

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE. The special correspondent of the Times, writing from Stuttgart, says: The Emperor Napoleon has not expressed any intention to tamper with his alliance with the English...

The Cologne Gazette speaks of the probability of a congress which is to meet at Paris to arrange the dispute between Denmark and Holstein...

A Paris letter, in the Nord of Brussels, affirms that neither Prince Albert will visit this year the camp of Chalons, nor Queen Victoria Fontainebleau or Compiègne...

The Austrian military police have made some arrests at Bologna, and have adopted unusual precautions in the towns situated on the coast.

At a former period of his life Louis Napoleon, or, as he was then called, Napoleon Louis, lived in Stuttgart as a political refugee, and it was there that he published many of his anonymous works...

The Univers has the following remarks on the Day of Humiliation in Great Britain, and admits that England is still Christian, while deploring that she is not Catholic.

England offers to the world at this moment a magnificent and noble example. An entire nation is doing penance and is humbling itself before God, imploring His pardon for its faults...

The Correctional Tribunal of Paris has decreed the seizure and entire suppression of the "Mysteres du Peuple," by Eugene Sue, a serial commenced so long ago as 1849...

Drunkness (in the towns in the south of France) is rarely seen, street brawling cannot exist, and all public immoralities so offensive to decency are rigidly suppressed.

AUSTRIA.

The financial situation of Austria is said to be deplorable.

The Russians in Vienna give the following account of the circumstances which led to the visit of the Empress Maria to Stuttgart:—One day, while the King of Wurtemberg and his illustrious guests were at dinner, the Emperor Napoleon expressed to the Emperor Alexander his sorrow that he had been deprived of the pleasure of paying his respects to the Empress of Russia.

We read in the Gazette de Bruxelles: "One of the ambulancing missionaries of Protestantism, who has the habit of finding himself twice a week on the Market Place of St. Nicholas, has just been condemned by the tribunal of Termonde to 200 francs fine, and the costs of the process,

under the head of calumny against some members of the Clergy."

ITALY. The Bien Public contains a statistical account of pauperism in the Roman States. It appears that paupers and mendicants living on alms amount to only one in eighty-six persons; the proportion in England and other countries is very much larger.

In Italy, the party of the revolution has succeeded in creating a strong sensation, founded on the exaggerated reports of the imperial conferences at Stuttgart.

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RUSSIA.

THE CZAR'S INSULT TO THE FRENCH EMPEROR.—The Czar returned to Germany with the professed object of accompanying the Empress, his consort, back to St. Petersburg. Her Imperial Majesty was staying with her relations at Darmstadt. There it would have been natural to have expected the interview to have come off.

According to some foreign journals, the long-talked-of emancipation of the Russian serf is at last about to be carried into effect. The scheme consists in compelling all the proprietors of the soil to appropriate to the serfs on their estates a portion of land sufficient for their maintenance.

Three Russian sloops are blockading the Circassian coast. Two Russian gunboats, of the dimensions fixed by the treaty of Paris, have passed the Bosphorous, on their way to the mouth of the Danube.

The Journal de St. Petersburg of the 1st Oct. publishes the following official account of the loss of the Russian ship of the line "Le-lor":—

"It has pleased Providence I should participate in one of the greatest disasters that can happen at sea, and to make me a witness of the instantaneous and inexplicable loss of one of the vessels in my fleet. A few minutes have sufficed for a beautiful ship of the line, thoroughly seaworthy, to be engulfed by the waves during a tempestuous night.

