

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE

PARIS, NOV. 22.—La France, in an article upon the attitude of England with respect to Greece, and on the candidature of Prince Alfred for the throne of that country, draws attention to the question, and says:—The great Western Powers have common interests in the East which ought to unite and not to divide them. It is evident that if one of the Powers desired to obtain a preponderance to the prejudice of the other, the equilibrium of their relations would be disturbed and a shock be given to the principles on which their good understanding rests.

Nov. 24.—The Constitutionnel of this evening says:—Some foreign journals have spoken of a second note on mediation in America having been dispatched by M. Drouyn de Lhuys. We can state, however, that this rumour is without any foundation.

Nov. 25.—The Patrie of this evening contradicts the report that Marshal Randon had been sent to Rome on an extraordinary mission. The Paris journals of this evening state that the Turcotte has been despatched to the Greek waters.

THE GREEK QUESTION.—Nov. 26.—The Constitutionnel of to-day contains an article on the affairs of Greece, signed by its chief editor, M. Limayrac. In this article M. Limayrac recalls that France has no motive for refusing should England make the proposition to renew the engagement of the three Powers with Greece.

The situation of France, says the writer, is free, decided, and completely disinterested. The accession of Prince Alfred to the throne of Greece would not wound us. Greece is free to choose her Sovereign. Our relations with England are so cordial that we should feel no displeasure at the choice of Prince Alfred. In what way could we take umbrage at the position of a great Power who would create for itself the obligation of maintaining a prince on the Hellenic throne? Greece exists with difficulty as it is, and the Power which furnishes a dynasty will be confronted by two perilous difficulties. Either it will have to restrain the aspirations of the new King within the prison walls of the present frontiers, and thus lose popularity and prestige, or it will encourage the ambition of the Greeks for territorial aggrandisement, and in that case open the door to the redoubtable European question, which is pregnant with all kinds of complications.

These serious embarrassments, concludes M. Limayrac, would result for England from the triumph of the candidature of Prince Alfred. The Morning Post has not thought proper to take cognisance of them, but the Times has perfectly understood them.

La France of this evening says:—Russia will not support the Duke of Leuchtenberg, as such an attitude would afford a pretext for the candidature of Prince Alfred.

It is asserted that a deputation of Greek notables has left the Piræus for England to present an address to Prince Alfred bearing numerous signatures.

THE PLOT TO ASSASSINATE THE EMPEROR.—A gentleman who was in Paris on Monday writes:—Besides the Boulevard Prince Eugène plot, almost every one you meet inquires, 'Have you not heard of the Emperor being shot at Compiegne?' A man assured me solemnly on Monday that one of the Cent Gardes was killed at Compiegne by a ball intended for the Emperor, and that the assassin was executed on the spot. In order to enforce the truth of the anecdote, he assured me that he had seen a lady who had been a sister of the slaughtered Cent Guard, in deep mourning for him. Moreover, he said that the bullet was of a particular description, and made on purpose to penetrate the coat of mail which the Emperor wears. The improbability of such an affair being hushed up is, however, so great that one cannot swallow it.—But it is very curious that so many tales of plots and assassinations should be in the air. There is no doubt at all about the increased activity of the secret police, and the terror among the class of political suspects.

A work just published in the name of M. Hubaux, private secretary to Prince Napoleon, is universally attributed to his master. It is an attack on the temporal sovereignty of the Holy Father in the form of a collection of opinions from French diplomatists from the time of Louis XIV. to the Revolution during the First Empire, and during the Restoration.

Prince Napoleon says a Paris correspondent is not in favor of Court. He does not intend to go to Compiegne, which will not probably break the heart of the lady who shares the throne of France with Napoleon III.

