

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The Continental Governments are eagerly watching the steps taken by French statesmen to meet the approaching crisis. The Legitimist party have openly proclaimed that they look to a restoration of the monarchy, and that in seeking for a total revision of the Constitution, their object is to alter its Republican spirit, and to pave the way for the re-establishment of the ancient line of kings. M. de Falloux, in a speech in the club of the Rue de Rivoli, on Saturday last, goes further, for he abjures all adjournment, boasts of the unlooked-for success of the party during the last three years—of the education law—of the expedition to Rome—and of the reconciliation of parties who had been enemies for eighteen years—all measures so favorable to the cause, that he brings them forward as showing that the hand of Providence is clearly on their side; having thus strongly expressed his feelings and his hopes, he concludes by declaring that—

"All measures tending to an adjournment ought to be rejected, because they push back the country to a point to which it has no desire to be driven—that is, to two general elections taking place at the same time, without there being the thickness of a Government between it and the Reds. The best course of conduct to adopt in such circumstances is to follow, independently of any political calculations, the sentiment of duty. The Legitimist party finds a solemn occasion to set forth its principles, and it ought to seize on it; an opportunity of proving its devotedness to the country, and it ought to prove it. Before everything—duty: God and the country will do the rest."

The representatives of the Left, at their meeting on Sunday, unanimously adopted a resolution to the effect that every project of revision ought to be set aside. The correspondent of the *Times*, who doubtless is in the confidence of the "party of order," says that the violation of the Constitution will be effected after the following fashion:—

"In the early part of June, the subject of the revision will be brought forward by a Member of the majority. There is little, in fact no doubt, that the principle of revision will be voted by the absolute majority, though not the majority required by the Constitution. At the interval of a month the question will again be introduced by another Member, and a similar result obtained. After an equal interval, it will be proposed by a third Member, with, in all probability, the same result. The Assembly will, it is presumed, adjourn for some short time in the month of August, and the Members will proceed to the departments at the period of the meeting of the Councils-General. These bodies, it is supposed, will take up the question in a still more earnest manner than last year, encouraged as they will be by the triple approval of the Assembly. Of the 86 Councils-General, it is computed that from 75 to 80 will petition Parliament for the revision. The question, backed with such petitions, as also with those from individuals, will be again brought forward in the Assembly; and if it do not this last time obtain the constitutional majority of three-fourths, it is likely the President of the Republic, thus supported, or rather impelled by the Assembly and the country, will make an address or appeal to the nation. Should the nation respond to that address, as it is expected, of course no power can, even according to the Constitution, oppose the national will thus legally expressed."

The proceedings in the Assembly, on Wednesday, seem to corroborate the above statement. M. Moulin proposed to refer the petitions for a revision of the Constitution to a special committee, and demanded that Members be authorized to renew motions for the revision of the Constitution every month, instead of waiting three months, as the statutes required. General Carvignac observed that the question of the revision of the Constitution could not legally be brought forward until the commencement of the third year of the Legislature. That year only began on the 28th inst., and, until then, he thought the Assembly could not constitutionally entertain the question. Some Members having asked that the discussion be postponed until Monday, the President consulted the Assembly. A large majority, however, rose against the proposition, and 323 Members to 212 decided that it should take place the following day.

The Republican journals show no symptoms of fear for the safety of the Republic. The *National* says—

"Calm and patient, we shall wait for 1852, if the detestable projects which are thus announced do not go beyond the columns of the Royalist journals; but strong in our right and in our moderation, we will greet every attack against the Republic and the Constitution, as we greeted in 1830 the attacks of M. de Polignac and his consorts. The Royalists declare to us that they are going to agitate the country to overturn the Republic. Let them give the signal of agitation, and we promise them that the Republicans will follow them in that course. The Republicans desire peace, that peace which the Monarchy was never able to give; if the Royalists desire emotion, they shall have it. Let them raise the white flag, we, on our sides, will agitate our flag of the revolution, and there will not be in France a commune, a village, or a hamlet which will not rise to the cry of 'Vive la République!' On them will be the responsibility of events!"

An extraordinary note of Cardinal Antonelli to the Austrian Cabinet, published by the *Independence Belge*, has attracted much attention in Paris. Antonelli's proposition is nothing more nor less than a plot for a hostile surprise and ejection of the French army of occupation by an overwhelming force of Austrians and Neapolitans, in case the French Government should not voluntarily consent to withdraw its troops!

THE REVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL.

The Duke of Saldanha was expected at Lisbon, by sea, on the morning of the 13th of May. He had printed a proclamation in the Oporto papers of the 9th inst., addressed to the inhabitants of Lisbon, with assurances of his early arrival for the purpose of promoting the instalment of a virtuous Administration. The popular party were collecting in bodies for the

purpose of making Saldanha *pronunciamentos* in the different towns and villages within ten leagues of Lisbon; they have, in many instances, installed administrative authorities of their own, and, it is clear, were prepared to accompany Saldanha's march to Lisbon in inconvenient numbers, had he come by land.