"On the 28th of August (September 9), four ships of the line, the Imperatrice Alexandra, the Vladimir, the Lefort, of 84 guns, and the Pamiat Asova, of 74 guns, which were in the port of Revel, received orders to arm and return to Cronstadt. Ten days afterwards the Pamiat Asova quitted the roads, towed by a steam-frigate. The three other vessels were ready to set sail two days later; they had water and provisions for a month, and their stowage was the same as at the end of their cruise in the preceding year; the Lefort was thoroughly repaired at Cronstadt in 1852. I had received instructions to profit by the favorable weather to set sail, without waiting for the steam-tugs. On the 9th of September (21st) I got under sail with beautiful weather and a favorable breeze from S.S.W., the barometer marking 29.79 English. A little later the wind freshened, and abreast of the island of Rothskar we were obliged to take in two reefs in the topsails. At half-past 8 p.m., after passing the island of Hochland, the fleet was making more than 11 knots. The wind increasing, I ordered a third, and then a fourth reef to be taken in. The barometer being at 29.15, and the weather foggy we sailed as close as possible to the wind, endeavoring to keep our course by short tacks until morning; each time I gave the signal for the manoeuvre. At half-past 11 the wind shifted to the west, at midnight to the north-west, and at 4 o'clock to the north, with squalls and snow. At daybreak we were near the island of Grand-Tuteurs. The fleet was on the starboard tack, the Imperatrice Alexandra a little to windward, and the Vladimir in the wake of the Lefort, with four reefs in her topsails.

"At a distance of five miles from Tuteurs we veered; during our manoeuvre the Lefort appeared to us as if wishing to veer; suddenly a violent squall laid her on her side. Though her sails were let go, she leaned over so much to

board that we expected her masts would go, but she continued gradually to lean over, till she foundered in the short time that the Vladimir took to tack about. The keel of the Lefort appeared once, and was then swallowed up in the waves.

Exclusive of the commander and 12 officers, the vessel had on board, 743 seamen, 53 women, and 17 children; all perished. This disaster took place on September 10 (22) at 23 minutes past 7 a.m., at 5 1/2 miles to the north-north-east of the island of Grand-Tuteurs, at a depth of 30 fathoms. After this unparalleled catastrophe, the wind continuing to increase, we brailed up the foretopsails and topgallant sails, and afterwards the maintopsails; and decided to anchor at a depth of 31 fathoms, letting out all the cable of two anchors. Fifty-three hours afterwards the wind calmed, and the steamers, arriving in the meantime, towed us to Cronstadt.

Signed by the Rear-Admiral, "NORDMAN I."

INDIA.

There were four Catholic Priests murdered at Cawnpore at the general massacre there. The Catholic church is a heap of ruins, also the Protestant church, and all the houses, barracks, &c. Fifteen of our men (the 1st Madras Fusiliers) shared the same fate. Sergeant McGrath, formerly Sergeant-Major of the Native Infantry Depot at Palaveram, was amongst the unfortunates.—Madras Examiner.

A correspondent sends the Daily News the following extraordinary account of a sale of uniforms by Sepoys in Calcutta, and accredits it by stating that it comes to him from a thoroughly respectable source: (Extract of a letter from Calcutta, Aug. 8, 1857.)

"A short time ago a gentleman in Calcutta saw from his window a mob of Sepoys, 100 in number, assembled near one of the gates of Government House, and visibly engaged in selling their uniforms by auction; one of them mounted on a hackney (native cart) acting as auctioneer. The gentleman drove to the Commissioner of Police to inform him of what was going on; he at once proceeded to Major Bouverie, the Governor-General's aid-de-camp, and he reported to Lord Canning. His lordship remarked, 'Oh, another idle tale! but Bouverie said, 'My lord, if you will look out there you can satisfy yourself.' Lord Canning looked, satisfied himself, and instantly gave orders to call a meeting of his council. The sages met, deliberated for some hours; some voted for shooting the Sepoys, others for letting them go; and broke up without coming to any resolution, by which time indeed it was unnecessary, as the Sepoys, having finished their sale of Government property and pocketed its proceeds, quietly walked off. 'This Government, by not seizing and punishing these men, virtually declared that embezzlement and desertion are no crimes, and the Sepoys, emboldened by having insulted the Governor-General, at his own door with impunity, are permitted to leave Calcutta, and will, certainly not forget this original leniency, when levying contributions from the defenceless villagers, as many of them have been doing. The native merchants in Calcutta were astonished. They asked, 'Is the Lord Sahib (the Governor-General), with so many Europeans, afraid of seizing a hundred Sepoys? If he is afraid to do this in Calcutta, then the Company's rule in the Mofussil is indeed over.'"

(From a correspondent of the Tablet.)

Madras, 20th August, 1857.

