

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Jan. 2.—According to the official account of the reception of the Diplomatic Corps by the Emperor yesterday His Majesty replied as follows to the Papal Nuncio:—

"The congratulations of the Diplomatic Corps of which you are good enough to be the mouth-piece touch me sensibly. I trust that concord may continue to reign among us, of which your presence around me is a sure guarantee. Be convinced that I will make every effort that my relations with foreign Powers may be ever animated by respect for right and love of peace and justice."

The Emperor, in reply to the Archbishop of Paris, said:—

"I thank you for the sentiments which you express in the name of the clergy of Paris and for the prayers which you address to Heaven for me. I am very glad to see my efforts to maintain religious interests appreciated by the Prelate who governs the diocese of Paris, and I request your prayers for me, for the Empress, and for the Imperial Prince."

A circular of the Minister of Justice, dated the 1st inst., to the Bishops, announces that the Council of State is occupied in examining the project of a decree for authorizing the publication of that part of the Encyclical Letter which grants a jubilee. The Minister says:—

"As regards the first part of the Letter and the Appendix, your Eminence will understand that the reception and publication of these documents, which contain propositions contrary to the principles on which is based the Constitution of the Empire, could not be authorized."

The French Government has not hesitated as to its course in the Encyclical Letters which the Holy Father has addressed to the Episcopate of the whole Church. The Minister of Justice has issued a special circular to all the French Bishops, forbidding the publication of the Encyclical and of the Syllabus of Condemned Propositions, which is annexed to it, within their Dioceses. Prelates are warned not to allude to it in their Pastoral, and preachers are forbidden to weave its doctrines into their sermons.

This act is so bad and so bold, and its pretext (the prevention of publicity to the documents) is such an arrant sin of hypocrisy, that the official journals are directed to offer at the same time an apology. The apology is, that under the Government of the Restoration, of which the Constitution hopes that no one will doubt the truly Catholic character, a similar Encyclical was forbidden circulation in almost identical terms.

Moreover, the Minister of Public Instruction at the time was himself a Bishop. The fact is lamentably and scandalously too true; and there is no doubt that Monsieur Baroche has in this case slavishly followed in its form the precedent of Monseigneur Feurtrier, Bishop of Beauvais. If the apologists of the present Empire are content to praise the Government of the Restoration for a degree of orthodoxy which they do not profess to possess, we are bound to give them credit for conscience. But we should prefer to say that there is a temptation which no French Government, whatever its origin, seems to be able to resist, that of interfering with the liberties of the Church, and the powers which God has committed to His Vicar.

The crime of a French Bishop, who had witnessed the career of a Talleyrand and a Goblet—may, perhaps, be deserving of a heavier censure than that which attaches to the act of the Emperor Napoleon and Monsieur Baroche. That is a question of degree. But it seems to us that in his anxiety to point the parallel, the Editor of the *Constitutionnel* overlooks the real moral of the circular of the Bishop of Beauvais. The moral is very simple, for it is altogether contained in the date of the document. The circular of the Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs of His Most Christian Majesty, the last King of France and Navarre, is dated 30th July, 1829. Where was King Charles X., and where was Monseigneur Feurtrier on that day twelve months? In the year 1830, it will be remembered that there were three glorious days of July. Those three days were the 28th, the 29th, and the 30th of that month. It was on the 30th of July, 1830, exactly one year from the date of Monseigneur Feurtrier's circular, that the Duke of Orleans arrived in Paris, declared himself 'Yes, my friends, a real patriot like my father, and was nominated Lieutenant-General of the Kingdom. Charles the Tenth had ceased to reign. The monarchy of the Bourbons was again, what Mr. Grattan called, 'an interrupted greatness.' It is obvious, therefore, that a precedent of this kind can be regarded as a warning quite as well as an example for a French dynasty.—*Tablet*.