The Count de Thomar has addressed a letter of protest to the Duke of Saldanha, bearing the date of Vigo, to which place the fugitive Minister at first retired.

BELGIUM.

In consequence of adverse votes in the Belgium Chamber of Representatives, the Ministry, finding that it was impeded in its projects for financial reforms, and in its plans for the execution of great public works, resigned *en masse* on the 17th instant.

Every endeavor since made to effect a new Ministerial combination has been fruitless; and it was asserted that the Ministers would all resume their portfolios.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

The closing conferences of Dresden took place on the 15th, in presence of Schwarzenberg and Manteuffel. It is generally understood, that each Government has engaged to maintain on foot, and fully prepared for active service at a moment's notice, two-fifths of its ordinary federal contingent; by which resolution, supposing the whole contingent to consist of 430,000 men, in round numbers, exclusive of reserves, about 175,000 men, with 400 field-pieces will be ready to concentrate or act in such manner as may be required, under the orders of such commanders as may be appointed by the Federal Executive. It was further agreed, that a delay of fifteen days should be accorded to the Ministers of the Diet, to obtain instructions on different points. It is stated that the plans brought forward at Dresden would serve as the basis for the proposed revision of the Act of Confederation.

The Emperors of Russia and Austria and the King of Prussia have met at Warsaw, and are to proceed together to Olmutz. The Governments of Austria and Prussia are still at variance with Denmark on the Holstein question. The Diet held a sitting at Frankfurt on the 14th, at which M. von Rochow, the Prussian representative, was introduced by Count Thun. M. von Rochow left Frankfurt for Warsaw on the 17th. During his absence, his powers are delegated to Count Thun, the Minister of Austria.

NEW ZEALAND.

THE PANAMA ROUTE.—On Saturday last our citizens were startled with an extraordinary "Novelty," the barque of that name having arrived in port from San Francisco in the short space of twenty-nine days, bringing London news to the 2nd of October. Here is another and remarkable testimony to the change in our geographical position which the Panama route is certain to effect.—*Southern Cross*, Dec. 31.

SENDING CONVICTS TO AUSTRALIA.

This subject has attracted almost as much attention in England as in Australia. The daily press is nearly unanimous in the advocacy of the claims of the colonists, and the merchants in the City have drawn up a petition to the House of Commons, praying that the further transportation of offenders to Van Diemen's Land may be at once arrested. A meeting of the various delegates appointed by the public meetings held at the several Australian colonies has been held at Port Phillip, and it was there unanimously resolved that resolutions be drawn up by which the colonists pledge themselves to employ no convict labor after the present time, nor to hold any communication or have dealings with any who shall employ such labor. It was also resolved that a sum of £20,000 be raised by public subscription to carry out the object of the meeting. Before separating, the delegates drew up an appeal to the people of England, calling upon them to co-operate with them in their anti-convict agitation. This "Australian League" has opened communications with all the principal towns and districts of New South Wales, Victoria, Van Diemen's Land, South Australia, and New Zealand; it has had the most encouraging answers from all these places; and it has prepared a petition from all the Australian colonies, which petition Sir W. Molesworth will present to the House, with 50,000 signatures attached. All our Southern settlements, except Western Australia, are indeed bound together to oppose the importation of our convicts, and to protect Van Diemen's Land.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—MAY 16.

ECCLESIASTICAL TITLES BILL.

After the presentation of a considerable number of petitions against the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill,

The House divided on a motion for going into Committee on the Bill, when there appeared for going into Committee 166; Against it 35; Majority 81. The House then went into Committee.

Lord J. Russell suggested that the House should now go into Committee, *pro forma*, for the purpose of amending the Bill as he had explained on a former occasion, and also of inserting as a clause the words proposed to be added to the preamble by the honorable and learned member for Midhurst (Mr. Walpole).—The Bill would then be brought into the form determined on by Government, and reprinted, so that the House might proceed with its consideration on Monday. He made this proposal on the understanding that no opposition should be offered on Monday to the Speaker leaving the chair.

Mr. Walpole approved of the course proposed, reserving to himself the right of moving the other amendments of which he had given notice.

Mr. Keogh also acceded, announcing that he should renew his motion on Monday.

The Bill then passed through Committee, *pro forma*, to be recommitted on Monday.

MAY 19.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee upon this Bill, Mr. Reynolds moved, that the Chairman

report progress—(laughter), observing that this was not the first or second Bill which had been laid upon the table; that notices had been given of amendments which did not apply to the Bill in its present shape; and that time should be given for considering its new provisions.

