

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## FRANCE.

The Congress of Paris closed on Wednesday, 16th ult. As to Italy, it is universally admitted that the result has been the same as that of a meeting of the "Convocation of the Church of England" for "dispatch of business," namely, a certain amount of talk. The French papers suggest that possibly the exertions of England to support the views of Sardinia and Count Cavour in Italy, may have some connection with the Sardinian loan which England has guaranteed. — *Weekly Register*.

The *Marseilles* journals of the 15th ult., bring accounts from Constantinople of the 3d, and from the Crimea of the 1st ult. The French naval administration, in the Turkish capital, was already making preparations to convey part of the army to France. The garrison of Eupatoria is to be the first embarked. The commercial intelligence from Eupatoria was truly deplorable. The cosmopolite merchants established there had no other resource left than to ship their stock for Odessa. The news of the conclusion of peace had produced a favorable influence on the rate of the currency, which had declined 5 per cent. General Larchey was to resign, on the 4th, the chief command of the French troops at Constantinople and in the Bosphorus. On the 3d the General took leave of the Sultan, and was to be succeeded in his command by General Pariset. General Williams is to form part of the commission which is to fix the Asiatic boundary. Abbé Fraissignes, a Lazarist, chaplain to the French military school hospital, died of typhus fever on the 30th ult. Another clergyman of that order and a sister of charity, both attached to the Sardinian Contingent in the Crimea, had likewise died. The number of nuns of St. Vincent of Paul who perished since the beginning of the war was 24, and many were still lying dangerously ill.

A Paris correspondent says:—All the talk of the diplomatic and political circles is, at this moment, about the speech which Lord Clarendon delivered on the state of Italy, in a recent sitting of the Congress. In this speech his Lordship denounced in very vehement terms the system of government which prevails in Naples and Rome, declared that it is a danger not only to Italy, but to Europe, and that it is impossible for any government, in the present advanced state of civilisation, to disregard altogether the popular will, and to govern according to its own arbitrary pleasure. His Lordship, it is said, required that his speech should be mentioned in the minutes. It is said also that the speech caused great offence to Austria, as was natural, not a little to Russia, and some to France.

We read in the *Mémorial des Pyrénées*:—"A person residing at Pau, having written to Marshal Bosquet, congratulating him on his promotion, received from him a reply, in which the illustrious marshal, alluding to the gracious manner in which the Emperor had informed him as well as General Canrobert of their promotion to the dignity of marshal, adds these words: 'It is two swords and two hearts placed as sentinels on the right and left of a cradle; we have well comprehended the dignity in that sense.'"

Frederick Rendall, Esq., was, a short time since received into the Catholic Church in Paris.

## AUSTRIA.

The Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* says that intelligence has arrived by telegraph, from two different points of the compass, that an Austrian army is taking up a position along the frontier line of Parma to Piedmont, and that the King of Sardinia is marching an army of observation to form a line on his side of the same frontier, opposite the Austrians. This attitude of Piedmont and Austria on the Italian question looks very serious.

In the opinion of Austrian politicians, the last Russian manifesto is a tacit confession on the part of the Czar that he was obliged to make peace; and there can be no doubt that such was really the case. The Kalisch correspondent of the *Oesterreichische Zeitung*, who writes in a Russian sense, consoles himself with the reflection that the peace is not likely to be of any great duration. He also seems to speculate on an alliance between Russia and France. All the recruits last levied in the Kingdom of Poland have been sent to their homes, but no reduction will be made in the regular army until peace has been proclaimed. The first troops to quit the Crimea will be the two Grenadier divisions, the ranks of which have been fearfully thinned by the typhus, or rather putrid fever. Poland will soon be crowded with troops as it was before the outbreak of the war, but the prices of all kinds of grain are falling, as it is known that the military magazines and the fortresses contain a vast quantity of corn which was to have been sent to the theatre of war. The fortification of Odessa has been discontinued, but there are at present no more than 70,000 persons in a city which had a population of 140,000 before the outbreak of the war. — *Cor. of Times*.

