

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

REJECTION OF THE QUESTORS' BILL.

At the National Assembly on Monday, November 17th, the discussion opened on the following proposition of the Questors:—

"There shall be promulgated as a law, and placed on the order of the day of the army, and posted up in the barracks, the 6th article of the decree of the 11th May, 1848, in the following terms:—

"The President of the National Assembly is charged to watch over the internal and external security of the Assembly. For this purpose he has the right to require the armed force and all the military authorities whose co-operation he shall think necessary. These requisitions may be addressed directly to all the officers, commandants, or functionaries, who are bound to immediately obey them under the penalties provided by the laws."

M. Ferdinand de Lasteyrie, the first speaker, said that the question before the house should be solved without the least delay. If adopted, the proposition should be referred to a committee, and would consequently be attended with interminable delay. To obviate that inconvenience, he would propose an *ordre du jour* *motivé* to the following effect:—

"The National Assembly, considering the provisions of the 32nd article of the constitution, and whereas the decree of the 11th May, 1848, is still in vigor, direct that it shall be posted up anew in the barracks, and passes to the order of the day."

General de St. Arnaud, Minister of War, and General Leffo, contended that this order of the day was a mere repetition of the propositions of the Questors, who meant nothing but to sanction a right inscribed in the standing rules of the Assembly. M. de Lasteyrie agreed to withdraw his motion, after which the President read the following order of the day, signed by Messrs. Daru, de Broglie, de Montalembert, &c.:—

"The National Assembly being invested by the constitution with sufficient power for its defence, passes to the order of the day." (Laughter on the left.)

M. Cremieux observed that hitherto the majority and the President of the Republic had pursued one and the same course of policy, and undertaken together that fatal expedition to Rome, in which a Republic had destroyed another Republic. Why had a distrust suddenly broken out between them, and manifested itself by the proposition of the Questors? It was evidently because the President had submitted to the deliberation of the Assembly the repeal of the electoral law of the 31st May, and for the first time since the 20th December, 1848, brought forward a popular measure. He then ridiculed the apprehension of the majority with regard to the views of Louis Napoleon. For his part, he feared nothing from a man who exceeded his powers. If the majority was so afraid, it was because the Assembly did not feel behind it that force which supported Assemblies. That side (pointing to the Left) feared nothing from him. They accepted from his hands a popular act, but did not dread his popularity. They accordingly had no reason to vote the resolution of the Questors, the constitution providing sufficiently for the defence of the Assembly.

M. Thiers spoke in favor of the proposition. He said—"What is the object of the proposition? Under a constitution which renders the Assembly the temporary holder of the national sovereignty, the necessary principle inspired by the simplest common sense is, that the Assembly shall charge itself with its defense, and shall not delegate it to any one. Now, do you think that that general declaration, without any rule which explains it, is sufficiently clear to put an end to all the anxieties of those who may have to comply with your requisitions? The question at stake is the independence of the Assembly—the future of representative government—the last Assembly perhaps. (Oh, oh! for the Royalists on the Left.) Royalist! Call me Royalist if you will; but it will be a singular spectacle to see Royalists defending the liberty of the Assembly."

The Minister of War said—"It is good that the Assembly, rejecting orders of the day *motivés*, should reject or accept the proposition of the Questors. (Noise.) I repeat it aloud from this tribune, in order that every one may know it. We do not contest the right of the Assembly to demand troops for its defence, but this right must come within the terms of the constitution, and in order not to destroy discipline, and the army, the requisition, which will never be refused, must pass through the regular channels of command." (Laughter and murmurs.)

"M. Jules Favre said—"The decree of May 11th, 1848, has never ceased to exist, and why then should a new enactment be asked for? Make a requisition to-morrow, and you will see that the executive power will yield. The proposition is nothing more or less than a declaration of war against the executive power; it is the first line of an impeachment against it." (Loud interruption and noise.)

The debate, which was extremely stormy, having been brought to a close, the division took place, and resulted as follows:—

Number of voters	708.	Absolute majority	355.
Ayes	300		
Noes	408		
Majority	108		

The proposition was consequently rejected, and the sitting was brought to a close at a quarter to eight, in the midst of the greatest agitation.

Marshal Soult is dangerously ill, and not expected to survive many days. The Marquis of Dalmatia, son of the Marshal, and his son-in-law, M. de Mornay, had left Paris to attend their illustrious relative in what, it is feared, are his last moments.

SPAIN.

General Narraez has left Paris for Madrid, in order to be present at the *accouchement* of the Queen, that event being expected to take place towards the end of the present month, or beginning of the next.

ITALY.