A very curious case is just now being tried before the Court of Assizes at Amiens, which is exciting great sensation, as it shows that though torture has been theoretically abolished, it still is practically resorted to by French judicial officers in criminal cases. In the month of May last a woman named Doies was arraigned before the Court of Douai, on the charge of having murdered her father. She stoutly denied her crime, and the judge d' instruction and his subalterns, in order to induce her to confess her guilt, resorted to the following ingenious plan. The unfortunate woman (who was enfeebled) was confined in a cellar two metres (about seven feet) square, which received light and air by the simple process of a brick in the wall being removed. She was allowed her only food, and a straw mattress, which was taken away for a short time, was soon taken away, and she was therefore compelled to sleep on the stone floor.—Whilst in this position, the secretary of the judge d' instruction visited her daily, and urged her to confess, promising that she would be released as soon as she acknowledged her guilt. For three months she held out bravely, but at length nature gave way, and she answered every question that was put to her in the affirmative, and was sentenced to hard labour at the hulks for life. She was sent to the Court of Cassation, and by what appears a special dispensation of Providence, before her appeal came on two men surrendered themselves, and confessed that they had committed the crime for which the unfortunate Mme. Doies had been convicted and condemned.—The Court of Cassation of course quashed the sentence, but in conformity with the law, ordered a fresh trial, which is now taking place at Amiens, and in the course of which the tortures inflicted upon

the prisoner to acknowledge herself guilty of a crime she did not commit have been gradually revealed. The continued emigration from the South, and particularly from the Lower Pyrenees, has somewhat alarmed the authorities. The Prefect of that Department has issued a circular to his subordinates, the sub-prefects and mayors, entreating them to try to stop the exodus. He reminds them of the unavailing efforts of his predecessors with the same view, and while disclaiming the use of restrictive measures to keep people at home, recommends that they should be disabused of exaggerated notions about the facilities of acquiring abundant wealth in a few years in South America. There is little doubt of the conscription having something to do with this self-expatriation.—Times Corr.

ITALY.—The Nazione of Florence has just published a series of letters addressed by M. Bargagli, the Tuscan Envoy of the Holy See, to his Government in 1856. These documents (remarks Le Monde) are not without their use, although they have been stolen from the Grand-ducal archives, and published by the professed enemies of the Papacy. They prove that the old Governments of the Peninsula were for the most part in a more or less violent state of hostility to Rome, and that the parts played by their agents at Rome were such as generously would prompt us to pass over in silence. Personally the sovereigns were doubtless actuated by the best intentions; but they became real adversaries to the Holy See, through their weak compliance with the demands of the Revolutionists. Their banishment is a chastisement which we should scarcely complain of if they and their ministers were its only objects. But their poor subjects have lost all their prosperity, and the Church has but passed from subjection to them to come under the hated and tyrannical yoke of Piedmont.

To speak of Tuscany alone, history will judge severely the conduct of its Ministers towards the Church, and it will not be long before events demonstrate that the love and the glory of the Church are all that has been left them after the past and present oppressions which they have gone through. The parties which the abominable conduct of Piedmont has united in a desire for independent government profess, above everything, their submission to the Pope. They wish to have their tenure, as it were, of the future from him. Doubtless there is a Grand-ducal party; but this party is, and calls itself the Catholic party. Esteem for the old regime is past and gone; and here it is that Providence is truly working in men's minds. M. Bargagli was originally an employee of the civil service, and was called to the diplomatic service, to bear on which, however, he brought but a moderate capacity. The exact measure of that capacity is given by the documents issued by him. Instead of informing his Government how things really stood, and fore-arming it against street and anti-chamber rumours, those rumours were just what he adopted as the theme of his official communications. These are pervaded by ill-will and bitterness of feeling against Cardinal Archuechi, which is all the more deplorable because Archuechi displayed at the time, as ever, the greatest objectiveness in the presence of His Eminence.