## SWITZERLAND.

Extracts from Swiss letters of April 2nd are given in the *Univers* as follows:—

"Protestant pietists and secret societies perseveringly conspire against the Catholic Church. A new scheme has just been invented. Eastern Switzerland is the scene. In St. Gall and Thurgau the civil power has just founded mixed schools, and suppressed the Catholic schools in the less populous parishes, in order to form one school out of several communes of different religions."

"While in Austria, in Belgium, and even in Prussia mixed schools are disappearing, they are being imposed on Switzerland by legislation. The object is to prepare Switzerland for a republic, and in-

divisible one by rooting out of the minds of the young Catholic principles, and the traditions of cantonal sovereignty."

## ITALY.

**SARDINIA.**—The following account from the *Civita Cattolica*, shows that the sacrilegious spoliation of the religious houses has not met with the success which Government had anticipated. After mentioning the opposition which the Commissioners had met with from the Religious themselves, who in many cases urged that they came under the exception of those who were devoted to the work of education, or care of the sick, or of preaching; as also from proprietors of the soil, who alleged that they had given the convents to the Religious Orders, and not for the Government Ecclesiastical Finance; and from debtors also, who would not take the acquittance of the Commissioners, in the place of Religious from whom their loans had been borrowed, its correspondent proceeds to speak of the difficulties into which the Ecclesiastical Finance had fallen:—

"In the meeting of the 14th of February, the Deputy Oytana communicated to the Chamber two schedules, the one representing the state of the payments and the claims of the Ecclesiastical Fund up to Feb. 13th, and the other showing the present position of its operations. The following are some particulars:—The Religious Houses suppressed by the law of 29th May, 1855, are 341. In order to take possession of these houses (there had been required 40 special delegations, besides the ordinary agency. Of these 341 houses, 254 are on the main land, 87 in the island of Sardinia. These comprise 4,609 persons, of whom 3,025 are Priests, 1,238 laymen, and 346 servants or novices. The estimated nett revenue is Lire 657,629 69. The causes concerning the Religious Communities are 46; 14 set in motion by Municipal bodies or private persons, who claim an interest in the property of the Religious Houses; 14 already pending at the time of taking possession; 14 moved by the Religious Communities themselves; and 4 instituted on other points. Up to the 13th February of this year the Ecclesiastical Fund had recovered of ordinary revenue L.480,141, and of extraordinary revenue L.257,069 96. Land-estates supplied L.450,000. The total claims amounted to L.1,187,210 96. The payments on the other hand, were for the officials, L.15,403 57; for expenses, L.5,389; for pensions, L.241,480 20;—which sums united to other disbursements give a total of L.1,095,618 95. Adding to this the ordinary expenses, the Ecclesiastical Fund has claims upon it beyond its receipts to the amount of L.18,458 80; a debt, however, which is only nominal, because it is more than covered by unpaid claims of L.38,605 50, besides a balance in hand."

From reliable information we learn that M. de Cavour will return empty-handed from Paris. Of course he will endeavor to hide the rebuff his proposals have met with under the fallacious hopes still left him, and on which he will continue his present Italian policy. The Sardinian States have, as we know, gained nothing by a Peace, which the rest of the world hails with joy and thankfulness. It is further said that our Plenipotentiary has had, addressed to him very serious remonstrances upon the state of hostility and vexatious disloyalty in which Piedmont is now involved in its relations towards the Holy See. If this be so, our position may become more tolerable, for nothing can be more repugnant to conscientious men than to be called upon to carry out the most unjust measures, and to witness this deplorable system of attacks upon the religion of the people—the monks and religious societies persecuted, the laws of the Church violated on every occasion, and the magistrates required to strain the law for the gratification of the "priestophobia" of the government.—Such a state of things every right-minded person must be anxious to see ended. This and other blessings will come when it shall please God to deliver Israel from the yoke of Pharaoh. — *Courier des Alpes*.

