

State of Naples and Sicily.

The following private letter, dated Naples, the 11th of January, has been published in the Paris correspondence of the *Times* :—

"After the explosion of the powder magazine a police commission for the army was established. The members are—Governor Prefect of Police; Dupuis, Chief of the Battalion of Gendarmery; D'Espagnolis, Commissary of Police; and Humbely, Captain of the Royal Guards. Governo has acquired such influence over the King that he is lodged in the Royal Palace.—The object of the commission is to find out a grand conspiracy connected with the attempt of Milano and the two explosions. They have already set to work. More than 100 persons have been arrested, of course Liberals, among whom I know Cuccio, Ferdinand Masselli, Bardate, ex-magistrate, Casera, Gargensola, Maltici, Manzi, and Giuseppe Costebili, who had just been released from prison. All these persons have been thrown into dungeons without examination, and without being aware of their arrest. It is rumored that Government has discovered the authors of the explosion of the Carios III. in the commander of the ship, the officers, and, in fact, all who had escaped the explosion. It is also reported that the seamen have spoken, and indicated the criminals paid by the English. The Royalist clubs and the courtiers say that it is necessary to finish at any cost with the English and to compel the departure of the corvette which is in the bay. That corvette they declare is an *agent provocateur*. This has been so talked of that I have heard the commander of the Malacca, who is an excellent man, demanded satisfaction for the calumnies on the part of those people on the honor of England. After a delay of seven days the official journal has at last spoken, "We are happy," it says, "to be able to announce that several persons (23) were saved by the boats of the English corvette in the bay.—The Count of Aquila sent immediately (after five days) one of his officers on board the Malacca to thank the commander.

"On Friday evening, the 9th, the police invaded five coffee-houses—namely, the Colonna d'Oro in the Toledo, that of the Piazza di Gerolamini, two in the square of Cape di Napoli, and one in the Vicaria—moreover, five estaminets for shopkeepers and pastrycook's establishments. I will mention to you what took place in the Cafe de la Colonna d'Oro when I myself was present. In others it was pretty much the same. At eight o'clock in the evening Gondi, Commissary of Police, followed by a strong patrol of shirri and gendarmes at all the doors, and commenced a search. He began by taking the names of the persons present, which he wrote down in a pocket-book. A Frenchman, named Aillaud, was among them. "Who are you?" asked the Commissary of Police. "Well, I really forget my name," was the answer, "but you will find it here," and M. Aillaud presented him his passport. The Commissary bit his lips, and let him go. He then searched the pockets and the hats of every one present, caused the arms of every one to be bound with cords, and, escorted by the shirri and the gendarmes, made them traverse the city, and lodged them in the prison of the Vicaria. A crowd followed the prisoners. The cafes were shut up, and on two of them appeared a notice, "Closed by order of the Police." More than 100 persons were thus arrested. On the following morning a printed placard on the walls with

these words,—"The faction which calls itself the Government arrests the whole city. Patience! The hour of the tocsin for veterans will arrive." Out of these arrests the Government will get up a trial to be displayed to the eyes of Europe, which will somewhat raise the courage of the Royalists.

"On the following night the city was deserted and the cafes empty. The gas has been turned off from a part of the Royal Palace, from the Theatre of San Carlos, and that of the Fonda, as an explosion is apprehended. The theatres are to be closed for three days, the 11th, 12th, and 13th, in order to avoid a demonstration which was prepared in them for the 12th, the King's birthday. To-morrow, the 12th, the Royalists are expected to make a demonstration of affection for their "adoring Sovereign." The word has been sent round to all honest men to keep within doors; the streets will be deserted. Many families have already quitted their houses in the Rue de Toledo.

"At Pantia, province of Salerno, a person named Petrone chanced to make some remarks about the King in a cafe. The gendarmes made an attempt to arrest him, but a priest, a brother of Petrone, issued out with a poniard in his hand, attacked the gendarmes, killed one of them, wounded three, and put the rest to flight. The whole family at once quitted the place, and repaired to the mountains. In this country those who would enjoy liberty must lead the life of brigands. It is a civil war without a truce. A hundred persons are released from prison to-day, but two hundred are arrested the next. The official journal of the 10th says: "Cherishing in our Royal soul the desire of improving more and more the condition of the prisoners, and wishing that their moral shall not be inferior to their material improvement, we decree that the moral and religious direction of those who are detained in prison is intrusted to the rev. fathers of the Society of Jesus. One of the rev. fathers shall form part of the Commission of Prisons, and will have a deliberate voice in the examination of affairs."