Rome is now much occupied with this incident, which must, it would seem, bring M. Bargagli's mission to a close, since his actual relations with the Holy See must have become as limited as those of his Sovereign with his own subjects. From the news which come from the Romagna, the Marches, and Umbria, these provinces appear to be much agitated by the reaction against the Piedmontese Government. The idea of unity is so utterly dead that people are now thinking of nothing else but how to bury it. But two elements survive this chimerical unity: that of Order, which is allied to the Papacy, and that of the Republic, to anarchy. If the Pontifical Government would yield to the suggestions which are made to it; if it would take the trouble to listen to its devoted adherents, in aid of such measures as new Powers too well know how to practice, it would doubtless succeed in reconquering its territory for itself. The entry of the battalion of Zouaves, the artillery, and the Pontifical troops, would stir up the inhabitants, more especially those of the Romagna, whose character of the people is firmest and most energetic. The Piedmontese (says the Monde) hemmed in between these populations and the Papal soldiers, would be compelled to yield. It would, we might say perhaps it will, then be seen what use may be made of the army reconstituted by Pius IX. after the glorious disaster of Castelfidardo. We are certain that this army would be doubled and reborn in case of war. The Catholics would be happy and proud to reconquer the sacred territories, and restore them to their lawful master in the person of their blood.—Cor of Weekly Register.

The finances of revolutionary Italy maintain their character. In 1859, the estimated income was £21,094,000, and the estimated expenses, £24,340,000. But the actual receipts were only £16,660,000, and the actual expenditure was £27,076,000. The actual deficit was, therefore, £21,000,000.

In 1861 the estimated income was £19,136,000, and the estimated expenses, £34,148,000. The actual receipts were £18,740,000, and the actual expenditure, £38,929,000. The actual deficit was, therefore, above £20,000,000.

For 1862 the estimated income was £20,252,000, and the estimated expenditure, £33,604,000. The actual deficit of 1862 will exceed £20,000,000.

For 1863 M. Sella, the Minister, estimates the income at £24,292,000, and the expenditure at £37,416,000. The estimated deficit is therefore, nearly £13,000,000. What the actual deficit will be, we must wait to see. Even of the estimated income, no less than £2,000,000 are to be derived from the sale of Crown lands.

A FEW CHURCHES IN A FREE STATE.—A decree of the Home Ministry of the Kingdom of Italy changes into barracks the monastery of the Dominicans of Termini.

The church of the Nuns of St. Mary of Constantinople, in Naples, has been robbed of valuable statues, silver ornaments, and precious vestments, as well as of the silver lamps of the high altar.

In Florence, the Basilica of St. Lawrence has had its high altar tabernacle broken open; the ciborium in it has been stolen, and the consecrated species thrown on the pavement.

The tabernacle of the altar of our Lady Loreto was also broken, and the silver lamp of the altar of the Madonna del Rio stolen.—Contemporaneo.

Six committees of Nuns have been driven from their convents; namely, those of Bethlehem, Sta. Lucia and San Olandino, at Foligno; those of San Giuliano, Sta. Maria Maddalena, and of the Sacred Heart, at Perugia. The following day their few articles of furniture were sold by public auction by the confiscating commission called the Censura Ecclesiastica.—Osservatore Romano.

In the Puglie (kingdom of Naples) the few convents still remaining inhabited by Religious are at the same time inhabited by the officers, soldiers and agents of the Piedmontese Government. The Nuns, deprived of their property, do not even receive the wretched pension assigned to them, and may have to live from daily alms. However, schismatic Vicars Capitular, intrusted by the Government during the exile of the Bishops, by a new process of tyranny, impose upon these poor Nuns Passagian Confessors and Chaplains; so much so that, in some convents, these Nuns have abstained from going to confession and hearing Mass, for the last eleven months, so as not to be obliged to have any communication with such apostate Priests. The schools and colleges dependent on Government have hardly any pupils, and yet enormous sums are spent there to satisfy a crowd of new Professors without faith, honour, morality or learning.—Eco di Bologna.

The discussion of Lima speaks of a scandalous Priest, of the name of Ambrogio di Mondovi, who goes about the places near the Lago Maggiore proclaiming a new independent national church of his own.

A correspondent from Borzò, dated November the 16th, and published by the Correspondence de Rome, says:—Ancona has lost seven churches. The Government has not even respected architecture; so that the impious and the Jews, who flatter themselves that they have a taste for art, cry out as loudly as the Christians against Piedmontism, which has become synonymous with Vandallism. The magnificent church of San' Agostino is to be partly pulled down, and in part turned into an inn. There is also talk of pulling down the church of the Arceconfraternita of the Blessed Sacrament.

