

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The state of France is the best answer to the attacks of Louis Napoleon's enemies, whether domestic or foreign. All accounts concur in representing the country as tranquil and peaceable, while trade and commerce are thriving. The citizens of Paris go to bed to seek rest from the toils of a day's labor, without apprehending that before midnight, as during the greater part of the reign of Louis Philippe, the rattle will break their repose and call them to arms to defend society against the attacks of turbulent anarchists. Club oratory has been trodden out, Socialism is not heard of, laborers and artisans devote their time to the improvement of the country and of their own fortunes by the useful employment of their mental and physical faculties—religion is spreading widely and sinking deeply in a land which a couple of years since was a prey to the worst impulses of infidelity, crime of every sort is wonderfully declining, and for the first time for twenty-three years there is not only a balance of the public income and expenditure, but the revenue exceeds the disbursements, notwithstanding the enormous increase of expenditure in regard to public works calculated to ornament the country and defend the empire against foreign aggression. When the late Emperor Alexander (of Russia) was complimented on his moderation, he modestly remarked that he was a "happy accident." And so may we say with regard to Louis Napoleon. For France and Europe he has been indeed a happy accident. Parliamentary government in France had become a nuisance. An enlightened despotism was indispensable to cure the evils of the licentiousness of the Tribune and the press had caused. We trust the time will arrive when the Emperor can prudently surround his throne with constitutional institutions. At present he has gone to the verge of safety in this respect. His Majesty's coronation will probably take place in May. That the French Emperor would consider his coronation by the successor of St. Peter an inestimable advantage cannot be doubted; and it is not unlikely that the Pope should wish to compliment the nation and the man who have done so much service to the Church; and we believe there is no decision come to on the matter as yet.

It is stated in Paris on good authority that the revolutionary chiefs were never more active than at the present moment, and that Kossuth and Mazzini were never better friends, notwithstanding all appearance to the contrary. Another attempt is spoken of for the end of May next.—*Times Correspondent.*

An arrest has been made, which has been kept as secret as possible, but respecting which, nevertheless, the following details are given:—In 1848 an officer of the French army was dismissed from the service. In the last *couvent* against the Prince President he was at one of the barricades, but escaped, and went to England, where he was in close communication with the Democratic Refugee Socialist Committee. About a month ago, information was received that he had returned to Paris. He was sought for, and about three weeks ago was found at table with two Italians at a restaurant at Vaugirard. He resisted, and fired a pistol at the two police agents, one of whom was wounded; and then succeeded in escaping with one of the Italians. The other Italian was arrested. Six days ago the police again caught sight of him, and arrested him in the Rue Vivienne. It has since transpired that for some days he had been watching the movements of the Emperor, and it is added, that among his papers have been found some which prove that he came to France for the purpose of getting up a conspiracy against the Emperor's life.

The following appears in the *Courier de Marseille*, on Saturday:—"Some persons who have just arrived from Toulon inform us that a horrible discovery had been made by the police of the town. For some time past public rumor signalled a house, occupied by an agent for finding substitutes for the army, as the theatre of a series of atrocious dramas. Minute searches having been made, about twenty corpses buried in the cellar of the house, were found. The victims were military substitutes received by the Conseils de Revision; and the man murdered them in order not to have to pay the price of their enrolment."

On the 10th of Feb. the Rev. Father Lacordaire preached a sermon in the church of St. Roch, Paris, before his Eminence Cardinal Donnet and the Archbishop of Paris. It was greatly admired for its earnestness and spirituality, and therefore, as might be expected, disliked by the men of this world. In order the better to express that dislike, they extracted several parts of it from a very imperfect report, and so altered the phrases and words of the preacher as to make him speak in terms of denunciation not only against the Emperor, but also against the whole form and system of government established by him. These extracts were printed in Belgium, and a wide circulation given them, until at length they reached Paris. The Minister of Worship, having read them, wrote to the Archbishop of Paris, enclosing a copy of the extracts, but his Grace immediately answered that neither he, nor his grand vicars, could recognise in such extracts any part of the discourse which they heard delivered by the celebrated Dominican. And in the following letter, addressed by the Rev. Father to the *Spectateur de Dijon*, our readers will see that there was some nefarious design on the part of those who had circulated the travesty of his discourse:—

"Flavigny, March 16, 1853.

