

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

In France the people are peaceable, but the sufferings produced by a short harvest, a severe winter, and the disarrangements of trade and commerce by the accursed ambition of the Czar are serious. It is calculated that France will have to lay out eight millions sterling before next harvest in buying bread stuffs, to supply the wants of the population, every shilling of which will have to leave the country. One half the necessary supply has not yet been had, and the French buyers are busy all through the European and American grain markets.

France has called out an additional contingent army of 80,000 men, to replace the 70,000 destined for Turkey.

The Cardinal Archbishop and the other Bishops of the province of Tours—viz., their Lordships of Mans, Angers, Reims, Nantes, Quimper Vannes, and St. Briec, have addressed a letter of sympathy and condolence to the Archbishop of Freiburg. The Bishop of Marseilles and the Bishop of Gap have each likewise written to the illustrious confessors on behalf of themselves and the chapter of their respective cathedrals.

## AUSTRIA.

From Vienna, it is stated seemingly authentically, that Austria had asked Russia if she would consent to a European protectorate over the Christians in Turkey. To this the Czar replied he would consent to no interference whatever between himself and Turkey.

**AUSTRIAN FINANCES.**—According to the German papers the Austrian Budget for 1854 will show a deficit of 45,000,000 florins (£4,400,000) on the ordinary service, and 50,000,000 florins (£5,000,000) on the extraordinary—a result that may lead to a serious catastrophe, and fully accounts for the refusal of the eminent bankers at home and abroad to enter on a contract for a new loan with the Austrian government.

## SWEDEN AND DENMARK.

**ALLIANCE BETWEEN SWEDEN AND DENMARK.**—The *Gazette de Cologne* asserts that the two Cabinets are about concluding a treaty offensive and defensive, and the immediate result will be the fortification of the Danish coast, and more especially the Danish capital.

A letter from Christiania states that Norway has decided on fitting out a squadron of 12 ships, in view of the approaching events. But little sympathy is manifested for Russia.

## BADEN.

By way of proving its respect for the liberty of the press, this Protestant Government has prohibited the local press from any discussion on the subject of the religious troubles. The persecution still rages; the following are fair specimens of Protestant religious liberty. We copy from the *Tablet*:—

"The fines imposed on the Vicar-General of Freiburg amounted, early in last month, to no less a sum than 2,625 francs. The Capitular Secretary's fines at the same period has reached 1,050 francs. A poor young Curate of Baden had been fined 420 francs for having read the Archbishop's mandate, and had been expelled the city by the police. Another had been fined 105 francs, deprived of his salary, and ordered to quit. The Parish Priest of Loor was fined, as 'a disturber of public order,' for having spoken, in a sermon, of the struggles which the Church of Christ has in all ages to sustain; fined a second time for having used the public prayers prescribed by the Archbishop; and a third time, with fifteen days' imprisonment, for having read the Archbishop's mandate. In the district of Taubergmud, where many Priests had been thrown into prison, the people rose, and the Government were so alarmed that they felt it necessary to release them. At Freiburg, the police dragged to prison a young girl of eighteen years, Mlle. Massier, for having exclaimed when the Curate of the place was arrested, amidst the cries of the women and children, 'Oh, the butchers!' She was to be imprisoned for fifteen days, with hard labor, and every two days to be fed on bread and water, which they call by an expressive name in German, 'hungerkaut;' the poor girl at the time of her arrest was in feeble health, and has been unable to perform the tasks imposed upon her in the prison, in consequence of which she has been daily, or almost daily, fed only on bread and water.

"Such are a few specimens of the system adopted by the Government of Baden against the Catholic Church."

