

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

FRANCE.

THOUVENEL'S REPLY TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL'S PROTEST.—The following is the latest dispatch addressed to this Court by M. Thouvenel. It will be seen that France accepts Savoy "with its engagement."

Paris, March 26, 1860.

M. le Comte:—I have the honor to transmit to you herewith a copy of the dispatch from Lord John Russell, which Earl Cowley was instructed to communicate to me officially, and which contains the reply of the Government of Her Britannic Majesty to the statement of the Government of the Emperor, concerning the annexation of Savoy and the arrondissement of Nice to France.

"I cannot but experience a very lively feeling of regret that I have not succeeded, as I desired, in modifying an opinion which was already known to me through the previous communications of the English Ambassador; but the prolongation of any discussion on this subject would have no practical result, and I prefer, rather than provoke a fresh exchange of explanations equally painful to both countries, to confine myself to asserting that Lord John Russell's despatch has not the character of a protest. In a word, the Government of Her Britannic Majesty declares that it does not share the opinion of the Government of the Emperor; but this divergence does not constitute an opposition of a nature to affect the relations of the Cabinets of Paris and London. I am sincerely pleased at this, M. le Comte; and there are only two points in Lord John Russell's argument which I wish to examine summarily, so as to leave in the mind of Her Britannic Majesty's principal Secretary of State neither a misunderstanding nor a doubt as to our intentions. I believe that I had established that the Emperor in making use in his speech to the great bodies of the State of the word 'revendication,' never had an idea of referring to any diplomatic act, or to any circumstance of other times. The explanations which I have given on this subject to his Majesty's representatives at the German Courts have been everywhere considered as satisfactory as possible, and I had requested you to transmit to Lord John Russell a copy of the despatch which contains them. I renew these explanations to-day with the confidence that, on examining them closer, Her Britannic Majesty's Government will not receive them less favorably than the Powers to whom they were more specially addressed.

As for the neutrality of Switzerland, M. le Comte, which Lord John Russell considers to be menaced by the annexation of Savoy to the territory of the Empire, I will content myself with remarking to you that France attaches the greatest interest to preserving it from injury. The Emperor's government, therefore, has not hesitated, in order to prove the sincerity of its disposition in this respect, to insert in the treaty which it has just concluded at Turin a clause in these terms:—

It is understood that His Majesty the King of Sardinia cannot transfer the neutralized portions of Savoy except on the conditions on which he himself possesses them, and that it will appertain to His Majesty the Emperor of the French to come to an understanding on this subject both with the powers represented at the Congress at Vienna and with the Swiss Confederation; and to give them the guarantees required by the stipulation referred to in the article.

It appears to me that all apprehensions should disappear in the face of this spontaneous engagement and that henceforth Her Britannic Majesty's Government, certain of having the opportunity of discussing the guarantees which shall, in pursuance of a European agreement, be judged to be best fitted to realize, in their relations with the permanent neutrality of Switzerland, the object of the stipulations relative to the contingent neutralization of a part of Savoy, has no reason to fear that this interest, the importance of which we have thus recognized, will not be settled in a satisfactory manner.

You are authorized to read this dispatch to Lord John Russell, and to give him a copy of it.—Receive, &c.

(Signed)

THOUVENEL.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says:—"Public opinion in the financial and commercial world is greatly agitated by alternate hope and fear, in consequence of the uncertainty which prevails with respect to the future position of the country.—The Government has made extraordinary efforts to restore confidence, but without success. Every commercial man one meets admits the gravity of Lord John Russell's last speech on the annexation of Savoy and Nice to France. All men engaged in trade were accustomed to regard the English alliance as the best guarantee for the peace of Europe, and now that they are told by the highest authority that Great Britain will seek an alliance elsewhere, they are filled with dismay. They still, however, have faith in the Emperor's sagacity, and they expect that he will yet make such concessions as may restore, if not the *entente cordiale*, at least friendly relations.