"Sir,—There has been printed in Belgium, and circulated in Paris, a reputed extract of a discourse which I pronounced on the 10th of February last in the church of St. Roch. That extract, whatever motive may have led to its production, is incorrect, exaggerated, unconnected, and cannot give the least idea of my discourse to those who did not hear it. I dis-

avow it, reserving to myself the right to publish what I said when I may deem it convenient.

"A letter has appeared in some of the Belgian journals and attributed to me, on the subject of the persecution which I have had to undergo in consequence of that particular discourse. That letter is not by me; it is from one end to the other a *chef-d'œuvre* of ridicule. I leave France when I please; I return when I think fit. I preach when I wish to do so; and I rest when I judge it convenient. I have no complaint to make, either of the Government or any one; and it would be, on my part, an injustice to place myself, or suffer any one to place me, in the position of a victim. I am a Religious, preaching the Gospel with the conviction and independence suited to my state; and they who have read my works or heard me, cannot, I hope, have found me in all my life to be another character.

"You will much oblige me by publishing this reclamation. And I beg of you to accept my thanks and the homage of my most distinguished sentiments.

"FR. H. D. LACORDAIRE."

AUSTRIA.

A Silesian journal says that the Count de Chambord is expected at Frohsdorf at the end of this month (April). It also mentions a rumor that the Duke de Nemours, who is before long to pay a visit to Vienna, will have an interview with the Count de Chambord, and that the latter had some idea of making an excursion to England in the course of the summer.

The *Cologne Gazette*, under the date of Munich, 12th March, states that an English colonel (the name is not given) had a few days before been expelled from that city.

The Emperor's health is now quite restored; his sight is no longer affected, and all apprehensions that his mental faculties would be impaired by the concussion of the brain, consequent on the assassin's blow, have disappeared. Whenever his Majesty shows himself to the people, whether on the parade, at the opera, or going to some one of the churches to assist at *Te Deum*, he is received with unequivocal marks of sincere loyalty and affection. Lord Aberdeen's recent speech in the House of Lords has had, as we anticipated, the best effect at Vienna. It is now understood that Lord Palmerston's pernicious influence on the foreign relations of Great Britain is extinct; and we may expect to hear of a speedy change in the tone and feeling of the Austrian Cabinet and people.

SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Council was to meet on the 19th March to discuss the Austrian note. This note repeats the former accusations, and promises to restore affairs upon their ancient footing so soon as justice shall have been done to the complaints of Austria, and Switzerland shall have given guarantees for the future.

ITALY.

STATE OF MILAN.—We read, in the *Opinion* of Turin, under date Milan, March 12:—"Count Gyulai, and the other military chiefs throughout Lombardy, never appear in the streets without being surrounded by a dozen officers, and followed by three and even seven files of soldiers armed to the teeth. Single officers are accompanied each by two soldiers; and the other night, at the theatre of the Scala, the public was not a little surprised to see the precautions adopted to protect the officers against any attempt.—The latter entered the hall by a private door, and were separated from the civilians by soldiers and non-commissioned officers. Moreover, if a soldier is sent to carry a despatch, he walks, even in the daytime, between two cavalry soldiers, who, with pistols in their hands, keep the citizens at a distance. The municipality has been ordered to supply the castle of Milan with provisions for four thousand men, and the fort of Porta Tosa for eight hundred. The blockade of Ticino continues, but with fewer troops than was at first stated. I do not believe that there are more than four thousand men along the line in the province of Como."

MILAN, MARCH 17.—Three persons, convicted of having taken part in the movement of the 6th of February, have been executed. Five others, convicted of robbery, had been also condemned to death. Three had suffered; the sentence of the others had been commuted into ten years' imprisonment.

