeling entertained on the matter. On the 4th of this month the trial for the reaction of San Giovanni, in Rotunda, came to the usual satisfactory close. The jury asked 1095 questions (an item always recorded in reports of Italian courts of justice) (?), and we accused were condemned, four to the galleys for life, two to 19 years, three to 15, and one to 10, besides minor sentences for the rest. I record this for Lord Russell's personal, lest he should be amazed on the score of a relaxation of severity. He will also be happy to hear that the new law is in force, and that suspected persons are to be consigned to a forced residence, under surveillance at the pleasure of the police, utterly irrespective of their condition, profession, or sources of livelihood; that if they escape, their goods (if they have any) are confiscated; and that any person supposed to harbour, harbouring or feeding him, is liable to death, the galleys for life, or for 10, 15, or 25 years; and save with extraordinary circumstances, the maximum is to be inflicted. Now, I ask any rational being if this is liberty? any man of ordinary humanity or Christian principles if this is not a negation of God? The good Samaritan himself would have been arrested as a reactionary under such a regime if the Priest and

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the Levite had chosen to say the wounded man was a brigand, for a simple denunciation is sufficient for the application of the code, and that by a drum-head court-martial. The old idea of deportation en masse is now revived, and several of the Piedmontese organs assert that the Government is in treaty with one of the 5th Article of the law touching forced residences at the choice of the police; and the Cavaliere Felice Cordón has already been despatched to Sardinia and the Mediterranean Islands where a part of the population of the Two Sicilies will be exiled to. The complicity of the people is clearly evidenced by the frequent evasions from prison, and the daily dissolution of the National Guard. At San Marco, in Lameis, the other day, the corporal on guard at the prison liberated two detainees armed with muskets, and fled with them to the bands. In the Stampa, a decree of the 11th publishes the names and offences of the dissolved corps, that of Arcidosso, Niostru, and Birone, for want of zeal; of Guardia, Lombardi, and Mentazzoli, for want of discipline and integrity; of San Marco, for point-blank refusal to act against the Royalists; of Galatone and Sessa, for the same cause. - Cor. of Morning Herald.

As for the English Whig Government to bully the weak and to trample on the strong, and has been, their invariable rule. If an instance be wanted, let us contrast their treatment of King Ferdinand of Naples and of President Lincoln. No one will dispute that the citizens of Palermo were as much subjects of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies as the citizens of Charleston are subjects of the United States of America. If, as President Lincoln maintains, the people of Charleston are rebels, so were the people of Palermo. But when the Generals of King Ferdinand spoke of bombarding Palermo, an immediate interposition took place on the part of the English Government. You shall not commit an act of cruelty so horrible, was the word. Well, now we hear that Generals of President Lincoln are not only bombarding the city of Charleston, but that they are bombarding it with shells filled with Greek fire? What was a barbarity in a King is only manly vigor in a President. - Tithel.

Cardinal Riario Sforza, Archbishop of Naples. - The following letter has appeared in the Times: - "Sir, - In a leading article to-day you describe Cardinal Riario Sforza as 'an ornamental Prelate,' enjoying all the amenities of a luxurious courtly existence. This is a mistake. Cardinal Riario Sforza is a man of saintly and mortified life. Though of princely birth, he has always lived in severe self-denial, devoted to the poor, the sick and the afflicted. I will only mention one trait of his character. When the cholera broke out in Naples he was absent on account of bad health. He immediately hastened to his people. He passed night and day in the hospitals and among the sick, at the risk of his life - dispensing with the most unbounded charity the consolation of religious and temporal relief. He expended all he had. He then sold everything of value that he possessed. When all was gone he borrowed money on his personal credit, that he might relieve the poor. At the termination of the pestilence he was left quite in pecuniary. His heroic charity earned for him the title of 'the St. Charles Borromeo' of Naples. But this is only one instance of the benevolence of a man whose whole life has been constant devotion, charity, and self-denial. Your obedient servant, GEORGE BOWEN.

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