The French journals which represent, as far as they are permitted to represent anything, the maxims and the interests of the world, are entirely worthy of that high vocation; but they are less impressed and incoherent, for they have a wholesome fear of their readers, and the national good taste forbids them to violate certain canons of decency and common sense. They prefer, however, like the rest of their class, the Cesar to the Pontiff, and would rather be enslaved by the one than liberated by the other. The *Journal des Debats*, which dares not imitate in Paris the vulgar violence of the London *Times*, is content to turn up its eyes and shake its head, and piously hopes that the Encyclical will not do any harm to the Church for which it has so much respect. The *Constitutionnel*, which considers the Bourse, the Opera, and the Holy See about equally sacred, and affects to possess the liberty for which it dares not sue and to admire the 'progress' which consists in augmenting the luxury of the few and the wants of the many, regrets, with a pleasing mixture of the gravity and tenderness, that the Encyclical will probably do more harm than good. The *Opinion Nationale* contrives to be, as usual, at once vicious and shallow, talking irrationally about progress. La France, worthy of the readers to whom it recommends an emasculated Catholicism, and as cowardly as its principles, inquires timidly, for the sake of appearances, *Quid malum fecit?* and then steals out of the judgment-hall by a back door, lest it should be mistaken for a disciple.

On the other hand, the *Union* and the *Monde*, not to mention other journals, speak as might be expected, and utter the noble accents to which the great heart of France knows how to respond. Nothing means nothing false, could proceed from men of their temper, generous, brave, and illuminated by Divine faith, who appeal only to what is purest and noblest in their nation, and never appeal in vain.—*Weekly Register*.

An Imperial decree, dated the 24th of December, appoints Prince Napoleon a member and Vice-President of the Privy Council.

Paris, January 6.—If the Encyclical be, as is conjectured, an answer to the Franco-Italian Convention, Prince Napoleon's nomination to the Vice-Presidency of the Privy Council is equally an answer to the Pope; and the opinions of his Imperial Highness on the Papacy are no secret. The Privy Council, which was instituted soon after the Orsini attack, has heretofore, for various prudential reasons, been presided over by the Emperor; it may now meet under the presidency of his cousin, in whose devotedness and loyalty to himself, to the Empress, and to the Prince Imperial, in any contingency, we may suppose he has now, at least, absolute confidence. The Council has hitherto been hardly felt in the working of the Imperial institutions. It was composed of persons whose interests, as well as whose affections, are supposed to attach them with unwavering fidelity to the Bonaparte dynasty. It is, as you are aware, quite distinct from the Council of Ministers, and completely independent of it, and has formed, in fact, a sort of double Cabinet. Henceforth it will hold a more responsible place in the State, and will deliberate on most of the great questions of the day—the constitution of Algeria, decentralization, public instruction, and the petitions addressed to the Senate—in common with the Ministers, under the presidency of the Prince. Prince Napoleon is thus put forward in a more prominent position than before. He will take the lead in all the questions that come before the Council, and his influence will be felt in the conduct of domestic and foreign affairs. At all events, much is expected from him. His nomination is accepted as an indication of the Emperor's future policy in Italy, and also as a guarantee against the adoption of certain reactionary measures which have been apprehended since the Paris election; if it be not a promise of further relaxation in the Imperial system. How far the Prince will realize the hopes of his liberal friends time only can tell. Indeed, the opinion of many on this nomination is that it is one of the most important acts since the *Coup d'Etat*, and in some measure an abdication of the Emperor's policy in favor of his cousin, who, from his connexion with the Royal house of Italy, must be the adversary of Austria; from his views on Italian unity, the stern opponent of the Papacy; and from his sympathy with Poland, the uncompromising enemy of Russia.

Paris, January 6.—The *Moniteur* of this morning publishes the last portion of the Pope's Encyclical Letter which will be published throughout the Empire in the ordinary form. This portion is received without any approbation in consequence of the clauses, formulas, and expressions it contains, and which are or might be contrary to the law of the Empire, as well as to the liberties, franchise, and maxims of the Gallic Church.

