

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

THE ORLEANS CONFISCATION.—SPEECH OF M. DE MONTALEMBERT.—On Saturday 26th ult., considerable discussion took place in the Legislative Corps before the budget was finally adopted; but the only remarkable speech made was one by M. de Montalembert on the chapter respecting the registration tax. M. de Montalembert took that opportunity of publicly declaring the feelings which he had previously expressed in the budget committee on the decrees of the 22nd of January for the confiscation of the property of the house of Orleans. He said he was happy to have it in his power to observe that the Legislative Corps, in the course of voting the supplies of the year, had not in the slightest degree made itself a party to a measure which, in the face of all justice, had despoiled the Orleans family of their lawful property, and that at a time when they not only had not by their conduct afforded any pretext for such rigorous proceedings, but when they were overwhelmed by misfortunes, both public and private. "I cannot flatter myself," said M. de Montalembert, in conclusion, "that the government has not yet irrevocably resolved to carry these baneful decrees (*ces décrets funestes*) into execution in their integrity; but, at all events it has never ventured to ask you to give them your sanction, either directly or indirectly. It is well that France should know this; that she should know that none of her deputies have been called upon to consecrate by their votes any of the consequences of a measure which she has been unanimous in blaming and in regretting—and that fully as much in the interests of him who is the author of it as of those illustrious personages who are its victims. We shall, no doubt, have, on some day or other, to discuss that measure. We shall then do so on full liberty. In the meantime it is necessary that it should be known that we have not in the slightest degree either associated or compromised ourselves in the affair. And as regards myself, I profit by this earliest occasion to raise, in the triple interest of property cruelly shaken, of justice set at naught (*la justice méconnue*), and of an august misfortune (*une auguste infortune*), my solemn reserves against a fault which is without a single excuse, without a single pretext, without a single provocation, and which persons are endeavoring every day to make more and more irreparable."

Letters from Switzerland state that the Duchess of Orleans is to take up her residence at Baden, in the canton of Argau. M. Thiers is to pay a visit there to her royal highness, but it is intimated that the visits of any of the other important leaders of the party are neither expected nor wished for. On the other hand, it is confidently stated in some quarters that the four princes of Orleans are decidedly on the point of paying a visit to Frohsdorf, during the period that the Duchess of Orleans, with the Comte de Paris, and the Duke of Chartres, remains in Switzerland.

ITALY.

The *Augsburg Gazette* publishes the following letter from Central Italy, headed "The Political Sects in Italy:"—

"The political movements which took place in Italy during the last 30 years were the work of Carbonarism and of Young Italy. Those two sects have joined in one association, called 'United Italy.' This association is doomed sooner or later to attempt a new insurrection. Its object is the overthrow in Italy of Royalty and of all foreign influence. It wishes to establish Italian unity, to render Italy strong and independent, and to extirpate from her soil all heterogeneous elements. The secret society is divided into circles, each of which reckons about 40 members. Each circle has a president, four councillors, a questor, and a master. All the other members are named associates. There are five degrees of circles—the grand council, the general circle, the provincial circle, the district circle, and the village circle. All the members of the association are divided into three orders, namely—1st, the united adepts or simple unitarians; 2d, the presidents and councillors of the different circles; 3d, the great unitarians or members of the grand circle, and presidents of the general circle. The great unitarians alone are aware of the object of the society, and are informed of the violent means of action to be resorted to. The society has three secret passwords; the associates know one, the unitarians two, and the great unitarians the three. The Grand Council, as the supreme and absolute power, is composed of seven great unitarians. Each member owes passive and blind obedience to its orders. There are eight general circles, at Rome, Turin, Milan, Venice, Florence, Naples, Palermo, and Cagliari. A great "unitarian" presides over each. As regards the provincial and district circles, they may adopt the existing territorial circumscriptions. Collections are made in the circles after each sitting by the questors. The farthing of the operative has the same value as the gold piece of the rich. A portion of the receipts is employed by the circles for their expenditure; and the remainder is sent to the grand circle. The unitarians have a right to receive adepts, and each associate may propose candidates. The principal object of the society is to recruit partisans in the army, and the highest distinctions are reserved to the inferior classes are likewise enlisted. They are even left at liberty to organize circles among themselves. Every candidate is to undergo a severe examination, and, once admitted and sworn in, he receives the password, the insignia, and the medal. Disobedience and the violation of secrecy are punished with death. Each member has a right to claim protection and assistance. When an indigent adept dies, the association provides for his children, particularly if he dies for the holy cause