It is scarce four weeks since the execution of an incendiary in Ancey; and the Supreme Court of Savoy has been again compelled to pass sentence of capital punishment on a day laborer, aged 37, convicted of two murders and arson. Grave offences are becoming strikingly frequent in the Italian model state, and unhappily the moral condition of the people affords much matter for complaint and serious reflection. In Chambéry especially, prostitution, and every sort of profligacy is progressing at such a rate that no week passes in which the Savoy journals have not to relate some public scandal. — *Allg. Zeitung*.

**ROME.**—Arrangements are being made for establishing an American Seminary. We are assured that the Abbé Eyzaguirre, the learned author of the work entitled "Le Catholicisme en Présence des Sectes Dissidentes," has offered towards the fund a sum of 321,000f. (this statement is as we believe it to be, true, sufficient praise can scarcely be awarded for such generosity. It is also said that the Holy Father will give a sum of 43,000f. It is thought that the Seminary will be devoted to the use of South America, and independent of the one contemplated for North America, of which mention has several times been made. Great hopes may be entertained of the future of the Church on the American continent, and we pray that God will be pleased to bless and fructify these charitable exertions. — *Letter in the Univers*.

## RUSSIA.

It is stated that Russia is about to conclude a concordat with the Papal See, and it is very possible that such is the case, as the diplomatic correspondence between St. Petersburg and Rome has been extremely active during the last six months. May it not be that the Court of Rome has secretly employed its influence at Vienna and Paris in order to put an end to the war, and that the Emperor

Alexander is about to reward the Pope for his *bons offices* by granting greater privileges to the Roman Catholic church in Russia?

We believe, notwithstanding what has been said to the contrary, that four or five of the Episcopal Sees of the Catholic Church in Poland will soon be filled up, and that negotiations on other matters of equal importance are going on. There is reason to hope that the blessings of peace will lead to a sensible amelioration of the position of the Polish Catholics; and that the Emperor Alexander will fulfil the hopes entertained on his elevation to the Imperial throne. — *Univers*.

**DEFENCE OF SEBASTOPOL.**—According to statistics returns published in the St. Petersburg newspapers, the besieged in Sebastopol discharged from the 17th of October, 1854, to the 8th of September, 1855, projectiles to the number of 1,386,608, and weighing 1,405,249 pounds (each equal to 40lbs). In addition to the above 205,810 pounds of powder and 25,000,000 cartridges were consumed.

One of the most important conditions in the treaty of peace is that the forts on the Circassian coast of the Black Sea are not to be rebuilt.

In short, the *status quo* on the coasts of the Black Sea is to be maintained.

## THE EAST.

The following details have been brought by the *Indus*, which left Constantinople on the 7th:—

"The English artillery and siege trains have been the first to embark, and are beginning to leave for England."

## THE LONDON "STANDARD" ON THE PEACE TREATY.

By degrees we are learning the history of what passed at the Congress up to the period of the conclusion of the treaty. The particulars, as afforded by different journals, do most remarkably coincide, and no wonder that they should, for we believe the fact to be the march of negotiations was direct from the beginning, and in simple accordance with a pre-arranged plan. It was settled at the outset, between Austria and Russia, what the treaty should be. These Powers knew precisely the amount of concession which would satisfy France, and they resolved to make no difficulties on the subject. One of the chief allies being gained over, it little mattered what such squeezable gentleman as the Ministers of England might say, for with idle words their remonstrances would end. We are indebted to the *Journal des Débats* for a second revelation on the subject of the treaty, and we suspect that the British public will find it to be painfully important. We are told that when, in conformity with the terms of the fifth point, by which the Allies reserved to themselves the right, in addition to the already conceded four points, of making such further stipulations, for the sake of guaranteeing the safety of Europe, as they should deem essential—we are told that when, in pursuance of this article, England demanded that the forts erected by Russia on the southern declivity of the Caucasus should be dismantled, she was overruled. Now, we have only to repeat an opinion expressed on the instant of the Austrian offer of mediation, that it was the duty of the British cabinet to settle distinctly with the French government the conditions they would receive, and on no account to depart from them. Had this been done, there never could have occurred that most extraordinary and most dangerous spectacle of allies, professing to be thoroughly identified, dividing in the face of the watchful plenipotentiaries of the enemy, and by dividing rendering further resistance impossible. When Austria offered her mediation, the ministers of Queen Victoria ought to have known what value the country attached to the positions held by Russia in Asia Minor. The Russian fleet in the Black Sea would be comparatively nothing in the scale with Russian forts, established on the borders of both the Turkish and Persian empires. Russia had already proved that she set no reliance upon her maritime forces, from whence the conclusion might safely have been drawn that in her future attempts upon Turkey, she would trust to her armies alone. Having in the face of the world pronounced condemnation on her own fleet, having hid it behind stone walls to sink and burn it when Sebastopol was destroyed, nothing ought to have been plainer than that her next object would be to keep the ships of war of other nations out of the Black Sea. Hence the project of neutralization, which is held up as a great victory gained by the Allies, is, in point of fact, an immense and stupendous gain for Russia. As she could not make head against the British and French ships, it became her policy to have them out of the way. Let Russia do what she pleases now—not against Turkey, whom for awhile she will let alone, but against Persia, holding the keys of India; and by our own boasted achievement of neutralization we have debarr'd ourselves the right of menacing and watching her with our fleet. Thus has Russia once more triumphantly confirmed her reputation for diplomatic skill.