Speaking of Passaglia, who expects to receive a lucrative government appointment in the Schismatic church which Victor Emmanuel is meditating, the Times correspondent says:—

Passaglia would be a great weapon in the hands of a daring and resolute Italian Government, not only against the Pope, but against the Power whose bayonets uphold the Pope at Rome!

TURIN, NOV. 25.—Failure at home, and disgrace abroad, are the unenviable requirements with which the Rattazzi Ministry re-appear on the official bench. 'The Roman Question' torn to ribbons (as the Italians say themselves), its failure so palpable that many of its most fanatic supporters in Italy, as in England, are at their wits' end to get dextrously away without seeming to run away: a state of siege in a united country unpardonable by the Revolution, and criminal before the world as flagrant in its application to people whose crime is that of fidelity to its lawful Sovereign, thus proclaiming the 'unity of Italy' to be an imposture; and official barbarities, egressions tampering with the judicial bench, and atrocious tyranny and murder by Government proclamation, will form the most prominent items in the first account, while in the second signal undistinguished official contempt for the private summons of their Foreign Minister to the French Imperial Cabinet is noted as the brilliant acquisition with which the recess has decorated the servants of the robber-king. Throughout Turin, which had been filling for several days with the combatants for the Parliamentary arena, previous to the opening, nothing was discussed but the shortcomings of the Ministry, the hopes of its enemies, rendering it a very Babel of discord, conjecture, and contradictions.—Cor. of Tablet.

GARIBOLDI'S LANDSIDE SPOT AT PISA.—A serious instance of opposition has taken place at Pisa between the Government and the 'party of action.' During the night a marble slab had been set up at the spot where Garibaldi was landed, commemorating that event, and mentioning that he was wounded at Aspromonte. This circumstance was considered by the authorities as intended to cast a slur upon the army, and on the following day a picket of carabinieri was sent to pull down the slab and put another in its stead with the same inscription, except the words, 'wounded at Aspromonte.' But, lo! notwithstanding the vigilance of the police, on the night after the Government slab was taken away, and one identical with the first one put in its stead. The correspondent of the Opinion of Paris, who relates this says that while the carabinieri were at work, Madame Maria (Miss White) might be seen at the window of the hotel inhabited by the General, watching them in great apparent agitation.—Guardian.

ROME.—The visit of the Prince of Wales to the Pope on the 17th inst., is thus described by the correspondent of the Post:—

It is not an event of which history offers us many precedents, that the heirs apparent to the two great Protestant thrones in Christendom should have been simultaneously in Rome, and proceeded together to pay their respects to the supreme head of the Catholic Church. This rare occurrence took place this morning. The Prince of Wales and his suite, attended by the British representative, Mr. Odo Russell; and the Prince and Princess of Prussia with their suite, attended by the Prussian Minister, Baron de Kanitz, left the Caffarelli Palace in five carriages about noon, and drove to the Vatican palace, where they were received at the foot of the great staircase by the Pope's major-domo, M. Borromeo, and conducted to the Pope's suite of apartments. The formality observed in the Papal Court on the reception of persons of royal rank by his Holiness is, that after passing through the various ante-chambers in which the noble guards and household Prelates are stationed according to their respective ranks, the persons to be presented proceed alone from the last ante-chamber into the audience-chamber, conducted only by the Prelate entitled Maestro di Camera, who opens the door and kneels down, whilst the visitors, stepping forward, kneel themselves in the presence of the Supreme Pontiff who on such occasions is ordinarily unattended, and receives his visitors *à la française*. The diplomatists and members of the suite who accompany the royal personages wait in the last ante-chamber until, on a given signal, the Maestro di Camera gives them access also into the audience-chamber, where they are successively presented to his Holiness by the sovereigns or princes that have previously enjoyed their own private interview with the Pontiff.