The topic of the week at Paris is, of course, the attitude taken by the French Government in regard to the Papal Encyclical, as indicated in the circular of Monsieur Baroche, the Minister of Justice and Public Worship, to the French Archbishops and Bishops. Since our article on this subject was in type, we have seen that the Imperial Government has officially put forward as a justification of its conduct the circular of Monseigneur Feurtrier, Bishop of Beauvais, and Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs in the Government of Charles X. The *Union*, having been tempted to make some temerarious remarks on the conduct of the Government in the matter of the Encyclical, has been promptly served with a *Communiqué* from the Minister. This *Communiqué* demands the insertion of the circular of Monseigneur de Beauvais at the head of its columns—which act does not, however, lead us to qualify our remarks in any way.

It is evident, however, that the appointment of Prince Napoleon to the Vice-Presidency of the Privy Council is generally regarded as even a most serious step in a Revolutionary direction than the circular of the Minister. It is the first time, with the exception of his brief Algerian Ministry, that the Prince has been actually placed in any position of confidence and authority at Paris. It is generally regarded, therefore, as a material guarantee to the Revolution for the good conduct of the Empire, and if need be, as a request of the Empire to the Revolution, with a Regent after its own heart. The Privy Council is now composed without reference to the fact that France is a Catholic country—the seat vacated by the death of Cardinal Morlot never having been filled. The Prince's nomination is thus estimated in his own organ, the *Opinion Nationale*:—

"The nomination of Prince Napoleon to the Vice-Presidency of the Privy Council, is an event of great importance, and we are persuaded that we do not exaggerate, in adding that after the Encyclical Letter of the Pope, it has an extensive meaning in the sense of the principles of 1789. The Court of Rome has opened its floodgates, it has overflowed us all, and it has now become necessary to regulate, in a definite and if possible radical manner, the relations between Church and State. Against high tides, strong embankments. The declaration of 1832 is the minimum of that which we can now exact from the Clergy. France, indeed, expects more, because the France of to-day is the Democracy, and the new law calls for her guarantees against the obstinate pretensions of Ultramontanism."

The speech of the Emperor to the Senate on New Year's day has it appears, excited some attention, though it does not appear to have been generally reported in the French journals [from having only been given in the *Moniteur du Soir*] and it has not been at all noticed by the English papers. There is not much in it certainly, but as the Emperor is always expected to say something cryptic and enigmatic on New Year's day, the Parisian *quidnuncs* endeavor to discover it in the speech to the Senate, which is nine lines long, whereas those of the other bodies of the State are only three or four. Here, however, is the speech:—

"I thank the Senate for its good wishes. Every year, at this epoch, legitimate hopes manifest themselves, mingled with certain apprehensions. But if we look back, we find that almost always those hopes have been realized, and those fears have been dispelled. I am happy to think that such will be the case this year also, and I depend upon the Senate to maintain, with me, this confidence in the future, which alone assures the destinies of a great people."

The passage of which so much is made is that in which the year is spoken of as one that may possibly gratify certain 'legitimate hopes' in the direction, it is assumed, of more political liberties. And the hint is supposed to be addressed to the Senate rather than the Deputies, because the Senate is the recognised guardian of the Constitution of the Empire. With the French gossips, it is evident a nod goes as far as a wink.—*Cor. London Tablet*.

It is said that the Archbishop of Paris, a decided Gallican, is likely to be named to the place lately filled by his predecessor, Cardinal Morlot, in the Privy Council. This would be the complement of Prince Napoleon's nomination.

It is stated that a meeting of the opposition deputies took place at M. Thiers' house on Dec. 29, to consider the campaign of the coming session. They were agreed to advocate the complement of the liberties granted on Nov. 24, the emancipation of the press, toleration of electoral committees, the right of public meeting, &c. But M. Thiers, differing from his colleagues, announced, to their horror and disgust, that he meant to support the temporal power of the Pope.—*Express*.