A despatch from Vienna of the 20th announces that an Imperial decree, ordering the abandonment of all prosecutions for high treason, had been proclaimed on the 19th at Mantua, amidst the most enthusiastic acclamations.

The Genoa correspondent of the *Newark Daily Advertiser* says:—"A complete revolution in the means of steam navigation and locomotion is anticipated here from a recent invention by Dr. Carosio, of this city. He has, it is said, succeeded in constructing an apparatus for the decomposition of water by electro-magnetism, which will introduce the gas thus generated into the engine, in a way to save all the expenses of fuel!"

THE ARCHBISHOP OF PARIS AND L'UNIVERS.—The *Univers* publishes a copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Louis Veillot, its principal editor, to Monsignor Fioramonti, Secretary to the Pope, and a copy of the latter's reply. In his letter, which is dated Rome, the 3d ult., Mr. Veillot states that, as the editor of the *Univers*, he has for twelve years employed all the zeal, all the devotedness, and all the prudence of which he is capable in defending the doctrines and power of the Holy Roman Church against the irreligious press; but that nevertheless his undertaking has met "with cruel contradictions, not only, as was natural, on the part of the impious, but also on the part of a certain number of Catholics." These Catholics, he says, have "only seen almost inevitable faults. They have said that the *Univers* made enemies to religion by the manner in which it defended it; that it encroached on the sacred rights of the episcopacy, and that it aspired to conduct the Church. In short, they have displayed such exigencies, and published such bitter reproaches on us, that it appears to me impossible to continue our undertaking under such conditions." On the other hand, he states that several illustrious pre-

lates have assured him that his journal is useful, and renders true services to religion. "Disquieted," he says, "at these incessant contradictions, he implores from the Holy Father a word which can enlighten and tranquillise his conscience and that of his assistants and readers." He places himself, he declares, "at the feet of the Holy Father with entire and unreserved submission, and asks him if he should continue, or modify, or suspend" the journal; and he says that whatever the Sovereign Pontiff may say shall be his law, and shall be immediately obeyed with joy. He concludes by a profession of the most profound respect for the Bishops of France. Monsignor Fioramonti's reply is in Latin, and is dated the 9th. It commences by saying that M. Veillot's letter has caused him anxiety and pain; but that "knowing how for a long time he has labored with all his strength and all his zeal in the cause of the Church, he desires to restore and strengthen his courage by the decision of the Pontiff." "First of all," he says, "everybody at Rome avows and admits that his resolution to write a religious journal in order to support and defend courageously Catholic truth and the Holy See was inspired by piety; but what assuredly merits special praise is, that in the journal which he has carried on for several years, he has never put anything above the Catholic doctrine, while he at the same time has labored to give pre-eminence to the institutions and statutes of the Roman Church, to defend them and support them with heart and resolution. Hence it is," he continues, "that the journal, on account of the matters of which it treats, and appreciated as it is on account of M. Veillot's talent as a writer, excites at Rome as in France and other foreign countries great interest, and is well qualified to discuss things which should be discussed in the present time. Some persons, however," he says, "strongly attached to certain principles, certain usages, and certain customs, do not entertain the same opinion of the journal, and, not being able openly to reject its doctrines, seek what they can reproach its editor with, and whether there be not something else to complain of than the warmth of his language and his manner of expressing himself. The editors of other journals," he adds, "although religious, are equally ready and ardent in attacking the *Univers* with violence." The result of this is, "that they cause to penetrate, little by little, distrust into people's hearts, which at present are specially attracted by the love of pure doctrine, and that they thus delay in a deplorable manner the movement which leads them to obedience and love of the Holy See." All this, the prelate declares, is "particularly painful in the conduct of a nation which has always been admirably distinguished by its zeal and love for holy religion, and which now manifestly causes itself to be remarked by a strong desire to see itself united by closer ties to the mother and mistress of all Churches." He consequently recommends M. Veillot, both for his own sake and that of the Church, "while freely taking in hand the cause of truth and the defence of the statutes and decrees of the Apostolic See, to examine all things with great care, and especially in questions in which it is licit to maintain one or the other opinion, to avoid inflicting the slightest stain on the name of distinguished men. For," he adds, "every religious journal imposing upon itself the obligation to defend the cause of God, and of the Church, and of the sovereign power of the Apostolic See, should contain nothing contrary to moderation and mildness, as that is the true means of attracting the kind attention of the reader, and of persuading him how much that cause is superior to all others, and of the excellence of the Apostolic See." The prelate concludes by stating that he cannot believe that "the resentments and divisions," which have created an obstacle to the journal can be lasting; but that, on the contrary, he feels confident "that those who are for the moment contrary to you will soon be unanimous in praising the talent and the zeal with which you do not cease to support religion and the Apostolic See."