"In my letter of Wednesday it was said that the Swiss Government intended to protest against the occupation, military or civil, by France of the neutralized provinces of Savoy. I have now to state that the Swiss Government has done what it intended.—Dr. Kern, the Swiss Minister in Paris, deposited yesterday in the hands of M. Thouvenel the new protest on the part of his Government against all or any execution of the treaty of the 24th of March concerning the cession of Savoy to France; that is, Switzerland protests against the taking possession, in any form, of the neutralized provinces until a previous understanding with the Powers and with Switzerland, which, in accordance with the principles of international law, is absolutely necessary, and which by the second article of the treaty is expressly reserved, be effected.

"The *Moniteur*, as you will have learnt before this has published the contract, deed of conveyance, treaty, or by whatever name the instrument by which 500,000 or 600,000 Savoyards are bodily handed over by the 'Re galantissime' to France, ought to be called.

A despatch announces that the bull of excommunication has, after all, been published in Rome. It mentions no names, but is directed against all the actors, promoters, conductors, advisers, and adherents of the invasion of the Romagna.

The Nuncio is about to leave Paris, but it is said

that diplomatic relations with Rome will not be entirely broken off.

The French Government has commissioned Com. Herbulien, a captain in the Imperial navy, to prepare a report on the capabilities of the port of Villefrance, in the newly acquired territory of the county of Nice. It is said that it is to become a naval establishment of the first order, and a station for part of the Mediterranean fleet. Magnificent quays are likewise to be constructed to facilitate the landing of merchandise.

The Government deems it right to inform the public, through the *Moniteur*, that the Organic Law of the Concordat prescribes that—"No bull, brief, rescript, decree, mandate, provision, signature serving for provision, or other documents from the Court of Rome, even relating to individuals, can be received, published, printed, or otherwise carried into execution without the permission of the Government."

This warning has reference, of course, to the Papal excommunication just pronounced against the "abettors," &c., of the annexation of the Romagna to Piedmont.

It is reported that a note has been addressed by the French to the Belgian Government. As it is always agreeable to communicate favorable intelligence, I do not hesitate to mention what I have heard about the matter, though I am not in a condition to vouch for its correctness. In this note it is said that assurances of a satisfactory kind are given to King Leopold's Government, viz., that the annexation of Savoy was an incident of an exceptional nature, which cannot occur again with respect to any other country; that the united kingdom of the Low Countries was constituted, on the fall of the first Empire, to serve as a check on France, but that their separation in 1830, by a revolution, removed what was objectionable in its character; that Belgium is now an independent kingdom, of which the neutrality is guaranteed by the European Powers, and that consequently there is no ground whatever for apprehending anything on the part of France against that country. A note of a similar kind is said to have gone to Berlin. I hope, though I cannot positively affirm, that this statement is correct. I also hope that, if it is correct, the assurances are more seriously and sincerely meant than those which we have for some time back been accustomed to.—*Times's Cor.*

Bullier's lithographic sheets contain the following:—

"Great activity is observable at present in the military ports of France. Experiments are being made with newly-invented engines of war, which it is said will astonish the world even more than the rifled cannon. Trials made at Lorient with newly-invented bullets, and with rifled cannon on an improved system, have it is said, produced most satisfactory results. A combined system of concentric batteries has been proposed for the defence of the French coasts which, it is asserted, will render the approach of an enemy's fleet impossible."

FRESH MEAT NECESSARY TO LABOR.—In an elaborate paper by Dr. Londe, of the Imperial Academy of Medicine, Paris, recently read before its members, he lays it down as a fundamental principle in the philosophy of diet, that the use of fresh meat daily is necessary to the health of the working classes, although he admits that persons leading a comparatively idle life may do well on fish, poultry, and other lighter forms of nourishment. In support of his opinion he produces a number of facts, of which the following is one:—The Roman Railway Company of France having conceded the working of their line to English Engineers, the latter brought over a band of English laborers, who performed one-third more work daily than could be got out of the French laborers. The latter were put on meat diet, similar to that of the English workmen, and in a short time they were able to do as much labor. If the conclusion of the doctor is correct, it becomes a matter of political as well as of individual economy, that the price of fresh meat should be reduced low enough to allow laborers to eat animal food, otherwise the wealth of the nation is in danger of being diminished one-third.