A French society has undertaken the rearing of

pigs on a large scale; and, in Belgium, at which place no fewer than 70 of these unclean animals are gathered together. All the old horses that can be obtained are bought, cooked, and served up as food to the interesting colony.

The Jews.—According to a calculation recently made, says the *Moniteur*, there exist in the whole world nearly 7,000,000 Jews, of whom one-half are in Europe, especially in Russia, where there are 1,220,000. The number in Austria is 853,000; in Prussia, 284,500; and in the rest of Germany, 492,000. At Frankfurt-on-the-Maine there is one Jew to 16 Christians; in Sweden and Norway only one in 600. France contains 80,000, England 43,000, and Switzerland 3,200. A remarkable fact is that in the countries where the Jews are completely emancipated—that is in France, Belgium and England—their number is diminishing, while elsewhere it is increasing. Since the commencement of the present century the societies for the conversion of the Jews (33 in number, and employing 200 missionaries) have at the most, and with great expense, made 20,000 proselytes.

Last Saturday at the Carmelite Convent in Faubourg St. Germain, the eldest daughter of the late Duke of Norfolk took the veil in the presence of Nunzio Obigli and a large attendance of friends, among whom was her brother, the present Duke.—*Globe*.

ITALY.

Fremont.—The Milan Correspondent of the *Journal des Villes et Campagnes* states that the great difficulty of Italy is at present to find a man fit to be Minister. Every one looks upon General La Marmora as merely a makeshift, and wonders who will replace him. People only revert to the old Ministers, such as Rattazzi and Ricasoli, to see that they have made themselves even more impossible than Minghetti. The tendency is apparently towards Olasidini, but still every one feels that if this be indeed the coming man it is certain his time has not come yet.

Italy is doing [says this correspondent] as Dingoes did, when he went about seeking for a man. She has not been more fortunate hitherto than the cynical philosopher in his fruitless investigation. Perhaps her lantern is in fault.

This *raza avis*, of which I speak, was supposed to have been discovered by some journals, a few days since, in the person of M. Olasidini. They spoke about him as about to enter the actual Ministry, or even as the head of a new administration. The newsmongers have taken nothing by their invention, and M. Olasidini remains, as he has hitherto done, alone with his dissonance, that is to say, with his laurels gathered at Castelgardo. At the appearance of M. Olasidini, the Italics did not think, that like Archimedes, they had reached the moment at which to cry *Eureka!*

We were not surprised to learn on the arrival of the Cunard steamer last Monday, that the announcement of the fall of Savannah by the previous mail was premature, and that Hood's army had not been scattered to the four winds of heaven.—*London Tablet*.

The *New Gazette* of Verona of the 29th ult. states that on the previous day there fell into the hands of the police authorities 13 Orsini bombs, which added to those before seized, bring up the total to 70.

The Mazzinian press seems to be going down in the world. The *Dovere* publishes a melancholy appeal, signed "Giuseppe Mazzini," complaining that the subscribers do not pay up, and refuse to their organ the miserable annual sum of 5f.—*Guardian*.

Rome.—Our journals and letters from Rome have reached us to the date of Saturday, the 31st ult.—*Weekly Register*.

A Roman Prelate, writing to us on that day, says: "Here there is a great calm in politics. All are expecting a development, and there is no knowing in what respect and from whom it may proceed. True Christians expect it from God, and the more so that such horrors are heard of as having been committed throughout Italy against religion, and it is hoped that God will say 'Enough!'"

"The observations made by the journals on the Encyclical of the Holy Father are truly ridiculous."

"The Pope, after all, is not so weak, although they try to make fun of him; they would not cry so loud if they did not feel themselves sorely goaded. It is wonderful, indeed, that it is not yet perfectly clear to them that, in the midst of the tempest there must be such a lighted beacon as that of the Holy See, to point out the port of refuge. On that very account has it need of independence. In such a period as the present, there is a confusion in the minds and in the politics of men, that they misuse words, and mistake the nature of things, all under the motto of 'civilization,' &c. &c."