This day has been set apart, by a mandate of the Lord Bishop of Madras, through the Madras Presidency, as a day of humiliation, fasting, and prayer, to implore the aid of the Divine protection. During the last month or six weeks every European and East Indian in India capable of bearing arms is armed, and nightly patrol the roads and bazaars at their stations. You will be already aware of the awful state of affairs through the medium of the Indian papers. General officers are falling at the head of their troops, and what portion cholera spores is shot down by the rebellious mutineers. Women and children are cruelly butchered, whilst our brave soldiers, surrounded by overwhelming forces, are anxiously looking out for reinforcements, but no reinforcements arrive to avert their sad fate. May the Almighty God have mercy on and pity them. Many a tear will be shed in the three kingdoms whilst reading the sad, sad fate of our brave soldiers. Our army is fast dwindling away, whilst the rebellion spreads. Yet Mr. Vernon Smith coolly assures Mr. Disraeli and the House of Commons that there are troops enough in India to suppress any mutiny.

All were anxiously looking out for the last overland mail, as a report somehow was circulated by the Indian press that 20,000 troops were coming overland; in fact, six steamers were sent to Suez to convey them. Judge, then, of our feelings when we find but 14,000 coming, 3,000 of whom are recruits, and these coming round the Cape. No doubt his Lordship of Madras, when he found that no troops were coming to protect us, thought it high time to call on the Lord to do so; and I have no doubt that on the arrival of the Connaught Rangers, if we can hold out so long; his Lordship will order a day of thanksgiving. Many people think that truth cannot be uttered from a Protestant reading-desk; but this day, when the Clergyman honestly says—"I have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done"—no one will doubt the truth of his assertion. The very last thing done by the Honorable (?) Company was in June, when they thought themselves quite safe in India, to do the Queen's pensioners out of a halfpenny in every rupee, that being the second halfpenny they have done them out of.—The rupee is now paid to the pensioner at 2s 1d whilst the troops are paid at the same rate as heretofore. The Honorable (?) Company know well there is no one to interest himself for the Queen's pensioners. They have done their work, and no more interest is taken in them. Another thing they have done, was to discountenance, as far as possible, the settlement of any European in India. Scarcely a Gazette issues that you will not see it notified that some retired officer, sergeant, or private is "permitted" to reside at some station, and should he wish for a change his name is again in the Gazette, when he is permitted to visit such a station for three or six months as the case may be. The rule has been broken through in June, when the government of Madras solicited as many pensioners as would come from the different stations to reside in Madras, where they are now employed as mounted police, on forty and fifty rupees per mensem, according to rank, but the government has not put their names in the Gazette. No, the confession of their weakness would be too humiliating, and those men who were treated with ignominy have again become their country's defenders. Another instance of the Honorable (?) Company's dislike to Europeans was shown in an order of Lord Dalhousie that passage-money would not be allowed for the son of a discharged soldier if the boy had arrived at the age of fourteen years; but there was no restriction as to the age of the daughters; they might be fourteen or thirty; but if they remained in India they would, of course, get married and increase the European population, whilst the son would answer as a drumboy, and might take up with a native woman. Numerous are the instances of soldiers being refused leave to marry European women, whilst they find no difficulty in being permitted to live out of mess in a state of concubinage with native women. Yes, these things are done by moral, Bible-reading Englishmen, whose names appear at Missionary meetings. They may well have a day of humiliation and prayer, for it would appear that the anger of an offended God has been roused at their robbery of the poor, and worse still, their open encouragement of idolatry.

Numerous Pagan temples in India have attached to them nautch, or dancing girls, literally prostitutes, for whose support a tract of land is given to the temple without assessment. In the Madras Presidency there are, above 100,000 native Christians, but you will not find them in the ranks of the Sepoy. No, if they resist, they will not be promoted. A few days back I inquired from a native Christian Sepoy how many Christians in his corps? About thirty. "I told him I thought there were more, as I had heard they built a little chapel at their last station." "No," he said, "the caste officers tell 'colonel not good thing take Christians; colonel tell: he don't want.' How fortunate would we consider ourselves now with a native Christian regiment? I shall revert to the doings and undoings of the Honorable (?) Company in a future letter, as there are things in this country of which you are not at all aware."