THE ANNEXATION OF SAVOY.—Chambery, March 28.—Consummation est.—This morning, at half-past 9 o'clock, the first detachment of the French Army—four companies of the 80th of the Line—arrived here from St. Jean de Maurienne. To-morrow an equal number is expected, until the whole regiment has arrived. Although the first French troops passed, as you know, on Friday last into Savoy, and although every one knew that it was not merely to pass through, but to remain there, up to this morning one could always keep up to a certain point the fiction that the glorious army of the invincible ally of good King Victor Emmanuel was returning home laurel-crowned. This is now over. Chambery, the capital of Savoy, is occupied by the troops of His Majesty the Emperor of the French.

All along in this Savoy question there was a feature which we find in every phase of it, and which will characterize this transaction as one of the most curious of our times. It is that all parties concerned in it seem to have been playing a game of hide-and-seek, and are always trying by subtle compromises to justify their own actions before themselves and before the world.

The reception of the French troops this morning had quite this character. They had been expected from day to day, and thus there had been sufficient time to make all preparations. Some of the most ardent supporters of the annexation to France—*travailleurs, ferblantiers, and lampistes*—had been preparing French flags, French transparencies, and lamps, and yet no one seemed inclined to make a beginning by buying, much less exhibiting, them. Those who are loudest in their praise of the future were as much behind when the decisive moment came as those who looked more gloomily at events. The result of this was that the *travailleurs and lampistes*, seeing themselves deceived in their expectations, relented somewhat in their patriotic ardour and when at last the arrival of the French troops was officially announced there was not a sufficient supply of their patriotic articles.

With regard to our relations with France, it seems evident that Lord John Russell's speech has had the effect of reviving in the latter country a large share of the slumbering animosity towards this country; and it is not unlikely to be pointed out that so long as the Emperor Napoleon was supposed to be carrying out an anti-Papal policy in Italy, he was highly applauded by English statesmen, whereas every attempt to increase French influence in any other direction is now declared to be dangerously aggressive and injurious to the peace of Europe. The result of this change in opinion is that the French journals are denouncing with the greatest energy what they consider the double-faced dealing of *la perfide Albion*.

Meanwhile we have rumors of a hostile movement on the part of France directed against Germany and England. The ratification, as it is termed, of the French frontier towards Germany is alleged to be in immediate contemplation, and great preparations are making for the defence of the Upper Rhine. The formation of the Camp of Châlons renders this precaution absolutely necessary, for no less than 100,000 French soldiers will shortly be encamped at Châlons, which is in too dangerous proximity to the German frontier. The French Government, however, to a certain extent, disavowed any aggressive intentions by issuing a circular letter of a reassuring tendency, in which M. Thouvenel attempts to show that there exists no analogies between the French position with respect to the Alps and the situation on the Rhine. "The situation," says the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, "which it is endeavored to represent as similar, bears no resemblance whatever, and the weighty considerations which oblige us to claim the annexation of Savoy are without any possible application to the state of things in the East and North of France. This combination will complete that which Europe herself has

adopted, by effecting the restoration of stipulations manifestly conceived in a spirit of distrust and aggression with respect to us; Germany, far from finding a motive therein of disquietude, should only see a new condition of the stability and the duration of peace." It may well give cause for alarm that it should ever be found necessary to give assurances of peaceable intentions, and after what has transpired, of course only a limited amount of faith is to be reposed in such assurances.