"The infallible Chair of Peter gives light in the midst of darkness; and, therefore, the faithful must see that whatever road the world may choose to take it is not on that account the right one. The Pope raises his voice, and says it is an erroneous one.—How ridiculous it is, then, to state that this is in opposition to the present times. The Pope is not bound to go with the times, no more than religion, which binds us to God, who is immutable. If the Pope was to go with the times, he ought to become a Jew; for the present times (in Italy especially) are ruled by the gentlemen of that denomination!"

An incident took place in the Cercle Français on Christmas night, which illustrates fairly the sort of persons the French authorities have placed in position of trust in the Army of Occupation. Captain Boquet, the officer who so unpleasantly distinguished himself last Christmas Day (1863), by shooting down the Pontifical dragoons, at Castel Gandolfo, was pleased to make some most insulting remarks in a loud tone of voice, regarding his past antagonists.

"This time last year," he said, "I was drawing up a report to General Montebello about my little affair. Ah, ma foi, foi, vous dirais bien recommencer d'aujourd'hui avec ces coquins la." "Vous sentez, vous de force tout seul, Monsieur le capitaine," said a quiet looking young man in plain clothes, who had entered with a military friend a moment before; "Mais certainement, Monsieur," returned Boquet; "et qui êtes vous qui me posez telle question?" "Le Comte De Langlesse, a votre service, Dragon Pontifical, enrôle au notre et qui vous tient pour un lâche et un assassin, et vous prie d'accepter un paire de soufflets, au souvenir de vos exploits," and thereon gave the captain a couple of boxes on the ears, threw his card on the table and left the club. Of course everyone expected a *remonte*, but the gallant captain thought better of it, and has quietly pocketed the affront; and it is to be hoped he, as well as his confederates, will profit by the lesson.—*Tablet C.r.*

KINGDOM OF NAPLES.—The 8th, 10th, and 12th of December have been the occasion in Naples and Palermo of most daring Royalist demonstrations. The Toledo, Largo di S. Francesco di Paola, Chiaja, and other streets were strewn with lilies, with Bourbonist proclamations and cards bearing mottoes in praise of Francis the Second and the Queen of Naples, and in favor of Neapolitan independence. The same happened in Palermo and other parts of Sicily, where the ferment is greater than it has been since 1861, the Clergy taking a leading part in it.

Arrests in every part of the provinces have been the answer to these manifestations of Royalist feeling, but they have failed to suppress it. The Bourbonist committee addressed a circular to all the employees of Government, and all the Consulates in Naples, and all the representatives of foreign Powers accredited to the Court of Rome on the 9th, and on 13th at the midday Mass at the Church of St. Sanita. Hundreds of Royalist handbills were showered from a gallery above the altar, and caused such excitement that the police were obliged to clear the church. The appeal in Cassation of the La Galas has been rejected, and will entail the execution of the sentence of death in all probability after Christmas.

The Reaction goes on unceasingly, and if there is any slackening it is the snow which has fallen hea-

vily on the upper part rather than any political cause which is answerable for it. The demand of the removal of the Legation-Palace for a year is the best answer to Lamarmora's declaration that the cause of the Bourbons had lost all hold in Naples. Never, perhaps since 1861 has the movement been more general, or presented better hopes of success. Should the party of action succeed in compromising the Italian Government with Austria, the insurrection in Naples will be a general one. The Muratist party, on the other hand, are working ceaselessly, and entertain every hope of success, as there is not any longer even a nucleus of the Piedmontese party left. Not an 'Erivra' greeted Prince Humbert on his landing in Naples, and the crowd scarcely raised their hats on his passage through Toledo.—*Corr. of Tablet*.