In accordance with this custom, the Prince of Wales and the Prince and Princess of Prussia entered the audience-chamber without the members of their suite, and were most affably received by Pius Nono. His Holiness had formerly known the Prince Consort, he had known the King of Prussia, he had known the Prince of Wales so lately, that they were plenty of topics of conversation to be found in family reminiscences, besides the customary common-places of inquiries and answers about travelling and sight-seeing. The Pope was charming, and kept up a brisk conversation for about ten minutes, when the gentlemen and ladies of the prince's and princess's suite were admitted and presented to his Holiness.—The whole party on leaving the Pope's apartments, proceeded to those of the Cardinal Secretary of State, to pay him the customary visit of restitution.

PETER'S PENANCE.—A letter from Rome states that between the months of November, 1859, and the end of October, 1862, a period of three years, the collection of Peter's penance has added to the resources of the Pope the sum of 5,150,000 crowns—that is more than 1,700,000 Roman crowns (upwards of 9,000,000fr)—a year. The annual deficit of the Pontifical finances is 5,000,000 crowns. Peter's penance reduces it to 3,300,000 crowns. 'Notwithstanding this deficit,' says the letter, 'the Government meets the expenses of the public service, and has at this moment a sum of 1,000,000 crowns in the Treasury.'—Post.

The following anecdote of Pope Pius IX. is related in a monthly review entitled, 'Le Monde Judicaire.'—'The Sovereign Pontiff, among his other powers, enjoys that of annulling the wills of his subjects. The son of a Roman landed proprietor complained to His Holiness that his father had bequeathed the half of his fortune, or 40,000fr., to the Priest who on a particular day and in a church named should say the first Mass. The Pope, not during to cancel a will on account of an act of religious insanity, adopted another plan. He went himself at daybreak to the church in question and celebrated the first Mass. He thus gained the 40,000fr., which he then handed over to the grateful heir.'

We have to deplore the premature death of the Abbe Oberson, Chaplain of the Pontifical army. He sunk in a few days, and asked to be buried in the new Gothic church of the Redemptorist Fathers which is close to the Ravenna barracks. Mr. Oberson was a Swiss, and had followed the campaign of 1860. When the butcher Cialdini, after the disaster of Castell-Giardino, had him brought before him, he incited him, grossly and shouted at him: 'How have you saved you, the child of a free country, to come and fight against me?' 'First of all, I do not fight,' answered the Chaplain; 'my profession is to assist those who fight.' Besides, I am in the service of the Vicar of Christ, who is quite as much an Italian as you are.—The Pope is only kept up by Swiss and Frenchmen.—'I see a Spaniard by your side, Sir,' replied

Mr. Oberson, pointing to Cialdini's aide-de-camp. 'Is it so? Well! I, (here) insult and blasphemies were introduced; am about to have the shot.' 'It will be one crime the more,' coolly added the priest. The soldiers, whom he loved, grieve for Abbe Oberson, who was so gentle, pious, and brave.

The Prince of Prussia paid a visit to the King of Naples during the short stay of the former at Rome. The Prince went in full uniform, wearing the Neapolitan order of St. Ferdinand, and attended by the Prussian Minister accredited at the Holy See, in accordance with the rules of etiquette observed in official visits from one sovereign to another.

The King was also in uniform, surrounded by the dignitaries of his court, and his minister for foreign affairs stood by his side. The visit was of sufficient length to allow of the august personages engaging in a most interesting conversation. It seems that the Prince broached the subject of the Neapolitan question, and did not conceal from the King that he had been most painfully impressed during his short stay at Naples; he also mentioned to the King that many Neapolitans came to him on board the Osborne to lay before him the wretched state of the country.