of liberty. Every three months accurate lists of all the members of the society are forwarded to the grand council. These lists, which are secret, must contain information respecting the situation, the family relations, the fortune, capacity, age, influence, and social station of each adept, in order that the grand council may be able to judge all with perfect knowledge. Each of the great unitarians is furnished with secret instructions to solve every doubt and remove all difficulties."

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor returned to Pesth on the 23rd ult. From this central point his Majesty will make four or five more excursions into the interior. The one immediately following embraces Stuhlweissenburgh, the lake of Balaton, Veszprim, Raab, and Comorn. On the monarch's third appearance at Buda the Henzi statue will be uncovered. The third tour, comprehending Transylvania, will be the longest. He has so far been extremely well received by the peasantry wherever he has gone.

The *Wiener Zeitung* contains a list of more than a hundred officers who, at the time of the revolution, left the imperial colors to serve in the ranks of the Hungarians. Ninety-nine of these have been set at liberty by order of the Emperor; others have had their term of imprisonment reduced by one-half. This act of clemency will not fail to produce a favorable impression among a particular class.

Forty is the number of persons newly sentenced at Hermannstadt, in Transylvania, for having taken an active part in the insurrectionary movement. Many of them are young men with families, and are personages of considerable landed property. The property is in all cases confiscated.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, JUNE 24.—The *Leipsic Gazette* and the *Zeit* confirm the important news that the Austrian government has invited the states of the Darmstadt coalition to a renewed conference at Vienna, for the purpose of settling the arrangements pointed to in the third Darmstadt protocol; Austria is to engage itself, namely, to form a Zollverein with the coalition states, and to guarantee them a customs revenue equal to nine-tenths of their present receipts, in case they secede from the union with Prussia. It can hardly be supposed that Austria would take this step without previously having assured itself of the willingness of the coalitionists to quit Prussia and join Austria. It really appears as if the southern states were proceeding in good earnest to split the present Zollverein. The coalition states are preparing a conjoint reply to the Prussian declaration of the 7th June, wherein they are reported to repeat the demands as an ultimatum, and to conclude with requesting a prompt decision, in order that they may prepare the measures rendered necessary by the dissolution of the present union.

INDIA.

Advices from Bombay, in anticipation of the overland mail are to the 22nd of May.

There is no recent intelligence from Rangoon. Our forces will remain there until the termination of the rainy season, and, should the war continue, additional troops will be sent from Bombay, Bengal, and Madras.

Sir Colin Campbell has been again called forth, with considerable forces, to act against the native tribes in the north-west.

A system of Thuggee has been discovered in the Punjab. Five hundred murderers have been found, and the names of 320 rebellious Thugs obtained; 120 are in prison, and the majority have confessed the crime.

AUSTRALIA.

A GOLD DIGGER'S STORY.