The Reactionary band of Fuocco had a very severe encounter with the French troops on Christmas night. Crossing a tongue of land in the Papal territory, and being pursued by the Piedmontese, they fortified themselves in a cottage and farm near San-Francesco, not far from Veroli. The French immediately attacked them, a detachment of Pontifical gendarmes accompanied them; the united forces being nearly eighty men. The Neapolitans were forty in number and fought with desperate courage, though strictly on the defensive, only asking to pass through to Aquila. Six of the band were wounded and taken prisoners, the rest with their chief, all old soldiers, cut their way through and reached the mountains of Moreno and Oivittella Roveto in safety.

It was this band which, about a fortnight since, succeeded in surprising a French post near Castro. The French patrol was dining in a wood, the arms bag piled in a sheaf a few score feet off. The Royalists got between the men and their gun, and presenting their own loaded rifles held their enemies for some minutes completely at their mercy. Suddenly the chief lowered his gun—"Take your arms, my friends," he said; "we only make war on Victor Emmanuel and do not wish to hurt you; but tell your General, the 'brigands' are soldiers and act as such, and scorn to take the lives of brave men at a disadvantage." The French were as much surprised as touched; gave a cheer for 'les brigands,' and sent in a report to the Council of War, with a prayer for the pardon of the poor young Neapolitan condemned to death at Castro, who was one of the same band.

GREECE.

A letter from Athens of the 22nd ult. has the following:—

"The great news of the week is the discovery of a plot of which Mazzini is the head. The rumours about respecting this mysterious affair are so vague and exaggerated that I will only give a summary of the versions published by the different journals. A certain Kapsavellis, a captain in the army, who some time back excited the suspicion of the authorities, having lately died at Nauplia, the police took possession of his papers. Among them were found:—1. A number of revolutionary pamphlets and plans of conspiracy for the overthrow of the Hellenic throne, to be replaced by a republic; 2. Letters proving the relations of the Greek revolutionary committees with those of Italy and France; 3. Accounts relating to the employment of considerable sums intended either to foment republican journals in certain towns, or to support and propagate revolutionary principles, and assure their triumph by material means. A sum of £500 was also seized, which was to be divided among persons capable of attempting a *coup de main*. Although I regard these reports and details as exaggerated, it is probable that the discovery of the police would have led to the arrest and trial of Kapsavellis, if death had not put him beyond the reach of human justice. The police have, however, lodged a complaint with the military authorities against Assistant Surgeon Major Glarakis, who, in a speech to the funeral of Kapsavellis, indulged in revolutionary language.—*Post*.

PRUSSIA.

A letter from Berlin, dated the 2d inst., says:— "The discussion between Berlin and Vienna is becoming more animated. An Austro-Prussian agreement is now hinted at for the provisional installation of Duke Frederick, by the transfer of the right of possession *de facto* which the Treaty of Peace of the 30th of October has conferred upon the two great Powers. There is a possibility of Prussia's conciliating France to its own selfish views; if it really means to appropriate the Duchies to itself. The Rhenish provinces would not be a bad 'Sop to Cerberus.' But is Prussia prepared to offer this price for the acquiescence of France in any ambiguous view of the Hohenzollerns may have in Germany? When Prussia unfurled the banner of the German Empire in 1848, it was the hallicination of the hour. The whole continent had gone mad for a short period, and the Prussians were as delirious as their neighbours; but at the first dawn of returning reason the revolutionary emblem was pulled down, and the circumstances that attended the hoisting of the old German colours in Berlin are not certainly conducive to a repetition of the experiment."

Well-informed persons are of the opinion that, amidst all the conflicting rumors, two points may be regarded as certain: 1st, that the Diet will not be allowed to participate in the juridical examination of the question of succession; and 2nd, that the provisional transfer of the rights of succession to Duke Frederick will not take place for some time to come.

POLAND.