Sir G. Grey left the Committee to decide whether this proposition was in the spirit of the understanding of Friday.

A good deal of discussion followed, respecting the understanding of Friday, and an alleged arrangement between the Government and Mr. Walpole; ultimately, the motion for reporting progress was negatived, on a division, by 262 against 46.

The Attorney-General stated his view of the effect of the Bill. He totally denied that this was a new Bill, the only alteration being the insertion of the clause now standing first, that which was formerly first being now second. The preamble of the Bill recited, that certain of her Majesty's subjects, under color of authority from the see of Rome, had assigned to themselves the titles of archbishops or bishops of pretended sees or dioceses. It recited also the provisions of the Emancipation Act on this subject, forbidding the assumption by Roman Catholic prelates of titles taken from sees or dioceses of the Established Church. The first clause of the Bill was declaratory, and embodied the recitals of the preamble; it declared that the attempt by the Court of Rome to establish sees or dioceses, with territorial titles, was illegal and void. This clause added nothing to the penalties of the Bill, but gave a more solemn form to the recitals of the preamble.

This explanation was much canvassed, and led to further elucidations of the scope and operation of the Bill.

The Solicitor-General expressed his opinion that the effects of the Bill would be to make the Papal rescript in reference to the bishopric of Ross, issued subsequent to that relating to England, likewise illegal.

Mr. Gladstone wished to know whether the Bill, as it at present stood, would make all written documents connected with the rites or usages of the Catholic religion illegal, as had been stated on learned authority?

The Solicitor-General said they would stand on the same footing as such documents had stood since the passing of the Act of 1829 to the present time. Doubts, indeed, might be entertained on the subject.

The question that the preamble be postponed, underwent a long debate, or rather conversation, in the course of which Mr. Reynolds moved that the Chairman report progress, which was negatived upon a division.

The other question was affirmed upon a division. Lord Arundel and Surrey then renewed the motion that the Chairman report progress, which was supported by Mr. Reynolds, who declared that, no matter how many divisions took place, the first clause should not pass that night.

Mr. Roebuck and Sir F. Thesiger recommended the Government to concede this delay, the latter observing that after the opinion expressed by the Solicitor-General, it would be proper to amend the first clause, applying it not only to the particular brief, but to all similar briefs and rescripts in the United Kingdom. Mr. Roebuck at the same time administered a rebuke to Mr. Reynolds for his factious opposition. "The honorable gentleman (Mr. Reynolds) had asked him what he got by doing what he thought right—(cheers). It was a curious way of putting such a question. He (Mr. Roebuck) would tell him what he thought he got. He believed that a large majority of the people of both countries would judge them by what they did in that House; and that if they, fairly and honestly opposing this Bill, acted on the principles of the constitution, as embodied in their rules and laws, the people of England and Ireland would see they had done their duty. But if they did their utmost to render the rules by which they were governed in that House mischievous to the country, they would at the same time be doing their utmost to endanger the great cause of constitutional liberty"—(hear).

Sir G. Grey, on the part of the Government, then assented to the Chairman leaving the chair, to sit again on Friday.

PROTESTANT SLANDERS.

Our readers may recollect the case of a *Minister of the Establishment*, who published some months ago, in the *Newcastle Chronicle*, a string of disgusting accusations against the lamented mother of His Eminence the Archbishop of Westminster; and how, under the fear of the lash, the craven cur whined out the most abject apology, throwing himself on the mercy of him, whom he had so foully outraged, in the person of his mother. The Cardinal, satisfied with the humiliation to which he had subjected this *Minister of the Establishment*, pushed the matter no further. The forbearance with which this blackguard was treated, has raised up a host of imitators; amongst whom certain writers in the *Morning Advertiser* and *Morning Herald*, have lately earned for themselves an unenviable notoriety; and whose Palinode we have to day to put on record. The subject of these Protestant gentlemen's slanders, was the Convent at Clapham, against the chastity of whose inmates they published some revolting assertions. Legal proceedings having been instituted, the result has been the same as in the case of the *Minister of the Establishment*—the liars have been compelled to swallow their own dirt, and to make an humble retraction in open court. Upon this, the prosecutors, true to the spirit of their religion, as their Protestant slanderers are to the spirit of theirs, actuated by no desire of vengeance, and incapable of any feelings, except those of contempt, for the pitiful scoundrels—their detractors—and the religious system of which they are the worthy disciples, have consented to let the matter drop. We are almost inclined to think, that it is pushing forbearance too far, and that it is a pity to let such rascals go unpunished; parti-

cularly when we know that in every conventicle, and meeting house throughout the kingdom, there are plenty of Evangelical men ready and willing to repeat the offence.