It is well known how the little leisure which custom accords the Sovereign Pontiff is employed. The *Giornale di Roma* has regularly registered the promenades and recreations which Pius IX. has allowed himself. They all had the one end of public utility, devotion, and charity. We saw him, urged by that desire of assuaging sorrow which animates his paternal heart, visit the hospitals of St. John Calybite in the Isola San Bartolomeo, and that of San Salvatore in St. John Lateran's, there to lavish on the poor sick consolations, counsels, and encouragements, himself administer the last succors of religion to those whose end was drawing nigh, give pecuniary assistance to those who require it, recommend to the Religious, to the infirmarians, and to all employed in attending to the sick the greatest vigilance, the tenderest charity for those suffering members of Jesus Christ.

At other times piety led him to the great Basilicas, to St. John Lateran's, to St. Mary Major's, to St. Peter's, where, with admirable fervor, he poured forth his soul before the holy altars, and recommended to the Most Holy Virgin the necessities of his people and of the Universal Church. In the Vatican grottoes he devoutly visited the tomb of the Prince of the Apostles, offered there the Holy Sacrifice, and gave the Holy Communion with his own hand to such of the Faithful as obtained leave to be present at this touching ceremony; and to testify his devotion to the first of the Roman Pontiffs, he left on his altar a magnificent chalice, which will be deposited in the treasury of the ancient Basilica, with the monstrance and ciborium enriched with diamonds which he had previously presented.

LOMBARDY.—The *Venice Gazette* states that Eugene Curii, of Venice, convicted of having purchased a share in Mazzini's loan without having declared the fact to the authorities, was sentenced to death for high treason. Angelo Giacomelli, of Treviso, having received an anonymous letter from Turin, containing a plan for appointing a committee for effecting a general revolution, which letter he destroyed without communicating it to the authorities, was condemned to imprisonment for ten years. Field Marshal Radetzky had been pleased to commute the sentence of Curii, to eight, and that of Giacomelli to five years' imprisonment. The Milan official *Gazette*, of the 8th inst., announces that Giovanni Grioli, an ecclesiastic attached to the parish church of Ceresse, having been legally convicted of seducing Austrian soldiers from their allegiance by means of persuasion and bribery, and of having in his possession 18 copies of a revolutionary pamphlet, dated last December, and tending to overthrow the government of the Emperor of Austria in Italy, was sentenced to death, and executed on the 4th inst.

The *Tuscan Monitor* of the 12th instant publishes an ordinance of the Grand Duke, suppressing the Legations of Constantinople, Turin, and Naples, and maintaining, *pro tempore*, in their present form those of London, Paris, Brussels, Vienna, and Rome. The diplomatic agents accredited in France, Austria, and Rome, are to be in future mere Charges d'Affaires.

NAPLES AND SICILY.

From an official statement published by the *Official Journal of the Two Sicilies*, it appears that the number of crimes in that kingdom, which in 1837 amounted to 17,361, in 1838 to 17,919, in 1849 to 17,855, was only 16,626 in 1850. The average, too, of crime with respect to population calculated upon a period of ten years, is one crime for every 438 inhabitants. The number of cases brought before the criminal tribunals in 1850 was 4,016, relating to 5,805 prisoners. The number of witnesses examined was 50,072. The number of political prosecutions was 215; the persons under trial 442; 142 of whom were acquitted.

AUSTRIA.

AUSTRIA AND THE UNITED STATES.—The German *Journal* of Frankfurt states that the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires at Washington has received from his government the order to demand his passports, in case the President or the government of the United States shall officially take part in the reception of Kossuth, and also that the Minister of the United States at Vienna shall receive his passports.

Intelligence from Innsbruck of the 4th states that the battalion of infantry and the staff were delayed 36 hours by a heavy fall of snow and the accumulated mass of snow on the road. The accounts of the inundations caused by the overflowing of the rivers from all parts of the crown lands are very distressing. In many parts dreadful devastations have been caused. In Murburg the largest bridges have been carried away. The rushing masses of water as they passed through Murburg carried with them gigantic trees, which were torn up by the roots, fragments of houses, mills, carriages, timber, utensils, boats, and numerous animals. The inundation which caused these fearful disasters appears to have been caused by the bursting of a water-spout in Carinthia. Many places in Carinthia are quite destroyed, churches and hospitals were broken down by the fury of the water, and were speedily reduced to a mass of ruins. Many corpses have been found in the Tyrol; whole districts have been swept away; the telegraphic lines have been destroyed, by the fall of immense masses of snow. The mails have been stopped from nearly all parts of the country. The accounts from Agram are of the same melancholy character. The rise of the water 9 or 10 feet above the ordinary water-mark, combined with heavy falls of snow, and the

accumulated masses of water rushing impetuously from the mountains, have caused incalculable damage.

POLAND.