CRACOW, Dec. 24.—Travellers who arrive here from the kingdom of Poland describe the state of that country as one of absolute ruin. The social revolution effected by M. Miluty and his commissions has entirely upset the laws under which property has hitherto been held in the kingdom, and under the new system it is impossible for anyone to be sure that what he has is his own. Large tracts of fertile land remain uncultivated, the former labourers being now proprietors, who will not condescend to work on another man's estate; and the rights of property are so unsettled a state as seriously to affect operations of commerce. The old proprietor is robbed and cheated in the most flagrant manner by the executive commissions appointed to carry out the usages, and he has no redress, the decision of the commissions being final in all matters affecting the relations between landlord and tenant. The object of the Government is evidently to secure the good will of the poorer classes by enriching them at the expense of the wealthier. The peasants, however, though gladly accepting all the Government gives them, know perfectly well where their new riches come from, and what is the reason of the gift, and they naturally look with distrust on people who despoil one class to enrich another.

The process of Russification in Poland is rapidly going on. The appointments of Minister of Finance and Minister of Justice in the kingdom which had always, even in the worst times of the rule of Nicholas, been filled by Poles, have now been given to Russians, M. Kuszelew having been appointed to first post and M. Poltoranow to the latter. M. Kuszelew is one of the most active members of the directing committee which is now revolutionising Poland with its socialist theories. M. Bagniewski, his predecessor, has been appointed to the Council of State, a body now chiefly consisting of State pensioners, its political action having long ceased. Arrests are still frequent in Warsaw, both of men and women. On the other hand, the Government shows itself singularly anxious for the morality of the inhabitants. Not only is gambling of every kind strictly forbidden, but a police decree has been issued imposing severe penalties on any one playing at chess or dominoes in a cafe. The rumor of a repetition of the levy of 1863 next January has been contradicted by the official journals, but it admits that a conscription is to take place according to the existing law.

The falsity of the assertion of the Government that the Roman Catholic Clergy alone supported

the insurrection last year is proved by the fact that a new ukase has been issued directed against the Monasteries of the United Greek Church. Four of these are to be suppressed, and their inmates are offered the option of joining another monastery or abandoning the monastic state, or of going abroad on a pension of 150 roubles a year, payable so long as the monk does not commit any hostile act towards the Russian Government. The revenues of the suppressed monasteries are placed at the disposal of the authorities.

In Lithuania, Mouraviev still continues his work of extermination. A fortnight ago another village was destroyed, and all its inhabitants banished to Siberia. The Polish language is rigorously proscribed; all the shops where Polish books were sold have been closed, all teaching in Polish is severely forbidden, and the Polish inscriptions on the shops have been changed to Russian ones. It is even an offence, entailing a heavy penalty, to speak Polish in the streets. Mouraviev, thinking to destroy the indigenous inhabitants of the country by allowing them the free use of spirituous liquors, after the fashion of certain colonialists in America has strictly forbidden all agitation in favor of temperance. A short time ago a landed proprietor was fined 500 roubles because there was no brandy in an inn on his estate. The other Polish provinces under Russian suzerainty are a tyranny less tolerable than that of Mouraviev. The official journal of Kiev informs us that between the 15th of July and the 1st of November last no less than 332 persons have been condemned for political offences in Podolia, Volhynia and the Ukraine.—*Cor. Post*.

UNITED STATES.

If the United States come out triumphant from this war, it will have a disposable army of at least three hundred thousand men for the invasion of Mexico. It will have a navy which can blockade every Mexican port, and compete with the regular navy of France on the ocean. It can have a warm of privateers which will sweep every French merchantman from the ocean. It will seek to cement its domestic power by enlisting all the military adventurers of the South, who will be disbanded at the close of hostilities, in the same grand crusade. It will be ever eager to create, in hostility to a foreign power, a new bond of union for the now warring populations. It is possible that, foreseeing all this, Napoleon expects to propitiate the United States by agreeing not to interfere on behalf of the Southern Confederacy? If he does he is the most glib of mankind. The people of the United States have always coveted Mexico. There was respect enough for the opinions of mankind, at the close of the war with that country, combined with ignorance of our own strength, to prevent the wholesale plunder of it at that time from the hands of its own people. But the world's moral sense cannot be offended by taking that to which Mexico has given up its right from the hands of those who have compelled it to make the surrender. The United States will go to Mexico as its deliverer, and the great mass of the Mexican people will rely on our standard. The United States is no longer unconscious of its own power.—*Richmond Dispatch*.