BAIL COURT, LONDON—MAY 13.

(Sittings in Banco, before Mr. Justice Erla.)

THE CLAPHAM CONVENT.

The Queen v. Scott.

Sir F. Thesiger—My lord, an application was made some days ago, by Mr. Sergeant Shee, for leave to file a criminal information against the printer and publisher of the *Morning Advertiser* newspaper, for libels published in that journal upon the inmates of an establishment or nunnery known by the name of the Clapham Convent. The imputations were undoubtedly of a most serious character, attributing to some one of these ladies a breach of the vow of chastity, and that a child had been born there in a mysterious manner. I appear here on behalf of the *Morning Advertiser*, a paper which now, for the first time, after a period of fifty years, has been brought into a court of justice to answer for anything inserted in its columns. The parties against whom the rule was obtained now think it their duty, upon seeing the affidavits in this matter, to state that they contain a clear and distinct answer to the charge made. They further say, that they had not gratuitously made the charge, but that it had arisen from certain rumors which had been circulated in the neighbourhood, which rumors I mention, not for the purpose of casting the slightest imputation upon those ladies, but for the purpose of showing that until they had assumed a tangible shape in the columns of a newspaper it was impossible for the parties to challenge inquiry into the truth of them. They have done so, and have brought the matter into court in such a way as to satisfy the parties against whom the application was made; and I may add myself, that there is not the slightest foundation for such a charge being brought against any of the inmates of the convent. And I am happy to be instructed, on behalf of the printer and publisher of the *Morning Advertiser*, to declare that there is no truth whatever in the imputations unguardedly made in the libels referred to. They now express their deep regret that those charges should have been made, and now withdraw them altogether. I trust that this will be considered all that is required.

Mr. Sergeant Shee—My lord, the ladies of the convent state in their affidavit that they are not influenced by any vindictive or malicious motives in making the application against the defendant, but solely for the purpose of vindicating themselves from the imputations cast on them in the falsehoods and calumny contained in the libels. Having heard the statement by my learned friend Sir F. Thesiger, I feel I cannot do better than to receive such reparation as has been made, which is as much as it is now possible for the printer and publisher of the *Morning Advertiser* to give. I shall, therefore, my lord, consent, on behalf of the parties who have instructed me, to have the rule discharged, of course on the payment of costs.

THE QUEEN V. CHAPMAN—MORNING HERALD.

Sir F. Thesiger—My lord, another application of a similar character has been made against the printer and publisher of the *Morning Herald* newspaper, for the publication of a libel, but under circumstances a little different from the other one. It appeared that there had been a publication in the *Dispatch* newspaper, which purported to be a vindication of those ladies from the slanderous report that was circulated against them. The *Morning Herald* adverted to this publication, and made some strong observations in disparagement of its truth. The parties against whom this rule was obtained also wish me to state here, that they are perfectly satisfied there is no foundation whatever, for the charge. They now withdraw every thing that has been published offensive to these ladies, and consent to pay all the costs which have been incurred in making the application to the court.

Mr. Sergeant Shee—I also consent to the rule being discharged in this case as in the former.

The rules in both cases were accordingly discharged upon the terms mentioned above.

Quebec, 28th May, 1851.

DEAR SIR,—It becomes my pleasing duty to transmit to you the following copy of a resolution, agreed to at a meeting of the Committee of Management of St. Patrick's Church, held on 12th inst., after the reading of your letter of resignation:—

Moved by Mr. Quinn, seconded by Mr. O'Leary, and unanimously—

Resolved,—That the Committee regret that the departure of Mr. Cronin from this city, renders it necessary to accept his resignation; that they cannot do so without tendering to him their best thanks, and that he be requested to accept the accompanying testimonial, as a small mark of their regard."

The testimonial referred to above, you will receive from the bearer; it is the sure you could procure here, but trifling as it is, I am sure you will not, on that account, prize it the less, coming, as it does, from the representatives of a congregation to whom you were so devotedly attached, and evincing, though inadequately, their appreciation of the services you have rendered that congregation for many years.

With the best wishes for your welfare, and for that of your family, to whom you will please present my respects,

I have the honor to be,

Dear Sir,

Yours very truly,
M. O'LEARY, Secy.W. Cronin, Esq., }
Montreal. }

Montreal, 29th May, 1851.

MY DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th inst., conveying to me a copy of a Resolution passed by the Committee of Management of St. Patrick's Church, at a meeting of that body, held on the 12th inst., expressive of regret at my departure from Quebec, and requesting me to accept, as a testimonial of their regard, a beautiful Silver Chased Snuff Box, inlaid with gold. You will please to convey to the Rev. Chairman and Members of the Committee, the assurance that the feeling of regret is mutual; and that no motive,