The *Allgemeine Zeitung* publishes the following letter from the Duchy of Posen:—"The people are becoming accustomed to the name of New Russia, and it is believed that in a year or two the very name of Poland will be driven out of use. The young men of Polish birth, from whom attempts at a future movement in favor of their nationality might be apprehended, are early removed into the interior of Russia—they can be no more found in the monarchy. Further, the Russian language is the preponderating one in all the higher schools. Even in the Prussian province the recent Polish demonstrations of nationality have only been prejudicial to themselves, as the new Chief President, Von Puttkammer, will tolerate no patriotic demonstrations that are not German or Prussian. Even if a new insurrection broke out in France, and extended beyond the frontiers of that country—even then not the smallest chance for the Poles would arise out of it."

RUSSIA.

The *Breslaw Gazette* has the following from the frontiers of Russia, 31st ult.:—"Some days since at Berdyezow there was read for the second time, to the sound of the drum, the ukase of the Emperor, which orders all Jewish women to wear their own hair, with the remark that they were forbidden to wear a wig or any ribbons in the form of hair. They are to assume the dress of peasants, and to banish all kinds of luxury from their toilets. It is certain that the Jewish women will not submit to this last injunction. They will prefer obeying the ukase according to its original tenor. The authorities are determined to enforce the execution of the imperial ukase."

The line of the railroad from St. Petersburg to Warsaw has been by command of the Emperor, already marked out, and the earthworks have been commenced. General Gerstfeldt, who was the assistant of General Kleimichel in the works of the line from St. Petersburg to Moscow, superintends the construction. As the contemplated line is nearly double the length of the Moscow and St. Petersburg, it is not expected that it will be completed in less than ten years. The works of the last named line occupied in all eight years.

HANOVER.

DEATH OF THE KING OF HANOVER.—The *Post* of Wednesday announced the death of the King of Hanover, which took place the previous morning, the news having arrived by electric telegraph to Paris, thence by electric and submarine telegraph to London. The deceased prince—the fifth and last surviving son of George the Third—was born at Kew, on the 5th of June, 1771.

THE KAFFIR WAR.

La Patrie of the 8th November says:—"We read in the *Akhbar* of Algeria of the 30th of October—"In the desperate war maintained against the English by the Kaffirs of the Cape of Good Hope, the latter have received the aid of several foreign officers, among others of a Frenchman named Parel, who served in Algeria for a length of time as a 'sous officier' in the artillery, and rose to the rank of 'sous lieutenant' in the Garde Mobile, where he distinguished himself by acts of great bravery. After the dissolution of this corps he embarked in a vessel bound to the Indian Ocean, which put into Table-bay for some time, where he learnt the events that were taking place. He proceeded immediately to Litakou, a Kaffir town, inhabited by a powerful tribe, to whom he offered his services, which were immediately accepted. He has since taken part in many sanguinary affairs, and has by his combined activity, courage, and intelligence, acquired a great ascendancy in the country. He is now in command of the important fortress of Matoox, the defensive works of which were completed under his direction. This fortress commands a 'dellé,' which must be passed to penetrate into Upper Caffraria. The English troops have besieged it several times without being able to take it, and in their last attempt they lost an entire company of the 2d regiment of 'Guides.' These deeds of arms have aggrandised the reputation of Parel, who may be destined to play an important role in these countries."

INDIA.

TREATMENT OF CATHOLIC SOLDIERS IN INDIA.—A letter from Saugor, in the *Madras Examiner* of September 19th, says—"God knows we are sadly off for a Priest. Our children unbaptized; our wives not Churched; our marriages performed by the Protestant Clergyman—Sacraments and Sacrifices becoming as things unknown, never thinking of God or religion. And all these evils are allowed to continue in order to spare government the paltry sum of fifty or seventy rupees a month, the salary of a Priest—that is, about three or four annas per month for each Catholic soldier at Saugor, is thought by our worthy masters, too much money to spend for the salvation of a Papist; God bless them is all I can say. Thousands are spent upon a few Protestants (not that I begrudge them) without the least demur or hesitation. To think of the unjust ascendancy of a sect over the mother of all Churches, is enough to make a man anything but what he should be. In addition to these grievances the poor Catholic soldiers at Saugor are obliged to parade with the Protestants for church, and this makes the chain more galling. They must dress and see their Protestants go to church; the sight no doubt is intended to engender kindly feelings, but some think that it is done with a view to induce some weak-minded Catholics to go to church when dressed."

A PROTESTANT MISSIONARY.—The *Telegraph and Courier*, noticing the death of the Chinese Missionary, the Rev. Dr. Gutzlaff, points to the ex-

traordinary circumstance of his leaving at his death no less than £30,000 behind him. He thinks it extraordinary that one who went out to preach the gospel to the benighted should have amassed such a large sum. He considers it not creditable to the character of the deceased.—*Overland (Calcutta) Star*.