The Mohorum, a Mahometan festival, which lasts for ten days, commences to-morrow, and, no doubt, much blood will be spilt before it is over. Should the Almighty spare me, I will send you a letter every mail.

I trust you will excuse this disjointed epistle; but knowing that you must be acquainted with the state of affairs here, I have confined myself to subjects that dare not appear in the Indian papers.—I am, Sir, yours obediently, A. B.

AN INDIAN JOAN OF ARC.—We find in a letter from an Irish officer, now before Delhi, the following incident of the War. The real original Joan of Arc never surpassed her Indian imitator in beauty or temperance, since we cannot fancy the heroic Frenchwoman regaling herself on English grog, and getting so tight as to be taken prisoner a second time.

An odd episode occurred during the affair of the 18th. The leader of a band of sowars had his horse shot under him as he urged on his unwilling followers to the combat, dressed somewhat gorgeously in a large green turban, loose beshaw, and lace ruffles. He was taken prisoner, and marched to camp; but, before his arrival there, his European captors had discovered in the dashing horseman a weird old woman. In action she had fired on a European soldier, and taken with arms in her hands, she deserved death rather than pity; but English gallantry prevailed, and she was allowed to "gang her ain gate"—a privilege of which she hesitated to avail herself until she had regaled herself to her satisfaction on ration grog. On mature consideration it was considered impolitic to allow her to return to Delhi, where superstition might have invested her with supernatural attributes; she was pursued and overtaken, water-logged, and lodged in durance vile, which promises to continue as long as the war shall last.

INDIAN NAMES.—"Poo" or "pore," which is found to make the termination of so many Indian cities and settlements, signifies town. Thus Nagpore means the Town of Serpents—a definition sufficiently appropriate when we reflect on the treacherous character of the Sepoys by whom it was so recently garrisoned. "Abad" and "patam" also signify town; Hyderabad being Hyder's Town, and Seringapatam—from Sreeing, a name of a god Vishnoo—being the town of Sreeing. Allahabad, from "Allah," God, and "abad," abode, means the Abode of God; that city being the capital of Agra, the chief school of the Brahmans, and much resorted to by pilgrims. Punjab is the country of the Five Rivers, and Donb is applied to part of a country between two rivers.

The Madras Sepoys who have arrived in Calcutta have already gained some little notoriety. Speaking of them, a correspondent of the Phoenix tells the following story, which, whether true or not, our contemporary thinks is too good to be lost.—"One of the Sepoys was asked what caste the men of the Madras regiment were? The answer was—'We are all Christians, except two Protestants in the band.' Little fear of these fellows objecting to greased cartridges."

CHINA.

The official despatches to the French Government from Hong Kong announce that the Court of Peking had returned no reply to the demands for satisfaction addressed to it by the French Minister in China. At the head of the grievances set forth in these demands was the murder of the Abbe Chappelain by the Chinese. There is an impression in Paris that hostile operations will be commenced as soon as Baron Gros arrives at his post.