## ROME.

At a Secret Consistory held at Rome on the 19th December, His Holiness delivered an Allocution, of which the following is an extract:—

"We regret, alas! that this joy should be disturbed by the cruel misfortunes which we learn that our most holy religion suffers in certain northern countries. And to speak only of one, we cannot pass over in silence that its government, after having signified to the Nuncio of the Holy See at the court of Vienna that it had submitted its claims to the same See, not only has not done so, but has not yet ceased to torment the Church; much more, it has mulcted with fines, or cast into prison the sacred Ministers who refused to recede from their duty. In these extremities the invincible strength of soul and constancy of almost the entire Clergy, and, above all, of the holy Prelate, the Archbishop of Freiburg, who has given to all of them an example, has marvellously shone forth, resolved to give to Cæsar what belongs to Cæsar, and to God what belongs to God, neither menaces, nor the fear of dangers, have prevented him from defending courageously the rights of the Church, and from fulfilling the duties of the

Pastoral charge. While extolling with all just praise that admirable constancy in sustaining the cause of the Church, we exhort our Venerable Brother, the Archbishop of Freiburg, and the companions of his courage, not to allow themselves to despond, but to draw new strength from the power of the Lord, who has promised His Church to assist her throughout all time, and who has prepared the palm and the crown for those who fight the good fight. As for the rest, that doctrine which the Church has always taught with the Apostle of the nations, that it is necessary to obey the superior authorities, we hold it and we teach it, and the Bishops hold it and teach it with us. But if any order is given in opposition to the Divine law, and to the holy rights of the Church, transmitted by her Divine Author, we must obey God rather than men; the Apostle himself has confirmed this duty by his example, and with the holy Pastors of the Church we teach it and we endeavor to impress it on all hearts."

## INDIA.

The following remarks in a well-informed north-west paper, the *Agra Gazette* of Nov. 10, have attracted considerable notice in India:—

"The first ripple of the war-wave from the Bosphorus has broken on the confines of India. Persia and Afghanistan are disturbed by the murmurs of the approaching tempest. The former has already an army afoot, but which side it is intended to take in the impending struggle does not clearly appear.—And now, according to reports in the Kurrachee papers, the Shah has sent an envoy to Caboul on a secret mission, prefaced by a declaration of the advantages to be derived by both parties from amity and union betwixt them. There can be little doubt, we think, that this private message to Dost Mahomed relates to the probability of war between Russia and Turkey, and the part to be played by Persia and Afghanistan in the event of its occurrence. Of course, too, the likelihood of England engaging in the contest will be canvassed betwixt the Shah and the Ameer in determining the course they are to pursue."

The *Delhi Gazette* announces authentically that a Russian force has arrived at Ahmetzek, and has taken that fortress, consequently that the road to Khiva is now open to any army the European may choose to send towards Afghanistan. But even supposing the Russian army to be at Khiva, they have 200 miles of a desert without water, and double that distance of a country without supplies, to traverse before even Herat can be reached. The few who have been this route declare that even were a Russian force at Khiva to-morrow, a twelvemonth must elapse before 10,000 men of that army could enter the gates of Caboul. Great mischief, however, might be done us by Russian influence, were an army from that country even to reach Khiva.

## RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

**THE COMBINED FLEETS.**—The strength of the combined English and French fleets now in the Bosphorus amounts to forty-four sail, including line-of-battle ships, frigates, and steamers. Of these the French and English have each three three-deckers; we have seven two-deckers (including the *Agamemnon*) to five French two-deckers, the French 90 gun screw ship *Napoleon* having, unfortunately, been sent back to Toulon for repairs. Each flag has, or will soon have, eleven paddle-wheel steamers. The *Sanspareil* (English) and the *Charlemagne* (French) two-deckers have auxiliary steam power. In addition to this powerful fleet there are in the Bosphorus at least seven Turkish and Egyptian line-of-battle ships, besides frigates and steamers; so that the combined force may be taken at about 60 sail. From the large amount of steam power, the weight of guns, the size of these ships in proportion to their rating, and the perfection to which naval gunnery has now been carried both in the English and the French navies, this is, beyond doubt, the finest naval armament ever sent to sea, though it might, if necessary, be powerfully augmented by the first-class steamships and frigates which form Admiral Corry's squadron now at Lisbon. These vessels are, however, probably reserved as the nucleus of the North Sea fleet in the spring.