SYDNEY, 28TH FEBRUARY, 1852.—I arrived in Braidwood, a small village, 14 miles from the scene of my future labors on the night of the eighth day from the time I left Sydney, and next morning wended my way to the diggings, situated in a gully or creek between the mountains, and with mountains all round. There I joined a party of three rough kind of characters, but honest, hardworking men. The first week or ten days was a hard trial to me handling the heavy tools. I assure you that for the first fortnight I never lay down in the tent at night without every bone in my body aching as if it were broken, but I persevered and soon became hardy and strong. The Government regulation and system of working at the "diggings" is this—you pay to the commissioner appointed by Government 30s. for a month's license, and get 20 feet of ground measured out to you. Thus, a party of four, by paying £6 gets 80 feet of ground in length, and the breadth of the gully or creek, to work, and no man is allowed to put spade into the ground without paying his 30s. a month license money. The gold is found at various depths from the surface down to 30 or 40 feet below it. We did not get any until we had gone down from 15 to 20 feet, to large rocks called boulders. When we were down about 10 feet the water came in upon us, and two out of the four had to keep constantly baling. From daylight in the morning till dusk in the evening have I frequently worked up to my middle in water, and that water fairly poisonous, so impregnated with mineral matter, that if it touch any place where the skin has been knocked off in the slightest degree, you are very safe to have a festering wound there, and one that you will not get well of in a hurry either; it also affects the eyes; no one escape sore eyes; mine are very much weakened, but much better than I expected they would be at one time, from the state they were in; but I must go on with the digging. We open a hole about 12 feet by 7 or 8 broad, and go down through the top soil, red sandstone, blue and white clay, and some stuff like rotten granite, till we come upon these boulders—we move them with crowbars, and underneath lies the vein, bluish kind of

gravel, containing the gold in greater or smaller quantities. Through our claims the vein runs very thin—in some places not three inches deep, and very poor, only a few penny weights of gold in 30 or 40 buckets full of stuff; but as yet we have only worked the bank, but expect the bed of the creek will yield a rich harvest. We shall not be able to work it till the winter sets in; there is too much water now, caused by the snow melting on the mountains. I think, however, when the water goes down I shall have a chance of making an odd hundred or two. A party, about 200 yards higher up the creek, have, by the aid of pumps, succeeded in working the bed, and with great success, making from 30 to 40 ounces a man per week, and they say the vein runs right down the creek into our claims, so I suppose when the water goes down we shall have our turn at making a trifle. But I will tell you how we procure the gold. When we get down to what we suppose workable stuff, one takes a large round tin dish, called a "Prospecting pan," puts a shovel-ful of the stuff into it, and washes it in the stream running through the creek; the gold, if any, falls to the bottom, and you wash the rest of the stuff away—100 specks in a dish is a very fair "prospect." The stuff is then passed up in buckets and washed in the cradle—that I need not describe; you will have seen plans of them in Liverpool. Their construction is exceedingly simple.

You have no idea what labor and hardship there is connected with gold digging. The whole time I was up there I do not think I worked dry two days together. Your fare is coarse, and you eat your meat cooked almost any way. You sleep at night on the ground, rolled in a blanket, with a calico sheet to keep the dew off. With daylight in the morning your labors commence, and close at dusk in the evening. The work is hard, the life is a rough one, and the characters you have to associate with rougher still, but as long as money is to be made I can bear all the discomforts. As long as a man is willing to work he can always earn a living there, and has the same chance as others of making a fortune, and there have been very many nice little fortunes made since the diggings commenced.

Of the many thousands who will be drawn out here by the news of the gold, those who come here with the fallacious notions that when they get to the diggings they will have nothing to do but stoop and pick the gold up will be most woefully mistaken. They will have to work hard and endure privations and hardships that no one in England can imagine. While I was up, I saw many parties who came out from Sydney bent on making their fortunes; they came down to the creek, looked down in the holes, saw men working up to their middles in water, then, thoroughly disgusted, turned away and returned to Sydney without ever putting a spade in the ground.

You talk about me sending you a consignment of dust; if I have any luck and make a hundred or two the coming winter, I do not think I shall send it home. The great influx of people we expect will make a property in a couple of years double the value it now is; therefore, if I am able to make something I think bricks and mortar will be the investment. You can purchase land and build a comfortable house here for £300 or £400.

The gold market is fluctuating, it has been up to £3 10s. and down to £3; £3 4s. and £3 6s. are the present prices given. Fruit is very plentiful and cheap; beautiful peaches 1d. a dozen; grapes, apples, and pears equally cheap.