Scarcely are we at peace again, after the bloodiest war on record, for its duration, when the conference that settled the peace is summoned to a war upon the unfortunate states of Italy. No sooner is this dire struggle at an end than the great nations of Europe begin to lay their heads together to plunder or to coerce the two or three, who are indeed the weakest, but who have the misfortune to occupy the centre and the garden of this quarter of the globe. Foremost of all stands the Pope. According to some he is to be deposed; others let him off with certain proposals touching Cardinalatial appointments; the end of it will be that he will be found weak as he may seem, a problem just one degree beyond the capacities of hostile statesmen. It is monstrous, however, that the moral of this war should be that while we protect the Turk, we spoil the Christians. If the Papal history show anything, it is its own antiquity, and the uninterruptedness of its possession; if none can deny that it was the fountain of civilisation; the source of refinement, elevation, and nobleness of aim and sentiment to the medieval, and through them to the modern nations; if, in days of poverty and neglect, an ancient power, venerable from prestige, a mediocrity as regards its external action, and a promoter of peace, an encourager of the arts, the irresistible attraction for the most refined and highest in birth and station of every country; if such a power has not a legitimate claim on the protection of those nations which have grown up under its eye, who can have it? The Turk,

in his days of vigor, was the terror and the scourge of those very nations which Pope had trained and civilised. It was the Turk who appeared as the very antagonist power to the Pope; both in temporal and spiritual pretensions! At once monarchs of a vigorous and warlike race, and in that capacity chiefs of a gloomy and iniquitous fanaticism, they wasted the inheritance of Christendom, and but for the Pope they would have over-mastered it; yet the Turk, in his dishonorable decay, is preferred to the Father of Christendom as an object for the zeal of western Europe, for "the right" and for "liberty." Happily, Providence overrules politics for its own proper ends, and the Holy See, and the protection of the rights and independence of the Holy See, are important and constant objects of its watchfulness. Whatever the Russian, or the Prussian, or the British diplomatists may counsel, must be in subordination to the powerful and (for the present) very Catholic courts of Vienna and Paris. Sardinia, in fact, finds itself in a mess by the sudden conclusion of the war. It has made immense sacrifices. It has trusted to possible complications in Austrian Italy and the chapter of accidents. Nothing has turned up. The war is cut short, the country is discontented, the Austrians are at their ease in Lombardy, and now in Parma. England, no doubt, wants "to do something" for its brisk little protégé. But let us look realities in the face. If Turkey may not be cut up for the convenience of Russia, England, or France, it is a little too much that the Pope's pockets should be picked for the encouragement of a presuming and not very scrupulous neighbor. — *Tablet*.

## UNITED STATES.

**W. S. O'BRIEN.**—We learn that this distinguished Irishman will shortly visit the United States. We need hardly say with what cordial welcome he will be greeted, both by his fellow-countrymen and all true-hearted Americans. — *N. Y. Citizen*.