France is reported to have entered into an alliance with Denmark, and it is alleged that Sweden and Norway are about to form those powers in a maritime league. If these powers be won to obtain their friends, it was surely advisable for us to obtain their friendship. That Denmark would be found a useful ally to France there can be no doubt, for as the *Herald* points out, in the event of a war with Germany, the Danish navy would be a valuable auxiliary in blockading the harbours and destroying the maritime establishments, and the shipping of Northern Germany.

The Northern Powers have distinctly refused to take part in a European Congress on the subject of Savoy. The *Moniteur* reports the joy of the Savoyards at the annexation, and while other accounts represent the inhabitants as submitting to their fate, some with resignation, others with grumbling, the official French journal declares that the entrance of the French Regiments has been signified by the most strongly marked demonstrations of attachment towards France.—*Weekly Register.*

The *Ami de la Religion* and its editor the Abbe Sisson have received a second warning for an article published in that journal, in which the writer had mildly ventured to call in question the propriety of reviving the action of the organic law of the Concordat, which not only has never been accepted as binding by the Church, but has been allowed to fall into disuse until now. M. Veillot, late of the *Univers*, has been also subjected to a gross outrage by the French police.—*Weekly Register.*

NO REDUCTION IN THE FRENCH ARMY.—The *Moniteur* of Wednesday morning formally denies the report that the effective of the infantry regiments is about to be reduced by two companies per regiment.

A LOAN.—A few days back the *Siecle* published in a prominent part of its columns the formula of excommunication pronounced by the Court of Rome as *apropos* of the censure issued by the present Pope against the "actors, promoters, advisers," &c., of the annexation of the Romagna. The formula given by the *Siecle* was copied by the *Opinion Nationale*, and subsequently by the other less known Governmental papers. The *Siecle* and *Opinion* accompanied the formidable document with divers remarks on its enormity, and expended a good deal of learning on excommunications in general. Both those papers pique themselves on their theological learning, and are popularly considered as infallible authorities on those subjects. M. Louis Jourdan and General Gaultier, having formerly been themselves high priests, or something of the sort, in the St. Simonian Convent founded by Pere Enfantin, were naturally supposed to be strong in the theology, canon law, Papal bulls, briefs, rescripts, &c. When the *Siecle* and *Opinion Nationale* first gave to the world this excommunication it struck me that I had seen something like it before, and I suspected that, like the old tin snapper which Martinus Scriblerius took for an ancient Roman shield, the *Siecle*'s excommunication was of doubtful genuineness. In truth, what it took for Pius IX.'s excommunication is nothing more or less than the grotesque malediction in Tristram Shandy, which Dr. Stop reads while "my uncle Toby" whistles Lillibullero. I see some one has given a hint to the *Monde* about the matter, and the *Monde* very naturally makes the most of it.—*Times's Correspondent.*

The Paris correspondent of the London press gives some particulars of some disgraceful proceedings on the part of the Paris Police directed against M. Louis Veillot, late of the *Univers*. It seems that he arrived in Paris from Rome a day or two ago, charged with the special mission of delivering a sealed letter into the hands of the Papal Nuncio, Monsignore Sacconi. No sooner had M. Veillot alighted at his own door than a commissaire de police claimed, in virtue of his writ, the right to search the portfolio of which M. Veillot was known to be the bearer. The letter was found and carried off, whereupon M. Veillot, hurrying to the Nuncio, recounts the scene in all its details; and the Nuncio, feeling himself powerful in his diplomatic inviolability, and in his sacred character, without losing a moment, despatched a message to the Minister, to the purport that if the letter addressed to himself and wrested from the person of his official bearer, were not immediately handed over to him with the seal unbroken, he should lose no time in picking up his valise and returning to Rome. The message, I think, says the *Star* correspondent, must have been more significantly put than here reported, for the command thus conveyed under guise of threat was immediately obeyed, the letter was returned sealed as it had been seized, and by way of compensation for disappointed curiosity, the whole of M. Veillot's papers were immediately fetched away by another commissaire de police, and borne in canvas bags to the Prefecture, where they still remain. The second warning given to the *Ami de la Religion* is thought to be entirely a precautionary measure, to prevent by dread of a third (which is killing time) the story from appearing in that paper to-morrow.