TURKEY.

A person well known in the diplomatic world, and of much experience, said, the day before yesterday, that the affair of Montenegro was finished for Austria, but was only just beginning for Russia, and that this power was determined to demand the recognition by the Porte of the independence of Montenegro. A recent article in a Warsaw paper has attracted much attention. It is to the effect that the difference respecting the Turco-Montenegrin question is only resolved in appearance, and it states that before long serious events may be expected in the Bosphorus.—It predicts the extension to the south of the two great powers, Russia and Austria, and that a part of the kingdom of Poland will be given to Prussia as an indemnity. The paper from which the article is taken is said to stand in the same relation to the Russian government that the *Pays, Patrie, or Constitutionnel* does to the French.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The Sydney brings news from the frontier to Feb. 1st. The Governor was at King William's Town, actively engaged, it was reported, in considering the terms of peace which should be required of the Kafirs. The war was thought to be at an end, but the country was very unsettled, and the sullen submission of the natives agurs but ill for a prospect of permanent tranquility. It will be long probably before any of the troops can be withdrawn from the colony with safety—if, indeed, the time should ever arrive.

AUSTRALIA.

Murders in the bush are said to be on the increase, but I think this is only because more bodies have been discovered. There always have been, and there continue to be, many murders at the different diggings, and in their vicinity, which are never known. A murder is easy anywhere—in England or anywhere in the world—the great difficulty is to dispose of the body. At the diggings, especially among the more isolated tents, and in the solitude of the bush, there is no further difficulty than that of digging an unprofitable hole. The "profit" was found in the pocket or belt of the deceased. A gentleman is seldom murdered—first, because he almost always makes a desperate resistance to the last drop; secondly, because he is sure to be inquired after, and his murderers pursued; and, thirdly, because he is sober, and not to be entrapped into drinking—more wary, active, armed, and better practised in the use of arms. They know that it is likely to be a very serious business to murder a gentleman. But with the ordinary run of the working men diggers—especially if a single man,

with no wife to cause any vigorous search or inquiry after him—what more easy than to make him drunk, or catch him ready drunk to their hands, and then, if he has gold about him he is sure to boast of it, and his murder often follows as a matter of course, and nobody ever hears anything of the matter.

Gold has been collected in the gutters by children, and scraped up from the footway in Collins-street. An old steamboat paddlebox has been converted into a "gold office," and is doing very well. But several other trades are doing well besides the gold buyers. I know from the best authority that two or three grocers in the town have been making from £24,000 to £27,000 in the last year, and are now making at that rate per annum. Some, indeed most, of the butchers on the diggings have made fortunes. In Melbourne bakers, linendrapers, and shoemakers, have done a famous business, and now that labor is beginning to come into the market the master carpenters and builders are likely to realise large sums. An itinerant knife and scissors-grinder—the first seen here—and a locomotive shoeblack have also made their £400 or £500 a-year. But this will not last. Grinding and blacking, with some other things, really must come down, washerwomen carry their suds very high, charging from 9s. to 12s. a dozen—a shirt and its attendant collar reckoning as two. Some gentlemen gave away, or threw away, all dirty clothes that were not almost new, and many went down the stream of the Yarra Yarra, washed and roughdried all small articles themselves, and bought new ones in the town.—*Cor. of Times.*

CLERGY RESERVES BILL.

(From the London Times.)