**INTERESTING TO FLOUR SPECULATORS.**—The *Detroit Advertiser* makes the following statements, which may be a word in season to those who are holding on to their flour and grain in expectation of getting higher prices for it:—"A firm in this city, whose names we could easily give, have shipped to New York since last harvest, about 30,000 barrels of flour, all of which was bought for and shipped to the English markets. This flour is still undisposed of in England; and letters were received by the steamer *Persia*, from the English house which holds it to the New York house by whom it was purchased (in connection with which the house in this city operates) stating that 'much of the flour is unfit for human food; that they dare not place it upon the market, and cannot do so except at a very great loss.' The latter also states that the loss which will be sustained in this unfortunate business will exceed \$2 per barrel, besides the relinquishment of all interest and commissions, and asks the New York house to sustain a portion of the loss. Those who are holding flour and wheat for higher prices can draw their own conclusions."

**POISONING CHILDREN IN ROCHESTER.**—The Rochester papers publish some horrible accounts of the supposed poisoning of children in that city by their unnatural parents. Two cases have occurred within a few days, which afford strong evidence for believing that infanticide was attempted and in one instance fully accomplished. The *Union*, of Friday last, states that a little girl who died suddenly on Cornhill, a few days since, was speedily buried, and the parents moved eastward with all their effects on the night of the burial.

**FORTY ACRES OF BIBLES.**—The U. S. Bible Society circulated last year 800,000 Bibles and Testaments. It is estimated that these books, if they were spread out on a plain surface and computed by square measure, would cover more than four acres; and if computed by long measure, they would extend more than eighty miles; if by solid or cubic measure, they would measure more than 150 solid cords, and these cords, piled one upon another, would reach higher than the spire of Trinity Church, New York, or the Falls of Niagara. The entire issues for thirty-seven years of the Society's existence would cover more than forty acres with Bibles and Testaments, or extend in long measure nearly a thousand miles.

**THE CONNECTICUT BLUE LAWS.**—The Know Nothings of Connecticut are exulting over the thought that all the church property in that intolerant State, vested in Bishop O'Reilly, will become confiscated in virtue of the operation of a law passed last session, copied from the defeated bill of Putnam and Brooks, in the State of New York, on which we had occasion to make some comments at the time. It is worthy of the Blue Laws of Connecticut in their palmy days. The obnoxious clauses of the law referred to will be found in another part of this week's *Citizen*. If such atrocious enactments are adopted in this free land, does not religious liberty become a farce, and republicanism itself a mockery, a delusion, and a snare? We trust that Bishop O'Reilly, so disposed of the property before his departure to Ireland, that it cannot be touched by the bigots and fanatics who are thirsting for the spoliation of a property that belongs to their Catholic fellow citizens. — *N. Y. Citizen*.

**DIGNITY OF THE BENCH.**—On the 25th ult., the Cincinnati Police Court was the scene of a fierce fight between one of the local reporters, a lawyer connected with the Court, and the presiding judge. The reporter had inserted a paragraph in the *Gazette*, which gave offence to the lawyer and the judge. The lawyer related, assaulted the reporter in the street, and the case was brought into Court, but the judge declined to adjudicate, as he was partly connected with the row, and referred it to a brother magistrate. After he adjourned the Court, he descended from the bench, assaulted the reporter, the lawyer also pitched in, and there was a general row. Peace was restored without anything serious occurring. — *Herald*.

The Know-Nothing merchants of Louisville have resolved that the Louisville *Times* and *Courier* be requested to keep silent on the subject of the commercial ruin fast gathering over that city of blood. The editor of the *Times*, in his reply, tells them to inaugurate a reign of law, to protect foreigners and Catholics against mob violence, and give working men some assurance that they will be able to enjoy in peace what they earn, and that then he will cease to speak of what will no longer exist. Blood always carries a curse with it; and the people of Louisville by endorsing the murders of Bloody Monday, have entitled themselves to this sudden withering up of their city's prosperity. — *Cincinnati Catholic Telegraph*.