ITALY.

With regard to the recent elections in Sardinia, we have some extraordinary revelations as to the abstention of voters, and the means used to bring about the desired result. According to the *Armonia*, out of 1,086 names on the list of the electoral college of Turin only 602 voted. Now, that capital contains at least 130,000 inhabitants; and it seems a very strange kind of constitution which awards only that quota of voters for such a population.—This is a question very important in gauging the work of constitution and liberties in any of the continental countries that pretend to have a Liberal Government; and it is worth while knowing this clearly, when annexation brings on the countries subject to that infliction an increase of not less than fourteen francs a head of taxation in the Duchy of Modena, thirteen in that of Parma, twelve in the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, and ten in the Romagna, to bring them to the Piedmontese level of thirty francs taxation for each of its subjects yearly.—*Weekly Register.*

ROME.—PASSION WEEK, MARCH 31.—On Sunday it was made known, by well-informed persons, that the Holy Father had released the members of the Sacred Consistory from the obligation of secrecy, and wished it made known that the excommunication would be published on one of the days of the present week; and that, following the example of that issued by Pius VII. in the case of Napoleon I., it would not mention Victor Emmanuel by name, but would strike only those who have been guilty of seizing the estates of the Church. On Thursday, accordingly, it appeared. I was thinking of sending you news of this by telegraph, but ascertained that it had already been telegraphed to London, so that my telegraph would have been late. I presume the Protestant papers will make a strange medley of mistakes about this document and its effects. As far as regards Victor Emmanuel and his ministers and advisers, it makes no difference whether the excommunication mentions them by name or not. They are equally cut off from the communion of the faithful, and are outcast from the body of Christ. They have incurred the greater excommunication, with all its results. The difference is in its effects on others, and those, in many cases, innocent persons. Christians are bound to avoid and shun all communion with persons excommunicated. If the King were mentioned by name, his being a Sovereign Prince would in no degree affect this duty. No man would be able, without sin, to share his table or his council-board. Nay, should he presume to enter a church,

the Priest, shot having the power to remove him, would be obliged to break off, even the sacrifice of the Mass. The rules on these points are precise. If the excommunication had not taken place, he must break off at once; if it had, he could continue it only till after the Priests' Communion; and then break off abruptly. I need hardly add that the name of the excommunicated monarch might not be publicly mentioned in the prayers of the Church. It is clear that such a sentence, unless the principle of faith were strong enough in a nation to lead to one consistent and united action on the part of all classes, laity as well as clergy, would be sure to expose those who were faithful, especially among the clergy to a severe persecution. But by the laws of the church this duty of avoiding the excommunicated person is not binding on any one monarch, unless they have been excommunicated by name. Pius VII. therefore spared, not Napoleon, but those who would have suffered under his persecution, and the same may no doubt be said of Pius IX. and Victor Emmanuel. If, however, the Sardinian monarch is tempted to congratulate himself on what may seem to him his immunity, he may well ask himself whether he is content to choose the part of Napoleon after he had been struck by the sentence of the church. When he heard of that sentence he dared, in the madness of his pride, to treat it as the impotent protest of a powerless old man.—*Cor. Weekly Register.*

The *Giornale di Roma* publishes a letter of General Guyon, declaring that several journals have given a very inaccurate account of the proceedings of the 19th of March. He says he cannot admit, as has been pretended, that the French officers brought the release of the persons arrested by the Pontifical gendarmes. The General also protests against the supposition as incompatible with discipline, and concludes by saying: "We are all conscious of our duty, and the object of our mission is to assist the Pope to the best of our power."