A letter from Malta, of the 28th Dec. states that the merchants who had contracted to supply the British fleet with coals in the Black Sea, had received orders to prepare depots at Sinope, Varna, and Trebizonde.

"We have the best authority," says the *Daily News*, "for stating that the Russian High-Admiral having recently inspected the Czar's Baltic fleet, one-half of the ships were at once condemned as worthless, and it was determined to build, on contract, a number of screw line-of-battle ships—one account says no less than thirty! We may possibly find some of these contracts taken in the Clyde or the Thames, and may safely calculate upon a portion of the vessels being built by the Americans. But it will take at least two years to get so large a fleet fit for sea—even if the cash is forthcoming."

We have just learned (says the *Observer*) from a private source, upon which we have every reason to rely, that the Russian government has given notice to several commercial gentlemen and engineers, interested in Russian railways, that it is not intended to proceed at present with these undertakings. In fact the works are about to be suspended, and all the men and money required for their construction will be devoted to carrying on the war.

**TACTICS OF THE CZAR.**—A well-informed correspondent of the *Times* communicates the following important intelligence:—

I mentioned a day or two ago that a communication had been made by the French government to the cabinet of St. Petersburg, which, whatever be its proper title, had all the character of an *ultima-*

*tum*, and that the English government concurred in it. I am again informed that such is the case, and that a communication similar in forms, and identical in sense, has been sent by the English government. It was despatched on the 29th by a special messenger. The paper was drawn up with all the forms of courtesy usual while friendly forms are not yet broken off, but, as a very polite communication may be, it was precise, to the point and unmistakable. It was, I am told, to the effect that the Powers, the Allies of the Porte, would see with displeasure any military operation in the Black Sea, whether on the coast of Asia or elsewhere; and in fact, intimating that any attempt at such operation would be resisted by the combined fleets. In other words, the Russian fleet of the Euxine is interdicted from stirring from its own ports for such purposes, at the risk of being attacked, and treated as the Turkish squadron was in the waters of Sinope. What answer the Emperor Nicholas will give to that courteous recommendation it is not difficult to guess. It is true he may not wish to expose his ships to the danger of encountering the combined squadron; but it is scarcely doubted that he will show his disregard to the admonition, or the threat in another fashion. It is, therefore, said—and, I must say, believed—that the moment the news reaches St. Petersburg of the entry of the combined fleets in the Black Sea, the Russians will cross the Danube; and the French partisans of the Czar anticipate that the presence in Bulgaria of the Cossacks will be the signal of a Greek insurrection all over Turkey. The Russians also say that the advance on Constantinople (for of that event they appear not to doubt) will be followed by a rising of many warlike tribes in Algeria, so as to render the removal of any part of the French army from that dependency utterly impossible. All these insurrections are, we are, informed, already organised, and only await the occasion to burst forth. Great hopes, too, are founded on what is to be done in India against the English, when such a storm will be raised that not a single soldier can be spared from the frontiers. Such is the vast *coup d'œil* taken in by those who declare their implicit belief in the irresistible and irrefragable power of the Czar. It is hoped at St. Petersburg that the Western Powers may still, for a time, be content to remain inactive spectators of what is occurring in the East, and therefore it is proposed to act almost entirely on the defensive in Europe, but to carry on the war with might and main in Asia. Advantage will be taken of the circumstance that no news from the Asiatic seat of war can reach Constantinople by water as long as the Russian fleets have the undisputed command of the Black Sea, and it is hoped that the Turkish army in Erzeroum may be completely annihilated before the Western Powers can have agreed to interfere.