KINGDOM OF NAPLES.—The state of siege has at length been raised in the southern provinces, but the concentration of all political authority in the hands of the prefects of Naples and Palermo, giving them thereby an almost unlimited power, leaves the Neapolitans in very much the same state of oppression as before. That they do not obey Piedmont of their own free will is proved by the fact that at least one-third of the whole Italian army is stationed in the country, and exacts even-accused in putting down brigandage. The Revue, a Liberal journal of Naples, states that the number of soldiers at present in the continental provinces of that kingdom is 82,000, and in the island of Sicily 20,800; in all 102,800, without reckoning eighteen squadrons of cavalry in the Capitanato, and several battalions of mobilised National Guard composed of all the lowest revolutionary *canaille* of the cities of Northern Italy. The *Osservatore Romano*, asks, against what enemy are these troops destined to act? The brigands, we have been often told, are almost exterminated, and the remnants of their bands can inspire no alarm; the secret society of the 'Gomarristi' has been broken up, and 400 of its members are to be transported to some island in the Pacific; and Garibaldi and his followers will not soon forget the lesson they received in the *Aspromonte*. These troops must, therefore, be required to hold in submission the nation which has been always represented as having so unanimously expelled the tyranny of the Bourbons, and elected Victor Emmanuel for its Sovereign.

The Jays of laughter are ended at Naples, writes the correspondent of the Gazette de France. Every one lives in a state of fear. La Marmora has still unlimited power, and a beardless lieutenant may have you shot, on the strength of a mere denunciation. The visit of Victor Emmanuel to the city he has so basely stolen, and over which he so infamously tyrannises, is put off to next month.

The Count de Tran's furniture has been transferred from Portico to the Capodimonte Palace. The upholsterer has not yet been paid for it; and, on applying for payment on several occasions, he was each time told to 'go and get his money from the Bourbon.'

According to news from the provinces, the reaction would seem to have concentrated in the province of Avellino. The families who had shown themselves too favourable to Piedmontism are leaving their residences, and seeking refuge in the neighborhood of the troops. At Campanella, two of these crack-brained Piedmontists were foolish enough to boast that the Royalists would not dare to touch a hair of their head. A council of war tried and condemned them, as traitors to king and country. Six hours were given to them to make their peace with God, and the next day they were shot in the public square.

One Captain Brignatelli, commanding a Piedmontese detachment at Collano, in the province of Salerno, seems to envy the reputation of Fieschi. He had the Communal Chancellor of Laviano arrested, and, on a mere suspicion of connivance with the Royalists, had him shot.

In a small place of the Basilicata, a Captain of the National Guard, and a head priest, were shot without any process of law. At San Paolo, two unucky Royalists were mercilessly shot. At Gessopalena, one Marco Laganuti, formerly a soldier of Francis II., underwent the same fate. At Solandra, Antoine Cavalcante, and Domenico Pannocino met death with courage and firmness to the cry of 'Long live Francis II. our King.'

A tremendous disturbance took place on Sunday the 16th, at the theatre of San Carlo. The cry was, 'Down with the Camerista Government!'

Before leaving Naples the Prince of Prussia gave a dinner on board the Osborne, on the 3th, in honour of the Prince of Wales's majority; and on the 11th numerous placards were affixed to the walls of the city appealing in the strongest terms to the future Kings of England and Prussia, against the tyranny of the Piedmontese rule in Naples. They were immediately torn down by the police, but not before they had been seen and remarked on by the Royal visitors. The visit of Victor Emmanuel is indefinitely postponed, and so is the raising of the state of siege in Naples, as the *Opinion* says, on account of the deplorable condition of the Southern Provinces. The brigandage is becoming day by day more desperate, and the affair at San Severo (noticed to you a few days since) was a very serious one. Wherever the personation is the most cruel the bands are strongest and fiercest, and De Luca, Fantoni, and Arcaretti are about the best recruiting officers Francis the Second could wish for. This state of affairs cannot go on. England can never be deaf to the utter misery she has been the indirect cause of, and at least Catholics cannot sit tamely down, and bear of slaughter and rapine perpetrated on their fellow Catholics; for the furtherance of a miserable chimera. The great crime of these unhappy men is not merely their loyalty, but their religious creed. They love Francis the Second, and detest still the Church of their Fathers, the sanctuaries they have seen profaned, the cloisters, whose desecration they have witnessed; the Priests, whom they have not been strong enough to save from exile, prison, and murder. The name of Mary, their conquerers have insulted, and the Adorable Sacrament they have outraged so fearfully, one dreads to think of it. Catholics may soon have a casting vote in the councils of the empire. In Heaven's name let them use it, ere a war of extermination, a wholesale system of proscription, has swept thousands of their fellow Catholics from one of the fairest countries the sun shines on.—Cor. of London Tablet.