THE ACHILLI VERDICT.

(From the Tablet.)

The Achilli trial is at an end, and the result has verified our prognostic. Dr. Newman has been found guilty, amidst the enthusiastic and repeated cheers of a crowded audience, encouraged by the successor of Scroggs upon the bench, whose own partialities were most clearly defined, and who made not the smallest effort to check these indecent manifestations. The trial is at an end, but the sentence is not yet pronounced. What will the sentence be? We are told that it will not be pronounced till next term—that is, till November; but of this we are sure, that, if it be possible by any stretch of law to hang and embowel Dr. Newman, Dr. Newman will be hanged and embowelled. Meanwhile, Protestantism has got a new saint exactly after its own character and kind. It is now not merely St. Achilli of Exeter Hall, but St. Achilli of Westminster Hall—canonised and consecrated amidst the universal cheers of the people, who flocked down into the crowded receptacle of injustice to mark their sympathy with jury and with judge. Yes, Protestantism, which is essentially a religion of unchastity and incontinence; which had its origin in the animal propensities of the baseliest monarch recorded in English history, and which now at these latter days crowns its impure tradition with the public triumph of Achilli—Protestantism, we say, has had the seal set upon it by the proceedings of Exeter Hall. Achilli was too bad for the Catholic Church; was condemned of brutal incontinence by Catholic tribunals; judged by the Inquisition unfit for the exercise of any religious function; forbidden to say Mass, to hear confession, to preach, to teach, to affront the pure air of Heaven with his presence—but to this man the enthusiastic applause of a crowded court, representing a very large portion of the English Protestant middle class, has given the stamp of its approbation; and, pouring forth its indignant execrations against the iniquity and cruelty of the Inquisition which dared tardily to condemn and mildly to punish him, they raise him to the rank of a confessor of their own Faith and morals, a man who has suffered wrong for his sincere practical devotion to their cause.

And, in plain fact, we cannot deny that there is some truth in their view of the case. Achilli is the genuine martyr or confessor of a religion which abolished the Sacrament of Confession and the celibacy of the Clergy, because with its whole heart, soul, and strength, it disbelieves, and has ever disbelieved, that even the grace of God is strong enough to preserve the chastity and continence of men; which has made itself, and is, a religion of animal instincts; which, by the very inmost essence of it gives a free scope to the propensities of men by proclaiming the impossibility

of restraint; and which is only saved by the innate purity of the female character from worse and filthier abominations. Of such a religion—that is of Protestantism—Achilli is, in our judgment, of all possible saints the fittest and most appropriate, and the warning he is said to have given to a Maltese Divine—"Be a little more charitable; if you had been a bachelor you would probably have done as bad or worse"—is a true index to the least flagrant part of the case. The Protestant public which cheers Achilli does not believe him to be chaste, but believes unchastity—in an unmarried man especially—to be a very venial sin, for committing which, even in wholesale abundance, it is very hard and unfair to run a man down. The English Protestant public is and always has been jealous of the theological right of an unmarried man to break, at least, two out of the ten commandments. They gloat over what they believe Achilli to have done, not thinking that it inflicts upon him any material discredit, but giving the sanction of English public opinion to what Catholic tribunals condemn and punish, because English public opinion believes that in unmarried men such acts of immorality are inevitable; that what they do not absolutely deny to be the law of God is a law of extravagant impossibility, and that all unmarried men who profess to obey it, are knaves, hypocrites, and necessarily impure.

And so the "two converts or two apostates" stand before the world. The one spotless in life and unblamed in manners, condemned amidst the execrations of a crowded court of zealous evangelical Protestants, because he has a zeal for the law of God, and a hatred of impurity; the other raised to the height of Protestant sainthood and martyrdom, because he represents, in Protestant public opinion, the right of every man to "do as he likes," and the necessity which it believes is imposed on human nature of breaking at once the laws of God, and the discipline of the Catholic Church.