"On the 17th and 18th instant 10 more coffee-houses were shut up. In all 400 persons have now been arrested. Bianchini has sent in his resignation. In Sicily two parties of the refugees have landed. The police have arrested a person named Pellegrini. The others are safe in the island, and are preparing another insurrection."

PRUSSIA—HER MILITARY POWER.—The Prussian Army, after the battle of Rosbach, possessed the highest reputation in Europe. The Infantry manœuvred with mechanical regularity, and the Cavalry was even more remarkable. "As to the latter," says General Jomini, "foreigners were surprised to see vast masses of horsemen break into columns at a given signal, change their direction, disguise their movements from the enemy, appear suddenly at the extremity of the line, and term with the rapidity of lightning, all without deploying, and by a simple conversion of divisions." Such, in fact, was the admiration entertained for the Prussian Army under Frederick the Great, that officers of all nations went to Potsdam to study its system, and any Prussian officer was sure to make his fortune in a foreign Army. The victories of the French Republic and Empire diminished the prestige of the Prussians, and even their Light Cavalry at Jena was not equal to that of the French. The Military organization, however, of Prussia is still very remarkable. Surrounded by powerful neighbours, and

without natural frontiers capable of defending her, she is obliged to rely for her independence on the whole nation, and accordingly every able-bodied man from the age of 20 to 60 is a soldier. From 20 to 25 a Prussian belongs to the active Army; from 25 to 32 the 1st Ban of the Landwehr; from 32 to 40 to the 2nd Ban of the Landwehr; and from 40 to 60 to the Landstrum—a sort of National Guard, which is only called out in case of war; in the Landstrum, too, in case of war, youths from 17 to 20 are also incorporated. At 20, every man, except those labouring under infirmities, is called on to serve, and he belongs to the Regiment formed and recruited in his province. The law is very severe in requiring service from every one; but as the annual contingent would be too large if all were called out, it is divided into three classes.—1, those without profession, who serve two years and a half, after which they enter the reserve; 2, workmen, employes, &c., who serve six months and equip themselves at their own expense; 3, students and those supporting families, who serve six weeks, after which they enter the Regiment of Landwehr of their province to complete their instruction. In addition to the compulsory service exacted from all Prussians, voluntary engagements are admitted, provided they be between the ages of 17 and 20; they are for three years, but at the expiration of that time the soldiers form part of the reserve, and still depend on the active Army for two years longer; they then go to the Landwehr of the 1st Ban for seven years, and afterwards into that of the 2nd Ban for another seven years.

The Prussian Army consists of from 60,000 to 100,000 men in time of peace. It is, properly speaking, only a vast school, in which the Landwehr (defence of the country) is instructed in the art of war. The Prussian army is administered with the severest economy. The active force comprises the Guard and the Line. The latter is divided into eight permanent Corps d'Armee, each Corps consisting of two Divisions, each Division of three Regts. of three Battalions in time of peace, and four in time of war. The Guard is composed of two Divisions, one of Infantry, consisting of 4 Regts. of the Line and 4 of the Landwehr; one of Cavalry, consisting of 4 Regts. of the Line (1 of Cuirassiers, 1 of Dragoons, 1 of Lancers, 1 of Hussars, and 4 Regts. of Landwehr, all of which are Hussars or Lancers. The total of the Infantry is 32 Regts. of the Line, 8 Regts. of Reserve, 8 Battalions of Rifle men; that of the Landwehr is 32 Regts. of the Line and 8 of Reserve. The Artillery consists of 9 Brigades, 153 batteries, and 972 guns. There are 9 Regts. of Engineers. In time of war the Army and Landwehr, without counting the Landstrum, may be made to amount to 585,510 and 93,850 horses. On the invasion of France in 1792 the Army was 163,000 strong; in 1806, in the campaign of Jena it was 250,000 strong; in 1813 it was the same; in 1815 it was 264,000, with 600 guns. The Prussian Landwehr is a strong reserve, being, in fact, the whole nation in arms. It causes but small expense, nothing being permanent in it except a Staff. The soldiers of the Landwehr take part in grand manœuvres, which last a fortnight every year, during which time they receive pay, and the horses of the Cavalry are hired for them. The Landwehr of the 1st Ban, like the active Army, serves in time of war both in the interior and abroad; the Landwehr of the second Ban has no permanent Staff, but in time of war it serves in fortified places. Prussia