It is never too late to mend, and we have satisfaction in recording that the 'Times' at last makes the amende honorable to the injured Queen of Naples. The 'Times' correspondent writing from Rome, on Nov 19th, says of the Queen Maria Sophia, 'Young and beautiful, spirited, and possessed of much talent, she should have been respected by every one calling himself a man; and it reflects no honour upon our sex that in this city, calamities have been uttered, which even the violence of party-feeling cannot excuse. It is now the turn of 'France's Magazine' and of the 'Daily News.'

AUSTRIA.—An amnesty for all Hungarians condemned by the military tribunals for political offences, and for all refugees who have already returned to their country, together with the suspension of all political prosecutions already begun, have just been granted by the Emperor of Austria. These measures strengthen the hopes of a reconciliation between Hungary and the Imperial Government which have lately been indulged in.

PRUSSIA.—Berlin, Nov. 27.—The Neue Preussische (Kreuz) Zeitung of to-day publishes the reply of the King to an address of devotion presented to him by a deputa-

tion from the cities of Elberfeld, and Wittenberg. The conclusion of His Majesty's speech was as follows:—'I am sorry, that I must now govern without a Budget. I shall, however, return to a regular course. In the meantime the representatives of the people on their part must help to render this possible, and must not exercise their constitutional rights, as by so doing they would paralyze my Government and disarm the country. I cannot surrender the rights of the Crown.'

BELGIUM.—The Belgian Chambers have reassembled for their annual session. The campaign of the Liberals against the religious rights of Catholics is about to reopen. Two points are selected for attack—the Cemetery or Interment question; and the question about the Fabric Funds of the churches. The Revision of the Law of 1843, which secures to the Clergy their authority and surveillance over the Common schools, is desired by the Liberals; but the king has hitherto set his face against the design so determinedly, that it has made no way.

RUSSIA.—We announced some time ago on the authority of the 'Union' that Mgr. Joseph Sokolki, the Bulgarian Primate, whose solemn consecration at Rome and whose subsequent disappearance will be remembered by our readers, has not apostatized, and was not dead, as had been generally reported and believed, but had been perditionally entrapped and carried off from Constantinople, on board a Russian vessel by the intrigues of the Greek schismatics. The news is not confirmed; the Primate is in confinement in a monastery near Kiev. The Rev. Father Falleone, Prefect Apostolic at Constantinople, and charged to obtain information on this subject, writes to confirm the news.—The unhappy Primate is in close confinement, and is subjected to very harsh treatment; but he perseveres in the faith with admirable constancy. The Court of Rome is about to exert itself energetically to procure the liberation of Mgr. Sokolki by reconstructing with the Russian Government.—London Tablet.

UNITED STATES.—A Letter of 'Manhattan,' the New York correspondent of the Standard says:—'We are a great people. We yesterday dispatched the steamer Levi D. Chapman and his wife in the barque Lye-ee-Moon for Shanghai, China. The cost of this expedition will be about 12,000 dollars, but it will be cheap if it succeeds in converting the 365 millions of Chinese from their wooden Joss arrangements to any of our numerous faiths. I think the man and wife mission are Presbyterians of the new-light school, and not of the old school, though I do not suppose it will make much difference to the Chinese.'

THE DRAFT IN BIRMINGHAM.—My townsmen were sort of demoralized. There was a evident desire to evade the Draft, as I observed with sorrow, and patriotism was below Par and Mar too. [A Jew-deposit.] I hadn't so soon set down on the piazza of the tavern than I see sixteen horsemen riding abreast, leading their way up the street.