NEGRO 'EQUALITY' AT PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S MANSION.—A Washington letter giving an account of the President's levee on New Year's (January 2d), contains the following:—To the right of the President, the two private Secretaries intervening, stood Mrs. Lincoln, with Hon. B. B. French doing the honors. Many persons, the majority evidently acquaintances, paid their respects to her, after being presented to the President; but the crowd mostly passed her by with a stolen glance or rude stare. Mrs. Lincoln is not popular either with men or women; and of the latter she probably has fewer genuine friends than any lady that has ever filled her station before her. Parasites in crinoline attend her; but she is not loved her friends; and she is hardly respected by females in society near enough her own grade to know all about her. Among the crowd assembled in front of the portico, before the doors were thrown open to the people, were several hundred colored people of both sexes—the wench the most numerous, who had come to pay their respects to the President. As a general thing they were well and neatly dressed, some both male and female, being with their white companions. Both indirectly represent the *bon ton* of negro society in Washington; alloyed by a smart sprinkling of colored divines, who think they succeed in obtruding themselves in white society upon pretended terms of equality; and a corporal's guard of negro soldiers, who no doubt thought themselves entitled to the privilege of paying their New Year's compliment to the chief magistrate of the country they are fighting for. The white people made no demonstration whatever on account of their presence, no doubt supposing they would confine themselves to the station assigned them by custom and bring up the rear of the President's visitors; but when, upon the doors being opened, it was discovered they intended to gress with the crowd by their pressing forward shoulder to shoulder, a scene of excitement followed which did anything but honor to the occasion. Many negroes had reached the passage and some had passed the door, when the demonstrations on the part of the whites, aroused to deep indignation, warned the special police that trouble was brewing. "They are letting the negroes in," exclaimed a score of voices, male and female; "put 'em out," was roared by as many men, who looked willing enough to perform the act themselves, "Go to the kitchen, G—d—n you!" yelled a rough yew soldier, who forgot he wasn't in camp.

The American papers state that heavy guns are being sent to Sacketts Harbor for the purpose of placing that port and arsenal in an improved state of defence. Sacketts Harbor was the principal naval stronghold of the United States in last war, and would be able to do an incalculable amount of injury in case of war.

LIFE IN NEW YORK—Its Ups and Downs.—If any desire to witness the mutations of fortune in New York, to see how the princely merchant of one year is the subordinate salesman of the next, how the show and glitter of equipage and servants in livery in the Central Park one season is followed by almost absolute want the next—he need only to enter some of our large mercantile establishments. One of our most noted merchants in this city has in his employ over twenty men as salesmen, who within ten years commanded a fortune lived in style, whose families gave tone and law to fashion. This store is regarded as a sort of hospital for decayed merchants. The influence and talent of the land find her employment in subordinate positions. The treacherous sea of mercantile life engulfed their barque with its richly laden freight, while they clung to the masts and spars thrown to them by the more fortunate adventurers. One house, almost as noted as Stewart's six years ago, who in imitation of that gentleman, built a marble palace, has gone by the board, and the heads of it are clerks in the wholesale stores of the city. You will find men about our streets or hiding in the multitude of our people, doing a little brokerage, whose families find a humble home in one or two rooms in the better class of tenement houses, who a few years ago, in neighboring cities, rode on tin top wagons of popular favour, who never imagined that they or theirs would come to want. I meet men every day in New York on whom the hand of reverse has been laid very heavily; seedy in dress, whose dwelling place cannot be known, who in other days I have often envied as they rode by me in their sumptuous carriages, whose position and living were among the wealthiest of the land. It is sad to think it so. Nor will the number be lessened. The experience of the past goes but little way with the present generation. The speculators and stock gamblers of the day are spreading, sails when prudent men are reefing.—*Boston Journal*.