A telegram received on Thursday, the 5th instant, reports a disturbance in Naples. Persons attacked the troops at Palermo, but were bravely repulsed and dispersed to the cry of "Viva il Re." The city was tranquil.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Cabinet has resolved to protest solemnly against the annexation of Tuscany, Parma, and Modena to Piedmont. A note to this effect, dated the 24th March, has been directly addressed to the Cabinet of Turin. In this note Austria first establishes, by historical and legal considerations developed at great length, her positive and incontestable right to oppose an act which, in despoiling legitimate Princes of the States guaranteed to them by European treaties, would also destroy the rights of succession and reversion which these same treaties secured to the House of Hapsburg with respect to the said States. Austria then proceeds to demonstrate that Sardinia has participated in the engagements contracted by France, who, in consideration of the treaty of 1735, has guaranteed the possession of Tuscany to the House of Lorraine, in order to indemnify this dynasty for the cession of her ancestral heritage. The note of Austria further recalls that, by virtue of the treaty concluded in 1733 by the mediation of George II., King of England, and countersigned by him in his quality of head of the House of Este, the right of succession in the Modenese States was conferred, in case of the extinction of the male line, upon the third son of the Emperor Francis and Maria Theresa, whom it was designed to unite to the granddaughter of the Duke of Modena. With respect to the Duchy of Parma and Piacenza, the treaty of the 10th of June, 1817, concluded between Austria, France, Great Britain, Prussia, Russia, and Sardinia, explicitly confirms in favor of Austria the rights of reversion stipulated by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, dated the 20th of May, 1815.—These rights of reversion have received a fresh sanction by the treaty of Florence, concluded on the 29th of November, 1844, between the Courts of Lucania, Modena, Tuscany, Sardinia, and Austria. Thus, then, the King of Sardinia, in accepting the annexation of the Italian Duchies, openly violates not only the public treaties of 1815, but also the treaties which he has signed as a direct contracting party with Austria. Such a violation is so much the more flagrant from having been accomplished upon the morrow after the Peace of Villafranca and Zurich, of which the essential condition was the restoration of the legitimate Princes. Induced by all these motives, Austria protests in the most peremptory manner against this most illegal annexation made by the King of Sardinia, and appeals to the conscience of all Europe on the subject. To this end, at the same time that this protest is forwarded to Turin, a copy will be furnished to all the foreign Cabinets, to whom also a circular note is addressed by Austria, in which it is said, "that Austria, in confining herself at the present time to protesting against the said annexation, hopes that Europe will recognize in this proceeding a most convincing proof of her moderation and of her desire to maintain the peace of the world."

SPAIN.

A private (Spanish) letter from Madrid of the 27th says that, in addition to the terms of peace concluded between the Moors and Spaniards, there is a proviso that the Moors are not to surrender, cede or sell to any foreign Power the fortified place of Tangier. It further mentions that, "the telegraph despatch of yesterday (the 26th) from the headquarters of the army" announcing the preliminaries of peace, contained in cipher the said proviso.—The mere temporary possession of Tetuan, the writer says, finds no favor with the political parties.—"The Minister of the Interior," he continues, "is the more ardent partisan of the permanent occupation of Tetuan, and of the whole of the territory gained by our arms. The reason probably is, he feels that the last hour of the Ministry is approaching; he affects some political motive as the cause of his fall, and thinks it popular to adopt the cry of war at all risks, and of indefinite conquest, like those conquests which for 30 years back France has obtained in Algeria."

THE WOMAN IN GREY—A CRIMEAN EPISODE.

The barren plateau, on which the allied armies were encamped before Sebastopol, was naturally suggestive of many superstitious fancies among the troops. The outlying sentinel, with his eye at the uttermost degree of tension, to detect some crouching spy, eventually saw imaginary forms around him, and the darkness became peopled with the denizens of another world. Many stories of ghostly manifestations were current, very few of them possessing any other foundation than the imaginary fancies of the credulous soldier; but there are one or two authenticated stories of ghosts, one of which I will tell here, as I heard it from the lips of an officer of an Irish regiment, who was conversant with all the details.