'What's them?' is it cavalry? 'That,' said the landlord, 'is the stage. Sixteen able-bodied citizens has lately bought the stage from here and Scrottsburg. That's them. They're stage drivers. Stage drivers is exempt? I saw that each stage driver carried a letter in his left hand.

'The mail is heavy to day,' said the landlord. 'Generally they don't have more'n than half a dozen letters 'twix them. To-day they've one apiece!

'And the passengers?' 'There ain't any, scarcely, now-a-days,' said the landlord, 'and what few there is, very much prefer to walk, the road is so rough.'

'And how is it with you?' I enquired of the editor of the 'Bible of Liberty,' who sat near me. 'I can't go,' he said, shaking his head in a wise way. 'Ordinarily, I should prefer to wade in gore, but my bleeding country bids me stay at home. It is imperative that I remain here for the purpose of announcing, from week to week, that our Government is about to take vigorous measures to put down the rebellion.'—[Artemus Ward.]

According to the statements of Governor Buckingham's Messengers to the Connecticut Legislature, the draft has proved a great failure in that State. Of the 1212 men drafted in the different towns only 75 principals and 142 substitutes have been mustered into the service of the United States. Of the remainder, 81 deserted after reporting at camp, 623 have been exempted by surgeons and set-aside, 166 were unaccounted for on the 12th instant, 10 had previously volunteered, and 34 were not subjects of military duty.

SWINDLING IN BUFFALO.—We hear of a financial transaction at Buffalo which has not yet appeared in print, which exhibits an amount of coolness which we have never known equaled. As the story goes, a rough looking man, dressed like a farmer, appeared a few evenings since at a banking office in Buffalo, and stated that he had been over in Canada to purchase a lot of cattle, but found the price so high he concluded not to buy. He had a lot of Canada currency, and he heard that there was eight or ten per cent premium on Canada money in Buffalo. If such was the case he would like to dispose of what he had by him. The banker said there was a slight premium on Canada currency, and he would pay twelve per cent for what the cattle buyer had. The farmer replied that he was biting rather sharp for his money, and he 'guessed' he had better go out and see if he could not sell his money at better rates. The banker said, as he was going, that he might look around but he would pay him as much as any one, and the unsophisticated countryman departed. He soon returned, and stated that he had been offered fifteen per cent premium on his pile of \$8,000, but as he had offered it to him first, he brought it back. 'Well,' said the banker, 'I will give you sixteen per cent advance on your money.' The bargain was concluded, and the banker counted \$280 for the \$8000, which appeared to be a new issue on an interior Canadian bank. The pretended drover, who was a sharper in disguise, left with his 'pile,' and the unfortunate banker soon found that he had been duped, and that the whole \$8000 were in neatly executed counterfeits, and that he had been the victim of a huge swindle.

The following is from the New York World. Though somewhat partisan, the statements are undeniably true.—The farce of electing members of Congress from the city of New Orleans took place on the 3rd of December. Benjamin F. Flanders and Michael Hahn were the fortunate competitors. With the help of the soldiers, so we judge from the accounts, some 5,386 votes were polled in the whole city. At the last election there were 13,424 votes polled, which shows a falling off of over 8000 votes. Old Jacob Barker and Hon. J. C. Boulligny were among the defeated candidates. Of course Flanders and Hahn are in no sense representatives of the city of New Orleans, and it is to be hoped the present House to which they are elected will see to it that the representative principle is not outraged by admitting these delegates to full membership. If military governors are permitted to send representatives to Congress from the revolted states it will be an easy matter to cook up a majority for the present administration in the next House, and this design we apprehend is at the bottom of the New Orleans election. It is bad enough to have our currency degraded by too large an infusion of paper, without having our Congress rendered worthless by an 'infusion' of representation.

A dispute having arisen at an Italian court between a lawyer and a doctor, as to which should walk first in a public procession, it was referred to the court for judgment, who gave it in favor of the lawyer, on the ground that the rogne should always precede the executioner.