In these hasty remarks we are, of course, only at the beginning of this business. Most of the Irish members are necessarily absent from London, to look after their own electioneering interests; but if only one member remains in London, we earnestly trust the session will not be allowed to close without giving notice for an inquiry, at the beginning of the next session, into the conduct of Lord Campbell upon the judgment seat.

THE PROCLAMATION—FRIGHTFUL RIOTS AT STOCKPORT.

The "Derby proclamation" has fulfilled its mission. It has been baptised in blood, and consecrated by interminable slaughter. Now, then, its concoctors ought rejoice. Over seventy of their Catholic fellow-countrymen have fallen victims to its demoniacal spirit; the Priest and the flock have been stricken, and the temples of religion have been sacked. On hearing of this melancholy and savage riot, I at once proceeded to Stockport to the scene of the affray, and never shall I forget the appearance of the place—the scene that met my gaze—the town in confusion—women almost naked—children undressed—men breathing vengeance over the groans of their wounded fellow-creatures—houses torn down—and every aspect of utter desolation presented themselves at every turn. Not in modern days have we had such a disgraceful monument of frenzied bigotry and sanguinary fanaticism. I can, however, at present, do little more than transmit you a very hurried and necessarily imperfect account of the riot, and the suspected cause which produced it. Suffice it to say it is one of the most brutal we ever have had to record, and involves the destruction of property and life.

On Sunday, the 20th ult., the Rev. Mr. Frith, Catholic Minister, alluded in his sermon to the fact that the annual procession of the schools would take place on the following Sunday, 27th ult. The Priest told his congregation that it was likely they would meet with some opposition, but this was not intended to be an illegal procession; and that if any insults were cast upon them, the sufferers were urged to retaliate in no way whatever, but to pass on peaceably. The procession made no display, and passed off quietly. It started from the Catholic Church at Edgeley, and proceeded down Greek-street, across the Wellington road, along Edward-street, across Waterloo, and so on to the churchgate, Park-street, Princess-street, Warren-st., along Heaton-lane, Wellington-road South, and so returned to the Catholic chapel in Edgeley again. The procession was composed of the scholars of the schools, their parents, such other members of the congregations in Edgeley, and the chapel in Princess-street, as were interested in educational matters. A few emblems of a trinket kind were worn, but everything calculated to excite opposition, or likely to be considered offensive display, was studiously abandoned. The two Priests who led the procession were in plain black clothes, and no banners or flags were borne. We are anxious to be explicit on this point, to remove the erroneous impression likely to be produced by our previous report. A ball and cross, and a small gilt dove, were carried inoffensively by persons who directed the procession.

On Monday, it is stated that preparations were made to get up a sham procession, in ridicule of the Catholic schools, and the effigy of Mr. Frith was actually made and exhibited; but the sham procession did not excite the feelings its projectors expected. From several persons we heard that members of the Protestant Association were seen taking part in these disgraceful acts. A fight, leading to no immediate result followed; but the matter was taken up as a religious contest at night, and called for further exertion on the part of the police; but order was restored, and the night passed over without disturbance.

On Tuesday morning each party proclaimed itself victor, and expressed determination to "serve out" those who had been their opponents on the previous night; in consequence of which Mr. Forster, the Catholic Priest, called on Mr. Sadlier, the superintendent of police, requesting that measures might be taken to prevent any disturbance. An appointment was made between Mr. Sadlier and the Priest; but this latter was unable to keep, in consequence of some duties which required his attention at home. The whole of the small force at the disposal of Mr. Sadlier, was then put into requisition, and were stationed in various parts of the town. During the day some boys belonging to the Catholic schools, who had received a little rough usage on Monday night, visited many of the Irish lodging-rooms, and told their inmates that "the Protestants were going to murder them that night." It was in consequence of that, it is believed, that when the disturbance began, so large a number of persons were found to be armed with sticks and bludgeons. By an eye-witness of respecta-