The Pays states that as soon as Lord Elgin had sailed for India the Viceroy of Canton had issued a proclamation stating that his lordship had been frightened away by a glimpse of the imposing attitude of the Celestial army. The proclamation announces that a new Chinese fleet is in preparation, which will disperse all the enemy's remaining vessels. It terminates with a violent invective against all foreigners.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.—The report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Hudson's Bay Company has appeared in the form of a bulky blue-book of some 500 pages. The committee report their opinion that whatever may be the validity, or otherwise, of the rights claimed by the company under the charter, it is desirable that they should continue to enjoy the privilege of exclusive trade which they now possess, except so far as those privileges are limited by certain special recommendations (of the select committee). These recommendations are to the effect that it is expedient to meet the just and reasonable wishes of Canada,—that she should be enabled to annex to her own territory such lands in her vicinity as may be available to her for the purpose of settlement, &c. The districts on the Red River and the Sas Hatchewan are among those likely to be desired for early occupation, and the committee trust that there will be no difficulty in making arrangements for the cession of these districts to Canada on equitable principles; and in that case the authority of the Hudson's Bay Company within them would of course cease. The committee also consider that it will be proper, as soon as possible, to terminate the connexion of the company with Vancouver's Island, as the best means of favoring the development of the great natural advantages of that important colony. Means should also be provided for the ultimate extension of the colony over any portion of the adjoining continent to the west of the Rocky Mountains, in which permanent settlement may be found practicable. With these exceptions, it is deemed most desirable that the company should enjoy the privilege of exclusive trade, both for the maintenance of law and order, and for the prevention of the fatal effects which would probably result to the Indians from an open competition in the fur trade and the consequent large introduction of spirituous liquors; and also for the prevention of the indiscriminate destruction of the more valuable fur-bearing animals in the course of a few years. The committee hope that the Government will next session be enabled to present a Bill which shall lay the basis of an equitable and satisfactory arrangement. This report was only carried by a majority of 1, the yeas being 6 and the noes 5. Lord Russell, Lord Sandon, Sir J. Pakington, and Mr. Lowe voted in the majority, and Lord Goderich, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Roebuck in the minority.

ASTONISHING FEAT OF A HOUSE SPIDER.

It would seem that there is no living thing so obnoxious as not to find some admirers. What creature so repulsive as rats and spiders? Yet the London Quarterly finds something beautiful and even lovable in the former, and Dr. A. Fitch, in Harper's Monthly labors to show that the latter "delicate little objects" are worthy of our esteem and admiration. He denies that their bite is fatal to any save insects, and extols their agility, adroitness, sagacity, and heroism as worthy of all praise. In support of these views he tells the following curious story concerning a heroic spider who captured a snake. The affair came off last summer, in the store of Charles Cook, in the village of Havana, Chemung county, N. Y.,

and is attested by the Hon. A. B. Dickinson, of

Orning, who witnessed the phenomenon, as did more than a hundred other persons. "An ordinary-looking spider, of a dark color, its body not larger than that of a common house fly, had taken up its residence; it appears, on the under side of a shelf beneath the counter of Mr. Cook's store. What may we suppose was the surprise and consternation of the 'little animal' on discovering a snake, about a foot long, selecting for its abode the floor underneath, only two or three spans distant from its nest! It was a common milk snake which, perhaps, had been brought into the store unseen in a quantity of saw dust with which the floor had been recently carpeted. The spider was well aware, no doubt, that it would inevitably fall a prey to this horrid monster the first time it should incautiously venture within its reach. We should expect that to avoid such a frightful doom, it would forsake its present home and seek a more secure retreat elsewhere. But it is not improbable that a brood of its eggs or young was secreted near the spot, which the parent foresaw would fall a prey to this monster. We can conceive of no other motive which should have induced the spider so pertinaciously to remain and defend the particular spot at the imminent risk of her own life, when she could so easily have fled and established herself in some secure corner elsewhere. But how, we may well ask, was it possible for such a weak, tender little creature to combat such a powerful, mail-clad giant? What power had she to do anything which could subject the monster to even the slightest inconvenience or molestation? Her ordinary resort, that of fettering and binding her victim by throwing her threads of cobwebs around it, it is plain would be of no more avail here than the corps upon limbs of the unshorn Sampson. Aware that her accustomed mode of attack was useless, how did she acquire the knowledge and sagacity requisite for devising another, adapted so exactly to the case in hand—one depending upon the structure and habits of the serpent to aid in rendering it successful? How was she able to perceive that it was in her power to wind a loop of her threads around this creature's throat, despite of all his endeavors to foil her in this work—a loop of sufficient strength to hold him securely, notwithstanding his struggles and writhings, until by her tackle-like power she could gradually hoist him up from the floor, thus literally hanging him by the neck until he was dead? For this was the feat which this adroit little heroine actually performed—a feat beside which all fabled exploits of Hercules in overpowering lions and serpents and dragons sink into utter insignificance! And who can say that in the planning and execution of this stupendous achievement, there was not forethought, reasoning, a careful weighing of all the difficulties and dangers, and a clear perception in the mind of this little creature that she possessed the ability to accomplish what she undertook; in short, an exercise of faculties of a much higher order than the mere instinct which is commonly supposed to guide and govern these lower animals in their movements!