**INTRIGUES OF RUSSIA IN ASIA.**—Warsaw, Dec. 14.—Intelligence of great importance for the world in general and for England in particular, informs us that Russia is making gigantic preparations, under the pretext of chastising the Khan of Khiva, but in reality with a higher aim. For 15 years Russia has been occupied in organising the Mongols and the Kirghese; she has furnished them with arms, money, and officers, and has had them instructed in the use of arms and the art of war. At any moment, at a signal from the Czar, 200,000 horse from among the hordes of the Kirghese, encamped between the Caspian Sea and Mount Altai, could enter upon a campaign, if Russia should induce Persia and Caboul to declare war against England to unite their forces with hers, and with those of the Mongols; at the same time, offering the hand to the independent Powers of India on the other side of the Ganges. In such a war with England, who can tell what would become of Hindostan, or what modifications the English rule in India might undergo? The epoch of Zingis Khan might return, and Asia pass once more under Mongolian sway. When one reflects on the constantly increasing misery of the Indians, bent down under the yoke of greedy merchants, it is with a feeling that their lot could not become more wretched under the iron sceptre of the Mongols. But, however that may be, England has reason to dread the attempts of Russia; for if the deserts and mountains which divide the Russian empire from Asia be impenetrable by European armies, they are not so by hordes inured to the fatigues of war. The day is not perhaps distant when Russia and England, the two most powerful empires of the world, may be engaged in hostilities, and war break out upon every point of their monstrous possession. England is less informed than any other power of the projects and preparations of Russia; and the aid which she affords to the Turkish army in the trans-Caucasian provinces has no other object but to raise against the Russian empire the Tartar hordes of the Caucasus and the Caspian, and by paralysing the Russian influence over the Mongols, the Persians, and the Kirghese, to render abortive the projects against the Indian possessions of Great Britain.—*Gazette de Spener*.

As the conduct of the Church in Baden seems but little understood amongst Protestants, it may be as well to state clearly what it is she claims, but which the state refuses. Our informant shall be Dr. Cumming of London; a witness whom no one will suspect of any partiality towards Popery. Here then are the monstrous claims put forward by the Church in Baden!—

"According to the doctrine of the Catholic Church, her teaching, her worship, her government, belong to the Pope and Bishops.

"All laws of the country, to which the Government appeals, when contrary to this doctrine are usurpations; the existing relations of Church and State were formed on a Protestant model.

"The State has no rights over the Church. We loudly protest against the pretended rights which it assumes.

"The Bishop must do all in his power to bring

about a repeal of the existing law; if he cannot do this by entreaties, the duty of resistance at once devolves upon him, and then the responsibility of a conflict like this falls not on him but on the power which usurps the government of the Church.

"As to the ordinance of the 7th of November in particular, the Archbishop protests against being obliged to submit his mandates to the Commissioner of the Government; this were to subject the Church to a layman. He protests against all the penalties which follow the violation of this command.

"To apply laws of police to Priests who should obey their Bishops, is, in the eyes of all the world, neither more nor less than an act of violence.

"To promise Priests who obey the laws of the country protection against the censure of their Bishops, is as dangerous as impossible. No power in existence can conserve the functions of a Priest when his Bishop withdraws those functions.

"Lastly, the Archbishop demands from the State a repeal of all laws in force upon this matter, and the abandonment of all sovereignty over the Church, for no partial concessions will suffice for the restoration of peace."

That is to say—the Catholic Church demands nothing but what is fully enjoyed by every Protestant dissenting community in England—the right to teach, worship, and manage her own affairs, such as the appointment of her ministers—without the interference of the civil power. So moderate are these demands, and so manifestly just, that Protestants are compelled to side with the Archbishop of Freiburg. The *Church Journal*, (Protestant) thus speaks of them:—

"With the requisite changes of phraseology which difference of circumstances require, it appears from the above that the Archbishop demands no more than what we, and all other religious bodies, already enjoy in these United States. We do not see how, on the principles of our Republican Constitution, anything very horrible or abominable can be found in the Archbishop's position, as above defined."