One of the main difficulties which beset the settlement of the Canadian question in 1840 was the desire of the friends of the Episcopalian Church of Canada in this country to obtain for her terms much more favorable than Canada herself was prepared to concede. It was felt that without a settlement of the clergy reserve question the union of the provinces, so earnestly desired by all friends of Canada, would be seriously imperilled, and no sacrifice was thought too great to attain so desirable an object. In this spirit, and simply and solely in the interest of the Canadian people, the Government of Lord John Russell undertook that if the sum of £9,250 then payable to the churches of England and Scotland in Canada in certain fixed proportions was not paid, the deficiency should be made up out of the consolidated fund. The intention of the clause clearly was to guarantee the churches of England and Scotland in Canada against any loss which might be occasioned by a depreciation in the value of their property, and to secure them from the effects of natural calamities or commercial reverses. The guarantee had nothing to do with the management of the lands, but only with the amount of the proceeds which they yielded.

By the present bill the Ministry conceded to the Canadian Parliament the management and disposition of the clergy reserves, and at the same time inserted a clause cancelling the guarantee contained in the former act. Upon more mature consideration, however, they have struck this clause out of the bill, and thus leave the guarantee as it was before, notwithstanding the transfer of the management of the lands from the Imperial Parliament to the local Legislature. The question is, were they right in their first, or in their second resolution, when they proposed to revoke the conditional promise, or to retain it? We apprehend that in this instance, as in many others, second thoughts were best, and that to have seized upon the occasion of the change of management to rescind the guarantee would have amounted to a breach of faith, and evinced an unreasonable distrust of the honor and intentions of the Parliament of Canada.

We have guaranteed the churches of England and Scotland in Canada against depreciation from causes beyond the control of the governing power, and the change of that power from the hands of the Parliament of England to the hands of the Parliament of Canada affords no excuse for violating that guarantee. Suppose the Parliament of Canada do not secularize the clergy reserves, and suppose, what, though very improbable, is not impossible, that the income should fall below £9,250 per annum, what is there in this circumstance to relieve us from our undertaking to make up the deficiency? To put a parallel case, suppose that A has guaranteed to B that B shall receive £100 a-year out of a certain estate of which A is the trustee, and suppose A transfers the estate to C, that transfer would in no respect invalidate the right of B to call upon A for a fulfillment of his guarantee, in case the estate proved less productive under the management of C than under that of A. If we are sureties that these lands shall produce a certain income, that obligation can neither be varied nor cancelled by transferring the dominion of those lands to other persons. The burden of proof is on those who assert the contrary of this, and the guarantee will continue in justice and equity to this extent so long as the thing guaranteed—namely, the clergy reserves exist as a provision for the churches of England and Scotland in Canada.

But it is argued the Canadian Legislature will first secularize the reserves and then claim from the consolidated fund the payment of the sum of £9,250 for the purposes to which those reserves were originally devoted. The question raised by this supposition is not of the existence, but of the extent of the guarantee,—whether we undertook to protect the Canadian church against the acts of its own Parliament as well as against unavoidable depreciation; and whether it was intended, or can be permitted, that the Canadian Legislature shall first destroy the subject-matter whose safety we guaranteed, and then call upon us for an indemnity against its own deliberate act. Such a contingency was manifestly not in the contemplation of Parliament, for the machinery by which the guarantee is enforced is the office of the receiver of the clergy reserve fund—a functionary who could have no existence after the clergy reserve fund had been destroyed. It is, moreover, a principle of natural justice that a guarantee shall not be construed to protect a man against his own wrong. Considering these things, we believe it to be a supposition gratuitously offensive to the Parliament of Canada, that they, for whose benefit and on whose behalf this engagement was so liberally entered into by the British Parliament, would seek first to secularize the reserves, and then demand a reimbursement of the loss to the Church occasioned by their own act. Another reason which leads us to believe that the Canadian Parliament will never be so ill advised as to take this step is the improbability, or rather impossibility, of its success.—No British Parliament will ever listen to such pretensions for a moment. If they should be put forward,