A soldier, on being relieved from guard one winter's night, wore stoutly that he had been haunted during the whole period by a woman in grey, who made signals to him, which he, good Catholic as he was, declined to follow. He was laughed at; but when the sentry on duty the next night told the same story, the most incredulous began to believe. When a week had passed away, and each night the same occurrence happened, the argument was so infected with alarm, that the captain of the day thought it high time to interfere. For this purpose he summoned to his counsels one Patrick Leary, a colour sergeant, who was popularly supposed to fear neither man nor devil. The captain lent the non-commissioned officer a revolver, bidding him fire if he found it absolutely necessary, but to do his best to capture the woman alive. Mr. Pat took a hearty drink of rum and went on sentry go, much to the relief of the men warned, for that night's duty.

It was a dark and misty night when Pat commenced his duty round, and it was enough to make

(any man feel uncomfortable). The gallant Pat, however, so long as the effect of the rum lasted, whistled the "Night before Leary," was stretched "solo voce," and stamped his feet to restore the chilled circulation. Some how or another, though, he began to grow very lonely, and almost wished that the ghost would come, if only to bear him company. His wishes were soon fulfilled; for hearing a slight sound, and raising his rifle to his shoulder, he saw a dusky form gibbering at him in the distance. Pat began rapping and mowing in reply, and the woman, apparently encouraged by this, drew nearer. Pat laid his firelock on the ground, as if to encourage the other, but placed his hand carefully on his revolver. There was nothing like being prepared; but if it were a woman—the thought fairly turned the honest sergeant's mind. Ere long the figure approached so near that Pat was enabled to challenge.

"Who goes there?"

"A friend!" the stranger replied, in a musical though foreign voice.

"Advance, friend, and give the countersign," the sergeant mechanically said.

Just as the figure approached Pat, the moon broke from behind a cloud, and enabled him to see the woman's features. The most astounding thing was the immense grey beard the figure wore. Pat, as a traveller, was accustomed to strange sights, but this surpassed all. In a second, though, the truth flashed upon him, and he made ready for action.

"Come here, my darlin'," Pat said, affably, but the woman did not seem inclined to obey. The moonlight had evidently destroyed the stranger's calculations. She fell back a step or two, and then turned to fly. But it was too late; Pat was after her with a tiger's bound, and, impeded by her petticoats, she stumbled and nearly fell. In a second, however, she recovered, and turned on the Sergeant with a most uncomfortable-looking yagghann.

"Tear an' ouns," the Sergeant shouted, "the woman's the devil—I can stand nulle, but these are rather too sharp."

A low mocking laugh burst from the stranger's lips, as he tried to get between Pat and his musket. But the Sergeant was on his guard; pretending to fly, he managed to bear down within grasp of the woman, and caught at her capote. The next moment the yagghann had passed through the fleshy part of his arm, but he did not relax his hold. He grappled with the stranger, but meeting with an unexpected resistance, he drew his revolver. The stranger clutched at it with frantic energy, and a terrible struggle ensued, which terminated by the pistol suddenly exploding; and the stranger fell to the ground with a groan, while Pat, weakened by loss of blood, followed the example. The quarter-guard, aroused by the shot, soon hurried up to the spot, and both were born into the camp. The stranger was placed in a hut, and a surgeon fetched, and it was evident that the ghost in grey was a fine looking old man. He was, however, declared to be in a very dangerous state, for the ball had passed through his lungs. His condition was kindly explained to him, and he told his story readily enough.