DISCOVERY OF AN ENORMOUS MASS OF AUSTRALIAN GOLD.—The *Bathurst Free Press* announces the discovery of a lump of gold, weighing 1 cwt. weight, by a gentleman named Kerr. The following are the particulars of this extraordinary gathering:—"A few days previous to the finding, an educated aboriginal, formerly attached to the Wellington Mission, and who has been in the service of W. Kerr, Esq., of Wallara, about seven years, returned home to his employer with the intelligence that he had discovered a large mass of gold amongst a heap of quartz upon the run, whilst tending the sheep. Gold being the universal theme of conversation, this sable son of the forest was excited, and provided with a tomahawk he had amused himself by exploring the country adjacent to his employer's land. His attention was first called to the spot by observing a spot of some glittering yellow substance upon the surface of a block of the quartz, upon which he applied his tomahawk and broke off a portion. He then started home and disclosed the discovery to his master, who was soon on the spot, and in a very short time the three blocks of quartz containing the hundred weight of gold, were released from the bed where they had rested for ages. The largest of the blocks was about a foot in diameter, and weighed 75lbs. gross. Out of this piece 60lbs. of pure gold was taken. Before separation it was beautifully encased in quartz. The other two were something smaller. The auriferous mass weighed as nearly as could be guessed from two to three hundred weight. Not being able to move it conveniently, Dr. Kerr broke the pieces into small fragments, and herein committed a very great error. As specimens, the glittering block would have been invaluable. From the description given by him, as seen in their original state, the world has seen nothing like them yet. The heaviest of the two large pieces presented an appearance not unlike a honeycomb or sponge, and consisted of particles of a crystal-like form, as nearly did the whole of the gold. The second larger piece was smoother and the particles more condensed, and seemed as if it had been acted upon by water. The remainder was broken into lumps of 2lbs. to 3lbs. and downwards, and were remarkably free from quartz and other matter. The locality where the gold was found in the commencement of an undulating table land, very fertile, and is contiguous to a never-failing supply of water in the Murroo Creek. It is distant about 53 miles from Bathurst, 18 from Mudgee, 30 from Wellington, and 18 to the nearest point of the Macquarie River, and is within eight miles of Dr. Kerr's head station. The neighboring country has been explored since the discovery, but with the exception of dust, no further indications have been found."

PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CHEAP EDUCATION.

(From the *Shepherd of the Valley*.)

Christian education is a great, an invaluable blessing. The parent who is unwilling to incur trouble or expense to secure it for his children, is unworthy of the sacred trust he holds, and the man who opposes a well organized system of public instruction, a system which he believes is really working well for those for whose benefit it is instituted, simply on the ground that it is expensive, that it costs him money which he would prefer to lay out in some other way for the promotion of his pleasure or his interest, is whether a parent or not, a bad citizen, and one who, in neglecting the interests of the community in which he lives, neglects also his own interests, and proves himself at once a niggard and a fool.

If, then, the conscientious Catholic opposes the system of public education which is organized in this country, he opposes it on the ground that it is Godless, not that it is expensive; if he complains that he is taxed to support common schools, it is because he feels the injustice of compelling him to contribute to the support of institutions which he believes to be pernicious; and if he cries out against the expense at which they are maintained, it is not because he considers cheap education a great blessing, but because he believes a regularly organized system of education separated from religion to be a great curse, a great public injury and wrong, to which he should not be compelled to contribute, and the workings of which he is determined jealously to watch, in order that he may use all his influence in a peaceful and legitimate way to effect its overthrow.

Without entering into the question of what our public schools, as at present conducted, actually are, we are safe in opposing them upon the knowledge which our religion gives us of what they must of necessity be. The Catholic cannot for a moment entertain the idea that it is right, even supposing it to be possible, an absurd though common supposition, to separate education from religion. He cannot think he is at liberty to trust the mental training of his child to men who profess to teach knowledge without touching upon religion, without inculcating any religious system, or betraying a preference for any sect or creed. He understands, at least, this much; that such an education, were it possible, would be worthless at the best. That man is placed on earth for an end, that his existence has a purpose, that it is necessary that he should know this end and be exhorted and assisted to gain it, and that a system of education which professes to inculcate no doctrine, to teach no truth, that professes to be independent of all that relates to man's belief and duties as a religious being, is, at the best, a stupendous system of humbug and imposture.

We can afford to put out of the question all reference to the actual immorality of our common schools, to the positively anti-Catholic nature of the books which the pupils are compelled to use, to the fact that the Catholic religion is sometimes directly and openly attacked by the teachers, and constantly misrepresented and reviled in the manuals of history and geography, which contain, not only those germs of infected doctrine which are to be found in all Protestant text books intended