By what artifice the spider was able in the first of its attack to accomplish what it did, we can only conjecture, as its work was not discovered until the most difficult and daring part of its feat had been performed. When first seen, it had placed a loop around the neck of the serpent, from the top of which a single thread was carried upward and attached to the under side of the shelf, whereby the head of the serpent was drawn up about two inches from the floor. The snake was moving around, incessantly, in a circle as large as its tether would allow,—wholly unable to get its head down to the floor, or to withdraw it from the noose: while the heroic little spider, exploit, which was now sure beyond a peradventure, was ever and anon passing down to the shelf, adding thereby an additional strand to the thread, each of which new strands being tightly drawn, elevated the head of the snake gradually more and more. But the most skillful part of its performance is yet to be told. When it was in the act of running down the thread to the loop, the reader will perceive it was possible for the snake by turning his head vertically upward, to snap at and seize the spider in his mouth. This had no doubt been repeatedly attempted in the earlier part of the conflict; but instead of catching the spider, his snakeship thereby only caught himself in an additional trap. The spider probably by watching each opportunity when the mouth of the snake had thus been turned to her, adroitly, with her hind legs, as when throwing a thread around a fly, had thrown one thread after another over the mouth of the snake, so that he was now perfectly muzzled, by a series of threads placed over it vertically, and these were held from being pushed asunder by another series of threads placed horizontally, as my informant states he particularly observed. No muzzle of wire or wicker work for the mouth of an animal could be woven with more artistic regularity and perfection; and the snake occasionally making a desperate attempt to open his mouth would merely put these threads upon a stretch. The snake continued his gyrations, his gait becoming more slow, however, from weakness and fatigue; and the spider continued to move down and up on the cord, gradually shortening it, until, at last, when drawn upward so far that only two or three inches of the end of his tail touched the floor, the snake expired, about six days after he was first discovered. A more heroic feat than that which this little spider performed is probably nowhere upon record—a snake a foot in length, hung by a common house spider? Truly, the race is not to the swift, nor is the battle to the strong! And this phenomenon may serve to show us that the intelligence with which the Creator has endowed the humblest, feeblest of His creatures, is ample for enabling them to triumph in any emergency in which He places them, if they but exercise the faculties He has given them. It is only the slothful, cowardly, timorous, that fail, and they fail not so much before their enemies as before their own supineness.

A COINCIDENCE.—On the 3rd August, 1492, Columbus sailed from a port in Spain, on his memorable voyage, which terminated in the discovery of America. On the 3rd August, 1857, the end of the Atlantic telegraph cable was put ashore at Valentia, and the work of laying it across the ocean commenced.—Thus precisely an annus magnus of 365 years elapsed between taking the first step towards the discovery of the New World, and commencing what we hope is destined to link it indissolubly to the Old, by virtually abolishing the vast space which lies between them.

GIRLS WHO HAVE NEVER SEEN THE ELEPHANT.—A correspondent of the Oswego Times speaks of a family living on the "John Brown" tract, in New York having two girls, twins, of sixteen years, who have never been out of the woods—have never seen any horse but their own, and never saw any females but their mother and sisters. They have been taught to read by their mother, and although they do not appear "fashionable" they are by no means as awkward as one would suppose. What a world of wonder yet lies before them? What a sight to them would be a railroad car, a steamboat, a city, a thousand things which we see every day.

ADVANTAGES OF PUNCTUATION.—Punctuation, that is putting the steps in the right places, cannot be too sedulously studied. We lately read in a country paper the following startling account of Lord Palmerston's appearance in the House of Commons;—"Lord Palmerston then entered on his head, a white hat on his feet; highly polished boots on his brow; a dark cloud in his hand, his faithful walking stick in his eye, a menacing glare saying nothing. He sat down."—Punch.

PRUDENT GIRL.—"Margery, what did you do with that tallow Mr. Jones greased his boots with this morning?"—"Please marm! I greased the griddle cakes with it."—"Lucky you did, Miss; I thought you had wasted it."