**THE BIBLE IN ITALY.**—A correspondent of the *London Times* writes as follows:—"For many years past I have paid almost annual visits to Sardinia and Piedmont, both before and after the granting of the constitution. The Bible formerly was as strictly prohibited as it now is in Tuscany or Rome; by its subsequent introduction and circulation liberty of thought and action has seized the minds of the people, and a consequent enlightenment on all political, social, and moral subjects has been the result. I was present at Nice when the first importation of bibles into Sardinia took place, when liberty of conscience was allowed by the new constitution." The statement conveyed in this extract is directly contrary to the truth, although I feel full confidence in the good faith of the writer. He is entirely blinded, however, by religious prejudice. I have at present before me a copy of *La Sacra Bibbia Tradotta in Italiano dall'Arcivescovo, Antonio Martini*, published at Florence in the year 1835, and also another edition of the same work, published at Florence in the year 1844. These editions contain the text of the Vulgate, with an Italian translation. This Italian bible is not only not forbidden by the church, but was expressly approved and authorised in the year 1778 by Pope Pius VI., as appears by the pontifical letter attached to the work. Cheap editions of this Italian translation of the Bible have been purchasable in every town in Italy ever since its first publication. Nor is it by any means the first Italian translation of the Bible which has appeared in Italy. Such translations have been printed and published in that country since the first invention of printing. Your correspondent might as well allege that the Protestants introduced a knowledge of reading and writing into Italy as the Italian translation of the Bible.

## MOBS AND MOB-MAKERS.

(From the *Buffalo Sentinel*.)

There is, in mostly every corner of the Union, some journal devoted entirely to the circulation of light literature and lies, that takes pleasure in laying every act which degrades man at the doors of the Irish people. If we hear of a riot we hear also of "paddies" in connexion with it; if a murder or murders occur, oaths large enough to smash a pyramid, are heaped upon their heads; if a native of the "old sod" should happen to commit a crime, and for that crime be declared guilty by the law of the land, innumerable anathemas against adopted Irish citizens shake the heavens from Maine to Florida, from the *Dutchman* in New York to the furthest fly-sheet representing a semi-civilization among the *Crows*. While on the other hand, should these same journals or journalists announce under the head of "Murder,"—"Mobocracy,"—"Freedom to Speech," or any other of the hackneyed headings of the day, that a native was the guilty party, the editorial comments, if any, usually, we might say, always make him, if not a saint, at least a little sinner. Is this not so, Horatio? So it is—but why is it so? These journals are started by individuals for the purpose of propagating certain opinions: these opinions "take" with a certain class of men: these men assist the enterprise of propagating those opinions, and from less to more, the pious design thrives, until at last, "one establishment" of large dimensions becomes necessary, for the purpose of issuing a sufficient number of copies to satisfy the appetite of the public.

This portion of the public, then, that thus sustains these revilers of the Irish people, sustains them because they represent its principles, and find with more expertness than less trained falsifiers the way to its heart. So this portion of the American public that supports these presses is directly opposed to everything Irish—everything foreign to the soil—everything which would advance us in the social scale, or add to our rights as adopted citizens, and always ready with heart and hand to impress upon us a more thorough idea of our unworthiness to acquire or hold "equal privileges." That such a class of people of great numerical strength, is spread over the country no man can deny—that this class endeavors, on every favorable occasion, to live up to its instincts is also apparent in the "nativist" assemblies of the East; that this class organizes the outbreaks which have disturbed the peace of communities of late in our cities; that it flings the brand, that it excites, that it supports, that it patronises this bad feeling in every shape and manner, all must admit; and that such a rancorous spirit as this, and such as this class keeps up, is a curse to the country, is self-evident.

But it is said, by the foolishly termed "wise" among the "brethren," that the Irish are planning the destruction of our institutions—that they conspire