His name was Constantine, and he was by birth a Pole. Having been engaged in the revolution of 1831, he was saved from the death that fell to the lot of his comrades, to endure a worse fate. He and his family were transferred to Russia, and he was forced to perform the most degrading duties in the secret police. For twenty-three years he had endured the humiliation, for the sake of his wife and child, but he little reckoned what was in store for him.—When the war with the allies became imminent, he was ordered with his family to Sebastopol, for he was a perfect French and German scholar; and when the campaign commenced, he was compelled to risk his life nightly, by going out to spy the progress the enemy made. Death stared him in the face either way; if he refused, the sentence passed upon him at Warsaw still remained in force, which, if he obeyed, he was in hourly risk of detection. Why not desert, you will ask? But the Russian police were Machiavels. His daughter, Eudoxia, a lovely girl of three and twenty, was taken into the governor's house, ostensibly to protect her from the horrors of the siege; but Constantine was given fully to understand that her life depended on his fidelity. The poor father was sorely distracted; his hatred of the Russians was counterbalanced by his love for his daughter, the only treasure he possessed in the world for his wife had succumbed under the privations and exposure of a winter journey across the steppe. Need I say that the father triumphed over the man? Constantine was a nightly visitor to our lines, and by the cleverness with which he played the character of a French or English linesman, long escaped detection.

At length, a dreadful ordeal was offered him; he was told that if he could only induce an English soldier to desert, from whom some valuable information might be obtained, his sentence would be reversed, and he would be free to go where he pleased with his daughter. Maddened by the thought of freedom, Constantine attired himself in feminine garb, hoping thus to attract some sentinel from his post. He would then wound him, though not dangerously, and drag him into the Russian lines. In fact, it grew a manamania with Constantine, that he must first catch a Briton alive, but, unfortunately, in Sergeant Leary, he caught a Tartar.

Such was the story he told, and which aroused considerable interest among the hearers. It reached the ears of Lord Raglan himself, who visited the prisoner, and bade him be of good cheer; no harm should befall him. But Constantine shook his head sadly; of what value was life to him now, when he was separated from his Eudoxia? I need not say that every kindness was shown to the poor fellow, and the doctors vied with each other in their attention to him. But there was little chance of saving him; the wretched conical ball was apparently embedded in his back bone, and there was no prospect of moving it.

Lardon, reader, such a common-place story, but the end is not yet.

Two days later, Sergeant Leary, who had bound his flesh wound up, and laughed at it, was at work in the front parallel. He was sitting in the trench, smoking a very dirty short pipe, and growling inwardly, when his wound gave him a twitch. It was a lovely night, and double caution had to be exercised, for the Russians were all alive, and seemed shooting for a wager at the men in the trenches.—Pat philosophically took off his shako, and placed it on the top of the earthwork. In five minutes he took it down again, and lo! there were three Minie balls clean through it.

"Wiram!" said Pat, as he comically surveyed the damage, "here's a patent ventilator."

"Lucky for you," a young ensign remarked, "that your head wasn't in it!"

"Arrah, your honor, and do you suppose that these dirty bullets would go through my head? Its all very easy with a regulation shako, for we know what that is made of; but an Irishman's head is formed of stronger materials."

A suppressed laugh ran along the trenches, but Pat was not at all put out.

"Boys," he remarked, with a solemn pathos, "since the unlucky day that I landed in this filthy country, not a night has passed that I haven't put at least a pint of bad spirits into this carcass of mine, and there is not a man among you that can say he has seen me the worse for it. It wants a pretty decent head to stand the raking we get up here, for it would take the roof of a house; so I think my head is safe against a ball sent by Russian powder. Hillo! what's that game now, I wonder?"

The men jumped up involuntarily, for the firing from the Russian guns had grown tremendous. Forgetting all caution, they sprang on the breastwork, naturally supposing that the enemy meditated a sortie. They were in perfect safety, however, all the bullets were at present directed at a single figure, which was crossing the open at frantic speed. Our men cheered heartily, as the stranger passed on, ut-